



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

2019-20

FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

No. 69

FRIDAY 10 JULY 2020

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. 57 (Including Question Nos 2950 to 3022)	23 June 2020
Q & A No. 58 (Including Question Nos 3023 to 3051)	24 June 2020
Q & A No. 59 (Including Question Nos 3052 to 3099)	25 June 2020
Q & A No. 60 (Including Question Nos 3100 to 3150)	30 June 2020
Q & A No. 61 (Including Question Nos 3151 to 3161)	01 July 2020
Q & A No. 62 (Including Question Nos 3162 to 3245)	02 July 2020
Q & A No. 63 (Including Question Nos 3246 to 3282)	07 July 2020
Q & A No. 64 (Including Question Nos 3283 to 3299)	08 July 2020
Q & A No. 65 (Including Question Nos 3300 to 3396)	09 July 2020
Q & A No. 66 (Including Question Nos 3397 to 3486)	21 July 2020
Q & A No. 67 (Including Question Nos 3487 to 3501)	22 July 2020
Q & A No. 68 (Including Question Nos 3502 to 3565)	23 July 2020
Q & A No. 69 (Questions—Nil)	-

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19 MAY 2020

(Paper No. 57)

*2950 COVID-19 RELATED SMALL BUSINESS GRANTS—Ms Jenny Aitchison asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Small Business, Vice-President of the Executive Council—

- (1) How many COVID-19 related small business grants were applied for by businesses located in the Maitland electorate (as at 19 May 2020)?
 - (a) What are the names of the programs applied for and what amount has been requested?
 - (b) How many businesses have received funding?
 - (c) How many were denied?
 - (d) What was the total amount of funding granted (as at 19 May 2020)?
- (2) How many applications remain incomplete and are yet to be submitted by the business (as at 19 May 2020)?
 - (a) Will applicants receive follow-up advice from the Government regarding the status of their application?
 - (b) If so, how will they be contacted?

Answer—

- (1) As at 19 May, 205 business in the Maitland electorate had applied for the COVID- 19 Small Business Support Grant.
 - (a) The only New South Wales COVID-19 related grant currently available is the COVID-19 Small Business Support Grant. The total grant amount requested was \$2,003,846.
 - (b) 178 businesses had received a grant.
 - (c) 2 applications had been denied.
 - (d) The total amount of funding granted was \$1,741,846.
- (2) As at 19 May, 25 applications were in progress. Out of this, 9 were with Service NSW for processing, 13 required more information from the applicant, and 3 were approved awaiting payment.
 - (a) Yes, applicants receive follow up advice on the status of their application.
 - (b) Service NSW contacts the applicant via phone or email regarding the status of their application and to request more information where necessary.

*2951 WEEDS ACTION PROGRAM—Ms Jenny Aitchison asked the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—

- (1) How much funding was allocated to support the New South Wales Weeds Action Program between 1 July 2018 and 28 February 2018?
- (2) Was the funding allocated to Local Land Services or Local Government?
- (3) What was the breakdown of the funding allocations for 2018-19 (as at 5 March 2020) to;
 - (a) Local Land Services;
 - (b) Local Government?
- (4) How much program funding was allocated between 1 March 2019 and 30 June 2019?

Answer—

- (1) There is no data available for funding available between July 2018 and February 2018.
- (2) Unable to answer in context of Q1.
- (3) \$10,881,800 was allocated by the Department of Primary Industries to Local Land Services for regional initiatives in the 2018-19 financial year. Of this, Local Land Services received \$1.1million for the employment of 11 Regional Weeds Coordinators. The remainder is paid directly to Local Government Control Authorities or for the implementation of priority regional projects agreed as per Regional Strategic Weed Management Plans.
- (4) Funding for the Weeds Action Program (WAP) is allocated on an annual basis. All funds were fully allocated by or before Q4 as per the regional weed allocation agreement with the Departments of Primary Industries.

*2952 MAITLAND FLOOD MOUNDS—Ms Jenny Aitchison asked the Minister for Energy and Environment—

- (1) How many people living in Maitland have flood mounds under their homes?
- (2) How many of these flood mounds have been built:
 - (a) Before 1950;

- (b) 1951-1960;
 - (c) 1961-1970;
 - (d) 1971-1980;
 - (e) 1981-1990;
 - (f) 1991-2000;
 - (g) 2001-2010;
 - (h) 2011-2020 (as at 19 May 2020)?
- (3) How many of these flood mounds have been inspected by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) for hazardous waste such as asbestos:
- (a) In the last ten years;
 - (b) In the last five years;
 - (c) In the last three years;
 - (d) In the last two years;
 - (e) In the last year?
- (4) How many of these flood mounds have been found to have contained hazardous waste such as asbestos:
- (a) In the last ten years;
 - (b) In the last five years;
 - (c) In the last three years;
 - (d) In the last two years;
 - (e) In the last year?
- (5) How many of the owners of properties where contaminated flood mounds have been found have been investigated:
- (a) In the last ten years;
 - (b) In the last five years;
 - (c) In the last three years;
 - (d) In the last two years;
 - (e) In the last year?
- (6) In the case of such investigations, what evidence are home owners required to hold to prove that there is no contamination in their flood mound?
- (7) How many home owners with contaminated flood mounds that have been ordered by the EPA to pay for clean-up costs:
- (a) Were issued with fines by the EPA?
 - (b) Paid such fines and clean-up costs?

Answer—

(1) and (2) Maitland City Council is the consent authority responsible for the approval of the construction of flood mounds in the suburb of Maitland. Any questions related to the number of flood mounds in Maitland should be referred to council.

(3) and (4) to (7) This data is not kept in a centralised database and thus takes some time to compile. Once the data has been compiled I am happy to provide it to the Member for Maitland.

*2953 INVEST NSW—Ms Jenny Aitchison asked the Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney—

- (1) What input does the Trade, Tourism, Investment and Precincts team have in the development and operation of the www.invest.nsw.gov.au website?
- (2) How many times has the website been updated since 30 September 2019?
- (3) When was the website last updated?
- (4) How many substantive FTE were established in the Trade, Tourism Investment and Precincts Group as at:
 - (a) 30 June 2019;
 - (b) 30 September 2019;
 - (c) 31 December 2019;
 - (d) 31 March 2020?
- (5) How many substantive FTE positions were filled in the Trade, Tourism Investment and Precincts Group as at:
 - (a) 30 June 2019
 - (b) 30 September 2019

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- (c) 31 December 2019
- (d) 31 March 2020
- (6) How many substantive FTE positions were established in the Investment Attraction, Concierge, Investment Incentive and Support unit as at:
 - (a) 30 June 2019;
 - (b) 30 September 2019;
 - (c) 31 December 2019;
 - (d) 31 March 2020?
- (7) Is there a strategic plan for Invest NSW?
 - (a) If so,
 - (i) Is it publicly available?
 - (ii) Where can it be located?
 - (iii) When was it drafted?
 - (iv) Who drafted the strategic plan?
 - (v) Who was consulted in the drafting process?
 - (vi) When is it due for evaluation?
 - (vii) What are the Key Performance Indicators?
 - (viii) Has the strategic plan been updated since the 2019-20 bushfires?
 - (ix) Has the strategic plan been updated since the COVID-19 pandemic?

Answer—

Invest NSW was developed by the Department of Industry prior to the Machinery of Government changes in 2019. Invest NSW was superseded with the launch of Global NSW on 4 December 2019 by the Premier.

*2954 OVER SIZE OVER MASS LICENSES—Ms Jenny Aitchison asked the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

- (1) Why was the move to return Class 1 Over Size Over Mass (OSOM) Delegations for vehicle permits to the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) moved back from 4 May 2020 to 1 June 2020?
- (2) What notice of the 4 May 2020 date was provided to OSOM operators?
- (3) What notice of the delayed implementation date of 1 June 2020 was provided to OSOM operators?
- (4) What is the average processing time for Class 1 OSOM permits when processed by:
 - (a) Transport for NSW;
 - (b) Local Councils;
 - (c) NHVR?
- (5) What is the longest processing time for Class 1 OSOM permits which have been processed by each of the following sectors over the last 12 months (as at 19 May 2020):
 - (a) Transport for NSW;
 - (b) Local Councils;
 - (c) NHVR?
- (6) What is the shortest processing time for Class 1 OSOM permits which have been processed by each of the following sectors over the last 12 months (as at 19 May 2020):
 - (a) Transport for NSW;
 - (b) Local Councils;
 - (c) NHVR?
- (7) How many OSOM operators are registered in New South Wales?
- (8) How many OSOM vehicles are registered in New South Wales?
- (9) What is the quantum of the economic contribution of OSOM vehicles to the New South Wales economy on average per year?
- (10) How many OSOM operators in New South Wales have completed training on using the NVR portal in the last 12 months via:
 - (a) Online;
 - (b) Face-to-face;
 - (c) Videos?
- (11) Disaggregated by month, how many OSOM permits in New South Wales were applied for from Transport for NSW (or its predecessors) for each of the following calendar years:
 - (a) 2020 (as at 19 May 2020);
 - (b) 2019;

- (c) 2018;
 - (d) 2017;
 - (e) 2016;
 - (f) 2015;
 - (g) 2014;
 - (h) 2013?
- (12) Disaggregated by month, ow many OSOM permits in New South Wales were applied for from local councils for each of the following calendar years:
- (a) 2020 (as at 19 May 2020);
 - (b) 2019;
 - (c) 2018;
 - (d) 2017;
 - (e) 2016;
 - (f) 2015;
 - (g) 2014;
 - (h) 2013?
- (13) Disaggregated by month, how many OSOM permits in New South Wales were applied for from the NHVR (or its predecessors) for each of the following calendar years:
- (a) 2020 (as at 19 May 2020);
 - (b) 2019;
 - (c) 2018;
 - (d) 2017;
 - (e) 2016;
 - (f) 2015;
 - (g) 2014;
 - (h) 2013?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) The change allows operators a further four weeks to complete their business readiness before the final return of delegation to help minimise impact on business during the coronavirus pandemic.

(2) The road freight industry has been aware that delegation would return for some time through consultation with the NHVR and Transport for NSW. Over Size Over Mass (OSOM) operators were notified by the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) via email notification on 23 April and by Transport for NSW via email on 27 April to advise of changes in applying for an access permit; upcoming training sessions in using the NHVR Portal; introduction of the Multi-State Class 1 Load Carrying Vehicle Mass and Dimension Exemption Notices to increase allowable width and mass limits; and specialist support provided by the NHVR to assist OSOM operators.

Transport for NSW also worked with the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator to engage with the OSOM industry through the NSW Hunter Region OSOM Working Group and meetings with relevant industry associations.

(3) OSOM operators were notified by Transport for NSW via email on 1 May 2020 to advise of the changed date for the return of the delegation and initiatives being undertaken by Transport for NSW and the NHVR to support the transition, including Class 1 Notices and extended permit durations.

Transport for NSW also phoned the top five OSOM operators, by number of access permits issued by Transport for NSW, on 1 and 2 May 2020. Information has also been published on the Transport for NSW website to advise of the changed date for the return of the delegation to the NHVR.

(4) (a) Less than one day. However, Transport for NSW only calculates the time taken to process an application from when a complete and correct application is received. Many of the permits issued within one day are now covered by the amended multi-state mass and dimension notice. As a result, the average timeframe is likely to increase.

(b) This is a matter for Local Councils.

(c) This is a matter for NHVR.

(5) (a) 222 days. This was for a complex, high risk application that required various bridge and route assessments to find a suitable route. The majority of complex moves initially start as emails and an application is one of the last documents to be submitted once all other assessments and approvals have been completed.

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- (b) This is a matter for Local Councils.
- (c) This is a matter for NHVR.
- (6) (a) Less than 5 minutes.
- (b) This is a matter for Local Councils.
- (c) This is a matter for NHVR.
- (7) There is no scheme or system in NSW that requires operators to register. In the current financial year, 467 unique operators obtained a permit from Transport for NSW.
- (8) While there are some Special Purpose Vehicles that may be able to be identified as oversize or overmass when they are registered, there is currently no way to identify all noncompliant OSOM vehicles within the registration system.
- (9) Freight is worth nearly \$66 billion to the New South Wales economy each year. OSOM vehicles play an important role in the transportation of items, such as machinery and equipment, to support economic activity in New South Wales.
- (10) Training of the NHVR Portal is the responsibility of the NHVR. Transport for NSW does not hold this information.
- (11) (a) 2,720
- (b) 7,621
- (c) 10,179
- (d) 10,431
- (e) 15,023
- (f) 21,422
- (g) 20,225
- (h) 22,729.
- (12) Local councils are delegated for issuing permits for Class 1 load carrying vehicles for travel on their roads. Transport for NSW does not hold this information.
- (13) The NHVR is able to receive and issue permits, when road manager consent has been received, for Class 1 load carrying vehicles. Transport for NSW does not hold this information.

*2955 REGIONAL SENIORS TRAVEL CARD IN MAITLAND—Ms Jenny Aitchison asked the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

- (1) How many seniors living in the Maitland electorate hold a Gold Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) card (as at 19 May 2020)?
- (2) How many seniors living in the Maitland electorate with a Gold DVA card applied for a Regional Seniors Travel Card:
 - (a) Prior to 29 February 2020;
 - (b) From 1 March 2020 to 31 March 2020;
 - (c) From 1 April to 30 April 2020;
 - (d) From 1 May to 20 May 2020?
- (3) How many seniors living in the Maitland electorate with a Gold DVA card had their application for a Regional Seniors Travel Card refused:
 - (a) Prior to 29 February 2020;
 - (b) From 1 March 2020 to 31 March 2020;
 - (c) From 1 April to 30 April 2020;
 - (d) From 1 May to 20 May 2020?
- (4) How many seniors living in the Maitland electorate with a Gold DVA card registered on the Service NSW website to be notified when they applications for a Regional Seniors Travel Card were open
 - (a) By email alert?
 - (b) By SMS alert?
- (5) How many seniors living in the Maitland electorate with a Gold DVA card were approved for a Regional Seniors Travel Card:
 - (a) From 1 April to 30 April 2020?
 - (b) From 1 May to 20 May 2020?

- (6) How many seniors living in the Maitland electorate with a Gold DVA card have received their a Regional Seniors Travel Card:
 - (a) From 1 April to 30 April 2020?
 - (b) From 1 May to 20 May 2020?
- (7) How many seniors living in the Maitland electorate receive a disability or carers pension?
- (8) How many seniors living in the Maitland electorate who receive a disability or carers pension had their application for a Regional Seniors Travel Card refused:
 - (a) Prior to 29 February 2020;
 - (b) From 1 March 2020 to 31 March 2020;
 - (c) From 1 April to 30 April 2020;
 - (d) From 1 May to 20 May 2020?
- (9) Is the transportation needs between a senior person living in the Maitland electorate who has a Gold DVA card and a senior person living in the Maitland electorate who receives a disability or carers pension considered to be different?
 - (a) If so, what are these differences?
 - (b) If not, why are seniors living in the Maitland electorate who receive a disability or carers pension not eligible to apply for a Regional Seniors Travel Card?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) This information is not available as the Department of Veteran Affairs (DVA) does not publish data by New South Wales electorates.

(2) (a) 11.

(b) 2.

(c) 115.

(d) 33.

(3) This information is not available from Service NSW as it is not captured.

(4) This information is not available as the Expressions of Interest for DVA customers, managed by Service NSW, only requested name, phone number and email address. Geographic location was not recorded.

(5) (a) 115.

(b) 33.

(6) Once an application is successfully made with Service NSW, cards are issued within 10 business days. All cards have been issued to customers.

(7) This information is not available as Services Australia does not publish data by New South Wales electorates.

(8) This information is not available from Service NSW as it is not captured.

(9) The evaluation of the trial will include feedback from people with disabilities and carers that are not eligible for the card. Transport for NSW is reviewing the programs which support travel for carers and disability pensioners to ensure their effectiveness in regional New South Wales and to consider if there are ways to improve awareness of such programs.

*2956 EFFICIENCY IN COMMERCIAL FISHERIES—Ms Jenny Aitchison asked the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—

- (1) Why are there two different submission closing dates regarding the public consultation period for feedback on regulation changes to improve efficiency in New South Wales commercial fisheries on the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) website?
- (2) What is the correct closing date for these submissions?
- (3) If Sunday 31 May 2020 is the correct date, as noted by the DPI website, why has the submission date been extended from 1 May 2020 as noted by the discussion paper and Minister's media release?
 - (a) Was the industry informed of this extension?
 - (i) If so, how?
 - (ii) Were individual commercial fishers contacted by DPI to advise of the extension?
- (4) How many submissions have been received to date?

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Answer—

At the request of industry, the NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) extended the closing date for submissions from 1 May 2020 to 31 May 2020.

All shareholders and endorsed fishers were notified of the extension on 9 April 2020 via SMS and email, and the Fisheries Business Efficiency Program webpage was updated to reflect the new closing date.

164 submissions have been received by DPI as at 26 May 2020.

*2957 NON-GOVERNMENT SCHOOL OVERSIGHT—Ms Jenny Aitchison asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) What is the procedure for parents of students at non-Government schools to complain about a school's handling of family law issues?
- (2) What oversight does the Government have of complaints made against private or independent schools?
- (3) What is the quantum of funding provided by the Government to the following types of schools, disaggregated by early education and pre-schools, primary schools, secondary schools:
 - (a) Public schools;
 - (b) Religious schools;
 - (c) Independent schools?

Answer—

(1) All registered non-government schools in New South Wales are required to have in place and implement policies and procedures for raising and responding to concerns raised by parents and students.

Parents wishing to lodge a complaint about a non-government school should do so in accordance with the school's policies and procedures.

(2) The NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) has responsibility for monitoring the compliance of non-government schools with the requirements of the Education Act 1990 registration.

Complaints about a non-government school can be made to NESA at any time provided there is clear evidence that options for pursuing the complaint with the school have been pursued without resolution.

Complaints raised with NESA are assessed by an Inspector to determine whether they relate to the school's compliance with the requirements for registration.

Complaints related to compliance are investigated to determine whether the school is complying with the requirements relevant to the concern.

Information about NESA's process for handling complaints is published on NESA's website.

(3) Each year funding provided by the NSW Government for schooling is outlined in Budget Paper 3 and reported under the State Outcome 'Educational foundations for success'.

2019-20 Budget Paper 3 (p. 2-4) outlines that the Government provided a total of \$15.7 billion recurrent expenses for school education. Of this amount, \$1.4 billion was provided to support non-government schools (BP3, p. 2-2).

Funding to support Early Childhood Education is reported separately in Budget Paper 3 under the State Outcome 'Best start in life for young children'. In 2019-20, an amount of \$526.7 million was allocated to this outcome (BP3, p. 2-3).

*2958 INFORMATION FOR TOURISM OPERATORS—Ms Jenny Aitchison asked the Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney—

- (1) Why does the webpage noted in the response to LA Q2646 appear as a 'Page Not Found'?
- (2) For how long has the webpage link been unavailable?
- (3) Was the information on this page directly sent to tourism operators?
 - (a) If so, how many tourism operators received this information?
 - (b) How did they receive the information?
 - (c) How frequently do they receive updates?

Answer—

Destination NSW updated the webpage details provided in the response to LA Q2646 on 15 May 2020. Destination NSW published a replacement page the same day, titled 'Tourism Recovery', which provides comprehensive information for the tourism industry.

The information referred to in LA Q2646 was distributed to more than 60,000 subscribers and followers via 'Insights', Destination NSW's weekly industry newsletter, and corporate social media channels.

From 23 March to 22 May 2020, Destination NSW issued two editions of 'Insights' per week providing regular updates about COVID-19 to the New South Wales tourism industry, along with regular social media posts.

***2959 FUNDING FOR TOURISM OPERATORS**—Mr Roy Butler asked the Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney—

Will a funding package be implemented for tourism operators who have been impacted negatively due to travel restrictions associated with COVID 19 and prior to that bushfires and drought?

Answer—

The Government has put in place a number of industry support measures and resources to help tourism businesses impacted by the challenges of drought, bushfires and COVID-19.

To date, the Government has launched over \$8 billion in measures to support businesses, including the tourism sector, in response to COVID-19. Measures are wide ranging, aimed at increasing cashflow, boosting business liquidity, retaining employees and building resilience, and include:

- payroll tax changes for New South Wales businesses;
- deferral of Government commercial rents and parking levies;
- waiving of licence, registration and permit fees;
- direct financial and non-financial support to small and medium enterprises;
- support for the New South Wales small to medium arts and screen sector; and
- greater flexibility for employees and employers to manage entitlements.

This support includes the Small Business Support Grant Fund, which has delivered payments of up to \$10,000 to small businesses struggling with the COVID-19 shutdown. More than 49,700 businesses have applied for the grant worth more than \$490 million since the Fund opened in April.

To help businesses safely relaunch their operations, the Government announced a \$3,000 small business recovery grant to help small businesses re-open across the State.

In addition, over \$14 million has been injected into Business Connect to support small and medium businesses to become resilient and grow by providing professional business advice and skills development events.

Further information on Government support measures can found at Service NSW's website: www.service.nsw.gov.au/covid-19.

The Government package complements the Commonwealth Government's economic response to COVID-19, which is designed to support business investment, help small businesses manage short-term cash flow challenges, and provide targeted support to individuals and assistance to impacted communities and industry sectors, including zoos, aquariums and wildlife parks.

The Government is further supporting tourism operators through a \$10 million tourism recovery package to encourage visitation to New South Wales, fund new local events and assist tourism businesses to develop, promote and sell their tourism products. Through this package, the Government's tourism and major events agency, Destination NSW, is:

- driving intent, bookings and visitation to all parts of the State through the 'Now's the Time to Love New South Wales' marketing campaign;
- delivering the \$1 million Regional Event Fund to support community-based events in drought or bushfire-affected areas of regional New South Wales and marketing activities for events aimed at attracting visitors; and
- delivering industry support and practical resources to help travel and tourism operators recover. The resources provide business owners with advice about how to stay in touch with customers, maintaining relationships with media and distribution partners, and opportunities to develop new areas of business.

Further details about the Tourism Recovery Package is available on Destination NSW's corporate website at: www.destinationnsw.com.au/news-and-media/tourism-recovery.

***2960 GRAIN IMPORTATION TO NEW SOUTH WALES**—Mr Roy Butler asked the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—

- (1) How many tonnes of grain have been imported into Australia with specific reference to New South Wales (as at 19 May 2020)?

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(a) Has there been any updated assessment of the impacts of this on quarantine and biosecurity isles?

(2) Will the Government discontinue this importation when suitable grain stocks become available?

Answer—

This is a matter for the Commonwealth Government.

(1) The importation of grain is a commercial decision. All imports into New South Wales are subject to the Biosecurity Act 2015.

*2961 ANTI-DISCRIMINATION BOARD—Ms Yasmin Catley asked the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—

(1) How many complaints did the President of the Anti-Discrimination Board decline under section 89B of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977 in:

(a) 2019;

(b) 2018?

(2) How many of these declined complaints did the whole or part of the complaint occur more than 12 months before making of the complaint in:

(a) 2019;

(b) 2018?

Answer—

I am advised:

Complaint statistics are available only in relation to financial years, rather than calendar years. Information is publicly available in the Anti-Discrimination Board NSW's Annual Reports, available at: [https://](https://www.antidiscrimination.justice.nsw.gov.au/Pages/adb1_publications/adb1_pub_annualreports/adb1_pub_annualreports.aspx)

[/www.antidiscrimination.justice.nsw.gov.au/Pages/adb1_publications/adb1_pub_annualreports/adb1_pub_annualreports.aspx](https://www.antidiscrimination.justice.nsw.gov.au/Pages/adb1_publications/adb1_pub_annualreports/adb1_pub_annualreports.aspx).

*2962 TRANSURBAN TOLL CLASSIFICATIONS—Mr Anoulack Chanthivong asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

(1) Considering the answers to LA Q2162 and LA Q2159 in relation to caravan toll charges, has Transurban responded to the request to reverse its decision on toll classifications?

(a) If so, what was the response?

(b) If not, what action has been taken to follow-up with Transurban regarding tolls for private owners of caravans, camper vans and trailers?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Government is in ongoing discussions with Transurban regarding the matter.

*2963 EDMONDSON PARK SCHOOL PLANNING—Mr Anoulack Chanthivong asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

Considering the planning and construction process for Gledswood Hills Public School only took two years and 10 months, and the planning process for the new East Leppington Public School has progressed to the development application assessment stage after one year and 9 months, why has the request for the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (the first step in the planning process) for Edmondson Park School been on hold for one year and two months?

Answer—

The Edmondson Park primary and high schools are currently in the planning phase. The planning phase ensures new schools best meet the needs of the local community and optimises future learning environments for students.

The request for Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements was put on hold to enable more detailed investigations and analysis of infrastructure needs to take place. This includes consideration of existing schools and schools which are newly completed or nearing completion in the local area. This further analysis is soon to be completed and will result in an optimal outcome for future students in the Edmondson Park area.

*2964 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS POSTPONEMENT—Mrs Helen Dalton asked the Minister for Local Government—

- (1) Considering that New South Wales schools will resume classes full-time in May 2020, and a federal by-election will be held before July 2020, why are New South Wales local government elections being delayed until September 2021?
- (2) Will consideration be given to reversing the decision to delay the local government elections and allow the elections to be held in September 2020 as scheduled?

Answer—

On the advice of the NSW Electoral Commissioner, I announced in March that the September local government elections would be postponed for 12 months to address the risk of holding elections during the COVID-19 pandemic and to provide certainty for candidates and voters.

It is no longer possible to hold local government elections in September 2020 as there is insufficient time for the Electoral Commission to make the necessary arrangements.

An order has now been published in the Gazette under section 318B of the Local Government Act 1993 postponing the elections in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

*2965 WATER SHARING PLANS—Mrs Helen Dalton asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

Considering that the final outcomes from four inquiries into water management are still pending, will the Minister delay signing off on the Water Sharing Plans until the inquiry outcomes are made public and communities have had an opportunity to review the information alongside the final draft plans?

Answer—

As Minister I may amend a water sharing plan in the public interest at any time.

*2966 NORTHERN MURRAY DARLING BASIN WATER METERING—Mrs Helen Dalton asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

- (1) What has been the total financial contribution by the Commonwealth Government towards the Government's Northern Basin water metering project?
- (2) How have these funds been spent and reported to the public?
- (3) How has the Government spent the funds allocated under the National Water Initiative for water metering?
- (4) What portion of the \$50 million allocated for Northern Basin water metering has been spent and what progress has been made in the roll out of meters?

Answer—

(1) and (2) The Government is running the NSW Metering Project.

(3) No funds were allocated under the National Water Initiative, for water metering.

(4) Refer to answer to question (1). New South Wales' non-urban metering rules will be fully implemented in the Northern Basin by 1 December 2021.

*2967 GRANVILLE ELECTORATE - TWAY BUS HEALTH SAFETY—Ms Julia Finn asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) How many cleaners are employed to clean TWay buses, bus stations and bus stops in the Granville electorate as at 19 May 2020?
- (2) What extra cleaning measures have been taken in response to the COVID-19 pandemic for TWay buses, bus stations and bus stops in the Granville electorate?
- (3) Is Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) provided to employees working on the TWay network in the Granville electorate?
 - (a) If so, what equipment?
- (4) Have there been requests from transport workers in the Granville electorate for more PPE?
 - (a) If so, who made these requests?
 - (i) What was requested?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Multiple operators use the TWay, and their buses are cleaned at their own depots (outside the Granville area), except for Transdev which has a depot at South Granville.

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- (2) Transport for NSW's COVID Taskforce has included extra cleaning arrangements in its cleaning guidelines provided to private operators. Additionally, a bus layover disinfectant team has been established in Parramatta interchange, providing free services to any buses that stop. Bus stops are cleaned by local councils.
- (3) Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is managed by individual operators. Transport for NSW provides cleaning guidelines for private operators and it is the operator's responsibility to implement them.
- (4) Transport for NSW has not received any requests from Transdev regarding the supply of PPE.

*2968 GRANVILLE ELECTORATE - RAILWAY STATIONS HEALTH SAFETY—Ms Julia Finn asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) How many cleaners are employed at the following railway stations as at 19 May 2020:
 - (a) Clyde;
 - (b) Merrylands;
 - (c) Granville;
 - (d) Wentworthville;
 - (e) Guildford;
 - (f) Westmead?
- (2) What extra cleaning measures have been taken at the following railway stations in response to COVID-19 pandemic as at 19 May 2020:
 - (a) Clyde;
 - (b) Merrylands;
 - (c) Granville;
 - (d) Wentworthville;
 - (e) Guildford;
 - (f) Westmead?
- (3) Is Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) provided to employees at railway stations in the Granville electorate?
 - (a) If so, what equipment?
- (4) Have there been any requests from transport workers in the Granville electorate for more PPE?
 - (a) If so, who has made these requests?
 - (i) What was requested?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) Granville is the only station listed which employs dedicated cleaners. It employs two cleaners seven days a week: one works the morning shift and the other works the afternoon/evening shift.

(2) At Westmead Station, a cleaner is employed from 7 a.m. to 3pm, Monday to Friday. Granville Station received a specialist deep clean in April 2020.

No extra cleaning measures have been taken at the other stations listed, however, additional mentoring and tuition has been provided about how to properly sanitise high-touch surfaces and hard surfaces within the stations, in accordance with advice from NSW Health.

(3) Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) provided to employees at Granville Station includes:

Station PPE

- Sharps container Sharpack 18
- Dust Mask Disposable 10xpack
- Faceshield Complete Armadillo Clear
- Specs-grey tinted glasses
- Specs-clear glasses
- Goggles-classic AF vented clear
- Respirator dust mask
- Earplugs Prosoft-Uncorded
- Earplugs Prosoft-Corded
- Earmuff-folding
- 30+ sunscreen/insect repellent
- Steel toe gumboots (various sizes)

Emergency Cabinet PPE

- Energizer Lantern Battery 6V
- Dolphin LED Torch 6V
- Loud Hailer with Siren
- C Size Batteries Spare for L/Hailer
- Chemical Light Stick White
- Eye Protection Clear Checlite Glasses
- Respirator/Dust Mask 3M Half 4000
- Red Flag
- Green Flag
- Red Light Wand
- Ear Protection Earmuffs
- CautionTape
- Hi Vis Vests
- Disposable Gloves Nitrile Orange
- Leather Rigging Gloves HD
- Evacuation Stickers
- NoteBook & Pen VX1010
- Warden Helmet Green
- Warden Helmet White
- Warden Helmet Red
- 6V Batteries for torch
- Batteries for Light wand
- AAA batteries
- Lookout High Vis Sleeve (Safeworking locations only)
- Tri Colour torch
- Lockout Tags

(4) Many Transport for NSW workers are private operators and the Department would not be aware of any specific requests they may have made to their own companies.

Transport for NSW has advised all private operators that it will assist them in the sourcing of critical items (for example, sanitiser), if possible.

*2969 GRANVILLE ELECTORATE - HIGH SCHOOLS HEALTH SAFETY—Ms Julia Finn asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

(1) How many cleaners are employed at the following schools as at 19 May 2020:

- (a) Arthur Philip High School;
- (b) Auburn Girls High School;
- (c) Granville Boys High School;
- (d) Granville South Creative and Performing Arts High School;
- (e) Greystanes High School;
- (f) Holroyd High School;
- (g) Macarthur Girls High School;
- (h) Merrylands High School;
- (i) Parramatta High School?

(2) What extra cleaning measures have been taken in response to the COVID-19 pandemic at the following schools:

- (a) Arthur Philip High School;
- (b) Auburn Girls High School;
- (c) Granville Boys High School;
- (d) Granville South Creative and Performing Arts High School;
- (e) Greystanes High School;
- (f) Holroyd High School;
- (g) Macarthur Girls High School;
- (h) Merrylands High School;
- (i) Parramatta High School?

Answer—

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- (1) The number of cleaners employed by the Department of Education's cleaning contractors as at 19 May 2020 is:
 - (a) Arthur Philip High School: 10
 - (b) Auburn Girls High School: 6
 - (c) Granville Boys High School: 6
 - (d) Granville South Creative and Performing Arts High School: 8
 - (e) Greystanes High School: 5
 - (f) Holroyd High School: 9
 - (g) Macarthur Girls High School: 6
 - (h) Merrylands High School: 7
 - (i) Parramatta High School: 5
- (2) The Department has increased cleaning hours at each government school by an additional 25% each day. Further, additional cleaning of school bathrooms and high touch points takes place each day in the period between recess and lunchtime.

*2971 CUMBERLAND POLICE AREA COMMAND - EMPLOYEE HEALTH SAFETY—Ms Julia Finn asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—

- (1) How many cleaners are employed in the Cumberland Police Area Command as at 19 May 2020?
 - (a) Where do the cleaners work?
- (2) What extra cleaning measures have been taken in response to the COVID-19 pandemic throughout the Cumberland Police Area Command?
 - (a) Where have these measures been taken?
- (3) Is Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) provided to employees of the Cumberland Police Area Command?
 - (a) If so, what equipment is provided?
- (4) Have employees of the Cumberland Police Area Command requested additional PPE?
 - (a) If so, who has made these requests?
 - (i) What did they request?

Answer—

I am advised:

A total of six people undertake cleaning in the Cumberland Police Area Command (PAC). Of these, three clean Granville Police Station. Two clean Monday to Friday and the other on Saturday and Sunday. Two staff clean Merrylands Police Station; one on Monday to Friday and the other on Saturday and Sunday. One person cleans Ermington Police Station on the days the police station is in operation.

Cumberland PAC has been provided with Level 2 extra cleaning measures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. A Level 2 cleaning includes increased cleaning services for a minimum of 30 minutes in addition to current cleaning services. Cleaners wipe clean/disinfect with medical grade disinfectant entry doors, lift buttons, intercoms, handrails, taps, counters, and other high touch areas. All COVID-19 cleaning and sanitisation is in addition to regular scheduled cleaning services.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is provided to all Cumberland PAC employees, including P2 and N95 masks, surgical masks, hand and surface sanitiser (in bulk for decanting into spray bottles), protective glasses, gloves, and alcohol wipes. All PPE equipment is proactively provided to Cumberland PAC employees and individuals are encouraged to ask for more when needed.

*2972 GRANVILLE TAFE - EMPLOYEE HEALTH SAFETY—Ms Julia Finn asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education—

- (1) How many cleaners are employed at Granville TAFE as at 19 May 2020?
- (2) What extra cleaning measures have been taken in response to the COVID-19 pandemic at Granville TAFE?
- (3) Is Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) provided to employees at Granville TAFE?
- (4) Have any requests from Granville TAFE for additional PPE been received?
 - (a) If so, who has made these requests?
 - (i) What was requested?

Answer—

The health and safety of staff, students and visitors is the highest priority for TAFE NSW. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, TAFE NSW increased the cleaning presence on site at Granville to 33 full time and part time cleaning staff. A portion of those additional staff are dedicated to cleaning hard surfaces and frequently used touch points around the campus.

Personal Protective Equipment has been provided to all Delivery and Customer Service staff across TAFE NSW. Frontline service staff are provided with a caddy containing hand sanitiser, alcohol wipes, gloves, masks and spray and wipe products.

TAFE NSW has set up a hotline which staff can ring to request urgent cleaning and additional cleaning supplies on their campus. As at 2 June 2020, staff at Granville have made 3 requests through the hotline for hand sanitiser, gloves and alcohol wipes. All requests have been actioned appropriately.

*2973 GRANVILLE ELECTORATE - PRIMARY SCHOOLS HEALTH SAFETY—Ms Julia Finn asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) How many cleaners are employed at the following schools as at 19 May 2020:
 - (a) Fowler Road School;
 - (b) Granville East Public School;
 - (c) Granville Public School;
 - (d) Granville South Public School;
 - (e) Guildford Public School;
 - (f) Hilltop Road Public School;
 - (g) Holroyd School;
 - (h) Merrylands East Public School;
 - (i) Merrylands Public School;
 - (j) Parramatta West Public School;
 - (k) Ringrose Public School;
 - (l) Sherwood Grange Public School;
 - (m) Wentworthville Public School;
 - (n) Westmead Public School?
- (2) What extra cleaning measures have been taken in response to the COVID-19 pandemic at the following schools:
 - (a) Fowler Road School;
 - (b) Granville East Public School;
 - (c) Granville Public School;
 - (d) Granville South Public School;
 - (e) Guildford Public School;
 - (f) Hilltop Road Public School;
 - (g) Holroyd School;
 - (h) Merrylands East Public School;
 - (i) Merrylands Public School;
 - (j) Parramatta West Public School;
 - (k) Ringrose Public School;
 - (l) Sherwood Grange Public School;
 - (m) Wentworthville Public School;
 - (n) Westmead Public School?

Answer—

- (1) The number of cleaners employed by the Department of Education's cleaning contractors as at 19 May 2020 is:
 - (a) Fowler Road School: 2
 - (b) Granville East Public School: 3
 - (c) Granville Public School: 5
 - (d) Granville South Public School: 3
 - (e) Guildford Public School: 4
 - (f) Hilltop Road Public School: 5
 - (g) Holroyd School: 6
 - (h) Merrylands East Public School: 3
 - (i) Merrylands Public School: 5
 - (j) Parramatta West Public School: 6

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- (k) Ringrose Public School: 4
- (l) Sherwood Grange Public School: 2
- (m) Wentworthville Public School: 3
- (n) Westmead Public School: 8
- (2) The Department has increased cleaning hours at each government school by an additional 25% each day. Further, additional cleaning of school bathrooms and high touch points takes place each day in the period between recess and lunchtime.

*2974 GRANVILLE ELECTORATE - SCHOOLS PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT—Ms Julia Finn asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) Is Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) provided to public schools in the Granville electorate?
 - (a) If so, which schools?
 - (i) What equipment was provided?
- (2) Is PPE provided to non-government schools in the Granville electorate?
 - (a) If so, which schools?
 - (i) What equipment was provided?
- (3) Have there been any requests from schools in the Granville electorate for additional PPE (as at 19 May 2020)?
 - (a) If so, which schools have made these requests?
 - (i) What was requested?

Answer—

(1) Yes. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is provided to all NSW public schools in the Granville electorate for use in accordance with infection control procedures.

(a) Granville Public School

Granville South Public School

Guildford Public School

Parramatta West Public School

Merrylands Public School

Wentworthville Public School

Westmead Public School

Hilltop Road Public School

Ringrose Public School

Sherwood Grange Public School

Merrylands East Public School

Fowler Road School

Holroyd School

Merrylands High School

Granville Boys High School

Holroyd High School

(I) The items of PPE provided to these schools include:

Protective eyewear

Face masks

Protective clothing

Disposable Gloves

(2) The Department of Education has worked closely with the non-government sector at every stage of the COVID-19 response. The Department has ensured all nongovernment schools in the Granville electorate have access to supplies of PPE.

(a) Cerdon College

Delany College
 Holy Trinity Primary School
 Our Lady of the Mount Carmel Primary School
 Our Lady Queen of Peace Primary School
 Sacred Heard Primary School
 St Margaret Mary's Primary School
 St Patrick's Primary School
 St Paul's Catholic College
 Key College
 Westmead Christian Grammar School

(i) The items of PPE provided to these schools include:

Protective eyewear
 Face masks
 Protective clothing
 Disposable Gloves

(3) The Department ensured the supply of both hygiene and PPE to schools through several different approaches. In addition to deliveries of supply packs at intervals (as stock was available), schools were able to contact the Department through a dedicated email for the restocking of specific supplies.

(a) Within the Granville electorate, Granville Public School made a request for additional PPE.

(i) The items of PPE requested by Granville Public School were:

Protective eyewear
 Facemasks
 Protective clothing
 Disposable Gloves

*2975 GRANVILLE ELECTORATE - MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES INVESTMENT—Ms Julia Finn asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

Have any extra resources been invested in mental health services in the Granville electorate in response to the COVID-19 pandemic?

Answer—

Health services are not provided on the basis of electorate.

*2976 SOCIAL HOUSING PROPERTIES POSTCODE 2306 AREA—Ms Jodie Harrison asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

(1) How many social housing properties were located in postcode 2306 in each financial year from 2014-15 to 2018-19?

(2) How many social housing properties were vacant in postcode 2306 on each of the following dates:

- (a) 1 May 2015;
- (b) 1 May 2016;
- (c) 1 May 2017;
- (d) 1 May 2018;
- (e) 1 May 2019;
- (f) 1 May 2020?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) The number of social housing properties located in postcode 2306 in each financial year from 2014-15 to 2018-19 is:

Financial year	Number of properties
2014-2015	964
2015-2016	963

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2016-2017	959
2017-2018	958
2018-2019	957

(2) The number of social housing properties that were vacant in postcode 2306 on each of the following dates is:

Date	Number of vacant properties
1 May 2015	7
1 May 2016	13
1 May 2017	20
1 May 2018	12
1 May 2019	23
1 May 2020	9

*2977 ASSET PORTFOLIO FRAMEWORK—Ms Jodie Harrison asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

(1) Has the Department of Communities and Justice developed an Asset Portfolio Framework as it told the Auditor General it would in 2013?

(a) If so, how has the Framework been deployed and where can it be reviewed?

Answer—

As this question relates to the Department of Communities and Justice, it should be referred to The Hon Gareth Ward MP, Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services for a response.

*2978 TWO STORY MEDIUM DENSITY HOUSING PILOT PROGRAM—Ms Jodie Harrison asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

(1) Will the Two Story Medium Density Housing Pilot Program, which will construct dual-occupancy and manor house social housing in approximately 42 sites across New South Wales include the following sites:

- (a) Adamstown;
- (b) Dudley;
- (c) Gateshead;
- (d) Kotara;
- (e) Warners Bay;
- (f) Windal?

Answer—

I am advised:

No. However, should the Pilot Program be successful, these areas may be considered in the future. The NSW Land and Housing Corporation is also regularly investigating opportunities to develop further sites in New South Wales to provide social housing for vulnerable people in our communities.

*2979 WALLSEND ELECTORATE - ELDERLY ACCESS TO BANKING SERVICES—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans—

Considering the recent bank closures across the Wallsend electorate, how will older people who are less likely to be computer literate or have access to the internet retain access to banking services?

Answer—

I am advised:

Banking services are available at post offices across New South Wales through Australia Post's Bank@Post service. Locations of Bank@Post services can be found on Australia Post's website at auspost.com.au/money-insurance/banking-and-payments/bank-at-post or call 13 76 78.

The Government is committed to making seniors access technology and all of its benefits. The Tech Savvy Seniors program, in partnership with Telstra, enables seniors to learn to use technology, such as computers, tablets and smart phones. Tech Savvy Seniors delivers digital literacy training to seniors to develop the skills and confidence to access information and services online.

*2980 HUNTER REGION RISK OF SERIOUS HARM CASEWORKERS—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services—

- (1) Considering that there were 11,103 risk of serious harm reports in the Hunter Region in 2019, according to the December 2019 quarter Caseworker Dashboard data from the Department of Family and Community Services, and only 25 per cent were followed up with in-person caseworker meetings and there are zero caseworker vacancies listed, what steps are being taken in the Hunter Region to:
- increase the number of caseworkers;
 - improve the follow-up rate for reports of risk of serious harm?

Answer—

I am advised the Hunter Central Coast District has reported a zero per cent caseworker vacancy rate for the December 2019 quarter.

The number of children seen is in addition to the families supported by early intervention services, delivered in partnership with the non-government sector throughout the district.

Information on the Caseworker Dashboard can be found here: https://public.tableau.com/profile/facs.statistics#!/vizhome/FACS_Caseworker_Dashboard/DCJCaseworkerDashboardVersion3?publish=yes.

- *2981 WALLSEND ELECTORATE - DISABLED ACCESS TO BANKING SERVICES—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services—

Considering the recent bank closures across the Wallsend electorate, how will people with disabilities retain access to banking services?

Answer—

The Government is committed to identifying and breaking down the barriers which prevent those with disability from enjoying the same opportunities and choices as everyone else.

The Disability Inclusion Act 2014 (DIA) demonstrates the ongoing commitment of the Government to building an inclusive community and requires the Government to produce a Disability Inclusion Plan. The New South Wales Disability Inclusion Plan supports the DIA and provides a strategy to implement the Act's objects and principles across Government and the community.

I have been advised that banking services are available at post offices across New South Wales through Australia Post's Bank@Post service, including Wallsend Post Shop, Wallsend South Post Office, Waratah Post Office, Shortland Post Office, Lambton Post Office, New Lambton Post Office and Jesmond Post Shop.

- *2982 IRONBARK CREEK CHANNEL—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

Considering that the Government has expressed interest in undertaking infrastructure projects to address the devastating impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the New South Wales economy, will funding be committed to the widening of the Ironbark Creek Channel as part of the Wallsend flood mitigation works?

Answer—

This question has been addressed previously in LA Q2287.

- *2983 JOHN HUNTER HOSPITAL AND CALVARY MATER HOSPITAL - MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research representing the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women—

- Considering the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, is the Government expecting an increased demand for mental health services?
- What steps have been taken to prepare for any expected increase at the John Hunter Hospital and Calvary Mater Hospital?

Answer—

NSW Health acknowledges that this pandemic may increase the risk of mental health issues, substance use and suicide in the community in general. Hunter New England Mental Health Service has been working with John Hunter Hospital and the Calvary Mater Newcastle to ensure patients have timely and appropriate access to mental health services during the pandemic.

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- *2984 HUNTER NEW ENGLAND LOCAL HEALTH DISTRICT - MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research representing the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women—

How many people have accessed mental health services in the Hunter New England Local Health District in each month from May 2019 to April 2020?

Answer—

Over the last year, Hunter New England Mental Health Services recorded an average of 6,644 clinical contacts per month. Contacts increase and decrease from month to month with April 2020 recording 5919.

Contacts do not necessarily reflect the number of people who present, as some people present more than once.

- *2985 WALLSEND ELECTORATE - PREDATORY FINANCIAL SERVICES—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Treasurer—

Considering the recent bank closures across the Wallsend electorate and the vulnerability of people to use predatory financial practices including pay day lending and cash machines, what steps are being taken to ensure people do not need to turn to these services?

Answer—

On 2 December 2019, the National Consumer Credit Protection Amendment (Small Amount Credit Contract and Consumer Lease Reforms) Bill 2019 (No. 2) was introduced to the Australian Senate.

The Bill's purpose is to impose a cap on total payments that can be made under a consumer lease, require small amount credit contracts (also known as pay day loans) to have equal repayment and payment intervals and prevents lessors and credit assistance providers from undertaking door-to-door selling of leases at residential homes.

The Bill was referred to the Senate Standing Committee on Economics on 5 December 2019 for inquiry and report due on 21 September 2020.

Legal Aid NSW (legalaid.nsw.gov.au), supported by the NSW Department of Communities and Justice, the Financial Rights Legal Centre (financialrights.org.au) and the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC - asic.gov.au) offer helpful advice in regards to responsible lending, credit law and regulation and consumer rights.

- *2986 WALLSEND ELECTORATE VULNERABLE CHILDREN PROTECTION—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services—

Considering that out of 11,103 risk of serious harm reports in the Hunter Region in 2019 only 2,808 were followed up with in-person caseworker meetings, according to the December 2019 quarter Caseworker Dashboard data from the Department of Family and Community Services, what assurances can be made that vulnerable children in Wallsend are not being left in dangerous circumstances?

Answer—

I am advised that reports to the Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) are responded to in a range of ways, including referral to appropriate services. DCJ and other government departments such as NSW Health and Education and local Non-Governmental Organisations' work with families to respond to and reduce risk to children. Programs such as Multi-systemic Therapy - Child Abuse and Neglect, located in Edgeworth and delivered by OzChild are achieving excellent results and available to families in Wallsend.

Information on Caseworkers Dashboard is available at: https://public.tableau.com/profile/facs.statistics#!/vizhome/FACS_Caseworker_Dashboard/DCJCaseworkerDashboardVersion3?publish=yes.

- *2987 SCHOOL TEACHERS WELLBEING—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

Considering the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on school communities, what steps is the Government taking to ensure the health and wellbeing of teachers?

Answer—

The health and wellbeing of teachers is of the utmost importance to the Government. With the return of full on-campus learning since Monday, 25 May 2020, all activities and operations in New South Wales

public schools are being conducted in line with guidelines and advice from the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) and NSW Health, as applicable.

The Department of Education continues to work with NSW Health and remains vigilant in implementing its comprehensive infection control protocols in our schools to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 within our working and learning environments. Schools are continuing to support vulnerable staff to work remotely in line with AHPPC guidelines.

New South Wales schools are safe, clean and secure places for our teachers. Measures that have been implemented include:

- Effective hygiene practices,
- Additional provisions of soap and hygiene supplies,
- Enhanced cleaning,
- Appropriate physical distancing between teaching staff and other adults at the school, and
- Personal protective equipment for use in accordance with infection control procedures.

*2988 DISTRICT COURT TRIALS—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—

How many District Court trials is it proposed be conducted at any one time at selected court rooms in Sydney, Newcastle, and Parramatta (as announced on 11 May 2020 in the District Court media release regarding jury trials)?

Answer—

I am advised:

The number of jury trials listed at a particular location will be limited in accordance with the District Court's social distancing measures and capacity. The commencement of trials will be staggered to minimise the congregation of large numbers of people.

*2989 WET INK SIGNATURES—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—

What is your response to the call from Arnold Bloch Leibler for a regulatory change to avoid the necessity to sign documents in "wet ink"?

Answer—

I am advised:

The COVID-19 Legislation Amendment (Emergency Measures) Act 2020 and the COVID-19 Legislation Amendment (Emergency Measures—Attorney General) Act 2020 amended the Electronic Transactions Act 2000 to allow regulations to be made to alter arrangements for the making, signature and witnessing of documents, among other things.

The Electronic Transactions Amendment (COVID-19 Witnessing of Documents) Regulation 2020 (NSW) was made under this regulation-making power on 22 April 2020, enabling witnessing and attestation of documents to be conducted remotely through audio visual link.

The Electronic Transactions Act 2000 permits certain classes of documents to be signed electronically. For other documents, requirements as to form and signature are generally contained in specific legislative instruments and policy. For example:

- The Conveyancing Act 1919 contains requirements in relation to deeds; and
- Signature and form requirements for documents executed by corporations are regulated by the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth).

The Government will continue to consult with stakeholders about options for allowing certain documents to be signed and executed electronically.

*2990 SCHOOL CLOSURES IN LIVERPOOL—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

(1) Which schools within the electorate of Liverpool have been closed as a result of the COVID-19 virus?

(2) What date were these schools closed?

Answer—

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- (1) None. All public schools in the Liverpool electorate have continued operation throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Ashcroft High School and Liverpool West Public School received environmental cleaning as a result of the COVID-19 virus.
- (2) No days of schooling were disrupted by the cleaning process. Ashcroft High School was cleaned and certified on Sunday 29 March 2020 and Liverpool West Public School on Easter Monday 13 April 2020.

*2991 VICTIMS SUPPORT SCHEME—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—

- (1) Why did Victims Services NSW propose to introduce changes to the Victims Support Scheme as announced on 20 April 2020?
- (2) Why was so little notice given of the proposed changes?
- (3) What is now proposed in relation to those announced changes?

Answer—

I refer the Member to my response to LA Q2906.

*2992 RESUMPTION OF JURY TRIALS—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—

Apart from the amendments recently made to the Court Security Act, what other steps will be taken to facilitate the announced resumption of jury trials in the District Court at Newcastle, Sydney, and Parramatta?

Answer—

I am advised:

In addition to the amendments to the Court Security Act 2005, on 26 May 2020, the Chief Judge issued a General Protocol regarding jury trials aimed at ensuring the health and safety of all participants.

Social distancing measures will be adopted, which will involve jurors being spread out appropriately across the courtroom and limitations placed on the number of persons permitted in a courtroom. Jurors will also be provided individualised meals to prevent contamination.

Already, additional commercial cleaning is being undertaken, and hand sanitiser and wash stations are available for use.

*2993 COURT ROOMS FOR JURY TRIALS—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—

Which Court rooms are proposed to be utilised for Jury Trials in the District Court at Newcastle, Sydney, and Parramatta as referred to in the statement from the District Court on 11 May 2020?

Answer—

I am advised:

All District Court courtrooms in Newcastle, Sydney and Parramatta have been assessed and meet NSW Health social distancing guidelines for the purposes of jury trials.

*2994 CIVIL LIABILITY ACT SUBMISSION—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—

What is your response to the submission of Shine Lawyers concerning reforms to Part 2A of the Civil Liability Act?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Government is committed to responding to the needs of survivors of child sexual abuse. I have instructed the Department of Communities and Justice to investigate the issue and provide me with more information and advice.

I wrote to Shine Lawyers to communicate this.

*2995 CRIMINAL PROCEDURE ACT REVIEW—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—

What progress has been made on the review of s.293 of the Criminal Procedure Act?

Answer—

I am advised:

I have instructed the Department of Communities and Justice to undertake a review of section 293 of the Criminal Procedure Act. The review is ongoing.

The Court of Criminal Appeal has reserved judgment in the matter of R v RB, which involves consideration of the application of section 293.

*2997 BANKSTOWN ELECTORATE COVID-19 EXEMPTION APPLICATIONS—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

- (1) How many exemption applications to the Public Health (COVID-19 Restrictions on Gathering and Movement) Order 2020 have been received from the Bankstown electorate (as at 19 May 2020) in relation to:
 - (a) Funerals;
 - (b) Weddings;
 - (c) Other gatherings?
- (2) What is the number of exemption applications from the Bankstown electorate (as at 19 May 2020) that have been:
 - (a) Approved, without amendment;
 - (b) Approved, with amendment;
 - (c) Refused or otherwise not approved;
 - (d) Not yet determined?

Answer—

NSW Health does not collect information on the basis of electorate.

*2998 BANKSTOWN ELECTORATE COVID-19 FINES—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—

- (1) How many breaches of the Public Health (COVID-19 Restrictions on Gathering and Movement) Order 2020 in the Bankstown electorate (as at 19 May 2020) have been:
 - (a) Formal cautions;
 - (b) Infringement notices;
 - (c) Charges?

Answer—

I am advised:

The NSW Police Force does not record statistics by electorate.

*2999 STACEY STREET AND HUME HIGHWAY UPGRADES—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) What public consultation was undertaken prior to the concept design stage of the Stacey Street and Hume Highway upgrades?
- (2) What public consultation will be undertaken during the concept design stage, prior to the design being released for public comment?

Answer—

I am advised:

Residents and stakeholders were engaged through investigation notifications, a project webpage and door knocking for investigation property access.

Formal communication, between June and August 2019, and also between November 2019 and March 2020, included community notifications, media releases, webpage updates and extensive door-knocking on these two roads and the surrounding side streets. This communication was to request property access for the planning and investigations.

The community will be invited to provide feedback when the Review of Environmental Factors Report is displayed.

*3000 SYDENHAM-BANKSTOWN LINE CONVERSION—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) What is the timeframe for the Government's response to the Portfolio Committee No. 6 - Transport

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and Customer Service Sydenham-Bankstown line conversion Report 11 April 2020?

- (2) Will the current construction plan for the Sydenham-Bankstown line conversion continue pending the Government's response to the report?
- (3) Will the project be modified to accept the recommendations adopted by the inquiry?
 - (a) If yes, which specific recommendations will be adopted?
 - (b) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Government will respond to the Committee's Report in accordance with the timeframes set by the Committee.

*3001 VENTILATORS AT BANKSTOWN-LIDCOMBE HOSPITAL—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

- (1) How many ventilators were available for use and stored on-site at Bankstown-Lidcombe Hospital as at:
 - (a) 1 February 2020;
 - (b) 1 April 2020;
 - (c) 1 May 2020?

Answer—

Bankstown-Lidcombe Hospital is part of South Western Sydney Local Health District. Intensive care demand is managed as a network across the District and state as required. The District has increased its number of ventilators in line with NSW Health requests in planning for a COVID-19 pandemic response.

*3002 STACEY STREET AND HUME HIGHWAY UPGRADE SPECIALIST CONTRACTOR INVESTIGATION—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

Considering the response to LA Q2712 which stated that "Transport for NSW engaged a specialist contractor to thoroughly investigate potential asbestos and groundwater contamination" as part of the Stacey Street and the Hume Highway upgrade, what was the outcome of the specialist contractor's investigation?

Answer—

I am advised:

Asbestos investigations were conducted in areas likely to be impacted by the project and also on vacant land on Stacey Street between Carnation Avenue and Hume Highway.

Asbestos-contaminated material and asbestos fragments were found on the western side of Stacey Street, between Rickard Road and Hume Highway. A licensed asbestos removalist will remove this material before construction starts. An asbestos management plan will manage the risks associated with disturbance of asbestos during construction.

Two groundwater wells were installed, one in the Apex Reserve car park and the other on a property on the north-east corner of the Hume Highway/Stacey Street intersection. While concentrations of nickel and zinc were identified, it was found there is only low risk of groundwater contamination.

Further asbestos and groundwater investigations are planned for when the project progresses into the detail design stage.

*3003 RAILWAY STATION CLEANING—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

Considering the response to LA Q2705 which indicated that "additional cleaning is also being rolled out at the busiest 20 stations across the Sydney Trains network" in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, which of these stations are located within the Bankstown electorate?

Answer—

I am advised:

There are now 47 stations receiving additional cleaning, based on average patronage numbers. Bankstown is the only station included within the Bankstown electorate.

*3004 BANKSTOWN ELECTORATE SCHOOLS FUNDING—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

Considering the response to LA Q2605 which indicated that "The Government is investing \$6.7 billion over four years to deliver 190 new and upgraded government schools", how much of the \$6.7 billion will be allocated towards upgrades for schools within the Bankstown electorate?

Answer—

The estimated total cost for major school upgrades in the Bankstown electorate will be published in the relevant NSW Budget papers following contract award.

***3005 BANKSTOWN SCHOOLS UPGRADES**—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

(1) Considering the response to LA Q2605 which indicated that "upgrades have been announced for Bankstown North Public School, Birrong Boys High School and Birrong Girls High School", what is the timeframe for the completion of upgrades to:

- (a) Bankstown North Public School;
- (b) Birrong Boys High School;
- (c) Birrong Girls High School?

Answer—

(1) (a) The upgrade is due for completion in late 2022. This information is publicly available at <https://www.schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au/>.

(b) and (c) Planning is underway for upgrades at Birrong Girls High School and Birrong Boys High School. Anticipated completion dates will be published on the School Infrastructure NSW website once available.

***3006 WOLLONGONG LOCAL AREA COMMAND - PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT**—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—

(1) What extra personal protective equipment has been given to police in the Wollongong Local Area Command for protection against COVID-19?

(2) What additional cleaning is being done to police vehicles in the Wollongong Local Area Command?

(3) Does every police office in the Wollongong Local Area Command have hand sanitiser?

Answer—

I am advised:

The NSW Police Force is taking active measures to minimise the risk to police officers and maintain the highest level of response to the community. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) controls have been in place in the field.

The Wollongong Police District (PD) has sourced bulk PPE supplies such as hand sanitiser and spray/dispenser equipment, as well as additional face masks and cleaning cloths. Every office and Police Station in the Wollongong PD has hand sanitiser.

'Go-bags' are re-stocked daily with masks, goggles and PPE equipment and distributed to every frontline shift. Front line supervisors in the Wollongong PD ensure that staff always have individual hand sanitisers, new face masks, PPE disposal bags and protective gloves.

The Wollongong PD developed and implemented two action plans to assist staff during the COVID-19 pandemic. The General Action Plan provides directions for staff to follow to ensure stations, vehicles, custody areas and other equipment are cleaned before and after use to meet state and national occupational health and safety recommendations. Instructions on disinfecting surfaces and shared equipment is circulated to all staff and is reinforced a shift changeovers and during information sessions presented by the Commander.

***3007 KEIRA ELECTORATE - COVID-19 PREVENTION AND CARE**—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

(1) What consideration has been given to the health and wellbeing of school students in the Keira electorate during COVID-19 in relation to:

- (a) an increase in counsellors' hours;
- (b) an increase in cleaning hours?

(2) Has there been additional training for staff for the wellbeing of students during COVID-19?

Answer—

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(1) (a) The Department takes student wellbeing very seriously, especially in times of crisis. Where the need for additional counselling support is identified, additional staff are provided on a case by case basis.

In order to better support students during learning from home arrangements, the Department of Education provisioned members of the school counselling service with a dedicated online telepsychology platform that allows remote interaction with students and, where appropriate, parents and carers. This allowed psychology services to continue in a secure and confidential manner.

(b) The Department has increased cleaning hours at each government school by an additional 25 per cent each day. Further, additional cleaning of school bathrooms and high touch points takes place each day in the period between recess and lunchtime.

(2) The Department's wellbeing support continued throughout the period of learning from home. A range of resources were developed for teachers to support the wellbeing of students whether they were learning at school or learning from home.

Specific activities, exercises, webinars, information and virtual state-wide staffrooms have been developed for teachers to support student wellbeing during the COVID-19 pandemic. These resources were made available through the Learning from Home hub on the Department's website.

*3008 WOLLONGONG HOSPITAL - ELECTIVE SURGERY—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

(1) What has been the level of increase of elective surgery at Wollongong Hospital since the restart (as at 19 May 2020)?

(2) How will NSW Health address the current backlog of patients needing elective surgery?

Answer—

New South Wales is on track to restore 75 per cent of elective surgery activity by 30 June 2020. Local health districts continue to accelerate admissions for elective surgery, in line with local circumstances and overarching principles for recommencement.

On 16 June 2020 the Government announced up to \$388 million to boost elective surgeries, focusing on patients whose surgery has been delayed by COVID-19 to ensure they are booked in as soon as possible.

*3009 ILLAWARRA SHOALHAVEN LOCAL HEALTH DISTRICT - AMBULANCE ALLOCATION—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

How many of the additional 89 new ambulances upgraded for COVID-19 will be allocated to the Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District?

Answer—

These additional ambulances have been procured to ensure that NSW Ambulance is able to respond quickly and effectively in the event of a COVID-19 outbreak anywhere in New South Wales. As such, the ambulances will be flexibly deployed to areas of need while the pandemic remains active.

*3010 DATA BREACH—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Customer Service—

(1) How many people affected by the data breach on 22 April 2020 are from the following electorates:

- (a) Heathcote;
- (b) Keira;
- (c) Wollongong;
- (d) Kiama;
- (e) South Coast?

(2) Have the people who have been affected by the data breach on 22 April 2020 from the above electorates been notified?

Answer—

(1) The analysis into the attack on Service NSW staff email accounts is ongoing and specialist teams are working through complexities including ensuring the data remains secure during this analysis.

(2) As the specialist analysis is completed, all affected customers will be notified.

*3011 INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF THE NEW INTERCITY FLEET OPERATIONAL MODEL—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

(1) Will Transport NSW implement all the recommendations of the Independent Review of the New Intercity Fleet Operational Model conducted by Metcalfe Rail Safety?

- (a) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

Transport for NSW accepts in principle all the recommendations of the Independent Review into the operating model for the New Intercity Fleet.

*3012 HIGH SPEED RAIL REPORT NSW—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) When will the High Speed Rail Report NSW conducted by Andrew McNaughton be released?
- (2) Will the report be made public?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Government's commitment to develop a blueprint for the delivery of a fast rail network to connect New South Wales is a major piece of work. This transformative vision will seek to link regional centres to each other and Sydney, potentially reducing travel times by 75 per cent and giving people greater choice about where they live, work and visit. The Government is taking the time to get this vision right. We will update the community as soon as we have more to say.

*3013 BANKSTOWN HOSPITAL REDEVELOPMENT—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

- (1) Has the Government identified a site for the redeveloped Bankstown Hospital?
 - (a) If so, where?
- (2) Has the Government hired a contractor to design the redeveloped Bankstown Hospital?
 - (a) If so, who?
 - (i) What stage are designs up to?
- (3) Has the Government hired a builder for the redeveloped Bankstown Hospital?
 - (a) If so, who?
- (4) What is the timeline for design, construction and completion of the redeveloped Bankstown Hospital?

Answer—

I refer the Member to the response at LA Q2607.

*3014 EXPLORATION AND MINING DATABASES—Mr Paul Scully asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade—

- (1) Is there a central, publicly-available database of conditions placed on:
 - (a) Exploration licences and assessment leases?
 - (i) If so, where is this located?
 - (ii) If not, why not?
 - (b) Mining and production leases?
 - (i) If so, where is this located?
 - (ii) If not, why not?

Answer—

The Department of Regional NSW (DRNSW), through the Mining, Exploration and Geoscience (MEG) group maintains a centralised register of all exploration and mining authorisations, known as the Digital Imaging Geological System (DIGS).

DIGS is a comprehensive online document archive, which is available to the public, making available all non-confidential reports and other important documentary material held by the Department.

It contains all conditions related to exploration licences and mining leases.

*3015 FREE WI-FI ON SOUTH COAST LINE—Mr Paul Scully asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) Will any stations on the South Coast Line receive free wi-fi as announced on 15 May 2020 for the Central Coast Line?
 - (a) If so, which stations?
 - (b) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Transport for NSW Free Wi-Fi trial will run for 3 years at 19 stations between Hornsby and Wyong. Transport for NSW will use the learnings from the trial to inform future plans with respect to customers and their connectivity needs. More information about the trial is available on the Transport for NSW website.

*3016 CONDITIONS FOR MINING AND EXPLORATION LICENSES—Mr Paul Scully asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade—

- (1) How many conditions are attached to mining and production leases (as at 19 May 2020)?
 - (a) How many leases are these conditions attached to?
 - (b) How many of these conditions relate to:
 - (i) Threatened species, flora or fauna management;
 - (ii) Water management;
 - (iii) Environmental conditions;
 - (iv) Rehabilitation;
 - (v) Air quality;
 - (vi) Noise;
 - (vii) Transport;
 - (viii) Methods of mining;
 - (ix) Safety;
 - (x) Public reporting;
 - (xi) Community relations;
 - (xii) Administrative;
 - (xiii) Geoscientific information;
 - (xiv) Compliance;
 - (xv) Native title;
 - (xvi) Ownership;
 - (xvii) Security;
 - (xviii) Technical capability;
 - (xix) Work program?
- (2) How many conditions are attached to exploration licences and assessment leases (as at 19 May 2020)?
 - (a) How many leases are these conditions attached to?
 - (b) How many of these conditions relate to:
 - (i) Threatened species, flora or fauna management;
 - (ii) Water management;
 - (iii) Environmental conditions;
 - (iv) Rehabilitation;
 - (v) Air quality;
 - (vi) Noise;
 - (vii) Transport;
 - (viii) Methods of mining;
 - (ix) Safety;
 - (x) Public reporting;
 - (xi) Community relations;
 - (xii) Administrative;
 - (xiii) Geoscientific information;
 - (xiv) Compliance;
 - (xv) Native title;
 - (xvi) Ownership;
 - (xvii) Security;
 - (xviii) Technical capability;
 - (xix) Work program?

Answer—

Background:

As of 25 May 2020, there were 1,069 current prospecting titles and 963 current mining titles.

Conditions on mining titles:

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An internal Condition Tracking and Alert System (CTAS) was launched on 17 July 2018 providing the ability to capture and analyse prospecting and mining conditions. Between 17 July 2018 and 25 May 2020, 87 mining titles were granted, transferred or renewed and their conditions recorded in CTAS.

The table below shows the total number of conditions in each Condition Group for titles entered CTAS on or after 17 July 2018.

Condition Group	Description	Total
Administrative	Conditions that do not belong in any of the other groups or is administrative, for example: contact details, retention of records, confidentiality of reports, financial.	702
Community Relations	Conditions relating to the community, for example: Aboriginal Place or Relic conditions or notification of grant conditions.	88
Geoscientific Information	Conditions relating to geoscientific information such as cores and samples.	64
Protection of the environment	Conditions relating to the protection of the environment including rehabilitation, and methods of operation.	279
Reporting	Conditions that reference a report or obligations to provide information.	256
Safety	Conditions related to safety such as fencing of land subject to mining lease.	85
Total		1,474

Conditions on prospecting titles:

Between 17 July 2018 and 25 May 2020, 421 prospecting titles were granted, transferred or renewed and their conditions recorded in CTAS.

CTAS groups conditions on prospecting titles into predetermined aggregated Condition Groups. The table below shows the total number of conditions in each Condition Group for titles entered CTAS on or after 17 July 2018.

Condition Group	Description	Total
Administrative	Conditions that do not belong in any of the other groups or is administrative, for example: contact details, retention of records, confidentiality of reports, financial.	391
Community Relations	Conditions relating to the community, for example: community consultation.	454
Geoscientific Information	Conditions relating to geoscientific information such as cores and samples, and drilling notification where coal seams are encountered.	321
Native Title	Conditions referencing native title or benefit to Aboriginal people.	410
Ownership	Conditions referencing change in control.	716
Protection of the environment	Conditions relating to the protection of the environment including rehabilitation, and methods of operation.	2,195

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Reporting	Conditions that reference a report or obligations to provide information.	511
Security	Conditions relating to the provision of a security deposit.	422
Work Program	Conditions relating to work programs and expenditure including the completion of the work program and the work program identifier.	421
Total		5,841

*3017 STEEL FRAMES IN DWELLING CONSTRUCTION—Mr Paul Scully asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

- (1) Does Housing NSW use steel frames in dwelling construction?
- (2) As at 19 May 2020, how many of the following have been constructed using steel frames by Housing NSW:
 - (a) Single dwellings;
 - (b) Townhouses;
 - (c) Units?
- (3) Where is the steel frames supply sourced from?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The NSW Land and Housing Corporation uses a variety of procurement methods for new building construction. These methods typically require the builder to resolve material selection to meet the performance specification, which includes requirements of the National Construction Code along with relevant Australian Standards, which can include the use of steel frames.
- (2) This level of information is not available.
- (3) Land and Housing Corporation does not directly source building materials, rather these are sourced by the builder.

*3018 HOUSING NSW UNITS IN WOLLONGONG—Mr Paul Scully asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

- (1) How many new residential Housing NSW units were added to the housing stock in the Wollongong electorate in:
 - (a) the 2018-19 financial year;
 - (b) the 2019-20 financial year (as at 19 May 2020)?
- (2) How many Housing NSW residential units are being considered for construction in the Wollongong electorate in:
 - (a) the 2018-19 financial year;
 - (b) the 2019-20 financial year (as at 19 May 2020)?
- (3) How many Housing NSW residential units have been removed from the housing stock in the Wollongong electorate in:
 - (a) the 2018-19 financial year;
 - (b) the 2019-20 financial year (as at 19 May 2020)?
- (4) Of these removed residential units, how many were:
 - (a) Demolished;
 - (b) Sold;
 - (c) Declared unfit for use?
- (5) How many Housing NSW residential units are planned to be removed from the housing stock in the Wollongong electorate in the 2020-21 financial year?

Answer—

- (1) (a) 28.
- (b) Zero.
- (2) (a) 28 dwellings were completed in the 2018-19 financial year.
- (b) 26 residential units were committed for the 2019-20 financial year but have not yet been completed as at 31 May 2020.

(3) (a) 22 dwellings.

(b) 28 dwellings.

(4) (a) 26 dwellings were demolished.

(b) 24 dwellings were sold.

(c) information not available.

(4) The decision to dispose of a property is based on a number of criteria such as age, proximity to services, demand, fit for purpose, over concentration, redevelopment opportunities and damage to a property that makes it uneconomical to repair.

*3019 EQUITY FUNDING OR LAND ACQUISITION—Mr Paul Scully asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade—

(1) What portion of the \$46 million equity funding provided for land acquisition has been spent (as at 19 May 2020)?

(a) How many hectares of plantable area has been purchased with this funding?

Answer—

(1) The Government's equity fund to purchase privately-owned land for the purposes of expanding the plantation estate was detailed in the 2018-19 budget papers.

About \$1.5 million has been used by Forestry Corporation to purchase privately-owned land for the purposes of expanding the plantation estate.

(a) About 630 hectares, comprising about 437 hectares of plantable area, has been purchased.

The recently announced \$46 million equity injection to Forestry Corporation will be used to assist with re-planting and repairing fire damaged infrastructure.

*3020 RENEWABLE ENERGY IN SYDNEY WATER NETWORK—Mr Paul Scully asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

(1) For each water filtration plant in the Sydney Water distribution network, what proportion of the energy used is renewable energy?

(2) For each sewage treatment plant in the Sydney Water network, what proportion of the energy used is renewable energy?

Answer—

Renewable energy consumed by Sydney Water is generated entirely from self-generated power through biogas, hydro power and small amounts of solar energy. Sydney Water generated a total of 77.4 gigawatt hours (GWh) of electricity in 2018-19 which was enough to power almost 10,000 homes.

A further 15-gigawatt hours were generated at treatment plants operated by Sydney Water contractors. Across the whole business renewable energy generation represented 19 per cent of total electricity consumption at treatment plants, networks, offices, depots and other facilities.

Some Sydney Water sites export part of their self-generated electricity to the grid when it can't be used on site. Bondi Wastewater Treatment Plant for example self-supplied 86 per cent of its electricity demand, but its total renewable self-generation (including power exported to the grid) was equivalent to 99 per cent of its electricity demand.

(1) Below is a breakdown for each water filtration plant in the Sydney Water distribution network, including both Sydney Water operated, and contractor operated plants. The data is based on the 2018-19 financial year data. The renewable energy source is hydro power.

Energy used in the water distribution networks is excluded.

Water Filtration Plant	Total electricity consumption 2018-19 (GWh)	Per cent of total electricity use that is renewable	Renewable electricity generation as a per cent of total use
Illawarra	11.0	100	136
Macarthur	16.2	0	64
Prospect*	10.2	0	10
Woronora**	5.6	0	0

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Orchard Hills	3.3	0	0
North Richmond	3.2	0	0
Cascade	2.9	0	0
Nepean	0.6	0	0
Warragamba	0.1	0	0
Total	53.2	21	42

Notes * and **: The hydro generation facilities at Prospect and Woronora are located nearby the water filtration plants but not directly connected to the water filtration plants. Energy generation is used either for water network pumping or is exported to the grid.

(2) Below is a breakdown of each wastewater and recycled water treatment plants in the Sydney Water network. The graph shows the proportion of electricity used that comes from self-generated renewable energy (based on financial year 2018-19 data). The renewable energy is sourced from biogas, plus some hydro power at North Head. Energy used in the wastewater collection networks is excluded.

Wastewater / Recycled Water Treatment plant	Total electricity consumption 2018-19 (GWh)	Per cent of total electricity that is renewable	Renewable electricity use generation as a percentage of total use	Plant type
Bondi	10.1	86	99%	Wastewater Treatment Plant
Malabar	23.6	69	82	Wastewater Treatment Plant
Cronulla	9.0	56	56	Wastewater Treatment Plant
Glenfield	9.8	45	45	Water Recycled Plant
North Head	62.2	36	39	Wastewater Treatment Plant
Warriewood	3.4	35	35	Wastewater Treatment Plant
Wollongong	16.9	27	27	Water Recycled Plant
Liverpool	7.0	22	22	Water Recycled Plant
St Marys	15.1	0	0	Water Recycled Plant
Quakers Hill	14.7	0	0	Water Recycled Plant
Penrith	9.9	0	0	Water Recycled Plant
Rouse Hill	9.3	0	0	Water Recycled Plant
West Camden	8.1	0	0	Water Recycled Plant
West Hornsby	3.4	0	0	Wastewater Treatment Plant
Riverstone	3.4	0%	0%	Wastewater Treatment Plant
Shellharbour	3.1	0%	0%	Wastewater Treatment Plant
Hornsby Heights	2.3	0%	0%	Wastewater Treatment Plant
Castle Hill	1.6	0%	0%	Water Recycled Plant
Winmalee	1.5	0%	0%	Wastewater Treatment Plant

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Bombo	1.5	0%	0%	Water Recycled Plant
Fairfield	1.5	0%	0%	Storm Plant
Picton	1.2	0%	0%	Water Recycled Plant
Gerringong Gerroa	1.2	0%	0%	Water Recycled Plant
Richmond	1.1	0%	0%	Water Recycled Plant
Bellambi	1.1	0%	0%	Wastewater Treatment Plant
Port Kembla	0.8	0%	0%	Wastewater Treatment Plant
Brooklyn	0.5	0%	0%	Wastewater Treatment Plant
Wallacia	0.5	0%	0%	Water Recycled Plant
North Richmond	0.4	0%	0%	Wastewater Treatment Plant
Total	224.3	28%	31	

*3021 INSPECTIONS ON MINING AND EXPLORATION LEASES—Mr Paul Scully asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade—

- (1) How many inspections in relation to conditions placed on the following took place during the 2018-19 financial year:
 - (a) Exploration licences and assessment leases;
 - (b) Mining and production leases?
- (2) How many inspections in relation to conditions placed on the following took place to date during the 2019-20 financial year (as at 19 May 2020)?
 - (a) Exploration licences and assessment leases;
 - (b) Mining and production leases?

Answer—

(1) The NSW Resources Regulator undertook the following number of inspections in relation to obligations under the Mining Act 1992:

- (a) 68.
- (b) 270.
- (2) (a) 29.
- (b) 218.

*3022 OPTIONS FOR TAXATION CHANGES—Mr Paul Scully asked the Premier—

- (1) Do options for changes to taxation being considered (Australian Financial Review, 18 May 2020) include changes to:
 - (a) Coal royalty rates and levels;
 - (b) Mineral (non-coal) royalty rates and levels;
 - (c) Petroleum royalty rates and levels?

Answer—

The Government has no plans to change these existing arrangements.

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*3023 APPROVAL FOR MEETINGS WITH STATE OWNED CORPORATIONS—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Premier—

- (1) Are all Members of Parliament regardless of their political affiliation required to seek approval from

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the relevant Minister before meeting with management of State Owned Corporations?

- (a) If not, which Members of Parliament are exempt?
- (2) Is this a directive for all Ministers or at a Minister's discretion?
 - (a) When was this directive introduced;
 - (b) Was this a decision of Cabinet?
- (3) When meetings have been approved and have taken place, is management required to report the purpose of the meeting to the Minister?
 - (a) If so, is there a timeframe for the report to be made?

Answer—

There is no Government policy or direction that Ministerial approval is required before a State Owned Corporation (SOC) can meet with a Member of Parliament.

SOCs are not subject to the direction and control of portfolio Ministers, except in the limited circumstances set out in sections 200 and 20P of the State Owned Corporations Act 1989. Details relating to any such directions are required to be published in the NSW Gazette.

***3024 BUSHFIRE PREVENTION PREPARATIONS**—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—

As New South Wales still remains significantly drought affected, what steps has the Government taken to ensure that the state is 'bushfire ready' for the 2020-21 spring and summer seasons?

Answer—

I refer the Member to the Government announcement on 2 June 2020 available at <https://www.nsw.gov.au/news/nsw-gearing-up-for-bushfire-season>.

The NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) will receive \$45 million in additional funding to fast-track hazard reduction and fleet upgrades to prepare for the next bushfire season. The funding boost includes:

\$10.7 million for additional State Mitigation Crews to help fast-track hazard reduction burning \$34.4 million to upgrade the RFS firefighting fleet. The hazard reduction task will create an additional 100 jobs which will form 25 crews to support rural and regional communities across New South Wales.

The additional funding for RFS fleet upgrades will help rollout new vehicles to brigades - delivering 120 new vehicles and 70 refurbished trucks by the end of the 2020-21 financial year.

Hazard reduction works continue to be conducted when conditions permit, to mitigate risk and enhance community safety ahead of the 2020-21 bush fire season.

***3025 YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FUNDING**—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research representing the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women—

- (1) Which non-government organisations in the electorate of Cessnock have received funding towards supporting young people's mental health?
- (2) What government organisations in the electorate of Cessnock provide services specifically targeted at supporting young people who are experiencing mental health issues?
- (3) How much funding has been allocated towards either government or non-government organisations who provide programs specifically targeted at supporting young people who are experiencing mental health issues in the electorate of Cessnock?
 - (a) Is funding towards such services determined and allocated on a needs basis?

Answer—

NSW Health does not provide services on the basis of electorate.

***3026 DROUGHT OF RECORD FOR WATER SHARING PLANS**—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

- (1) For each of the following 12 Water Sharing Plans which have a Plan Status listed as 'Replaced' as at 27 April 2020 what is the 'drought of record' at the commencement of each plan:
 - (a) Gwydir Regulated River;
 - (b) Lachlan Regulated River;
 - (c) Lower Gwydir Groundwater;
 - (d) Lower Macquarie Groundwater;
 - (e) Lower Murray Groundwater;
 - (f) Lower Murrumbidgee Groundwater;

- (g) Macquarie and Cudgegong Regulated Rivers;
 - (h) Murrumbidgee Regulated River;
 - (i) NSW Murray and Lower Darling Regulated Rivers;
 - (j) Paterson Regulated River;
 - (k) Upper and Lower Namoi Groundwater;
 - (l) Upper Namoi and Lower Namoi Regulated River?
- (2) For each of the following three Water Sharing Plans which have a Plan Status listed as 'Extended' as at 27 April 2020 what is the 'drought of record' at the commencement of each plan:
- (a) Lower Lachlan Groundwater;
 - (b) NSW Border Rivers Regulated River;
 - (c) NSW Great Artesian Basin Groundwater?

Answer—

- (1) Only water sharing plans for regulated river water sources specify the period of lowest inflows before plan commencement.

Water Sharing Plan	First Plan	Period of lowest inflows before plan commencement
(a) Gwydir Regulated River Water Source 2016	2002	Dec 1918 to May 1920
(b) Lachlan Regulated River Water Source 2016	2003	July 1979 to June 1981
(g) Macquarie and Cudgegong Regulated Rivers Water Source 2016	2003	July 1937 to June 1939
(h) Murrumbidgee Regulated River Water Source 2016	2003	July 1902 to April 1904
(i) NSW Murray and Lower Darling Regulated Rivers Water Sources 2016	2003	June 1914 to May 1915
(j) Paterson Regulated River Water Source 2007	2007	July 1964 to June 1966
(l) Upper Namoi and Lower Namoi Regulated River Water Sources 2016	2003	June 1918 to May 1920

- (2) Only water sharing plans for regulated river water sources specify the period of lowest inflows before plan commencement.

Water Sharing Plan	First Plan	Period of lowest inflows before plan commencement
(b) NSW Border Rivers Regulated River Water Source 2009	2009	Dec 1979 to May 1981

*3027 PROPOSED WATER SHARING PLANS FOR 2020—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

- (1) Are the following proposed or draft Water Sharing Plans as listed in the answer to Budget Estimates Supplementary Question 283 with a cease date of 2030 in effect new water sharing plans:
- (a) Water Sharing Plan for the NSW Border Rivers Regulated River Water Source 2020;
 - (b) Water Sharing Plan for the Gwydir Regulated River Water Source 2020;
 - (c) Water Sharing Plan for the Upper Namoi and Lower Namoi Regulated River Water Sources 2020;
 - (d) Water Sharing Plan for the Macquarie and Cudgegong Regulated Rivers Water Source 2020;
 - (e) Water Sharing Plan for the Lachlan Regulated River Water Source 2020;
 - (f) Water Sharing Plan for the Murrumbidgee Regulated River Water Source 2020;
 - (g) Water Sharing Plan for the New South Wales Murray and Lower Darling Regulated Rivers Water Sources 2020?
 - (i) If not, why not?

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- (2) Will the above Water Sharing Plans commence on 1 July 2020?
- (3) Why do these Water Sharing Plans not have the commencement date of 1 July 2020 under Part 10: System operation rules, Division 2 (for c), 3 (for a, b), 4 (for d, e, f, g): General system operation rules, Clause 56 (for c), 57 (for a, b), 58 (for e), 67 (for f, g), 73 (for d): Maintenance of water supply; as required by the Water Management Act Amendment 2014?

Answer—

(1) (a) to (g) Water sharing plans will be made under section 50 of the Water Management Act 2000 after the current plans are repealed under section 45 of the Water Management Act 2000.

(i) Not applicable

(2) The Water Sharing Plans will commence after the Murray-Darling Basin Authority has indicated that it will recommend accreditation of the New South Wales water resource plans to the Commonwealth Minister for Water.

(3) The 2016 current water sharing plans cover these requirements and these will operate until the current plans are repealed and the 2020 plans are made.

*3028 SYDNEY WATER GEARED DEBT—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Treasurer—

- (1) Sydney Water's capital structure was geared at 33 per cent debt in 2007 and is 58 per cent debt in 2019. What was the capital structure geared debt in each financial year since 2007?
- (2) What was the corresponding dividend paid to Treasury for each of the corresponding years?

Answer—

The capital structure geared debt of Sydney Water and the dividend paid to Treasury in each financial year are as stated in their annual reports from 2006-07 to 2018-19.

Sydney Water's annual reports are tabled in Parliament each year.

*3029 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE LIAISON OFFICERS—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—

- (1) Are any additional resources for training purposes provided to the Hunter Valley Police District to respond to domestic violence incidents?
- (2) Have any Domestic Violence Liaison Officers recently been dedicated to the Hunter Valley Police District?
 - (a) If so, how many?
- (3) What is the total number of Domestic Violence Liaison Officers in the Hunter Valley Police District as at 30 April 2020?

Answer—

I am advised:

As at 30 April 2020, there were two dedicated Domestic Violence and Victim Support Liaison Officers (DV&VSLO) allocated to the Hunter Valley Police District.

All police within each Police District (PD) work to prevent, disrupt and respond to domestic violence (DV). Within each PD, there are specialist police who perform duties dedicated to the investigation, management and response to DV. These duty types include DV&VSLO.

In addition to corporate training, Northern Region has commenced rollout of a region-wide DV training package for all front line police officers. This training covers all areas of DV investigation, including but not limited to: police powers, mandatory activities for first responders in the investigation of DV offences, legislation, policy, DV safety assessment test, safety action meetings, referral pathways, men's programs, front line trauma informed practice and memory recall trauma practice.

The Domestic Violence High Risk Offender Team (DVHROT) is a region-wide resource that operates across and supports PDs. The DVHROT carries out specialist operations to effectively target top tier high risk DV offenders. In the past 12 months the DVHROT has carried out nine arrests within the Hunter Valley PD.

*3030 GUN RELATED CRIMES—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—

- (1) How many gun related crimes have been committed by licensed gun owners with registered guns in each of the financial years from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2019?
- (2) How many gun related crimes have been committed by unlicensed gun owners with unregistered guns in each of the financial years from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2019?

Answer—

I am advised:

Collating this data would require manual review of potentially thousands of event narratives and would constitute an unreasonable diversion of NSW Police Force resources. Additionally, any review would then need to manually checked against historic Firearms Registry data. It is also not possible to determine the number of registered, as opposed to unregistered, firearms used in the commission of a crime, as only a tiny percent of matters have a firearm recovered and serial number of the firearm recorded.

Raw numbers of firearms in New South Wales can only tell us so much. Good laws, smart enforcement and compliance by licensed shooters, dealers and collectors - these are the key to keeping our community safe from gun crime.

***3032 STOCK TRANSPORT SUBSIDIES**—Mr Roy Butler asked the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—

Will eligibility criteria be extended for stock transport subsidies to include stock being transported to a property for the purposes of re-stocking?

Answer—

The Government is finalising the criteria for drought assistance measures for the 2020-21 financial year.

***3033 STIMULUS PACKAGE NEW SOUTH WALES UNINCORPORATED AREA**—Mr Roy Butler asked the Minister for Local Government—

Will the village committees in the unincorporated area of New South Wales receive funding through the \$395 million economic stimulus package to safeguard jobs, services and infrastructure in local government areas in New South Wales?

Answer—

The COVID-19 pandemic is presenting unprecedented social and economic challenges across the State, including placing significant pressure on families and local businesses. At the same time, communities in regional and rural areas are suffering the continuing effects of ongoing drought as well as bushfires and other natural disasters.

The local government stimulus package was designed to address council and community needs, however the Government is also committed to driving broader economic recovery to assist all communities, including those in the Far West, in the wake of the combined impacts of drought, bushfires and now COVID-19.

As recently as 22 May the Commonwealth Government agreed to my request to make advance payments of upcoming Financial Assistance Grants for 2020-21. Silverton Village Committee Incorporated received \$17,279 and Tibooburra Community Village received \$40,467 in advance grant payments. This early payment will help councils and communities suffering financially from the COVID-19 pandemic rebound and equates to approximately 50% of the 2020-21 allocation.

***3034 CARAVAN REGISTRATION**—Mr Roy Butler asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

Considering the cost of a caravan registration is significantly higher in New South Wales than Victoria, will the cost of caravan registration in New South Wales be reduced to align with the other states and territories?

Answer—

I am advised:

In November 2018 the Government reduced the motor vehicle tax for 40 per cent for new registrations and renewals of privately registered caravans and camper trailers up to 4.5 tonnes.

The Government is further helping ease the cost of living with more than 70 rebates and savings. More information can be found at www.service.nsw.gov.au/campaign/cost-living.

***3035 MURRUMBIDGEE LOCAL HEALTH DISTRICT RESTRUCTURE**—Mrs Helen Dalton asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

(1) What is the reasoning and rationale behind:

- (a) The proposed restructure of clusters within the Murrumbidgee Local Health District;
- (b) The cluster manager role becoming that of a general manager and not including a Director of Nursing component?

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Answer—

I refer the Member to the response to LA Q2669.

*3036 WENTWORTH DISTRICT HOSPITAL TRANSFERS—Mrs Helen Dalton asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

- (1) How many patients were transferred from Wentworth District Hospital to Mildura Base Hospital between 1 July 2017 and 30 June 2019?
- (2) What was the total cost of these transfers to Far West Local Health District?

Answer—

Wentworth Health Service is a 20 bed inpatient facility. Patients requiring high level inpatient or emergency care can be transferred via road ambulance to Mildura Base Hospital, which is a higher level care facility.

I am advised a total of 21 patients were transferred in the two year period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2019. Further details are not publicly available.

*3037 GRIFFITH BASE HOSPITAL BIRTHS—Mrs Helen Dalton asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

- (1) Given the Minister's response to LA Q2521 that the number of births in Griffith Base Hospital in each year from 2014 to 2019 has "remained relatively stable", what is the exact number for each year?
- (2) Why were exact numbers not provided in the answer to LA Q2521?
- (3) Is this information classified to the public?

Answer—

Detailed birthing information is publicly available on the NSW Health website.

*3038 COVID-19 COMPLIANCE FOR SCHOOLS—Mrs Helen Dalton asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

What measures and practices are New South Wales public schools required to follow in order to be COVID-19 compliant?

Answer—

Under the New South Wales Human Influenza Pandemic Plan, the Department of Education's key responsibilities included:

- working with NSW Health and other government agencies to prevent and slow the spread of the pandemic in schools;
- supporting the New South Wales community by reinforcing messages from NSW Health to staff, students and parents/carers;
- continuing to provide educational services;
- preparing for New South Wales public schools to return to normal;
- providing communication links with the early childhood education sector; and
- supporting communication links with the Catholic Schools New South Wales and the Association of Independent Schools.

This work was overseen by a cross-department taskforce which coordinated a whole of Department response effort in order to meet the responsibilities outlined above.

All activities and operations in New South Wales public schools are being conducted in line with guidelines and advice from the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee and NSW Health, as applicable.

The following principles underpin these guidelines:

- Schools continue to be safe and operations are in line with AHPPC and NSW Health guidelines;
- All students should be learning on-campus unless they are unwell or have a medical certificate to support their absence;
- Existing infection control protocols at schools, and new health and safety measures put in place will help maintain the health and safety of students and staff;
- All activities permitted at school are safe and appropriate in a living with COVID-19 environment.

Principals were advised to maximise the number of entry and exit points into and out of school grounds. They were further advised to take into account an increase in the number of parents at drop off and pick

up points when staggering start and finish times. Non-essential adults are still not permitted on school grounds or at school events - this includes parents/carers unless specifically approved by the principal.

Principals (as site managers) may continue to restrict, limit or prohibit activities if deemed to be contrary to the advice of the day, and may escalate any issues or concerns to their Director, Educational Leadership.

*3039 STRONGER COUNTRY COMMUNITIES FUND—Ms Tamara Smith asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade—

What is being done to ensure the funding under the Stronger Country Communities Fund is being allocated where it is needed?

Answer—

The Stronger Country Communities Fund (SCCF) is a \$400 million program under the \$1.7 billion Regional Growth Fund. Since 2017, the Stronger Country Communities Fund has supported more than 1,500 local projects that make regional communities even better places to call home.

Across all three rounds of the program, a minimum of \$3 million has been allocated to every single regional Local Government Area for valued community projects such as cycleways, playgrounds, sporting fields and community halls.

*3040 GREAT LAKES MARINE PARK MANGROVES—Ms Kate Washington asked the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—

(1) How many hectares of the Port Stephens Great Lakes Marine Park are occupied by mangroves?

(2) Is there a large area of dead mangroves at Mud Point in Cromarty Bay?

(a) If so:

(i) What is the cause of the mangrove losses?

(ii) What steps are being taking to restore the health of the affected area of mangroves?

Answer—

(1) The Port Stephens estuary, which includes the Karuah River, Myall River and Myall Lakes and their creeks and tributaries, has approximately 2,774 hectares of mangroves.

(2) Yes.

(a) Damage to the mangroves in Mud Point was first observed in May 2018. The damaged mangroves were inspected by NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) staff. During this inspection, physical damage to the mangroves was observed that had a strong correlation with storm damage with physical damage to branches and leaves consistent with hail. In some cases, the damage was only observed on the western side of the mangrove trees. Damage also occurred to terrestrial vegetation on the eastern side of Cromarty Bay, which correlates with the likelihood of directional impact from a storm cell moving in an easterly direction.

(b) DPI continues to monitor the damage and is also using the mangroves to trial remote sensing to assess the natural recovery potential of the mangroves compared with two control sites located within Port Stephens.

*3041 GREAT LAKES MARINE PARK EMPLOYEES—Ms Kate Washington asked the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—

(1) How many staff were employed to oversee the Port Stephens Great Lakes Marine Park in:

(a) 2015-16;

(b) 2016-17;

(c) 2017-18;

(d) 2018-19;

(e) 2019-20? (as at 20 May 2020)

(2) What are the position titles for all staff employed to oversee the Port Stephens Great Lakes Marine Park?

Answer—

The Department of Primary Industries has employed three staff to manage the Port Stephens - Great Lakes Marine Park since 2015/16, including;

- Manager, Port Stephens-Great Lakes Marine Park
- Marine Ranger, Port Stephens-Great Lakes Marine Park
- Administration Officer, Port Stephens-Great Lakes Marine Park

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In addition, the Port Stephens Fisheries Institute supports the delivery of the management and operations of the marine park and employs a Liaison Officer to work with Aboriginal communities within the Marine Park and broader marine estate.

*3042 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AUTHORITY ASBESTOS DETECTION—Ms Kate Washington asked the Minister for Energy and Environment—

- (1) Will the Minister review the Environmental Protection Authority's (EPA) decision to impose a clean-up notice on the Millers Forest family who received fill which the EPA says is contaminated with asbestos?
- (2) Is there a review being undertaken of the EPA's asbestos detection protocols?
- (3) Do the people or companies assessing and reporting on contamination levels of waste material require accreditation from the EPA?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) The Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) continues to investigate the deposit of contaminated fill at the Millers Forest property.

(2) No.

(3) The companies or persons that assess and report on contamination levels of waste material do not require accreditation from the EPA.

Samples must be analysed by analytical laboratories accredited by the National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA). NATA is an independent authority that provides assurance of technical competence for these laboratories.

*3043 HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE - SOCIAL DISTANCING—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

What extra social distancing requirements will schools be required to employ during the sitting of the 2020 Higher School Certificate examinations?

Answer—

During the Higher School Certificate (HSC) exams in October and November 2020, schools will be required to comply with COVID-19 social distancing requirements specified by the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC), and supported by NSW Health.

NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) is working closely with schools to protect against infection and prevent the spread of COVID-19. NESA continues to monitor evolving social distancing requirements to ensure the safety of students, school staff, supervisors and markers.

NESA will continue to adjust its social distancing plans for schools and associated HSC operations based on AHPPC advice.

*3044 PARENT-TEACHER INTERVIEWS—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) Will mandatory parent-teacher interviews in 2020 for New South Wales students be conducted through technological conferencing programs?
 - (a) If so, which programs will be recommended by the Department?

Answer—

(1) There is no requirement for mandatory parent teacher interviews within the current policy, however schools do provide parents/carers, throughout the school year, with formal and informal opportunities to receive information about and discuss their child's learning.

(a) The Department of Education has provided guidelines to schools for conducting parent teacher interviews using phone or online platforms. This may include platforms such as Zoom and GoogleMeet.

Further information regarding the current policy can be found on the Department's website at <https://policies.education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policies/curriculum-planning-and-programming-assessing-and-reporting-to-parents-k-12>.

*3045 HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE - RESULTS NOTIFICATIONS—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) Due to the postponement in the commencement of the 2020 Higher School Certificate examinations, will the notification of their results also be postponed?
(a) If so, for how long?

Answer—

Due to the delay to the start of the Higher School Certificate (HSC) 2020 written exam period, the HSC results have been delayed by three days, and will be released on Friday 18 December.

The Universities Admissions Centre (UAC) will also release the Australian Tertiary Admissions Ranks (ATARs) on Friday 18 December, allowing university offers to be made to students before Christmas, as has been the practice in recent years.

- *3046 HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE MARKING - SOCIAL DISTANCING—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

Which subjects will be impacted by extra social distancing requirements at the marking centres for the 2020 Higher School Certificate?

Answer—

All relevant health guidelines will be applied at Higher School Certificate (HSC) exam marking centres.

- *3047 HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE - MARKING DEADLINES—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

In order to meet social distancing requirements will Higher School Certificate (HSC) marking deadlines be extended to assist HSC markers?

Answer—

The NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) will utilise additional space to meet social distancing requirements and accommodate the number of markers required to meet Higher School Certificate (HSC) marking deadlines.

Most of the HSC marking is already undertaken by markers online at home.

The remaining marking will be undertaken in line with the hygiene and physical distancing measures outlined by the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) to protect against infection and prevent the spread of COVID-19.

- *3048 HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE MARKERS—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) How many teachers will be employed during the 2020 Higher School Certificate marking operations?
(a) Of these teachers:
(i) How many teachers will be marking online remotely?
(ii) How many will be marking at marking centres throughout New South Wales?

Answer—

Approximately 5,500 teachers will be employed during the 2020 Higher School Certificate (HSC) marking operations. Of these teachers:

- Approximately 4,400 will mark online and 3,600 (82 per cent) of these teachers will work remotely once trained;
- All 5,500 markers will attend a marking centre for all or some of the operation. 3,600 markers will work remotely after attending briefing and practice marking sessions.

- *3049 SCHOOL SPECIAL BUS SERVICES—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) Will "School Special" bus services for school students be required to observe social distancing measures?
(a) If so, will extra services be provided to allow for the smaller number of students permitted on a bus?

Answer—

I am advised:

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*3050 SCHOOL SPECIAL BUS SERVICES—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

(1) Will "School Special" bus services for school students be required to observe social distancing measures?

(a) If so, will extra services be provided to allow for the smaller number of students permitted on a bus?

Answer—

Physical distancing measures do not apply on dedicated school services. This is because NSW Health has advised that children are at lower risk from COVID-19.

All dedicated school bus services, and non-school bus services, will run to a full timetable.

The Department of Education has been in regular contact with Transport for NSW monitoring the volume of students travelling on public transport to and from school.

*3051 HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE MARKERS - RESOURCES—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

What extra resources will Higher School Certificate markers receive to cope with the COVID-19 pandemic at marking centres during marking operations of the 2020 Higher School Certificate?

Answer—

The NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) continues to monitor evolving social distancing requirements to ensure the safety of students, school staff, supervisors and markers.

In 2019, nearly three quarters of Higher School Certificate (HSC) marking was undertaken by markers online at home. NESA expects a similar or higher percentage of marking online at home in 2020.

The remaining marking will be undertaken in line with the hygiene and physical distancing measures outlined by the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) to protect against infection and prevent the spread of COVID-19.

NESA will continue to adjust its training of markers and associated HSC operations based on AHPPC advice.

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*3052 RENAL DIALYSIS CHAIRS—Mr Roy Butler asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

(1) What is the cost of establishing a renal dialysis chair?

(2) What is the cost, per annum, to operate a renal dialysis chair?

Answer—

The cost of establishing a renal dialysis chair and its per annum operating costs vary significantly.

The overall cost includes the cost of equipment, staffing and on-site operating costs. It may also include capital costs to establish the treatment space.

*3053 DUNGOWAN DAM—Mr Roy Butler asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

(1) Considering the answer to LA Q2337, part 3, will the diversions within the current state and Basin Plan accounting frameworks require a reduction in Sustainable Diversion Limit access for downstream irrigators?

(2) Considering the answer to LA Q2337, part 5, is the long-term reliability benefit to Tamworth modelling complete?

(a) If so, what is the long-term reliability benefit to Tamworth?

(3) Is the business case for the Dungowan Dam Project finalised?

(a) If so, where can the public access this business case?

Answer—

- (1) No.
- (2) This will be considered as part of the Final Business Case for Dungowan Dam.
- (3) No.

*3054 SOCIAL HOUSING MAINTENANCE—Mr Anoulack Chanthivong asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

- (1) What portion of the \$250 million in additional maintenance expenditure will be spent on maintenance of social housing?
 - (a) Of that amount, how much will be spent on social housing properties in the Macquarie Fields electorate?
 - (b) How many properties will this provide maintenance for in the Macquarie Fields electorate?
- (2) When will these additional maintenance activities commence?
- (3) Are there any restrictions or limitations, other than the quantum of funds available, on the type of maintenance activities that can be undertaken?
 - (a) If so, what are the restrictions?

Answer—

The Government has allocated \$47 million to the NSW Land and Housing Corporation for accelerated maintenance and repairs to social housing assets across New South Wales, as part of the Health and Economic Stimulus Packages.

The Government has also allocated \$12 million to the NSW Land and Housing Corporation for enhanced cleaning of social housing assets as part of these Health and Economic Stimulus Packages.

The activities are planned on a priority and ability-to-deliver basis, and projects are at various stages of commencement and completion. There are 41 work orders issued in the Macquarie Fields electorate as at 26 May 2020.

The Government's economic stimulus packages are aimed at keeping people in jobs, helping businesses and supporting our most vulnerable during the COVID-19 pandemic. Further information is available at www.treasury.nsw.gov.au/Covid-19Stimulus.

*3055 ECONOMIC STIMULUS MACQUARIE FIELDS ELECTORATE—Mr Anoulack Chanthivong asked the Treasurer—

- (1) How many small businesses in the Macquarie Fields electorate have had their fees and charges waived under the COVID-19 stimulus package announced (as at 21 May 2020)?
- (2) What has been the total amount of fees and charges waived for small businesses in the Macquarie Fields electorate (as at 21 May 2020)?
- (3) Are these small businesses automatically entitled to have fees and charges waived, or must they apply for the waiver?
- (4) Which Department or agency is responsible for administering the waiver?
- (5) Has this Department or agency been in direct contact with small businesses in New South Wales to advise of the waiver?
 - (a) If not:
 - (i) Why not?
 - (ii) Will the Government directly contact small businesses now?
- (6) How many additional cleaners of public infrastructure have been employed since the economic stimulus was announced in the Macquarie Fields electorate (as at 21 May 2020)?
 - (a) Are these cleaners employed on a full-time, part-time, or casual basis?
- (7) What is the total amount of maintenance that has been brought forward for public assets in the electorate of Macquarie Fields?
- (8) What is the total amount of the \$500 million capital works funding brought forward in the Macquarie Fields electorate?
 - (a) What specific projects have been brought forward in the electorate of Macquarie Fields?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) Information on waivers is not tracked at an electorate level.
- (3) It depends on the type of waiver. Please refer to the Service NSW website for more information.
- (4) Service NSW administers these licence fee waivers.
- (5) This question should be referred to Service NSW.

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(6), (7) and (8) Treasury does not have data at an electorate level to provide the breakdown requested in question (6), (7) and (8).

*3056 MURRUMBIDGEE LOCAL HEALTH DISTRICT FIT FOR WORK ASSESSMENT—Mrs Helen Dalton asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

- (1) Why did the Minister not provide specific figures in answer to LA Q2675 on the specific number of nurses and midwives who have been rejected from employment within the Murrumbidgee Local Health District (MLHD) because they failed the MLHD-specific "fit for work" assessment tool?
- (2) What is the specific number of rejected nurses and midwives?
- (3) Is it in the public interest for this information not to be disclosed?

Answer—

I am advised the Safe for Work screening result is not a pass or fail.

The results of all assessments are confidential to the staff and the District.

*3057 GRIFFITH BASE HOSPITAL STERILISATION SERVICES—Mrs Helen Dalton asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

- (1) In response to LA Q1404 and LA Q2675, why did the Minister not provide the total dollar figure spent by Griffith Base Hospital to access sterilisation services from St Vincent's Community Hospital in 2019?
- (2) Is it in the public interest for this information not to be disclosed?

Answer—

The contract has a confidentiality clause.

I refer the Member to the response to LA Q1404 for further information.

*3058 TAFE FREE ONLINE COURSES—Mr Jihad Dib asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) How many applications has TAFE NSW received in each of the following categories (as at 21 May 2020):
 - (a) Free on-line courses currently being offered due to the COVID-19 pandemic;
 - (b) Free Bushfire Recovery and Bushfire Relief Courses offered in:
 - (i) Northern New South Wales;
 - (ii) Southern New South Wales;
 - (iii) Western New South Wales;
 - (c) Fully subsidised Women in Business courses;
 - (d) Mature Age Workers' Scholarships?
- (2) How many applications for enrolment by TAFE NSW have been accepted for study in the following categories (as at 21 May 2020):
 - (a) Free on-line courses currently being offered due to the COVID-19 pandemic;
 - (b) Free Bushfire Recovery Courses currently being offered in:
 - (i) Northern New South Wales;
 - (ii) Southern New South Wales;
 - (iii) Western New South Wales;
 - (c) Fully subsidised Women in Business courses;
 - (d) Mature Age Workers' Scholarships?
- (3) How many applications for enrolment by TAFE NSW have been refused for study in the following categories (as at 21 May 2020):
 - (a) Free on-line courses currently being offered due to the COVID-19 pandemic;
 - (b) Free Bushfire Recovery Courses currently being offered in:
 - (i) Northern New South Wales;
 - (ii) Southern New South Wales;
 - (iii) Western New South Wales;
 - (c) Fully subsidised Women in Business courses;
 - (d) Mature Age Workers' Scholarships?
- (4) What is the cost of running each of these courses online?
- (5) Which of the courses currently being offered free are usually offered as face to face courses?
 - (a) What is the cost to run each of those courses face to face?

- (6) What is the cost of running the following courses:
 - (a) Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care;
 - (b) Certificate III in Individual Support (Ageing, Home And Community);
 - (c) Certificate IV in Mental Health?
- (7) Was costing completed prior to offering these courses to the public, including:
 - (a) The number of expected applications in each category and for each course;
 - (b) The number of staff hours required to offer these courses compared to courses that are not offered for free to students;
 - (c) The possibility of offering more or all courses currently run by TAFE NSW without cost to students?
- (8) Is TAFE NSW's online digital platform that students use to study these courses run internally or outsourced?
 - (a) If it is outsourced:
 - (i) When was the contract put out to tender?
 - (ii) Who submitted a bid for the contract?
 - (iii) Who won the contract?
 - (iv) What is the annual cost of delivering the online digital platform?
 - (v) Did TAFE consider providing the online digital platform internally?
 - (vi) Why can't it be run internally by TAFE?

Answer—

The Government is proud to be delivering fee-free online courses in response to the COVID-19 pandemic to assist people to upskill during this time. I am advised that there has been unprecedented demand for these short courses, with over 100,000 enrolments as at 28 May 2020.

I am further advised that in response to the devastating bushfires, TAFE NSW has delivered 103 bushfire recovery courses in the South, North and West regions, with increased training expected as COVID-19 restrictions are eased.

I am informed that as at 31 May 2020, there were over 840 enrolments under the Mature Aged Workers Scholarship program at TAFE NSW which began in January 2020. I am also advised that TAFE NSW are projecting continual growth in the number of scholarships that are taken up over the four years, including an increase in uptake of scholarships to support people facing current job uncertainty and unemployment as a result of COVID-19.

I am also informed that TAFE NSW has seen a high number of enrolments in its Women in Business Program with over 5,500 female entrepreneurs enrolling in the program in the five months since its launch in January 2020.

With regard to the cost of running the courses, I am advised that due to the commercial environment in which TAFE NSW operates, it would be inappropriate to provide this operational data. However, information on TAFE NSW's financial performance is available in the Financial Statements that accompany the TAFE NSW annual report which is available at: <https://www.tafensw.edu.au/corporate/annualreport>.

I am also advised that the TAFE NSW online digital platform (TAFE Digital Campus) is run internally.

*3059 REVIEW OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING SECTOR—Mr Jihad Dib asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) When is the review of the New South Wales vocational education and training sector being carried out by Professor Peter Shergold AC and David Gonski AC expected to be:
 - (a) Provided to the Minister?
 - (b) Provided to the Cabinet?
 - (c) Released publicly?

Answer—

I am advised that as at 23 June 2020, in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Review on the New South Wales vocational education and training sector has been temporarily paused while the Government and the Review Panel focus on responding to this unprecedented crisis.

When completed by Mr Gonski and Professor Shergold, the Government will consider the recommendations and respond appropriately.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
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*3060 ELECTRIC SCOOTERS—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) Considering the advice to commuters to socially distance and use active transport during the COVID-19 pandemic, what investigation into the viability and safety of electric scooters has the Government carried out since LA Q0076?
- (2) What assessment has the Government made of trials of electric scooters in other jurisdictions?
- (3) What outcomes have trials shown about:
 - (a) Risks to pedestrians;
 - (b) Helmet use and risks to scooter users;
 - (c) Impacts on access in public places;
 - (d) Mobility benefits;
 - (e) Financial impacts?
- (4) What consideration has the Government given to community requests for regulation of electric scooters?
- (5) What assessment has been made of potential benefits and risks, including impacts on safety, traffic and personal convenience?
- (6) What action does the Government plan to take on electric scooters in New South Wales, including community consultation?

Answer—

(1) and (4) Transport for NSW (TfNSW) convened an Electric Scooter Advisory Group consisting of key stakeholders to provide guidance and recommendations around policy, regulatory and other relevant issues that may impact on road safety relating to proposals for electric scooter trials in New South Wales. Electric scooter operators were also invited to provide their experience and advice to the Advisory Group. The potential benefits and risks of electric scooters were considered.

TfNSW is proactively looking to technology and its industry partners to improve mobility and the customer experience. At the same time, safety is paramount.

To support active transport, a number of pop up initiatives have been announced across the city to give people more options to safely walk, cycle, and commute to work.

Work is underway on six new pop up cycleways in key commuter areas across the city and new safe speed limits to promote walking and cycling. The six new pop up cycleways will be rolled out to the west, east and south of the CBD on:

- Bridge Road/Pymont Bridge Road at Pymont;
- Pitt St North in the CBD;
- Moore Park Road in Paddington/Moore Park;
- Dunning Avenue at Rosebery;
- Sydney Park Road in Alexandria/Ersleville; and
- Henderson Road at Eveleigh.

The Electric Scooter Advisory Group has considered available data from trials in other jurisdictions as well as data provided by operators.

(3) Whilst there have been a number of trials conducted in jurisdictions globally, a limited number of comprehensive reports have been released.

(a) It is understood the majority of injuries reported in trials were sustained by scooter riders, not pedestrians. Injury data has been limited as it relies on individuals reporting incidents.

(b) Helmet use varied across jurisdictions based on trial requirements. An observational study in Brisbane, where helmet use is compulsory, found that 61 per cent of share electric scooter riders were wearing a helmet. Studies in American jurisdictions such as Austin and Los Angeles, where helmet use is not compulsory, have found that head injuries represent between 40 and 50 per cent of hospital presentations by electric scooter riders.

(c) Safe parking of electric scooters has been observed as a common issue for many trials, causing public nuisance and limiting access. Operators have appeared to have limited success in addressing this issue.

(d) Studies suggest that electric scooters displace both walking and motor vehicle trips. Both mobility benefits and challenges of electric scooters have been considered by the Advisory Group, including the impact on pedestrian safety and sense of safety.

(e) There have been significant financial impacts reported in relation to electric scooter accident claims in trials within New Zealand. Information on the financial costs and benefits to insurers, local councils, transport networks and customers in other jurisdictions has been limited.

(5) The potential benefits and risks of electric scooters in respect to safety, traffic and personal convenience have all been considered by the Advisory Group.

(6) Through the Advisory Group, TfNSW has listened to the concerns of the community, specifically on issues like pedestrian and rider safety, and these issues are currently under consideration.

*3061 PADDINGTON GATES SAFETY—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

(1) What action is the Government taking to fast-track safe cycleway and pedestrian routes at the Paddington Gates intersection outside Centennial Park?

(2) When does the Government expect safety improvements to be implemented?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Government is committed to ensuring the safety of cyclists. Transport for NSW continues to investigate the most suitable way to support cyclists at the Paddington Gates. We will update the community as soon as we have more to say.

More people than ever are walking or cycling to work or for leisure and fitness. The Government continues to encourage people to walk and cycle as part of their everyday commute. We recognise that not only does it help relieve pressure on our roads and public transport system, but walking and cycling are healthy, active ways of travelling. By continuing to invest in the construction of new separated paths and infrastructure, we help keep people safe while encouraging more individuals to take up these modes of travel.

Thanks to the Government's strong economic management, approximately \$600 million will be invested into walking and cycling infrastructure over the next four years. This will bring the Government's total investment to around \$1 billion - the largest commitment in the State's history.

The Government is focused on cycling projects in line with the Future Transport 2056 strategy. This strategy identifies the Government's 40-year vision for transport planning to meet the demands of the predicted population growth in New South Wales. It prioritises the delivery of connected cycling networks within 10 kilometres of metropolitan city centres by 2026, and within five kilometres of strategic centres by 2036.

In response to the coronavirus pandemic, the Government is working with councils to establish temporary initiatives throughout Greater Sydney to give the community more options to safely walk, cycle and commute to work. In May 2020 the Government announced an initial series of new pop-up cycleways in key commuter areas and temporary 40 kilometres per hour speed zones in the City of Sydney Local Government Area to improve safety and reduce crowding on public transport. The Government will monitor these pop-up solutions and work with other councils across Sydney to identify hot spots where we can place temporary measures to ensure customers can safely distance themselves. You may be assured that there are a number of other pop-up cycleways in development. The Government will update the community on these initiatives in due course.

As part of the Government's new \$15 million Streets as Shared Spaces program, councils will be able to apply for grants of up to \$100,000 for immediate temporary projects, such as widening footpaths and cycle links. Grants of up to \$1 million for medium-term pilot projects, such as extra crossing points, wider kerbs and trialling lower speed limits, will also be available. Please visit www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/streets for more information.

*3062 SERIOUS ANIMAL CRUELTY—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—

(1) What assessment has the Government done on the Supreme Court ruling of *Brighton v Will* [2020]?

(2) What concerns have been identified about the drafting and the Supreme Court's interpretation of Section 530 (2) of the Crimes Act 1900 in terms of how they allow serious animal cruelty including torture and prolonged suffering of an animal if it is deemed a pest?

(3) Will the Government review Section 530 (2) to ensure that it is not used as a loophole for torture and other forms of serious animal cruelty?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Department of Communities and Justice is currently considering the Supreme Court's decision in this matter.

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*3063 SOCIAL HOUSING SALES—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

- (1) How many social housing properties does the Government own in the inner city and in the Sydney electorate (as at 21 May 2020)?
- (2) How many new social housing properties in these areas have been bought or built since 2011?
- (3) What social housing properties are under construction (as at 21 May 2020)?
- (4) How many new properties have been made available through the Communities Plus program and how many of these are in the inner city?
- (5) What plans does the Government have to prevent the need to sell social housing properties because they are in poor condition?
- (6) Does the Government plan to sell any further social housing properties in the Sydney electorate?
- (7) What plans does the Government have to increase social housing in the inner city?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) As of 21 May 2020, Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) owned 1,354 dwellings in the Sydney electorate.
- (2) Since 2011, 20 new social housing dwellings have been built in the Sydney electorate.
- (3) As at 21 May 2020, no social housing dwellings were under construction in the Sydney electorate.
- (4) 1,787 new dwellings have been made available through LAHC's Communities Plus program, which 20 of these are in the Sydney electorate.
- (5) Every sale of a social housing property is carefully considered. The Housing Act 2001 requires that sale proceeds are retained by LAHC and re-invested into the portfolio, to either fund new development and/or to provide for the costs of maintenance in maintaining the portfolio to the standard expected under the Residential Tenancies Act 2010. LAHC has an estimated budget of \$397 million (in responsive, recurrent and capital maintenance expenditure) for financial year 2020 - 2021 for ongoing and capital maintenance. The Government announced an additional \$47 million in stimulus funding provided through the Social Housing Maintenance Stimulus as part of our \$2.3 billion COVID-19 stimulus package. The monies have been expended on required maintenance.
- (6) LAHC is continually reviewing its portfolio, including properties within the Sydney electorate, to support the priorities of the Government's social housing policy Future Directions for Social Housing in New South Wales. Any decision made to sell social housing will be made in accordance with these priorities
- (7) LAHC has lodged Planning Proposals with the City of Sydney for the following:
 - (a) Redfern Build-to-Rent project on 28 February 2020, seeking to provide 70 new social housing dwellings.
 - (b) Waterloo South on 12 May 2020, seeking an uplift from 749 to 849 new social housing dwellings.
 - (c) Glebe development project on 18 May 2020, proposing to transform 19 existing social dwellings into 35 new modern social dwellings.

*3064 POWERHOUSE MUSEUM COLLECTION—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Premier—

What measures is the Government taking to ensure that all items in the Powerhouse Museum collection are protected and maintained properly?

Answer—

The care and preservation of the Powerhouse Museum's (the Museum) collection is of the highest priority.

I understand professionals at the Museum will develop and execute a carefully considered collection management, transport and storage plan to move all collection items into a specialised secure storage facility in Castle Hill during construction in Parramatta.

I understand this project has also provided the opportunity to digitise 338,000 items from the Museum's collection, greatly improving community access.

*3065 PROPERTY NSW PARKS PYRMONT—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

- (1) With respect to lands identified in LA Q0080:
 - (a) Is the Government committed to retaining this land as open green space?
 - (b) What plans does the Government have for:

- (i) Cadi Park - Bowman Street/Refinery Drive;
- (ii) Waterfront Park - Bowman Street;
- (iii) Ballarat Park - Darling Island Road;
- (iv) Metcalfe Park - Darling Island Road;
- (v) Pyrmont Bay Park - Pirrama Road;
- (vi) Boardwalk at Pyrmont Point/Pirrama Park;
- (vii) Small Community Garden - corner of John St and Cadigal Avenue?

(2) What plans does the Government have to transfer these lands to the City of Sydney for ongoing maintenance?

Answer—

I am advised:

This is a matter for the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces. I understand his office will provide you an answer to these questions as soon as possible.

*3066 DARLING HARBOUR PEDESTRIAN ACCESS—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

- (1) What assessment has the Government made of limitations on pedestrian access between Pyrmont and Darling Harbour and the Central Business District?
- (2) How will recent redevelopment proposals and construction underway impact on this access both during and after construction?
- (3) What options has the Government considered to extend easy pedestrian access in addition to existing routes?
- (4) What plans does the Government have to improve pedestrian access between Pyrmont and Darling Harbour and the Central Business District?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The Government values active transport and pedestrian access and routes between the Sydney Central Business District (CBD) along Darling Harbour and the Pyrmont Peninsula. On Wednesday 17 June 2020, the Government announced the approval of the new Sydney Fish Markets at Blackwattle Bay, which will unlock a part of the Pyrmont peninsula currently dominated by industrial uses and provide it back to the public. As part of the approval, the new Fish Markets proposes around 4,700 square metres of new public space on the foreshore. Most significantly, moving the Fish Markets to its new site provides the opportunity to link the CBD to Rozelle through a continuous and publicly accessible pedestrian and cycling foreshore route. The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (the Department) has also considered pedestrian access between Pyrmont, Darling Harbour and the CBD in its consideration of the Concept Proposal for the Cockle Bay Park development. In assessing this proposal and making its recommendation to the Independent Planning Commission, the Department recommended this project for approval because of the strong public benefits it offered. Like the new Sydney Fish Markets, the Cockle Bay Park proposal will provide approximately 5,500 square metres of publicly accessible open space right in the middle of Sydney, while also significantly improving pedestrian connectivity between the CBD and Darling Harbour over the Western Distributor. The Independent Planning Commission gave consent to the Cockle Bay Park Concept Approval in May 2019.
- (2) Development in Darling Harbour will have temporary impacts on pedestrian access during construction. Construction is currently underway on The Ribbon. The site is currently surrounded by hoardings preventing public access during construction. Once completed the Ribbon will create an enhanced public domain precinct and a new gateway to the CBD, with enhanced pedestrian access to Cockle Bay from the south of Darling Harbour, a new revitalised entrance to Darling Harbour from Harbour Street and a new public playground and civic centre. A Stage 2 detailed development application will be required for the Cockle Bay Park proposal, which will consider impacts to existing pedestrian access during construction. Alternative pedestrian access arrangements into Darling Harbour will be considered as part of the Stage 2 detailed development application for this project. Once completed, all developments will significantly improve pedestrian access in Darling Harbour.
- (3) The Cockle Bay Park Approval and The Ribbon include public domain upgrades which extend pedestrian access between Pyrmont, Darling Harbour and the CBD. The sites currently feature many level changes and future detailed applications for the Cockle Bay Park site would include consideration of stair, ramp, lift and other access to provide pedestrian access through the sites.

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- (4) The management of existing pedestrian movements and the development of strategies for further improving pedestrian access through Darling Harbour and into the CBD are ongoing. The access from Pyrmont into Darling Harbour moves through multiple access points, which means any disruption caused by development will be able to be managed by redirecting flow from one area to another. Place Management NSW conducts ongoing monitoring of pedestrian movements and the improvement of access is considered in connection with any large development. Additionally, Place Management NSW is currently working with stakeholders and City of Sydney Council to improve cycle access through the precinct while also ensuring continued safe access for pedestrians.

*3067 COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT DIVERSION PROGRAM—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—

- (1) What proportion of people in prison have been diagnosed with an intellectual disability?
- (2) What assessment has the Government made of the outcomes of the Cognitive Impairment Diversion Program diverting people with intellectual disability from prison?
 - (a) What plans does the Government have to continue and expand this and similar programs to keep people with intellectual disability out of prisons?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Information collected by the Statewide Disability Services in the Department of Communities and Justice shows that almost four per cent of offenders in custody are functioning in the range of intellectual disability.
- (2) The Department of Communities and Justice commissioned an evaluation of the Cognitive Impairment Diversion Program pilot, which was available at the Gosford and Penrith Local Courts. The evaluations can be found here: <http://www.localcourt.justice.nsw.gov.au/Documents/Facts%20Sheets/Cognitive%20Impairment%20Diversion%20Program/cidp-cost-benefit-analysis.pdf>.
 - (a) On 16 June 2020, the Government passed the Mental Health and Cognitive Impairment Forensic Provisions Bill 2020. This reform will provide Local Court magistrates greater clarity when making a decision to divert people with cognitive impairments from the criminal justice system into the National Disability Insurance Scheme and related services.

*3068 INNER WEST ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE—Ms Jo Haylen asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) Why are local road network improvements for Ashfield, Haberfield and Leichhardt being proposed before the opening of the M4-M5 Link?
- (2) What is the projected volume of traffic on Parramatta Road and the City West Link in Ashfield, Haberfield and Leichhardt after the M4-M5 WestConnex Link opens compared to the current volume of traffic (as at 21 May 2020)?
- (3) What are the current traffic volumes at intersections at Parramatta Road and Dalhousie Street, Haberfield, and at the City West Link and Waratah Street, Haberfield (as at 21 May 2020)?
 - (a) If the proposed amendments are adopted, what are the projected traffic volumes in all directions on local streets leading from these intersections?
- (4) Has the Government modelled other rat running caused by the removal of the traffic lights at Dalhousie and Parramatta Road, including on Haberfield Road, O'Connor St, Sloane St and St Davids Road?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The Haberfield, Ashfield and Leichhardt local road network improvement proposals aim to improve conditions for local and regional traffic, both now and beyond the opening of the M4-M5 Link. More information can be found on the Haberfield, Ashfield and Leichhardt local network improvements page on the Transport for NSW website.
- (2), (3) and (4) Analysis of traffic volumes in the area is at a preliminary stage and continuing. Transport for NSW has consulted with the community as early as possible in the development of the proposals and this feedback will be considered, along with detailed traffic modelling.

*3069 INNER WEST LIGHT RAIL—Ms Jo Haylen asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) Is the Government still on track to commence the purchase of additional vehicles for the Inner West Light Rail line in mid-2020?

- (a) When will the announcement of these purchases be made?
- (2) What other improvements to the electricity and infrastructure around the light rail line are required to improve capacity on the line?
- (3) What improvements will be delivered by the Government as part of its plan to increase capacity on the line?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Transport for NSW (TfNSW) is working towards determining a preferred vehicle type for procurement by mid-late 2020. It is expected an announcement regarding the award of a contract to procure additional vehicles will be made following approval of the business case and funding allocation.
- (2) The existing network configuration, including current electrical and signalling infrastructure can support operating a six minute weekday peak frequency that will be delivered with the procurement of the four additional light rail vehicles (LRVs). Some minor infrastructure changes will need to be made if the Alstom Citadis light rail vehicle is procured. TfNSW is also investigating an option for additional stabling for the four LRVs at Lilyfield Depot.
- (3) The procurement of four additional light rail vehicles and the associated infrastructure upgrades will enable the safe and reliable provision of six minute service headways during peak weekday periods (7:00 am to 10:00 am and 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm), which will increase capacity by approximately 1,000 passengers per hour (in both directions). The replacement of up to 18 crossings will permit the removal of temporary speed restrictions associated with these crossings and improve journey time performance.

*3070 METRO WEST STATIONS—Ms Jo Haylen asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) Has the Government modelled the benefits of providing a direct interchange between the Inner West Light Rail and the proposed Metro West?
- (2) What consideration has been given to an additional Metro West station at Leichhardt North or a more direct connection to the Rozelle Bay light rail station at the proposed Bays Station?
- (3) What connections between the Inner West Light Rail and Sydney Metro are planned as part of the existing proposal for the Metro West and what will be the benefits for inner west commuters?

Answer—

I am advised:

This information is publicly available on the Sydney Metro website.

Sydney Metro has been working with the community since 2016 to deliver a project that provides a fast, safe and reliable metro journey while providing the most benefits to local communities. A key consideration is the balance between travel times and number of stations to ensure the project provides the best outcome for the community. The 2019 project Scoping Report outlines the considerations taken to decide on station location. The Scoping Report is publicly available on the Sydney Metro website.

The Bays Precinct Station will service the nearby community of Rozelle.

New metro services will be integrated with other transport modes, including interchanges with Sydney suburban rail as well as buses, light rail and ferries.

Sydney Metro West will deliver significant benefits for inner west commuters, including delivering new rail services for the first time at Burwood North, Five Dock and The Bays. This will relieve the congested T1 Western Line and T2 Inner West Line, as well as provide reliability and capacity benefits to the bus network.

*3071 PLANNING FOR CONGESTION AROUND SCHOOLS—Ms Jo Haylen asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) Has the Department of Education issued specific guidelines to principals around how to best manage congestion at pick up and drop off times at New South Wales schools as schools return to full time face-to-face teaching?
- (2) Has the Department of Education provided additional resources to principals to assist them with managing traffic at pick up and drop off times at local schools?
- (3) Has the Department of Education liaised with local councils or Transport for NSW about establishing temporary widened footpaths around schools as students return to full time face-to-face teaching?

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Answer—

(1) and (2) The Department of Education requested that school consider the use of staggered start/finish times as a means to reduce congestion and to implement appropriate strategies suitable for their local school environment including practicing physical distancing to minimise risk.

Principals were further advised to maximise the number of entry and exit points into and out of school grounds and to take into account an increase in the number of parents at drop off and pick up points.

Schools can contact their local School Infrastructure office for assistance.

The Department advised parents via its communication channels that schools would implement strategies at the local level and to check with their school regarding these arrangements.

(3) School Infrastructure NSW is engaging with councils to improve student access.

*3072 RAIL TRAILS IN BUSHFIRE AFFECTED COMMUNITIES—Ms Jo Haylen asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade—

- (1) What action has the Government taken to advance planning for rail trails in regional New South Wales?
- (2) Which stakeholders has the Government spoken to in relation to including rail trails as part of bushfire recovery in fire affected communities?
- (3) Is the Government supportive of rail trails in bushfire affected communities in regional New South Wales?

Answer—

Refer to LA Q2528.

*3073 EVICTION MORATORIUM AND GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE—Ms Jo Haylen asked the Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation—

- (1) When will the Government implement the \$140 million rental hardship package agreed to by the Legislative Council on 13 May 2020?
- (2) How many residential tenants have contacted Fair Trading for assistance since the Government announced its eviction moratorium and rental assistance package on 15 April 2020?
- (3) How many residential landlords have contacted Fair Trading for assistance since the Government announced its eviction moratorium and rental assistance package on 15 April 2020?
- (4) Since 15 April 2020, how many residential tenants have requested the contact information for their landlords so that they may enter negotiations for rent reduction?
 - (a) Of these requests, on how many occasions has Fair Trading successfully provided that information?
- (5) Between 15 April 2020 and 15 May 2020, how many complaints have been lodged by residential tenants about the conduct of landlords?
 - (a) How does that compare to the same month for each of the past three years?
- (6) Between 15 April 2020 and 15 May 2020, how many complaints have been lodged by residential landlords about the conduct of tenants?
 - (a) How does that compare to the same month for each of the past three years?
- (7) Since 15 April 2020, how many no-grounds eviction notices have been issued by landlords and agencies?
 - (a) How does that compare to the same period for each of the past three years?

Answer—

- (1) No such package was agreed to by the Parliament.

It was noted in the Second Reading Debate of the COVID-19 Legislation Amendment (Emergency Measures-Miscellaneous) Act 2020 that even with assistance for landlords capped at \$2,500 per tenancy, the scheme could end up costing between \$375 million and \$625 million - far beyond the \$140 million amount.

This far exceeds the balances in both the Property Services Compensation Fund (approximately \$9.1 million) and the Property Services Statutory Interest Account (approximately \$232 million) (which were proposed to "top up" the Compensation Fund).

- (2) NSW Fair Trading has received 586 enquiries and 58 complaints from tenants seeking advice or assistance on the tenancy moratorium measures since 15 April 2020 (to 27 May 2020).

(3) Fair Trading has received 90 enquiries and 15 complaints from landlords seeking advice or assistance on the tenancy moratorium measures since 15 April 2020 (to 27 May 2020).

(4) NSW Fair Trading does not capture this information. Tenants are able to obtain their landlords contact information from their Residential Tenancy Agreement.

(5) Between 15 April 2020 and 15 May 2020, NSW Fair Trading recorded 68 complaints from tenants about landlords.

(a) Between 15 April 2019 to 15 May 2019, Fair Trading recorded 49 complaints from tenants about landlords.

Between 15 April 2018 to 15 May 2018, Fair Trading recorded 42 complaints from tenants about landlords.

Between 15 April 2017 to 15 May 2017, Fair Trading recorded 53 complaints from tenants about landlords.

(6) Between 15 April 2020 and 15 May 2020, NSW Fair Trading recorded 15 complaints from landlords about tenants.

(a) Between 15 April 2019 to 15 May 2019, Fair Trading recorded NIL complaints from landlords about tenants.

Between 15 April 2018 to 15 May 2018, Fair Trading recorded one (1) complaint from landlords about tenants.

Between 15 April 2017 to 15 May 2017, Fair Trading recorded one (1) complaint from landlords about tenants.

(7) Landlords and real estate agents are not required to inform Fair Trading when issuing a no grounds termination notice. Therefore, this information is not available.

*3074 CHARITIES FUNDING—Ms Jo Haylen asked the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services—

(1) Which organisations have received funding as part of the \$10 million promised by the Government to assist charities?

(2) What was the process by which this funding was allocated?

(3) What is the timeline for this funding?

(4) What conditions are tied to this funding?

Answer—

I am advised OzHarvest, Foodbank, Neami National and a number of homelessness and domestic and family violence service providers have received funding, allocated through appropriate processes, through the NSW Charities Fund.

Funding is allocated across 2019-20 and 2020-21 to ensure critical support is provided to vulnerable and isolated Australians during the COVID-19 crisis.

Organisations will be required to report on COVID-19 funding as part of annual accountability.

Further information on Department of Communities and Justice's continued delivery of essential services in response to the pandemic is available at <https://www.coronavirus.dcj.nsw.gov.au/>

*3075 ELECTRIC SCOOTER WORKING GROUP—Ms Jo Haylen asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

(1) When was the last meeting of the electric scooter working group?

(2) When did the group make its recommendations about the feasibility of a trial of electric scooters to the Minister?

(3) When will those recommendations be made public?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) The last meeting of the electric scooter advisory working group was held in December 2019.

(2) The recommendations for trial criteria formulated by the electric scooter advisory working group was completed in March 2020 and provided to Transport for NSW.

(3) These recommendations are currently being considered with the safety of the community a key priority.

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*3076 TRAFFIC LIGHTS MARRICKVILLE—Ms Jo Haylen asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) When will the proposed right hand turn signal and lane be installed at Fraser Street/Sydenham Road and Livingstone Road, Marrickville?
- (2) Will the phasing of pedestrian lights be amended at the same time to allow pedestrians, cyclists and particularly students from Wilkins Public School and Marrickville High School longer to cross?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Transport for NSW is not aware of a proposal to install a right-hand turn signal and lane at this intersection.
- (2) Transport for NSW recently increased red arrow protection for all pedestrian crossings at this intersection during school hours between 8am to 9.30 am and between 2.30 pm to 4:00 pm.

*3077 SMALL BUSINESS GROWTH—Mr Nick Lalich asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Small Business, Vice-President of the Executive Council—

Considering dozens of local businesses have been forced to closed in the Cabramatta electorate due to COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, what incentives does the Government have in place to promote and stimulate the return of local businesses in New South Wales?

Answer—

The Government is providing a range of support measures to small businesses in New South Wales impacted by COVID-19.

The first major stimulus package announced on 17 March 2020 includes \$1.6 billion in tax cuts, fee waivers and job creation measures that support businesses in New South Wales. Key elements include:

- a three-month payroll tax waiver for businesses with payrolls of \$10 million or less (as part of the second stimulus package, all businesses were given the option to defer payroll tax for six-months);
- bringing forward the next round of payroll tax cuts by raising the threshold limit to \$1 million from 1 July 2020 (at a cost of \$56 million); and
- waiving a range of fees and charges for small businesses, including bars and cafes (at a cost of \$80 million).

The second stimulus package was announced on 27 March. This package includes the \$1 billion Working for NSW fund which will help sustain business, create new jobs and retrain employees; as well as tax cuts that build on those announced in the first package (up to \$4 billion deferred).

The Government has also announced a \$4.6 million expansion to Business Connect. Business can access free webinars and advice on a range of topics including managing cash flow, developing a customised recovery strategy, accessing finance including grants and loans, setting up ecommerce, and marketing businesses to reach new customers. Small businesses can also seek free, personalised advice from a Business Connect advisor.

The Government has announced two grant programs to assist small businesses impacted by COVID-19:

- the Small Business COVID-19 Support Grant of up to \$10,000 to help businesses impacted by the NSW Public Health Order of 30 March 2020 cover unavoidable business costs. Applications for this Grant close 30 June 2020.
- the Small Business Recovery Grant of up to \$3,000 to help businesses with costs associated with safely reopening or scaling up their operations. Applications for this Grant will open on 1 July.

Further information on available grants can be found on the Service NSW website: www.service.nsw.gov.au/.

The restrictions on premises imposed under Public Health Orders which have impacted small businesses have been progressively lifted in accordance with expert health advice.

For example, pubs and restaurants were able to reopen for sit down customers from 1 June 2020 and gyms, beauty salons and nail salons could also reopen.

Restrictions were further eased from 13 June 2020 and, from 1 July 2020, most restrictions will have been lifted, provided small businesses comply with the relevant COVID-19 Safety Plan for their industry.

The Service NSW website provides readily accessible information to help small businesses to comply with the COVID-19 safe business requirements.

*3078 SOUTH WESTERN SYDNEY - HOSPITALS INVESTMENT—Mr Nick Lalich asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

- (1) Considering Fairfield Hospital and many other local hospitals have been at the forefront of fighting the COVID-19 pandemic, does the Government plan to invest the funds needed to modernise Fairfield Hospital?
- (2) Considering South Western Sydney is a hotspot for COVID-19 and there have been confirmed cases, what measures are in place to provide extra medical staff and resources at Fairfield Hospital and Liverpool Hospital?
 - (a) What mechanisms are in place to support staff working in these hospitals during this health crisis?

Answer—

I refer the Member to the responses at LA Q1479, LA Q1483 and LA Q2480.

The Government has invested significantly in health as part of its response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including:

- \$700 million to expand Intensive Care Unit capacity, increase testing, purchase additional ventilators and medical equipment and establish acute respiratory clinics.
- Almost \$60 million to provide doctors, nurses, paramedics and other hospital and ambulance staff with the option of staying in out-of-home accommodation during the pandemic. This is complemented by free parking for healthcare workers at all public hospital carparks.
- \$73 million to boost mental health services, including to hire more specialist, community based mental health clinicians and peer support workers, and enhance the capacity of the Mental Health Line.
- \$100 million to fast track health infrastructure projects.

*3079 CANLEY VALE RAILWAY STATION LIFTS—Mr Nick Lalich asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) How long will it take for the lifts at Canley Vale Railway Station to be installed?
- (2) What is the anticipated completion date for this work?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Subject to planning approval, major construction is expected to commence in early 2021 and take around 18 months to complete.
- (2) The upgrade to Canley Vale Station is expected to be complete in 2022.

*3080 AUTOMATIC TRAFFIC LIGHTS—Ms Jenny Leong asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) When was the decision made to make some of the pedestrian buttons at traffic lights automatic and place the cover on them to inform people that they do not need to be pressed?
 - (a) What criteria were used to make this decision?
- (2) What needs to be done to have this automatic pedestrian crossing change happen at other intersections?
- (3) Who decides whether a pedestrian crossing at an intersection is automatic or reliant on pressing the button?
 - (a) What is the policy that determines this decision?
 - (b) How can a request be made to review or change a decision?
- (4) What is the full list of intersections that are currently automatic?
 - (a) Which were automatic before the pandemic?
 - (b) Which have been made automatic in the last three months (as at 21 May 2020)?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The initiative was enacted in close working relationship with NSW Health and rolled out in Sydney CBD on 23 March 2020 and in selected major health precincts starting 28 March 2020.
- (2) Transport for NSW has taken a targeted approach by implementing this public health measure where pedestrian activity for access to health services is high and it would be most effective in limiting the spread of Coronavirus. As a consequence, any further expansion of the initiative will be targeted to health precincts taking into consideration impacts on road safety, traffic and transport operations and community amenity.

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- (3) The decisions are made by Transport for NSW in consultation with NSW Health. The continuing application of the measure is subject to weekly review by Transport for NSW.
- (4) I refer you to the media release dated 5 May 2020: <https://transportnsw.info/news/2020/automated-pedestrian-crossings-expanded-in-nsw>.
 - (a) Pedestrian crossings at traffic signals were already automated between the hours of 7:00 am and 7:00 pm before the COVID-19 pandemic within the Sydney CBD boundaries: Hickson Road, Alfred Street, Macquarie Street, Sir John Young Crescent, Crown Street, Cleveland Street, City Road, Broadway, Wattle Street, Bank Street, Bowman Street, Harris Street, Pirrama Road, Darling Drive, Western Distributor, Wheat Road, Lime Street, Barangaroo Avenue, Watermans Quay.
 - (b) I refer you to the media release dated 5 May 2020: <https://transportnsw.info/news/2020/automated-pedestrian-crossings-expanded-in-nsw>

*3081 CARRIAGEWORKS—Ms Jenny Leong asked the Premier—

- (1) When was the Government made aware of the challenges facing Carriageworks which led them to go into administration?
- (2) What meetings have been held with organisations, businesses and stakeholders about Carriageworks with the Government in the past three months (as at 21 May 2020)?
- (3) Who currently owns the Carriageworks site?
 - (a) Is there a current lease arrangement in place (as at 21 May 2020)?
 - (i) If so, what is the length of this lease arrangement?

Answer—

I understand:

- (1) Audited accounts from Carriageworks Ltd are publicly available through the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission website.
- (2) Summaries of scheduled meetings are published quarterly on the Department of Premier and Cabinet website in accordance with Premier's Memorandum M2015-05.
- (3) The Carriageworks site is owned by Transport for NSW and is subject to a lease to the minister for the Arts on behalf of the Crown for 99 years, expiring 29 September 2114.

*3082 TRAIN STATION ACCESSIBILITY—Ms Jenny Leong asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) What is the current status of the accessibility upgrades for each of the following train stations (as at 21 May 2020):
 - (a) Petersham;
 - (b) Erskineville;
 - (c) Stanmore;
 - (d) St Peters;
 - (e) Lewisham?
- (2) When is the expected completion date of each station upgrade?
- (3) Is the work for each station upgrade currently on schedule (as at 21 May 2020)?
 - (a) If not, which projects are behind schedule?
- (4) Are there any upcoming consultation periods in relation to any of these upgrades?
 - (a) If so, when?

Answer—

I am advised:

Information about the current status of Transport Access Program projects is available on the Transport for NSW website www.transport.nsw.gov.au/projects/current-projects/tap-3.

*3083 HOMELESSNESS DURING COVID-19—Ms Jenny Leong asked the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services—

- (1) How many people who were sleeping rough have been provided with temporary accommodation between 1 March 2020 and 21 May 2020?
- (2) How many of these people have been moved from temporary accommodation into ongoing housing?
- (3) How many non-citizens have been provided access to temporary accommodation in the period from 1 March 2020 to 21 May 2020?
- (4) Are these non-citizens eligible for ongoing housing options once the temporary accommodation

expires?

(a) What options are available to them?

Answer—

The Government has taken action to prevent homelessness and protect people experiencing homelessness during COVID-19.

I am advised that more than 1,200 people who were sleeping rough in New South Wales were helped into temporary accommodation through the rapid expansion of assertive outreach to prevent the spread of COVID-19. More than 500 new households across New South Wales started to receive private rental subsidies through products like Start Safely and Rent Choice Youth.

The Government has invested more than \$70 million to support people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness during the pandemic.

On 8 June 2020 the Government announced \$36 million in new funding for the Together Home project, which will deliver housing and wrap around supports for hundreds of rough sleepers across the state.

Information on Department of Communities and Justice's eligibility criteria for social housing assistance is available at <https://www.dcj.nsw.gov.au/>

*3084 RENT CHOICE—Ms Jenny Leong asked the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services—

- (1) How has the expansion of Rent Choice for people in New South Wales been promoted and communicated to people and stakeholders since the increased funding as a result of the pandemic was announced?
- (2) How many people have taken up any type or version of Rent Choice options between 1 March 2020 and 21 May 2020?
 - (a) What is the split of this total between the types of Rent Choice products?
 - (b) How does this compare to the previous two quarters?
- (3) How many people are currently using the Rent Choice program (as at 21 May 2020)?
- (4) What are the top 10 regions for people currently using Rent Choice (as at 21 May 2020)?

Answer—

The Government has taken action to prevent homelessness and protect people experiencing homelessness during COVID-19.

I am advised more than 500 new households across New South Wales started to receive private rental subsidies through products like Start Safely and Rent Choice Youth.

The Government has invested more than \$70 million to support people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness during the pandemic.

On 8 June 2020 the Government announced \$36 million in new funding for the Together Home project, which will deliver housing and wrap around supports for hundreds of rough sleepers across the state.

Further information about what the Department of Communities and Justice is doing for housing and homelessness is available at <https://www.coronavirus.dcj.nsw.gov.au/services/housing-and-homelessness>

*3085 PUBLIC HOUSING—Ms Jenny Leong asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

- (1) How many public housing dwellings were sold between 1 January 2020 and 21 May 2020?
- (2) How many new public housing dwellings were completed in the period between 1 January and 21 May 2020?
- (3) How many public housing dwellings were vacant for more than one month as at April 2020?
 - (a) How many of these are uninhabitable or require significant maintenance?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) 103 public housing dwellings were sold between 1 January 2020 and 31 May 2020.
- (2) 45 public housing dwellings were completed in the period between 1 January and 31 May 2020, comprising 39 constructions and 6 acquisitions.
- (3) As at 27 April 2020, 225 relettable public housing dwellings had been vacant for more than 30 days. a. 72 (of the 225 above) required significant maintenance.

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*3086 PRIORITY HOUSING WAITING LIST—Ms Jenny Leong asked the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services—

- (1) How many applications are currently on the priority housing waiting list (as at 21 May 2020)?
 - (a) Has this increased or decreased in the last quarter?
 - (b) Has this increased or decreased since the same period last year?

Answer—

I am advised information on the number of applicants on the NSW Housing register (including priority applicants) is available at <https://dcj.nsw.gov.au>.

This information is published on a yearly basis with current data as at 30 June 2019.

*3087 BUS PRIVATISATION EMPLOYMENT—Dr Marjorie O'Neill asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) With an unemployment figure of seven per cent, why will Transport for NSW not guarantee non-operational jobs, as stated in the tender document outlining the privatisation of Sydney bus regions 7,8 and 9?
- (2) Will all non-operational jobs be lost after the privatisation is finalised?
 - (a) If so, how many people will be made redundant?
- (3) What impact will these redundancies have on the unemployment rate in New South Wales?
- (4) What will the impact be of the job losses on the New South Wales economy?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) and (2) The Government will minimise redundancies by maximising opportunities for transfer within the government sector or with the new operators.

Most of State Transit's 3,480 employees – around 3,300 – are operational and will be guaranteed employment for two years, with full transfer of service and leave entitlements.

The new operators have not been selected yet, so their non-operational staffing needs cannot be known. However, the successful tenderers will be required to identify potential matches between existing State Transit non-operational roles and the roles they need filled. The people they choose will receive the same guarantees and transfer arrangements as those applying to the operational staff.

Transport for NSW, with the support of the Public Service Commission and the Department of Premier and Cabinet, has already started finding jobs for as many non-operational staff as possible, either in the Transport cluster or elsewhere in the public sector.

In addition, Transport for NSW has established a specialist team to provide ongoing assistance to non-operational employees with their career transition. Together with existing resources within State Transit, this team has commenced career planning programs, including group sessions and individual case management, to prepare these employees for opportunities with the new operators or the public sector. This career support will continue right up until the transition of all regions.

(3) and (4) The number of redundancies will not be known until the end of the final transition and all avenues of redeployment have been explored.

*3088 PUBLIC TRANSPORT COMMAND POLICE NUMBERS—Dr Marjorie O'Neill asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) How many Public Transport Command (PTC) police are allocated to the New South Wales public transport system (as at 21 May 2020)?
- (2) How many PTC officers are allocated to each of the following networks (as at 21 May 2020):
 - (a) The heavy rail network;
 - (b) The light rail network;
 - (c) The Region 9 bus network;
 - (d) All Sydney bus networks combined;
 - (e) The ferry network?
- (3) How many services operate each day on each of the following networks (as at 21 May 2020):
 - (a) The Eastern Suburbs heavy rail line;
 - (b) All heavy rail networks combined;
 - (c) The CBD and South East Light Rail network;
 - (d) All light rail networks combined;

- (e) The Region 9 bus network;
- (f) All Sydney bus networks combined;
- (g) The ferry network;
- (h) The Metro rail network;
- (4) What will be the ratio of PTC officers per service for each of the following:
 - (a) The Eastern Suburbs heavy rail line;
 - (b) All heavy rail networks combined;
 - (c) The CBD and South East Light Rail network;
 - (d) All light rail networks combined;
 - (e) The Region 9 bus network;
 - (f) All Sydney bus networks combined;
 - (g) The ferry network;
 - (h) The Metro rail network?
- (5) Using Government modelling, how many commuters will use public transport on Monday, 25 May 2020?
- (6) What will be the ratio of PTC officers to passengers across each of the following:
 - (a) The Eastern Suburbs heavy rail Line;
 - (b) All heavy rail networks combined;
 - (c) The CBD and South East Light Rail network;
 - (d) All light rail networks combined;
 - (e) The Region 9 bus network;
 - (f) All Sydney bus networks combined;
 - (g) The ferry network;
 - (h) The Metro rail network;
 - (i) All public transport combined?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1), (2), (4) and (6) These questions should be directed to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services.

(3) This information is available on the Transport for NSW Open Data Hub.

(5) Transport for NSW modelling of passenger trips is not undertaken at the level of a calendar day. However, based on Opal system data there were 786,938 passenger trips on public transport on 25 May 2020.

*3089 COMMERCIAL LEASES COVID-19—Dr Marjorie O'Neill asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Small Business, Vice-President of the Executive Council—

- (1) Will the Government provide rental subsidy for small businesses during COVID-19 economic crisis?
- (2) Will the Government provide support for commercial landlords that have lost revenue from commercial leases?
- (3) How many commercial leases in the Coogee electorate have been broken due to a lack of financial support for either commercial tenants or landlords during the period of COVID-19 restrictions?
- (4) What is the economic cost of the commercial vacancies created by a lack of financial support for either commercial tenants or landlords within the Coogee electorate?
- (5) How does the Government plan on re-stimulating the local economy and rebuilding the appetite for tenants to take our commercial leases?

Answer—

(1) The Government is committed to supporting small to medium sized (SME) commercial tenants impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. We have enacted the Retail and Other Commercial Leases (COVID-19) Regulation 2020 ("the Regulation") to give effect to National Cabinet's Code of Conduct for commercial tenancies ("the Code of Conduct"). The Regulation will operate for a six-month period, commencing 24 April 2020.

Under the Regulation, an eligible commercial tenant can ask the lessor to renegotiate rent and other terms of the lease. Negotiations between the tenant and lessor must be had in good faith and have regard to:

- The economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The 14 leasing principles in the Code of Conduct.

As landlords, New South Wales government agencies are implementing the Regulation, including the 14 leasing principles in the Code of Conduct, in full. This includes principles 3, 4 and 5 that refer to rent reduction and apply on a case by case basis:

- Principle 3: Landlords must offer rent reductions proportionate to the tenant's decline in turnover
- Principle 4: Rent waivers must constitute at least 50 per cent of the rent reduction
- Principle 5: Any deferred rent must be paid back over the balance of the lease term or for a period of no less than 24 months, whichever is greater.

In addition to providing rent relief to SME commercial tenants in accordance with the Regulation, New South Wales government agencies are also offering a six-month rent deferral for eligible small business and not-for-profit tenants, announced as part of the second stimulus package.

(2) The Government is committed to supporting commercial lessors impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Retail and Other Commercial Leases (COVID-19) Regulation 2020 ("the Regulation") promotes collaboration and negotiation between lessors and tenants to ensure business continuity and a return to normal trading after public health orders are lifted.

The Regulation balances the interests of tenants and lessors and allows flexibility to deal with matters on a case-by-case basis. Commercial lessors that provide rent relief to eligible tenants will be entitled to land tax relief of equivalent value, up to a maximum of 25 per cent of their land tax liability for 2020 on the relevant property. Lessors will receive a waiver on land tax if they are yet to pay, or a rebate of previously paid land tax.

Lessors that receive this tax concession will also be able to defer their remaining land tax payments for three months.

(3) It is not possible to estimate the number of commercial leases in the Coogee electorate that have been broken due to a lack of financial support, as commercial leases are private contractual relationships.

Where lessors and tenants are unable to reach a rent relief agreement under the Retail and Other Commercial Leases (COVID-19) Regulation 2020 they must attend mediation through the NSW Small Business Commission before pursuing action in a court or tribunal.

From 7 April to 16 June 2020, the NSW Small Business Commission has received a total of 583 applications for mediation, with approximately 70 per cent of these related in some way to COVID-19.

(4) The threefold crisis of drought, bushfires and COVID-19 will cause the New South Wales economy to contract by around ten per cent in the second half of the 2019-20 financial year.

Unemployment is expected to reach seven and three quarter per cent, with around 275,000 fewer people employed in New South Wales in the June quarter.

This is having a significant effect on businesses throughout New South Wales. A recent survey by the NSW Small Business Commission (20 May 2020) highlighted that 87 per cent of small businesses surveyed have encountered challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the most common challenge being cashflow.

This is why the Government has implemented the Retail and Other Commercial Leases (COVID-19) Regulation 2020. The provisions are there to share the economic impacts of COVID-19 more evenly, to maximise the number of businesses that can resume normal operation when the COVID-19 restrictions are lifted.

(5) The Government understands that businesses across New South Wales are doing it tough at the moment. In response, the Government has committed more than \$13.6 billion in support measures including tax cuts, fee waivers, small business grants and job creation initiatives.

The recently announced Small Business Recovery Grant will provide eligible small businesses and not-for-profits with a grant of up to \$3,000 to help them safely reopen or scale-up operations.

The Recovery Grant follows-on from the Small Business COVID-19 Support Grant that provided up to \$10,000 to eligible businesses and not-for-profits to help cover unavoidable expenses and provide cashflow support during the hibernation phase.

In addition to direct financial support, the Government is focused on re-stimulating the economy with an emphasis on job creation. We have allocated an additional \$3 billion for shovel-ready construction projects that will kick-start economic activity and support jobs throughout New South Wales. Other hard-hit industries the Government is focused on include tourism, retail and accommodation.

Additional measures that support small businesses in New South Wales dealing with the impacts of COVID-19 include:

- Expanding Business Connect so even more businesses can access free advice and webinars on a range of COVID-19 issues;
- \$12.6 million support package for the taxi industry to provide operators with some financial relief during the COVID-19 shutdown and help taxis remain on the road; and
- \$50 million Rescue and Restart package for New South Wales arts and cultural organisations to ensure the sector continues to make an important contribution.

More broadly, the Treasurer has noted there will be a five-point recovery plan that will focus on improved productivity, tax reforms, deregulation, digitisation, and trade and investment.

*3090 HEALTH WORKFORCE IN LISMORE—Ms Janelle Saffin asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

What is the progress of the Government's election commitment made in February 2019 to deliver 284 extra nurses and midwives, 32 doctors, 38 allied health staff, and 50 hospital support workers across the Lismore electorate during this current Parliament term?

Answer—

NSW Health does not collect data or provide health services on the basis of electorate.

*3091 LISMORE CITY COUNCIL—Ms Janelle Saffin asked the Minister for Local Government—

- (1) Will the Government provide additional financial assistance to Lismore City Council, separate to the existing COVID-19 economic stimulus package, considering the Council's decision to terminate 73 casual staff contracts and place permanent positions under consideration during lockdown restrictions?
- (2) Considering the challenges faced by the Council and the importance of keeping Council workers employed, will the Government work to provide further support to Lismore City Council by:
 - (a) Bringing forward community infrastructure and environmental projects;
 - (b) Scrapping the waste levy during the COVID-19 pandemic?

Answer—

The Government recognises the vital role councils play in their communities and is only too aware of the significant financial and operational impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on our State's local councils.

Local councils are the lifeblood of their communities as a major employer. Local councils employ more than 60,000 staff and in many towns and communities are the major employer.

Like other parts of the community they are suffering from reduced revenues and increased costs as well as significant challenges in maintaining delivery of community infrastructure and services.

The Government's \$395 million local government economic stimulus package is designed to protect council jobs, services and infrastructure as a way of addressing the factors such as those experienced by Lismore City Council.

This package is designed to keep council workers in jobs and allow councils to deliver for communities. It will allow councils to continue to provide essential services through this crisis and bounce back faster once we come out the other side.

No other state or territory in the country has responded so swiftly and comprehensively to secure an economic stimulus of this size for their local government sector.

In addition to the stimulus package, the Government has provided a range of additional funding to New South Wales councils, including \$82 million to support 260 council-run childcare centres, \$25 million for councils to rebuild and refurbish infrastructure for up to 171 showgrounds, and \$500,000 to help cover veterinary, staff and food costs as well as minor capital works for council pounds.

The Government has also provided \$15 million to transform our streets and public spaces for social distancing. With this Councils will be able to apply for Streets as Shared Spaces program grants of up to \$100,000 for immediate temporary projects, such as widening footpaths and cycle lanes and up to \$1 million for medium-term pilot projects, such as extra crossing points, wider kerbs and trialling lower speed limits.

The Government has also included in the Local Government Stimulus Package a \$250 million boost to the TCorp lending facility (now totalling \$1.35 billion). This package safeguards service and infrastructure delivery, makes it cheaper and easier for councils to access finance, and promotes local economy recovery through infrastructure projects.

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TCorp is also offering principal and interest payment deferrals on existing loans upon request for the next six months and the Government is providing guarantees for councils seeking commercial loans, upon application to Treasury.

Issues regarding the administration and policy around the New South Wales waste levy is the responsibility of the Minister for Energy and Environment, the Honourable Matt Kean MP.

I am pleased to note, however, that the Government has acted quickly to waive the waste levy fee in areas declared bushfire Natural Disaster Areas. This is a practical way to help people dispose of bushfire generated waste quickly and easily.

*3092 TENTERFIELD SHIRE COUNCIL—Ms Janelle Saffin asked the Minister for Local Government—

- (1) Will the Government provide additional financial assistance to Tenterfield Shire Council, separate to the existing COVID-19 economic stimulus package, considering the significant loss in revenue the area is expecting to face following the COVID-19 pandemic, drought and bushfires?
- (2) Will the Government consider reviewing the stimulus package through the New South Wales Treasury Corporation to better target councils which are not in a financial position to make such borrowings, considering the identification by local country councils that the low-interest loans are of limited value?

Answer—

The Government recognises the vital role councils play in their communities and is only too aware of the significant financial and operational impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on our State's local councils.

Like other parts of the community they are suffering from reduced revenues and increased costs as well as significant challenges in maintaining delivery of community infrastructure and services.

The Government's local government economic stimulus package is designed to assist with Tenterfield Shire Council's revenue losses. This package will give councils breathing space to adjust their structures and operations to be in a better position to effectively serve their communities during the ongoing COVID-19 crisis.

In addition to the stimulus package, the Government has provided a range of additional funding to New South Wales councils, including \$82 million to support 260 council-run childcare centres, \$25 million for councils to rebuild and refurbish infrastructure for up to 171 showgrounds, and \$500,000 to help cover veterinary, staff and food costs as well as minor capital works for council pounds.

The Government has also provided \$15 million to transform our streets and public spaces for social distancing.

The Government has made a record investment in community infrastructure throughout metropolitan and regional New South Wales. Since 2011, the Government has provided more than \$9.7 billion to councils to deliver and improve local infrastructure, services and facilities for their communities and it is important that councils continue with vital projects as a result of their own or the Government's investment.

The Government is funding council rates relief for homes, businesses and farms left uninhabitable by the bushfires. The Government-funded rates relief program will ensure that no bushfire-affected council is worse off, given the significant strain the bushfire crisis is already putting on their budgets.

The Government is supporting farmers and regional communities through its \$1.9 billion Emergency Drought Relief Package including \$170 million to build shovel ready projects in regional towns.

Additionally, Tenterfield Shire Council can access increased funding from the Commonwealth as part of COVID-19 funding boosts, including a new \$500 million Local Road and Community Infrastructure Program and accelerated Financial Assistance Grant payments.

*3093 TWEED SHIRE COUNCIL—Ms Janelle Saffin asked the Minister for Local Government—

Will the Government provide additional funding assistance to Tweed Shire Council, separate to the existing COVID-19 economic stimulus package, considering the council has quantified \$665,000 in adaptation costs for its workforce and estimates a revenue loss of over \$3.5 million modeled off most restrictions being lifted in September 2020?

Answer—

The Government recognises the vital role councils play in their communities and is only too aware of the significant financial and operational impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on our State's local councils.

Local councils are the lifeblood of their communities as a major employer. Local councils employ more

than 60,000 staff and in many towns and communities are the major employer.

Like other parts of the community they are suffering from reduced revenues and increased costs as well as significant challenges in maintaining delivery of community infrastructure and services.

The Government's \$395 million local government economic stimulus package is designed to protect council jobs, services and infrastructure as it addresses the factors such as those experienced at Tweed Shire Council.

This package will give councils breathing space to adjust their structures and operations to be in a better position to effectively serve their communities during the ongoing COVID-19 crisis.

This package will keep council workers in jobs and allow councils to deliver for communities, especially in many regional and rural towns where they are sometimes the largest employer. It will allow councils to continue to provide essential services through this crisis and bounce back faster once we come out the other side.

No other state or territory in the country has responded so swiftly and comprehensively to secure an economic stimulus of this size for their local government sector.

In addition to the stimulus package, the Government has provided further funding to New South Wales councils, including \$82 million to support 260 council-run childcare centres, \$25 million for councils to rebuild and refurbish infrastructure for up to 171 showgrounds, and \$500,000 to help cover veterinary, staff and food costs as well as minor capital works for council pounds.

The Government has also provided \$15 million to transform our streets and public spaces for social distancing.

The Government has also included in the Local Government Stimulus Package a \$250 million boost to the TCorp lending facility (now totalling \$1.35 billion). This package safeguards service and infrastructure delivery, makes it cheaper and easier for councils to access finance, and promotes local economy recovery through infrastructure projects.

TCorp is also offering principal and interest payment deferrals on existing loans upon request for the next six months and the Government is providing guarantees for councils seeking commercial loans, upon application to Treasury.

Additionally, Tweed Shire Council can access increased funding from the Commonwealth as part of COVID-19 funding boosts, including a new \$500 million Local Road and Community Infrastructure Program and accelerated Financial Assistance Grant payments.

The Government has made a record investment in community infrastructure throughout metropolitan and regional New South Wales. Since 2011, the Government has provided more than \$9.7 billion to councils to deliver and improve local infrastructure, services and facilities for their communities and it is important that councils continue with vital projects as a result of their own or the Government's investment.

***3094 ARTS FUNDING FOR NORTHERN NEW SOUTH WALES—Ms Janelle Saffin asked the Premier—**

(1) Will the Government consider delivering a statewide rescue and recovery package for the arts, culture and heritage in addition to the repurposed Create NSW funding, which the Northern Rivers and Northern Tablelands regions can take advantage of during the COVID-19 pandemic?

(a) If so, will the Government provide urgent priority to this package considering economic data provided by Regional Development Australia shows the arts industry employs approximately 2200 and provides \$190m to the Northern Rivers (Tweed to Clarence) and the Northern Inland region, including Tenterfield Shire?

Answer—

The Government has announced a \$50 million COVID-19 arts and cultural package designed to assist not-for-profit organisations in financial distress.

Further information can be found at create.nsw.gov.au.

***3095 PUBLIC SECTOR WAGE FREEZES—Ms Janelle Saffin asked the Premier—**

Will the Government reconsider the wage freeze for nurses and midwives in the Lismore Electorate considering they work on the frontline during the COVID-19 pandemic?

Answer—

I refer you to the answer to LA Q2761.

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***3096 WAGE FREEZES FOR TEACHERS**—Ms Janelle Saffin asked the Premier—

Will the Government reconsider the wage freeze for teachers in the Lismore Electorate considering the increased risk they may face in the classroom during the COVID-19 pandemic?

Answer—

I refer you to the answer to LA Q2761.

***3097 POWER POLE REPAIRS AND REPLACEMENT**—Ms Janelle Saffin asked the Minister for Energy and Environment—

Will the Government review its policy which requires regional residents, including farmers, to pay for the repair and replacement of Essential Energy power poles on their properties, despite the fact they were once paid for by Essential Energy?

Answer—

Residents and farmers are not required to pay for the repair and replacement of Essential Energy power poles on their properties. Essential Energy assets, including assets that extend to the customer's point of connection, are managed and maintained by Essential Energy. Under the Electricity Supply Act 1995, network assets end, and private assets begin, at the point of connection for the customer as defined in the Service and Installation Rules of New South Wales.

***3098 WILD DOGS IN NORTHERN RIVERS**—Ms Janelle Saffin asked the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—

Will the Government provide additional funding to control wild dogs considering that their attacks are intensifying in the Northern Rivers following the drought and bushfires which have left little food for the dogs to eat?

Answer—

Local Land Services coordinates nil-tenure wild dog control programs in the Northern Rivers region, including 1080 baiting and advice on improved management practices. It is important to remember that all landholders have a General Biosecurity Duty under the Biosecurity Act 2015 and must control pests on their land.

The cost of baiting has been directly subsidised by the Government with the waiving of rates in 2019 and 2020 as part of the Government Drought Support Package.

In May, Local Land Services commenced an aerial baiting campaign to include more than 200,000 baits resulting in the largest and most high-tech campaign in the Southern Hemisphere.

***3099 AGED CARE SECTOR SUPPORT**—Ms Tamara Smith asked the Premier—

Considering the consequences of a COVID-19 outbreak in Aged Care facilities in New South Wales, such as Newmarch House, what support and financial assistance has been given to the aged care sector since the beginning of the pandemic (as at 21 May 2020)?

Answer—

It is critical that we support the most vulnerable members of our community throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and as we now move into recovery.

The Minister for Health continues to work closely with the New South Wales aged care sector.

However, the aged care sector is ultimately a responsibility of the Commonwealth Government.

You can find further information at nsw.gov.au (New South Wales Government) and australia.gov.au (Commonwealth Government).

26 MAY 2020

(Paper No. 60)

***3100 COVID-19 SMALL BUSINESS GRANT**—Mr Roy Butler asked the Treasurer—

- (1) Will consideration be given to extending the COVID-19 Small Business Grant beyond 1 June 2020?
- (2) Will consideration be given to changing the eligibility guidelines to reduce the percentage decline in turnover to be in line with JobKeeper's 30 per cent requirement and ensure more New South Wales businesses are eligible for the grant?

Answer—

On 30 May 2020, the Government announced an extension to the Small Business COVID-19 Support Grant to 30 June 2020. The eligibility criteria for the Small Business COVID-19 Support Grant remain unchanged.

However, the Government has announced the Small Business Recovery Grant of up to \$3000 to help businesses safely reopen or scale up their operations.

To be eligible for this grant, businesses must have a 30 per cent decline in turnover, fewer than 20 FTE (including non-employing businesses) and total Australian wages below \$900,000. Applications open on 1 July 2020.

*3101 FACE TO FACE LEARNING AT TAFE—Mr Roy Butler asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education—

When will face to face learning resume for TAFE Campuses in New South Wales, considering the number of students experiencing difficulty in an online learning environment?

Answer—

I am advised:

The safety and wellbeing of students and staff is the highest priority for TAFE NSW.

TAFE NSW continues to follow the advice of NSW Health in making decisions on the delivery of training to students during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In March 2020, TAFE NSW made the decision to pause training to allow the organisation to move to a more connected model of delivery. TAFE NSW also created a dedicated student ICT helpdesk to assist students with online learning.

Training re-commenced on 27 April 2020, through connected, modified face-to-face, distance, and blended learning methods.

TAFE NSW are ensuring that a comprehensive risk assessment is conducted to ensure the safety of staff and students before each instance of face-to-face classes recommencing.

*3102 FREIGHT SUBSIDIES DROUGHT RELIEF FUNDING—Mr Roy Butler asked the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—

(1) What is the total number of eligible farmers who were unsuccessful in applying for freight subsidies under the Government's drought relief funding due to applications being submitted after the deadline?

(a) Have any exceptions been granted?

Answer—

As at 10 June 2020 the Government has provided \$192 million in Emergency Drought Transport Subsidies. 7004 applications were approved in 2019 and 10,556 applications have been approved up to 10 June in 2020.

An initial application, that is an application for funding over the course of a program, would not normally be refused on the grounds of it being submitted after a deadline as it would be treated as an application for the subsequent financial year's program.

The Rural Assistance Authority (RAA) imposes a deadline for submitting invoices from the previous financial year for administrative purposes. To effectively manage the program's budget for a new financial year and to provide certainty for the farming community, applications from the previous financial year must at some point be refused.

Exceptions are granted where possible. For example, the deadline for submission of invoices from the 2018-19 financial year was extended by two months due to several applicants who claimed to be unaware of the deadline. This allowed for the processing of late invoices for 250 applicants.

Due to the administrative complexity of the scheme, the RAA's IT system cannot provide data on the number of other invoices that were unsuccessful due to being submitted after a deadline.

*3103 U-TURN LOCATIONS ON M1 PACIFIC MOTORWAY—Dr Hugh McDermott asked the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

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- (1) Will Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) identify and provide signage at appropriate U-turn locations on the M1 Pacific Motorway, considering concerns about Rural Fire Service Brigades being able to perform U-turns on the M1?

(a) If so:

- (i) When does the RMS expect to complete these works?
(ii) When will the RMS provide information regarding U-turn facility locations to the Rural Fire Service (RFS) and relevant RFS Brigades?

Answer—

I am advised:

Transport for NSW has met with the NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) on multiple occasions this year to discuss the safe use of U-turn bays on high speed roads. As a result of these discussions, Transport has shared their risk assessment documentation and Safe Work Method Statements for the use of crossovers by vehicles operating on behalf of Transport for NSW and will be meeting with NSW RFS representatives in coming weeks to assist them in preparing their own risk assessment and Safe Work documentation.

Transport for NSW will also attend internal RFS driver training sessions over the coming months to provide advice and training on the appropriate use of U-turn bays, with a priority focus on bushfire-prone areas.

Transport is also reviewing U-turn bays and crossover facilities across New South Wales, with a focus on bushfire-prone areas, to determine for which vehicle types those facilities may be safely used in responding to incidents.

*3104 PORTABLE ROAD SAFETY SIGNAGE RURAL FIRE SERVICE BRIGADES—Dr Hugh McDermott asked the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

- (1) Will Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) provide portable "Slow Down, Move Over and Give Space" signs to Rural Fire Service brigades?

(a) If so, when will these signs be provided?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Government is committed to ensuring that its emergency service personnel and volunteers remain safe when responding to roadside incidents. In addition to the new road rule requiring motorists to slow down and move over when passing emergency vehicles on the roadside, the Government has committed to design advance signage to reinforce messaging at incidents.

The design and distribution of these signs is currently being determined by the Incident Management Road Safety Working Group, which includes representatives from Transport for NSW and the NSW Rural Fire Service.

*3105 LOCAL FLOOD PLAN TUGGERAH LAKE—Mr David Mehan asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—

- (1) Considering the answer to LA Q2595 about the Community Flood Emergency Response Plan for Tuggerah Lakes, why was the Local Flood Plan not reviewed before the 2018 deadline provided in the document for such review?
(2) Will the Local Flood Plan now be reviewed?
(3) Why does the New South Wales State Emergency Service document entitled 'Provision and requirements for flood warning in New South Wales', dated November 2019, adopt different flood classification levels to the Local Plan?
(4) Will the flood classification levels currently observed for Tuggerah Lake be reviewed when the Local Plan is reviewed?
(5) Will provision of local flood warnings be considered?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) to (3) The 2018 Flood Study is yet to be formally approved by Central Coast Council. Once the study is approved, the NSW State Emergency Service will update the Local Flood Plan, including consultation with key stakeholders and endorsement.

(4) and (5) Yes.

*3106 REVIEW OF FEBRUARY FLOOD TUGGERAH LAKES—Mr David Mehan asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—

(1) Has the New South Wales State Emergency Service conducted a post event review of the February flood around Tuggerah Lakes?

(a) If so, where can information on the review be accessed?

Answer—

I am advised:

The NSW State Emergency Service internally reviews all events, including the recent flooding around Tuggerah Lakes.

*3107 CLASSIFICATION OF FEBRUARY FLOOD TUGGERAH LAKE—Mr David Mehan asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—

Has the New South Wales State Emergency Service reviewed the flood classification applied to the February flood around Tuggerah Lake?

Answer—

Refer to my answer to LA Q3105.

*3108 EXTRA OFF-PEAK SERVICES FOR SOUTH COAST LINE—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

In which month and year will the extra off peak services, announced on 21 May 2020, be received in the roll out of the New Intercity Fleet for the South Coast line?

Answer—

I am advised:

An extra off-peak service each hour between Wollongong and the Sydney CBD has been announced as part of the next stage of the Government's \$4.3 billion More Trains, More Services program. The new services will start in late 2022.

The extra services will result in a train arriving every 30 minutes on average in off-peak periods, providing customers with more travel options. The details of these extra services are yet to be finalised. Customers will be notified well in advance of any changes.

During peak times, the New Intercity Fleet trains will operate as 10 car trains instead of eight, proving a new level of comfort convenience and reliability for customers.

*3109 BELLAMBI SOCIAL HOUSING PROPERTIES—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

(1) How many social housing properties were located in the suburb of Bellambi in each financial year from 2014-15 to 2018-19?

(2) How many social housing properties were vacant in the suburb of Bellambi on each of the following dates:

(a) 1 May 2015;

(b) 1 May 2016;

(c) 1 May 2017;

(d) 1 May 2018;

(e) 1 May 2019;

(f) 1 May 2020?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) The number of social housing properties located in the suburb of Bellambi in each financial year from 2014-15 to 2018-19 is:

Financial Year	Number of Properties
2014-15	617
2015-16	615
2016-17	621
2017-18	619

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2018-19	619
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- (2) The number of vacant social housing properties managed by the Land and Housing Corporation in the suburb of Bellambi on each of the following dates is:

Date	Number of properties
1 May 2015	5
1 May 2016	4
1 May 2017	11
1 May 2018	6
1 May 2019	5
1 May 2020	6

*3110 ROUGH SLEEPERS TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services—

- (1) What is the exit strategy for rough sleepers currently in temporary accommodation as at 26 May 2020?
- (2) How many rough sleepers were placed in temporary accommodation across New South Wales during the COVID-19 pandemic from 30 March 2020 to 26 May 2020?
 - (a) Of these:
 - (i) How many were from the inner city?
 - (ii) How many were from regional communities?
- (3) What is the total number of rough sleepers placed in temporary accommodation who have now transitioned into permanent public housing or community housing as at 26 May 2020?
- (4) How much money has the Government spent on temporary accommodation from 30 March 2020 to 26 May 2020?

Answer—

The Government has taken action to prevent homelessness and protect people experiencing homelessness during COVID-19, including in inner city and regional areas.

I am advised that more than 1,200 people who were sleeping rough in New South Wales were helped into temporary accommodation through the rapid expansion of assertive outreach to prevent the spread of COVID-19. More than 500 new households across New South Wales started to receive private rental subsidies through products like Start Safely and Rent Choice Youth.

The Government has invested more than \$70 million to support people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness during the pandemic.

On 8 June 2020 the Government announced \$36 million in new funding for the Together Home project, which will deliver housing and wrap around supports for hundreds of rough sleepers across the state.

Further information about what Department of Communities and Justice is doing for housing and homelessness is available at www.coronavirus.dcj.nsw.gov.au/services/housing-and-homelessness.

*3111 BULLI HOSPITAL OPENING DATE—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

Considering the response to LA Q751 which advised that Bulli Hospital was scheduled to be open by the end of 2019, yet as at 22 May 2020 the hospital is still not open, what is the current scheduled opening date for the new Bulli Hospital?

Answer—

LA 751 advised on construction timeframes. Construction of the new Bulli Hospital and Aged Care Centre is complete.

I am advised the Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District is finalising its plans to commence operations from the new hospital.

*3112 RESEARCH INTO IMPROVED DEER CONTROL TECHNIQUES—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Energy and Environment—

- (1) Has the research project conducted by the National Parks and Wildlife Service into improved deer control techniques been completed (as at 26 May 2020)?
 - (a) If not, when will the project be completed?

- (2) How much of the \$9 million committed to the deer control program will be provided to the Illawarra region?
- (3) What are the expected dates of:
 - (a) Commencement?
 - (b) Conclusion?

Answer—

I am advised that:

- (1) No.
- (a) The project is scheduled for completion by 30 June 2027.
- (2) The research project is being undertaken in Kosciuszko National Park and surrounding private properties. It is not being undertaken in the Illawarra region.
- (3) (a) The project commenced on 1 July 2019.
- (b) 30 June 2027.

*3113 ROADS AND MARITIME SERVICES JOBS IN THE ILLAWARRA—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) Has Roads and Maritimes Services been fully transferred to Transport for NSW (as at 26 May 2020)?
- (2) How many Roads and Maritimes Services job losses have occurred in the following electorates (as at 26 May 2020):
 - (a) Heathcote;
 - (b) Keira;
 - (c) Wollongong;
 - (d) Kiama;
 - (e) South Coast?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Roads and Maritime Services staff transitioned to Transport for NSW on 1 July 2019.
- (2) Zero.

*3114 BULLI AND THIRROUL ROAD IMPROVEMENTS SURVEY—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) Will the survey conducted by Roads and Maritime Services into Bulli and Thirroul Improvements be released to the public?
 - (a) If so, when will it be released?
 - (b) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Community Consultation Submission Report is available on the project webpage <https://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/bulli-thirroul/index.html>.

*3115 SOCIAL HOUSING PILOT PROGRAM—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

- (1) What are the specific locations or sites designated for the roll out of the pilot program to fast track new social housing in New South Wales?
- (2) How many project home builders have lodged and expression of interest application to participate in this program (as at 26 May 2020)?
- (3) How was the program advertised?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The specific location of sites has not been made publicly available at this stage. There are 42 sites across both metropolitan and regional areas. The Expression of Interest released on 11 May 2020 provided details as to which Local Government area the proposed sites are in.
- (2) The Expression of Interest closed on Friday 5 June 2020, with a broad range of interest shown from

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the building and construction industry.

(3) The Program was advertised via Government e-Tendering.

*3116 FAST RAIL SCOPING INVESTIGATIONS—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

(1) Will the Government release a tender for a Sydney to South Coast scoping investigation and business case for a Fast Rail Program, similar to those currently open for Sydney to Canberra (RFT ID TfNSW 2020012) and Sydney to Newcastle (RFT ID TfNSW 2020013)?

(a) If so, when?

(b) If not, why is the South Coast not included in the current scoping investigations for a business case for fast rail?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Government's commitment to develop a blueprint for the delivery of a fast rail network to connect New South Wales is a major piece work. This transformative vision will seek to link regional centres to each other and Sydney, potentially reducing travel times by 75 per cent and giving people greater choice about where they live, work and visit. The Government is taking the time to get this vision right. We will update the community as soon as we have more to say.

The Government remains on track to deliver on its election commitment.

In December 2018, the Government announced its commitment to starting work on a fast rail network in the next term of government.

An expert panel lead by Professor Andrew McNaughton was tasked with identifying opportunities for regional growth and improved services, and to ultimately present the Government with a blueprint to inform how we could deliver the network, including staging, route and delivery options. Four potential routes have been identified for investigation. These routes are:

- The Northern Route, including the Central Coast and Newcastle;
- The Southern Inland Route, including Goulburn and Canberra;
- The Western Route; including Lithgow, Bathurst and Orange; and
- The Southern Coastal Route, including Wollongong and Nowra.

Through the course of these investigations, the expert panel was tasked with identifying the preferred alignment of the rail line and recommended train speeds. This work will also inform potential improvements to existing rail corridors in the short to medium term. As the project progresses, and a fast rail network becomes a reality, commuters will potentially see their travel times reduced.

In March 2019, the Government committed an initial \$295 million into the delivery of a new network, allowing us to get the early work done, putting in place the building blocks for the more transformative work that will deliver faster rail and give people greater choice about where they live and how they commute to work.

*3117 PLANNING SYSTEM ACCELERATION PROGRAM—Mr Paul Scully asked the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

(1) Were any projects in the Wollongong local government area eligible to be considered as part of the new Planning System Acceleration Program?

(a) If so, what are the projects and their locations?

(b) If not, why not?

(2) Were any projects in the Wollongong local government area considered for inclusion in the projects considered as part of the Planning System Acceleration Program in either tranche 1 or tranche 2?

(a) If so:

(i) What were the projects?

(ii) Where are they located?

(iii) Which tranche were they considered under?

(b) If not, why not?

(3) Will there be any future tranches of projects considered through the Planning System Acceleration Program?

(a) If so, how many?

(4) Will any projects in the Wollongong local government area be considered as part of future tranches of the Planning System Acceleration Program?

(5) What is the process for projects to be included in the Planning System Acceleration Program?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) and (2) The Planning System Acceleration Program (the Program), allows for the accelerated assessment of planning projects across the State. To be eligible for potential inclusion in the Program a project must be in the planning system and meet criteria. The criteria for an accelerated assessment can be found on the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's webpage: <https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Policy-and-Legislation/COVID19-response/Planning-System-Acceleration-Program>

Projects in the Wollongong local government area were not included in the first, second or third tranches as they did not meet the acceleration criteria.

(3) There will be further Tranches of the Program.

(4) Yes. Projects, including those in the Wollongong local government area, will be considered against the criteria.

(5) The process for the Program is available on the webpage above.

*3118 ENERGY EFFICIENCY RATINGS SYSTEM FOR HOMES—Mr Paul Scully asked the Minister for Energy and Environment—

(1) What work has been undertaken to develop an energy efficiency rating system for homes in New South Wales (as at 26 May 2020)?

(2) When was the last time that the Building Sustainability Index (BASIX) standards were updated (as at 26 May 2020)?

(3) Does the Government plan to introduce a voluntary or compulsory energy efficiency rating scheme for all homes in New South Wales?

(a) If so, by what date?

(4) Has the Government expanded the National Australian Built Environment Rating System (NABERS) rating scheme to apply to all current and future infrastructure and building projects?

(a) If not, from what date will NABERS be required on all infrastructure and building projects?

(5) What improvements has the Government suggested in national forums to improve the National Construction Code and BASIX rating scheme to improve energy efficiency and low emissions outcomes for residential, commercial and public buildings?

(a) Have these improvements been adopted?

(i) If not, will they be adopted and from what date will they apply?

Answer—

I am advised that:

(1) and (3) The nationally-adopted Trajectory for Low Energy Buildings includes a commitment to deliver home energy efficiency rating tool(s) for existing homes under the Nationwide House Energy Rating Scheme (NatHERS) by mid-2021. The Government is supporting the delivery of this commitment.

(2) July 2017

(4) No.

(a) This will depend on the outcomes of the Commonwealth's review of the Commercial Building Disclosure program as NABERS is a national program.

(5) Through its representation on the Australian Building Codes Board, the Government is closely involved with the ongoing development and reform of the National Construction Code. Decisions regarding BASIX are not made in a national forum as BASIX is a New South Wales tool.

(a) The 2019 edition of the National Construction Code, which came into effect on 1 May 2019, included a significant update to the energy efficiency provisions for commercial buildings. To minimise the impacts on stakeholders, these provisions were subject to a 12 months transition period.

(i) Enhanced energy efficiency provisions for residential buildings are being considered as part of the next edition of the Code, which is due to come into effect on 1 May 2022.

*3119 HOT WATER SYSTEMS IN HOUSING NSW DWELLINGS—Mr Paul Scully asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

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- (1) How many dwellings are owned by Housing NSW (as at 26 May 2020)?
 - (a) How many of these dwellings have an electric hot water system (as at 26 May 2020)?
- (2) How many dwellings are owned by Housing NSW in the Wollongong local government area (as at 26 May 2020)?
 - (a) How many of these dwellings have an electric hot water system (as at 26 May 2020)?
- (3) How many dwellings are owned by Housing NSW in the Wollongong electorate (as at 26 May 2020)?
 - (a) How many of these dwellings have an electric hot water system (as at 26 May 2020)?
- (4) Does Housing NSW have a program of replacement of electric hot water systems?
 - (a) If so:
 - (i) How long is this expected to take?
 - (ii) What is the criteria for prioritising properties?
- (5) What type of hot water systems are installed in:
 - (a) new builds?
 - (b) renovated Housing NSW properties?

Answer—

- (1) Approximately 125,000 residential dwellings are currently owned by the New South Wales Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC).
- (a) Approximately 61,000 residential properties owned and managed by LAHC have an electric hot water system (including electric storage, electric instantaneous, electric boosted solar system and electric heat pump hot water system).
- (2) Approximately 6,600 residential dwellings are currently owned by LAHC in the Wollongong Local Government Area.
- (a) Approximately 4,700 residential properties owned and managed by LAHC in the Wollongong Local Government Area have an electric hot water system (including electric storage, electric instantaneous, electric boosted solar system and electric heat pump hot water system).
- (3) Approximately 3,600 residential dwellings are currently owned by LAHC in the Wollongong electorate.
- (a) Approximately 2,300 residential properties owned and managed by LAHC in the Wollongong electorate have an electric hot water system (including electric storage, electric instantaneous, electric boosted solar system and electric head pump hot water system).
- (4) LAHC does not have a program to replace electric hot water systems.
- (5) (a) For newly built social housing properties, LAHC installs an instantaneous gas hot water system if natural gas is available, or an electric heat pump or electric boosted solar hot water system if natural gas is not available.
- (5) (a) For renovated properties, LAHC replaces an existing hot water system with the same type of hot water system when it is beyond economic repair.

*3120 GOODS AND SERVICES TAX—Mr Paul Scully asked the Premier—

- (1) Considering the Premier's public comments reported in the Daily Telegraph on 20 May 2020 in support of increasing the Goods and Services Tax (GST), does this support include:
 - (a) Increasing the rate of the GST;
 - (b) Increasing the base of the GST?
- (2) Under the Government's proposal, what is:
 - (a) the rate of the GST;
 - (b) the base of the GST to be applied?
- (3) Has the issue of tax reform been discussed by the National Cabinet?
- (4) When will the Government share its tax reform plan with the people of New South Wales?
- (5) Which other State and Territory Governments have supported the proposal of the Government to increase the GST?

Answer—

The premise to this question is factually incorrect.

*3121 SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS—Mr Paul Scully asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) How many schools in the Wollongong electorate have applied for a crossing guard since the Government confirmed it would hire an additional 300 crossing guards in the 2019-20 State Budget?
 - (a) How many of these applications have been made since the 2019-20 State Budget?
 - (b) How many of these applications have been rejected since the 2019-20 State Budget?
- (2) Were applications for these additional crossing guards made separately to the usual process or as part of the usual application process?
 - (a) If applications for these additional crossing guards were made separately to the usual process, how many schools applied for crossing guards but were rejected?
- (3) What is the total number of crossing guards employed in the Wollongong electorate (as at 26 May 2020)?
- (4) What is the total number of schools where crossing guards are deployed (as at 26 May 2020):
 - (a) Across New South Wales;
 - (b) Across the Wollongong electorate?
- (5) How many schools do not have a crossing guard (as at 26 May 2020):
 - (a) Across New South Wales;
 - (b) In the Wollongong electorate?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) to (3) Transport for NSW does not hold this information on the basis of electorate.

(4) and (5) I refer you to my previous response to LC Q1243.

*3122 PREMIER'S DISCRETIONARY FUND—Mr Paul Scully asked the Premier—

- (1) How much funding was available through the Premier's discretionary fund in each financial year from 2016-17 to 2019-20 (as at 26 May 2020)?
- (2) How much funding was allocated from the Premier's discretionary fund in each financial year from 2016-17 to 2019-20 (as at 26 May 2020)?
- (3) Which organisations was funding allocated to under the Premier's discretionary fund in each financial year from 2016-17 to 2019-20 (as at 26 May 2020)?
 - (a) What were the amounts funded?
 - (b) What were the projects or purposes allocated funding?
- (4) How many requests were submitted from individuals or organisations in the Wollongong local government area for funding under the Premier's discretionary fund in each financial year from 2016-17 to 2019-20 (as at 26 May 2020)?

Answer—

Information can be found in the Department of Premier and Cabinet's annual reports.

*3123 CLUBSGRANTS CATEGORY THREE INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS—Mr Paul Scully asked the Minister for Customer Service—

- (1) How many applications were received from organisations in the Wollongong local government area for each of the following Clubsgroups Category 3 Infrastructure Grants grant funding rounds:
 - (a) November 2019;
 - (b) August 2019;
 - (c) October 2018;
 - (d) September 2018;
 - (e) July 2018;
 - (f) May 2018;
 - (g) February 2018;
 - (h) November 2017;
 - (i) August 2017?
- (2) What was the total value of applications of each funding round in question 1?
- (3) How many of the applications of each funding round in question 1 were considered eligible?
 - (a) What was the total value of eligible applications for each funding round?
 - (b) How many of the eligible applications in each funding round were successful?
- (4) For each successful project in the Wollongong local government area for each funding round in question 1, what was their:
 - (a) Name;

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- (b) Funding amount received?
- (5) What was the total value of grants provided throughout New South Wales for each funding round in question 1?
- (6) What was the most recent funding round of the Clubsgrants Category 3 Infrastructure Grants in which an organisation from the Wollongong local government area was successful in achieving a funding grant?
- (a) What was the name of the organisation, the amount of the grant and the purpose of the grant?

Answer—

(1) (a) November 2019 - Three

(b) August 2019 - Five.

(c) October 2018 - Three.

(d) September 2018 - Two.

(e) July 2018 - Two.

(f) May 2018 - Five.

(g) February 2018 - Three.

(h) November 2017 - Three.

(i) August 2017 - One.

(2) November 2019 - \$284,740

August 2019 - \$672,000

October 2018 - \$597,025

September 2018 - \$350,000

July 2018 - \$122,193

May 2018 - \$811,577

February 2018 - \$185,947

November 2017 - \$534,864

August 2017 - \$230,000

(3) November 2019 - Three.

August 2019 - Five.

October 2018 - Three.

September 2018 - Two.

July 2018 - Zero.

May 2018 - Four.

February 2018 - Two.

November 2017 - Two.

August 2017 - One.

(3) (a) November 2019 - \$284,740

August 2019 - \$672,000

October 2018 - \$597,025

September 2018 - \$350,000

July 2018 - \$0

May 2018 - \$661,577

February 2018 - \$173,997

November 2017 - \$404,864

August 2017 - \$230,000

(3) (b) November 2019 - Zero.

August 2019 - One.

October 2018 - Zero.

September 2018 - Zero.

July 2018 - Zero.

May 2018 - Zero.

February 2018 - Zero.

November 2017 - Zero.

August 2017 - Zero.

(4) (a) Hope Health 2508, for the Hope Youth Centre Fitout.

(b) \$144,000.

(5) November 2019 - \$4,252,355

August 2019 - \$4,058,284

October 2018 - \$4,171,605

September 2018 - \$4,206,205

July 2018 - \$4,063,161

May 2018 - \$3,231,950

February 2018 - \$3,075,819

November 2017 - \$3,144,344

August 2017 - \$3,017,914

(6) August 2019.

(a) Hope Health 2508. \$144,000. The fit-out of the Hope Youth Centre.

*3124 TAX REVENUE FROM GAMING MACHINES—Mr Paul Scully asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Small Business, Vice-President of the Executive Council—

(1) What was the total amount of tax collected from gaming machines in the Wollongong local government area:

(a) in financial year 2017-18;

(b) in financial year 2018-19?

(2) From how many electronic gaming machines was the taxation revenue generated:

(a) in financial year 2017-18;

(b) in financial year 2018-19?

(3) What proportion of tax collected in New South Wales from gaming machines was generated in the Wollongong local government area:

(a) in financial year 2017-18;

(b) in financial year 2018-19?

(4) At what number does Wollongong local government area rank when local government areas in New South Wales are ranked highest to lowest by tax revenue generated from gaming machines:

(a) in financial year 2017-18;

(b) in financial year 2018-19?

Answer—

(1) Information about tax collected from gaming devices is not collected by local government area.

(a) Tax totalling \$1572 million was collected from gaming devices in 2017-19.

(b) Tax totalling \$1644 million was collected from gaming devices in 2018-19.

(2) Questions about the numbers of gaming devices should be directed to the Minister for Customer Service.

(3) and (4) Information about tax collected from gaming devices is not collected by local government area.

*3125 MINE REHABILITATION DISCUSSION PAPER—Mr Paul Scully asked the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

(1) Has the Government completed its review of responses to the mine rehabilitation discussion paper?

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- (a) If so, has the response to the discussion paper been published?
 (i) If so, where?
 (b) If not, by what date will the Government complete and publish the response to the mine rehabilitation discussion paper?

Answer—

I am advised:

On 24 June 2020, the Deputy Premier, the Honourable John Barilaro MP released a strategic statement about the future of coal mining and exploration in New South Wales.

Among other matters, the statement committed the NSW Government to strengthen regulatory requirements for mine rehabilitation and closure planning.

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment will work with the Department of Regional NSW to implement these reforms over the coming months, including a review of the measures outlined in the mine rehabilitation discussion paper.

*3126 COVID RECOVERY SMALL BUSINESS—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Small Business, Vice-President of the Executive Council—

Considering the recent Australian Bureau of Statistics Census data and recent employment statistics which highlight the vulnerability of a number of suburbs in the Wallsend electorate to COVID-19 economic impacts, what are the Government's plans to assist small businesses during the recovery?

Answer—

The Government is providing a range of support measures to small businesses in New South Wales impacted by COVID-19.

The first major stimulus package announced on 17 March 2020 includes \$1.6 billion in tax cuts, fee waivers and job creation measures that support businesses in New South Wales.

Key elements include:

- a three-month payroll tax waiver for businesses with payrolls of \$10 million or less (as part of the second stimulus package, all businesses were given the option to defer payroll tax for six-months).
- bringing forward the next round of payroll tax cuts by raising the threshold limit to \$1 million from 1 July (as a cost of \$56 million); and
- waiving a range of fees and charges for small businesses, including bars and cafes (at a cost of \$80 million).

The second stimulus package was announced on 27 March. This package includes the \$1 billion Working for NSW fund which will help sustain business, create new jobs and retrain employees; as well as tax cuts that build on those announced in the first package (up to \$4 billion deferred).

The Government has also announced a \$.6 million expansion to Business Connect. Businesses can access free webinars and advice on a range of topics including managing cash flow, developing a customised recovery strategy, accessing finance including grants and loans, setting up ecommerce, and marketing businesses to reach new customers.

Small businesses can also seek free, personalised advice from a Business Connect advisor.

The Government has announced two grant programs to assist small businesses impacted by COVID-19:

- the Small Business COVID-19 Support Grant of up to \$10,000 to help businesses impacted by the New South Wales Public Health Order of 30 March 2020 cover unavoidable business costs. Applications for this Grant close 30 June 2020.
- the Small Business Recover Grant of up to \$3000 to help businesses with costs associated with safely reopening or scaling up their operations. Applications for this Grant will open on 1 July.
- Further information on available grants be found on the Service NSW website: www.service.nsw.gov.au/.

The restrictions on premises imposed under Public Health Order which have impacted small businesses have been progressively lifted in accordance with expert health advice.

For example, pubs and restaurants were able to reopen for sit down customers from 1 June 2020 and gyms, beauty salons and nail salons could also reopen.

Restrictions were further eased from 13 June 2020 and, from 1 July 2020, most restrictions will have been lifted, provided small businesses comply with the relevant COVID-19 Safety Plan for their industry.

The Service NSW website provides readily accessible information to help small businesses to comply with the COVID-19 safe business requirements.

*3127 COVID STUDENT ASSISTANCE—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

What systems has the Department put in place to help students who require assistance with anxiety and behavioural issues, considering that students will no longer be able to engage in activities that break up the school routine, such as assemblies and excursions?

Answer—

The Department of Education has developed and promoted strategies and resources for students, teachers, parents and carers to support the wellbeing of students as they have returned to full-time schooling. Strategies and resources to support the wellbeing of students have also been shared through a dedicated state-wide wellbeing virtual staffroom.

The learning and wellbeing of students is monitored in the classroom and through learning and support processes in schools. Considerable investment is being made in building capacity of staff to recognise and respond to signs of distress in students, including providing assistance to students presenting with anxiety and behavioural issues.

The Department has worked collaboratively with partners such as NSW Health, headspace and Black Dog Institute to provide counselling staff with additional resources to assist students manage COVID-19 related issues should they arise. These resources include information for students, parents and carers, for example, managing uncertainty, understanding reactions to crises and managing the exposure to negative media.

In addition, a comprehensive toolkit of resources to assist counselling staff support students with anxiety, including COVID-19 related anxiety, and depression has been developed in collaboration with Black Dog Institute.

*3128 COVID RECOVERY TARGETING—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Premier—

Considering the Australian Bureau of Statistics Census data and recent employment statistics which highlight that suburbs in the Wollondilly Electorate are already at an economic disadvantage as a result of COVID-19, what are the Government's plans to target recovery efforts where they are needed most?

Answer—

The Government has provided more than \$13.6 billion in COVID-19 stimulus measures, increased health spending and tax breaks - all aimed at supporting businesses and families in all parts of New South Wales during the pandemic and into the recovery.

This support includes our \$3 billion Job Acceleration Fund to fast-track smaller, shovel ready projects, touching every corner of the state, and injecting up to 20,000 jobs back into the New South Wales workforce.

Our total infrastructure investment across NSW, which is more than \$100 billion over the next four years, will be our best chance of supporting the hundreds of thousands of people who have already lost their jobs.

*3129 HUNTER WATER CORPORATION FUNDING OF IRONBARK CREEK CHANNEL WIDENING—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

Considering the Government's extraction of a \$100 million dividend from Hunter Water Corporation in 2019, which required the corporation to take on debt, will the corporation be allowed to similarly fund needed works in the Wollondilly Electorate, including the Ironbark Creek channel widening?

Answer—

This question has been addressed previously. I refer the Member to LA Q2287.

*3130 COVID TEACHER ASSISTANCE—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

Considering that the COVID-19 pandemic may have led to higher levels of anxiety amongst educators, what systems has the Department set in place to assist educators as schools resume normal operations?

Answer—

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Additional services to support the mental health and wellbeing of staff during the COVID-19 response have been included in the Being Well Program, and amendments have been widely promoted to encourage staff to access support if needed. Being Well brings together more than 90 services and resources to support employee wellbeing for staff on one website, to help staff maintain their own wellbeing and contribute to a healthy workplace culture. Other measures include:

- A dedicated COVID-19 website consolidating resources including information on physical and psychological self-care, and information for staff who may be particularly vulnerable to the risks of COVID-19.
- The Employee Assistance Program - Supporting You Program continues to be available to staff and has been expanded to support casual staff.
- The Department's Recovery at Work program for responding to and managing work-related and non-work related injury and health conditions is being expanded to manage all active cases during the COVID-19 period.

*3131 SERVICE NSW COMPROMISED SECURITY—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Customer Service—

Considering that cyber criminals recently compromised 47 Service NSW employee accounts, what steps has the Government taken to ensure the private data of customers at the Wallsend Service NSW Centre is secure?

Answer—

Service NSW has undertaken a significant program of work to uplift cyber security capability following the incident, considering the advice of cyber security experts across the Government and outside it.

To support the Government's capacity to detect and respond to the cyber threat landscape, \$240 million in Cyber Security funding was announced on 18 June 2020. Funding will support protecting existing systems, deploying new technologies and increasing the cyber workforce.

*3133 SOCIAL HOUSING OCCUPANCY WALLSEND ELECTORATE—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

How many social housing properties in the Wallsend electorate were occupied as at 1 May in each year from 2015 to 2020?

Answer—

I am advised:

The number of social housing properties owned and managed by Land and Housing Corporation in the Wallsend electorate that were occupied as at 1 May in each year from 2015 to 2020 is:

Date	Number of Properties
1 May 2015	1,405
1 May 2016	1,389
1 May 2017	1,379
1 May 2018	1,356
1 May 2019	1,345
1 May 2020	1,345

*3134 SOCIAL HOUSING PROPERTY NUMBERS WALLSEND ELECTORATE—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

How many social housing properties existed in the Wallsend electorate as at 1 May in each year from 2015 to 2020?

Answer—

I am advised:

As at 1 May of each years from 2015 to 2020, the number of social housing properties owned and managed in the Wallsend electorate is:

Date	Number of Properties
1 May 2015	1,608
1 May 2016	1,606
1 May 2017	1,593

1 May 2018	1,587
1 May 2019	1,567
1 May 2020	1,566

*3135 MEMORIAL BENCH - HOXTON PARK ROAD AND COWPASTURE ROAD—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) Will Transport for NSW agree with the request contained in a letter dated 5 May 2020 from Liverpool Council to Colin Langford, Director Land Use, Networks and Development relating to a memorial bench at the corner of Hoxton Park Road and Cowpasture Road concerning the tragic and avoidable death of Courtney Topic?

(a) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

Transport for NSW does not object to the proposal in principle, subject to the location and design of the bench. Liverpool Council was requested to provide more information 31 May 2020, to ensure it complies with safety requirements.

*3136 INTEGRITY AGENCIES AUDITOR GENERAL REVIEW—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Treasurer—

When will the Auditor-General report on her review of the effectiveness of the financial arrangement and management practices of integrity agencies?

Answer—

This question would be best referred to the Office of the Auditor-General.

Real time updates are available on the Audit Office website at audit.nsw.gov.au.

*3137 HOXTON PARK ROAD UPGRADE—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

Why did the Consultation Report by Transport for NSW on the Hoxton Park Road upgrade (dated April 2020) completely ignore the combined view of the Federal Member, the State Member, local councillors, and local residents and business operators concerning the intersection of Hoxton Park Road and Dorrig Avenue?

Answer—

I am advised:

The consultation report describes the objections received to the proposed future Left In and Left Out arrangement at the intersection. Table 2-2 in the report outlines that a traffic study took place, in response to feedback received, and explains the reasons for the change to access.

*3138 COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT DIVERSION PROGRAM FUNDING—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—

- (1) Will you extend funding for the Cognitive Impairment Diversion Program operated by the Intellectual Disability Rights Service beyond 30 June 2020?

(a) If not, why not?

Answer—

- (1) The Department of Communities and Justice decided the Cognitive Impairment Diversion Program (CIDP) pilot will cease on 30 June 2020. The pilot stopped taking new clients from 31 March 2020 and the pilot was already extended for 12 additional months in 2019-20.

(a) While there have been some positive results, the current model is not scalable to other NSW Local Courts. The Department of Communities and Justice commissioned an evaluation, which can be found here: <http://www.localcourt.justice.nsw.gov.au/Documents/Facts%20Sheets/Cognitive%20Impairment%20Diversion%20Program/cidp-cost-benefit-analysis.pdf>.

*3139 RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINTS—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—

- (1) Has there been any increase in the last five years (to 26 May 2020) in the numbers of complaints about discrimination on the basis of religion made to the:

(a) Anti-Discrimination Board;
(b) Department of Communities and Justice?

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Answer—

I am advised:

Religion is not a ground for protection from unlawful discrimination under the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977 (the Act). However, Anti-Discrimination NSW (ADNSW) does receive complaints on the ground of religion lodged in error.

Over the last five financial years, the total number of complaints received by ADNSW on the ground of religion have been as follows:

- 2014-15 10 (0.8 per cent of total complaints received)
- 2015-16 8 (0.8 per cent of total complaints received)
- 2016-17 5 (0.5 per cent of total complaints received)
- 2017-18 3 (0.3 per cent of total complaints received)
- 2018-19 2 (0.2 per cent of total complaints received).

Given the low number of complaints on the ground of religion received by ADNSW, it is not possible to accurately observe trends based on these numbers.

Information in relation to discrimination complaints on the ground of religion is not captured by the Department of Communities and Justice.

*3140 CLEARVIEW A1 POLICE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES CONTACT—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—

What dealings or contacts have you, your staff, or the NSW Police Force had with Hoan Ton-That or Clearview AI?

Answer—

I am advised:

None.

*3141 CLEARVIEW A1 CUSTOMER SERVICE CONTACT—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Minister for Customer Service—

What dealings or contacts have you, your staff, or your Department had with Hoan Ton-That or Clearview AI?

Answer—

The Department of Customer Service advises there has been no contact or dealings by the Department with Hoan Ton-That or Clearview AI.

*3142 GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO ICAC COMMITTEE REPORTS—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Premier—

When will the Government respond to the report of the Committee on the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) on the Review of the 2017-8 Annual Reports of the ICAC and the Inspector of the ICAC, especially in relation to the recommendation concerning a new funding model for the ICAC?

Answer—

The Government response was provided to the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council on 14 May 2020 and can be found at the Parliament of NSW website.

*3143 RELIGIOUS FREEDOM REVIEW—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—

Will you adopt Recommendation 13 of the Religious Freedom Review (as chaired by the Hon. Philip Ruddock)?

Answer—

I am advised:

The recommendation is under consideration.

The only successful prosecution in New South Wales was in 1871. Since then, there have been no successful prosecutions for the common law offence of blasphemy.

*3144 BURNT FOREST LOGGING—Ms Tamara Smith asked the Minister for Energy and Environment—

What environmental protections were put in place before the Environmental Protection Authority authorised Forestry Corporation to recover burnt wood from Bungawalbin, Doubleduke and Myrtle State forests?

Answer—

The Coastal Integrated Forestry Operations Approval (IFOA) applies to all native forestry operations in State Forest. Site-specific conditions that supplement the Coastal IFOA have also been issued by the NSW Environment Protection Authority for operations in these burnt forests. They are available at www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/native-forestry/bushfire-affected-forestry-operations.

*3145 REGIONAL GROWTH FUND EXPENDITURE—Ms Tamara Smith asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade—

(1) Which state projects have been funded under the Regional Growth Fund since 10 May 2017 (as at 26 May 2020)?

(a) Which envelopes of funding did these projects come under?

(b) How much of the \$1.3 billion under this fund is still unspent (as at 26 May 2020)?

Answer—

The details of projects funded under the Regional Growth Fund are available on the Government website: <https://www.nsw.gov.au/regional-growth-fund>.

*3146 REGIONAL CULTURAL FUNDING APPLICATIONS—Ms Tamara Smith asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade—

What are the project names and project descriptions for all of the unsuccessful Round One and Round Two Regional Cultural Fund project applications made by organisations in the Ballina electorate between April 2018 and 26 May 2020?

Answer—

The Government does not disclose details of grant program applications that would reveal personal or commercial-in-confidence information.

*3147 SHARK PROGRAMS - DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—Ms Tamara Smith asked the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—

(1) What Department of Primary Industries shark programs are there on the North Coast and Far North Coast (as of 25 May 2020)?

(2) Are there any plans to cease programs or begin new programs?

(a) If so, what are these plans?

Answer—

On 25 May 2020, the shark mitigation measures on the North and Far North Coasts included:

- 20 and 15 SMART drumlines at Ballina and Evans Head, respectively; and
- VR4G listening stations at Coffs Harbour; Yamba; Evans Head; Lighthouse and Sharpes beaches at Ballina; Lennox Head; Byron Bay; and Kingscliff.

These shark mitigation measures will continue.

*3148 NORTH COAST FUEL PRICES - ACCC INVESTIGATION—Ms Tamara Smith asked the Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation—

Can the Minister provide an update on the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission's investigation into fuel price gouging on the North Coast?

Answer—

NSW Fair Trading is not involved in the investigation into fuel pricing by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) and I cannot provide any comment.

Enquiries relating to this investigation should be directed to the ACCC.

*3149 RECLASSIFICATION OF KOALAS—Ms Tamara Smith asked the Minister for Energy and Environment—

Considering ecologists estimate that 5,000 koalas were destroyed by the 2019 bushfires, will the process to reclassify koalas from 'vulnerable' to 'endangered' under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 be commenced urgently?

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Answer—

The NSW Threatened Species Scientific Committee is an independent committee established under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (the Act). Under the Act, the Committee is responsible for assessing the risk of extinction of a species and deciding which species should be listed as critically endangered, endangered, vulnerable or extinct in New South Wales. I am advised the Committee is considering whether the status of some threatened species, including the koala, should be changed.

*3150 BYRON BAY POLICE STATION—Ms Tamara Smith asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—

Will the Minister outline a timetable for delivery of a new, fit-for-purpose Byron Bay Police station to replace the existing dilapidated and substandard station?

Answer—

I am advised:

Byron Bay Police Station forms part of the NSW Police Force Police Station Infrastructure Strategy.

Byron Bay Police Station receives ongoing preventative, scheduled and reactive maintenance. A number of minor works have recently been completed at the station, including upgrades to security, new carpet, and air conditioning upgrades. Works including upgrades to intercoms and emergency lights, installation of non-slip coverings to outdoor steps, and fence repairs are all scheduled for completion over coming months.

All requests for new works are collated into a list and are prioritised across the state based on need.

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*3151 EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING CENTRES ONLINE AND REMOTE TRAINING—Mrs Helen Dalton asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

Considering the requirement for mandatory training for Persons with the Management or Control (PMC) of early childhood learning centres, when will the department be providing online or remote options for regional and remote PMCs?

Answer—

The Department of Education does not conduct mandatory training for persons with management or control (PMC). As part of the Department's assessment of applications for service approval, provider approval, transfer of an existing service and notification of changes of PMCs under the Children (Education and Care Services) National Law, a PMC might be required to attend an Information and Assessment session.

I am advised that the Department of Education conducts Information and Assessment sessions in both regional and metro locations. The Department also uses digital means to conduct the assessment aspect when necessary.

*3152 LAKE WYANGAN FISH KILL—Mrs Helen Dalton asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

Considering the recent mass fish kill in the toxic water at Griffiths' Lake Wyangan, will the Minister reconsider his decision not to provide special funding to enable Macquarie University to complete their study on the link between blue green algae and Griffith's high rate of motor neurone disease?

Answer—

I am advised that as with any rare disease such as motor neurone disease, random variation in the number of new cases means that rates vary widely in small populations, both geographically and over time. NSW Health will continue to examine the outcomes of worldwide research examining factors that could play a role in causing this disease.

*3153 RELIGIOUS GATHERING RESTRICTIONS—Mrs Helen Dalton asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

Considering that pubs, clubs and restaurants will allow 50 patrons in their premises from 1 June 2020,

why are places of worship still restricted to 10 people at religious gatherings?

Answer—

The most recent Ministerial directions issued under the Public Health Act 2010 (NSW) are available at <https://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au>.

*3154 NSW HEALTH ONLINE MEETINGS—Mrs Helen Dalton asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

(1) Considering the excessive costs of regional health staff having to travel to centres such as Wagga Wagga for mandatory meetings and conferences, when will NSW Health utilise technology to provide for remote attendance to save time and money?

(a) Which mandatory meetings will be conducted via online technology?

Answer—

NSW Health has rolled out technology for virtual meeting attendance, including video-conferencing and tele-meetings.

The mode of attendance for particular meetings is determined at a local level.

*3155 PRESCRIBED BURNING PROGRAMS—Mrs Helen Dalton asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—

Considering the recommendations from the 2009 Victoria Bushfires Royal Commission advised that there be an annual prescribed burning target of no less than 5 per cent and that there be annual reporting on these outcomes to the public, when will the Government implement prescribed burning programs to reach these targets and report on them annually?

Answer—

I am advised:

The approach to hazard reduction in New South Wales is based on a qualitative measure of risk and is not based on specific hectare-based targets. The Government or the Bush Fire Coordinating Committee set targets in New South Wales. The NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) reports on these targets yearly in its Annual Report.

Hectare-only targets do not consider bushfire risk in a holistic sense.

In 2015, Victoria replaced the planned burning rolling target of five per cent with a risk-based approach focused on the protection of life and property (the same methodology the NSW RFS uses for hazard reduction works).

*3156 PLACES OF WORSHIP RESTRICTIONS—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

As restrictions on both private and public gatherings will ease on 1 June 2020, when will places of religious worship be able to accommodate numbers equivalent to pubs, clubs and restaurants?

Answer—

The most recent Ministerial directions issued under the Public Health Act 2010 (NSW) are available at <https://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au>.

*3157 RECEPTION VENUES RESTRICTIONS—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

(1) Given that restrictions for pubs, clubs, cafes and restaurants have eased, is there a timeframe for large reception venues with the capacity to adhere to all physical distancing requirements to be able to commence operating?

(a) If so, when?

(b) If not, why not?

Answer—

The most recent Ministerial directions issued under the Public Health Act 2010 (NSW) are available at <https://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au>.

Further information is available at www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19.

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*3158 TOURIST BUSES HEALTH RESTRICTIONS—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

As travel restrictions for trips will ease on 1 June 2020, when will tourist bus operators be able to commence operating and meet their maximum seating capacity?

Answer—

Tourism operators can continue their operations as long as they abide by the health restrictions outlined in the Ministerial directions issued under the Public Health Act 2010 (NSW), which are available at <https://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au>

Further information is available at www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19.

*3159 INAPPROPRIATE RELATIONS BETWEEN CORRECTIONS STAFF AND INMATES—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Counter Terrorism and Corrections—

What measures are being taken by local intelligence units to ensure that inmates are closely monitored in relation to illegal inappropriate relationships with staff members?

Answer—

I am advised:

Under clause 243 of the Crimes (Administration of Sentences) (CAS) Regulation 2014 all staff have a responsibility to declare any associations with offenders (present or past), and under clause 253 of the CAS Regulation all staff have an obligation to report any matters regarding misconduct of a correctional officer or any other staff member.

Corrective Services NSW (CSNSW) local intelligence units continually monitor correctional centre environments for any matters which have the potential to compromise the security of a centre or the safety of those within it. Local intelligence units also monitor activities and interactions and report any suspected and known matters of concern to other head intelligence units for further review as required.

CSNSW has a number of supportive mechanisms in place to ensure all staff are aware of their obligations to declare and report suspected or actual inappropriate relationships between staff and inmates.

*3160 CORRECTIONS STAFF MISCONDUCT AND INTEGRITY SUPPORT SERVICES—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Counter Terrorism and Corrections—

What support services are available for staff when faced with misconduct and integrity issues?

Answer—

I am advised:

When a staff member receives a formal allegation of misconduct in writing, it will be served on them by a senior manager who can answer any questions about the misconduct process and provide support. Within the letter of allegation, the employee is also issued an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) brochure. The EAP provides confidential advice and support to staff who are experiencing challenges that are negatively impacting on their personal wellbeing or performance.

*3161 CORRECTIONS STAFF INTEGRITY TRAINING—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Counter Terrorism and Corrections—

Are there any strategies in place to ensure that staff have refresher course training regarding misconduct and integrity issues?

Answer—

I am advised:

A Commissioner's Memorandum was distributed in March 2020 informing all Corrective Services NSW (CSNSW) staff to undertake a Code of Ethics and Conduct Policy training, which requires completion of an e-Learning module entitled 'Doing the Right Thing - Workplace Ethics'. All staff are required to complete the course every two years to ensure their continued knowledge and understanding of their obligations under the Department's Code of Ethics and Conduct Policy.

Maintaining Professional Boundaries is a one day face-to-face course that is also being delivered to frontline/operational staff within CSNSW.

CSNSW monitors and records staff completion of these two courses via the Learning Management System administered by the Brush Farm Corrective Services Academy.

28 MAY 2020

(Paper No. 62)

*3162 APIARISTS BUSHFIRES 2019-20 IMPACT—Ms Jenny Aitchison asked the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—

- (1) How many bees did New South Wales apiarists lose due to the 2019-20 bushfire season?
 - (a) What percentage of the total number of bees in New South Wales as at 1 July 2019 does this represent?
- (2) How many bee hives did New South Wales apiarists lose due to the 2019-20 bushfire season?
 - (a) What percentage of the total number of beehives in New South Wales as at 1 July 2019 does this represent?
- (3) How many beehive sites did New South Wales apiarists lose due to the 2019-20 bushfire season?
 - (a) What percentage of the total number of beehive sites in New South Wales as at 1 July 2019 does this represent?

Answer—

- (1) It is not known how many bees were killed by the 2019-20 bush fires.
- (a) It is not possible to answer this question as the total number of bees in New South Wales is not able to be quantified.
- (2) A total of 9,809 hives were reported by industry as being completely burnt and 88,094 hives had forager bees killed by the fires.
- (a) About 4 per cent of the total number of bee hives registered to beekeeping businesses in New South Wales (as at 1 July 2019) were burnt in the 2019-20 bushfire season.
- (3) It is estimated that 2,727 apiary sites on public lands were directly affected by bush fire during the 2019-20 bush fire season.

An estimated 60 per cent of honey production in New South Wales is from apiary sites on private lands. These sites are managed privately between land owners and apiarists. As beekeepers are not required to notify Department of Primary Industries of these sites or their location, it is not possible to estimate the number of sites affected or the extent of damage to these sites.

The estimated 40 per cent of honey production on public lands is generated from 9,493 public apiary sites with current permits.

*3163 CATTLE FARMERS BUSHFIRES 2019-20—Ms Jenny Aitchison asked the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—

- (1) What is the estimated quantum of the direct loss to cattle farmers from the 2019-20 bushfire season in terms of:
 - (a) Dollar figures;
 - (b) Stock numbers lost;
 - (c) Jobs lost;
 - (d) Kilometres of fencing lost;
 - (e) Equipment lost;
 - (f) Buildings and other capital equipment lost?
- (2) What was the contribution of the cattle industry to the New South Wales economy in each financial year from 2015-16 to 2019-20 (as at 28 May 2020, and expected overall)?
- (3) How has the beef cattle market been impacted by COVID-19?
- (4) Why were beef cattle farmers not included in the Bushfire Industry Recovery Package which was released on 24 May 2020?

Answer—

(1) A total of 6,060 cattle were reported dead or destroyed. The figures for the other components of the question cannot be disaggregated just for cattle farmers.

(2) The industry's Gross Value of Production is publicly available [here](http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf7503.0) www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf7503.0.

(3) Issues identified by industry include:

- Short term supply shocks as a result of freight logistics;

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- The movement of seasonal workers;
- The import of necessary pesticides and chemicals and the provision of personal protective equipment;
- The continuation of livestock and fibre auctions; and
- The safe operation of processing facilities.

(4) The Bushfire Industry Recovery Package was developed in consultation with the NSW Farmers Association and focussed on providing support to industries that were most impacted as a sector within bushfire affected parts of the State. This reflects that proportionally the targeted sectors experienced more impact than other industries.

Livestock businesses are supported through the \$75,000 special disaster grant and the \$10,000 small business support grant. The special disaster loans of up to \$50,000 for working capital and up to \$500,000 for bushfire recovery are also available to support bushfire affected livestock businesses.

Extensively managed industries (including sheep farming) have also been supported by the Crown Land Fencing Program along with the Emergency Drought Transport Subsidy and the Natural Disaster Transport Subsidy.

*3164 FARMERS FENCING LOSSES FROM BUSHFIRES 2019-20—Ms Jenny Aitchison asked the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—

- (1) What is the estimated quantum of the direct loss to New South Wales farmers in dollar terms for fencing from the 2019-20 bushfire season, disaggregated according to farmers of:
 - (a) Beef Cattle;
 - (b) Dairy Cattle;
 - (c) Sheep;
 - (d) Goats;
 - (e) Crops;
 - (f) Other (please specify)?
- (2) What is the estimated quantum of the direct loss to New South Wales farmers in dollar terms for fencing from the 2019-20 bushfire season, disaggregated by:
 - (a) Land adjoining National Parks;
 - (b) Land adjoining State Forests;
 - (c) Land adjoining Crown Lands;
 - (d) Land adjoining private property;
 - (e) Other lands (please specify)?
- (3) Why was funding for fencing between private neighbours not included in the Bushfire Industry Recovery Package which was released on 24 May 2020?

Answer—

The total damage to fencing across fire affected areas in New South Wales is not known.

Any available figures would not be able to be disaggregated because many of the impacted farms run multiple species of livestock and many undertake cropping as well as livestock production.

Under the Dividing Fences Act (1991), fences between private landholders are the responsibility of the respective neighbours.

*3165 COMMERCIAL FISHERS REGULATION CHANGES SUBMISSIONS—Ms Jenny Aitchison asked the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—

- (1) How many submissions have been received on regulation changes to improve efficiency in New South Wales commercial fishers, disaggregated by fishing region (as at 28 May 2020)?
 - (a) Who will consider the feedback?
 - (b) When will such feedback be considered?

Answer—

The Department of Primary Industries received 168 submissions as at 28 May, including:

- 14 from region 1
- 20 from region 2
- 16 from region 3
- 49 from region 4
- 5 from region 5
- 30 from region 6
- 24 from region 7, and

- 10 with no specified location.

Submissions are currently being reviewed by the Department of Primary Industries and will also be considered by the Commercial Fishing NSW Advisory Council and any other relevant advisory groups.

*3166 ERADICATION OF PESTS AND WEEDS—Ms Jenny Aitchison asked the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—

- (1) What is the estimated quantum of the direct cost to New South Wales farmers in dollar terms due to pests and weeds in each financial year from 2015-16 to 2019-20 (as at 28 May 2020, and estimated)?
- (2) What are the top 10 weeds of concern to the Department of Primary Industries in New South Wales?
 - (a) What is the quantum of funding provided by the Department of Primary Industries for eradication of each weed species per year?
 - (b) What is the estimated projected cost for each weed species per year?
- (3) What are the top 10 pests of concern to the Department of Primary Industries in New South Wales?
 - (a) What is the quantum of funding provided by the Department of Primary Industries for eradication of each species per year?
 - (b) What is the estimated projected cost for each species per year?
- (4) What Government funding sources are available to farmers to eradicate pests and weeds?
- (5) Why did bushfire relief funding for fencing between farmers and Government owned land not include funding for betterment to eradicate pests and weeds?

Answer—

(1) The estimated cost is close to \$2 billion per year for each of those years based on figures of \$1.8 billion per year for weeds and \$170 million per year for pest animals, as reported by the Natural Resources Commission in their reviews of weed management in 2014 and pest animal management in 2017. Note that these estimates are not updated annually due to the complexity of compiling this information and are likely to vary between years due to seasonal conditions and commodity prices.

(2) In New South Wales, prioritisation of weed management occurs at the regional level through Regional Strategic Weed Management Plans that are coordinated by Local Land Services (LLS) with oversight from the State Weeds Committee. These plans list weeds of concern at both state and regional levels. Across the eleven LLS regions, there are over 170 weeds listed as state or regional priorities.

(a) The Government invests annually in weeds prevention, eradication containment, and asset protection through the NSW Weeds Action Program. In addition to this, government agencies that are land managers, such as the National Parks and Wildlife Service and LLS, invest in weed management on their estate in the same way that private land managers are required to do as part of their general biosecurity duty required under the Biosecurity Act 2015.

(b) Investment priorities for NSW Weeds Action Program funds across the 176 priority weeds and the eleven regions vary each year, and are guided by the NSW Weeds Action Program Guidelines

(3) In New South Wales, prioritisation of pest animal management occurs at the regional level through Regional Strategic Pest Animal Management Plans that are coordinated by LLS with oversight from the State Pest Animal Committee. These regional plans are published and list the key pest animal species of concern and the general management approach for these species in each region. The two pest animals most commonly mentioned in these plans are wild dogs and feral deer (of which there are multiple species in New South Wales).

(a) The Government invests annually in pest animal prevention. In addition to this, government agencies that are land managers, such as the National Parks and Wildlife Service and LLS, invest in pest animal management on their estate in the same way as private land managers. For example, National Parks and Wildlife Service recently committed \$9 million to deer eradication.

(b) Investment priorities across the key species of concern in the eleven LLS regions vary and are guided by the Regional Strategic Pest Animal Management Plans and the NSW Invasive Species Plan 2018 - 2021.

(4) While the responsibility for management of established pest animals is the responsibility of the landowner, LLS helps coordinate pest animal management on private land and often provides incentives (e.g. subsidised baits) for farmers to participate in group management programs. LLS also helps pest control groups access funding that occasionally becomes available under Commonwealth and State government programs, including several drought support programs in recent years. In addition, the Special Purpose Pest Management Rate provides funding to support coordination, extension and research activities to improve management of widespread and emerging pest animals.

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(5) The current fencing replacement and repair program is part of an overall bushfire recovery package and has specific objectives and scope. Support for pest animal and weed control activities is being addressed by other programs, including those mentioned in the response to (4).

*3167 SHEEP FARMERS BUSFIRES 2019-20—Ms Jenny Aitchison asked the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—

- (1) What is the estimated quantum of the direct loss to sheep farmers from the 2019-20 bushfire season in terms of:
 - (a) Dollar figures;
 - (b) Stock numbers lost;
 - (c) Jobs lost;
 - (d) Kilometres of fencing lost;
 - (e) Equipment lost;
 - (f) Buildings and other capital equipment lost?
- (2) What was the contribution of the sheep industry to the New South Wales economy in each financial year from 2015-16 to 2019-20 (as at 28 May 2020, and expected overall)?
- (3) How has the sheep market been impacted by COVID-19 in terms of:
 - (a) Meat;
 - (b) Wool?
- (4) Why were sheep farmers not included in the Bushfire Industry Recovery Package which was released on 24 May 2020?

Answer—

(1) A total of 8,126 sheep were reported by primary producers as dead or destroyed. The figures for the other components of the question cannot be disaggregated just for sheep farmers.

(2) The industry's Gross Value of Production is publicly available here www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/7503.0.

(3) Key issues identified by industry include:

- Short term supply shocks as a result of freight logistics;
- The movement of seasonal workers;
- The import of necessary pesticides and chemicals and the provision of personal protective equipment;
- The continuation of livestock and fibre auctions; and
- The safe operation of processing facilities.

The Bushfire Industry Recovery Package was developed in consultation with the NSW Farmers Association and focussed on providing support to industries that were most impacted as a sector within bushfire affected parts of the State. This reflects that proportionally the targeted sectors experienced more impact than other industries.

Livestock businesses are supported through the \$75,000 special disaster grant and the \$10,000 small business support grant. The special disaster loans of up to \$50,000 for working capital and up to \$500,000 for bushfire recovery are also available to support bushfire affected livestock businesses.

Extensively managed industries (including sheep farming) have also been supported by the Crown Land Fencing Program along with the Emergency Drought Transport Subsidy and the Natural Disaster Transport Subsidy.

*3168 VIGNERONS BUSHFIRES 2019-20—Ms Jenny Aitchison asked the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—

- (1) What is the estimated loss from the 2020 vintage due to the 2019-20 bushfires, in terms of the following issues, disaggregated by Local Government Area:
 - (a) Loss of revenue from loss of crops caused by direct fire damage?
 - (b) Re-establishment of vineyards (replanting, costs of seeds, chop and drop)?
 - (c) Repair of vineyard infrastructure (for example, netting, trellises and irrigation)?
 - (d) Testing for smoke taint?
 - (e) Smoke taint?
 - (f) Loss of tourism visitation during and since the bushfires (pre COVID-19)?
 - (g) Other costs (please identify and quantify)?

- (2) In relation to the Supply Chain Support Grants announced on 24 May 2020 as part of the Bushfire Industry Recovery Package, which provided for a Repair and Replanting Grant, and a Recovery Grant (non-disaster declared areas):
- (a) How will vignerons in non-disaster declared areas who were already drought affected show a 40 per cent reduction in turnover for a three-month period compared to the same period in the previous year as a result of the bushfire (before the closing date of 12 June 2020) when their vintages have not yet been bottled?
 - (b) How can vignerons demonstrate a revenue loss from smoke taint that may become more evident over forward years?
 - (c) Can vignerons from within disaster declared areas (for example, Cessnock and Singleton, which were disaster declared from 18 December 2019) claim for smoke taint under the Repair and Replanting Grant?
 - (i) If not, why not?
 - (d) Why were Orange, Cabonne, Yass and Hilltops listed as non-disaster declared areas for the Recovery Grant?
 - (i) Are there vineyards in other non-disaster declared areas?
 - (i) If so, are vineyards in those other non-disaster declared areas also covered by the grant?
 - (i) If not, why not?
 - (e) Could vineyards in LGAs which were disaster declared areas for events other than bushfires, such as storms and flooding, claim for smoke taint (for example, Maitland)?

Answer—

- (1) (a) Loss of revenue as a result of direct fire damage occurred at a relatively small number of vineyards on the New South Wales South Coast and Tumbarumba regions. The NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) assessed damage shortly after the bushfires occurred. DPI estimates that a maximum of 50 hectares of vines were burnt.
- (b) Re-establishment of vineyards requires the purchase of new vines and the replacement of infrastructure (trellising and irrigation). This amount varies from business to business.
- (c) The cost of repairing damaged vineyard infrastructure varies from business to business depending on the scale of the damage.
- (d) It is unclear what loss is being referred to.
- (e) This information is confidential to each business and not held by DPI.
- (f) This is a matter for the Minister for Tourism.
- (g) Other costs are unknown.
- (2) (a), (b), (c) and (e) are addressed in the program guidelines.
- (d) This is a matter for the Minister responsible for disaster declarations.

*3169 TOURISM OPERATORS COVID-19—Ms Jenny Aitchison asked the Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney—

- (1) Will an assistance package be implemented for tourism operators who have been negatively impacted due to travel restrictions associated with COVID 19?
 - (a) If so, when?
- (2) Does Destination NSW have a specialised support line and officer(s) working with tourism operators to assist them with marketing and promotion to encourage travellers to visit and answering questions about procedures for operating?
 - (a) If not, why not?
- (3) What plans does Destination NSW have to assist tourism operators with opening for 1 June 2020 (such as providing sample standard operating procedures, screening guidelines, signage for tourism providers and cleaning guidelines)?
- (4) When will school excursions and overnight trips be allowed to resume?
- (5) When will business meetings, events and conferences be allowed to resume?
- (6) What social distancing requirements apply to the following in New South Wales (as at 28 May 2020):
 - (a) Bus and coach operators;
 - (b) Train and tram operators;

(c) Airlines?

Answer—

(1) The Government has announced a range of business support measures that are available to eligible businesses from all sectors including tourism and hospitality. These measures complement the Commonwealth Government support and assistance for individuals and businesses. For further information visit www.service.nsw.gov.au/covid-19.

As the Government's tourism and major events agency, Destination NSW developed a recovery package to support the tourism industry, which first launched in February 2020. The package has continued to evolve and develop further to pivot to supporting COVID-19 recovery.

On 1 June 2020, Destination NSW released the next phase of the Now's The Time To Love NSW tourism recovery campaign to ensure that New South Wales is the only place domestic travellers want to visit and to drive bookings and visitors for tourism businesses across the State.

(2) The Government delivers support to all sectors through the Business Connect Program. Further questions should be directed to the Minister for Finance and Small Business.

In addition, all Destination NSW officers are working to support the tourism industry to assist them in ensuring their businesses remain viable during and after COVID-19.

Destination NSW is developing and coordinating marketing and promotion activities in a phased approach as COVID-19 restrictions ease to encourage visitation across the State.

Destination NSW delivers the NSW First Program, which provides advice, events and resources to help tourism businesses develop, promote and sell their tourism products.

Destination NSW developed the NSW First Quick Tips Guides to help tourism businesses navigate COVID-19 and include advice about staying connected with travellers, media and distribution partners, and opportunities to develop new areas of business.

Contact details for all Destination NSW teams are available at www.destinationnsw.com.au/contact-us/key-contacts.

(3) This question should be directed to the Minister for Health.

Destination NSW has published a COVID-Safe Business Planning page on its corporate website that comprises a list of industry-developed resources and key considerations for all businesses. www.destinationnsw.com.au/news-and-media/tourism-recovery/covid-safe-business-planning.

(4) The resumption of specific activities is a matter for the Minister for Health.

(5) This question should be directed to the Minister for Health.

It is understood that currently business meetings, events and conferences are permitted in accordance with Schedule 1, 13 of the Public Health (COVID-19 Restrictions on Gathering and Movement) Order (No 3) 2020 under the Public Health Act 2010.

(6) This question should be directed to the Minister for Health.

*3170 RURAL ASSISTANCE AUTHORITY GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAMS—Ms Jenny Aitchison asked the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—

(1) For each month from August 2019 to May 2020 (as at 28 May 2020) what was the number of requests for assistance to the Rural Assistance Authority (RAA), disaggregated by electorate and relevant Rural Assistance Authority grant or loan program where known, made by:

- (a) Telephone;
- (b) Email;
- (c) Other forms (please specify)

(2) For each month from August 2019 to May 2020 (as at 28 May 2020) what was the number of Full-Time Equivalent positions at the RAA, disaggregated by electorate and relevant RAA grant or loan program where known, which are:

- (a) Responsible for assessing applications;
- (b) Rural financial counsellor positions available for filling;
- (c) Rural financial counsellors?

(3) For each month from August 2019 to May 2020 (as at 28 May 2020) what was the number of visits to the RAA website, disaggregated by electorate and relevant RAA grant or loan program where known?

- (4) For each month from August 2019 to May 2020 (as at 28 May 2020) what was the number of initial applications lodged to the RAA, disaggregated by electorate and relevant RAA grant or loan program where known, as follows:
- (a) Initial grant applications lodged;
 - (b) Initial loan applications lodged?
- (5) For each month from August 2019 to May 2020 (as at 28 May 2020) what was the number of applications to the RAA, disaggregated by electorate and relevant RAA grant or loan program where known, which were:
- (a) Refused grant applications;
 - (b) Refused loan applications;
 - (c) Approved grant applications;
 - (d) Approved loan applications?
 - (e) Applications for grants where the grant was less than what was requested;
 - (f) Applications for loans where the loan was less than what was requested?
- (6) For each month from August 2019 to May 2020 (as at 28 May 2020) what was the number of applications to the RAA, disaggregated by electorate and relevant RAA grant or loan program where known, where:
- (a) More information was requested from the applicant;
 - (b) Assistance was claimed by primary producers who had received assistance in the last two years?
- (7) For each month from August 2019 to May 2020 (as at 28 May 2020) what was the average processing time, disaggregated by electorate and relevant RAA grant or loan program where known, for the following:
- (a) RAA grants;
 - (b) RAA loans?
- (8) For each month from August 2019 to May 2020 (as at 28 May 2020) what was the average time before payment, disaggregated by electorate and relevant RAA grant or loan program where known, for the following once approved:
- (a) RAA grants;
 - (b) RAA loans?

Answer—

(1) Although potential eligible applicants can receive advice by calling the Rural Assistance Authority (RAA) on its 1800 number or by emailing rural.assist@raa.nsw.gov.au, RAA does not accept applications for assistance via telephone or email. To apply for assistance applicants are required to complete an application form which most commonly is completed and submitted online but can also be submitted in hard copy via post. A breakdown of RAA program expenditure and allocation, including approvals data, is included in the RAA's published annual report. Annual reports from 2012 onwards are available on the RAA's website - www.raa.nsw.gov.au. The annual report for the 2019/20 financial year will be tabled in Parliament in accordance with statutory reporting requirements.

(2) (a) As at 29 April 2020 the RAA had more than 100 permanent, casual and contingent staff, mostly based in Orange.

(b) and (c) The NSW Rural Financial Counselling Service (RFCS) is an independent non government organisation funded by a combination of New South Wales and Commonwealth Government Grants. RFCS employment statistics are not held by the Government.

(3) In the period of 1 August 2019 - 31 May 2020 the RAA website was visited 740,326 times. As shown in the table below there was a significant increase in website activity in January and February 2020 corresponding with the NSW Bushfire disaster and recovery.

Month	Number of views on RAA website
May 2020	60,658
April 2020	56,110
March 2020	69,204
Feb 2020	104,525
Jan 2020	154,338
December 2019	62,955

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November 2019	73,345
October 2019	56,095
September 2019	58,542

(4), (5) and (6) A breakdown of RAA program expenditure and allocation, including approvals data, is included in the Authority's published annual report. Annual reports from 2012 onwards are available on the RAA's website - www.raa.nsw.gov.au. The annual report for the 2019-20 financial year will be tabled in Parliament in accordance with statutory reporting requirements.

(7) Processing times for RAA programs and individual applications can vary depending on a number of factors. These include whether the applicant has provided all documentation and evidence required, fluctuations in the quantity of applications received by the RAA and the size and complexity of assistance being sought. In assessing applications for loans the RAA is required to determine serviceability and adequate security to protect the taxpayer interest. As at 5 June 2020 the average RAA processing time for Special Disaster Bushfire grant was about 13 days and for Special Disaster Bushfire loans the average processing time was 29 days.

(8) The RAA ensures that payment of grant and loan money is processed as quickly as possible after approval has been finalised so that farmers have the funds in their bank when they need it most.

(a) Approved grants are normally paid within one week of approval.

(b) Loans are normally paid within a few weeks of approval, however this is dependent upon the RAA receiving all required loan security documentation from the applicant.

*3171 RETURN AND EARN REFUNDS CESSNOCK—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Energy and Environment—

- (1) What was the total amount of Return and Earn refunds made in the Cessnock electorate in each financial year from 2017-18 to 2019-20 (to 28 May 2020)?
- (2) What are the major charities that have benefited through Return and Earn in terms of donations made within the electorate in each financial year from 2017-18 to 2019-20 (to 28 May 2020)?

Answer—

(1)

Year	Amount
2017-18 (from 1 December 2017)	\$1,077,879.90
2018-19	\$3,190,287.70
2019-20	\$2,984,265.70

These amounts represent totals from reverse vending machines up to 29 May 2020, plus over the counter return points totals up to 15 March 2020, reported by TOMRA Cleanaway to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment.

(2) Information on donations to major donation partners is reported to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment at a state-wide level only.

There are no donation stations in the Cessnock electorate.

*3172 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORTS—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

- (1) Are environmental impact assessments, annual reports and modelling of water impacts carried out by various industries such as mining, power generation and farming in relation to river catchments centrally available?
 - (a) If so, where is this information located?
 - (b) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's major projects website found at www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects includes environmental impact assessments completed for all State significant projects, including mining and power generation. The major projects website can be searched by local government area and by industry sector.

From November 2019, annual reviews, approved management plans and strategies associated with these State significant projects can be viewed on the major projects website and on the applicant's website. Documents approved prior to this date can be viewed on the applicant's website.

*3173 CROWN LAND CARAVAN PARKS—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

- (1) Have operators of crown land caravan parks requested a reduction in their lease / fees / levy costs payable to the relevant Government department in each financial year from 2015-16 to 2019-20 (to 28 May 2020)?
 - (a) If so:
 - (i) What percentage of a reduction of costs was sought in which financial year/s;
 - (ii) Was the request/s approved/declined/reduced;
 - (iii) What percentage was granted;
 - (iv) When did the changes take effect?

Answer—

I am advised:

In 2019-20, five requests for a reduction in lease/fee/levy costs were received requesting a 100 per cent waiver over a 12-month period and are under assessment. No requests were received in 2015-16 to 2018-19.

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment is offering rent relief for caravan parks on Crown land, in line with the National Cabinet Mandatory Code of Conduct—SME Commercial Leasing Principles during COVID-19. The code aims to support commercial tenancies that have suffered significant effects on their operations as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Further details are available at: <https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/lands/your-account/covid-19-rental-assistance>.

*3174 EXPRESS PASSENGER TRAIN FLEET OPERATIONS—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

- (1) Have the remaining 14 out of the 19 power cars (considering five were completed as at 25 November 2019) in the Express Passenger Train (XPT) fleet had new centre pins installed?
 - (a) If not, how many cars are still to have their centre pins installed?
 - (i) When will these be completed?
- (2) Over what period was the XPT fleet non operational?
 - (a) Was this due to the need to replace the centre pins?
 - (b) When did passenger trips resume?
 - (c) Has there been any reduction in the number of scheduled trips?
 - (i) If so, what has been the reduction?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) NSW TrainLink was able to run all XPT services except the Sydney to Grafton and Casino to Sydney services due to the centre pin crack issue. These services were replaced with roadcoaches from September to November 2019. Customers travelling from Sydney to Grafton and from Casino to Sydney were still able to travel by train on other XPT services.

*3175 POINT TO POINT TRANSPORT COMMISSIONER INVESTIGATIONS—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) Since the commencement of the Point to Point Transport Commissioner (PPTC) on 1 November 2017, in conjunction with Roads and Maritime Services (RMS), the State Insurance Regulatory Authority and NSW Police, how many fines have been issued for non-compliance (as at 28 May 2020)?
- (2) How many reports of non-compliance have been received by the PPTC (as at 28 May 2020)?
- (3) How many businesses have been investigated for non-compliance (as at 28 May 2020)?
 - (a) Of these, how many cautions have been issued?
 - (b) How many investigations were for taxis?
 - (i) How many reports were received?
 - (c) How many investigations were for hire vehicles?

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- (i) How many reports were received?
- (d) How many investigations were for ridesharing?
- (i) How many reports were received?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) 5,085 penalty notices were issued for non-compliance, all by the Point to Point Transport Commissioner or the NSW Police Force.
- (2) and (3) This information is publicly available.

*3176 SPEED HUMPS CESSNOCK—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

- (1) How many speed humps used as a traffic and speed calming measure are located on classified State roads in the Cessnock electorate (as at 28 May 2020)?
 - (a) Where in the electorate are they located?
 - (b) Have any been removed once installed?
 - (i) If so, where were these located?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Within the Cessnock electorate, there is one speed cushion installed on a state road.
 - (a) A raised pedestrian crossing is located on Aberdare Road, Aberdare.
 - (b) No.

*3177 FIXING COUNTRY ROADS PROGRAM - CESSNOCK—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

- (1) As at 28 May 2020, what is the total value of applications submitted by each of the following councils whose local government area is covered in the Cessnock electorate for the Fixing Country Roads program which commenced in 2014-15:
 - (a) Cessnock City Council;
 - (b) Lake Macquarie City Council;
 - (c) Singleton Shire Council?
- (2) What is the total value of funds provided to date to all councils by the program since its inception (as at 28 May 2020)?
- (3) Which local government areas are yet to receive any funding under the program?

Answer—

I am advised:

Details about successful projects and funding information are available on the Transport for NSW website: <https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/projects/programs/fixing-country-roads>.

*3178 FIXING LOCAL ROADS PROGRAM—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

- (1) What projects have been funded in the Cessnock electorate by the Fixing Local Roads program (as at 28 May 2020)?
 - (a) What is the value of each project?
 - (b) How many unsuccessful applications were submitted?
 - (c) What was the value of each unsuccessful application?
- (2) How many applications were submitted by each of the following councils:
 - (a) Cessnock City Council;
 - (b) Lake Macquarie City Council;
 - (c) Singleton Shire Council?

Answer—

I am advised:

As of 28 May 2020, the first round of Fixing Local Roads had not been announced.

On Monday 29 June 2020, the Australian Government announced \$191 million to build on the NSW Government's \$500 million Fixing Local Roads program. It will see \$382 million of joint funding

provided to regional councils for shovel-ready projects able to be started in the next 12 months. Round one of the program will see more than \$250 million invested in 258 projects across 83 Local Government Areas. Individual projects will be announced over the coming weeks. Applications for round two of the program will open later this year.

*3179 PUBLIC SECTOR ROLES CESSNOCK—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Premier—

In order to implement the 2019-20 Budget, how many public sector roles in the Cessnock electorate will be reduced or terminated?

Answer—

I refer you to the answer to LA Q2056.

*3180 POPULATION CHANGE MODELING FOR BROKEN HILL—Mr Roy Butler asked the Premier—

(1) Is the Department of Premier and Cabinet or any other government agency undertaking modeling in Broken Hill to understand the implications and factors contributing to population change?

(a) If so, is this information publicly accessible?

(b) If not, is there an opportunity for a community led leadership group to undertake modeling with the support of a government agency?

Answer—

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment produces population projections for all council areas within New South Wales and this includes the Broken Hill Local Government Area (and the surrounding area of Unincorporated NSW). Further information can be found at www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Research-and-Demography/Population-projections.

*3181 COVID-19 HIGH RISK FAMILIES—Mr Roy Butler asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

What support is in place for families who are not comfortable returning their children to face-to-face learning due to family members who are at greater risk of more serious illness with COVID-19 due to having respiratory illnesses or other chronic diseases?

Answer—

Schools are operating in accordance with the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) and NSW Health guidelines utilising existing infection control protocols and new measures to help maintain the health and safety of students.

AHPPC has advised that children are at low risk from COVID-19. School students do not need to follow physical distancing guidelines, but should follow good hygiene

practices such as:

- regularly washing hands,
- avoiding sharing drinks or food, and
- coughing or sneezing into their elbow, or a tissue which should be discarded immediately.

All students should be at school unless:

- they have a medical certificate which states that they are unable to return to school due to an ongoing medical condition, or
- they are currently unwell.

If parents are not comfortable sending their children to school for face-to-face learning due to family members who are at a greater risk of more serious illness they should seek advice from their medical practitioner and speak with their school principal to discuss appropriate arrangements.

*3182 CRISIS ACCOMMODATION BARWON ELECTORATE—Mr Roy Butler asked the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—

(1) How many beds are available to be used for women's crisis accommodation in the Barwon electorate?

(a) Which townships are these beds available in?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Government funds eight women's refuges in locations across the Barwon electorate. Further

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information about women's refuges is available at: www.facs.nsw.gov.au.

The number of beds available for use in a women's refuge is dependent on several variables, including:

- the complexity of client needs at any given time;
- the willingness, or ability, of women to share rooms; and
- the needs and configuration of families.

In addition to women's refuges, the Government invests in a range of other programs and initiatives that provide accommodation and support for victim-survivors of domestic and family violence.

*3183 TAXI FINES DURING COVID-19—Ms Julia Finn asked the Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation—

- (1) How many taxis have received fines for being unregistered since 1 February 2020 across New South Wales (as at 28 May 2020)?
 - (a) To what extent has this increased compared to the same period in 1 February 2019?
- (2) How many taxis have received a fine for lack of registration since 1 February 2020 (as at 28 May 2020) in:
 - (a) Merrylands;
 - (b) Merrylands West;
 - (c) Holroyd;
 - (d) Granville;
 - (e) Westmead;
 - (f) Wentworthville;
 - (g) South Wentworthville;
 - (h) Mays Hill;
 - (i) Guildford;
 - (j) Greystanes;
 - (k) Clyde?
- (3) How is the Government assisting taxi drivers with registration costs during the COVID-19 crisis?
- (4) How is the Government providing taxi drivers with somewhere safe to park their taxis while they are unable to work during COVID-19, so that they are not forced to leave their unregistered taxis illegally parked on the street?
- (5) What portion of revenue has the Government received from the taxi industry as a result of these fines since 1 February 2020 (as at 28 May 2020)?
 - (a) What portion of this revenue has been returned to the taxi industry in the form of support by the Government for drivers currently?

Answer—

These questions should be directed to the Minister for Finance and Small Business.

*3184 SMALL BUSINESS GRANTS AND LOANS—Ms Julia Finn asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Small Business, Vice-President of the Executive Council—

- (1) How many small business are currently (as at 28 May 2020) receiving either grants or loans from the Government in the suburbs of:
 - (a) Merrylands;
 - (b) Merrylands West;
 - (c) Holroyd;
 - (d) Granville;
 - (e) Westmead;
 - (f) Wentworthville;
 - (g) South Wentworthville;
 - (h) Mays Hill;
 - (i) Guildford;
 - (j) Greystanes;
 - (k) Clyde?
- (2) How many small business are currently (as at 28 May 2020) receiving either grants or loans from the Government in the Electorate of Granville?

Answer—

As at 28 May 2020, COVID-19 support grants had been paid to small businesses in the following suburbs:

- (a) 99;
- (b) 10;
- (c) 6;
- (d) 32;
- (e) 17;
- (f) 24;
- (g) 12;
- (h) 2;
- (i) 39;
- (j) 99;
- (k) 11.

There are no current loans from the Government for small businesses other than those in the bushfire zones.

(2) As at 28 May 2020, a total of 355 small business COVID-19 support grant applications requesting \$3.52 million had been received from small businesses in the Granville electorate: 240 grant applications totalling \$2.38m had been approved with payments initiated; 77 grant applications were in progress; 32 grant applications were awaiting further information from applicants; three grant applications were not approved and 3 grant applications were approved awaiting payments to be initiated.

There are no current loans from the Government for small businesses other than those in the bushfire zones.

*3185 GRANVILLE TAFE—Ms Julia Finn asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education—

- (1) At Granville TAFE, how many students are currently studying (as at 28 May 2020):
 - (a) Full time?
 - (b) Part Time?
- (2) How do these numbers compare to the same time last year?
- (3) How many students have withdrawn from their studies in the last 12 months (as at 28 May 2020)?

Answer—

I am advised that as TAFE NSW operates in a competitive environment, data is not provided by in-year enrolment numbers. TAFE NSW does provide enrolment data in the Enrolments by Students section of the TAFE NSW Annual Report, available at: <https://www.tafensw.edu.au/corporate/annual-report>.

*3186 CALLS TO FAIR TRADING DURING COVID-19—Ms Julia Finn asked the Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation—

- (1) How many calls were made to New South Wales Fair Trading from 1 February 2020 to 28 May 2020 asking for help and assistance regarding:
 - (a) Negotiating rent reductions or changes to residential tenancy agreements as a result of COVID-19 across New South Wales?
 - (b) Negotiating rent reductions or changes to commercial tenancy agreements as a result of COVID-19 across New South Wales?
 - (c) Seeking and applying for emergency housing and accommodation as a result of COVID-19 across New South Wales?
 - (d) Negotiating rent reductions or changes to residential tenancy agreements as a result of COVID-19 in:
 - (i) Merrylands;
 - (ii) Merrylands West;
 - (iii) Holroyd;
 - (iv) Granville;
 - (v) Westmead;
 - (vi) Wentworthville;
 - (vii) South Wentworthville;
 - (viii) Mays Hill;
 - (ix) Guildford;
 - (x) Greystanes;

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- (xi) Clyde?
- (e) Negotiating rent reductions or changes to commercial tenancy agreements as a result of COVID-19 in:
- (i) Merrylands;
 - (ii) Merrylands West;
 - (iii) Holroyd;
 - (iv) Granville;
 - (v) Westmead;
 - (vi) Wentworthville;
 - (vii) South Wentworthville;
 - (viii) Mays Hill;
 - (ix) Guildford;
 - (x) Greystanes;
 - (xi) Clyde?
- (f) Seeking and applying for emergency housing and accommodation as a result of COVID-19:
- (i) Merrylands;
 - (ii) Merrylands West;
 - (iii) Holroyd;
 - (iv) Granville;
 - (v) Westmead;
 - (vi) Wentworthville;
 - (vii) South Wentworthville;
 - (viii) Mays Hill;
 - (ix) Guildford;
 - (x) Greystanes;
 - (xi) Clyde?

Answer—

(1) (a) NSW Fair Trading and Service NSW received 5,285 telephone calls seeking advice about the Government's tenancy moratorium measures up to 28 May 2020.

(b) and (e) Commercial tenancies due not fall within Fair Trading's area of responsibility, customers seeking advice about a commercial tenancy are advised to seek legal advice. The Office of the Small Business Commissioner provides advice and assistance for retail tenants and landlords.

(c) and (f) Emergency housing and accommodation fall within the responsibilities of the Department of Communities and Justice.

(d) Customer details are not recorded for telephone enquiries. The table below provides the number of written enquiries, complaints or requests for assistance received about the tenancy moratorium measures in the suburbs requested to 28 May 2020.

Note: In some cases, only a postcode has been provided, therefore suburbs with the same postcode are grouped together.

Suburb/Postcode	Complaints and/or request for assistance with rent negotiation	Enquiries
Merrylands, Merrylands West (2160)	1	7
Holroyd, Granville, Clyde (2142)	0	2
Westmead, Wentworthville, South Wentworthville, Mays Hill, Greystanes (2145)	0	5
Guildford (2161)	0	2

*3187 MERRYLANDS SERVICE NSW OFFICE—Ms Julia Finn asked the Minister for Customer Service—

- (1) Will the Government consider establishing a Service NSW office in Merrylands?
- (a) If so, when?

Answer—

In line with the announcement, the 10 new Service Centres, including one for Merrylands, will form part of a staged rollout over the next four years. Local communities will be kept informed of progress. We are in the early stages of planning and expect an extensive range of services to be available at this location.

*3188 CLOSE THE GAP—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Premier—

- (1) What progress has been achieved in the 12 years of the Close The Gap framework being applied in New South Wales?
 - (a) Does the Government consider this progress as a success?
- (2) What assessment has the Government made about those domains where there has been limited or no progress?
- (3) What assessment has the Government made of the reasons for success in those domains where real progress has been made?
- (4) What plans does the Government have to address the identified deficiencies and improve outcomes?
- (5) What proposals has the Government taken to the Commonwealth for national action to close the gap?
- (6) What further action will the Government take to achieve significant progress in closing the gap?

Answer—

(1) New South Wales is on track to meet the Closing the Gap targets on enrolment in early childhood education and three of eight sub-targets on reading and numeracy (according to the Prime Minister's 2020 Closing the Gap progress report).

New South Wales has also achieved significant improvements on targets in areas such as employment, Year 12 attainment, literacy and numeracy and life expectancy. New South Wales has the lowest child mortality rate and the highest Aboriginal employment rates nationally.

Although there have been significant improvements in practical outcomes for Aboriginal people in NSW, there is still more to be done.

(2) and (3) There have been many reviews of the previous Closing the Gap framework including a performance audit by the Australian National Audit Office.

Based on the lessons learned from the previous framework, and community consultations led by the national Coalition of Aboriginal Peak Organisations, the new approaches (or priority reforms) to Closing the Gap are shared decision making, strengthening the community controlled sectors, transforming government institutions and sharing data and information.

(4) to (6) The Government will attend the Joint Council on Closing the Gap in early July 2020 to consider a new National Agreement on Closing the Gap, developed in partnership with the Coalition of Peaks.

*3189 COMPULSORY THIRD PARTY INSURANCE—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for Customer Service—

- (1) What assessment has the Government made of State Insurance Regulatory Authority complaints about the NSW Compulsory Third Party Insurance Scheme?
 - (a) What systemic concerns or gaps have been identified?
- (2) How many complaints has the authority received about compulsory third party insurance under the current scheme?
 - (a) What are the trends in numbers of complaints?
 - (b) What are the main complaints concerned about?
 - (c) What assessment has been made of the outcomes?
- (3) What changes are planned to improve complaints management?
- (4) What assessment has the Government made of insurers' compliance with the customer service conduct principles?
 - (a) How does the Government monitor how these are applied?
 - (b) What plans are there to make these a mandatory requirement?
- (5) What plans does the government have to update and improve the NSW Compulsory Third Party Insurance Scheme?

Answer—

(1) The State Insurance Regulatory Authority (SIRA) uses feedback to monitor customer experience, inform regulatory action and improve service delivery.

Within the NSW Compulsory Third Party (CTP) Insurance scheme, complaints can be about the Motor Accidents Compensation Act 1999 (MACA 1999) or the Motor Accidents Injuries Act (MAIA 2017).

SIRA publishes information about complaints each quarter.

SIRA reviews all complaints and feedback on a monthly basis to determine the root cause of the complaint and develop guidelines, policies or undertake regulatory review (and action). Where SIRA has received information relating to performance or non-compliance issues, SIRA has proactively addressed this with the insurer and held them to account.

Since the start of the MAIA 2017 scheme, SIRA has not identified any systemic concerns or gaps in the scheme based on the information received through complaints, which have identified individual performance issues.

(2) SIRA tracks data monthly and publishes quarterly. Since December 2017 to March 2020:

- SIRA received 1,398 complaints.
- 1,174 complaints were resolved without need for escalation.
- Over 14 million policies were transacted. This equates to 11 complaints per one hundred thousand Green Slips.

Under the current scheme, SIRA has received 224 complex claims complaints. These are complaints which take more than two days to resolve.

(a) For the period from 1 January 2019 to March 2020, SIRA has observed the following trends:

- 96 per cent of complaints about insurers and service providers relate to insurer management of claims. The remaining 4 per cent relate to purchasing of Green Slips.
- The proportion of complaints lodged by various stakeholder groups is approximately:
 - Injured people represent 45 per cent of complaints.
 - The proportion of complaints from legal professionals has reduced from 45 per cent to 38 per cent.
 - 14 per cent of total complaints have been lodged by three legal service providers.
 - Complaints from policy holders have increased from 1 per cent to 4 per cent of complaints received.

(b) The most common themes in complaints received by SIRA relate to claims delays, claims decisions, customer service and insurer prices. These complaints are reported and published by insurer in the CTP insurer claims experience and customer feedback comparison report published on the SIRA website.

(c) Of the insurer related complaints, 12 per cent (166 of 1,398 complaints) have been referred for regulatory review and investigation and 88 per cent (1,232 of 1,398 complaints) have been resolved by SIRA's frontline staff.

(3) The following changes are planned:

- Additional functionality to our ICT complaints system to capture additional feedback and data
- Ongoing refinement of complaints reporting and publication
- All customer service officers will become accredited to be SOCAP (the Society of Consumer Affairs Professionals) by December 2020.

(4) (a) and (b) The Customer Service Conduct Principles published in November 2019 apply to all insurers across the three schemes regulated by SIRA. The principles aim to ensure that scheme customers are provided fair, timely, respectful, inclusive and appropriate services, and the opportunity to provide feedback on these services.

Under section 3.10.2 of the Motor Accidents Guidelines, insurers are mandated to submit business plans to SIRA annually. Business plans must include information about the insurer's objectives and planned activities in relation to customer services, complaints management and organisational culture. The provision of the business plan is a condition of an insurer's licence.

SIRA will be writing to insurers to request detailed information relating to how the insurer intends to deliver the Customer Service Conduct Principles as part of each insurer's next business plan submission. In particular, SIRA expects business plans to articulate:

- the actions and activities the insurer intends to deliver over the period of the business plan to give effect to the principles
- key milestones and timeframes associated with intended actions and activities
- the outcomes it is expected that each action and activity will produce
- the manner in which the insurer will assess the delivery and impact of each action and activity.

(5) In June 2020, the Government introduced the Personal Injury Commission Bill 2020 into Parliament. The Bill seeks to consolidate the workers compensation scheme and CTP insurance schemes' dispute resolution systems into a single personal injury tribunal.

The Commission will improve the customer experience for all users of the system and make it simpler for

injured people navigating disputes in the workers compensation and CTP schemes.

*3190 CRIME VICTIMS COUNSELLING AND COMPENSATION—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—

- (1) Do New South Wales victims of crime have to gather their own evidence to support claims for counselling or compensation?
- (2) How will the Government ensure that domestic and family violence victims will continue to receive police assistance to gather police, hospital, psychological and counselling records as evidence to support claims?
- (3) What plans does the Government have to ensure that vulnerable crime victims can continue to access counselling or compensation?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) Victims of crime do not have to gather evidence in order to receive counselling through the Victims Support Scheme. There are legislative documentary evidentiary requirements for accessing financial support for immediate needs, financial assistance for economic loss and recognition payments.

(2) and (3) Victims of crime can continue to apply for counselling, financial support for immediate needs, financial assistance for economic loss and recognition payments. Victims Services has an access arrangement with NSW Police, which enables direct access to the NSW Police Computerised Operational Policing System (COPS) to review and assess police reports.

Victims Services is available to help victim-survivors with their application processes. Victims can contact the Victims Access Line on 1800 633 063 and the Aboriginal Contact Line on 1800 019 123. Victims can also access further information on the Victims Services website: www.victimsservices.justice.nsw.gov.au.

*3191 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SUPPORT SERVICES - TEMPORARY VISA HOLDERS—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—

- (1) Are victims of domestic and family violence on temporary visas are eligible for domestic violence support services, including crisis and transitional accommodation?
- (2) What support services does the Government provide for victims of domestic and family violence on temporary visas?
- (3) What plans does the Government have to ensure that all vulnerable victims of domestic and family violence can get help and safe accommodation?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) Yes.

(2) Victims and survivors of domestic and family violence on temporary visas are eligible to access the following support services provided by the New South Wales Government:

- Staying Home Leaving Violence provides supports to women and children leaving domestic and family violence to remain safely in their home, or a home of their choice, and have the perpetrator removed.
- Safer Pathway is the New South Wales Government's coordinated response to domestic and family violence through which victims are proactively contacted and referred to support services.
- The Integrated Domestic and Family Violence Services program provides a multi-agency, integrated and coordinated response to domestic and family violence among high-risk target groups (for example, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds) and in targeted communities.
- The Specialist Homelessness Services program provides support to people who are at most risk of homelessness. Services may include help with emergency or temporary accommodation, and support to access services including mental health, drug and alcohol, or domestic and family violence.
- Free legal advice is available through the Community Legal Services Program funded service. Temporary visa holders escaping violence can access free legal advice through the following providers: Refugee Advice and Casework Service, Immigration Advice and Rights Centre and Women Legal Services New South Wales. Legal Aid and LawAccess New South Wales can also be contacted for free legal advice.
- Free interpreting services are available via Translating and Interpreting Services, for criminal matters and Applications for an Appended Domestic Violence Order (ADVO), or breach of an ADVO, regardless of whether parties are victims, offenders or witnesses.

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- The Victims Support Scheme provides support to aid in a victim's recovery through a package of practical, financial and counselling support. Support under the scheme includes up to 22 hours of counselling; up to \$5,000 in financial support for immediate needs; up to \$30,000 in financial support for economic losses; and a recognition payment of between \$1,500 and \$15,000.

More information about these support services can be accessed at: www.facs.nsw.gov.au/domestic-violence.

(3) Individuals affected by domestic and family violence are able to access housing assistance options available through the New South Wales Government. This includes access to social housing, temporary accommodation, crisis accommodation and private rental market subsidies. Staying Home Leaving Violence and Rent Choice Start Safely are the two main housing programs which respond directly to households affected by domestic and family violence.

The Domestic and Family Violence Blueprint for Reform 2016-2021: Safer Lives for Women, Men and Children (the Blueprint) sets out the strategy to ensure that victim-survivors have access to the supports needed to escape violence. More information on the Blueprint can be accessed at: www.women.nsw.gov.au/strategies-and-resources/nsw-domestic-and-family-violence/domestic-and-family-violence-blueprint.

*3192 FORMER MILLERS POINT BABY HEALTH CENTRE—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

- (1) What alternatives has the Government considered for the future of the former Baby Health Centre at 87 Lower Fort Street, Millers Point?
- (2) Will the Government consider retaining the building for community use, recognising its heritage values?
- (3) Will the Government consider retaining this site for an open green space?
- (4) How will the Government ensure this public land is maintained for community benefit?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) 87 Lower Fort Street is an ageing property that is of poor quality and not fit for adaption. The proceeds from the sale of the property will be used to deliver more fit for purpose social housing homes for disadvantaged people and families on the waiting list.
- (2) Neither the site nor the building are listed on the Local or State Heritage Registers.
- (3) Existing open green space is located in close proximity including Observatory Hill, the Barangaroo Reserve, Pottinger Park, Dawes Point Park and Argyle Place.
- (4) Proceeds from the sale of the site will be directly invested in the construction of new fit for purpose social housing dwellings across regional NSW and the wider Sydney area.

*3193 FORMER PADDINGTON BOWLING CLUB SITE—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

- (1) Has the Government received requests for owners consent for any development applications at the former Paddington Bowling Club site since LA Q0673?
- (2) Is the site inaccessible to the community?
 - (a) Has it been used for recreation purposes since 2015?
 - (b) Is this consistent with the lease conditions?
- (3) What further action has been taken to ensure the lease conditions are being met since LA Q0673
- (4) What action will the Government take is the lease conditions are not being fulfilled?
- (5) How will the Government ensure that the former Paddington Bowling Club site remains accessible to the community and used for recreation purposes?

Answer—

This question should be directed to the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces as the land is located within the Greater Sydney area.

*3194 HISTORIC GAY HATE CRIMES—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—

- (1) Considering that the NSW Police Force have arrested the alleged killer of Scott Johnson in 1988 after extraordinary investigations:
 - (a) How many other cases have the NSW Police Force identified as unsolved gay hate crimes from that period?

- (b) Will the NSW Police Force continue investigating these unsolved deaths?
- (c) What further action will police take to encourage information from the community to solve these cases?

(2) How will the Government ensure that proper investigation occurs for hate crimes in the future?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) (a) The NSW Police Force considers that there are five other gay hate related homicides which occurred in the period from 1976 to 2000 that remain unsolved.

(b) Yes.

(c) CrimeStoppers can and is used to make appeals to the public in unsolved cases. Additionally, the NSW Police Force via its engagement with victims, witnesses, community groups, advocacy bodies, businesses and religious organisations, promotes the reporting of all hate motivated incidents, whether this is through the Police Assistance Line, CrimeStoppers, Triple Zero, the Community Portal at <https://portal.police.nsw.gov.au>, the National Security Hotline or by contacting their local police in person.

(2) It is the role of the NSW Police Force to continue investigations into hate crimes in future. The NSW Police Engagement and Hate Crime Unit's role is to ensure that all incidents reported to the NSW Police Force that are flagged in COPS as Hate Crime Involvement are assessed to determine which of the protected categories of Gender Identity, Sexual Orientation, Disability Status, Political Motivation, Religion, Ethnic/National Origin, Race, Sex/Gender relates and whether the incident is classified as a hate crime, suspected hate crime, hate incident, not a hate crime or incident with insufficient information.

*3195 GREYHOUND WELFARE CODE OF PRACTICE—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation—

- (1) Is the draft code's provision of 10 years for owners to upgrade substandard kennels for greyhound industry dogs unnecessarily lenient and will it prolong suffering in the industry?
- (2) How will the final code ensure that owners of greyhound dogs upgrade any substandard kennels within the next 12 months (from 28 May 2020)?
- (3) What assurances will the final code give to ensure that all greyhound racing industry dogs can have:
 - (a) Daily exercise;
 - (b) Sufficient room to move at all times;
 - (c) Freedom to express normal behaviours at all times;
 - (d) Freedom from fear and distress?
- (4) How will the Government end all cruel treatment of greyhounds in the greyhound racing industry?

Answer—

(1) and (2) The New South Wales Greyhound Welfare and Integrity code of conduct was approved on 29 June 2020:

- the transition period for compliance with minimum sizing requirements for greyhound housing areas in the New South Wales Greyhound Welfare Code of Practice(Code) recognises that the upgrading of infrastructure requires significant capital investment and allows participants adequate time to plan for infrastructure upgrades
- the Commission can direct compliance with minimum sizing requirements for greyhound housing areas at an earlier date where greyhound welfare or other safety issues relating to non-compliance are identified.

(3) I am advised by the Commission that:

- the standards within the Code have been developed with reference to the five domains of animal welfare, which provide a recognised framework for assessing an animal's wellbeing
- the Code specifies minimum standards for greyhound exercise, socialisation and enrichment, and requires participants to prepare written plans detailing how they will meet these standards for the greyhounds in their care.

(4) The Government is committed to ensuring a competitive, vibrant and sustainable greyhound racing industry, based on high standards of animal welfare.

The Greyhound Racing Act 2017 (the Act) implemented a number of recommendations of the Greyhound Industry Reform Panel to ensure greyhound racing in New South Wales can continue to operate while meeting community expectations of animal welfare.

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In addition to establishing the Commission as the industry's independent regulator and providing for an enforceable Code of Practice for the treatment, handling and care of greyhounds, the Act introduced stronger penalties and new offences that deter and punish cruelty to greyhounds.

*3196 EAST SYDNEY UNUSED ROADS AND MARITIME SERVICES MOTORWAY LAND—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) How many years has the Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) property above the Cross City Tunnel at 110 to 130 William Street been vacant and unused?
- (2) Considering the COVID-19 pandemic has identified the need for increased active space, what plans has the Government considered since LA Q2585 for:
 - (a) Landscaping and transforming this site into a public park;
 - (b) Providing recreation or play facilities;
 - (c) Providing facilities for homeless people sleeping rough;
 - (d) Outdoor exercise, training or boot camp activities;
 - (e) Food trucks or outdoor café operations?
- (3) What plans does the Government have for unused RMS land at Palmer Street and Egan Place associated with the Eastern Distributor?
- (4) What plans has the Government considered for:
 - (a) Landscaping and transforming this site into a public park;
 - (b) Providing recreation or play facilities;
 - (c) Providing facilities for homeless people sleeping rough;
 - (d) Outdoor exercise, training or boot camp activities;
 - (e) Food trucks or outdoor café operations?
- (5) For the plans listed in (4) what consultations and announcements will be made?
- (6) What is the schedule for cleansing and removing graffiti on these sites?
- (7) What further plans does the Government have to improve visual amenity, green landscaping and public access for these sites?

Answer—

I am advised:

I refer you to my previous response, LA Q2585. Transport for NSW investigate potential long term uses of the William Street site. As you know, my Office continues to engage with your Office in this regard.

*3197 START STRONG CAPITAL WORKS GRANTS—Ms Jodie Harrison asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) Which organisations have applied for the \$5 million Start Strong Capital Works grants offered by the Department in 2018?
 - (a) Which organisations were awarded grants?
 - (b) How much was each grant?
 - (c) What was each grant to be used for?

Answer—

(1) Armidale Community Preschool Incorporated, Blacktown City Council, Branxton Preschool Incorporated, Bunyip Preschool Incorporated, Cobar Preschool Centre Association Incorporated, Coonamble Pre School Association Incorporated, CWA of NSW, East Lismore Community Preschool Incorporated., Elonera Ltd, Galloping Gumnut Mobile Children's Services Van Incorporated, Gilgandra Preschool Incorporated, Gloucester Pre School Incorporated, Grenfell Preschool and Long Day Care Centre Incorporated, Griffith Preschool Kindergarten, Gujaga Multifunctional Aboriginal Children's Service, Gumnut Community Preschool Incorporated, Gwydir Shire Council, Kingscliff Mini School, Lennox Head Community Preschool Incorporated, Lismore Parish Centre Pre School Incorporated, Lockhart Pre School Kindergarten Incorporated, Lord Howe Island Community Preschool Incorporated, Maitland Nursery School Incorporated, Manly Warringah Montessori Society, Maranatha House, North Ryde Community Preschool Incorporated, Orama Preschool Incorporated, Orange Preschool Kindergarten Ltd, Parkes Shire Council, Paterson Valley Community Pre-School, Pius X Aboriginal Corporation, Queanbeyan and District Preschool Association, Quirindi Preschool Kindergarten Incorporated, Rima's Child Care Centre Pty Ltd, SON Children's Services, Sydney Catholic Early Childhood Services, The Dubbo Christian Parent Controlled School Association Ltd, The Little School Preschool Incorporated, The Shepherd Centre for Deaf Children, The Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust, Thrive Early Learning Centres, Tooraweenah Pre-School Association Incorporated, Tunttable Falls Early Childhood Centre Incorporated, Warragamba Preschool Incorporated, Wee Waa &

District Preschool Association Incorporated, West Bathurst Preschool, Willow Tree Preschool Incorporated, Yass Montessori Pre-School Incorporated.

(1) (a), (b) and (c)

Organisation Name	Grant Amount	Grant Use
Gilgandra Preschool Incorporated	\$403,921.00	Extension
Griffith Preschool Kindergarten	\$325,000.00	Extension
Gujaga Multifunctional Aboriginal Children's Service	\$142,975.00	Renovations
Gumnut Community Preschool Incorporated	\$350,550.00	Extension
Lennox Head Community Preschool Incorporated	\$600,000.00	New Build
Lord Howe Island Community Preschool Incorporated	\$560,000.00	New Build, crisis situation
Paterson Valley Community Preschool	\$790,000.00	Extension
Queanbeyan and District Preschool Association	\$450,000.00	New Build
SON Children's Services	\$142,700.00	New Build
Tuntable Falls Early Childhood Centre Incorporated	\$153,425.00	Renovations
West Bathurst Preschool	\$754,767.85	New Build

*3198 BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE RENTAL SUBSIDY SCHEME—Ms Jodie Harrison asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) Which providers have applied for funds under the \$10 million rental subsidy scheme for Before and After School Care providers with services located in a public primary school (as at 28 May 2020)?
- (a) Which providers were granted funds under the scheme?
- (b) How much was each provider granted?
- (c) How was it demonstrated that subsidised providers did in fact pass on saving to parents through reduced fees?

Answer—

The Rental Subsidy Fund has not yet been opened.

*3199 START STRONG CAPITAL WORKS GRANTS—Ms Jodie Harrison asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) Which organisations have applied for the \$4 million Start Strong Capital Works grants offered by the Department in 2019?
- (a) Which organisations were awarded grants?
- (b) How much was each grant?
- (c) What was each grant to be used for?

Answer—

(1) Anglican Church Property Trust Diocese of Canberra & Goulburn, Awabakal Ltd, Baradine Preschool Incorporated, Bermagui Pre School Co-operative Society Limited, Boolaroo Speers Point Community Kindergarten Inc, Branxton Preschool Inc, Bunyip Pre School Harden Inc, Chabad House Of The North Shore Limited, Clarence Childhood Services Association Incorporated, Cobar Mobile Children's Services Incorporated, Community Junction Incorporated, Condobolin Pre School Kindergarten Inc, Coolamon Pre School Association Inc, Cooma Lambie Street Pre-school Association Incorporated, Eungai Pre School Inc, Ganmain Pied Piper Pre School, Glenbrook Pre-school Kindergarten Inc, Grenfell Preschool and Long Day Care Centre Inc, Gundagai Preschool Kindergarten Inc, Gwydir Mobile Children's service, Harbord Kindergarten Incorporated, Hawkesbury Community Outreach Services Inc Mobile Preschool,

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Holy Family Services, Inaburra Preschool, Inverell District Family Services Limited, Jesmond Community Pre School Assn Inc, Jubilee Community Services Incorporated, Jumbunna Community Preschool and Early Intervention Centre Inc, Junee Preschool Inc, Kids Castle Child Care Centre Pty. Limited, King Street Community Pre-school East Maitland Incorporated, Kingscliff Mini School Incorporated, KU Children's Services, Leeton Preschool Assoc Inc, Lennox Head Community Pre School Inc, Lismore Parish Centre Pre School Inc, Liverpool City Council, Long Flat Preschool Association Inc Long Flat Pre School, Lower Bucca Community Pre-school Incorporated, Lutheran Church Of Australia Queensland District, Mater Dei, Mendooran Preschool, Mirabelle Early Learning Centre Pty Ltd, My Time Childcare Pty Ltd, Nords Wharf Community Pre School Inc, North Ryde Community Pre-school Inc, Oberon Childrens Centre Inc, Ooranga Family Mobile Resource Unit Assoc Inc, Orange Pre-school Kindergarten Ltd, Palm Beach War Memorial Kindergarten, Penrith City Council, Rainbow Preschool Assn Broken Hill Inc, Ratarni Education, St James Kindergarten Incorporated, St Peters Pre-school Ltd, Stroud Neighbourhood Children's Co-operative Limited, Sydney Montessori Society, The Anglican Schools Commission Inc, The trustee for CH Family Trust, Tomaree Community College Incorporated, Wentworth District Pre School Playcentre Inc, Williamtown Preschool Inc, Wingham District Pre-school Kindergarten Ltd, Yass Montessori Pre-school, Young Child Care Centre Inc, Mendooran Preschool.

(1) (a), (b) and (c)

Organisation Name	Grant Amount	Grant Use
Awabakal Ltd	\$672,946.00	Renovations
Branxton Preschool Inc	\$427,207.00	Extending an existing service
Cobar Mobile Children's Services Incorporated	\$1,304,700.00	New build
Coolamon Pre School Association Inc	\$639,000.00	Crisis situation New build
Ganmain Pied Piper Pre School	\$92,577.50	Crisis situation Renovations
Glenbrook Pre-school Kindergarten Inc	\$157,000.00	Extending an existing service
Grenfell Preschool and Long Day Care Centre Inc	\$140,000.00	Purchasing a motor vehicle
Gundagai Preschool Kindergarten Inc	\$1,500,000.00	New build
Gwydir Mobile Children's Service	\$40,000.00	Purchasing a motor vehicle
Gwydir Mobile Children's Service	\$40,000.00	Purchasing a motor vehicle
Hawkesbury Community Outreach Services Inc Mobile Preschool	\$35,000.00	Purchasing a motor vehicle
Inverell District Family Services Limited	\$297,873.00	Extending an existing service
Jumbunna Community Preschool and Early Intervention Centre Inc	\$33,635.97	Purchasing a motor vehicle
Junee Preschool Inc	\$291,600.00	Extending an existing service
KU Children's Services	\$316,429.00	Renovations
Leeton Preschool Assoc Inc	\$350,000.00	Extending an existing service
Oberon Childrens Centre Inc	\$415,405.00	Extending an existing service
Ooranga Family Mobile Resource Unit Assoc Inc	\$21,106.29	Purchasing a motor vehicle
Orange Pre-school Kindergarten Ltd	\$74,000.00	Renovations
Rainbow Preschool Assn Broken Hill Inc	\$122,246.00	Crisis situation Renovations
Williamtown Pre-school Inc	\$1,348,329.00	Crisis situation New build

*3200 PROPOSED ROAD NETWORK IMPROVEMENTS INNER WEST—Ms Jo Haylen asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) How many people provided feedback to the consultation for the proposed road network improvements in Haberfield, Ashfield and Leichhardt?
- (2) Will the Minister release the traffic modelling underpinning the proposals?
 - (a) If not, why not?
 - (b) If so, when?
- (3) Will the Minister extend the consultation period for the proposals given the barriers to participating posed by COVID-19?
- (4) When will the Government release a submission report or respond to the proposals?
- (5) Will the community have an opportunity to respond to the next iteration of these proposals?

Answer—

I am advised.

(1) Transport for NSW consulted with local communities as early as possible in the development of the proposed local road network improvements for Haberfield, Ashfield and Leichhardt, including issuing notifications to more than 25,000 households and premises to inform them of the proposal and invite feedback. About 3500 submissions were received.

(2) Preliminary traffic modelling was done to inform the proposal. Transport for NSW will be undertaking more detailed traffic modelling and sharing it with the community later this year.

(3) to (5) The 32-day consultation period closed on 24 May 2020 (prior to this question being asked). Transport for NSW tailored its community engagement methods in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This included using an interactive online portal, letterbox drops, two webinar community information sessions, a WestConnex Community Reference Group video conference as well as video conference briefings with local councils, Members of Parliament, local businesses and other stakeholders. Transport for NSW thanks the community for its response and welcomes its interest, particularly in light of the unusual circumstances of the pandemic.

Transport for NSW will review and consider all of the feedback before providing a submissions report in about July 2020. The community will have a further opportunity to comment when a Review of Environmental Factors report, including traffic modelling and impact assessments, is exhibited later this year.

*3201 406 BUS ROUTE—Ms Jo Haylen asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) Does the Government have any plan to eliminate the 406 bus route given the impact of the proposals for road network improvements in Haberfield, Ashfield and Leichhardt on the route for the service?
- (2) If it is going to be retained, how will the bus route be altered?
- (3) When will the community be informed about changes to the service?

Answer—

I am advised:

Transport for NSW has proposed improvements to the road network in the Haberfield, Ashfield and Leichhardt area to relieve congestion around key intersections and improve traffic flow and pedestrian connections between suburbs.

These proposals are in the early stages of development and were open for community consultation during April and May 2020. Feedback received will be used to further develop the proposals.

Transport for NSW will work with the operator, Transit Systems, if any bus route alterations are required. Customers will be advised about any necessary alterations to the service closer to the time.

*3202 RAPID PUBLIC TRANSPORT ON PARRAMATTA ROAD—Ms Jo Haylen asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) Will the Government deliver on its commitment to dedicate two lanes of rapid public transport on Parramatta Road as outlined in the conditions of consent for the M4 East?
 - (a) If so, when?
- (2) Considering the Minister for Planning indicated on 6 August 2019 that the proposed Sydney Metro West would fulfill this condition of approval, why was the impact of the project on Parramatta Road traffic congestion not included in the environmental impact statement for the Sydney Metro West?

Answer—

I am advised:

Transport for NSW are committed to delivering public transport improvements on Parramatta Road.

Condition B34 of the Instrument of Approval for WestConnex (M4 East) does not refer to dedicating lanes on Parramatta Road for rapid public transport or obliging it as an outcome.

As advised in response to Budget Estimates Questions on Notice 92,93 and 94, improvements to the reliability of bus operations are being implemented through the Transport for NSW Bus Priority Improvement Program (BPIP), to support the efficiency of the network in the local area.

Work undertaken through BPIP has identified potential improvements to bus service reliability along Parramatta Road between Burwood and Haberfield. Further work is currently being undertaken to identify opportunities to introduce minor improvements in the short term that can benefit bus reliability.

Increased bus services have also been provided to support increasing demand for public transport use in the area. Since 2014, around 800 additional weekly services have been introduced on routes operating along Parramatta Road between Burwood and Haberfield in line with plans identifying Parramatta Road as a strategic corridor in Sydney's public transport network.

Strategic modelling that form part of the development of the Sydney Metro West EIS included base and known committed future demands along corridors such as Parramatta Road.

With the Government's commitment to the Sydney Metro West project we can ensure that integrated transport and planning outcomes are achieved for people living, working and visiting Inner West areas of Sydney.

*3203 WEAR A HELMET INSTEAD OF A FINE PROGRAM—Ms Jo Haylen asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) What is the total cost budgeted for the Wear a Helmet Instead of a Fine education program targeting cyclists?
 - (a) When will the program be rolled out?
 - (b) Who is responsible for rolling out the program?
- (2) On what basis were the following communities selected for the program: Batemans Bay, Bega, Broken Hill, Campbelltown, Eden, Glen Innes, Inverell, Lismore, Lower Central Coast, Menindee, Merimbula, Moruya, Mt Druitt, Narooma, Nowra, Port Stephens/Hunter, South Sydney, Tuggerah Lake, Wilcannia?
- (3) How will the program be evaluated?
- (4) What were the outcomes of the trial in Shellharbour?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) The Wear A Helmet Instead of a Fine initiative is a partnership between Transport for NSW (TfNSW) and the NSW Police Force. Transport provides helmets and cards and NSW Police deliver the program. The initiative was piloted in the Shoalhaven area in 2018 as a proactive policing initiative to build relationships and educate young people about the importance of wearing a helmet when riding a bike.

Approximately \$11,000 has been committed, which includes cards and supply of helmets as well as in-kind support from TfNSW and NSW Police Force.

The program is currently being rolled out at the following Police Districts and Locations:

- Port Stephens (Raymond Terrace/Karuah);
- Brisbane Water (Gosford);
- Tuggerah Lakes (Wyang);
- Far South Coast;
- South Sydney;
- Campbelltown;
- Mt Druitt;
- Broken Hill;
- Lismore;
- Casino;
- Inverell;
- Glenn Innes.

The additional locations are currently on hold due to COVID-19

(2) Police in the Shoalhaven area reported positive engagement and feedback from the Wear A Helmet Instead of a Fine initiative. They have reported that up to 300 participants received a helmet. The additional locations were selected in conjunction with interested Police Districts using a range of criteria such as;

- Disadvantaged communities;
- High unemployment;
- High Aboriginal populations;
- Alignment with NSW Police Force Aboriginal Strategic Directions and NSW Road Safety Plan.

(3) As the Wear A Helmet Instead of a Fine program expands Project officers from TfNSW are developing reporting criteria to be completed with Police to measure the cost and effectiveness of the program

The proposed evaluation criteria will include an analysis of:

- Feedback from police delivering the program;
- Number of helmets issued (road safety education/talks);
- Non helmet wearing related fines data;
- Crash data (injuries and fatalities);
- Customers/community feedback.

(4) Due to COVID-19, the WEAR A HELMET INSTEAD OF A FINE program has yet to be rolled out to the Shellbarbour community.

*3204 NEW ENGLAND RAIL TRAIL IMPACT ON SEED POTATO PROTECTION AREAS—Ms Jo Haylen asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade—

- (1) Has the Government conducted studies or considered studies pertaining to the impact of the proposed New England Rail Trail on seed potato protection areas in the region?
- (2) What is the impact of the proposed rail trail on seed potato protection areas in the region?
- (3) Has the Minister met with representatives from the potato industry in relation to rail trail proposals in New South Wales?
 - (a) If so, when?

Answer—

New England Rail Trail Inc. has undertaken a biosecurity assessment for the proposed New England Rail Trail, which is publically available at <http://newenglandrailtrail.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/NERT-Biosecurity-Risk-Assessment-and-Biosecurity-Implementation-Plan.pdf>

I have been advised that my office has not received presentations from the potato industry in relation to the proposed rail trails in New South Wales.

*3205 TEMPORARY BIKE LANES IN SYDNEY—Ms Jo Haylen asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) What is the total cost budgeted for establishing temporary bike lanes in the Sydney CBD and surrounds announced in response to COVID-19?
- (2) How long will the temporary bike lanes be in place?
- (3) What opportunities or provisions are there to make the temporary bike lanes permanent?
- (4) Is the Government considering installing additional temporary bike lanes?

Answer—

I am advised:

More people than ever are walking or cycling to work or for leisure and fitness. The Government continues to encourage people to walk and cycle as part of their everyday commute. We recognise that not only does it help relieve pressure on our roads and public transport system, but walking and cycling are healthy, active ways of travelling. By continuing to invest in the construction of new separated paths and infrastructure, we help keep people safe while encouraging more individuals to take up these modes of travel.

Thanks to the Government's strong economic management, approximately \$600 million will be invested into walking and cycling infrastructure over the next four years. This will bring the Government's total investment to around \$1 billion - the largest commitment in the State's history.

The government's is focused on cycling projects in line with the Future Transport 2056 strategy. This strategy identifies the Government's 40-year vision for transport planning to meet the demands of the

predicted population growth in New South Wales. It prioritises the delivery of connected cycling networks within 10 kilometres of metropolitan city centres by 2026, and within five kilometres of strategic centres by 2036.

In response to the coronavirus pandemic, the Government is working with councils to establish temporary initiatives throughout Greater Sydney to give the community more options to safely walk, cycle and commute to work. In May 2020, the Government announced an initial series of new pop-up cycleways in key commuter areas and temporary 40 km/h speed zones in the City of Sydney Local Government Area to improve safety and reduce crowding public transport. The Government will monitor these pop-up solutions and work with other councils across Sydney to identify hot spots where we can place temporary measures to ensure customers can safely distance themselves. You may be assured that there are a number of other pop-up cycleways in development. The Government will update the community on these initiatives in due course.

As part of the Government new \$15 million Streets as Shared Spaces program, councils will be able to apply for grants of up to \$100,000 for immediate temporary projects, such as widening footpaths and cycle links. Grants of up to \$1 million for medium-term pilot projects, such as extra crossing points, wider kerbs and trialling lower speed, will also be available. Please visit www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/streets for more information.

***3206 FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR OF SENIORS - COVID 19**—Ms Jo Haylen asked the Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans—

What financial support has the Government provided directly to organisations specifically supporting seniors and older people as part of its response to COVID-19?

Answer—

The Government has provided a range of support measures and packages to support seniors throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

In light of the impact of COVID-19 and the increased risk of social isolation for seniors, the Combatting Social Isolation for Seniors during COVID-19 grants program was launched in April. Funding of \$700,000 has been awarded to organisations across New South Wales to support seniors whilst at home - both online and through other methods.

In addition to this, the Government has provided a range of supports to organisations that support seniors. This has included \$6 million additional funding for Lifeline's operations in New South Wales and the \$10 million NSW Charities Fund (Food & Emergency Relief) which provides additional support for charities such as OzHarvest and Foodbank to help them provide assistance to individuals in isolation.

A \$73 million Government funding boost to mental health services will enable deployment of more than 180 mental health workers across the state during the COVID-19 pandemic. This measure will enhance capacity to support people in their homes, including seniors.

***3207 ARTS RESTART AND RESCUE PACKAGE**—Ms Jo Haylen asked the Premier—

- (1) What is the timeline for the Government's \$50 million Restart and Rescue package for arts organisations?
- (2) When will the Premier announce a road map for performing arts companies to reopen and recommence performances?
- (3) Will a proportion of this funding be quarantined for regional arts companies?

Answer—

Information in relation to the Government's \$50 million COVID-19 arts and cultural package can be found at create.nsw.gov.au.

***3208 ERECTION OF DEMOUNTABLE ON GRAHAM GREEN**—Ms Jo Haylen asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) How many people responded to the notification of proposed works to erect a demountable on Graham Green, Dulwich Hill?
 - (a) How many responses were in favour?
 - (b) How many objected?
- (2) What is the timeline for erecting a demountable on the Green if the proposal goes ahead?
- (3) When did the Department of Education notify the Inner West Council of the intention to erect a demountable on the Green?

- (a) Did the Department of Education inform the Inner West Council that the existing community use agreement had lapsed?
- (b) What is the total amount the Inner West Council has paid to the Department of Education in each financial year from 2010-11 to 2019-20 (to 28 May 2020) for shared use of the space?

Answer—

(1) 29 residents responded

(a) One.

(2) Demountable installations generally take four weeks to complete once the components have been delivered to the site.

(3) 17 April 2020

(a) The Department of Education notified the Council on 21 May 2020, and advised the licence agreement expired on 31 March 2020, and that the Department had not received notice that Council wanted to exercise the 2 year option contained in the licence agreement.

(b) 2017-18 - \$11 000 (including GST)

2018-19 - \$11 330 (including GST)

2019-20 - \$11 669 (including GST) - up to 31 March 2019

Total = \$33 999

*3209 ACCESS TO ABORTION—Ms Jenny Leong asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

- (1) What information has been provided to medical professionals by NSW Health regarding recent changes to abortion law (as at 28 May 2020)?
 - (a) How has this information been distributed?
- (2) What online training modules are available for General Practitioners (GPs) to help them to provide medical abortion up to nine weeks?
 - (a) How are these modules promoted?
 - (b) How are GPs incentivised to complete the training?
- (3) How can patients in New South Wales who report misleading information about abortion from a medical practitioner to NSW Health?
 - (a) What are the consequences for a medical practitioner who is found to have provided misleading information about abortion?
 - (b) How are complaints about medical practitioners providing misleading information regarding abortion tracked in New South Wales?
- (4) What support is available for non-citizens who are not eligible for Medicare and cannot afford an abortion due to loss of income as a result of COVID-19?

Answer—

(1) and (2) I refer the Member to the response to LC Q1163.

(3) Concerns may be raised directly with the facility where the patient received advice, such as a medical centre or a hospital. In New South Wales, a complaint about a registered medical practitioner can also be made to the Health Care Complaints Commission.

If a complaint is received by the Health Care Complaints Commission, the possible outcomes are set down in the Health Care Complaints Act 1993. Information about the process is also available on the Health Care Complaints Commission website.

(4) NSW Health funds services such as Women's Health Centres and Family Planning NSW that provide comprehensive information and advice for all women on how to access a range of health services based on individual needs.

For Medicare ineligible patients presenting to a public hospital, a financial hardship review can be undertaken by the local health district, which may waive or reduce fees at their discretion.

*3210 EMERGENCY ACCOMMODATION FOR STUDENTS—Ms Jenny Leong asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education—

- (1) What information has been provided to universities regarding the \$20 million temporary emergency crisis accommodation funding announced on 15 May 2020 (as at 28 May 2020)?
 - (a) How have students been made aware of this package?

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- (b) What duration will students be given accommodation via this scheme?
- (2) Which student temporary emergency crisis accommodation suppliers and homestay providers have been approved to provide accommodation as part of this scheme?
- (a) What are the prerequisites to quality for access to this funding?
- (b) How can students apply for such housing?
- (c) How will students be supported to remain in their current student accommodation or homestay if they are not eligible for this scheme?

Answer—

(1) I am advised that information regarding the Government's \$20 million international student COVID-19 support package has been communicated via NSW Government digital channels, including websites, newsletter and social media.

Information about the package including the duration for crisis accommodation can be found on the Study NSW and Service NSW websites <http://www.study.sydney/news-and-stories/news/nsw-government-supporting-international-students-through-covid-19> and <https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/apply-international-student-covid-19-crisis-accommodation>

(2) A procurement process has been undertaken to determine suppliers and all accommodation partners are listed on the Study NSW website. Information on the prerequisites, or information on how to apply online is available on the Service NSW website at: <https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/apply-international-student-covid-19-crisis-accommodation>.

Any international student who is ineligible for the temporary crisis accommodation can contact the Service NSW COVID-19 hotline and seek advice on available support.

*3211 STREETS AS SHARED SPACES—Ms Jenny Leong asked the Minister for Local Government—

- (1) What guidelines exist for local councils to access funds from the creation of Streets as Shared Spaces in local government areas?
- (a) What criteria will be used to select which local councils receive Streets as Shared Spaces grants for temporary activation projects to deliver short-term improvements to local streets, paths or public spaces?
- (b) How many local councils have sought funding via this initiative?
- (c) How many local councils have been successful in their applications?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) This information is available on the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's website: <https://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/premiers-priorities/great-public-spaces/streets/grants-for-councils>.
- (a) Please refer to the website above.
- (b) When applications closed on 10 June 2020, 105 local councils had applied for funding.
- (c) Successful projects will be announced shortly.

*3212 OUT OF SCHOOL CARE SERVICES—Ms Jenny Leong asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) How many Out of School Care services have gone to tender since July 2019 (to 28 May 2020)?
- (a) How many of these services had never previously gone to tender?
- (2) What is the criteria and weightings when considering Out Of School Care tenders?
- (3) How does the tender process ensure quality of care?
- (4) Do schools receive higher license fees from private Out of School Hours childcare (OOSH) operators than for not-for-profit operators?

Answer—

(1) 71

(a) 51

(2) The following criteria are used in evaluating Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) tenders.

Non-fee criteria:

- Capability and experience
- Approach to the operation
- Details of proposed OSHC service

Fee criteria:

- Session rates (Years 1 - 5)
- Other charges not included in session rates

The weightings for these criteria are commercial-in-confidence.

(3) As part of the granting of a licence to operate an OSHC service, the operator must obtain and maintain a Service Approval without any conditions affecting its ability to provide the OSHC Service, under the Education and Care Services National Law. The Department of Education's Early Childhood Education directorate ensures the quality of OSHC services, as the regulatory authority for early childhood education in New South Wales.

(4) The Community Use of School Facilities Policy (and related Implementation Guidelines) requires that community use of school facilities should not result in a financial burden on the school. The policy differentiates the value to the community of for-profit and not-for-profit operators by charging them a different license fee, on the basis they will charge less for the services (as their cost base is reduced) or pass on financial benefits that a commercial operator would retain as profit.

*3213 CLEANING SERVICES IN PUBLIC HOUSING—Ms Jenny Leong asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

- (1) When did the increased cleaning services begin in public housing in response to the COVID-19 pandemic?
 - (a) For how long will the increased cleaning services continue?
- (2) How will public housing areas be monitored in relation to COVID-19 cases and what will be the response in terms of cleaning if there are confirmed cases?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Government's Health and Economic Stimulus packages have made funding available to the New South Wales Land and Housing Corporation for enhanced social housing asset cleaning. The program started in early April 2020, and is currently funded to 30 June 2020.

The New South Wales Land and Housing Corporation's monitoring and response to confirmed COVID-19 cases is in line with the Residential Tenancies Act, and the cleaning will occur in line with the relevant NSW Health guidelines.

Further information about the cleaning stimulus package is available online at: <https://www.nsw.gov.au/media-releases/250-million-cleaning-stimulus-package-to-help-stop-spread-of-covid-19>

*3214 COVID-19 IN HIGH DENSITY PUBLIC HOUSING COMPLEXES—Ms Jenny Leong asked the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services—

- (1) How will confirmed cases of COVID-19 in high density public housing complexes be monitored during the pandemic?
- (2) How will tenants be notified if there is a confirmed case within their complex?
- (3) How will the Department of Communities and Justice respond to limit the spread of COVID-19 within high density complexes where there are confirmed cases?

Answer—

I am advised, the monitoring of confirmed cases of COVID-19 is the responsibility of NSW Health. Information on testing and advice is available at the NSW Health website at: <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/covid-19/Pages/stats-nsw.aspx>.

The Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) are not informed of confirmed cases of COVID-19 unless this is self-disclosed by the individual but are proactively contacting social housing tenants via sms and email to draw their attention to NSW Health advice. DCJ also contacted vulnerable older tenants via phone to provide advice and support. Information on the DCJ's approach to supporting social housing tenants is available at <https://coronavirus.dcj.nsw.gov.au>.

While DCJ maintain tenancy management responsibility of social housing properties, I am further advised that the NSW Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) maintain responsibility for continued intensive cleaning to shared common area walls, floors and surface areas in social housing high-rise and multi-unit buildings to reduce any risk of COVID-19.

*3215 BANKSTOWN ELECTORATE - SOCIAL DISTANCING SQUAD TEAM—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

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- (1) Which railway stations and bus depots in the Bankstown electorate will be administered by members of the social distancing squad team?
- (2) How many social distancing squad team members will be deployed to the Bankstown electorate?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) All railways stations and bus depots in the Bankstown electorate are included within the objective of Marshalling Response Teams.

Marshalling Response Teams are deployed across the public transport network to assist customers and staff, and to encourage physical distancing.

- (2) There is currently one Marshalling Response Team (comprising five marshals) deployed to Bankstown interchange and which can be redeployed to neighbouring railways stations and bus stops.

This team will operate from 6.00am to 9.00pm, Monday to Friday. At this stage, there are no marshalls deployed directly within the electorate on weekends, however the team is dynamic and may be redeployed to different public transport locations, based on intelligence received from transport cluster agencies.

*3216 CANTERBURY-BANKSTOWN DRAFT LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN - PUBLIC RESPONSE—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

- (1) Considering the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions on libraries and council facilities, and the difficulty this has caused for many residents in having a say on the draft 'Canterbury-Bankstown Draft Local Environmental Plan (LEP), will the council report deadline of 31 July 2020 be extended to allow residents of the Bankstown electorate to have their say?
 - (a) If so, how long will the deadline be extended for?
 - (b) If not, why not?

Answer—

Please refer to the answer to LA Q2880.

*3217 SYDNEY METRO CITY AND SOUTHWEST FINAL BUSINESS CASE—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) Will the full Sydney Metro City and Southwest final business case, including the final financial model and benefit cost analysis for the Metro Southwest project, be published?
 - (a) If so, when will it be published?
 - (b) If not, why not?
- (2) Why did the Government, in October 2016, release a summary rather than the full Sydney Metro City and Southwest final business case?

Answer—

I am advised:

A comprehensive summary of the final business case is publicly available. That document provides information regarding the financial analysis undertaken and benefits of the project.

*3218 BANKSTOWN HOSPITAL - MENTAL HEALTH TRIAGE—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

- (1) How many people have presented to the Bankstown Hospital Emergency Department and been triaged in relation to a mental health related issue in the following quarters:
 - (a) July to September 2019;
 - (b) October to December 2019;
 - (c) January to March 2020?

Answer—

This is a matter for the Minister for Mental Health.

*3219 SPORTING CLUBS SOCIAL DISTANCING—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans—

Considering the easing of restrictions under the Public Health (COVID-19 Restrictions on Gathering and Movement) Order 2020, what support will the Government make available to sporting clubs in the

Bankstown electorate to assist them to make the necessary adjustments to ensure they are compliant with social distancing requirements?

Answer—

To support community sporting organisations return to play, the Government has developed COVID-19 Safety Plan checklists for indoor recreation facilities and community sport competitions to assist organisations to create and maintain a safe environment.

COVID-19 Safety Plans can be found here: <https://sport.nsw.gov.au/novel-coronavirus-covid-19>.

***3220 YAGOONA RAILWAY STATION - ACCESSIBILITY UPGRADE**—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

(1) Considering the answer to LA Q0920 received on 4 September 2019, which states that "Planning for the accessibility upgrade of Yagoona Station is underway, a commencement date for the works will be determined after the planning and community consultation have been completed, approvals obtained and a contractor selected," could the Government advise:

- (a) Whether the planning and community consultation have been completed?
- (b) Whether approvals have been obtained?
- (c) Whether a contractor has been selected?

(2) What is the current timeframe for completion of the upgrades (as at 28 May 2020)?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) Planning is underway for accessibility upgrades at Yagoona Station. The community will have the opportunity to provide feedback when planning documents are placed on public display in 2021. Planning approval is scheduled to be obtained in 2021. A contractor is scheduled to be appointed in 2021 to design and construct the upgrade.

(2) The expected completion of the station is 2023.

***3221 BANKSTOWN RAILWAY STATION - FORMER PARCELS OFFICE**—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

(1) Considering the Bankstown Railway Station modification report states on page 1 that "The heritage listed Bankstown Parcels Office (former) would be removed to enable the provision of the new at-grade corridor crossing" due to the Sydenham to Bankstown upgrade, was any community consultation conducted with local residents in relation to the proposed modification?

- (a) If so:
 - (i) What community consultation was conducted?
 - (ii) Who was consulted?
 - (iii) When were they consulted?
 - (iv) How the consultation was undertaken?

Answer—

I am advised consultation undertaken with the community prior to the lodgment and exhibition of the modification request is a matter for the Minister for Transport.

***3222 BANKSTOWN ELECTORATE - COVID-19 RESTRICTION PENALTY NOTICES**—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—

(1) Considering the Public Health (COVID-19 Restrictions on Gathering and Movement) Order 2020 and the penalty notices issued in the Bankstown electorate, how many penalty notices were issued to:

- (a) Individuals;
- (b) Corporations?

Answer—

Refer to my answer to LA QON 2998.

***3223 BANKSTOWN ELECTORATE - PENALTY NOTICE REVENUE**—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Small Business, Vice-President of the Executive Council—

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Considering the Public Health (COVID-19 Restrictions on Gathering and Movement) Order 2020 and the penalty notices issued in the Bankstown electorate, how much revenue has been raised (as at 28 May 2020)?

Answer—

Revenue from penalty notices issued under the Public Health (COVID-19 Restrictions on Gathering and Movement) Order 2020 can be identified by the suburb or postcode in which the customer address is located.

For the suburbs listed on the NSW Electoral Office website for Bankstown Electorate:

Penalty notices with a total face value of \$27,000 have been issued with \$1,000 paid to date.

For the postcodes listed on the NSW Electoral Office website for Bankstown Electorate:

Penalty notices with a total face value of \$38,000 have been issued with \$5,450 paid to date.

The time frame for finalising a penalty notice may be up to 70-90 days. Most penalty notices for these offences have not yet been finalised and have thus generated no actual revenue. The Face Value of the penalty notices issued has been provided as an indication of potential revenue.

*3224 UNPAID DEBTS TO TENTERFIELD SHOWGROUND TRUST—Ms Janelle Saffin asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—

(1) Are there outstanding debts of \$59,204 owed to the Tenterfield Showground Trust by the New South Wales Rural Fire Service and the Department of Public Works for use of the showground during the section 44 fires in the Tenterfield area last year?

(a) If so:

(i) Why have these debts not been paid?

(ii) When will these debts be paid?

Answer—

I am advised:

The NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) hired the Tenterfield Showground from 6 - 28 September 2019, to use as a staging point during the Drake and Tenterfield fires in Northern New South Wales. This hire agreement with the Tenterfield Showground Trust had a total cost of \$5,999.15, which has been fully paid.

Following completion of fire operations at the site, the Showground Trust is claiming \$59,204.40 for both remediation works and lost income due to property damage as a result of NSW RFS operations.

The NSW RFS has informed its insurer of the claim and the matter is being investigated further. The NSW RFS and its insurer will continue to liaise with the Tenterfield Showground Trust.

*3225 MODERN SLAVERY ACT—Ms Janelle Saffin asked the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—

When will the Modern Slavery Act 2018 be enacted?

Answer—

The Premier is responsible for the Modern Slavery Act 2018. Questions regarding this legislation should be directed to the Premier.

*3226 KYOGLE COUNCIL WASTE LEVY—Ms Janelle Saffin asked the Minister for Energy and Environment—

What consideration has been given to Kyogle Council's formal requests for its Local Government Area to be removed from the Environment Protection Authority's Waste Levy, which is costing local communities, struggling to recover from drought, bushfires and COVID-19, an estimated \$250,000 a year?

Answer—

I am advised that:

New South Wales' 20-Year Waste Strategy Issues Paper, released on 8 March 2019, outlined the Government's intended review of existing and potential new economic levers, including waste levy boundaries, to ensure they remain fit-for-purpose for resource recovery and circular economy objectives.

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment has received Kyogle Council's submission to the

New South Wales 20-Year Waste Strategy Issues Paper and will take this feedback into consideration.

The Government recognises the significant impacts that natural disasters have on communities. The waste levy has recently been waived for bushfire-related waste in the Kyogle local government area.

*3227 SMALL BUSINESS COVID-19 SUPPORT GRANT—Ms Janelle Saffin asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Small Business, Vice-President of the Executive Council—

- (1) Will the Government extend its Small Business COVID-19 Support Grant scheme until the \$501 million of unspent funds from the \$750 million funding pool is used to assist struggling small businesses across the State?
- (2) Will the Government relax the 75 per cent downturn criteria to 30 per cent, in line with Victoria's criteria and the national JobKeeper program, so that more small businesses can become eligible for the \$10,000 grants?

Answer—

(1) On 30 May 2020, the Government announced an extension to the Small Business COVID-19 Support Grant to 30 June 2020.

As of 30 June 2020, \$451.82 million had been paid or approved in grants to 45,704 small businesses and not for profits. Applications from a further 9,707 small businesses and not for profits for \$95.52 million in grants is still being processed.

Unspent funds from the \$750 million are now being used to fund the Small Business Recovery Grant of up to \$3,000 to help small businesses with costs associated with safely reopening or scaling up their operations in the COVID-19 economic recovery phase.

Applications for this grant opened on 1 July 2020 and will close on Sunday 16 August 2020.

(2) To be eligible for the Small Business Recovery Grant, businesses and not-for-profits must have experienced at least a 30 per cent decline in turnover. Non-employing businesses are eligible for this grant, as well as those with fewer than 20 full time equivalent (FTE) employees with a total payroll below \$900,000.

Further information on the Small Business Recovery Grant and the online application is available on the Service NSW website: www.service.nsw.gov.au/

*3228 WASTE SERVICES TENDER FOR REGIONAL TAFE SITES—Ms Janelle Saffin asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education—

- (1) Were regional operators consulted or invited to tender for all waste services requirements of New South Wales TAFE colleges?
 - (a) If not, why not?
- (2) Was the contract recently awarded to Australia's largest waste company, Cleanaway?
- (3) During the tender process were the following taken into account:
 - (a) The Government's Small and Medium Enterprise and Regional Procurement Policy?
 - (b) The fact that apprentices and trainees currently employed by regional businesses make up TAFE's largest client base?

Answer—

I am advised:

TAFE NSW is required to select suppliers from the Whole of Government prequalification scheme for waste services. No regional operators were identified that could meet the requirements of the contract directly.

Following evaluation, in February 2020, TAFE NSW awarded a five-year contract to the successful bidder, Cleanaway. The contract contains clauses which require Cleanaway to comply with the Small and Medium Enterprise and Regional Procurement Policy.

*3229 CENTRALISATION OF PROCUREMENT—Ms Janelle Saffin asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

- (1) What steps have been taken to ensure that the Government's aim of centralising the procurement of waste services to hospitals, schools and other Government facilities provided to the Whole of Government (WoG) will not unfairly disadvantage regional operators?
 - (a) How will these operators be supported and encouraged to participate under the Government's Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) and Regional Procurement Policy?

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- (2) Will the Government consider putting on hold an evaluation through Healthshare of the current WoG Expression of Interest (EOI) until any inconsistencies between this EOI and the SME and Regional Procurement Policy can be properly reviewed?

Answer—

(1) to (2) I am advised NSW Health is making arrangements on a region by region basis.

The procurement complies with the Government Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) and Regional Procurement Policy. The multi-stage tender process was also designed to ensure opportunity for both SME and regional businesses.

*3230 WILDLIFE CARERS BUSHFIRES FUND—Ms Janelle Saffin asked the Minister for Energy and Environment—

- (1) What portion of the Government's \$1 million Wildlife Carers Bushfire Fund has been paid to local wildlife carers' groups in the Northern Rivers and Northern Tablelands region, considering the number of koalas and other native wildlife who were lost or badly injured during mega bushfires in this region last year?

- (a) Considering 78 per cent of the \$1 million budget was reallocated to other programs and the budget monies that remain unspent as identified in the Budget Estimates, will the Government ensure that the full \$1 million initially announced can be used to support wildlife carers statewide?

Answer—

I am advised that:

(1) Following the Government's announcement of up to \$1 million in new funding for wildlife rehabilitators, the Environmental Trust awarded a grant of \$998,900 to the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service for a 'Bushfire Relief Fund for Wildlife Rehabilitators'. More than \$52,000 of this grant has been paid to local wildlife carers groups in the Northern Rivers and Northern Tablelands regions.

(a) There has been no reallocation of funds. Expenditure is progressing as planned.

Funding of \$500,000 from this program is being used to directly support wildlife carers through grants. Funds are also being used to improve co-ordination between agencies and wildlife carers, which will be essential to support rescue and rehabilitation efforts through future bushfire seasons. In addition, the grant is improving access to training and information resources for the veterinary sector.

*3231 EMERGENCY SERVICES LEVY ANNUAL INCREASE—Ms Janelle Saffin asked the Treasurer—

- (1) What are the circumstances which led to a Lismore farmer and longtime NSW Rural Fire Service volunteer having the Emergency Services Levy (ESL) component of his farm insurance premium for this year increase by 176.4 per cent from \$200.99 to \$555.54?
- (2) What is the justification for this annual increase at a time when farmers are still recovering from drought and bushfires, and considering comedian Celeste Barber's \$51-million fundraising donation is going directly to the New South Wales Rural Fire Service for new equipment and upgrades?

Answer—

The Emergency Services Levy (ESL) amount shown on insurance policies reflects the way that individual insurance providers have chosen to pass on their ESL contribution to their policy holders. There can be significant variations in premiums charged by different insurers. Policy holders are encouraged to obtain quotations from more than one insurer to ensure their premium is competitive.

Part of the increase in insurance premiums would reflect the introduction of laws to improve protections for firefighters diagnosed with work-related cancers. These laws make it easier for eligible firefighters to make a workers compensation claim. It should be noted that these laws were supported by the Labor Party.

The Government has also made some much needed investments into firefighting equipment and aircraft to improve our capacity to prevent and rapidly respond to bushfires. All of these costs are funded in part by the ESL.

Donations raised for the NSW Rural Fire Service are in addition to previously announced budgeted funding. Further questions on this funding and the NSW Rural Fire Service and Brigades Donations Trust, should be directed to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services.

*3232 SUPPORT FOR SMALL BUSINESSES—Ms Janelle Saffin asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Small Business, Vice-President of the Executive Council—

- (1) Who is responsible for supporting small businesses, including those in the Electorate of Lismore, which do not meet the criteria under the guideline for the COVID-19 Small Business Grant?
- (2) What steps will the Government take to support these business that are also suffering losses due to the measures taken to help combat the COVID-19 pandemic?

Answer—

- (1) The NSW Government has announced two grant programs to assist small businesses impacted by COVID-19:
 - the Small Business COVID-19 Support Grant of up to \$10,000 to help businesses impacted by the NSW Public Health Order of 30 March 2020 cover unavoidable business costs. Applications for this Grant closed on 30 June 2020.
 - the Small Business Recovery Grant of up to \$3,000 to help businesses with costs associated with safely reopening or scaling up their operations. Applications for this Grant opened on 1 July 2020 and close on 16 August 2020.

Some businesses that were not eligible for the Small Business COVID-19 Support Grant may be eligible for the Small Business Recovery Grant. This includes non-employing businesses and businesses that have experienced a 30 per cent decline in revenue.

Further information on available grants can be found on the Service NSW website: www.service.nsw.gov.au

- (1) The NSW Government is providing a range of support measures to small businesses in New South Wales impacted by COVID-19.

The first major stimulus package announced on 17 March 2020 includes \$1.6 billion in tax cuts, fee waivers and job creation measures that support businesses in New South Wales. Key elements include:

- a three-month payroll tax waiver for businesses with payrolls of \$10 million or less (as part of the second stimulus package, all businesses were given the option to defer payroll tax for six-months).
- bringing forward the next round of payroll tax cuts by raising the threshold limit to \$1 million from 1 July 2020 (at a cost of \$56 million); and
- waiving a range of fees and charges for small businesses, including bars and cafes (at a cost of \$80 million).

The second stimulus package was announced on 27 March. This package includes the \$1 billion Working for NSW fund which will help sustain business, create new jobs and retrain employees; as well as tax cuts that build on those announced in the first package (up to \$4 billion deferred).

The NSW Government has also announced a \$4.6 million expansion to Business Connect. Business can access free webinars and advice on a range of topics including managing cash flow, developing a customised recovery strategy, accessing finance including grants and loans, setting up ecommerce, and marketing businesses to reach new customers.

Small businesses can also seek free, personalised advice from a Business Connect advisor.

*3233 BYRON SHIRE - TOURISM IMPACTS INFRASTRUCTURE ELECTION COMMITMENT—Ms Tamara Smith asked the Premier—

- (1) Considering the grant of \$5 million under the Tourism Impacts Infrastructure Election Commitment provided to Byron Shire:
 - (a) What is the level of involvement by the Government in assessing the projects awarded under this fund?
 - (b) What criteria were used to assess these projects?

Answer—

As you may be aware, this program is managed by the Deputy Premier in his capacity as the Minister for Regional NSW. Questions regarding this program should be referred to him.

*3234 RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE ASSETS INSPECTION—Ms Liesl Tesch asked the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

- (1) How often are the following rail infrastructure assets checked in person for maintenance issues:
 - (a) Woy Woy Rail Tunnel;
 - (b) Hawkesbury River Rail Bridge?
- (2) What was the last inspection date for the following rail infrastructure assets (as at 28 May 2020):
 - (a) Woy Woy Rail Tunnel;
 - (b) Hawkesbury River Rail Bridge?

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Answer—

I am advised:

(1) Sydney Trains undertakes regular scheduled maintenance on assets, in line with Sydney Trains' Technical Maintenance Plans, to ensure their safety and reliability.

(a) A certified Structures Examiner carries out a primary structural inspection every four years on Woy Woy Rail Tunnel, followed by a Territory Civil Engineer's structural assessment. An Integrated Track Patrol takes place twice a week on sections of the track. Other supplementary examinations and their frequency include: Yearly drainage inspections; yearly inspections of the signal assets in the tunnels, including emergency phones; quarterly inspections of earthing and bonding assets; quarterly inspections of tunnel lighting and evacuation signs. Other electrical assets, including overhead wiring are inspected every four years.

(b) Sydney Trains has a tailored Technical Maintenance Plan for the Hawkesbury River Rail Bridge to inspect, record and manage maintenance activities appropriately for different elements of the bridge. A certified Structures Examiner carries out a primary structural inspection every two years on Hawkesbury River Rail Bridge, followed by a Territory Civil Engineer's structural assessment. An Integrated Track Patrol takes place twice a week on sections of the track. Other supplementary examinations and their frequency include: yearly inspections of bridge bearings and transoms; water levels and salinity in caissons inspections every two years; underwater examination of piles, pile caps and caisson every six years; and survey monitoring of piers every six years. A detailed engineering assessment, including a load rating and fatigue assessment has also been completed on the bridge.

(2) (a) The Woy Woy Tunnel was last inspected on 11 January 2018, while the last engineering assessment took place in May 2019.

(b) The Hawkesbury River Rail Bridge was last inspected on 17 April 2020, while the last engineering assessment took place in February 2017.

*3235 NEW INTERCITY FLEET SAFETY ASSESSMENTS CONSULTATIONS—Ms Liesl Tesch asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

(1) How are the following groups of employees being consulted in the safety assessments for the introduction of the New Intercity Fleet:

- (a) Managers;
- (b) Drivers;
- (c) Guards;
- (d) Station Staff?

(2) How many employees in each of the following groups have been consulted on the safety procedures for the New Intercity Fleet (as at 28 May 2020):

- (a) Managers;
- (b) Drivers;
- (c) Guards;
- (d) Station Staff?

Answer—

I am advised:

NSW Trains has an established safety management system that identifies the processes required to consult with employees on safety assessments and procedures. These arrangements are being applied to support consultation for the introduction of the New Intercity Fleet.

NSW Trains has been consulting with all staff for the past four years on the operational safety changes and impacts of the New Intercity Fleet.

*3236 NEW INTERCITY FLEET BUILDING AND TESTING—Ms Liesl Tesch asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

(1) What input did the Rail, Tram, and Bus Union (RTBU) have into the building of the New Intercity Fleet?

(2) What involvement will the RTBU have in the testing of the New Intercity Fleet?

(3) Is Transport for NSW conducting the testing of the New Intercity Fleet?

- (a) If not, is testing being conducted by Hyundai-Rotem?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) to (3) Hyundai Rotem Company, a Korean rolling stock specialist, is responsible for the design, manufacture, testing and commissioning of the New Intercity Fleet. RailConnect, a joint venture between Hyundai Rotem, Mitsubishi Electric Australia and UGL Rail, is responsible for testing the fleet. RailConnect is working closely with Transport for NSW in the testing of the new fleet.

User feedback has been considered in the design and building of the trains. Rail, Tram, and Bus Union members and officials have participated in feedback sessions.

*3237 NEW INTERCITY FLEET LEGAL FRAMEWORK—Ms Liesl Tesch asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) Does the legal framework entered into by NSW Trains for the New Intercity Fleet limit the responsibility and accountability of the Government in ensuring the safe operation of the trains?
- (2) Does Transport for NSW take advice from the Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator regarding the probity and accountability of contract formation in the purchasing of new rolling stock?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) NSW Trains did not enter into a contract for the New Intercity Fleet.
- (2) Transport for NSW adheres to its own probity policies when it purchases new rolling stock. Transport for NSW regularly consults with the Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator on fleet accreditation and safety-related issues.

*3238 NEW INTERCITY FLEET EMPLOYEE INVOLVEMENT—Ms Liesl Tesch asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) Does the procurement model used by NSW Trains mean that employees who will operate the New Intercity Fleet have not had the same level of involvement as has been customary with previous new fleet purchases?
 - (a) What effect will this have on the real-world operation of the fleet?

Answer—

I am advised:

This is the first fleet replacements for NSW Trains since its inception in 2013.

This process has included extensive end user engagement and consultation with a wide range of operating staff and other stakeholders. Consultation started four years ago, before the contracts was awarded.

*3239 NEW INTERCITY FLEET TRACTION INTERLOCKING—Ms Liesl Tesch asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

Does requiring traction interlocking on all crew cab doors on the New Intercity Fleet mean that Driver and Guard operation was never a real option for the New Intercity Fleet on revenue services?

Answer—

I am advised:

The New Intercity Fleet has always been designed to support three modes of operation. The fleet's technology enables more effective ways to eliminate and control existing safety risks to staff and customers. The trains are being purpose built without the need for the crew cab doors to remain open during the train departure.

*3240 NEW INTERCITY FLEET GUARD CONSULTATIONS—Ms Liesl Tesch asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that the Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator expects that consultation with stakeholders occurs "before the agenda is set and decisions are made" under its 'Guideline Safety Management System'?
- (2) Does the Minister concede that guards do not feel that they were consulted genuinely or adequately during the acquisition process for the New Intercity Fleet?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Yes. Consultation on the operating model commenced in 2016, prior to awarding the contract.

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(2) No. Consultation on the operating model commenced in 2016, prior to awarding the contract.

*3241 NEW INTERCITY FLEET GUARDS ACCESS TO PLATFORMS—Ms Liesl Tesch asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

(1) Does the 'Guideline Safety Management System' of the Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator expect that any changes to railway operations not "introduce any new rail safety risks"?

(2) Are there concerns that removing the ability of guards to access platforms, visually and physically, will introduce new safety risks for staff and the public when the New Intercity Fleet is rolled out?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) The guidelines set out the expectations on operators to undertake risk assessment and evaluation prior to introducing any changes.

(2) No new risks are being introduced and the technology of the New Intercity Fleet enables more effective ways of controlling existing safety risks for staff and customers.

*3242 NEW INTERCITY FLEET RISK REDUCTION—Ms Liesl Tesch asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

(1) Does the Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator state that systems and procedures for risk evaluation are to require the "acceptance of rail safety risks only if the risk has been reduced so far as is reasonably practicable" under its 'Guideline Safety Management System'?

(2) Is removing the ability of and the requirement for the guard to give the driver an all-clear bell before departing a platform on the New Intercity Fleet a risk that has been sufficiently reduced?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) Yes, the Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator guidelines state that systems and procedures for risk evaluation require the "acceptance of rail safety risks only if the risk has been reduced so far as is reasonably practicable".

(2) The New Intercity Fleet trains are designed to be operated with the Driver controlling the doors and carrying out the safety checks prior to departing from platforms using external CCTV equipment. This method has been used internationally for many years.

*3243 RETURN TO PLAY—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

When will the Government announce its Return To Play plan for community sports?

Answer—

The most recent Ministerial directions issued under the Public Health Act 2010 (NSW) are available at <https://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au>.

Further information is available at www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19.

*3244 RE-OPENING OF GYMS—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

When will the Government provide a time-frame for the re-opening of gyms?

Answer—

The most recent Ministerial directions issued under the Public Health Act 2010 (NSW) are available at <https://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au>.

Further information is available at www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19.

*3245 HAND SANITISERS IN SCHOOLS—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

(1) Is the Government providing hand sanitiser for all New South Wales schools?

(a) If so, which supplier or suppliers are providing the hand sanitiser?

Answer—

This is a matter for the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning.

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*3246 **CHILDCARE PROVIDERS**—Mr Roy Butler asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

What action will the Government take to rectify the problems that have arisen for childcare providers due to the Commonwealth Government's free childcare program?

Answer—

The Commonwealth Government announced the return to Child Care Subsidy on 8 June 2020. The free early-childhood education and care provided through the Early Childhood Education and Care Relief Package will end on 12 July 2020.

Administration of the Child Care Subsidy and the Early Childhood Education and Care Relief Package is the responsibility of the Commonwealth Government.

The Department of Education is in regular contact with the Commonwealth Government to support the needs of children and the early childhood education and care sector.

*3247 **SUPPORT FOR PRESCHOOLS**—Mr Roy Butler asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

(1) Since the announcement that funding through the National Indigenous Australians Agency would cease in 2020, what actions have been taken to support the following preschools:

- (a) Wee Waa and District Preschool;
- (b) Gilgandra Preschool;
- (c) Yuluwirri Kids Coonabarabran;
- (d) Condobolin Preschool;
- (e) Brewarrina Preschool;
- (f) Nyngan Preschool;
- (g) Murrin Bridge Preschool;
- (h) Coonamble Preschool;
- (i) Gulargambone Preschool?

(2) Considering this funding supports access to occupational therapy, speech therapy and Readiness for School programs, what additional funding sources are available for the preschools listed in (1)?

Answer—

(1) The Children and Schooling Program is a Commonwealth Government initiative, administered by the National Indigenous Australians Agency, which aims to support activities that improve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander educational outcomes. The program complements state and territory programs that aim to improve the educational outcomes of Aboriginal children, providing targeted complementary support, enabling innovation and providing opportunities to leverage further grant funding.

The Government has made historic increases in funding provided per child in community preschools across New South Wales.

A total of \$526.7 million has been allocated in 2019-20 (recurrent expenses). This includes the Start Strong program to support preschool education in community preschools and long day care centres across New South Wales.

Funding support is being provided to all three-year olds in community preschools from 1 January 2019 to support universal access to two years of early childhood education, continuing the commitment made in the 2018-19 Budget.

All of the services listed receive funding from the Government to support the delivery of quality early childhood education.

(2) A range of grant and funding programs are available to support the delivery of early childhood education. Details of grants and funded programs are available on the Department's website at: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/early-childhood-education/operating-an-early-childhood-education-service/grants-and-funded-programs>

*3248 **FUNDING FOR CAFE 64**—Mr Roy Butler asked the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services—

Will a block funding grant be provided for disability service provider Cafe 64 based in Walgett?

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Answer—

I am advised that the operator of Cafe 64 in Walgett is a specialist disability service provider. The Commonwealth Government is responsible for funding Disability Employment Services and for funding of services delivered under the National Disability Insurance Scheme. Questions regarding funding of specialist disability services should be directed to the Commonwealth Government.

*3249 DISTRICT CASEWORKER POSITIONS—Mr Roy Butler asked the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services—

(1) How many of the newly funded district caseworker positions will be located in:

- (a) Central Coast;
- (b) Hunter;
- (c) Illawarra-Shoalhaven;
- (d) Mid North Coast;
- (e) Murrumbidgee;
- (f) Nepean Blue Mountains;
- (g) New England;
- (h) Northern NSW;
- (i) Northern Sydney;
- (j) South Eastern Sydney;
- (k) South Western Sydney;
- (l) Southern NSW;
- (m) Sydney;
- (n) Western Sydney;
- (o) Far West;
- (p) Western districts?

(2) When will recruitment commence for these positions?

Answer—

I am advised information on caseworker vacancies for all DCJ districts can be found on the caseworker dashboard at: <https://www.facs.nsw.gov.au/resources/statistics/caseworker-statistics>.

I am further advised that recruitment is underway to fill these newly funded caseworker roles. Targeted attraction strategies and intensified recruitment and assessment activities are in place and will continue to ensure all caseworker vacancies are filled. All ongoing vacancies are advertised at: <https://iworkfor.nsw.gov.au/>.

*3250 WOMEN'S REFUGE FOR THE COONAMBLE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA—Mr Roy Butler asked the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—

Considering that recent NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research statistics have shown the Coonamble Local Government Area is ranked No. 1 in the State for instances of Domestic Violence and has no dedicated women's refuge, will the Government fund the establishment of a women's refuge in the Coonamble Local Government Area?

Answer—

I am advised:

In 2019-20, the Government will invest \$65.8 million to fund 84 women's refuges across New South Wales.

In locations where access to women's refuges is limited, the Department of Communities and Justice funds a range of other programs and initiatives to support women who are experiencing homelessness due to domestic and family violence. Examples include Start Safely and Staying Home Leaving Violence.

An additional \$21 million, comprising of \$8.8 million in Commonwealth funding and \$12.8 million in Government funding, has been committed to domestic and family violence initiatives, including women's refuges. This funding will ensure access to domestic and family violence services is maintained during the COVID-19 pandemic and through the State's recovery phase.

This funding is also in addition the Government's earlier investment in March 2020 of \$34.3 million to support housing options for vulnerable individuals and families in response to the challenges raised by the COVID-19 pandemic.

*3251 COONAMBLE, LOUTH, MENINDEE, POONCARIE AND TIBOOBURRA CONNECTIVITY ISSUES—Mr Roy Butler asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade—

- (1) Considering the community consultation and survey to better understand connectivity issues for the communities of Coonamble, Louth, Menindee, Pooncarie and Tibooburra closed on 31 December 2019, when will the reports regarding this consultation be made public?
- (2) When can the communities listed in (1) expect to have improved data speeds and a reliable mobile phone service from the program?

Answer—

In October and November 2019, the Government undertook community consultation in a sample of regional locations with known connectivity issues, to better understand the day-to-day digital experiences of these communities.

Stakeholders and community members provided important insights that will help inform solutions for the \$400 million Regional Digital Connectivity program. This includes the types of connectivity services that are most important to individuals and businesses, and how different technologies and infrastructure can improve coverage in a range of regional and remote locations.

The scale and complexity of this investment requires adequate time for sufficient due diligence and detailed planning to ensure a robust and future-proof investment is delivered for New South Wales taxpayers.

*3252 PROPERTY INFRASTRUCTURE POLICY—Mrs Helen Dalton asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

- (1) Why is the Government's Property Infrastructure Policy, devised in 2017, deemed to be commercial-in-confidence, as per advice to my office from the Department of Parliamentary Services on 1 June 2020?
- (2) Considering this policy is not publicly available, how can residents re-purpose unused Government buildings for community use in their towns?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) The Government is committed to ensuring that Government-owned real property is used to maximise community benefit and support the delivery of priority services. The Government has approved a framework for assisting in determining the best use of Government-owned real property assets. Given the impact that changes in use may have on the property market, it is appropriate for this framework to remain both commercial and cabinet-in-confidence.

(2) The Government has separately approved a Community Use Policy that allows certain Government-owned land to be offered to local councils at either full market value without constraints on use, or at a reduced market value subject to a 15-year community use restriction on title. The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment has developed a flyer explaining the Community Use Policy, which is attached and will be made publicly available on the Property NSW website at www.property.nsw.gov.au.

*3253 COUNCIL WATER OVERSIGHT—Mrs Helen Dalton asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

- (1) Which Government agency provides oversight in regards to councils' management of lakes and local waterways?
- (2) To which Government agency can residents report council-managed water quality issues if they are not satisfied with council's management of the water?
- (3) Why does the Department of Primary Industries and Environmental Protection Authority not investigate water quality issues before fish kills occur rather than after?

Answer—

(1) It depends on the issue.

(2) In the first instance water quality issues should be reported to the Environment Protection Authority.

(3) These are matters for the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales and the Minister for Energy and Environment.

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*3254 COMMONWEALTH FUNDING FOR WATER USE COMPLIANCE IN NEW SOUTH WALES—Mrs Helen Dalton asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

How much, in dollar figures, has the Commonwealth Government given the New South Wales Government to ensure water use monitoring, measuring and compliance in the Northern Basin since 2001 (as at 2 June 2020)?

Answer—

The Commonwealth Government funded the Government to implement the National Framework for Water Compliance & Enforcement, which covered the whole state. Funding was over five calendar years (over 6 financial years) from 2011 to 2015 and totalled \$16.736m. In addition, the Commonwealth Government is providing \$56.91m to deliver the Healthy Floodplains Project by 30 June 2021, part of which includes funding for monitoring, measuring and compliance in the Northern Basin. Other Commonwealth funding programs have included elements of monitoring and measurement.

*3255 DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL NSW—Mr Philip Donato asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade—

(1) Has the recently established Department of Regional NSW been located in inner city Sydney?

(a) If so, why was this department located outside of the geographic area it was conceived and developed to administer for?

Answer—

The headquarters of the Department of Regional New South Wales will be based in regional New South Wales, and the Department is currently considering a number of locations for the central office.

While more than three quarters of the Department's staff are already based in the regions, a new headquarters will help to create more jobs for regional communities, support local economies and industry growth, and ensure more people are working in the areas that they are supporting.

*3256 MITCHELL HIGHWAY AND PRETTY PLAINS ROAD INTERSECTION—Mr Philip Donato asked the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

Considering the former Parliamentary Secretary for Regional Roads, Maritime and Transport advised in correspondence dated 7 March 2018 to the Member of Orange that the Roads and Maritime Services had planned to construct a left turn lane at the Mitchell Highway and Pretty Plains Road intersection at Shadforth, when can constituents expect the commencement and completion of the project?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Government committed \$50 million towards safety improvement works on the Mitchell Highway between Bathurst and Orange over the next five years. Transport for NSW has prepared a community update to the local residents.

The sections of the Mitchell Highway being prepared for delivery have been prioritised based on casualty crash history.

Pretty Plans Road is in the early stages of investigation under the Saving Lives on Country Roads program. Ongoing investigations will help inform project decision-making and design. The left-turn lane into Pretty Plains Road is being investigated as part of the larger Pretty Plains Road project, with design for the left-turn lane to be undertaken in the 2022-23 financial year.

The extended timeframe enables the left-turn lane to be delivered as part of a larger project, achieving economies of scale that will provide greater safety benefits for all road users.

*3257 CROWN LANDS DISTRIBUTION—Mr Philip Donato asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

When can constituents and local stakeholders of the Land Negotiation Program expect the announcement of Crown lands distribution, so that planned developments can proceed in a timely manner to facilitate post COVID-19 economic activity and community growth in the Orange electorate?

Answer—

I am advised:

In November 2019, the Land Negotiation Program was paused while an independent review of the program was undertaken on its effectiveness and ways it could be

improved. The independent review has since been completed and program participants have been notified, including Orange City Council, Orange Local Aboriginal Land Council and the New South Wales Aboriginal Land Council. Meetings are being scheduled to discuss the next steps for the program.

*3258 IMPACT OF WAGE FREEZE ON HEALTH STAFF—Ms Jodie Harrison asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

- (1) How many employees of NSW Health will be impacted by the public sector wage freeze in the Charlestown electorate?
- (2) How much less will these employees be paid over the next three years as a result (from 2 June 2020)?

Answer—

(1) - (2)

NSW Health does not collect information on the basis of electorate.

*3259 IMPACT OF WAGE FREEZE ON POLICE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES—Ms Jodie Harrison asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—

- (1) How many employees covered under the portfolio for Police and Emergency Services will be impacted by the public sector wage freeze in the Charlestown Electorate?
- (2) How much less will these employees be paid over the next three years as a result (from 2 June 2020)?

Answer—

Questions about the Government's Public Sector Wages Policy should be directed to the Treasurer.

*3260 IMPACT OF WAGE FREEZE ON EDUCATION STAFF—Ms Jodie Harrison asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) How many employees of the Department of Education in the Charlestown electorate will be impacted by the public sector wage freeze?
- (2) How much less will these employees be paid over the next three years as a result (from 2 June 2020)?

Answer—

The Government's proposed 12 month pause on pay rises, which will apply prospectively, protects the 408,000 New South Wales public service jobs will save New South Wales taxpayers around \$3 billion over four years.

The Public Sector Salaries award covering public service employees of the Department of Education is currently before the Industrial Relations Commission for determination.

The majority of Department staff are teachers and school administrative and support staff (SASS) covered by existing awards. The new wages policy will not affect these employment groups until their awards are renegotiated. These employees will receive salary increases in accordance with current awards, due for teachers in January 2021 and for SASS in July of 2020 and 2021.

*3261 GLENDALE TAFE STAFF—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education—

- (1) Considering the Government's decision to freeze the wages of New South Wales public servants, how many Glendale TAFE employees will be impacted?
- (2) How much less money will they be able to spend in the local economy?

Answer—

I am advised that TAFE NSW complies with Government public sector wages policy.

I am also advised that information on TAFE NSW staff, including salaries, can be found in the Number of Employees section and the Financial Statements of the TAFE NSW annual, available at: <https://www.tafensw.edu.au/corporate/annual-report>.

*3262 WAGES FOR HEALTH WORKERS—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

- (1) Considering the Government's decision to freeze the wages of New South Wales public servants, how many health workers in the Wallsend electorate will be impacted?
- (2) How much less money will they be able to spend in the local economy?

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Answer—

(1) to (2)

NSW Health does not provide health services or collect information by electorate.

*3263 WALLSEND SERVICE NSW STAFF—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Customer Service—

- (1) Considering the Government's decision to freeze the wages of New South Wales public servants, how many Wallsend Service NSW employees will be impacted?
- (2) How much less money will they be able to spend in the local economy?

Answer—

- (1) This matter is currently before the Industrial Relations Commission, with a decision not yet determined.
- (2) This matter is currently before the Industrial Relations Commission, with a decision not yet determined.

*3264 NSW POLICE FORCE OFFICER WAGES—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—

- (1) Considering the Government's decision to freeze the wages of New South Wales public servants, how many police officers in the Wallsend electorate will be impacted?
- (2) How much less money will they be able to spend in the local economy?

Answer—

Questions about the Government's Public Sector Wages Policy should be directed to the Treasurer.

*3265 NSW FIRE AND RESCUE STAFF—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—

- (1) Considering the Government's decision to freeze the wages of New South Wales public servants, how many NSW Fire and Rescue employees in the Wallsend electorate will be impacted?
- (2) How much less money will they be able to spend in the local economy?

Answer—

Questions about the Government's Public Sector Wages Policy should be directed to the Treasurer.

*3266 EDUCATORS IN THE WALLSEND ELECTORATE—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) Considering the Government's decision to freeze the wages of New South Wales public servants, how many educators in the Wallsend electorate will be impacted?
- (2) How much less money will they be able to spend in the local economy?

Answer—

The Government's proposed 12 month pause on pay rises, which will apply prospectively, protects the 408,000 New South Wales public service jobs and will save the New South Wales taxpayers around \$3 billion over four years.

The Public Sector Salaries award covering public service employees of the Department of Education is currently before the Industrial Relations Commission for determination.

The majority of Department staff are teachers and school administrative and support staff (SASS) covered by existing awards. The new wages policy will not affect these employment groups until their awards are renegotiated. These employees will receive salary increases in accordance with current awards, due for teachers in January 2021 and for SASS in July 2020 and 2021.

*3267 MENTAL HEALTH STAFF—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research representing the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women—

- (1) Considering the Government's decision to freeze the wages of New South Wales public servants, how many mental health employees will be impacted?
- (2) How much less money will they be able to spend in the local economy?

Answer—

(1) to (2) The Government has implemented a 12-month pause on New South Wales public sector pay rises, to protect public service jobs and stimulate job creation in response to COVID-19.

Pausing pay rises will enable the Government to focus on preserving existing public sector jobs while also stimulating job-creation as New South Wales confronts the prospect of a deep recession and contraction of the economy.

The policy change will mean current pay levels for all New South Wales public sector employees are retained, not decreased.

*3268 FAMILIES, COMMUNITIES AND DISABILITY SERVICES IN WALLSEND ELECTORATE—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services—

(1) Considering the Government's decision to freeze the wages of New South Wales public servants, how many employees in the Families, Communities and Disability Services portfolio in the Wallsend electorate will be impacted?

(2) How much less money will they be able to spend in the local economy?

Answer—

(1) I am advised information about the number of staff employed by the department is in the Annual Reports which can be accessed via the Department of Communities and Justice website.

(2) The public sector wage pause will allow the Government to focus public expenditure on initiatives that create jobs for the people of New South Wales, ensuring that the hundreds of thousands of New South Wales citizens who have been made jobless by COVID-19 have the opportunity to get back into the workforce and recover their livelihoods as quickly as possible.

This decision recognises that recovering from this crisis will require all of us to make sacrifices that serve the greater good of our state and its people.

Nearly 90 percent of New South Wales workers are in the private sector, and many of them have already suffered forced stand-downs, leave without pay, significant pay cuts, job uncertainty or losing their livelihoods altogether.

This decision forms part of a broader body of work being undertaken by the Government to support our people through the worst of the health and economic crisis, keep people in jobs and businesses in businesses, and chart a robust recovery.

*3269 AMBULANCE AND PARAMEDIC STAFF—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

(1) Considering the Government's decision to freeze the wages of New South Wales public servants, how many ambulance officers and paramedics in the Wallsend electorate will be impacted?

(2) How much less money will they be able to spend in the local economy?

Answer—

(1) to (2) NSW Health does not provide health services by electorate.

*3270 LIVERPOOL PUBLIC SCHOOLS PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

(1) Is personal protective equipment provided to public schools in the Liverpool electorate?

(a) If so, which schools?

Answer—

(1) Yes. Personal Protective Equipment is provided to all New South Wales public schools in the Liverpool electorate for use in accordance with infection control procedures.

- (a) Green Valley Public School;
- (b) Warwick Farm Public School;
- (c) Marsden Road Public School;
- (d) Heckenberg Public School;
- (e) Miller Public School;
- (f) Cartwright Public School;
- (g) Hinchinbrook Public School;
- (h) Liverpool Public School;
- (i) Mainsbridge School;
- (j) John Edmondson High School;
- (k) Liverpool Girls High School;
- (l) Ashcroft High School;

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- (m) Hoxton Park High School;
- (n) Hoxton Park Public School;
- (o) Liverpool West Public School;
- (p) Saddleir Public School;
- (q) Busby Public School;
- (r) Ashcroft Public School;
- (s) Busby West Public School;
- (t) Greenway Park Public School;
- (u) Liverpool Hospital School;
- (v) Lawrence Hargrave School;
- (w) Miller High School;
- (x) Liverpool Boys High School;
- (y) James Busby High School.

*3271 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE REVIEW TEAM 2017-19 REPORT RECOMMENDATION 9—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—

Will you support the recommendation of the Deputy State Coroner Magistrate Truscott made on 20 May 2020 in the inquest into the death of Renae Marsden concerning Recommendation 9 of the Domestic Violence Review Team 2017-19 Report?

Answer—

I support the recommendation of the Deputy State Coroner Magistrate Truscott made on 20 May 2020 in the inquest into the death of Renae Marsden being referred to the Domestic Violence Death Review Team for its consideration

*3272 MODERN SLAVERY ACT COMMENCEMENT—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Premier—

When will you commence the Modern Slavery Act?

Answer—

The Legislative Council Standing Committee on Social Issues (the Committee) has concluded an inquiry into the Modern Slavery Act 2018 and tabled its report on 25 March 2020.

The Government is considering the Committee's recommendations .

*3273 TERRORISM (HIGH RISK OFFENDERS) ACT APPLICATIONS 2018-20—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—

(1) How many applications under the Terrorism (High Risk Offenders) Act were made for extended supervision orders in the period:

- (a) 1 January 2018 to 30 June 2018;
- (b) 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019;
- (c) 1 July 2019 to 30 May 2020?

(2) How many of the applications in question (1) were successful?

(3) How many applications under the Terrorism (High Risk Offenders) Act were made for continuing detention orders in the period:

- (a) 1 January 2018 to 30 June 2018;
- (b) 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019;
- (c) 1 July 2019 to 30 May 2020?

(4) How many of the applications in question (3) were successful?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) and (2) Applications made under the Terrorism (High Risk Offenders) Act for extended supervision orders are as follows:

- (a) 1 January 2018 to 30 June 2018 – 1 (successful)
- (b) 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 – 7 (4 successful)
- (c) 1 July 2019 to 30 May 2020 – 7 (1 successful).

(3) and (4) Applications made under the Terrorism (High Risk Offenders) Act for continuing detention orders are as follows:

- (a) 1 January 2018 to 30 June 2018 – Nil

(b) 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 – 1 (successful)

(c) 1 July 2019 to 30 May 2020 – Nil

Statistics are based on the date the applications were finalised, not the date that the summons was filed.

*3274 CRIMES (HIGH RISK OFFENDERS) ACT APPLICATIONS 2016-20—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—

(1) How many applications under the Crimes (High Risk Offenders) Act were made for extended supervision orders in each financial year from 2016-17 to 2019-20 (as at 30 May 2020)?

(a) How many of the applications in question (1) were successful?

(2) How many applications under the Crimes (High Risk Offenders) Act were made for continuing detention orders in each financial year from 2016-17 to 2019-20 (as at 30 May 2020)?

(a) How many of the applications in question (2) were successful?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) Applications made under the Crimes (High Risk Offenders) Act for extended supervision orders (ESO) in each financial year from 2016-17 to 2019-20 (as at 30 May 2020) are as follows:

- 2016 – 2017: 21 (19 successful)
- 2017 – 2018: 18 (13 successful)
- 2018 – 2019: 27 (25 successful)
- 2019 – 30 May 2020: 22 (16 successful)

(2) Applications made under the Crimes (High Risk Offenders) Act for continuing detention orders (CDO) in each financial year from 2016-17 to 2019-20 (as at 30 May 2020) are as follows:

- 2016 – 2017: 10 (nine successful)
- 2017 – 2018: four (four successful)
- 2018 – 2019: five (four successful – I am advised that in one out of the four successful matters, an ESO rather than a CDO was imposed, which the state sought as an alternative).
- 2019 – 30 May 2020: nine (seven successful – I am advised that in three out of the seven successful matters, an ESO rather than a CDO was imposed, which the state sought as an alternative).

Statistics are based on the date the applications were finalised, not the date that the summons was filed.

*3275 VICTIMS OF CRIME FRAUDULENT PAYMENTS—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—

What mechanisms, if any, exist to investigate allegations of fraudulent claims for payments to the victims of crime?

Answer—

I am advised:

Investigations into fraudulent claims for payments to victims of crime are undertaken by the NSW Police Force.

*3276 LIVERPOOL AND MILLER TAFE CAMPUSES COVID-19 PANDEMIC RESPONSE—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education—

What extra cleaning measures have been implemented in response to the COVID-19 pandemic at the Liverpool and Miller campuses of TAFE?

Answer—

I am advised:

The health and safety of staff, students and visitors is the highest priority for TAFE NSW.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, TAFE NSW has increased the cleaning presence on site at Liverpool and Miller campuses, with an additional two staff members at the Miller campus and three staff members at the Liverpool campus. A portion of those additional staff are dedicated to cleaning hard surfaces and frequently touch points around the campuses.

Personal Protective Equipment has been provided to all Delivery and Customer Service staff across TAFE NSW. Frontline service staff are provided with a caddy containing hand sanitiser, alcohol wipes, gloves, masks and spray and wipe products.

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*3277 DOWNING CENTRE COURT COMPLEX TOURS—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—

- (1) Are private organisations conducting guided tours of the Downing Centre Court complex?
 - (a) If so, what are the identities of such bodies?
 - (b) Is a fee charged by the organisation in connection with those tours?

Answer—

I am advised:

There is currently no arrangement in place with any private organisation to conduct guided tours of the Downing Centre Court Complex.

*3278 LIVERPOOL PUBLIC SCHOOLS SANITISER PRODUCTS—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

Do all government schools in the Liverpool electorate have access to supplies of hand soap and hand sanitiser in student bathrooms?

Answer—

All Government schools have received supplies of soap, hand sanitiser, toilet paper, paper towels, disinfectant wipes and personal protective equipment. Schools are able to order additional supplies as needed.

*3279 TUGGERAH LAKES EXPERT REVIEW COMMITTEE—Mr David Mehan asked the Minister for Energy and Environment—

- (1) Considering the responses to LA Q2068 and Q2537, have members been appointed to the Tuggerah Lakes Expert Review Committee?
 - (a) If so:
 - (i) What are their names and qualifications?
 - (ii) What relevant experience of local conditions does each member have?
 - (iii) Do any panel member's reside on the Central Coast?
 - (iv) Has the Committee met?
 - (i) If so:
 - (i) Who attended the meeting(s)?
 - (ii) Were minutes kept?
 - (i) Are these available to the public?
 - (i) If so, where?
 - (iii) How will the public be able to track the progress of the Committee?
 - (iv) How will the Committee consult with the "community and other relevant stakeholders"?
 - (v) Who are the "relevant stakeholders"?
 - (v) How can constituents in The Entrance electorate contact the Committee about its work?
 - (vi) Will the terms of reference of the Committee be made public?
 - (i) If so, where will they be made available?
 - (ii) If not, do the terms of reference include consideration of flood as part of the natural processes impacting Tuggerah Lake?

Answer—

I am advised of the following:

- (1) Yes.
 - (a) The panel members are:
 - (i) Associate Professor William Glamore (Chair), Nicole Ramilo, Dr David Wainwright, Dr Katherine Daffern, Associate Professor Damien Maher, Sian Fawcett, Stuart Waters and Dr Angus Ferguson.
 - (ii) Panel members have degrees in science and engineering. They were appointed based on their high-level expertise in relevant fields or involvement with water quality issues associated with Tuggerah Lakes.
 - (iii) Yes.
 - (iv) Yes.

- (i) Panel meetings are attended by the Expert Panel Members and representatives of the inter-agency working group that provides secretariat services to the panel.
- (ii) Yes.
 - (i) Yes
 - (i) Minutes will be made available to the public on the Expert Panel Webpage: www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/water/estuaries/protect-inq-and-managing-estuaries/tuggerah-lakes-expert-panel
- (iii) The public can monitor the progress of the Expert Panel via the meeting minutes.
- (iv) The Expert Panel is developing an engagement strategy and will undertake consultation activities.
- (v) Relevant stakeholders include individuals and organisations with an interest in water quality issues associated with Tuggerah Lakes.
- (v) The Tuggerah Lakes Expert Panel can be contacted through the panel's website.
- (vi) Yes.
 - (i) The Terms of Reference of the Expert Panel are available on the panel's webpage.
 - (ii) Not applicable.

*3280 SCHOOL MAINTENANCE BACKLOG IN KEIRA ELECTORATE—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

For each school in the Keira electorate, what is the current maintenance backlog (as at 2 June 2020)?

Answer—

As of 2 June 2020, 97 per cent of the 2019-20 planned maintenance program at public schools in the Keira electorate has been completed.

*3281 EMPLOYMENT IN SHELLHARBOUR—Ms Anna Watson asked the Premier—

- (1) What portion of the \$3 billion public sector wage freeze savings will be put into job creation in the Shellharbour Electorate?
- (2) What are the jobs that will be created?
- (3) When will these jobs be filled?
- (4) How many jobs will it create in the Shellharbour Electorate?

Answer—

Questions in relation to this matter should be referred to the Treasurer.

*3282 SHELLHARBOUR TAFE—Ms Anna Watson asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education—

- (1) How many students were enrolled in courses at Shellharbour TAFE in each year from 2011 to 2020 (as at 2 June 2020)?
- (2) How many teachers were employed at Shellharbour TAFE in each year from 2011 to 2020 (as at 2 June 2020)?

Answer—

I am advised that as TAFE NSW operates in a competitive environment, data is not provided by in-year enrolment numbers. TAFE NSW does provide enrolment data in the Enrolments by the Students section of the TAFE NSW annual report, available at: <https://www.tafensw.edu.au/corporate/annual-report>.

I am also advised that information on TAFE NSW staff can be found in the Number of Employees section of the TAFE NSW annual report.

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*3283 M5 TOLL BETWEEN KING GEORGES ROAD AND BEXLEY ROAD—Mr Jihad Dib asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) Will the trip between King Georges Road and Bexley Road, in both directions, on the M5 remain untolled once the new section of the M5 is opened later this year?
 - (a) If not, what will the toll be for the journey between King Georges and Bexley Road on the M5 in either direction?
 - (b) Will the new sections of the M5 and associated tolls be eligible for the cashback scheme?
- (2) How many journeys in each direction, east and west respectively, between King Georges Road and Bexley Road, were made in each month between October 2019 and March 2020?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) No.

(a) \$3.04 in each direction.

(b) No, but Cashback will remain for M5 south west. In addition, the Government is continuing to help ease cost of living pressures for car-owning households with its Toll Relief scheme. Under this scheme, motorists who have spent an average of \$15 a week in tolls over the previous financial year are eligible for half-price registration. This more than doubles access to the free registration scheme for customers who have spent \$1,300 or more in tolls in a financial year.

(2) New toll gantries along the M8 and M5 East motorways are being tested before the M8 opens to traffic in the coming weeks. Traffic data for the M5 East and M8 will be published quarterly by Transurban in line with its reporting requirements.

*3284 EXTENSION TO THE EMERGENCY WATER INFRASTRUCTURE REBATE SCHEME—Mr Philip Donato asked the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—

Will consideration be given to state funding and extension to the Emergency Water Infrastructure Rebate Scheme, which expired on 14 May 2020, to allow applicants awaiting requisite documentation to support and submit their applications for this important drought assistance measure?

Answer—

The Emergency Water Infrastructure Rebate Scheme is a Commonwealth funded scheme and the NSW Government has urgently requested the Commonwealth reconsider additional funding for this program.

As stated in the guidelines for the program, the availability of rebates is subject to funds being available and no rebates can be offered beyond the allocated funding.

In May, the Government was advised that no additional program would be forthcoming from the Commonwealth and as a result, the Rural Assistance Authority (RAA) has been obligated to close the program.

As funding negotiations continue, applicants awaiting payment remain in the queue and the RAA will advise applicants as soon as possible of the outcome of their application.

*3285 NSW LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS—Mr Philip Donato asked the Minister for Local Government—

Considering that COVID-19 public health order restrictions are continuing to ease, and avenues such as postal and electronic voting exist and can be more broadly adopted, will you re-consider your recently gazetted order to postpone the 12 September 2020 Local Government elections for 12 months and now re-instate a 2020 election date, so that our local communities' can exercise their democratic freedom to elect their chosen representatives to lead local communities through the critical post-COVID phase of development and rebuilding local economies?

Answer—

The decision to postpone the September 2020 local government elections was made on the advice of the NSW Electoral Commissioner. The decision was necessary to ensure the health and safety of voters, NSW Electoral Commission staff and election candidates.

It is no longer possible to hold local government elections in September 2020 as there is insufficient time for the Electoral Commission to make the necessary arrangements.

An order has now been published in the Gazette under section 318B of the Local Government Act 1993 postponing the elections in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

*3286 NEAR HIT INCIDENTS NSW TRAINS—Mr David Harris asked the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

How many "near hit" incidents have occurred involving Transport for NSW trains in each financial year from 2014-15 to 2018-19?

Answer—

This question was asked of the Minister for Transport and Roads, but has been referred to me, Minister for Regional Transport and Roads, for response.

I am advised:

2014-15: 141

2015-16: 207

2016-17: 177

2017-18: 184

2018-19: 164

*3287 XPT TRIPS—Mr David Harris asked the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

How many XPT trips were taken in each financial year from 2014-15 to 2018-19?

Answer—

I am advised:

2015-16 - 4,312

2016-17 - 4,278

2017-18 - 4,271

2018-19 - 4,322.

*3288 SEATBELTS ON RURAL AND REGIONAL BUSES—Mr David Harris asked the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

How many rural and regional buses have been fitted with seatbelts since 2013 (to 3 June 2020)?

Answer—

I am advised:

As at 3 June 2020, 1,853 rural and regional buses are fitted with seatbelts. Of these, 1,182 had seatbelts installed as part of the Rural and Regional Seatbelt Program.

*3289 BUSES REPLACING XPT SERVICES—Mr David Harris asked the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

How many XPT services required a replacement bus for some portion of their journey in each financial year from 2014-15 to 2018-19?

Answer—

I am advised:

NSW TrainLink replaces train services with road coaches for a variety of reasons including planned and emergency trackwork, severe weather conditions, flooding, bushfire and freight train incidents.

2015-16 - 80

2016-17 - 102

2017-18 - 109

2018-19 - 58.

*3290 FAST TRACK PLANNING ASSESSMENTS—Mr Jamie Parker asked the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

(1) Is the Community Participation Plan still in operation?

(a) What changes have been made as a result of the fast track process?

(b) How has the Department of Planning engaged resident groups to build community partnerships relevant to these fast tracked assessments?

(c) How much of the four week timeline for planning decisions is allocated to public consultation?

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- (2) What are the criteria for deciding a proposal is "shovel ready"?
- (3) What guarantees do developers provide that:
 - (a) Construction will commence and be fully completed, including promised social infrastructure, once a concept plan is approved as part of the accelerated development program?
 - (b) Construction will commence and be fully completed, including promised social infrastructure, once a rezoning is approved as part of the accelerated development program?
 - (c) Construction will commence and be fully completed, including promised social infrastructure, once a Development Application is approved as part of the accelerated development program?
- (4) What criteria and factors are used to decide if a project refused by an independent planning panel can be included in the accelerated planning process?
- (5) How many projects are being considered for fast tracking?
- (6) Which private developer and developer lobby groups is the Government discussing and negotiating fast tracked projects with?
- (7) How many projects being considered for fast tracked assessment and already on the fast tracked lists are:
 - (a) Government social infrastructure;
 - (b) Developments on public land to be sold on the private market;
 - (c) Private developer projects?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) Yes.

(a) This information can be found on the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's (the Department) website

<https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Policy-and-Legislation/COVID19-response/Planning-System-Acceleration-Program/Fast-tracked-assessments>.

(b) During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Department has conducted regular meetings and engagement with a range of stakeholders across local government, industry and community sectors as well as regular webinars, policy briefings and correspondence management. This engagement has primarily occurred through the recently established COVID-19 Response Team within the Department.

Through the course of the pandemic and the COVID-19 Response Team's work, the views and submissions of community and environmental organisations, homelessness groups, and community housing providers and groups representing community housing providers have been welcomed and subsequently fed into the work of the Department throughout this period.

(c) Projects undergoing the fast-tracked assessment process must have completed their statutory exhibition process as set out in the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

(2) "Shovel ready" refers to a project's ability to commence construction within six months (for development applications) or to have a development application lodged with the relevant consent authority within six months (for planning proposals). The full criteria can be found on the Department's website: <https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Policy-and-Legislation/COVID19-response/Planning-System-Acceleration-Program/Fast-tracked-assessments>.

(3) The Department undertakes due diligence to understand the status of the project and the likelihood of development activity occurring. This information can be found on the Department's website: <https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Policy-and-Legislation/COVID19-response/Planning-System-Acceleration-Program/Fast-tracked-assessments>.

(4) The accelerated planning process does not over-ride the normal assessment processes. The full criteria for fast-tracking can be found on the Department's website: <https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Policy-and-Legislation/COVID19-response/Planning-System-Acceleration-Program/Fast-tracked-assessments>.

(5) A full list of the projects from the first three tranches can be found on the Department's website: <https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Policy-and-Legislation/COVID19-response/Planning-System-Acceleration-Program/Fast-tracked-assessments>.

(6) The COVID-19 Response Team runs regular meetings with a range of stakeholders across industry and community sectors as well as regular webinars, policy briefings and correspondence management.

The Department meets regularly with key stakeholder groups to adequately understand and respond to planning system challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic and incorporate policy ideas put forward by these groups into the work of the Department.

Furthermore, my Ministerial diary disclosures are published on the Department of Premier and Cabinet website.

(7) A full list of the projects and the names of proponents for the first three tranches can be found on the Department's website: <https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Policy-and-Legislation/COVID19-response/Planning-System-Acceleration-Program/Fast-tracked-assessments>.

*3291 ROUGH SLEEPERS SYDNEY—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services—

(1) Considering the agreement made by the Government, City of Sydney, Institute of Global Homelessness, St Vincent de Paul, St Vincent's Health, Mission Australia, Salvation Army, Wesley Mission, Neami National and Yfoundations, committing signatories to reduce rough sleeping in the City of Sydney by 25 per cent by 2020, how many rough sleepers have been provided with permanent housing (as at 3 June 2020)?

(a) How many rough sleepers have been permanently housed by each organisation:

- (i) Government;
- (ii) City of Sydney;
- (iii) Institute of Global Homelessness;
- (iv) St Vincent de Paul;
- (v) St Vincent's Health;
- (vi) Mission Australia;
- (vii) Salvation Army;
- (viii) Wesley Mission;
- (ix) Neami National;
- (x) Yfoundations?

Answer—

I am advised that since March 2017 the Department of Communities and Justice assertive outreach team, working with partner agencies, has assisted more than 630 people sleeping rough in the City of Sydney into long-term permanent housing.

On 8 June 2020 the Government announced \$36 million for the new Together Home project to provide housing and wrap around support for hundreds of rough sleepers across NSW. This will be a partnership between the Government, Community Housing Providers, Specialist Homelessness Services and health services.

*3292 COMBUSTIBLE CLADDING REGISTER WOLLONGONG LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

(1) How many buildings in the Wollongong local government area are on the combustible cladding register (as at 3 June 2020)?

(2) Will they be provide with financial assistance to remove the cladding?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) 57 buildings were listed on the Cladding Regulation Online Registration System (Combustible Cladding Register) with an address in the Wollongong local government area as at 3 June 2020. It is important to note that buildings on the Combustible Cladding Register still require further assessment and do not necessarily have cladding that is unsafe or which increases the risk of fire spreading.

(2) This matter should be referred to the Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation.

*3293 LAND AND HOUSING CORPORATION HOUSING KEIRA ELECTORATE—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

(1) How many modifiable, ground floor, two-bedroom stand-alone houses or units with few steps or no steps are currently owned by the Land and Housing Corporation in the Keira electorate?

(a) How many of these properties are currently unoccupied (as at 3 June 2020)?

(2) Does the Government plan to purchase or build more low density, ground floor housing in the Keira electorate?

(a) If so, where will this housing be located?

(b) If not, why not?

(3) Are there any plans to sell any low density, ground floor housing in the Keira electorate?

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(a) If so, where is this housing located?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) There are 401 accessible houses or units with few or no steps currently owned by NSW Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) in the Keira Electorate. As at 3 June 2020, one of these was unoccupied.
- (2) LAHC is working to increase the supply of accessible forms of social housing. In the Keira Electorate, this will include developments at:
 - 1-4 Robert Street, Corrimal
 - 67-69 Pioneer Road and 26-30 Bramsen Street, Bellambi, and
 - 88 Caldwell Avenue, Tarrawanna.
- (3) LAHC plans to sell one low density, ground floor housing in the Keira Electorate at 4 Tucker Avenue, Balgownie.

*3294 SOCIAL HOUSING PROPERTIES CORRIMAL—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

- (1) How many social housing properties were located in the suburb of Corrimal in each financial year from 2014-15 to 2018-19?
- (2) How many social housing properties were vacant in the suburb of Corrimal on each of the following dates:
 - (a) 1 May 2015;
 - (b) 1 May 2016;
 - (c) 1 May 2017;
 - (d) 1 May 2018;
 - (e) 1 May 2019;
 - (f) 1 May 2020?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) The number of social housing properties located in Corrimal in each financial year from 2014-15 to 2018-19 is:

Financial Year	Number of properties
2014/2015	182
2015/2016	182
2016/2017	187
2017/2018	186
2018/2019	184

(2) The number of vacant social housing properties owned by LAHC and AHO in Corrimal on each of the following dates is:

Financial Year	Number of vacant properties
1 May 2015	6
1 May 2016	3
1 May 2017	5
1 May 2018	5
1 May 2019	0
1 May 2020	1

*3295 CROSSING GUARDS KEIRA ELECTORATE—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) How many schools in the Keira electorate have applied for a crossing guard since the Government confirmed it would hire an additional 300 crossing guards in the NSW Budget 2019-20?
 - (a) How many of these applications have been made since the NSW Budget 2019-20?
 - (b) How many of these applications have been rejected since the NSW Budget 2019-20 (as at 3 June 2020)?

(2) Which schools have a successful program in the Keira electorate?

Answer—

I am advised:

Transport for NSW does not hold this information on the basis of electorate.

*3296 PUBLIC HOUSING COVID-19 CLEANING SERVICES—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

(1) Following the announcement in March 2020 of an extra \$250 million for increased cleaning services in public housing in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, have these services been implemented in communal areas?

(a) If so, for how long will the increased cleaning services continue?

(2) How will public housing areas be monitored in relation to COVID-19 cases?

(a) What will be the response in terms of cleaning if there are confirmed cases?

Answer—

I am advised:

That following funding being made available to the NSW Land and Housing corporation under the NSW Government's Health and Economic Stimulus packages for enhanced social housing asset cleaning, the program of enhanced cleaning to shared areas in social housing properties started in early April 2020. The program is currently funded up to 30 September 2020.

The NSW Land and Housing Corporation's monitoring and response to confirmed COVID-19 cases is in line with the Residential Tenancies Act, and the cleaning will occur in line with the relevant NSW Health guidelines.

Further information about the cleaning stimulus package is available online at: <https://www.nsw.gov.au/media-releases/250-million-cleaning-stimulus-package-to-help-stop-spread-of-covid-19>.

*3297 SOCIAL HOUSING MAINTENANCE WORKS KEIRA ELECTORATE—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

(1) Following the announcement in March 2020 of an extra \$250 million to bring forward maintenance in social housing, how much was allocated to the Keira electorate?

(2) Have works commenced (as at 3 June 2020)?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Government has allocated \$47 million to the NSW Land and Housing Corporation for accelerated maintenance and repairs to social housing assets across NSW, as part of the Health and Economic Stimulus Packages.

The Government has also allocated \$12 million to the NSW Land and Housing Corporation for enhanced cleaning of social housing assets as part of these Health and Economic Stimulus Packages.

The activities are planned on a priority and ability-to-deliver basis, and projects are at various stages of commencement and completion. As at 11 June 2020, there were 80 work orders issued in the Keira State Electorate.

The Government's economic stimulus packages are aimed at keeping people in jobs, helping businesses and supporting our most vulnerable during the COVID-19 pandemic. Further information is available at www.treasury.nsw.gov.au/Covid-19Stimulus.

*3298 SPECIAL HOMELESSNESS SERVICES—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services—

How many people presented to special homelessness services in the financial years 2017-18 and 2018-19?

Answer—

I am advised information on people who received assistance from specialist homelessness services in New South Wales is available on the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare website at <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports-statistics/health-welfare-services/homelessness-services/overview>.

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*3299 REGIONAL SMALL POLICE STATION PROGRAM—Ms Lynda Voltz asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—

- (1) What are the 15 stations that will be delivered under the Regional Small Police Station program?
- (2) What are the expected dates to begin and finalise construction of each of these stations?
- (3) What is the planning cost and what is the completion cost of each of these stations under the Regional Small Police Station program?
- (4) Were any of these stations under the Regional Small Police Station program prefabricated before delivery to site?
 - (a) If so, where were these stations prefabricated?

Answer—

Refer to my answer to LC Q1501.

4 JUNE 2020

(Paper No. 65)

*3300 POLICING INDIGENOUS PEOPLE—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—

- (1) What review has the Government made of Indigenous deaths in police custody in New South Wales (as at 4 June 2020)?
 - (a) What conclusions and recommendations came out of this review?
- (2) What review has the Government made of NSW Police Force move on and search incidents disproportionately targeting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people (as at 4 June 2020)?
 - (a) What conclusions and recommendations came out of this review?
- (3) What actions have been taken in response to the reviews to improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the justice system?
- (4) How does the Government ensure that the NSW Police Force works with Indigenous communities to ensure fair police treatment?
- (5) What plans does the Government have to close the gap in Indigenous justice?

Answer—

Every death as a result of involvement with police is a tragedy. This Government and the NSW Police Force continue to work hard to improve our relationships with our First nations. I am assured the Commissioner and New South Wales Police Force (NSWPF) do all they can to work with the Coroner and other authorities to ensure any death as a result of engagement with the police is investigated comprehensively. More specifically, I am advised:

Indigenous deaths in police custody in New South Wales are reviewed through a range of mechanisms including inquests by the New South Wales Coroner and through Critical Incident Investigations undertaken by the NSWPF. NSWPF is also oversighted by the Law Enforcement Conduct Commission (LECC) which can review police action in accordance with its powers and functions under the Law Enforcement Conduct Commission Act 2016.

Under Section 27 (1) (b) of the Coroners Act 2009 it is mandatory for an inquest to be held if it appears that any person has died in police custody and the NSWPF participate in the coronial process in accordance with the Premier's Memorandum M2009-12 Responding to Coronial Recommendations.

Policies and practices of the NSWPF are subject to review and analysis by a range of Government bodies. A study of NSWPF move-on directions and person searches was undertaken by the Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research and published on 17 December 2019, with findings including that both searches and move-on directions were effective and significantly reduce a range of property crime. There are strict guidelines and regulations, under the Law Enforcement (Powers and Responsibilities) Act and Police Guidelines, which govern Police's undertaking of strip searches. As you are aware, LECC has a statutory oversight role and has undertaken an investigation into the use by police officers of powers to conduct strip searches under the Law Enforcement (Powers and Responsibilities) Act (LEPRA). NSWPF has responded to LECC's strip search inquiries, and relevant LECC reports were tabled in Parliament on 8 May 2020, some of which address searches of Aboriginal individuals. The NSWPF understands that a further overarching report on strip searching will be published by LECC later this year.

The NSWPF Corporate Sponsor's program on Aboriginal Engagement is the responsibility of Assistant Commissioner Joseph Cassar. In this role, Assistant Commissioner Cassar oversees police operational issues with Aboriginal people, and works closely with Aboriginal communities to address issues like crime prevention and diversionary initiatives. This coordinated approach helps to hold police officers to account on how they deal with Aboriginal policing issues.

The NSWPF's Aboriginal Strategic Direction 2018-2023 guides the NSWPF in seeking a genuine level of Aboriginal community ownership and involvement through a consultative and proactive approach. It guides the NSWPF in its positive engagement with Aboriginal communities and individuals, especially women. Key priorities of the Strategic Direction include developing and implementing innovative, sustainable crime prevention and proactive policing programs to improve safety in Aboriginal communities; collaborating with other agencies to reduce Aboriginal over-representation in the criminal justice system; enhancing communication and understanding between police and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community; and improving the safety and wellbeing of young Aboriginal people.

The NSWPF also provides training throughout an officer's career in relation to Aboriginal Justice issues from mandatory coursework as part of the Associate Degree in Policing Practice through to dedicated units of study within specialist qualifications. Together with TAFE NSW, the NSWPF developed the Indigenous Police Recruitment Our Way Delivery program to assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in gaining a qualification, develop skills and confidence to succeed in applying for a career with the NSWPF. The NSWPF have a dedicated aboriginal employment recruitment team, who focus on indigenous police recruitment, working with schools, TAFE and employment agencies to make sure that police officers represent the indigenous community. The 2018-19 Annual Report states 4 per cent of NSWPF employees identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

The over-representation of Indigenous Australians in the criminal justice system is a national tragedy and the Stronger Communities Cluster is focussed on creating and supporting targeted actions to address this. Current actions include multi-faceted criminal justice reforms as well as targeted investments into programs and strategies that aim to reduce crime rates and reoffending. Questions relating broadly to these reforms, and questions about over-representation more generally, should be directed to the Attorney General as cluster lead.

***3301 ABORIGINAL HERITAGE PROTECTIONS—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Premier—**

- (1) Considering the significant loss of unique Aboriginal heritage from the Rio Tinto blasting at Jurukan Gorge, what review has the Government made of New South Wales legislation to protect Aboriginal heritage sites and values?
- (2) What plans does the Government have to upgrade and improve protection of Aboriginal heritage?

Answer—

This question should now be directed to the Hon Don Harwin MLC who has resumed his responsibility as the Minister for the Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs and the Arts.

***3302 CYBER SECURITY GOVERNMENT AGENCIES—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Customer Service—**

Considering that cyber criminals recently compromised 47 Service NSW employee accounts, what steps is the Government taking to ensure that New South Wales government agencies are protected from cyber attacks?

Answer—

On 18 June 2020, the Premier announced a critical investment for state-wide cyber security maturity uplift, which will see up to \$240 million of the \$1.6 billion Digital Stimulus package reserved for programs to strengthen cyber security. With this funding, clusters will be better prepared to deal with expected increases in the frequency, extent and sophistication of cyber-attacks. Several clusters have drafted business cases to uplift their cyber security capabilities and all clusters are expected to invest in system protections by implementing the Australian Cyber Security Centre's Essential 8 mitigating controls and the mandatory requirements of the NSW Cyber Security Policy.

The Government undertakes a number of ongoing measures to ensure agencies are protected from cyber-attacks. These steps are mandated as mandatory requirements in the NSW Cyber Security Policy and are being taken by individual agencies, supported by Cyber Security NSW, the whole-of-government cyber security function that provides leadership and coordination across all departments and agencies.

To protect against cyber-attacks, agencies maintain and improve their resilience and ability to detect and respond appropriately to cyber incidents by:

- having cyber incident response plans that are tested regularly,
- deploying monitoring processes and tools to allow for adequate incident identification and response,
- reporting incidents to the whole-of-government cyber security function, Cyber Security NSW, and
- participating in regular agency and whole-of-government cyber security exercises.

Agencies are also required to build and support a cyber security culture to help prevent and minimise the impact of an incident. Steps include:

- implementation of cyber security education programs for staff that increase awareness of cyber security risk,
- fostering a culture where cyber security risk management is an important and valued aspect of decision-making,
- ensuring that people who have access to sensitive or classified information or systems have appropriate security screening and ensuring information on security threats and intelligence is shared with Cyber Security NSW.

The NSW Cyber Security Policy requires agencies to manage cyber security risks to safeguard and secure their information and systems. Steps to achieve this include:

- the requirement to implement an Information Security Management System or Cyber Security Framework,
- implementation of the Australian Cyber Security Centre's Essential 8 mitigation strategies,
- classifying information and systems according to their importance,
- ensuring cyber security requirements are built into procurements, and
- ensuring new ICT systems or enhancements include processes to assess the accuracy and integrity of data including processes for internal fraud detection.

Clusters and agencies are required to report against 25 mandatory requirements and the Essential 8 mitigation strategies. Maturity assessments against these requirements and mitigation strategies are reported to Cyber Security NSW annually.

***3303 WATER ACCESS LICENCES**—Mrs Helen Dalton asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

- (1) Considering that the Water Management Act 2000 identifies and defines a number of categories of water access licences, including floodplain harvesting access licences, is it a criminal offence to take water not authorised by an access licence?
- (2) Is it illegal for someone to take water through floodplain harvesting if they do not have a floodplain harvesting access licence?

Answer—

There are various provisions of the Water Management Act 2000 which may authorise taking water not authorised by an access licence.

***3304 FOREIGN OWNERSHIP OF WATER**—Mrs Helen Dalton asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

- (1) Do Chinese state owned corporations hold water entitlements in New South Wales?
 - (a) If so, how much water (in gegalitres) do Chinese state corporations own?
- (2) Is there a limit on how much New South Wales water a foreign entity can own?
- (3) What mechanisms does the Government have in place to ensure Australia's national interest is not compromised when foreign entities buy water?

Answer—

Foreign investment in Australia is a matter for the Commonwealth Government, and is overseen by the foreign investment board and the Australian Taxation Office.

***3305 PUBLIC SECTOR EMPLOYMENT IN WOLLONGONG**—Mr Paul Scully asked the Premier—

- (1) How many public sector jobs are currently (as at 4 June 2020) in the:
 - (a) Wollongong electorate;
 - (b) Wollongong local government area?
- (2) What is the estimated total cost of the Government's wages freeze for public sector workers in:
 - (a) The Wollongong electorate;
 - (b) Wollongong local government area?
- (3) How many of the modeled 20,000 jobs mentioned in the Daily Telegraph on 28 May 2020 will be

created in:

- (a) The Wollongong electorate;
 - (b) Wollongong local government area?
- (4) What portion of the \$3 billion Infrastructure and Job Acceleration Fund announced on 31 May 2020 will be spent in the Wollongong local government area?
- (a) What projects will be undertaken with this funding?

Answer—

Questions in relation to this matter should be referred to the Treasurer.

*3306 WORKS ON SOUTH COAST LINE—Mr Paul Scully asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) What works have taken place on the South Coast Line since March 2011 (as at 4 June 2020)?
- (a) What is the cost of these works?

Answer—

I am advised:

Sydney Trains upgrades and maintains the South Coast Rail Line (from Waterfall to Bomaderry, including Port Kembla Line) in accordance with its annual maintenance plan, with an approximate spend of \$30 million per financial year.

As part of the More Trains, More Services program, a contract worth around \$300 million was awarded in May 2020 to Transport for Tomorrow, an Incentivised Delivery Entity involving Laing O'Rourke and KBR working with Transport for NSW to deliver projects between Mortdale and Kiama.

Projects include the Wollongong Stabling Yard, the Platform Extension project, and modifications to the existing Port Kembla stabling yard to support introduction of new

suburban and intercity trains. These critical works will enable Transport for NSW to deliver more frequent train services, with less wait times and a more comfortable journey, for customers on the T4 Illawarra, T8 Airport and South Coast lines.

Platform extensions at Coniston, Bellambi, Thirroul, Port Kembla and Kiama will make it easier for customers to board and alight New Intercity Fleet trains, while extensions of platforms 1 and 2 at Hurstville station have already been completed as part of the New Intercity Fleet Stations and Signalling Modifications project. The value of this work is within the \$2.8 billion budget for the New Intercity Fleet program.

Other enabling works to support New Intercity Fleet operation on the South Coast Line include minor modifications to stations, signalling, power, tracks and stabling yards.

Construction for the rail upgrades will begin in the middle of this year and be completed in advance of the service improvements, which are planned for late 2022. Once completed, it is anticipated there will be an extra off peak service each hour between Wollongong and the Sydney CBD, meaning a train every 30 minutes on average.

Also for South Coast customers, the Automatic Train Protection (ATP) project has installed trackside equipment comprising 1001 balises (ATP transponders mounted between the tracks) and 63 Lineside Electronic Units (interfacing with existing trackside signalling equipment) from the country end of Wollie Creek station on the Illawarra Main and Illawarra Local Lines, to Cronulla, Port Kembla and Kiama, including all sidings.

*3307 FINANCIAL LITERACY IN SCHOOL CURRICULUM—Mr Paul Scully asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) Does any of the New South Wales school curriculum content provide education in financial literacy?
- (a) If so, in which years of primary school and high school are these lessons taught?
 - (b) If not, why not?

Answer—

In New South Wales, all students undertake mandatory study of Mathematics from Kindergarten to Year 10. It is a requirement of the Mathematics K-10 syllabus that students develop financial literacy including knowledge, understanding and skills related to money, financial transactions, investments, and income.

In K-6, students progressively move from associating collections of Australian coins with their value, to performing simple calculations with money and solving simple purchasing problems, to applying the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) to money in real-life situations.

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In 7-10, students apply their knowledge of percentages, fractions and decimals to financial problems related to GST, discounts and profit and loss, earning and spending money, taxation, and simple and compound interest.

Mathematics is the most popular elective subject in the Higher School Certificate (HSC). Students develop knowledge, understanding and skills in areas such as earning and managing money, investing money, taxation and superannuation in the content of the Mathematics Standard and Mathematics Advanced syllabuses. The Government's Mathematics Strategy will also ensure that students who do not choose to study Mathematics in the HSC will instead undertake a new HSC Numeracy course, which focuses on practical numeracy applications for everyday life.

*3308 SMALL BUSINESS GRANT—Mr Paul Scully asked the Minister for Customer Service—

- (1) How many businesses located in the following postcodes have applied for the up to \$10,000 grants announced on 3 April 2020 (as at 1 June 2020):
 - (a) 2500;
 - (b) 2502;
 - (c) 2505;
 - (d) 2506;
 - (e) 2518;
 - (f) 2519;
 - (g) 2526;
 - (h) 2528?
- (2) How many businesses located in the following postcodes have been eligible for grants under the above program:
 - (a) 2500;
 - (b) 2502;
 - (c) 2505;
 - (d) 2506;
 - (e) 2518;
 - (f) 2519;
 - (g) 2526;
 - (h) 2528?
- (3) How many businesses located in the following postcodes have received grants under the above program:
 - (a) 2500;
 - (b) 2502;
 - (c) 2505;
 - (d) 2506;
 - (e) 2518;
 - (f) 2519;
 - (g) 2526;
 - (h) 2528?
- (4) What was the average amount of the grant in each of the following postcodes for grants received under the above program:
 - (a) 2500;
 - (b) 2502;
 - (c) 2505;
 - (d) 2506;
 - (e) 2518;
 - (f) 2519;
 - (g) 2526;
 - (h) 2528?
- (5) How many grant applications for businesses located in the following postcodes for the above grants program have yet to be assessed:
 - (a) 2500;
 - (b) 2502;
 - (c) 2505;
 - (d) 2506;
 - (e) 2518;
 - (f) 2519;

- (g) 2526;
- (h) 2528?
- (6) What is the average processing time for applications for grants under the above program?
- (7) How many businesses located in the Wollongong local government area have applied for the up to \$10,000 grants announced on 3 April 2020 (as at 1 June 2020)?
- (8) How many businesses located in the Wollongong local government area have been eligible for grants under the above program?
- (9) How many businesses located in the Wollongong local government area have received grants under the above program and what was the average amount of these grants?
- (10) How many grant applications for the above grants program or businesses located in the Wollongong local government are yet to be assessed?

Answer—

- (1) (a) 320
- (b) 50
- (c) 22
- (d) 12
- (e) 72
- (f) 79
- (g) 55
- (h) 41
- (2) Service NSW does not hold data for the number of eligible businesses.
- (3) (a) 224
- (b) 29
- (c) 17
- (d) 4
- (e) 52
- (f) 57
- (g) 39
- (h) 33
- (4) (a) \$9,803.71
- (b) \$9,968.75
- (c) \$9,681.82
- (d) \$10,000.00
- (e) \$9,758.31
- (f) \$9,632.05
- (g) \$9,432.81
- (h) \$10,000.00
- (5) (a) 79
- (b) 16
- (c) 5
- (d) 5
- (e) 20
- (f) 17
- (g) 13
- (h) 6

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(6) As at 1 June 2020, the average time to process an application for the \$10,000 small business COVID-19 support grant application in the postcodes listed in question (1) was 9 business days which includes customer's financial institution processing time for disbursement.

(7) There are 861 businesses located in the Wollongong local government area have applied for the small business grants (up to \$10,000) announced on 3 April 2020 (as at 1 June 2020).

(8) Service NSW does not hold data for the number of eligible businesses.

(9) There are 614 businesses located in the Wollongong local government area have received grants under the above program and the average amount of these grants is \$9,733.33.

(10) There are 227 grant applications for the above grants program or businesses located in the Wollongong local government are yet to be assessed.

*3309 ILLAWARRA WATER SECURITY PROJECT—Mr Paul Scully asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

(1) Which stakeholders have been engaged as part of the Illawarra Water Security project?

(a) When did these consultations take place?

(2) Will the detailed business case being developed for Infrastructure NSW be released to the public?

(a) If so, when?

Answer—

(1) Water NSW is undertaking preliminary investigations into water supply augmentation options in the Illawarra (desalination) to inform the Government's long-term water strategy. As part of this process WaterNSW has commenced early engagement with a range of stakeholders from October 2019 including:

- Department of Planning, Industry and Environment;
- NSW Treasury;
- Infrastructure NSW;
- Wollongong City Council;
- Illawarra Business Chamber;
- Port Authority of New South Wales;
- Aboriginal stakeholders.

(2) A decision to undertake a detailed business case is yet to be made.

*3310 SERVICE NSW CYBER ATTACK—Ms Sophie Cotsis asked the Minister for Customer Service—

(1) When will information regarding Service NSW's investigation into the cyber-attack discovered on 22 April 2020 be made publicly available?

(2) Will cyber-security procedures and protocols be updated to ensure timely reporting of cyber-security attacks?

Answer—

(1) and (2) Under the Cyber Security NSW policy, results of investigations into cyber security incidents are shared between agencies. They are generally not reported publicly as doing so exposes agencies to greater risk of attacks by cyber criminals exploiting a perceived weakness in agency systems.

Clusters and agencies across Government are focussed on uplifting against the Cyber Security Policy with continuous improvement against each of the five mandatory requirement categories, including the detection and response category.

In addition, the Premier announced \$240 million of the \$1.6 billion Digital Stimulus package would be reserved for programs to strengthen cyber security. With this funding, clusters will be better prepared to respond to expected increases in the frequency, extent and sophistication of cyber-attacks.

*3311 ARTISTIC AND CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS IN THE BANKSTOWN ELECTORATE—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Premier—

(1) Considering that the Government is proceeding with its \$1.5 billion relocation of the Powerhouse Museum, how much additional funding will be allocated to artistic and cultural institutions within the Bankstown electorate?

(2) Will there be additional funding for Bankstown Arts Centre?

Answer—

The premise of this question is inaccurate.

This question should now be directed to the Hon Don Harwin MLC who has resumed his responsibility as the Minister for the Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs and the Arts.

*3312 CONFIRMED COVID-19 CASES—Dr Marjorie O'Neill asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

Using the same age group breakdowns as used by NSW Health for COVID-19 confirmed cases, what is the age and gender breakdown for people tested for COVID-19?

Answer—

NSW Health reports on the number of tests notified instead of the number of people tested. This revised way of reporting provides a better picture of the testing conducted to detect the spread of COVID-19 in NSW.

The breakdown of tests is available by Local Health District and Local Government Area. Further information about testing is publicly available on the NSW Health website.

*3313 HAZARD REDUCTION MEASURES—Mr Paul Scully asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade—

(1) What are the Forestry Corporation's plans to conduct hazard reduction measures in state forests across New South Wales in preparation for the 2020 bushfire season?

(a) Will the Forestry Corporation increase its workforce to implement these hazard measures?

(i) If so, by how many?

(ii) If not, why not?

(b) Will the Forestry Corporation buy any new equipment to implement these hazard reduction measures?

(i) If so, what is the new equipment to be purchased?

(ii) If not, why not?

(2) What was the funding allocated for hazard reduction operations by the Forestry Corporation in each of the last four years (to 4 June 2020)?

Answer—

(1) Forestry Corporation develops and carries out hazard reduction burning in line with the priorities determined by local Bush Fire Management Committees, coordinated by the Rural Fire Service, and targets set by the Rural Fire Service as weather conditions allow. Forestry Corporation makes around 59,000 hectares of State forests available for grazing, which reduces fuel loads. It also continually maintains clear fire breaks across the State forest estate to reduce fire hazard by creating cleared areas between fire vulnerable assets and fire prone vegetation.

(a) Forestry Corporation's hazard reduction burning program is carried out by a combination of permanent and seasonal employees and Forestry Corporation ensures it retains sufficient staff and contractors for this work. The primary impediment to completing hazard reduction burns is weather conditions.

(b) No.

(i) Not applicable.

(ii) Forestry Corporation maintains a fleet of light vehicles, tankers and heavy plant for firefighting purposes and these vehicles are also used for hazard reduction activities. Forestry Corporation has made a significant investment in fleet upgrades in recent years, including \$10 million in 2018-19, to ensure the fleet is fit for purpose.

(2) Figures presented below are actual expenditure to 10 June 2020.

Operation	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20 (to date)
Fire Fighting	\$3,092,503	\$4,518,322	\$5,665,166	\$6,998,171	\$28,335,406
Fire Preparation	\$7,992,633	\$8,335,568	\$9,405,575	\$10,443,199	\$11,594,987
Hazard Reduction	\$955,380	\$840,828	\$936,034	\$1,611,869	\$755,804
Grand Total	\$11,970,515	\$13,694,718	\$16,006,775	\$19,053,240	\$40,686,197

*3314 SCHOOLS COMMUNITY USE AGREEMENTS—Ms Jo Haylen asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

(1) What is the total number of community use agreements between schools and:

(a) Community organisations;

(b) Local councils;

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- (c) For-profit companies?
- (2) How many community use agreements specifically relate to the shared use of green space in schools like that at Graham Green, Dulwich Hill?
- (3) What is the total amount of revenue raised in each financial year from 2015-16 to 2019-20 (as at 4 June 2020) by the Department of Education through community use agreements with:
- (a) Community organisations;
 - (b) Local councils;
 - (c) For-profit companies?
- (4) What support is provided by the Department of Education to school principals to manage community use agreements?

Answer—

(1) to (4)

Community use agreements are entered into and managed by individual school principals.

Principals can only support use of school facilities where it does not impact on school requirements and where the use is consistent with the Community Use of School Facilities policy.

The Community Users of School Facilities Selection Guide has been developed to assist school principals in selecting community users through a procurement process for all leases, licences and project deeds.

School principals may consult the Department's Legal Services for further advice.

The local Asset Management Unit provides principals with school asset-related support, including repairs, maintenance and cleaning of facilities.

*3315 SCHOOLS ROAD SAFETY SPENDING—Ms Jo Haylen asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) What is the total amount the Government has spent in each financial year from 2015-16 to 2019-20 (as at 4 June 2020) to:
- (a) Install flashing lights at schools;
 - (b) Employ crossing supervisors at schools;
 - (c) Build or upgrade pedestrian crossings on state or regional roads surrounding schools;
 - (d) Build footpaths around schools;
 - (e) Install signage or other road safety infrastructure around schools?

Answer—

I am advised:

Reducing road trauma is a key priority for the Government.

Children's road safety is one focus of working towards zero, and the Government has implemented a safe system within New South Wales school zones.

Transport for NSW has expended the following funds on school zone safety over the specified years:

2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20*	Total
\$32,647,000	\$27,738,597	\$25,635,500	\$24,224,000	\$27,823,000*	\$138,068,097

*2019/20 amount is the current financial year (and may change slightly).

The Government has also committed \$18.5 million to provide 300 additional school crossing supervisors in this term of government.

*3316 HOUSING ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS—Ms Jo Haylen asked the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services—

- (1) How many new applications for housing assistance have been made this year since 1 January 2020 (as at 4 June 2020)?
- (2) How many applications were lodged for housing assistance for the same period in each of the past five years (as at 4 June 2020)?
- (3) What additional resources have been provided to assess applications made since 1 January 2020 and the advent of the COVID-19 pandemic?

Answer—

I am advised information on the number of applicants on the NSW Housing register (including priority applicants) is available at <https://dcj.nsw.gov.au>. This information is published on a yearly basis with current data as at 30 June 2019.

The Government has invested more than \$70 million to support people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness during the pandemic.

On 8 June 2020 the Government announced \$36 million in new funding for the Together Home project, which will deliver housing and wrap around supports for hundreds of rough sleepers across the state.

Information on DCJ's eligibility criteria for social housing assistance is available at <https://www.dcj.nsw.gov.au>.

***3317 PUBLIC SCHOOLS DEEP CLEANING**—Ms Jo Haylen asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) What is the total amount the Government has spent on deep cleaning in public schools since the return to full-time face to face teaching on Monday 25 May 2020 (as at 4 June 2020)?
- (2) How many additional cleaners have been employed to conduct cleaning in public schools since the return to full-time face to face teaching on Monday 25 May 2020 (as at 4 June 2020)?
- (3) Has the Department of Education asked Parents and Citizens' associations to fund cleaning supplies or additional cleaning in public schools?

Answer—

- (1) Between Monday 25 May and Thursday 4 June 2020:
 - \$4,190,792 was spent on the additional 'enhanced' cleaning program, and
 - \$5,437,010 was spent on the additional 'day' or 'bathroom' cleaning program.
- (2) 1,239
- (3) No.

***3318 ARTS FUNDING**—Mr Tim Crakanthorp asked the Premier—

- (1) Is the Newcastle local government area (LGA) considered regional or metropolitan for arts funding programs?
- (2) What arts and cultural infrastructure funding programs are the following eligible for:
 - (a) Newcastle LGA;
 - (b) Newcastle Art Gallery?
- (3) What funding from the Arts and Cultural Development Program has been allocated to Newcastle projects?
- (4) How much money has the Newcastle Art Gallery received from the Government since 2011 (to 4 June 2020)?
- (5) How much money has the Art Gallery of NSW received from the Government since 2011 (to 4 June 2020)?
- (6) How much money did Create NSW spend outside of Sydney in each financial year from 2017-18 to 2019-20 (as at 4 June 2020)?
- (7) What was the total amount spent by Create NSW in each financial year from 2017-18 to 2019-20 (as at 4 June 2020)?
- (8) Since 2011, what arts grants funding has been provided by the Government (as at 4 June 2020)?
 - (a) For each of these grants:
 - (i) How much funding was provided?
 - (ii) Who was the recipient?
 - (iii) Where is the location and project description?

Answer—

This question should now be directed to the Hon Don Harwin MLC who has resumed his responsibility as the Minister for the Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs and the Arts.

***3319 COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS AND PLACES OF WORSHIP**—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

What support will be provided to places of religious worship within the Bankstown electorate to reopen safely and within current guidelines considering the easing of COVID-19 restrictions on 1 June 2020?

Answer—

Up to date information and guidance is available at nsw.gov.au/covid-19, including specific advice for

places of worship.

***3320 COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS AND JUNIOR SPORTING COMPETITIONS**—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans—

What extra support and funding will the Government make available to junior sporting clubs who resume competition on 1 July 2020 considering how junior competitions are heavily subsidised by adult community sporting competitions and that the lifting of restrictions on 1 July 2020 does not include these competitions?

Answer—

Junior and senior community sporting competitions can resume from 1 July 2020.

The Government has announced a \$27.3 million Community Sport Recovery Package to help the sector get back on its feet, including grants of up to \$1,000 to support up to 12,500 local sporting clubs and associations across the State. This is in addition to the \$127 million continued investment in the Active Kids program for 2020-21.

***3321 SPORTING FACILITIES FUNDING FOR BANKSTOWN**—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Premier—

What portion of the \$810 million for upgrades to ANZ Stadium under review will be redirected to upgrade sporting facilities within the Bankstown electorate?

Answer—

Questions relating to specific sporting infrastructure should be referred to the Acting Minister for Sport.

***3322 GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT PRACTICES**—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney—

Considering the COVID-19 related economic downturn, how will the Government overhaul its procurement practices to support jobs within the Bankstown electorate and help support the local economy?

Answer—

The Government recognises the substantial benefits that small businesses contribute to local economies, including Bankstown, by stimulating growth and providing employment opportunities to local residents.

The Government is committed to supporting Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and local businesses to supply to government and has implemented a range of initiatives, including:

- SME and Regional Procurement Policy
 - allows agencies to purchase up to \$10,000, from any supplier, including where a mandated whole-of-government arrangement is in place
 - allows agencies to buy directly from small businesses for values up to \$50,000, including where a mandated whole-of-government arrangement is in place
 - requires agencies to first consider engagement of regional businesses and SMEs for direct procurements up to \$250,000
 - for larger procurements over \$3 million, agencies must include a minimum 15% of the non-price evaluation criteria, which considers how the government's economic, ethical, environmental and social priorities will be supported, of which at least 10% must be allocated to SME participation
- Procurement Board Direction PBD 2019-03 Access to government construction procurement opportunities by small and medium sized enterprises
 - requires agencies to get a quotation from an SME for construction services valued up to \$1 million from whole of government prequalification schemes. Agencies are encouraged to apply this to all procurements of this value, and to encourage principal contractors for major construction activities to implement this direction.
- NSW Business Connect
 - is a dedicated and personalised Government program that provides trusted advice to support small businesses to start or grow and includes specialist procurement, digital and access to finance support.
- Industry Capability Network
 - provides supply chain services that bridge the information gap between buyers and sellers. ICN NSW works with local suppliers and project managers throughout the procurement

process to connect businesses to project opportunities and promote local industry capability and capacity.

*3323 COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS AND COMMUNITY SPORT—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans—

What support will be provided to community sporting organisations to ensure that they operate safely and within current guidelines so that our children are not put at an unnecessary risk considering the easing of COVID-19 restrictions on 1 July 2020?

Answer—

To support community sporting organisations return to play, the Government has developed COVID-19 Safety Plan checklists for indoor recreation facilities and community sport competitions to assist organisations to create and maintain a safe environment.

COVID-19 Safety Plans can be found here: <https://sport.nsw.gov.au/novel-coronavirus-covid-19>.

*3324 FINAL BUSINESS CASE FOR SYDNEY METRO CITY AND SOUTHWEST—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Premier—

(1) Has the public disclosure of the Sydney Metro and Southwest final business case, including the final financial model and benefit cost analysis for the Metro Southwest project been approved the Premier or Cabinet?

(a) If so, will it be published immediately?

(b) If not, why not?

Answer—

I refer you to the answer to LA Q3217.

*3325 COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS AND ADULT SPORTING COMPETITIONS—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans—

When will adult sporting competitions be allowed to resume, considering the easing of COVID-19 related restrictions?

Answer—

Junior and senior community sporting competitions can resume from 1 July 2020.

*3326 JOBS IN BANKSTOWN—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney—

What is the Government's plan for job creation within the Bankstown electorate, considering the economic impact of COVID-19?

Answer—

The Government is committed to creating and supporting jobs for the people of New South Wales. Jobs creation and retention measures in response to COVID-19 are intended to benefit businesses and communities across the whole state, including those in the Bankstown electorate. Strategies to create and retain jobs include:

- \$1 billion to support direct employment opportunities and retention through the Working for NSW fund.
- Fee-free childcare in community or mobile preschools, for up to six months, and financial support for 260 council childcare centres.
- Support for regional areas to fast-track vital infrastructure projects to help communities recover from the impacts of drought, bushfire and COVID-19.
- Additional resources to help communities upskill with free TAFE courses on subjects, including marketing, computer skills and accounting.

*3327 NEWCASTLE TRANSPORT BUS FLEET—Mr Tim Crakanthorp asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

(1) What is the average age of the Newcastle transport bus fleet (as at 4 June 2020)?

(2) How old is the oldest bus in the Newcastle Transport fleet (as at 4 June 2020)?

(3) What plans are there to purchase new buses for the fleet (as at 4 June 2020)?

Answer—

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I am advised:

- (1) The average age of the Newcastle Transport bus fleet is 10.8 years.
- (2) The oldest bus in the Newcastle Transport bus fleet is 24 years old.
- (3) The Newcastle Integrated Services (NIS) Contract provides for bus renewal with a minimum of 8 new buses per annum for the 10 year term. In addition, 3 growth buses were added to the fleet in 2019, in response to delivery of more bus services and increased frequency for specified routes.

*3328 COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT DIVERSION PROGRAM—Mr Tim Crakanthorp asked the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—

- (1) What have been the benefits of the Cognitive Impairment Diversion Program?
- (2) Has the Cognitive Impairment Diversion Program kept two thirds of its participants out of prison?
- (3) Are 26 per cent of participants in the program Indigenous?
- (4) Why will funding cease for the Cognitive Impairment Diversion Program on 30 June 2020?
- (5) Will the Government reconsider the decision to reduce funding to the Cognitive Impairment Diversion Program?
 - (a) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The two goals of the Cognitive Impairment Diversion Program (CIDP) pilot were:
 - Diverting people with a cognitive impairment from the criminal justice system under section 32 of the Mental Health (Forensic Provisions) Act 1990; and
 - Connecting people with the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and other services.

From the pilot's commencement in October 2017 to March 2020, 97 people received section 32 diversion orders and 219 people received support coordination. This includes 71 people being supported to access new NDIS support packages.

(2) It is not possible to determine how many people were diverted from prison due to their contact with CIDP. The program aimed to increase diversion from the justice system under Section 32 of the Mental Health (Forensic Provisions) Act 1990. Since the target group is made up of mainly low level offenders, it would be expected that only a small proportion of CIDP participants would have received a prison sentence, with or without contact with the program.

(3) Data available as of June 2020 showed that between October 2017 and March 2020, 26 per cent of clients who received support coordination in CIDP identified as Indigenous.

(4) and (5) I refer to my response to LA Q3067 and LA Q3138.

*3329 HOMELESSNESS IN NEWCASTLE—Mr Tim Crakanthorp asked the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services—

- (1) What portion of funding, as part of the additional funding to prevent homelessness announced on 17 March 2020, will be allocated to the Newcastle local government area?
 - (a) What projects will be funded?
 - (b) How many people are expected to be supported or assisted by these projects?

Answer—

The Government has taken action to prevent homelessness and protect people experiencing homelessness during COVID-19, including in the Newcastle region.

I am advised that more than 1,200 people who were sleeping rough in New South Wales were helped into temporary accommodation through the rapid expansion of assertive outreach to prevent the spread of COVID-19. More than 500 new households across New South Wales started to receive private rental subsidies through products like Start Safely and Rent Choice Youth.

The Government has invested more than \$70 million to support people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness during the pandemic.

On 8 June 2020 the NSW Government announced \$36 million in new funding for the Together Home project, which will deliver housing and wrap around supports for hundreds of rough sleepers across the state. I am advised that Compass Housing Services are delivering the Together Home project in Newcastle.

Information about organisations delivering specialist homelessness services in Newcastle is on the

Department of Communities and Justice website at dcj.nsw.gov.au.

*3330 KING EDWARD PARK—Mr Tim Crakanthorp asked the Premier—

- (1) Has the Heritage Council of New South Wales finished its consultation with the future land owners of part of the King Edward Park reserve?
 - (a) If not, when are these consultations expected to be completed?
- (2) When will consideration be given to the recommendation of the New South Wales Heritage Council which calls for the listing of the Newcastle Recreation Reserve 1, 1A, 3, 5A Ordinance Street, Newcastle on the State Heritage Register as required under section 34(1) of the Heritage Act 1997?

Answer—

I refer you to the answer to LA Q2253.

*3331 CARRAMAR TRAIN STATION EASY ACCESS UPGRADE—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

Will consideration be given to funding Easy Access Upgrades at Carramar Train Station in the Fairfield electorate in the NSW Budget 2020-21?

Answer—

I am advised:

While there are no current plans under the Transport Access Program for an accessibility upgrade at Carramar Station, the Government recognises that there is still a lot of work to go and remains committed to providing accessible, modern and integrated infrastructure across the New South Wales transport network.

The 2019-20 NSW Budget provides more than \$300 million to improve accessibility for rail customers, part of an \$885 million spend on the Transport Access Program over four years, taking the Government's total investment to over \$2 billion.

To date, the Government has more than 470 projects either completed or underway across New South Wales as part of the Transport Access Program. Approximately 90 per cent of customer journeys at Sydney metropolitan and intercity stations are currently accessible.

Fairfield and Cabramatta Stations are wheelchair accessible. An accessibility upgrade is scheduled for Birrong Station and Canley Vale Station, subject to planning approval. Both projects are expected to be complete in 2022.

Carramar Station will continue to be considered as a future project within the Transport Access Program.

*3332 YENNORA TRAIN STATION EASY ACCESS UPGRADE—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

Will consideration be given to funding Easy Access Upgrades at Yennora Train Station in the Fairfield electorate in the NSW Budget 2020-21?

Answer—

I am advised:

While there are no current plans under the Transport Access Program for an accessibility upgrade at Yennora Station, the Government recognises that there is still a lot of work to go and remains committed to providing accessible, modern and integrated infrastructure across the New South Wales transport network.

The 2019-20 NSW Budget provides more than \$300 million to improve accessibility for rail customers, part of an \$885 million spend on the Transport Access Program over four years, taking the Government's total investment to over \$2 billion.

To date, the Government has more than 470 projects either completed or underway across New South Wales as part of the Transport Access Program. Approximately 90 per cent of customer journeys at Sydney metropolitan and intercity stations are currently accessible.

Merrylands, Guildford and Fairfield stations are wheelchair accessible. As part of the Transport Access Program, accessibility upgrades have been delivered at Harris Park Station. Subject to planning approval, an accessibility upgrade is scheduled for Canley Vale Station. The project is expected to be complete in 2022.

Yennora Station will continue to be considered as a future project within the Transport Access Program.

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*3333 VILLAWOOD TRAIN STATION EASY ACCESS UPGRADE—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

Will consideration be given to funding Easy Access Upgrades at Villawood Train Station in the Fairfield electorate in the NSW Budget 2020-21?

Answer—

I am advised:

While there are no current plans under the Transport Access Program for an accessibility upgrade at Villawood Station, the Government recognises that there is still a lot of work to go and remains committed to providing accessible, modern and integrated infrastructure across the New South Wales transport network.

The 2019-20 NSW Budget provides more than \$300 million to improve accessibility for rail customers, part of an \$885 million spend on the Transport Access Program over four years, taking the Government's total investment to over \$2 billion.

To date, the Government has more than 470 projects either completed or underway across New South Wales as part of the Transport Access Program. Approximately 90 per cent of customer journeys at Sydney metropolitan and intercity stations are currently accessible.

Fairfield and Cabramatta Stations are wheelchair accessible. An accessibility upgrade is scheduled for Birrong Station and Canley Vale Station, subject to planning approval. Both projects are expected to be complete in 2022.

Villawood Station will continue to be considered as a future project within the Transport Access Program.

*3334 ABORIGINAL CHILD, FAMILY AND COMMUNITY CARE STATE SECRETARIAT FUNDING—Ms Jo Haylen asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) What projects conducted by the Aboriginal Child, Family and Community Care State Secretariat (AbSec) will cease to be funded by the Government in June 2020?
- (2) What proportion of AbSec's total funding from the Government will this cut in funding represent?
- (3) When was AbSec informed that these projects would no longer be funded?
- (4) Will the Minister acknowledge the importance of these projects and restore funding as a matter of priority?

Answer—

This question should be directed to the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services, the Hon Gareth Ward MP.

*3335 VOLUME OF COVID-19 INQUIRIES—Ms Jo Haylen asked the Minister for Customer Service—

- (1) How many inquiries related to COVID-19 have been made to the Service NSW hotline since the advent of the pandemic (as at 4 June 2020)?
- (2) How many inquiries related to COVID-19 have been made to the Translating and Interpreting Services hotline since the advent of the pandemic (as at 4 June 2020)?
- (3) How many inquiries related to COVID-19 have been made via the COVID-19 assistance finder since the advent of the pandemic (as at 4 June 2020)?

Answer—

- (1) Service NSW has answered 123,128 calls to the 13 77 88 phone number related to COVID-19 (as at 4 June 2020).
- (2) Service NSW does not capture this information.
- (3) 8,157 (as at 4 June 2020).

*3336 POLICE OFFICERS AVERAGE TIME IN PROFESSION—Ms Liesl Tesch asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—

What is the average time spent working in the profession for a police officer entering the workforce (as at 4 June 2020)?

Answer—

I am advised:

The NSW Police Force (NSWPF) does not have a standard methodology to measure the average time in the profession.

*3337 EDUCATION STAFF AVERAGE TIME IN PROFESSION—Ms Liesl Tesch asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) What is the average time spent working in the profession for a teacher entering the workforce (as at 4 June 2020)?
- (2) What has been the progress on ensuring that every public high school in New South Wales has a full-time counselor or psychologist and one student support officer (as at 4 June 2020)?

Answer—

1. The average length of service for NSW Department of Education teachers is 14.3 years as at June 2019. Source: Workforce Profile June 2019

2. The election commitment provides funding for up to 100 additional school counselling positions to be phased in over four years so that every public high school will receive a full-time school counselling allocation, with 25 positions recruited in 2020/21, 50 positions in 2021/22 and 25 positions in 2022/23.

The Department is on track to deliver on this commitment and has already recruited 23.4 of the first 25 school counselling positions. Recruitment action for the remaining two positions for 2020/21 has commenced.

The election commitment also provides funding for up to 350 additional student support officer positions for NSW public high schools, to be phased in over three years from 2020/21 to 2022/23. Recruitment for the first phase of student support officer positions has commenced. These positions were advertised on 25 May 2020 with a closing date of 8 June 2020. Successful applicants will commence duty from the beginning of Term 3, 2020.

*3338 NURSES AVERAGE TIME IN PROFESSION—Ms Liesl Tesch asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

What is the average time spent working in the profession for a nurse entering the workforce (as at 4 June 2020)?

Answer—

The average service length of current permanent nursing staff as of May 2020 is over 10 years.

*3339 INDIGENOUS EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT—Ms Liesl Tesch asked the Premier—

- (1) How many children of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander background, under the care of the Government, are housed with Indigenous families (as at 4 June 2020)?
- (2) What percentage of those employed by the Department of Communities and Justice are of an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander background (as at 4 June 2020)?
- (3) What percentage of students with an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander background in New South Wales are completing (as at 4 June 2020):
 - (a) Year 10;
 - (b) Year 11;
 - (c) Year 12;
 - (d) TAFE courses;
 - (e) University degrees;
 - (f) A mature-age qualification?

Answer—

This question should now be directed to the Hon Don Harwin MLC who has resumed his responsibility as the Minister for the Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs and the Arts.

*3340 GENETIC PSYCHOLOGISTS—Ms Jenny Aitchison asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

- (1) How many genetic psychologists are currently employed in New South Wales disaggregated by Local Government Area (LGA) (as at 4 June 2020)?
 - (a) How many of these are employed, disaggregated by Local Government Area, on a:
 - (i) Part-time basis;
 - (ii) Full-time basis?
- (2) What is the wait time for patients to see a genetic psychologist, disaggregated by Local Government

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Area (as at 4 June 2020)?

- (3) When did the Department last review the number of genetic psychologists across New South Wales?
 - (a) How often are reviews conducted?
 - (b) Who reviews the results?
- (4) Are programs available to encourage people to consider a career as a genetic psychologist?
 - (a) If so:
 - (i) What are the details of these programs?
 - (ii) How much funding have they received in each financial year from 2010-11 to 2018-19?

Answer—

(1 and (2) I am advised NSW Health does not hold the data requested.

(3) and (4) NSW Health completed a review of the NSW Health Genetic Counsellor Workforce in February 2017. The report is publicly available on the NSW Health website.

Information on careers in human genetics and related fields is available on the NSW Health Map my Health Career website and on the Human Genetics Society of Australia (HGSA) website.

*3341 GENETIC COUNSELLORS—Ms Jenny Aitchison asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

- (1) How many genetic counsellors are currently employed in New South Wales, disaggregated by Local Government Area (LGA) (as at 4 June 2020)?
 - (a) How many of these are employed, disaggregated by Local Government Area, on a:
 - (i) Part-time basis;
 - (ii) Full-time basis?
- (2) What is the wait time for patients to see a genetic counsellor, disaggregated by Local Government Area (as at 4 June 2020)?
- (3) When did the Department last review the number of genetic counsellors across New South Wales?
 - (a) How often are reviews conducted?
 - (b) Who reviews the results?
- (4) Are programs available to encourage people to consider a career as a genetic counsellor?
 - (a) If so:
 - (i) What are the details of these programs?
 - (ii) How much funding have they received in each financial year from 2010-11 to 2018-19?

Answer—

(1) and (2) I am advised NSW Health does not hold the data requested.

(3) and (4) I refer the Member to the response to LA Q3340.

*3342 ARTIFICIAL AERATION DEVICES—Ms Jenny Aitchison asked the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—

- (1) How many artificial aeration devices have been installed under the Government's \$10 million Native Fish Rescue Strategy (as at 4 June 2020)?
 - (a) What is the location of each artificial aeration device?
 - (b) How long will the artificial aeration devices be left in each area for?
 - (c) Are checks and testing conducted on the artificial aeration devices once installed?
 - (i) If so, how often are they conducted?
 - (ii) If not, why not?
- (2) Has signage been installed to advise people of the changes?
- (3) Has an education campaign been implemented?
 - (a) If so:
 - (i) What does it consist of?
 - (ii) Are any particular groups targeted in the campaign?
 - (iii) How has the campaign been rolled out?
- (4) Have infringements been issued for people fishing within the banned areas where the artificial aeration devices are located (as at 4 June 2020)?
 - (a) If so:
 - (i) How many?

- (ii) In which locations were the infringements issued?
- (5) Have cautions been given to people fishing within the banned areas where the artificial aeration devices are located (as at 4 June 2020)?
- (a) If so:
- (i) How many?
- (ii) In which locations were the infringements issued?

Answer—

Forty-seven artificial aeration devices were installed during high risk periods as part of the Drought Response program.

Devices were installed within the Lower Darling and Menindee Lakes system, the Macquarie River in Warren weir pool, Gin Gin weir pool and multiple locations downstream of Warren Town weir, the Peel River (Upper Namoi catchment), Lake Keepit and in Mannus Lake (Upper Murray catchment).

All aerators have regular operational checks and water quality data is collected from numerous sites adjacent to the aerators to ensure they are operating effectively.

Signage has been installed to advise people of fishing closures around the devices.

Fisheries Officers conducted education actions with recreational fishers angling within the vicinity of aerators following the implementation of the closure. All individuals complied with the regulations following these discussions and no infringement notices have been issued.

*3343 NATIVE FISH RESCUE STRATEGY—Ms Jenny Aitchison asked the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—

- (1) How much of the \$10 million Native Fish Rescue Strategy has been spent on relocating native fish across regional waterways (as at 4 June 2020)?
- (a) How many fish have been relocated, disaggregated by species?
- (b) How many fish were deceased, disaggregated by species and location?
- (i) What were the causes of death, if known?
- (ii) How were the deceased fish disposed of?
- (2) How often is water testing conducted in the relocation areas?
- (a) On what dates was the testing conducted (to 4 June 2020)?
- (b) Who conducts the water quality testing?
- (c) Are results publicly available?
- (i) If so, where?
- (ii) If not, why not?
- (3) How many dedicated fish teams that conduct rescue operations were there for each calendar year from 1 January 2011 to 1 January 2020?
- (4) How many recreational fishing clubs has the Government partnered with to address the fish kill problem?
- (a) Which fishing clubs were they?
- (b) How often does engagement with recreational fishing clubs occur?
- (5) Which, if any, Government owned hatcheries were used in the Native Fish Rescue Strategy?
- (6) How many private hatcheries has the Government partnered with?
- (a) Which private hatcheries has the Government partnered with?

Answer—

\$1,196,000 has been spent on rescue, relocation and care of native fish species as at 4 June. 5,116 fish have been rescued as part of the program. Figures for individual species are as follows:

Fish species	Number rescued
Olive Perchlet	1,630
Murray cod	1,089
Southern Pygmy Perch	740
Golden Perch	720
Oxleyan Pygmy Perch	292
Australian Bass	168
Stocky Galaxias	143

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Southern Purple Spotted Gudgeon	107
Eastern Freshwater Cod	98
Silver Perch	79
Eel-tailed Catfish	34
Macquarie Perch	10
Bony Bream	2
Carp-Gudgeon	2
Un-speckled Hardyhead	2

A total of 404 fish died during either capture or transfer, including:

Southern Pygmy Perch	200
Golden Perch	38
Olive Perchlet	121
Murray cod	30
Oxleyan Pygmy Perch	3
Eastern Freshwater Cod	8
Silver Perch	1
Stocky Galaxias	1

While cause of death varied, the majority were stress-related issues associated with drought, poor water quality and a lack of fitness. Fish under stress are far more susceptible to disease. Deceased fish are disposed through accredited biological waste protocols.

Water quality testing is carried out by WaterNSW at relocation sites associated with artificial aeration assets. The frequency of testing varies from site to site.

For the recent drought response operations, DPI formed rescue teams based out of the Narrandera, Grafton and Port Stephens Fisheries Centres. These teams were supported by technicians and Fisheries staff from Buronga, Dubbo, Albury, Queanbeyan, Tamworth, Armidale, Port Stephens, Coffs Harbour, Ebor, Nowra, Batemans Bay and Sydney.

NSW DPI provided permits, resources or support to 12 angling clubs who assisted with the rescue and relocation efforts. Participating angling clubs included members of OzFish Chapters in Tenterfield, Tamworth, Dubbo and Sunraysia (Buronga/Mildura); the Inland Waterways Rejuvenation Association (Dubbo), Bingara Angling Club, Pilliga Fishing Club, Wee Waa Fishing Club, Narrabri Fishing Club, Southern Bass and two affiliated groups of anglers in the Lower Darling who provided relocation assistance.

The Government used hatcheries at Narrandera, Port Stephens, Grafton and Gaden to house rescued fish as well as staff from the Dutton hatchery to assist with the rescue activities. Six private hatcheries were also used, including:

- Narrabri Fish Farm;
- Snobs Creek Hatchery;
- Murray Cod Australia;
- Bingara Fishing Club hatchery;
- Murray Darling Fisheries;
- Uarah Fish Hatchery.

*3344 GENETIC TESTING LOCAL HEALTH DISTRICTS—Ms Jenny Aitchison asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

- (1) Which genetic conditions are eligible for genetic testing in New South Wales?
 - (a) For each eligible condition, is there a wait list for patients wanting to be tested?
 - (i) If so, how long is the delay, disaggregated by condition?
- (2) Are Local Health Districts provided funding for genetic testing?
 - (a) If so, what is the amount of funding each Local Health District received for genetic testing for each financial year from 2010-11 to 2018-19, disaggregated by Local Health District?
- (3) Do all Local Health Districts offer access to testing for the same conditions or does it vary between Local Health Districts?
 - (a) If it varies:
 - (i) How does the testing for conditions vary?

(ii) Who determines for which conditions testing is available?

(4) Which genetic tests require an out of pocket contribution?

Answer—

NSW Health Pathology genomics services are available for all New South Wales patients with genetic conditions requiring testing. Services are accessed via referral from a general practitioner or other medical specialist.

Local health districts and networks are funded based on the volume of services they provide to patients. Each district and network determines and delivers services which best suit the needs of their local population.

Out of pocket contributions may be required for genetic tests which do not meet the Commonwealth Government's criteria for reimbursement under the Medicare Benefits Schedule.

*3345 GROUNDWATER EXTRACTION FACILITIES IN RURAL AREAS—Ms Janelle Saffin asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

Considering the Tweed Shire Council amended its Local Environmental Plan 2014 to ban new groundwater extraction facilities in rural areas (RU2 zone), will the Government follow suit by introducing legislation to curb any future expansion of the bottled water industry statewide, thereby protecting our finite water resources for domestic and farm use only?

Answer—

The Water Management Act 2000 and associated water sharing plans do not discriminate between different industry types accessing water. The objective of these legal instruments is to manage the impact of extraction (and any associated works or bores) on the water resource, connected water sources, dependent ecosystems, and on neighbouring authorised extraction.

*3346 BONDI JUNCTION BUS INTERCHANGE SAFETY—Dr Marjorie O'Neill asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

Considering that a number of bus services that did not previously terminate at Bondi Junction now do, what is the Government doing to ensure pedestrian safety and efficiency at the Bondi Junction bus interchange?

Answer—

I am advised:

This is a matter for the Local Council.

*3347 LINNWOOD ESTATE—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

(1) Has the Government sold any parcels of land from the Linnwood Estate since 2015 (as at 4 June 2020)?

(a) If so:

(i) How much land has been sold?

(ii) When was it sold?

(iii) What were the total proceeds from these sales?

(2) How much funding has been provided to Linnwood House for renovation and restoration works in each year since 2015 (as at 4 June 2020)?

Answer—

I am advised:

Since 2015, Crown Lands has not sold any land in the Linnwood Estate which is under the care and control of the Cumberland City Council, as the appointed Crown land manager. Questions about funding should be directed to Cumberland City Council as Crown land manager.

*3348 NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT FUNDS—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

(1) Considering the response to Supplementary Question 220 of Budget Estimates that the Commonwealth funding to be received by New South Wales as part of the National Partnership Agreement was delayed, when was the following funding received:

(a) \$9.4 million for the 2016-17 reporting period, which was not received in financial year 2017-18?

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- (b) \$9.4 million for the 2018-19 reporting period?
- (2) Was the \$9.4 million for the 2017-18 reporting period received when it was scheduled to be received?
- (a) If so, when was this?

Answer—

- (1) (a) This payment was not received.
- (b) In the 2019-20 financial year.
- (2) This payment was made in the 2018-19 financial year.

*3349 WATER FUNDING ALLOCATIONS—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

- (1) What locations are the following funding allocations for that are included in the Department of Planning Industry and Environment - Water response to Budget Estimates Supplementary Question 174:
- (a) Other rural user pre-approval Water Carting \$100,000;
- (b) Water Quality works - \$3,907,000;
- (c) Groundwater sourcing and treatment options - \$4,000,000;
- (d) Additional bore capacity and pipeline - \$2,000,000;
- (e) Groundwater Augmentation - \$1,000,000;
- (f) Groundwater Investigation - \$1,000,000;
- (g) Groundwater Supply System - \$500,000?
- (2) Which of the initiatives in question (1):
- (a) Have commenced;
- (b) Have been finalised;
- (c) Remain ongoing?
- (3) Have any of the above initiatives been cancelled?
- (4) Is there information on these initiatives that is publicly available through a website, annual report or document?

Answer—

- (1) The listed initiatives relate to the following locations:

Initiative name	Location	Owner	Value
Other rural user pre-approval – Water Carting	Various locations	Not applicable	\$100,000
Water Quality works	Drought impacted regulated rivers	WaterNSW	\$3,907,000
Groundwater sourcing and treatment options	Tenterfield	Tenterfield Shire Council	\$4,000,000
Additional bore capacity and pipeline	Bourke	Bourke Shire Council	\$2,000,000
Groundwater Augmentation	Warren	Warren Shire Council	\$1,000,000
Groundwater Investigation	Armidale	Armidale Regional Council	\$1,000,000
Groundwater Supply System	Glen Innes	Glen Innes Severn Council	\$500,000

- (2) The table below contains the status of each of the listed initiatives:

Initiative name	Owner	Status
Other rural user pre-approval – Water Carting	Not applicable	Project Closed
Water Quality works	WaterNSW	Active
Groundwater sourcing and treatment options	Tenterfield Shire Council	Active

Additional bore capacity and pipeline	Bourke Shire Council	Active
Groundwater Augmentation	Warren Shire Council	Active
Groundwater Investigation	Armidale Regional Council	Complete
Groundwater Supply System	Glen Innes Severn Council	Active

(3) The "Other rural user pre-approval – Water Carting" initiative has been closed.

This initiative has been replaced by a broader water carting rebate scheme managed by ServiceNSW.

(4) Information about the emergency relief for regional town water supplies provided as a part of the NSW Government's Drought Response can be found on the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's public website, via an interactive map. See: <https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water/waterutilities/technical-assistance/emergency>.

*3350 TOORALE STATION—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Energy and Environment—

- (1) What is the quantum of funds available to the National Parks and Wildlife Service for water diversion and water holding works at Toorale Station?
- (2) Are the proposals publicly available for the following dams:
 - (a) 12 Mile;
 - (i) If so, where can the proposal be found?
 - (ii) If not, why not?
 - (b) Booka;
 - (i) If so, where can the proposal be found?
 - (ii) If not, why not?
 - (c) Keernie;
 - (i) If so, where can the proposal be found?
 - (ii) If not, why not?
 - (d) Dicks;
 - (i) If so, where can the proposal be found?
 - (ii) If not, why not?
 - (e) Peebles?
 - (i) If so, where can the proposal be found?
 - (ii) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised that:

(1) In 2008, the Government acquired the Toorale property for its outstanding cultural and natural values and water entitlements.

At the time of purchase, New South Wales entered into a funding agreement with the Commonwealth Government. As part of the agreement, \$9.24 million is being provided to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment and National Parks and Wildlife Service for the modification, removal or decommissioning of water infrastructure on Toorale. These modifications will improve environmental water delivery and fish passage.

(2) Full details of the proposal for the Toorale Water Infrastructure Project, including proposals for Boera, Booka, Keernie (Homestead), and Peebles dams can be found on the project website www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/water/water-for-the-environment/planning-and-reporting/toorale-water-infrastructure-project. (The Peebles dam has already been removed.)

The proposals have been developed in consultation with adjoining and downstream landholders, representatives of the Kurnu-Baarkandji Aboriginal community, consultant experts and local, state and federal agency technical officers.

*3351 ARTS GRANTS IN THE CESSNOCK ELECTORATE—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Premier—

- (1) Since 1 July 2011, how many individuals or groups (excluding local councils) in the Cessnock electorate have received grants funding for arts related projects, events, performances or construction (to 4 June 2020)?
 - (a) What is the total annual value in each year from 2011 to 2020 (to 4 June 2020)?
 - (b) What is the average value for each grant recipient?

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- (2) Since 1 July 2011, how many local councils in the Cessnock electorate have received grants funding for arts related projects, events, performances or construction (to 4 June 2020)?
 (a) What is the total annual value in each year from 2011 to 2020 (to 4 June 2020)?
 (b) What is the average value for each grant recipient?

Answer—

This question should now be directed to the Hon Don Harwin MLC who has resumed his responsibility as the Minister for the Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs and the Arts.

*3352 NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT PAYMENTS—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

- (1) When were the following payment amounts due to New South Wales under the National Partnership Agreement on Implementing Water Reform in the Murray-Darling Basin received:
 (a) \$3,481,462 due in the 2012-13 financial year;
 (b) \$11,568,609 due in the 2013-14 financial year;
 (c) \$14,624,291 due in the 2014-15 financial year;
 (d) \$12,883,561 due in the 2015-16 financial year;
 (e) \$9,402,099 due in the 2016-17 financial year;
 (f) \$9,402,099 due in the 2017-18 financial year;
 (g) \$9,402,099 due in the 2018-19 financial year?

Answer—

- (1) (a) In the 2013-14 financial year.
 (b) In the 2013-14 financial year.
 (c) In the 2014-15 financial year.
 (d) In the 2015-16 financial year.
 (e) In the 2016-17 financial year.
 (f) Payment not received.
 (g) In the 2018-19 financial year.

*3353 COMMERCIAL SUPPLY OF MEDICAL AND HYGIENE PRODUCTS—Mr Tim Crakanthorp asked the Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney—

- (1) How many businesses located in the Newcastle local government area are registered to provide medical equipment and hygiene products following the Government's call to action on 1 April 2020 (as at 4 June 2020)?
 (2) How many businesses located in the Newcastle local government area were contacted about their registration and expression of interest in supplying medical equipment and hygiene products (as at 4 June 2020)?
 (3) How many businesses located in the Newcastle local government area were considered to have a suitable proposal (as at 4 June 2020)?
 (4) How many businesses located in the Newcastle local government area have been offered supply agreements or contracts (as at 4 June 2020)?
 (a) How many have entered into supply agreements and contracts as a result of their registration with the Government (as at 4 June 2020)?
 (b) For businesses not offered supply agreements or contracts, what are the reasons for this?
 (c) What products will be supplied as a result of these contracts or supply agreements?
 (5) How many businesses in New South Wales are registered to provide medical equipment and hygiene products following the Government's call to action on 1 April 2020 (as at 4 June 2020)?
 (6) How many businesses in New South Wales were contacted about their registration and expression of interest in supplying medical equipment and hygiene products (as at 4 June 2020)?
 (7) How many businesses in New South Wales were considered to have a suitable proposal (as at 4 June 2020)?
 (8) How many businesses in New South Wales have been offered supply agreements or contracts (as at 4 June 2020)?
 (a) How many have entered into supply agreements and contracts as a result of their registration with the Government (as at 4 June 2020)?
 (b) For businesses not offered supply agreements or contracts, what are the reasons for this?
 (c) What products will be supplied as a result of these contracts or supply agreements?

Answer—

- (1) 19.
- (2) 19.
- (3) Two businesses from the Newcastle local government area were referred to the Whole of Government Procurement Group as they were able to meet the scale, timeframes and appropriate approvals for supplies required. Nine businesses from the Newcastle local government area have been listed on the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Supplies Portal for Industry and the Community.
- (4) The Government placed approximately 100 orders from 50 businesses in an effort to stabilise the State's PPE supplies. Decisions made by Whole of Government Procurement Group were based on the supplier being able to supply product in significant quantities, to urgent timeframes that, could meet required Australian government specifications and standards.
- (5) 1,475.
- (6) 1,475.
- (7) 87 companies from New South Wales were referred to the Whole of Government Procurement Group. 696 New South Wales companies have been listed on the PPE Supplies Portal for Industry and the Community.
- (8) Refer to (4).
 - (a) 15 from New South Wales.
 - (b) Decisions made by Whole of Government Procurement Group were based on the supplier being able to supply product in significant quantities, to urgent timeframes that, could meet required Australian government specifications and standards.
 - (c) Handwash, Hand Sanitiser, Paper based products, Masks, Gloves, and Disinfectant.

*3354 SMALL BUSINESS GRANTS—Mr Tim Crakanthorp asked the Minister for Customer Service—

- (1) How many businesses located in the following postcodes have applied for the small business grant of up to \$10,000 from the program announced on 3 April 2020 (as at 4 June 2020):
 - (a) 2289;
 - (b) 2291;
 - (c) 2292;
 - (d) 2293;
 - (e) 2294;
 - (f) 2295;
 - (g) 2296;
 - (h) 2297;
 - (i) 2298;
 - (j) 2299;
 - (k) 2300;
 - (l) 2302;
 - (m) 2303;
 - (n) 2304;
 - (o) 2305?
- (2) How many businesses located in the postcodes listed in (1) have been eligible for the small business grant of up to \$10,000 from the program announced on 3 April 2020?
- (3) How many businesses located in the postcodes listed in (1) have received grants for the small business grant of up to \$10,000 from the program announced on 3 April 2020?
- (4) What was the average amount of the grant in each of the postcodes listed in (1)?
- (5) How many grant applications for businesses located in each of the postcodes listed in (1) have yet to be assessed?
- (6) What is the average processing time for applications for grants under the program in (1)?
- (7) How many businesses in each of the postcodes listed in (1) were ineligible because they did not employ anyone?
- (8) How many individuals or businesses have had licence and permit fees waived in each of the postcodes listed in (1)?
- (9) What is the total value of licence and permit fee waivers by the Government in response to COVID-19 in each of the postcodes listed in (1)?

Answer—

- (1) (a) 102

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- (b) 87
- (c) 47
- (d) 33
- (e) 18
- (f) 18
- (g) 17
- (h) 16
- (i) 22
- (j) 39
- (k) 187
- (l) 57
- (m) 78
- (n) 75
- (o) 44

(2) Service NSW does not hold data on eligible businesses.

(3)

Postcode	Total
2289	72
2291	64
2292	37
2293	20
2294	11
2295	14
2296	13
2297	13
2298	20
2299	27
2300	138
2302	34
2303	50
2304	50
2305	35

(4)

Postcode	Payment Initiated
2289	\$9,736.10
2291	\$9,828.10
2292	\$9,978.40
2293	\$10,000.00
2294	\$10,000.00
2295	\$10,000.00
2296	\$10,000.00
2297	\$9,096.20

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2298	\$9,550.00
2299	\$9,910.71
2300	\$9,947.80
2302	\$9,838.20
2303	\$9,902.00
2304	\$9,951.80
2305	\$9,625.70
Total	\$9,824.10

(5)

Postcode	Total
2289	22
2291	16
2292	6
2293	8
2294	4
2295	3
2296	3
2297	1
2298	1
2299	5
2300	33
2302	15
2303	22
2304	19
2305	5
Total	165

(6) As at 4 June 2020, the average time to process an application for the \$10,000 small business grant for the postcodes listed in question (1) is 9 business days, which includes customer's financial institution processing time for disbursement.

(7) The online application process does not allow businesses to submit an application where they have no employees.

(8) and (9)

Postcode	How many individuals or businesses have had licence and permit fees waived	Value of licence and permit fee waivers
(a) 2289	69	\$25,002.75
(b) 2291	107	\$42,559.00
(c) 2292	26	\$13,096
(d) 2293	25	\$19,618.00
(e) 2294	16	\$10,636.00
(f) 2295	50	\$4,941.00
(g) 2296	10	\$20,475.00

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(h) 2297	6	\$1,400.00
(i) 2298	37	\$19,433.00
(j) 2299	49	\$12,889.00
(k) 2300	173	\$149,497.00
(l) 2302	23	\$28,849.00
(m) 2303	71	\$60,905.00
(n) 2304	70	\$24,845.00
(o) 2305	66	\$27,947.00

*3355 SOCIAL HOUSING MAINTENANCE—Mr Tim Crakanthorp asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

- (1) How many properties will have maintenance works carried out as a result of bringing forward social housing maintenance announced on 17 March 2020?
- (2) How many properties in the Newcastle electorate will have maintenance works carried out as a result of bringing forward social housing maintenance announced on 17 March 2020?
 - (a) What is the expected cost of these maintenance activities?
- (3) How many properties in the Newcastle local government area will have maintenance works carried out as a result of bringing forward social housing maintenance announced on 17 March 2020?
 - (a) What is the expected cost of these maintenance activities?

Answer—

The Government has allocated \$47 million to the NSW Land and Housing Corporation for accelerated maintenance and repairs to social housing assets across NSW, as part of the Health and Economic Stimulus Packages.

The Government has also allocated \$12 million to the NSW Land and Housing Corporation for enhanced cleaning of social housing assets as part of these Health and Economic Stimulus Packages.

The activities are planned on a priority and ability-to-deliver basis, and projects are at various stages of commencement and completion. As at 11 June 2020, there were 15 work orders issued in the Newcastle State Electorate, and 35 work orders issued in the Newcastle Local Government Area.

The Government's economic stimulus packages are aimed at keeping people in jobs, helping businesses and supporting our most vulnerable during the COVID-19 pandemic. Further information is available at www.treasury.nsw.gov.au/Covid-19Stimulus.

*3356 EMERGENCY SERVICES LEVY FUNDNG STRATEGIES—Ms Janelle Saffin asked the Treasurer—

What considerations are being given to alternate funding strategies for fire and emergency services separate to the Emergency Services Levy, considering the levy will cost ratepayers in small rate base councils like Kyogle over \$500,000 each year in future years?

Answer—

Councils are required to contribute towards emergency services funding under the Fire and Rescue NSW Act 1989, State Emergency Service Act 1989 and the Rural Fires Act 1997, all of which fall under the responsibility of the Minister for Police and Emergency Services.

In 2019-20 the Government provided \$13.6 million to fund the increase to New South Wales councils' ESL contribution to pay for the expansion of workers' compensation arrangements for firefighters diagnosed with work-related cancer. The Government has since announced that it will also provide \$32.76 million to fully fund the increase in ESL for all New South Wales councils for the 2020-21 tax year.

The Government continues to explore ways we can reduce the tax burden for New South Wales, including taking a proactive part in the broader national conversation about tax reform.

*3357 BRIDGES OVER SYDNEY WATER PIPELINES IN FAIRFIELD AND CUMBERLAND—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

- (1) Has Sydney Water provided any correspondence with Fairfield City Council or Cumberland Council concerning the maintenance of bridges which are located above Sydney Water pipelines?

(a) If so, has any of this correspondence outlined provisions concerning safe pedestrian access?

Answer—

1. Sydney Water has not provided any recent correspondence with Fairfield City or Cumberland Councils regarding bridge maintenance over Sydney Water pipelines.

*3358 PIPELINE FROM PROSPECT TO GUILDFORD MAINTENANCE WORKS—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

(1) What maintenance works have been undertaken on the Sydney Water Supply Pipeline, which travels from Prospect to Guildford, over the past year (as at 4 June 2020)?

(a) Were any major faults or leaks reported on this pipeline?

Answer—

1. There are two above-ground pipelines traveling from Prospect to Guildford. The pipelines are inspected monthly, to check their condition and identify any leaking joints with appropriate maintenance carried out.

No major faults or leaks have been reported over the past year.

*3359 PIPELINE FROM GUILDFORD TO POTTS HILL MAINTENANCE WORKS—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

(1) What maintenance works have been undertaken on the Sydney Water Supply Pipeline, which travels from Guildford to Potts Hill, over the past year (as at 4 June 2020)?

(a) Were any major faults or leaks reported on this pipeline?

Answer—

(1) There are three above-ground pipelines traveling from Pipehead to Potts Hill. The pipelines are inspected monthly to check their condition and to identify any leaking joints with appropriate maintenance carried out. No major faults or leaks have been reported over the past year.

(a) Some minor leaks at joints were identified and have been rectified by caulking or tightening joint clamps.

*3360 COVID-19 HOMELESS ACCOMMODATION—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services—

(1) How many homeless people in the Cessnock electorate have been provided with temporary accommodation, such as hotels, due to the COVID-19 pandemic (as at 4 June 2020)?

(a) If none, how many were offered temporary accommodation?

(2) Has permanent housing been found for any of the homeless people in the Cessnock electorate due to the COVID-19 pandemic (as at 4 June 2020)?

(a) If so, in what locations was housing found?

(b) If not, was this due to no permanent housing being available?

Answer—

The Government has taken action to prevent homelessness and protect people experiencing homelessness during COVID-19, including in the Cessnock region.

I am advised that more than 1,200 people who were sleeping rough in New South Wales were helped into temporary accommodation through the rapid expansion of assertive outreach to prevent the spread of COVID-19. More than 500 new households across New South Wales started to receive private rental subsidies through products like Start Safely and Rent Choice Youth.

The Government has invested more than \$70 million to support people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness during the pandemic.

On 8 June 2020 the Government announced \$36 million in new funding for the Together Home project, which will deliver housing and wrap around supports for hundreds of rough sleepers across the state.

*3361 REGIONAL CULTURAL FUND GRANTS ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Premier—

(1) Considering the Regional Cultural Fund Grants assessment committee who assessed applications, how many people were included in the team of assessors?

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- (2) Other than the four independent members of the New South Wales arts sector, what were the qualifications of the other experts?
- (3) Were the costs of the committee, for example, committee member remuneration, meetings, travel et cetera, allocated from the grants fund?
- (a) If not, were they paid separately by another source?
- (i) If so, what was the source?

Answer—

This question should now be directed to the Hon Don Harwin MLC who has resumed his responsibility as the Minister for the Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs and the Arts.

*3362 REGIONAL SENIORS TRAVEL CARD ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA—Ms Janelle Saffin asked the Minister for Customer Service—

Considering that seniors now have until 30 November 2020 to apply for the Regional Seniors Travel Card, will the eligibility criteria for the card be broadened to include senior disability pensioners and senior pensioner carers?

Answer—

From April 6, 2020, the program eligibility was expanded to include people receiving support from either Services Australia or the Department of Veterans' Affairs as follows:

You must be:

- receiving the Age Pension; or
- a Commonwealth Seniors Health Card holder.
- Department of Veterans' Affairs

You must be receiving one of the following:

- Age Pension
- Service Pension
- Disability Pension under the Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986
- War Widow(er) Pension
- Or hold a Commonwealth Seniors Health Card.

*3363 SERVICE NSW CALL CENTRE STAFF—Ms Janelle Saffin asked the Minister for Customer Service—

Why is Service NSW currently using an offshore call centre in India to handle customer inquiries when suitably qualified Australian workers could perform this role, particularly as the COVID-19 pandemic has led to a surge in unemployment across regional and rural New South Wales and the nation?

Answer—

Service NSW is not using an offshore call centre in India.

*3364 COVID-19 SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT GRANT—Ms Janelle Saffin asked the Treasurer—

Will consideration be given to including sole traders and small business partnerships in the COVID-19 Small Business Support Grant eligibility criteria so they can apply for their \$10,000 share of the \$350 million of emergency funds unspent?

Answer—

To be eligible for the Small Business COVID-19 Support Grant, for which applications closed on 30 June 2020, applicants were required to be an employing business.

However, the Government has, from 1 July 2020, been providing a Small Business Recovery Grant of up to \$3,000 to help businesses with costs associated with safely reopening or scaling up their operations in the COVID-19 economic recovery phase. The new Small Business Recovery Grant is open to non-employing sole traders and small business partnerships, as well as other businesses that have fewer than 20 FTE.

Further information on the new grant program and the online application is available on the Service NSW website: www.service.nsw.gov.au/

*3365 BUSHFIRE AND OTHER DISASTER RECOVERY WORK PAYMENTS—Ms Janelle Saffin asked the Treasurer—

Will consideration be given to changing the current system of payments to contractors and organisations who carry out bushfire and other disaster recovery work to include a 30-day period for reconciliation of invoices, a guaranteed timeline for payment within 60 days, and if invoices remain disputed, referral to an independent reviewer for resolution within a further 14 days?

Answer—

I am advised that this question is more appropriately directed to the Deputy Premier and Minister for Disaster Recovery.

*3366 RELOCATION OF THE POWERHOUSE MUSEUM—Ms Janelle Saffin asked the Premier—

Will consideration be given to canceling the proposed \$1.5 billion relocation of the Powerhouse Museum in Sydney and redirect funds towards high priority infrastructure projects and support job creation in regional and rural areas of New South Wales?

Answer—

The premise of this question is inaccurate.

This question should now be directed to the Hon Don Harwin MLC who has resumed his responsibility as the Special Minister of State and the Minister for the Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs and the Arts.

*3367 DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITIES AND JUSTICE CASEWORKERS—Ms Janelle Saffin asked the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services—

- (1) Considering that the latest figures published show only 1,837 out of 5,125 children in the Northern Rivers region and 1,553 out of 6,438 children in the New England region have seen a Department of Communities and Justice caseworker, how will the Government ensure the safety of thousands of at risk children in the Lismore electorate?
- (2) How many vacant full-time Department of Communities and Justice caseworker positions are not filled in both of these regions (as at 4 June 2020)?

Answer—

The Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) works closely with a number of government and non-government agencies including NSW Police, NSW Health and the Department of Education to keep children and young people who are at risk of significant harm safe.

I am advised, in Northern New South Wales, DCJ provides nearly \$80m of funding to 35 non-government organisations who provide services such as early intervention, permanency support and crisis accommodation. There are also various organisations and programs funded by other departments, that provide services to children, families and communities within the area.

I am further advised, despite the recent restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic, DCJ caseworkers continue to deliver services to children at risk of harm in the Lismore electorate and across the state.

Information on caseworker vacancies for all DCJ districts can be found on the caseworker dashboard at: <https://www.facs.nsw.gov.au/resources/statistics/caseworker-statistics>.

*3368 NEW TABULAM BRIDGE OPENING DATE—Ms Janelle Saffin asked the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

What is the estimated date for when the new Tabulam Bridge will be open to traffic?

Answer—

I am advised:

The new Tabulam Bridge will be open to traffic prior to Christmas, weather permitting.

*3369 NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE SERVICE STAFF—Ms Liesl Tesch asked the Minister for Energy and Environment—

How many of the National Parks and Wildlife Service's staff, previously let go by the Government, will be reinstated?

Answer—

I am advised:

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Any former National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) staff member may apply for any externally advertised role in NPWS.

NPWS adheres to merit selection processes to ensure the best candidates are selected for any role

*3370 RESCUING OUR WATERWAYS GRANTS—Ms Liesl Tesch asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

(1) Which waterways have been provided funding under the Rescuing Our Waterways grants system (as at 4 June 2020)?

(a) What portion of funding has been provided to each of these waterways in each financial year from 2017-18 to 2019-20 (as at 4 June 2020)?

Answer—

I am advised:

The waterways and portion of funds provided under Rescuing our Waterways program are as follows:

2017-18:

Wallis Lake, 9 per cent.

Manning River, 21 per cent.

Tuggerah Lake, 14 per cent.

Lake Cathie, 11 per cent.

North Creek at Ballina, 14 per cent.

Myall River, 24 per cent.

Georges River, 6 per cent.

Hawkesbury River, 1 per cent.

2018-19:

Coffs Harbour, 7 per cent.

Manning River, 8 per cent.

Ettalong Channel, 82 per cent.

Wagonga Inlet, 2 per cent.

Hawkesbury River, 1 per cent.

2019-20:

Myall River, 57 per cent.

Tuggerah Lake, 40 per cent.

Lake Illawarra, 1 per cent.

Sussex Inlet, 2 per cent.

*3371 EMPLOYMENT OF TRANSPORT STAFF—Ms Liesl Tesch asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

(1) How many people are employed to work as train cleaners at the following stations (as at 4 June 2020):

- (a) Gosford;
- (b) Hamilton;
- (c) Broadmeadow;
- (d) Port Kembla;
- (e) Mount Victoria;
- (f) Moss Vale;
- (g) Penrith;
- (h) Flemington;
- (i) Mortdale?

(2) What arrangements are in place to ensure that displaced Sydney Trains and NSW Transport employees are given an opportunity for employment at the new Kangy Angy facility?

(3) How many meetings with stakeholders have been held since the commencement of the buses on demand trial (as at 4 June 2020)?

Answer—

(1) In general, trains are cleaned at maintenance centres, not railway stations. An exception is Penrith Station, where a staffperson cleans terminating trains before they depart on the return trip. This cleaning focuses on rubbish pick up and liquid spillages as there is usually only a short time available before the train departs. The following figures apply to cleaning staff at maintenance centres:

- (a) Gosford: 18
- (b) Hamilton: 10
- (c) Broadmeadow: 5
- (d) Port Kembla: 9
- (e) Mount Victoria: 11
- (f) Moss Vale: 3
- (g) Penrith: 27
- (h) Flemington: 60
- (i) Mortdale: 43

(2) The Maintenance Facility will create sustainable employment, skills development and business opportunities on the Central Coast by creating around 300 local jobs and boosting local business during both construction and operation. UGL Rail, a member of the RailConnect consortium, will operate the maintenance facility under a 15-year contract, providing long-term, local jobs, including apprenticeships and traineeships. When the facility starts operating later this year, there will be around 100 permanent jobs. There are also provisions within RailConnect's contract to not only develop apprenticeships, internships and work experience placements, but to engage with local universities, TAFEs and other colleges to identify opportunities to hire local people.

(3) Transport for NSW does not hold this information. The On Demand Public Transport Program has established over 22 pilot programs since 2017. Each pilot has many stakeholders, and informal as well as formal meetings are frequently held with either Transport for NSW or the pilot operator. For this reason the exact number of stakeholder meetings cannot be known.

*3372 FORMER WOY WOY ABBATOIR—Ms Liesl Tesch asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

- (1) What are the current leasing arrangements for the site known as the former Woy Woy abattoir in relation to:
- (a) The rate charged annually;
 - (b) The length of the lease provided?

Answer—

I am advised:

The site known as the former Woy Woy abattoir is not Crown land. This site is freehold land.

*3373 BILLBOARD INCOME—Ms Liesl Tesch asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

What is the income received annually by the Government for the billboard advertisement located beside the Sydney to Newcastle Expressway?

Answer—

I am advised:

The M1 Motorway between Sydney and Newcastle has numerous advertising signs visible from the road corridor. Only nine signs are located on Transport for NSW owned land. These signs are licensed to media companies and the details of these licence agreements are commercial in confidence.

Revenue raised from outdoor advertising supports various infrastructure programs, while advertising billboards provide a platform for road safety messages.

*3374 DOPPLER WEATHER RADARS—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade—

- (1) Considering the \$24.4 million reserved for Doppler Weather radars in central and western New South Wales as listed in the NSW Budget 2018-19, have the sites for the three radars been decided (as at 4 June 2020)?

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- (2) Has installation of any of the three radars been commenced or finalised (as at 4 June 2020)?
 (a) If so, at which location(s)?
 (b) If not, when is installation expected?
 (3) What is the total cost of each individual radar?

Answer—

The locations for Doppler Weather radars in central and western New South Wales have been confirmed as the Brewarrina, Hillston and Parkes regions.

The program is on track and it is anticipated that all three radars will be installed and operational in 2022.

The NSW Government has committed \$24.4 million for all three radars.

*3375 NEW PARAMEDICS AND AMBULANCES DEPLOYMENT—Ms Jenny Aitchison asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

- (1) Considering the 467 new paramedics and 89 new ambulance vehicles being rolled out across New South Wales:
 (a) Where are the new paramedics being deployed, disaggregated by Local Government Area (LGA)?
 (b) Where are the new ambulance vehicles being deployed, disaggregated by LGA?
 (2) How many pods were there in Maitland on the following dates:
 (a) 1 July 2019;
 (b) 1 January 2020;
 (c) 1 May 2020?
 (3) What were the average ambulance response times in Maitland on the following dates:
 (a) 1 July 2018;
 (b) 1 July 2019;
 (c) 1 January 2019;
 (d) 1 January 2020;
 (e) 1 May 2019;
 (f) 1 May 2020?
 (4) What were the average ambulance wait times in Maitland on the following dates:
 (a) 1 July 2018;
 (b) 1 July 2019;
 (c) 1 January 2019;
 (d) 1 January 2020;
 (e) 1 May 2019;
 (f) 1 May 2020?

Answer—

(1) and (2) New paramedics were inducted and additional ambulances procured to ensure that NSW Ambulance continues to meet demand and has an available reserve surge workforce to respond quickly and effectively in the event of a COVID-19 outbreak anywhere in New South Wales.

Data on NSW Ambulance deployments is not collected by Local Government Area.

(3) and (4) NSW Ambulance performance data is publicly available on the Bureau of Health Information website.

*3376 GOVERNMENT FUNDING FOR NEWCASTLE PROJECTS—Mr Tim Crakanthorp asked the Treasurer—

- (1) What projects have been funded to prevent homelessness in each of the following postcodes (as at 4 June 2020):
 (a) 2289;
 (b) 2291;
 (c) 2292;
 (d) 2293;
 (e) 2294;
 (f) 2295;
 (g) 2296;
 (h) 2297;
 (i) 2298;

- (j) 2299;
 - (k) 2300;
 - (l) 2302;
 - (m) 2303;
 - (n) 2304;
 - (o) 2305?
- (2) How much will each of the projects in question (1) cost?
- (3) What projects have been funded from the additional \$700 million in funding for NSW Health announced on 17 March 2020 in each of the following postcodes (as at 4 June 2020):
- (a) 2289;
 - (b) 2291;
 - (c) 2292;
 - (d) 2293;
 - (e) 2294;
 - (f) 2295;
 - (g) 2296;
 - (h) 2297;
 - (i) 2298;
 - (j) 2299;
 - (k) 2300;
 - (l) 2302;
 - (m) 2303;
 - (n) 2304;
 - (o) 2305?
- (4) For the projects listed in question (3) what is:
- (a) Their purpose;
 - (b) The number of jobs to be created by the project;
 - (c) Their cost?
- (5) What projects have been funded from the \$250 million announced on 17 March 2020 to bring forward maintenance of public infrastructure in each of the following postcodes (as at 4 June 2020):
- (a) 2289;
 - (b) 2291;
 - (c) 2292;
 - (d) 2293;
 - (e) 2294;
 - (f) 2295;
 - (g) 2296;
 - (h) 2297;
 - (i) 2298;
 - (j) 2299;
 - (k) 2300;
 - (l) 2302;
 - (m) 2303;
 - (n) 2304;
 - (o) 2305?
- (6) For the projects listed in question (5) what is:
- (a) Their purpose;
 - (b) The number of jobs to be created by the project;
 - (c) Their cost?
- (7) What projects have been funded from the \$500 million in capital works and maintenance announced on 17 March 2020 in each of the following postcodes (as at 4 June 2020):
- (a) 2289;
 - (b) 2291;
 - (c) 2292;
 - (d) 2293;
 - (e) 2294;
 - (f) 2295;
 - (g) 2296;
 - (h) 2297;

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- (i) 2298;
 - (j) 2299;
 - (k) 2300;
 - (l) 2302;
 - (m) 2303;
 - (n) 2304;
 - (o) 2305?
- (8) For the projects listed in question (7) what is:
- (a) Their purpose;
 - (b) The number of jobs to be created by the project;
 - (c) Their cost?
- (9) What projects have been funded from the \$1 billion Working for NSW fund announced on 27 March 2020 in each of the following postcodes (as at 4 June 2020):
- (a) 2289;
 - (b) 2291;
 - (c) 2292;
 - (d) 2293;
 - (e) 2294;
 - (f) 2295;
 - (g) 2296;
 - (h) 2297;
 - (i) 2298;
 - (j) 2299;
 - (k) 2300;
 - (l) 2302;
 - (m) 2303;
 - (n) 2304;
 - (o) 2305?
- (10) For the projects listed in question (9) what is:
- (a) Their purpose;
 - (b) The number of jobs to be created by the project;
 - (c) Their cost?

Answer—

Data is not available at the Local Government level to allow for the requested breakdown of projects, jobs and costs across Newcastle.

*3377 GENOMICS STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN—Ms Jenny Aitchison asked the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

- (1) Considering that under the New South Wales Health Genomics Strategy Implementation Plan 2018-20 at recommendation three, "Develop new service delivery models", a key action listed as completed is to "undertake a baseline audit to describe clinical genomics services in New South Wales", when was this audit conducted?
- (a) Who conducted the audit?
 - (b) Are the results of the audit publicly available?
 - (i) If not, why not?
 - (ii) If so, where can the results be found?
- (2) Have all six recommendations from the plan been implemented?
- (a) If not:
 - (i) Why not?
 - (ii) Which recommendations are still to be implemented?
 - (i) When will this be completed?
- (3) When will planning commence on the development of a new plan post 2020?

Answer—

Information regarding clinical genomic and genetic services in New South Wales is available at <https://www.genetics.edu.au>.

The NSW Health Genomics Strategy makes recommendations and describes three phases of implementation over the next seven years and beyond. The NSW Health Genomics Strategy Implementation Plan identifies activities focused on the first phase of the strategy, with implementation timeframes of up to 36 months. I am advised this work is on schedule.

Both the NSW Health Genomics Strategy and the NSW Health Genomics Strategy Implementation Plan are publicly available on the NSW Health website.

*3378 FISH KILL LAKE WYANGAN—Ms Jenny Aitchison asked the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—

- (1) When did the Minister become aware of the fish kill at Lake Wyangan northwest of Griffith?
- (2) What is the advice of the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) Fisheries Officers regarding the extent and potential cause of the latest fish kill?
- (3) How many fish were found deceased, disaggregated by species?
- (4) What DPI Fisheries resources have been deployed to Lake Wyangan to investigate the latest fish kill and, if possible, salvage fish stock?
- (5) What is DPI Fisheries' strategy to ensure the clean-up of fish kills?
- (6) Has water monitoring has been conducted previously by DPI Fisheries at Lake Wyangan?
 - (a) If so:
 - (i) How often is water quality testing conducted and on what dates (as at 4 June 2020)?
 - (ii) Who is notified of the results?
 - (iii) Are results publicly available?
 - (i) If so, where are these available?
 - (ii) If not, why not?

Answer—

My office was made aware of fish deaths in Lake Wyangan on the 24 May 2020.

Department of Primary Industries (DPI) Fisheries Officers attended the scene of the fish kill on 25 May and estimated that seven species of fish had been impacted. This included estimated deaths of 100 to 200 Murray cod, 1,000 Golden and Silver perch, over 100,000 Bony herring, one Freshwater catfish and large numbers of small bodied Australian smelt, Unspecked hardyhead and Carp gudgeons.

The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) is leading the investigation into the likely cause of the kill.

Monitoring of Water Quality in New South Wales is the responsibility of Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) Water, with data and assistance provided by WaterNSW.

*3379 LOCATION OF LETTER TO THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

Considering the final letter sent to the Natural Resources Commission regarding their work on the Barwon-Darling water sharing plan review which was also provided to or the information provided to Kylar Loussikian from the Sydney Morning Herald and was prepared by a senior member of the Minister's office, where was the final letter located since it was unable to be located in the possession of the Minister's Office at the time the Legislative Council order for the production of documents under Standing Order 52 was made?

Answer—

The final letter is with the NRC.

*3380 DEVELOPMENT AT KAMIRA COURT—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

What progress has been made with regards to developing the vacant Government-owned land at Kamira Court in Villawood since 1 November 2019 (as at 4 June 2020)?

Answer—

I am advised:

That as at 26 June 2020, NSW Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) expects to be able to finalise the contract with its development partner in the next month, following

Fairfield City Council's recent adoption of its rezoning proposal over the Villawood Town Centre Precinct. LAHC's development partner will then prepare and lodge a development application with Council for the renewal of the site.

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*3381 HORSE TRACEABILITY REGISTER—Ms Jenny Aitchison asked the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—

- (1) Has the Government appointed a representative to participate in the national horse traceability working group, as recommended by the Commonwealth Senate Inquiry into the Feasibility of a National Horse Traceability Register for all horses?
 - (a) If not:
 - (i) Why not?
 - (ii) When will an appointment be made?
 - (b) If so:
 - (i) Who selected the successful candidate?
 - (ii) Was there an expression of interest process to select the representative?
 - (iii) When will the successful applicant be publicly announced?
 - (iv) Who assessed the applications?
 - (v) How and where was this advertised?

Answer—

(1) The Government will participate in the proposed national horse traceability working group once it is established. New South Wales is awaiting finalisation of the Terms of Reference for the working group before selecting a representative.

*3382 RANDWICK BOYS HIGH SCHOOL AND RANDWICK GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL—Dr Marjorie O'Neill asked the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) What planning has been completed in regards to the upgrades of Randwick Boys High School and Randwick Girls High School (as at 4 June 2020)?
- (2) When will the consultation with the school community occur as part of the project design phase?
- (3) What is the planned timeline to start early planning works for the upgrades to Randwick Boys High School and Randwick Girls High School?
- (4) Will the Government fast track the upgrades to Randwick Boys High School and Randwick Girls High School as part of the COVID-19 economic recovery?
- (5) Considering that the proposed works involve an upgrade to both schools to incorporate community accessible features, what are the community accessible features being explored?
- (6) What mechanisms and strategies is the department developing to support secondary public education across all the public secondary schools in the Eastern Suburbs?

Answer—

(1) and (2)

Planning is currently underway for the upgrades at Randwick Boys High School and Randwick Girls High School. A Project Reference Group, including school and community representatives from both Randwick Boys High School and Randwick Girls High School, has been established to discuss matters for consideration during the planning process.

A timeline will be established in consultation with the school community and progress updates will be available on the School Infrastructure NSW website at

<https://www.schoolinfrastructure.nsw.qov.au/>.

(3) to (5)

School Infrastructure NSW is working with the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment to expedite projects as part of the COVID-19 economic recovery. In order to be considered for a fast-tracked assessment through the Planning System Acceleration Program, a project's development application must already be submitted; the project must deliver a public benefit; demonstrate an ability to create jobs during construction; and be able to commence construction within six months of approval. As the project does not meet all this criteria, it is not eligible for consideration at this stage. Information about the program is available at <https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Policy-and-Legislation/COVID19-response/Planningq-System-Acceleration-Program>.

*3383 ACCIDENTS AROUND SCHOOLS—Ms Jo Haylen asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) What is the total number of accidents recorded in school zones in each financial year from 2015-16 to 2019-20 (as at 4 June 2020)?
- (2) What is the total number of accidents recorded on pedestrian crossings in each financial year from

2015-16 to 2019-20 (as at 4 June 2020)?

- (a) How many of these are recorded on pedestrian crossings immediately adjacent to schools?
- (3) What is the total number of applications for pedestrian crossings on roads adjacent to schools received in each financial year from 2015-16 to 2019-20 (as at 4 June 2020)?
 - (a) How many of these applications have been approved?
- (4) On how many instances have traffic counters been used on roads around schools in each financial year from 2015-16 to 2019-20 (as at 4 June 2020)?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) These values apply to school zone operating hours.

2015-16: 241.

2016-17: 284.

2017-18: 242.

2018-19: 158.

2019-20: 111.

These values apply to all hours.

2015-16: 1,548.

2016-17: 1,488.

2017-18: 1,305.

2018-19: 1,110.

2019-20: 682.

(2) 2015-16: 648.

2016-17: 684.

2017-18: 715.

2018-19: 835.

2019-20: 448.

(a) 2015-16: 114.

2016-17: 103.

2017-18: 101.

2018-19: 107.

2019-20: 75.

(3) These are a matter for local councils.

(4) Transport for NSW does not hold this information.

*3384 UTILITY OUTAGES—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for Energy and Environment—

- (1) Does the Government consider electricity, gas and water supply as essential services?
- (2) What requirements apply to electricity, gas and water suppliers to notify customers about planned outages?
- (3) What recent changes have been introduced to alert customers about outages that will impact on these services (as at 4 June 2020)?
- (4) What plans does the Government have to improve notification to affected residents and businesses about electricity, gas and water outages?

Answer—

I am advised that:

- (1) The Essential Services Act 1988 defines the supply of electricity, gas and water as essential services.
- (2) The National Energy Retail Rules govern the requirements for electricity and natural gas retailers and distributors to notify their customers about planned interruptions (also known as planned outages) under different circumstances. Questions relating to water supply are a matter for the Minister for Water, Property and Housing.

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- (3) On 21 May 2020, the Australian Energy Market Commission published a final determination on a rule change request for the 'introduction of metering coordinator planned interruptions'. Where a planned interruption would be required, the new rule now provides mandatory timeframes and notification requirements for the installation of digital meters in places with shared fusing, such as apartment buildings and townhouses. Questions relating to water supply are a matter for the Minister for Water, Property and Housing.
- (4) The Government is not aware of any plans at the national or state levels to make changes to the existing requirements for notification about electricity and gas outages. Questions relating to water supply are a matter for the Minister for Water, Property and Housing.

*3385 FOOD SECURITY—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—

- (1) What further action has the Government taken to address climate change-induced impacts on food production in New South Wales since LA Q5337?
- (2) What assessment has the Government made of problems with supply of food like pasta, tinned goods and flour during the COVID-19 pandemic?
 - (a) What part does industry concentration play in food supply problems?
 - (b) What part does 'just-in-time' production play in food supply problems?
 - (c) What other causes has the Government identified causing food supply problems?
- (3) What steps have been taken to ensure food producers are flexible enough to adjust product packaging and distribution in response to consumer demand?
- (4) What steps have been taken to ensure more flexible food supply chains?
- (5) What further action will the Government take to ensure adequate food production and distribution?

Answer—

(1) The Department of Primary Industries (NSW DPI) is undertaking an assessment of the vulnerabilities of primary industries to climate change, which ultimately impact on food production.

This vulnerability assessment complements various case studies that have explored climate change impacts at particular sites and under various assumptions and scenarios.

The work is funded under the NSW DPI Climate Change Research Strategy (see <https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/climate-and-emergencies/climate-change-research-strategy>) and covers dryland and irrigated cropping, horticulture, livestock, and cross cutting themes of biosecurity and drought as well as fisheries. It identifies key vulnerabilities that may be addressed through subsequent research and development on adaptation.

(2) There is no long-term food security issue in Australia and problems experienced with some grocery lines early in the COVID-19 lockdown resulted from panic-buying by consumers. The large unexpected surge in the purchase of certain grocery items caused a temporary disruption to stocks due to logistics taking time to adapt to the surge, not a shortage of supply. Consultation with retailers indicates this behaviour has now ceased and goods are now readily available.

(3) and (4) Nationally, jurisdictions have provided advice and guidance to food businesses on how to cope with COVID-19. This includes development of a process for businesses to request flexibility around compliance with food regulations such as labelling requirements and managing formulation changes where these do not affect consumer safety or result in potentially misleading conduct.

(5) Australia produces substantially more food than it consumes. Measures such as removal of by-law restrictions on deliveries to allow 24-hour deliveries to supermarkets and allowing stores to restock shelves helped to ease logistical pressures.

*3386 WOMEN IN PRISON—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for Counter Terrorism and Corrections—

- (1) What review has the Government carried out of the Keeping Women out of Prison report showing a 33 per cent increase in the number of women in prisons between March 2013 and June 2019?
 - (a) Is this an accurate report on prison numbers?
 - (b) Is there an increase in numbers of women on remand rather than increased crime?
 - (c) Are three times as many women released each year than are in prison at any one time due to remand and short sentences?
- (2) What is the estimated additional cost of this increased incarceration?
- (3) Are Indigenous women over-represented in prison and are they the fastest growing demographic?
- (4) Are women with disability, women with mental illness, and women who have experienced trauma

and abusive relationships also over-represented?

- (5) Is there a 40 per cent recidivism rate in the 12 months after release and is this increasing?
- (6) What proportion of women leaving prison receive support services?
- (7) How does the Government ensure early engagement with women in prison in order to prevent homelessness on release?
- (8) What community based services and interventions has the Government introduced to divert women from prison and reduce reoffending?
- (9) What plans does the Government have to expand and develop increased diversion and rehabilitation programs for women?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The Government has received the Profile of Women in Prison in NSW Report and is committed to addressing the overrepresentation of marginalised women across the New South Wales criminal justice system including those in prison. Corrective Services NSW (CSNSW) meets regularly with the Keeping Women Out of Prisons Coalition (KWOOP), the organisation that commissioned the report, and shares KWOOP's vision for securing better outcomes for women and children affected by the New South Wales criminal justice system.
 - (a) Yes.
 - (b) Analysis of the population of women on remand can be found in the Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research Report Recent trends in the NSW female prison population.
 - (c) For the calendar year 2019, there was a total average of 971 women in custody per day and 2702 women were released from prison. As such, the number of women released is 2.8 times the number of women in prison on a given day. However on 30 June 2019, there were 433 women in custody on remand or serving a short sentence. For the calendar year 2019, 1668 women were released from prison from remand or after serving a short sentence. Therefore the number of women released from remand or from a short sentence is 3.9 times the number of women in prison on remand or on a short sentence on a given day. Women released from remand and short sentences make up 62% of all women exiting prison.
- (2) The overall daily average cost per inmate is reported in the Australian Government Productivity Commission Report on Government Services 2020. The gender of inmates is not taken into account in calculating the cost per prisoner per day.
- (3) As at 1 June 2020, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women represent 34.5 per cent of the total inmate population. Whether or not they are the fastest growing cohort depends on the timeframe of reference. However since the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women in custody has fallen from 341 on 1 December 2019 to 285 on 1 June 2020.
- (4) The Government acknowledges that women inmates are more likely to have suffered trauma in their lives (including sexual abuse), and to experience substance abuse and mental health issues.
- (5) Re-offending rates for New South Wales and other Australian jurisdictions are reported in the Australian Government Productivity Commission Report on Government Services 2020. It is important to recognise that the re-offending measure is retrospective as it is measured in the 12 month period after release from custody and a further six months is required for the courts to make determinations of guilt for offences that have occurred during this period and for the data to be cleaned up. As the measure is retrospective, reoffending rates will be observed over the next 12 months.
- (6) This data is not kept centrally. Referrals for women exiting custody are provided by a range of areas within the Department of Communities and Justice. This includes Offender Services and Programs staff, the CSNSW Funded Partnership Initiative, Community Corrections and Family and Community Housing. The Report commissioned by KWOOP pays insufficient attention to the efforts of Community Corrections staff who currently provide supportive supervision to 590 women on parole (as at 28 June 2020).
- (7) CSNSW has a suite of initiatives that minimise the risk of homelessness for offenders following release from custodial centres and community corrective services. This includes the NEXUS program. NEXUS is an offender-centred approach to reintegration, commencing when a person enters custody, during which CSNSW staff assist inmates to plan their release back into their chosen community including their accommodation needs.
 - Community Corrections works with the offender between six to 12 months prior to their release. As part of the preparation for release, Community Corrections assesses the needs of the offender in relation to housing and support.

- A number of programs are funded through the Funded Partnership Initiative which can also be used by Community Corrections to provide support on release to those who may require a higher level of support, or do not have appropriate accommodation available in the community. This includes Transitional Supported Accommodation; Initial Transitional Support and the Extended Reintegration Service. Information is available on the CSNSW website.
 - The Department of Communities and Justice also provides housing and reintegration assistance for people who have exited custody including temporary accommodation on the day of exit and reductions in rent payable on public housing.
 - Further questions on homelessness should be directed to the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services as this falls within his portfolio responsibilities.
- (1) & (9) The Government recognises the importance and value of diversion programs as a way to reduce the number of women in custody, who could be managed effectively in the community without compromising community safety.
- CSNSW currently operates Miruma, a residential community-based diversionary program for female offenders with co-existing disorders. Miruma aims to provide high level of effective case management to address offending behaviour and provide the female residents with the skills to be able to live independently and productively in the community.
 - Other Programs available for women include the Intensive Drug and Alcohol Treatment Program, a treatment facility incorporating a range of therapeutic, health, education, vocation and pre-release interventions aimed at addressing substance dependence, offending behaviour and reintegration.
 - The Department of Communities and Justice also supports and recently funded the Miranda Project, a community based diversionary program for women, which aims to halt the increase in the women's prison population through the provision of genuine support and the development of alternative pathways within the community.
 - CSNSW is developing further work around diversion linked to the new Premier's Priority announced in June 2019, which aims to reduce re-offending by adults released from prison by 5% by 2023.
 - Further questions on other diversionary programs delivered by the Department of Communities and Justice should be directed to the Attorney General and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence as these fall within his portfolio responsibilities.

*3387 SHOALHAVEN ZOO—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—

- (1) What past animal welfare complaints have been made about the Shoalhaven Zoo?
- (2) How many Government inspections were undertaken of the Shoalhaven Zoo over the last six years (to 4 June 2020)?
- (3) Did any inspections uncover animals showing repetitive behaviour?
 - (a) If so:
 - (i) What are the details of these findings?
 - (ii) What action was taken?
- (4) Did any inspections uncover sedation of exhibited animals?
 - (a) If so:
 - (i) What are the details of these findings?
 - (ii) What action was taken?
- (5) What assessment has the Government made about the Zoo to You program at the Shoalhaven Zoo that allows wild animals to be taken outside the zoo for entertainment?
- (6) What animals were included in this program?
 - (a) What facilities were they taken to?
- (7) What assessment has been made on the welfare of animals at the Shoalhaven Zoo?
- (8) What actions will be undertaken to improve the welfare of the animals exhibited at the Shoalhaven Zoo?

Answer—

- (1) The Department has received two alleged complaints since the implementation of the compliance audit program in 2017. Both complaints were thoroughly investigated and the matters closed.
- (2) Five.
- (3) No.
- (4) No.

(5) Fixed-display establishments can apply for the temporary removal of animals for display. Before an approval for temporary removal is granted, the applicant must satisfy certain transport and display requirements against the Standards for exhibiting animals during temporary removals in New South Wales. Shoalhaven Zoo has complied with all conditions stipulated and required by the Department of Primary Industries (DPI).

(6) Applications submitted to the Department between January 2020 and April 2020 for the temporary removal of animals included several species that were temporarily exhibited at a range of facilities in accordance with the aforementioned requirements.

(7) The Department has a responsibility to ensure that all exhibitors authorised under the Exhibited Animals Protection Act 1986 meet their requirements with the Act, Regulation and Standards. To ensure requirements are being maintained by exhibitors, the Department undertake annual compliance audits.

(8) To ensure requirements are being maintained by exhibitors, the Department will continue to conduct annual compliance audits at all licenced establishments.

*3388 PYRMONT PENINSULA PLACE STRATEGY—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

- (1) What are the terms of reference of the Pyrmont Peninsula Place Strategy steering committee?
- (2) Who are the members of the committee?
- (3) Will a community representative be included on the steering committee?
 - (a) If not, why not?
 - (b) If so, how will they be selected?
- (4) How will community consultation feed into the development of the strategy?
- (5) What future opportunities are planned to give members of the public input into the development of the strategy?
- (6) How will you ensure a holistic planning process in Pyrmont that coordinates work on the Pyrmont Peninsula Place Strategy and other development including at Blackwattle Bay and the Powerhouse Museum?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) to (2) The terms of reference of the Pyrmont Peninsula Place Strategy steering committee are on the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's (the Department) webpage at: <https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Plans-for-your-area/Priority-Growth-Areas-and-Precincts/Pyrmont-Peninsula>

(3) To ensure community representation and consultation, the Department has formed a 'Bounce Group' made up of representatives from community, business and industry to share their local knowledge and test ideas to complement the development of the strategy.

The Bounce Group offers an opportunity for up to 20 members of the local community, business and industry to help shape the development of the strategy. This input will be shared with the Steering Committee. An expression of interest was open from 22 May 2020 to 31 May 2020. The community representatives were selected based on their understanding of the Pyrmont Peninsula Place Strategy and its intent.

(4) to (5) Community consultation is already informing the development of the strategy through:

- Feedback received between March and April 2020 on the 10 Directions for the Pyrmont Peninsula Place Strategy, which is now being used to refine the 10 directions and will shape the strategy; and
- The local knowledge, ideas and feedback received from the Bounce Group, which held its first meeting on 4 June.

The Department is planning additional opportunities for the community, state and local government, industry and business stakeholders to help shape the strategy during the upcoming public exhibition (in July) and will notify these through the webpage, social media channels and email distribution lists. Due to changing government COVID-19 restrictions, the specific details of these opportunities will be determined closer to the start of the exhibition.

Contact details for the community to speak to the project team by phone, or share their thoughts, ideas and feedback by email or mail are available on our webpage <https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Plans-for-your-area/Priority-Growth-Areas-and-Precincts/Pyrmont-Peninsula>

(6) The Place Strategy takes a holistic approach by including these projects within the study area for consideration.

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*3389 MODERN SLAVERY—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Premier—

- (1) What data does the Government have about human trafficking, slavery, servitude, forced labour, debt bondage and forced marriage in New South Wales?
 - (a) Considering that the Modern Slavery Act was passed on 2018 but is still not in force, what steps has the Government taken to prevent this occurring?
 - (i) What has prevented the Government from bringing this legislation into force?
- (2) What action has the Government taken to assess and prevent modern slavery in Government procurement?
 - (a) How has the Government reported on its progress?
- (3) What action has been taken to:
 - (a) Proclaim regulations necessary to implement the Modern Slavery Act?
 - (b) Establish an agency, staffing and administration systems to collect data, monitor and enforce the Act?
- (4) Is the Government committed to the earliest implementation of the the Modern Slavery Act?
 - (a) When is this expected?

Answer—

The Legislative Council Standing Committee on Social Issues (the Committee) has concluded an inquiry into the Modern Slavery Act 2018 and tabled its report on 25 March 2020.

The Government is considering the Committee's recommendations.

I understand the NSW Procurement Board's (the Board) Supplier Code of Conduct (the Code) establishes the ethical standards and behaviours that suppliers to the Government are expected to meet. We expect our suppliers to provide a fair and ethical workplace free from workplace bullying, harassment, victimisation and abuse. Our suppliers are also expected to make all reasonable efforts to ensure that businesses within their supply chain are not engaged in, or complicit with, human rights abuses such as forced or child labour. The Board has directed agencies to require compliance with the Code through their tendering processes and to report adverse findings against a supplier when they become known.

Further, the Government is working closely with the Commonwealth Government on this issue. I understand that between 2013 and 2019, the Australian Federal Police investigated 369 cases of slavery and slavery-like offences in New South Wales. These have included offences of forced marriage, sexual servitude, labour exploitation and human trafficking.

*3390 EXTENDED SUPERVISION ORDERS—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—

- (1) What review has the Government carried out of the effectiveness, value and fairness of extended supervision orders?
- (2) What assessment has the Government made of the need for reform following the court judgement on Darryl Carr's 11-year extended supervision order?
- (3) How does the Government ensure that anyone subject to an extended supervision order can obtain proper review?
- (4) Has the Government applied for terrorism-related supervision orders against Indigenous men imprisoned for unrelated crimes?
- (5) How does the Government ensure that these orders are not misused?
- (6) How does the Government ensure that extended supervision orders are used as intended as a last resort?
- (7) What plans does the Government have to improve the operations of extended supervision orders?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Statutory reviews of the Crimes (High Risk Offenders) Act 2006 (the Act) were carried out in 2010 and 2017. The Act was also considered as part of the Sentencing Council's 2012 report into sentencing and post-custody management options for high risk violent offenders. The Government continually monitors the operation of high risk offender legislation to ensure it appropriately promotes the safety and protection of the community.
- (2) The Government is considering the Court's judgment.
- (3) The high risk offender legislation contains numerous safeguards to ensure anyone subject to an extended supervision order can obtain proper review. Those measures include, but are not limited to:

- (a) The ability of an offender subject to an extended supervision order to appeal to the Court of Appeal against the decision of the Supreme Court to make the order.
 - (b) The ability of an offender or the State to apply to the Supreme Court to vary or revoke an extended supervision order at any time.
 - (c) The statutory requirement for the Commissioner of Corrective Services to report to the Attorney General about an offender subject to an extended supervision order under the Crimes (High Risk Offenders) Act 2006 at least once per year, for the purpose of ascertaining whether to apply to the Supreme Court to vary or revoke the extended supervision order. The Commissioner's report must indicate whether the continuation of the extended supervision order is necessary and appropriate.
 - (d) The statutory requirement for the Commissioner of Corrective Services and the Commissioner of Police to report to the Attorney General about an offender subject to an extended supervision order under the Terrorism (High Risk Offenders) Act 2017 at least once per year, for the purpose of ascertaining whether to apply to the Supreme Court to vary or revoke the extended supervision order. Both reports must indicate whether the continuation of the extended supervision order is necessary and appropriate.
- (4) The State has applied for extended supervision orders against Indigenous offenders and non-Indigenous offenders who fall within the eligibility criteria in the Terrorism (High Risk Offenders) Act 2017 and who are considered to pose an unacceptable risk of committing a serious terrorism offence if not kept under supervision.
- (5) The response to Question (3) outlines measures to ensure that orders are made in accordance with the law and can be varied or revoked, where appropriate. In addition, in determining whether the State should apply for an extended supervision order, the Attorney General receives advice from a number of experts, including risk assessment advice, advice from counsel and senior government lawyers and advice from the High Risk Offenders Assessment Committee which is chaired by the Commissioner of Corrective Services and whose membership comprises representatives from a number of government agencies.
- (6) Extended supervision orders can only be made if the Supreme Court is satisfied to a high degree of probability that the offender poses an unacceptable risk of committing a serious violent, sex or terrorism offence if not kept under supervision. The strictness and height of these thresholds together with the Supreme Court's independent role in determining whether they are met ensure that extended supervision orders are used as intended. Additionally, the responses to Questions (3) and (5) outline measures to ensure that applications for orders are made in accordance with the law and where appropriate to protect the safety of the community.
- (7) The Government continually monitors the operation of high risk offender legislation to ensure it appropriately promotes the safety and protection of the community.

*3391 NEW IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENTS—Mrs Helen Dalton asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

- (1) How many new irrigation developments has the Government approved along the Murray River since 1 January 2016 (to 4 June 2020)?
- (2) What consideration does the Government give to water reliability for existing irrigation farms when deciding whether to approve new irrigation developments?

Answer—

Responsibility for development approvals lies with either local government or the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, although it is worth noting that extensive agriculture is usually permitted in rural zoned land without the requirement for consent.

Responsibility for approvals under the Water Management Act 2000 lies with WaterNSW. Between 1 January 2016 and 4 June 2020, WaterNSW has granted 18 new Approvals along the Murray River for the purpose of irrigation.

This includes Work Approvals, Water Use Approvals and Combined Approvals. It does not include applications from existing irrigation users to amend an approval.

A Water Supply Work Approval authorises its holder to construct and use a specified water supply work at a specified location. The approval does not authorise the take of water.

A Water Use Approval authorises its holder to use water for a particular purpose.

Each approval includes conditions to minimise adverse impacts.

These approvals do not provide the granting of new water entitlements and do not increase the total

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volume available for extraction on the Murray.

*3392 WORKS ON SOUTH COAST LINE PACKAGE ANNOUNCED—Mr Paul Scully asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) What works are expected to take place on the South Coast Line from the \$300 million package announced on 21 May 2020?
- (2) Will this work also include upgrades or improvements to:
 - (a) Stanwell Park Viaduct;
 - (i) If so, what work is expect to take place?
 - (ii) If not, why not?
 - (b) Coniston Junction?
 - (i) If so, what work is expect to take place?
 - (ii) If not, why not?

Answer—

(1) Projects being delivered on the South Coast as part of the More Trains, More Services program include the Wollongong Stabling Yard and Platform Extension project and platform extensions at Coniston, Bellambi, Thirroul, Port Kembla and Kiama.

(2) (a) No

(b) Yes. Platform extensions, installation of a driver's walkway to each end of Platform 2, new access stairs, signalling modifications, installation of lighting, CCTV and a passenger address system, and adjustments to Sydney Trains-owned utilities.

*3393 AUSTRALIAN STEEL STANDARD COMPLIANCE—Mr Paul Scully asked the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

- (1) Which department, agency or third party is responsible for ensuring compliance after mandating the new Australian Steel Standard (AS/NZS 5131) in all new Government infrastructure tenders from 1 October 2017?
- (2) What is the process for ensuring compliance?
- (3) How many tenders from 1 October 2017 have been successful in meeting the mandated Australian Steel Standard (as at 4 June 2020)?
- (4) How many tenders from 1 October 2017 have not been successful in meeting the mandated Australian Steel Standard (as at 4 June 2020)?
- (5) What penalties apply in the breach of the Australian Steel Standard?
- (6) How many breaches have been detected in the compliance process since 1 October 2017 (as at 4 June 2020)?

Answer—

I am advised that compliance is the responsibility of each agency in submitting a Government infrastructure tender, and the questions should be redirected to their respective ministerial portfolios.

*3394 CLOSE STREET CANTERBURY CONSULTATION—Ms Sophie Cotsis asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) Why has consultation with the residents of Close Street Canterbury regarding the acquisition of 15 Close Street, Canterbury, the former Canterbury Bowling Club not taken place?
 - (a) Are there plans for consultation to take place?
 - (i) If so, when?
- (2) How does Sydney Metro intend to utilise the site at 15 Close Street and what type of activities will take place at this site?
 - (a) How long will this site be utilised?
- (3) Will Sydney Metro consider submitting a report to address the concerns of the residents of the Canterbury Electorate surrounding the impact on traffic, the environment, noise and lighting spill, and pollution?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) and (2) Your question proceeds on a false premise. The public was consulted during the exhibition of the project's Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) between September 2017 and November 2017, and

also during the display of the Project Submissions and Preferred Infrastructure Report in June 2018 and July 2018. This information is publicly available. Sydney Metro intends to lease this property and use it as a works compound while it upgrades the over 125-year-old rail line between Bankstown and Sydenham.

(3) This information is publicly available. Measures to mitigate any traffic, environmental and community impacts on the community are included in the project approval. Sydney Metro will continue to engage with the community through a range of written and online means. In addition, a dedicated Place Manager will be available for the community to contact with any questions or concerns, and a 24-hour community information line will be available.

***3395 INCREASING RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM—Mr Paul Scully asked the Minister for Energy and Environment—**

(1) How many applications were received for the Increasing Resilience to Climate Change Community Grants program (as at 4 June 2020)?

(a) What was the total value of these applications received?

(2) How many applications for the Increasing Resilience to Climate Change Community Grants program were received from individuals and organisations in the Wollongong local government area (as at 4 June 2020)?

(a) What was the total value of these applications received?

(3) How many applications for the Increasing Resilience to Climate Change Community Grants program were received from individuals and organisations in the Wollongong electorate (as at 4 June 2020)?

(a) What was the total value of these applications received?

(4) When will the assessment of applications for funding through the Increasing Resilience to Climate Change Community Grants program be completed?

(5) When will successful applicants be notified?

Answer—

I am advised that:

(1) 148.

(a) \$3.68 million.

(2) Six.

(a) \$160,055.

(3) Five.

(a) \$136,390.

(4) Assessment is completed.

(5) Applicants have been notified.

***3396 BRIDGES OVER SYDNEY WATER PIPELINES—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—**

Who has carriage of the ongoing maintenance of bridges located above Sydney Water Pipelines and the provision of safe pedestrian access?

Answer—

Road bridges above pipelines are maintained by Councils or by Transport for NSW if the bridge is on a major road such as Woodville Road.

Council or Transport for NSW are responsible for safe pedestrian access across these bridges.

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3397 POSSESSION OF CANNABIS CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—

3398 COVID-19 INFRINGEMENTS—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—

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- 3399 CUSTODY NOTIFICATION SERVICE—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—
- 3400 CRIMES ACT SECTION 93Z—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—
- 3401 COURT SYSTEM DIGITAL TOOLS—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—
- 3402 CIVIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL ACT 2013 REVIEW—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—
- 3403 VICTIM'S SUPPORT PROPOSED CHANGES—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—
- 3404 TERRORISM (HIGH RISK OFFENDERS) ACT EXTENDED SUPERVISION ORDER—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—
- 3405 TRANSCATHETER AORTIC VALVE IMPLANTATION—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Minister for Health and Medical Research—
- 3406 VICTIMS RIGHTS SUPPORT ACT—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—
- 3407 INVERELL LOCAL COURT BUILDING—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—
- 3408 BULLI AND THIRROUL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 3409 BUSINESS CONNECT ADVISORS—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Small Business, Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- 3410 GAMBLER'S HOTLINE—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Customer Service—
- 3411 INFRASTRUCTURE AND JOB ACCELERATION FUND—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Treasurer—
- 3412 NAMBUCCA STATE FOREST—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Energy and Environment—
- 3413 CAPSICUM SPRAY INCIDENT—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—
- 3414 DEATHS IN CUSTODY—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—
- 3415 WALLSEND SCHOOLS MAINTENANCE BACKLOG—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—
- 3416 WALLSEND ELECTORATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—
- 3417 CLINICAL EARLY RESPONSE (PACER) PROGRAM—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Health and Medical Research representing the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women—
- 3418 AGED CARE HOMES NURSE-TO-RESIDENT RATIOS—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Health and Medical Research—
- *3419 LOCAL SPORTING CLUBS COVID-19 PANDEMIC ASSISTANCE—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans—

Considering that many sporting clubs will find it hard to obtain sponsorships from local businesses such as pubs and clubs due to the COVID-19 pandemic, what assistance is the Government providing to local sporting clubs to meet the increased costs of complying with COVID-19 pandemic rules such as additional cleaning and the availability of hand sanitiser stations?

Answer—

The Government has announced a \$27.3 million Community Sport Recovery Package to help the sector get back on its feet, including grants of up to \$1,000 to support up to 12,500 local sporting clubs and associations across the State. This is in addition to the \$127 million continued investment in the Active Kids program for 2020-21.

- 3420 COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT DIVERSION PROGRAM—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—
- 3421 SEATBELTS ON BUSES—Ms Anna Watson to ask the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—
- 3422 ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT SERVICES IN DAPTO AND SURROUNDING AREAS—Ms Anna Watson to ask the Minister for Customer Service—
- 3423 PEDESTRIAN CROSSING GUARDS—Ms Anna Watson to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 3424 EATING DISORDER BEDS—Ms Anna Watson to ask the Minister for Health and Medical Research—
- 3425 STREET LIGHTING ON LAKE ENTRANCE ROAD—Ms Anna Watson to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—
- 3426 NOISE ABATEMENT WALL FLINDERS—Ms Anna Watson to ask the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—
- 3427 KOONAWARRA PUBLIC SCHOOL BUS—Ms Anna Watson to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 3428 ACCESS TO ALBION PARK BYPASS—Ms Anna Watson to ask the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—
- 3429 SMALL BUSINESS GRANTS ELIGIBILITY—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Treasurer—
- 3430 RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION BILL 2019—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—
- 3431 UPGRADES TO STACEY STREET BANKSTOWN—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 3432 BUSINESSES WHO DO NOT PAY PAYROLL TAX—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Small Business, Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- 3433 SMALL BUSINESS GRANTS IN BANKSTOWN—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Treasurer—
- 3434 HERMIDALE MULTI-USER SIDING—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—
- 3435 TRIAL COACH SERVICES FROM BROKEN HILL TO ADELAIDE AND MILDURA—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—
- 3436 SOCIAL HOUSING IN WILCANNIA—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—
- 3437 TRAVEL CARDS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—
- 3438 WILCANNIA WEIR PROJECT EXPENDITURE—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—
- 3439 SOCIAL HOUSING IN FAR WEST NEW SOUTH WALES—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services—
- 3440 M5 EAST TOLL ROADS—Mr Anoulack Chanthivong to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 3441 CASHBACK SCHEME FOR M5 TOLLS—Mr Anoulack Chanthivong to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 3442 FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES IN ORAN PARK AND SURROUNDING AREA—Mr Anoulack Chanthivong to ask the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—

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- 3443 A085-18 CROWN CEMETERY DEVELOPMENT—Mr Anoulack Chanthivong to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—
- 3444 RESPONSES FROM ST ANDREWS FIRE STATION—Mr Anoulack Chanthivong to ask the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—
- 3445 CORRESPONDENCE POLICY—Mr Anoulack Chanthivong to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—
- 3446 CAPITAL WORKS EXPENDITURE ON CROWN LAND—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—
- 3447 GIRLS DORMITORIES AT YANCO AGRICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOL—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—
- 3448 GRIFFITH RADIATION THERAPY CENTRE—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Health and Medical Research—
- 3449 NURSE PRACTITIONER TRAINING—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Health and Medical Research—
- 3450 BUSINESS CLOSURES IN BANKSTOWN ELECTORATE—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Small Business, Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- 3451 GIPA APPLICATIONS SYDENHAM-BANKSTOWN LINE—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 3452 OUTCOMES OF GIPA REQUESTS—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 3453 TEMPORARY HOTEL ACCOMMODATION—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Health and Medical Research—
- 3454 DIGITAL HEARINGS FOR INDEPENDENT PLANNING COMMISSION—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—
- 3455 ACCESS TO M1 FROM DAPTO—Ms Anna Watson to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 3456 FUTURE TRANSPORT 2056—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 3457 TRADITIONAL OWNER NATIVE STATE FOREST MANAGEMENT—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Premier—
- 3458 TRANSCATHETER AORTIC VALVE IMPLANTATION—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Health and Medical Research—
- 3459 GREYHOUND RACING INDUSTRY—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation—
- 3460 DISCRIMINATION AND VILIFICATION REPORTS—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—
- 3461 PALLIATIVE CARE—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Health and Medical Research—
- 3462 INDIGENOUS WOMEN IN NEW SOUTH WALES CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—
- 3463 DRUG OFFENCES IN NEW SOUTH WALES—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—
- 3464 INCARCERATED INDIGENOUS PEOPLE IN NEW SOUTH WALES—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Counter Terrorism and Corrections—
- 3465 SUPPORT FOR INDIGENOUS INCARCERATED PERSONS DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Counter Terrorism and Corrections—

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- 3466 USE OF CHOKEHOLDS AND RESPIRATORY NECK RESTRAINTS—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—
- 3467 FUNDING TO ABORIGINAL LEGAL SERVICE—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—
- 3468 CIVIL LIABILITY ACT MAURICE BLACKBURN LAWYERS—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—
- 3469 HOUSING NSW EMPOWERING HOMES PROGRAM—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—
- 3470 WALLSEND SCHOOLS SANITARY PRODUCTS—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—
- 3471 WALLSEND ELECTORATE BANK BRANCHES—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Treasurer—
- 3472 GREEN STEEL—Mr Tim Crakanthorp to ask the Minister for Energy and Environment—
- 3473 COUNTER TERRORISM TRAINING IN HUNTER VALLEY POLICE DISTRICT—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—
- 3474 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE EMERGENCY CALLS—Ms Liesl Tesch to ask the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—
- 3475 FREE MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION IN GRANVILLE ELECTORATE—Ms Julia Finn to ask the Minister for Customer Service—
- 3476 WILDLIFE TRADE—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Energy and Environment—
- 3477 NEW SOUTH WALES LAND CLEARING INCREASE—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Energy and Environment—
- 3478 DISASTER ASSISTANCE TABULAM—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—
- 3479 FARMING GRANTS SCHEME—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—
- 3480 DEER CONTROL PROGRAM—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Minister for Energy and Environment—
- 3481 TAXIS IN NEW SOUTH WALES—Mr Jihad Dib to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Small Business, Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- 3482 GOVERNMENT REBATES—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services—
- 3483 FAMILY ENERGY REBATE—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Energy and Environment—
- 3484 GOVERNMENT REBATES—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 3485 DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE SUPPORTIVE MEASURES—Dr Marjorie O'Neill to ask the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—
- 3486 VEHICLE FINES IN NEW SOUTH WALES—Mr Jihad Dib to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—

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- 3487 EXTENSION OF SCHOOL STAFFING ENTITLEMENT MAINTENANCE AND SCHOOL FUNDING ASSESSMENT EXEMPTION—Mr Philip Donato to ask the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

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- 3488 HIGH SCHOOL ENROLMENTS AND INFRASTRUCTURE—Ms Julia Finn to ask the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—
- 3489 PRIMARY SCHOOL ENROLMENTS AND INFRASTRUCTURE—Ms Julia Finn to ask the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—
- 3490 CUMBERLAND COUNCIL PENALTY NOTICES AND FINES—Ms Julia Finn to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Small Business, Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- 3491 NSW CIVIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL MEDIATION COVID-19—Ms Julia Finn to ask the Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation—
- 3492 POLICE NUMBERS GRANVILLE ELECTORATE—Ms Julia Finn to ask the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—
- 3493 LEASE BREAK FEES COVID-19—Ms Julia Finn to ask the Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation—
- 3494 COVID-19 PENALTY NOTICES AND FINES GRANVILLE ELECTORATE—Ms Julia Finn to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Small Business, Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- 3495 LAND TAX REDUCTIONS COVID-19—Ms Julia Finn to ask the Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation—
- 3496 NSW FAIR TRADING CALLS 2020—Ms Julia Finn to ask the Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation—
- 3497 POWERHOUSE ULTIMO BUSINESS PLAN—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Premier—
- 3498 FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ACT ABORIGINAL PERSONS—Mr David Harris to ask the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—
- 3499 ABORTION ACCESS IN NEW ENGLAND—Ms Jenny Leong to ask the Minister for Health and Medical Research—
- 3500 LOSS PREVENTION SEARCHES—Ms Jenny Leong to ask the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—
- 3501 NEWCASTLE EDUCATION PRECINCT—Mr Tim Crakanthorp to ask the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

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- 3502 SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY HOUSING MAINTENANCE WORKS IN THE MAITLAND ELECTORATE—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—
- 3503 ASHTONFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOL—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—
- 3504 ABORIGINAL FISHING TRUST FUND—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—
- 3505 EFFECT OF COVID-19 ON THE POULTRY INDUSTRY—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—
- 3506 APPOINTMENT OF AN AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—
- 3507 CESSNOCK CORRECTIONAL COMPLEX—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

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- 3508 COOLER CLASSROOMS PROGRAM CESSNOCK ELECTORATE—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—
- 3509 NATURAL RESOURCES ACCESS REGULATOR INVESTIGATIVE CAPACITY—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—
- 3510 STUDY NSW—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade—
- 3511 AVERAGE RESIDENTIAL WATER BILLS—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—
- 3512 RETURN AND EARN REVERSE VENDING MACHINES LOCATION NOTIFICATION—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Minister for Energy and Environment—
- 3513 OPENING OF THE M8 MOTORWAY—Mr Anoulack Chanthivong to ask the Premier—
- 3514 WALAMA COURT MODEL—Mr Tim Crakanthorp to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—
- 3515 JOHN HUNTER HOSPITAL CLEANERS—Mr Tim Crakanthorp to ask the Minister for Health and Medical Research—
- 3516 OUTPATIENT CLINICS AT JOHN HUNTER HOSPITAL—Mr Tim Crakanthorp to ask the Minister for Health and Medical Research—
- 3517 PARK'NPAY APP—Ms Sophie Cotsis to ask the Minister for Customer Service—
- 3518 SUICIDES IN MURRUMBIDGEE LOCAL HEALTH DISTRICT—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Health and Medical Research—
- 3519 NSW FLOODPLAIN HARVESTING PRINCIPLES ENFORCEMENT—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—
- 3520 DISABILITY ADVOCACY SECTOR FUNDING—Mr Philip Donato to ask the Premier—
- 3521 DISABILITY ADVOCACY FUNDING NSW BUDGET 2020-21—Mr Philip Donato to ask the Treasurer—
- 3522 BUS CHANGES EASTERN SUBURBS—Dr Marjorie O'Neill to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 3523 RANDWICK BOYS HIGH SCHOOL AND RANDWICK GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL UPGRADES—Dr Marjorie O'Neill to ask the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—
- 3524 POLICE, AMBULANCE AND CLINICAL EARLY RESPONSE PROGRAM—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—
- 3525 EMERGENCY SERVICES LEVY—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Treasurer—
- 3526 STAMP DUTY ON PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Treasurer—
- 3527 BUS PROCUREMENT PANEL—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—
- 3528 NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE ASSETS LOCAL COUNCILS—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Minister for Local Government—
- 3529 TRANSFER OF REGIONAL ROADS TO COUNCIL—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—
- 3530 SUPPORTING OUR NEIGHBOURS GRANTS—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade—

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- 3531 LOCALLY PRODUCED STEEL ON PRIORITY PROJECTS—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—
- 3532 ILLAWARRA SPORTS AND ENTERTAINMENT PRECINCT—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans—
- 3533 INTERSECTION AT BOURKE, VIRGINIA AND KEIRA STREETS SAFER ROADS PROGRAM—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 3534 SAFER ROADS PROGRAM PROJECTS ROUND THREE—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 3535 LOCAL ROADS SURFACING MATERIAL—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 3536 LIVEABLE AND SAFE URBAN COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE PROJECTS—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 3537 FORESTRY CORPORATION DAMAGE ASSESSMENT—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade—
- 3538 ELECTIVE SURGERIES ILLAWARRA SHOALHAVEN LOCAL HEALTH DISTRICT—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Minister for Health and Medical Research—
- 3539 DENTAL WAIT TIMES—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Minister for Health and Medical Research—
- 3540 GREAT SOUTHERN NIGHTS EVENT—Mr Guy Zangari to ask the Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney—
- 3541 FUNDING FOR PUBLIC SPACES IN CANLEY HEIGHTS—Mr Guy Zangari to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—
- 3542 FUNDING FOR PUBLIC SPACES IN SMITHFIELD—Mr Guy Zangari to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—
- 3543 FUNDING FOR PUBLIC SPACES IN FARIFIELD—Mr Guy Zangari to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—
- 3544 FUNDING FOR PUBLIC SPACES IN YENNORA—Mr Guy Zangari to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—
- 3545 FUNDING FOR PUBLIC SPACES IN CARRAMAR—Mr Guy Zangari to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—
- 3546 FUNDING FOR PUBLIC SPACES IN VILLAWOOD—Mr Guy Zangari to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—
- 3547 LICENCE EXAMINATION REVENUE—Mr Guy Zangari to ask the Minister for Customer Service—
- 3548 LICENCE EXAMINATION RESULTS—Mr Guy Zangari to ask the Minister for Customer Service—
- 3549 COMMUNITY AND SMALL BUSINESS CCTV FUND—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—
- 3550 DEMOUNTABLE CLASSROOMS IN THE MAITLAND ELECTORATE—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—
- 3551 STRONGER COUNTRY COMMUNITIES FUND—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Minister for Local Government—
- 3552 POLICE STRENGTH IN THE HUNTER REGION—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—
- 3553 IMPACT OF DROUGHT ON REGIONAL COMMUNITIES HEALTH—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

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- 3554 KURRI KURRI HOSPITAL EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT PRESENTATIONS—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Minister for Health and Medical Research—
- 3555 WATER SHARING PLAN AUDITS 2019—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—
- 3556 HUNTER WETLANDS NATIONAL PARK—Mr Tim Crakanthorp to ask the Minister for Energy and Environment—
- 3557 FORMER WICKHAM SCHOOL OF ARTS—Mr Tim Crakanthorp to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—
- 3558 INTERCITY TRAIN FLEET GUARDS—Mr Tim Crakanthorp to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 3559 PORT OF NEWCASTLE—Mr Tim Crakanthorp to ask the Treasurer—
- 3560 POLICE RESPONSE TO THE BLACK LIVES MATTER PROTEST—Mr David Mehan to ask the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—
- 3561 IMPLEMENTATION OF AGEING AND DISABILITY COMMISSIONER'S RECOMMENDATIONS—Mr Philip Donato to ask the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services—
- 3562 EASTERN SUBURBS BUS LINKS TO SCHOOLS—Dr Marjorie O'Neill to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 3563 WATER LICENSING FLOODPLAIN HARVESTING—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—
- 3564 COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT DIVERSION PROGRAM—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—
- 3565 SCHOOL UPGRADES IN THE LISMORE ELECTORATE—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—