



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

**QUESTIONS  
AND  
ANSWERS**

No. 46

WEDNESDAY 9 MARCH 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

<b>Publication of Questions</b>	<b>Answer to be lodged by</b>
Q & A No. 42 (Including Question Nos 0783 to 0815)	29 March 2016
Q & A No. 43 (Including Question Nos 0816 to 0820)	30 March 2016
Q & A No. 44 (Including Question Nos 0821 to 0841)	31 March 2016
Q & A No. 45 (Including Question Nos 0842 to 0847)	12 April 2016
Q & A No. 46 (Including Question Nos 0848 to 0870)	13 April 2016

**23 FEBRUARY 2016**

(Paper No. 42)

- \*814 TREASURER—CROWN LAND—Ms Sharpe asked the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Treasurer, and Minister for Industrial Relations—

According to the Report on State Finances 2014-15 released by Treasury, New South Wales identified at least five high risk sites for contamination on Crown Land. Where are these sites?

Answer—

- (1) This question would be more appropriately directed to the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, and Assistant Minister for Planning.

**9 MARCH 2016**

(Paper No. 46)

- 848 SKILLS—TAFE INSTITUTE MANAGERS—Mr Shoebridge to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Regional Development, Minister for Skills, and Minister for Small Business—

New England TAFE has created two Institute Manager positions, paid \$161,000 per annum, at the same time they are proposing significant cuts to frontline literacy and numeracy teachers. Was the minister aware of this staffing change, and can he provide a rationale?

- 849 SKILLS—NEW ENGLAND TAFE LITERACY AND NUMERACY—Mr Shoebridge to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Regional Development, Minister for Skills, and Minister for Small Business—

Given that New England often has the lowest Literacy and Numeracy NAPLAN results in NSW, what is the justification for the proposed removal of Literacy and Numeracy teachers from New England TAFE campuses at Tamworth, Armidale, Inverell and Glen Innes, despite these sites currently having full teaching programs for Literacy and Numeracy?

- 850 SKILLS—STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES IN NEW ENGLAND—Mr Shoebridge to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Regional Development, Minister for Skills, and Minister for Small Business—

- (1) Is New England TAFE anticipating an increase in enrolments of students with disabilities due to the increase in exemptions and the rollout of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)?
- (2) If so, why is New England TAFE proposing to delete 4.5 of their 6 specialist teacher consultants for students with disabilities and replace them with less qualified para-professionals?

- 851 SKILLS—NEW ENGLAND TAFE COUNSELLING—Mr Shoebridge to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Regional Development, Minister for Skills, and Minister for Small Business—

As New England has been identified in the 2015 Dropping Off the Edge report as an area with communities experiencing persistent disadvantage, particularly the town of Delungra which is identified as the postcode with the nation's lowest average income, what is the justification for the proposed removal of three out of four professional TAFE counsellors at New England TAFE?

- 852 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—MURRAH FLORA RESERVES—Mr Shoebridge to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—

- (1) How much additional funding has been allocated to manage the parts of the new Murrah flora reserve in the Murrah State Forest?
- (2) How much additional funding has been allocated to manage the parts of the new Murrah flora

reserve in the Tanja State Forest?

- (3) How much additional funding has been allocated to manage the parts of the new Murrah flora reserve in the Mumbulla State Forest?
- (4) How much additional funding has been allocated to manage the parts of the new Murrah flora reserve in the Bermagui State Forest?
- (5) How is the \$2.5 million environmental trust announced for the timber industry going to be allocated?

853 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—FLORA RESERVES IN BERMAGUI, MURRAH, MUMBULLA AND TANJA STATE FORESTS—Mr Shoebridge to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—

With respect to the declaration of Flora Reserves in Bermagui, Murrah, Mumbulla and Tanja State Forests announced on 1 March 2016 to support sourcing timber from further afield:

- (1) On what basis was the amount of \$2.5 million for the Environmental Trust grant included in the announcement calculated?
  - (a) What period will it cover?
- (2) What estimated yield of pulpwood will be foregone by not logging each compartment of Bermagui, Murrah, Mumbulla and Tanja State Forests as a result of the declaration of the Flora Reserves?
- (3) What estimated yield of sawlogs will be foregone by not logging each compartment of Bermagui, Murrah, Mumbulla and Tanja State Forests as a result of the declaration of the Flora Reserves?
- (4) How will the logging industry notionally displaced from the coastal forests (where it would have paid a \$18.19 per cubic metre royalty for pulplogs) be compensated for moving to Southern (South Coast) forests where it will pay a \$4.60 per cubic metre royalty for pulp logs?
- (5) Will the standard Southern Regional Forest Agreement (RFA) Region royalty be paid on replacement:
  - (a) Sawlogs sourced from more northerly forests?
  - (b) Pulp logs sourced from more northerly forests?
  - (c) Firewood sourced from more northerly forests?
  - (d) If so, will the lower royalty payment be factored into any haulage subsidy paid?
- (6) Will both pulplogs and sawlogs be eligible to benefit from the \$2.5 million grant?
- (7) Is it anticipated that the \$2.5 million subsidy will make any net difference to the mill gate price for logs at:
  - (a) Blueridge Hardwoods?
  - (b) The Eden woodchip mill?
- (8) Did the Government undertake any investigations into the feasibility of buying back timber allocations from Bermagui (south of the river), Murrah, Mumbulla and Tanja State Forests?
  - (a) If so, what would the cost have been?
- (9) What was the average yield (in terms of cubic metres per net harvested hectare) for the Eden Region and Southern Region in the following financial years:
  - (a) 2012/13
  - (b) 2013/14
  - (c) 2014/15
  - (d) 2015 to date?
- (10) What is the average yield expected to be (in terms of cubic metres per net harvested hectare) for the Eden Regional and Southern Region in the following financial years:
  - (a) 2016/17?
  - (b) 2017/18?
  - (c) 2018/19?
- (11) Will hunting be permitted in the Bermagui, Murrah, Mumbulla or Tanja Flora Reserves?

- 854 EDUCATION—MANLY VALE PUBLIC SCHOOL—Mr Shoebridge to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Education—
- (1) The Species Impact Statement for the Manly Vale Public School redevelopment lists three options redevelopment of the school, a new school for Manly Village or a new site entirely for 800 students.
    - (a) Why is Option 2 listed as feasible when it directly conflicts with comments regarding heritage listed buildings?
    - (b) Why is Option 3 considered an equivalent alternative when the option proposes a site for 800 students, while the base case option is for 625?
- 855 EDUCATION—BROOKVALE PUBLIC SCHOOL—Mr Shoebridge to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Education—
- (1) Does the Department currently have any plans to close Brookvale Public School?
  - (2) If not, why is surplus capacity at Brookvale not being considered for the enrolment issues currently being experienced by public schools in North Manly?
- 856 JUSTICE AND POLICE—POLICE DRUG DETECTION DOGS AND PROSECTUTION—Mr Shoebridge to ask the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Justice and Police, Minister for the Arts, and Minister for Racing—
- (1) How many people were searched by police officers as a result of a police sniffer dog indicating the presence of an illegal drug in each of the following calendar years:
    - (a) 2010?
    - (b) 2011?
    - (c) 2012?
    - (d) 2013?
    - (e) 2014?
    - (f) 2015?
    - (g) 2016 to date?
  - (2) Of the people searched by police officers in Question (1), how many were not found to be in possession of any illegal drug in each of the following calendar years:
    - (a) 2010?
    - (b) 2011?
    - (c) 2012?
    - (d) 2013?
    - (e) 2014?
    - (f) 2015?
    - (g) 2016 to date?
  - (3) Of the people searched by the police officers in Question (1), how many were found to be in possession of any illegal drug in each of the following calendar years:
    - (a) 2010?
    - (b) 2011?
    - (c) 2012?
    - (d) 2013?
    - (e) 2014?
    - (f) 2015?
    - (g) 2016 to date?
  - (4) Of the people in Question (2), how many people were then charged with offences relating to their interaction with police officers during the search including for resist arrest, offensive language and assault police in each of the following calendar years:
    - (a) 2010?

- (b) 2011?
  - (c) 2012?
  - (d) 2013?
  - (e) 2014?
  - (f) 2015?
  - (g) 2016 to date?
- (5) Of the people in Question (3), how many were successfully prosecuted for only a summary offence under Part 2, Division 1 of the Drug Misuse and Trafficking Act 1985 in each of the following calendar years:
- (a) 2010?
  - (b) 2011?
  - (c) 2012?
  - (d) 2013?
  - (e) 2014?
  - (f) 2015?
  - (g) 2016 to date?
- (6) Of the people in Question (3), how many were unsuccessfully prosecuted for a summary offence under Part 2, Division 1 of the Drug Misuse and Trafficking Act 1985 in each of the following calendar years:
- (a) 2010?
  - (b) 2011?
  - (c) 2012?
  - (d) 2013?
  - (e) 2014?
  - (f) 2015?
  - (g) 2016 to date?
- (7) Of the people in Question (3), how many were successfully prosecuted for an indictable offence under Part 2, Division 2 of the Drug Misuse and Trafficking Act 1985 in each of the following calendar years:
- (a) 2010?
  - (b) 2011?
  - (c) 2012?
  - (d) 2013?
  - (e) 2014?
  - (f) 2015?
  - (g) 2016 to date?
- (8) Of the people in Question (3), how many were unsuccessfully prosecuted for an indictable offence under Part 2, Division 2 of the Drug Misuse and Trafficking Act 1985 in each of the following calendar years:
- (a) 2010?
  - (b) 2011?
  - (c) 2012?
  - (d) 2013?
  - (e) 2014?
  - (f) 2015?
  - (g) 2016 to date?

857 JUSTICE AND POLICE—DRUG DETECTION DOG SEARCHES BY POLICE TRANSPORT COMMAND—Mr Shoebridge to ask the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Justice and Police, Minister for the Arts, and Minister for Racing—

- (1) During general drug detection operations by Police Transport Command what was the number of searches undertaken following a drug detection dog indication in the following calendar years:
  - (a) 2014?
  - (b) 2015?
  - (c) 2016 to date?
- (2) During general drug detection operations by Police Transport Command what was the number of searches undertaken following a drug detection dog indication where no illicit drugs were found in the following calendar years:
  - (a) 2011?
  - (b) 2012?
  - (c) 2013?
  - (d) 2014?
  - (e) 2015?
  - (f) 2016 to date?
- (3) During general drug detection operations by Police Transport Command what was the number of searches undertaken following a drug detection dog indication where illicit drugs were found in the following calendar years:
  - (a) 2014?
  - (b) 2015?
  - (c) 2016 to date?

858 JUSTICE AND POLICE—DRUG DETECTION DOG SEARCHES BY LOCAL AREA COMMAND—Mr Shoebridge to ask the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Justice and Police, Minister for the Arts, and Minister for Racing—

- (1) For each NSW Police Force Local Area Command, during general drug detection operations what was the number of searches undertaken following a drug detection dog indication in the following calendar years:
  - (a) 2014?
  - (b) 2015?
  - (c) 2016 to date?
- (2) For each NSW Police Force Local Area Command, during general drug detection operations what was the number of searches undertaken following a drug detection dog indication where no illicit drugs were found in the following calendar years:
  - (a) 2011?
  - (b) 2012?
  - (c) 2013?
  - (d) 2014?
  - (e) 2015?
  - (f) 2016 to date?
- (3) For each NSW Police Force Local Area Command, during general drug detection operations what was the number of searches undertaken following a drug detection dog indication where illicit drugs were found in the following calendar years:
  - (a) 2014?
  - (b) 2015?
  - (c) 2016 to date?

859 JUSTICE AND POLICE—GENERAL DRUG DETECTION DOG OPERATIONS—Mr Shoebridge to ask the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Justice and Police, Minister for the Arts, and Minister for Racing—

- (1) During general drug detection operations how many searches involving a police sniffer dog found indictable quantities of illicit drug in the following calendar years:
  - (a) 2010?
  - (b) 2011?
  - (c) 2012?
  - (d) 2013?
  - (e) 2014?
  - (f) 2015?
  - (g) 2016 to date?
- (2) During general drug detection operations in 2015, what was the number of searches undertaken following a sniffer dog indication in each of the following location types:
  - (a) Public transport, including trains, buses and train stations?
  - (b) Licensed premises?
  - (c) Roads, streets or malls?
  - (d) Dance parties or music festivals?
- (3) During general drug detection operations in 2015, what was the number of searches undertaken following a sniffer dog indication where illicit drugs were found, in each of the following location types:
  - (a) Public transport, including trains, buses and train stations?
  - (b) Licensed premises?
  - (c) Roads, streets or malls?
  - (d) Dance parties or music festivals?
- (4) During general drug detection operations in 2014, what was the number of searches undertaken following a sniffer dog indication in each of the following location types:
  - (a) Public transport, including trains, buses and train stations?
  - (b) Licensed premises?
  - (c) Roads, streets or malls?
  - (d) Dance parties or music festivals?
- (5) During general drug detection operations in 2014, what was the number of searches undertaken following a sniffer dog indication where illicit drugs were found, in each of the following location types:
  - (a) Public transport, including trains, buses and train stations?
  - (b) Licensed premises?
  - (c) Roads, streets or malls?
  - (d) Dance parties or music festivals?
- (6) During general drug detection operations in 2013, what was the number of searches undertaken following a sniffer dog indication in each of the following location types:
  - (a) Public transport, including trains, buses and train stations?
  - (b) Licensed premises?
  - (c) Roads, streets or malls?
  - (d) Dance parties or music festivals?
- (7) During general drug detection operations in 2013, what was the number of searches undertaken following a sniffer dog indication where illicit drugs were found, in each of the following location types:
  - (a) Public transport, including trains, buses and train stations?
  - (b) Licensed premises?
  - (c) Roads, streets or malls?
  - (d) Dance parties or music festivals?
- (8) During general drug detection operations how many searches involving a police sniffer dog resulted in a supply charge that was not withdrawn at court in the following periods:



- (a) 2010?
  - (b) 2011?
  - (c) 2012?
  - (d) 2013?
  - (e) 2014?
  - (f) 2015?
  - (g) 2016 to date?
- (9) During general drug detection operations how many searches involving a police sniffer dog resulted in a successful prosecution for supply in the following calendar years:
- (a) 2010?
  - (b) 2011?
  - (c) 2012?
  - (d) 2013?
  - (e) 2014?
  - (f) 2015?
  - (g) 2016 to date?
- (10) Have performance statistics of individual dogs been made available to police officers involved in drug detection dog operations?
- (a) If not, why not?

860 JUSTICE AND POLICE—POLICE DRUG DETECTION DOG SEARCHES FOLLOWING INDICATION—Mr Shoebridge to ask the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Justice and Police, Minister for the Arts, and Minister for Racing—

- (1) What was the number of searches undertaken in New South Wales following a positive drug detection dog indication during general drug detection operations in the following calendar years:
  - (a) 2014?
  - (b) 2015?
  - (c) 2016 to date?
- (2) What was the number of searches undertaken in New South Wales following a drug detection dog indication where no illicit drugs were found during general drug detection operations in the following calendar years:
  - (a) 2014?
  - (b) 2015?
  - (c) 2016 to date?
- (3) What was the number of searches undertaken in New South Wales following a drug detection dog indication where illicit drugs were found during general drug detection operations in the following calendar years:
  - (a) 2014?
  - (b) 2015?
  - (c) 2016 to date?

861 JUSTICE AND POLICE—POLICE DRUG DETECTION DOG COMPLAINTS AND COSTS—Mr Shoebridge to ask the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Justice and Police, Minister for the Arts, and Minister for Racing—

- (1) How many complaints about police drug detection dogs were received by the NSW Police Force in the following calendar years:
  - (a) 2012?
  - (b) 2013?

- (c) 2014?
  - (d) 2015?
  - (e) 2016 to date?
- (2) How much money has been paid out by or on behalf of the NSW Police Force or the state of New South Wales in response to legal proceedings relating to police drug detection dogs in the following calendar years:
- (a) 2012?
  - (b) 2013?
  - (c) 2014?
  - (d) 2015?
  - (e) 2016 to date?
- (3) What expenses have been incurred by or on behalf of the NSW Police Force or the state of New South Wales defending legal proceedings relating to police drug detection dogs in the following calendar years:
- (a) 2012?
  - (b) 2013?
  - (c) 2014?
  - (d) 2015?
  - (e) 2016 to date?
- (4) What records are kept of each search by a police drug detection dog?
- (5) What was the cost of maintaining the Police Detection Dog unit(s), including upkeep, training and operational costs in each of the following calendar years:
- (a) 2010?
  - (b) 2011?
  - (c) 2012?
  - (d) 2013?
  - (e) 2014?
  - (f) 2015?
  - (g) 2016 to date?

862 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—COMMUNITY SERVICE OBLIGATIONS—Mr Shoebridge to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—

- (1) What are the details of all locations and amounts spent on recreation and tourism projects undertaken by the Forestry Corporation in the Eden and Southern Regional Forest Agreement as funded under the Community Service Obligation in:
- (a) 2011/12?
  - (b) 2012/13?
  - (c) 2013/14?
  - (d) 2014/15?
  - (e) 2015 to date?
- (2) What are the details of location and amounts spent on each road construction and maintenance project undertaken by the Forestry Corporation in the Bega Valley, Bombala and Eurobodalla Shires as funded under the Community Service Obligation in:
- (a) 2011/12?
  - (b) 2012/13?
  - (c) 2013/14?
  - (d) 2014/15?
  - (e) 2015 to date?
- (3) As per Question 3 what are the details funded under the Community Service Obligation and within each of those Shires, but outside State Forests?

- 863 ENVIRONMENT—BELL MINER ASSOCIATED DIEBACK—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 steps is the Environment Protection Authority taking to ensure that the principles of Ecologically Sustainable Forest management are implemented in accordance with the Integrated Forestry Operating Approval, to redress Bell Miner Associated Dieback?
- 864 LANDS AND WATER—BELL MINER ASSOCIATED DIEBACK—Ms Sharpe to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—
- (1) What steps is the Minister taking to ensure that the principles of Ecologically Sustainable Forest management are implemented in accordance with the Integrated Forestry Operating Approval, to redress Bell Miner Associated Dieback?
  - (2) What actions have been taken to identify and map all affected and susceptible areas?
    - (a) What is the timeframe in which this will happen?
  - (3) Will the Government place affected and susceptible areas under a logging moratorium until appropriate management responses that restore ecosystem health and functioning are identified?
  - (4) What rehabilitation work will be undertaken in affected areas?
  - (5) What monitoring and testing of methods will be undertaken?
- 865 ENVIRONMENT—PROTECTING THE WORLD'S HERITAGE—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 action is being taken by the Government to work with the Queensland and Commonwealth Governments to prepare a re-nomination of the Gondwana Rainforests as an Australia World Heritage area?
    - (a) If action is being taken, will this be based upon the tentative list submitted to the World Heritage Centre in 2010?
    - (b) If action is being taken, will the Government ensure the re-nomination includes assessment of the eucalypt theme, and identify any additional reserves qualifying for listing on that value, with particular emphasis on the inclusion of large natural areas of eucalypt forests?
    - (c) If action is being taken, will the Government ensure the re-nomination includes assessment of the supporting values of passive marginal swells and Aboriginal ceremonial sites?
- 866 LANDS AND WATER—PROTECTING CORE KOALA HABITAT AT ROYAL CAMP STATE FOREST—Ms Sharpe to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—
- (1) Is the Forestry Corporation of NSW taking any action to ensure that the occupied Koala habitat in the Royal Camp State Forest is being maintained?
  - (2) Is the Government removing the need to protect core Koala habitat with the new Integrated Forestry Operations Approval and reverting to the retention of minimal numbers of browse trees based on forest types regardless of the active presence of Koalas?
  - (3) Is the Minister undertaking any action to ensure adequate monitoring of Koala habitats to ensure protection?
  - (4) Has the Forestry Corporation of NSW undertaken logging in Koala high use areas? If so, why is the Forestry Corporation of NSW undertaking surveys identifying koala habitat in Koala high use areas instead of an independent agent?
  - (5) Will the Minister prohibit logging in potential Koala habitat until the required assessments are undertaken?
- 867 ENVIRONMENT—CHERRY TREE STATE FOREST—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 action has been taken by the Environmental Protection Authority to adequately map the Cherry

Tree State Forest before approving the Forestry Corporation of NSW road construction?

- (a) Did the requirement that "an adequately trained person must conduct a thorough search" for the vulnerable Onion Cedar occur?
  - (b) Was the required 20 metres exclusion zone around any Onion Cedar trees put in place? If not why not?
  - (c) Did the Environmental Protection Authority take all necessary action to adequately map the Cherry Tree State Forest?
- (2) What action is being taken to ensure the retention of hollow-bearing trees and the recruitment trees needed to replace them when they die?

868 LANDS AND WATER—CHERRY TREE STATE FOREST—Ms Sharpe to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—

- (1) Did the Forestry Corporation of NSW undertake the requirement of having an adequately trained person conduct a thorough search for threatened fauna species and features such as Koala high use trees and Yellow bellied Glider sap-feed trees ahead of building roads and logging in Cherry Tree State Forest?
- (2) What steps did the Forestry Corporation of NSW take to maintain the soil structure, specifically in relation to constructing adequate cross drains to stop overland flow developing channels and transporting silt and pollutants into streams? Are further actions required or planned?

869 LANDS AND WATER—SOUTH COAST KOALAS AND THE LOCAL TIMBER INDUSTRY—Ms Sharpe to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—

In relation to the establishment of four new Flora Reserves on the New South Wales Far South Coast:

- (1) What are the alternative South East New South Wales State Forests where the Government proposes logging will be diverted to?
- (2) Has mapping and identification of koala habitat and other threatened species been undertaken in these areas?
  - (a) If No
    - (i) When will this occur?
    - (ii) Who will be responsible for undertaking this mapping?
    - (iii) What measures will be used to determine areas requiring protection?
- (3) What principles will the Government base its offsetting requirements of these logging proposals upon?
  - (a) Will it require like for like offset?
  - (b) Will it be based on a maintain or improve principle?
  - (c) Will there be red flags for high conservation areas?
- (4) Will the establishment of flora reserves guarantee that they will not be reopened for logging?

870 ENVIRONMENT—NORTH COAST FORESTS AND IFOAS—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) Is the Minister aware that the independent mapping of the proposed changes to the Integrated Forestry Operations Approval in the Clarence and Richmond River catchments shows that these changes could reduce buffers around headwater streams from 10 metres to 5 metres?
- (2) Is the Minister aware that this is likely to result in a 13 per cent reduction in logging exclusion areas on State Forests and a 35 per cent reduction in riparian protection?
- (3) Has the Government directed the Environmental Protection Authority to ensure that there will be no erosion of environmental values with the new logging rules?
- (4) Does the Minister for Environment have final say over the Integrated Forestry Operations Approval and is it consistent with their promise that there will be no erosion of environmental values?

David Blunt  
Clerk of the Parliaments

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Authorised by the Parliament of New South Wales