LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

QUESTIONS
AND
ANSWERS

No. 194

THURSDAY 27 MARCH 2014

(The Questions and Answers Paper published for the first sitting day in each week will contain, by number and title, all unanswered questions, together with questions to which answers have been received on the previous sitting and any new questions. On subsequent days, new questions are printed, as are questions to which answers were received the previous day. Consequently the full text of any question will be printed only twice: when notice is given; and, when answered.)

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RESOURCES AND ENERGY—PETROLEUM EXPLORATION LICENCE—Mr Buckingham to ask the Minister for Roads and Ports representing the Minister for Resources and Energy, and Special Minister of State—

(1) In regards to the six month freeze on new Petroleum Exploration Licence (PEL) applications announced on 26 March 2014:
   (a) Will this freeze apply to the processing of existing PEL applications?
   (b) Will this freeze apply to the processing of renewals of PELs?
   (c) Will companies with PELs that have expired be allowed to continue to explore while the freeze is in place?
   (d) What are the terms of reference for the audit of existing PEL applications?
   (e) Who will be responsible for the conduct of the audit of existing PEL applications?

ENVIRONMENT—ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY DONATIONS—Dr Faruqi to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—

(1) 
   (a) Does the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) receive corporate sponsorship or donations?
   (b) If so:
      (i) What policy or guidelines does the EPA use to accept sponsorship or corporate donations?
      (ii) Which companies provided sponsorship or donations?
      (iii) How much did they contribute since 1 July 2012?

ENVIRONMENT—GLASS BEVERAGE CONTAINER REUSE—Dr Faruqi to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—

(1) 
   (a) Does regulation allow for glass beverage containers to be reused by beverage companies, for example through sterilisation of used bottles?
   (b) If so, what are the regulations that guide this?

ENVIRONMENT—TREE FELLING—Dr Faruqi to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—

(1) 
   (a) How many trees has the Office of Environment and Heritage approved for felling for the construction of the Epping to Thornleigh Third Track?
   (b) How many of these trees are endangered ecological communities, threatened species or threatened ecological communities?
   (c) How many of these trees are heritage listed?

(2) What measures has the Office of Environment and Heritage taken to ensure minimal loss of the natural environment in the area?

FINANCE AND SERVICES—WAVERLEY BUS DEPOT—Mr Foley to ask the Minister for Roads and Ports representing the Minister for Finance and Services—

(1) 
   (a) Has any Registration of Interest (ROI) calling for expressions of interest in the development of the Waverley Bus Depot been issued?
(b) If so, will the Minister for Finance and Services release the ROI?
(c) If not, when will the ROI document be issued?
(2) Will any ROI that is issued reference Waverley Council's proposal to use the Waverley Bus Depot as the terminus for a light rail system running from Bondi Junction to Bondi Beach?
(3) How is the heritage listed part of the site going to be addressed in an ROI?
(4) Will the Department of Finance and Services seek to sell only the airspace above the current Waverley Bus Depot, or is there the possibility that the whole of the site will be sold, with the depot being moved to some other location?
(5) How does the Government plan to involve the local community in any development process?

In relation to the Government's specialist homelessness services tender process:
(1) Why are there no tender packages available for the Sydney district which would provide funding for specialist homelessness services that exclusively service women and their children?
(2) Why are there no tender packages available for the South Eastern Sydney district which would provide funding for specialist homelessness services that exclusively service women and their children?
(3) Why does the tender for the Inner City Homelessness Prevention and Support for Women or Women with Children in the Inner City Sydney area provide $1.1 million to service 505 clients, while tender references RFX2677 and RFX2678 provide more than twice as much funding to deal with a similar number of clients?
(4) (a) Has the Government received any advice which considers the possibility that the number of organisations providing homelessness services exclusively to women will be reduced as a consequence of the specialist homelessness services tender process?
(b) If such advice has been received, has it been made public?
(c) If such advice has been received but has not been made public, will the Government make this advice public?
(5) Is the Government aware of any women's refuges which have reduced their staff or services since the commencement of the specialist homelessness services tender process?

Given the Government will be paying one half of the cost of the National Disability Insurance Scheme throughout the state, less administration costs, and considering the release of the National Disability Insurance Agency review showing significant problems, what say does the Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care have concerning the future design and rollout of the Scheme?
(2) Can the Minister for Ageing and Disability Services provide information on the interactions the Government has with the Agency?

Has the consultant's report and recommendations on the review of the Far North Coast Environment Zone been finalised?
(2) (a) Will the report of the Far North Coast Environment Zone Review be made public?
(b) If so, when?
(c) If not, why not?

5616 HEALTH—ELECTRONIC REAL TIME MONITORING SYSTEM—Ms Barham to ask the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

(1) Can the Minister for Health provide an update on the status of the trial of the electronic real-time monitoring system in Tasmania relating to prescription drugs, which was referred to in the General Purpose Standing Committee No 2 "Drug and Alcohol Treatment" report no. 40?

(2)
(a) Will this system become available in New South Wales?
(b) If so, when?
(c) If not, why not?

(3) What update on the progress of the system is available?

5617 HEALTH—DRUG AND ALCOHOL PLANNING MODEL—Ms Barham to ask the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

Can the Minister for Health advise by what date the Drug and Alcohol Clinical Care & Prevention Planning model referred to in the NSW Ministry for Health's Submission, number 51 to the General Purpose Standing Committee No 2 "Drug and Alcohol Treatment" report no. 40 will be implemented?

5618 REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES—BRUNSWICK HEADS FORESHORE PUBLIC RESERVES PLANS OF MANAGEMENT—Ms Barham to ask the Minister for Roads and Ports representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Trade and Investment, and Minister for Regional Infrastructure and Services—

(1) In relation to the Draft Plan of Management for the Brunswick Heads Foreshore Public Reserves at Brunswick Heads, published in December 2013:
(a) What requirements does the Minister for Regional Infrastructure and Services place on the Board for reporting on community feedback on the Draft Plan of Management to ensure an open and transparent process?
(b) Does this process include publication of the submissions and the Report on the feedback on the Department of Trade and Investment's Crown Lands Holiday Parks Trust website?

(2)
(a) Will the Report and submissions be made public?
(b) If so:
(i) Where will they be published?
(ii) When will they be published?
(c) If not, why not?

5619 AGEING, DISABILITY SERVICES—NATIONAL DISABILITY STRATEGY NSW IMPLEMENTATION PLAN—Ms Barham to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for the Illawarra—

In relation to the National Disability Strategy NSW Implementation Plan 2012-2014, and previous information provided by the Minister for Ageing and Disability Services in answer to a question on 27 August 2013:
(a) Has the baseline report been finalised?
(b)
(i) Has the baseline report been made available to the public?
(ii) If not, has the timeline for release of the consolidated NSW report been updated?
5620 AGEING, DISABILITY SERVICES—TACTILE MARKINGS FOR VISION IMPAIRED—Ms Barham to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for the Illawarra—

(1) Given recent media coverage regarding events covering a petition calling on the Federal Government to deliver tactile banknotes for people with vision impairments, does the Government offer tactile markings on cards it issues such as the Seniors Card, Opal Card and Companion Card?

(b) If not, why not?

5621 HEALTH—NEW POLICY DIRECTIVE SUPPORTING PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY DURING HOSPITALISATION—Ms Barham to ask the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

In relation to the stakeholder consultations being undertaken for O'Connell advisory for NSW Health regarding revising and updating its policy directive People with a Disability: Responding to Needs during Hospitalisation:

(1) Can the Minister for Health provide an update on the progress of this revised policy directive?

(2) When will it be publicly available?

(3) Will the new policy take note of the need for hospital staff to recognise that people with high-level disabilities may require additional supports in a hospital setting above and beyond nursing assistance by regular disability support staff?

(4) How will NSW Health ensure that hospital administrators are aware of, and implement, guidelines and policy directives that recognise the intersecting roles across the health and disability sector?

5622 REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES—TRUSTEES OF SCHOOL OF ARTS ENABLING ACT 1902—Ms Barham to ask the Minister for Roads and Ports representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Trade and Investment, and Minister for Regional Infrastructure and Services—

(1) How many Crown Reserve properties still operate under the Trustees of School of Arts Enabling Act 1902 provisions with a Board of Trustees?

(2) What are the locations of any Crown Reserve properties that still operate under the Trustees of School of Arts Enabling Act 1902 provisions?

(3) How many properties previously dedicated under the Trustees of School of Arts Enabling Act 1902 have been transferred to Crown Land?

(4) How many properties dedicated under the Trustees of School of Arts Enabling Act 1902:

(a) Have been sold or leased?

(b) Are in the process of being sold or leased?

(5) What are the locations of any properties dedicated under the Trustees of School of Arts Enabling Act 1902 that are proposed for sale or lease?

5623 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—TRUSTEES OF SCHOOL OF ARTS ENABLING ACT 1902—Ms Barham to ask the Minister for Roads and Ports representing the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Small Business—

(1) How many Crown Reserve properties still operate under the Trustees of School of Arts Enabling Act 1902 provisions with a Board of Trustees?

(2) What are the locations of any Crown Reserve properties that still operate under the Trustees of School of Arts Enabling Act 1902 provisions?

(3) How many properties previously dedicated under the Trustees of School of Arts Enabling Act 1902 have been transferred to Crown Land?

(4) How many properties dedicated under the Trustees of School of Arts Enabling Act 1902:

(a) Have been sold or leased?

(b) Are in the process of being sold or leased?
(5) What are the locations of any properties dedicated under the Trustees of School of Arts Enabling Act 1902 that are proposed for sale or lease?

5624 RESOURCES AND ENERGY—WIND TURBINE SYNDROME—Revd Mr Nile to ask the Minister for Roads and Ports representing the Minister for Resources and Energy, and Special Minister of State—

(1) Is the Government aware of a recent Irish Government Department of Health study which cited the health effect of Wind Turbine Syndrome?

(2) When will the Government conduct a thorough investigation of the impacts of Wind Turbines on communities?

5625 FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES, WOMEN—HOMELESSNESS SERVICES—Dr Faruqi to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—

(1) (a) Will the Government be funding specialist homelessness services for women past 30 June 2014?

(b) If so, which organisations will be funded for what geographical area?

(2) (a) What tenders has the Government put out for specialist women-focussed homelessness services in the last six months?

(b) What geographical area will these tenders cover?

(c) How many are planned in the next six months?

(3) (a) Why did the Government require specialist women-focussed homelessness services to tender for generalist homelessness services tenderers?

(b) How many specialist women focussed homelessness service organisations are expected to close as a result of loss of Government funding?

(4) (a) Has there been estimates done on how many independent women-only homelessness services and women's refuges will close as a result of the change in tendering strategy by the Department of Family and Community Services (FaCS)?

(b) If so, what are those estimates?

(5) How many women's refuges are currently closing as a result of not being eligible or being unable to tender for current FaCS funding?

(6) Why in the current FaCS 'Going Home Staying Home' tender process are there no women's specific services to be funded in the Sydney and South East district?

(7) (a) Has only one women's specific service been put out to tender in the Inner City region?

(b) What will be the impact be of the reduction in specialist services for women with multiple and complex needs in the region?

David Blunt
Clerk of the Parliaments

Authorised by the Parliament of New South Wales