

The Hon Penny Sharpe MLC

Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy,
Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage,
Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council



6 August 2025

Mr Steven Reynolds
Clerk of the Legislative Council
Parliament House
6 Macquarie St
Sydney NSW 2000

By email: councilqa@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Reynolds,

On behalf of the Premier I provide the attached response to **a supplementary question for written answer.**

Sincerely,

Penny Sharpe MLC

Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy,
Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage,
Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council

06/08/2025

The Hon Chris Minns MP
Premier of New South Wales

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

QUESTION NO. LC

PREMIER'S DEPARTMENT AND THE CABINET OFFICE

The Hon. Tanya Mihailuk to the Leader of the Government representing the Premier

1. Can you please provide the following breakdown for both the Premier's Department and The Cabinet Office as of 1st of June 25?
 - a. The number of senior executives employed at each agency showcasing their band grading and average remuneration.
 - b. The number of non-senior executives employed at each agency showing their band grading and average remuneration.
 - c. The number of media staff employed in each agency for the year 22-23 up to 25-26.
 - d. The number of policy staff employed in each agency for the year 22-23 to 25-26.

ANSWER

I am advised:

The number of senior executives is publicly reported within Annual Reports. The Cabinet Office and the Premier's Department staff numbers are included within Annual Reports.

Annual reports are to be published in line with the Government Sector Finance Act 2018.



Chris Minns MP
Premier

The Hon Tara Moriarty MLC

Minister for Agriculture
Minister for Regional New South Wales
Minister for Western New South Wales

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL****SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS****QUESTION:**

My supplementary question for written answer is directed to the Minister for Agriculture.

Having taken her advice to check her ministerial disclosures, will the Minister confirm that she has had a grand total of two meetings with electric fence providers? She has met with Gallagher Animal Management, a very small provider from Queensland, and, of course, Halter, the dominant market player. That confirms a duopoly in the industry. Will the Minister confirm that some seven days after she announced the legislation for virtual fencing, and seven days into Brent Thomas's employment at Halter, she met with Brent Thomas?

ANSWER:

I am advised:

I have met with two of the three electric fence providers in Australia. The Department has met with the other. I am also advised that the below have attended a consultation session on virtual fencing:

- Vence (MSD Animal Health)
- NSW Famers
- Australian Diary Farmers
- EastAUSMilk
- Animal Welfare Advisory Council
- RSPCA NSW
- NSW Animal Welfare League
- Australian Veterinary Association
- Local Land Services
- Queensland Government representatives
- South Australian Government representatives
- Victorian Government representatives

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- Tasmanian Government representatives

I announced the Government's intention to legalise virtual fencing on 30 April 2025 with Member for Orange, Phil Donato MP.

I am unaware of when people in private companies are employed.



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**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL****SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS****QUESTION:**

My supplementary question for written answer is directed to the Minister for Regional NSW.

Further to the question asked about the Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club, will the Minister inform the House what specific advice she received about the number of jobs the project will create in the Hunter and in which communities they will be located?

ANSWER:

I am advised:

Grant applications under the REDCIP are assessed by the Department and then submitted to the Regional Development Advisory Council which in turns provides advice to the Minister.

The Department's merit-based assessment found that it was a project of regional significance with benefits to the LGAs of Cessnock, Lake Macquarie, Port Stephens, Maitland and Newcastle.

Tara Moriarty MLC

Minister for Agriculture
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Minister for Western New South Wales