



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

**QUESTIONS
AND
ANSWERS**

No. 58

WEDNESDAY 11 MAY 2016

(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.)

Notice given on date shown

Publication of Questions	Answer to be lodged by
Q & A No. 55 (Including Question Nos 0933 to 0956)	08 June 2016
Q & A No. 56 (Including Question Nos 0957 to 0961)	09 June 2016
Q & A No. 57 (Including Question Nos 0962 to 0966)	14 June 2016
Q & A No. 58 (Including Question Nos 0967 to 0972)	15 June 2016

11 MAY 2016

(Paper No. 58)

- 967 ENVIRONMENT—KOALA CONSERVATION—Ms Sharpe to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, and Assistant Minister for Planning—
- (1) How much money has been spent on koala conservation since the 2008 Koala Recovery Plan expired in 2013?
 - (2) What has guided Government investment in koala conservation since the 2008 Koala Recovery Plan expired?
 - (3) Why did the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) choose not to conduct a formal review of the 2008 Koala Recovery Plan?
 - (4) How does OEH measure success in implementing the objectives of SEPP 44 and the National Koala Conservation Strategy?
 - (5) Has OEH undertaken an updated assessment of koala distribution and population status since the 2010 estimates that informed the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC) nomination?
 - (a) If so, where are the statistics?
 - (b) Was this done for selected populations as well as across New South Wales?
 - (i) If so, where are the results?
 - (6) Has OEH developed a standard methodology for koala survey and analytic techniques? What evidence was this methodology based on?
 - (7) Has OEH identified priority koala populations for management? If so, what data is this prioritisation based on?
 - (8) Has OEH ranked threats to koalas to prioritise recovery efforts and evaluated how best to ameliorate them and the effectiveness of mitigation measures?
 - (9) What proportion of local government areas (LGAs) listed on Schedule 1 of SEPP 44 now have an approved Koala Plan of Management?
 - (10) What amendments have been made to SEPP 44 in the 21 years that it has been in existence?
 - (11) Has OEH assessed the economic and non-biological values of koalas? If so, what are the results?
 - (12) How does the recording system for groups involved in koala care operate?
 - (13) What are the trends of koalas coming into care, including absolute numbers and the reason for injury?
- 968 PLANNING—SEPP 44—Ms Sharpe to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Planning—
- (1) Which Local Government Areas (LGAs) listed on Schedule 1 of SEPP 44 now have an approved Koala Plan of Management?
 - (2) What amendments have been made to SEPP 44 in the 21 years that it has been in existence?
- 969 ENVIRONMENT—MANGROVE MOUNTAIN LANDFILL SITE—Ms Sharpe to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, and Assistant Minister for Planning—
- (1) What percentage of the waste mound at the Mangrove Mountain Landfill site is covered by a leachate barrier system?
 - (2) What material is the lining of the leachate barrier system made of?
 - (a) Does this material meet the relevant standards?
 - (3) What steps have been undertaken at the Mangrove Mountain Landfill site to ensure that leachate does not impact on surrounding ground and surface water sources?

- (4) The Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) Guidelines for Solid Waste Landfills require that a leachate monitoring program must be established which provides data on the composition, height levels and volume of leachate produced by each landfill cell and details of any irregular discharges or overflows of leachate from the site. Is such a system in place for the Mangrove Mountain Landfill site?
 - (5) What are the documented breaches of the Mangrove Mountain site associated with Environmental Licence 11395?
 - (6) What actions have the EPA or Department of Environment and Planning undertaken in relation to any breaches of the Environmental Licence 11395?
 - (7) Has the EPA issued any fines for breaches under Environmental Licence 11395?
 - (8) How many water monitoring points are currently in place at the Mangrove Mountain Landfill site?
 - (9) Are the results obtained from the water monitoring at the Mangrove Mountain Landfill site publicly available?
 - (10) Are there any records related to the Mangrove Mountain Landfill site's stormwater monitoring program held by the EPA?
 - (a) Are these publicly available?
 - (b) If not, why not?
 - (11) Are any records of the site's stormwater retention ponds being emptied and/or testing of the water removed from these stormwater retention ponds publicly available?
 - (a) If not, why not?
- 970 LOCAL GOVERNMENT—SWIMMING POOL COMPLIANCE OFFICERS—Mr Primrose to ask the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Local Government—
- (1) Which councils have proposed to employ swimming pool compliance officers to enforce the new Government regulations relating to pools?
 - (2) Will the Government encourage councils to employ such compliance officers to help save the lives of babies and young children?
 - (a) If not, why not?
 - (3) Will the Government provide financial assistance to councils to employ such compliance officers to help save the lives of babies and young children?
 - (a) If not, why not?
 - (b) If so, what level of assistance will be provided?
- 971 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT—Mr Shoebridge to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—
- (1) Is the Minister aware of statements made to ABC's Background Briefing that the fishing industry paid the Department of Primary Industries to employ dedicated Fisheries Officers concentrated on illegal fishing?
 - (a) If so, what steps are being taken to investigate claims that compliance officers are accepting payments from industries for their regulation of their industry?
 - (2) Can the Minister advise of all industry payments the Department of Primary Industries received from the fishing industry to cover enforcement and compliance officers, and/or any equipment for enforcement and compliance officers in:
 - (a) 2011/12?
 - (b) 2012/13?
 - (c) 2013/14?
 - (d) 2014/15?
 - (e) 2015 to date?

- (3) Can the Minister provide enforcement and compliance data for Fisheries Officers within the Department of Primary Industries, particularising enforcement actions taken against any members of an industry which made such contributions in:
- (a) 2011/12?
 - (b) 2012/13?
 - (c) 2013/14?
 - (d) 2014/15?
 - (e) 2015 to date?
- (4) What policies and procedures are in place to ensure that the any perception of bias that arises in such circumstances is adequately managed?

972 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—THE GREATER GLIDER—Mr Shoebridge to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—

- (1) What prescriptions exist to protect the Greater Glider *Petauroides volans* from logging operations within the Eurobodalla Shire?
- (2) When were these prescriptions adopted?
 - (a) On how many occasions have they been applied?
- (3) Does the Forestry Corporation conduct pre-logging surveys for the presence of Greater Gliders in areas of the South Coast other than in Eurobodalla Shire?
- (4) What measures are undertaken if Greater Gliders are located in or near forest to be logged in South Coast forests other than in the Eurobodalla Shire?

David Blunt
Clerk of the Parliaments