

Monday, 24 June 2002

(General Purpose Standing Committee No. 4)

Portfolio

Gaming and Racing, and Hunter Development

QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE DURING HEARING

1. **Mr Cohen asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Hunter Development, the Hon Richard Face, MP—**

(Relevant area in Hansard: p11-12)

I refer to Budget Statement 2002-03, page 3-13. It specifies that revenue from hotel and club gaming devices is to increase from \$777 million this financial year to \$941 million in 2005-06. Given that there is now a cap on poker machines, how does the Office of State Revenue expect to obtain this revenue without removing the cap?

Answer:

Refer Budget Statement 2002-03, p3-20. Estimates for taxation revenue derived from gaming machines are the responsibility of NSW Treasury.

2. **Mr Jobling asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Hunter Development, the Hon Richard Face, MP—**

(Relevant area in Hansard: p23)

- (1) Could the Minister provide the Committee with a copy, once received, of the Report from the Thoroughbred Racing Board into the inner track at Randwick Racecourse?
- (2) What, if any, implications this will have for future race meetings at the track, given that legal action was entertained between TAB Limited and NSW Racing over the Warwick Farm transfer?

Answers:

- (1) ***The Thoroughbred Racing Board's report on this matter has been marked 'commercial-in-confidence' and is not available for release at this time.***
- (2) ***This matter is currently the subject of a dispute between the racing industry and TAB Ltd. It is presently being decided on by an appointed arbitrator.***

3. **Mr Jobling asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Hunter Development, the Hon Richard Face, MP—**

(Relevant area in Hansard: p24)

Can you provide the average amount of prize money for a race on the metropolitan courses across the three different codes of racing, and can you compare that to the prize money available at country race meetings?

Answer:

The three controlling bodies of racing provided advice as follows:

<i>THOROUGHBRED RACING – 2001-02</i>			
<i>Type</i>	<i>No. of Races</i>	<i>Average Prizemoney</i>	<i>Total Prizemoney</i>
<i>Metropolitan</i>	979	\$58,237	\$57,014,120
<i>Provincial</i>	1,053	\$10,878	\$11,455,355
<i>Country</i>	3,871	\$5,968	\$23,105,949
<i>Picnic</i>	141	\$2,523	\$355,820
<i>Total/Average</i>	6,044	\$15,210	\$91,931,244

<i>HARNESS RACING – 2001-02</i>			
<i>Type</i>	<i>No. of Races</i>	<i>Average Prizemoney</i>	<i>Total Prizemoney</i>
<i>Metropolitan</i>	715	\$13,080	\$9,352,000
<i>TAB</i>	2,434	\$3,200	\$7,790,400
<i>Non-TAB</i>	1,114	\$2,068	\$2,303,750
<i>Total/Average</i>	4,263	\$4,561	\$19,446,150

<i>GREYHOUND RACING – 2001-02</i>			
<i>Type</i>	<i>No. of Races</i>	<i>Average Prizemoney</i>	<i>Total Prizemoney</i>
<i>Metropolitan</i>	1,020	\$4,576.64	\$4,668,175
<i>TAB Clubs (ex Metro)</i>	5,685	\$841.39	\$4,783,317
<i>Country (Non-TAB)</i>	9,518	\$275.51	\$2,622,339
<i>Total/Average</i>	16,223	\$744.24	\$12,073,831

‘Hunter Development’

4. **Mr Jobling asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Hunter Development, the Hon Richard Face, MP—**

(Relevant area in Hansard: p17)

Could the Minister provide the Committee with a copy of the relevant criteria companies must meet when applying for financial assistance under the Hunter Development Fund?

Answer:

Refer to Minister for Regional Development.

5. **Mr Cohen asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Hunter Development, the Hon Richard Face, MP—**

(Relevant area in Hansard: p19-21)

- (1) (a) In relation to the local environment plan to rezone the Tomalpin rural lands for industrial use, can you confirm that a regional assessment of industrial land needs and opportunities has been conducted?
- (b) If so, can you supply provide the Committee with the relevant information indicating this?
- (2) Does it concern you that Cessnock Council is seeking to revise the new local environmental plan to allow certain clearing without council’s consent in this area of Tomalpin?

Answers:

- (1) (a) ***Yes. The Opportunity Appraisal Report produced by Hassell Pty Ltd in***

conjunction with the University of Newcastle Employment Studies Centre carried out a detailed assessment of industrial land supply in the Hunter and beyond, as well as an assessment of the drivers of industrial investment and location.

(b) *No. This information is available as part of the background material supporting the Local Environment Plan, which is held by Cessnock City Council.*

(2) *No. These amendments are being carried out with the knowledge of Planning NSW, and will only provide for very minor clearing. Cessnock City Council will require, through the amendment, an ecologist be on site to ensure no threatened flora or fauna is unduly affected by such work.*

6. Mr Cohen asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Hunter Development, the Hon Richard Face, MP—

(Relevant area in Hansard: p21)

The Minister indicated that he was unaware of any report of any such inquiry, but that he would provide the Committee with a report on the dealings he had with the Hunter River, regarding negotiations with the land and the possible leaching of various industrial activities left from the BHP sites.

Answer:

The only meetings held involving the Minister Assisting the Premier on Hunter Development have concerned the future industrial and commercial use of the BHP lands once transferred and remediated.

The transfer and remediation of these lands is the primary responsibility of the Premier's Department. Refer to the Premier.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

7. Ms Gardiner asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Hunter Development, the Hon Richard Face, MP—

- (1) (a) Does your Ministerial Office receive media monitoring services?
- (b) If so, what was the annual cost in 2001-02?
- (c) If the media monitoring services are sourced from other cost centres, which budgets are they allocated to and what is the annual cost?
- (d) How many different suppliers do you have contracts with, either directly, or indirectly through media monitoring services sourced from other cost centres?
- (e) Please list all suppliers.
- (2) (a) Does any agency in your portfolio receive media monitoring services?
- (b) If so, what was the annual cost in 2001-02, by agency?
- (c) If the media monitoring services are sourced from other cost centres, which budgets are they allocated to and what is the annual cost?
- (d) How many different suppliers do agencies in your portfolio have contracts with, either directly, or indirectly through media monitoring services sourced from other cost centres?
- (e) Please list all suppliers.

- (3) (a) In 2001-02, how much was spent on your Ministerial Office? Please provide a breakdown by expense.
- (b) What is the forecast amount to be spent in 2002-03 and what is the forecast number of staff?
- (4) (a) What is the total cost of your overseas trips in 2001-02?
- (b) Can you please provide a list of each trip, purpose and cost?
- (c) For each trip, please provide a breakdown in airfare costs, hotel costs, car hire, and accompanying staff and officials.
- (5) (a) What is the estimate of money to be spent on your overseas trips in 2002-03?
- (b) Can you please provide a list of each trip, purpose and cost?
- (c) For each trip, please provide a breakdown in airfare costs, hotel costs, car hire, and accompanying staff and officials.
- (6) (a) What is the total cost of your interstate trips in 2001-02?
- (b) Please provide a list of each trip, purpose and cost and for each trip a breakdown in airfare costs, hotel costs, car hire, and accompanying staff and officials.
- (7) (a) What is the estimate of money to be spent on your interstate trips in 2002-03?
- (b) Can you provide a list of each trip, purpose and cost?
- (c) For each trip, can you provide a breakdown in airfare costs, hotel costs, car hire, and accompanying staff and officials?
- (8) (a) How many staff were employed as at 30 May 1999, 30 May 2000, 30 May 2001 in your Ministerial Office?
- (b) What was the annual salary cost of those staff in each of those years?
- (9) (a) Does your office contract consultants?
- (b) If so, what consultancies have been commissioned in 2001/2002, and at what cost?
- (c) What consultancy services will be commissioned from July 1 2002 - March 2003 and at what estimated cost?
- (10) (a) Were any legal costs incurred by your office in 2001-02.
- (b) If so, what was the cost and nature of each instance of legal advice?

Answers:

- (1) (a) **Yes.**
- (b) **All costs incurred were appropriate to the needs identified.**
- (c) **All expenditure is from the appropriate cost centres.**
- (d) **Please refer to answer for (c)**
- (e) **Please refer to answer for (c)**
- (2) (a) **Any decision to access media monitoring is determined by the agencies concerned and the need for monitoring of issues.**
- (b) **All costs were in accordance with identified needs.**

- (c) *All expenditure is from the appropriate cost centres.*
- (d) *The appropriate cost centres are utilised.*
- (e) *The appropriate cost centres are utilised.*
- (3) (a) *The Government has released the costs of Ministerial expenditure to the Opposition under an FOI application.*
- (b) *It is too early in the financial year to predict expenditure. Staff numbers will approximate those released under the FOI application.*
- (4) (a) to (c) *Official travel is undertaken in accordance with appropriate guidelines.*
- Costs incurred during official overseas travel were in accordance with the appropriate guidelines.*
- (5) (a) to (c) *This will depend on the nature and scope of any travel undertaken in 2002-03. Costs incurred during official overseas travel will be in accordance with the appropriate guidelines.*
- (6) (a) and (b) *Official travel was undertaken in accordance with appropriate guidelines and in a costs effective manner.*
- (7) (a) to (c) *It is too early to provide an estimate at this stage of the financial year. However, expenditure will depend on the nature and scope of any travel in 2002-03.*
- (8) (a) and (b) *Ministerial staff are employed by the Director General of the Premier's Department in accordance with the provisions of the Public Sector Management Act 1988.*
- All costs were in accordance with the expenditure necessary to facilitate the effective functioning of the office and within allocations to Ministerial Offices.*
- (9) (a) to (c) *Expenditure on consultancies is reported in Annual Reports. All expenditure is in accordance with the appropriate guidelines.*
- It is not possible to predict so early in the financial year the likely expenditure on consultants in 2002-03.*
- (10) (a) and (b) *All legal costs were incurred after an assessment of the need to obtain external legal assistance. Legal professional privilege will be maintained in relation to advice and costs.*

8. Ms Gardiner asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Hunter Development, the Hon Richard Face, MP—

For each of your portfolio agencies in 2001-02:

- (1) (a) What was the total cost of public relations activities?
- (b) What is the forecast cost for 2002-03?
- (2) How much was spent on public opinion surveys?
- (3) (a) How much money was spent on advertising? *Please provide a list of each campaign and cost.*
- (b) What is the estimate of money to be spent on advertising in 2002-03? *Please provide a list of each campaign and cost.*
- (4) (a) How much was spent on consultants? *Please provide a list of each agency and cost.*
- (b) What is the estimate of money to be spent on consultants in 2002-03? *Please provide a list of each agency and cost.*

Answers:

- (1) (a) and (b) *Public authorities conduct a range of extension activities aimed at communicating to the public a range of regulatory, advisory, research and general information.*

The question posed is too broad to identify an actual cost.

- (2) *The Premier issued Memorandum 2000-28 which specifically directed Government agencies not to use surveys of government clients or NSW citizens to elicit questions on political issues.*

- (3) (a) and (b) *Details of total Government advertising were published in the Sydney Morning*

Herald newspaper on Monday 29 July 2002 in an article by Paola Totaro, State Political Editor.

All requests relating to advertising must be approved by a Cabinet Sub-Committee on Government Advertising.

- (4) (a) and (b) *The cost of consultants is reflected in the annual report.*

Expenditure depends on the need for consultancy services throughout the year.

9. Mr Jobling asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Hunter Development, the Hon Richard Face, MP—

For each of your portfolio agencies in 2001-02:

- (5) (a) How much was spent on overseas trips in 2001-02 by officials? *Please provide a list of each trip, purpose and cost.*
- (b) What is the estimate of money to be spent on overseas trips in 2002-03 by officials? *Please provide a list of each trip, purpose and cost.*
- (6) (a) How much was spent on inter-state trips in 2001-02 by officials? *Please provide a list of each trip, purpose and cost?*
- (b) What is the estimate of money to be spent on interstate trips in 2002-03 by officials? *Please provide a list of each trip, purpose and cost?*

Answers:

- (5) (a) and (b) *Details regarding all official overseas travel is included in the annual report and is in accordance with the appropriate guidelines.*

Expenditure depends on the particular issues requiring overseas travel.

- (6) (a) and (b) *Interstate travel by portfolio agencies was undertaken in accordance with appropriate guidelines.*

Expenditure depends on the particular issues requiring travel.

For each of your portfolio agencies in 2001-02:

- (7) How much was spent on legal expenses?
- (8) (a) How much was spent on office fitouts and refurbishments?
- (b) What is the estimated cost for 2002-03?
- (9) (a) How much was spent on the cost of leases in the Sydney CBD?
- (b) What is the estimated cost for 2002-03?

- (10) (a) Was there any vacant or under-utilised office space?
 (b) What is the cost of such unused office space?

Answers:

- (7) *Expenditure on legal expenses followed appropriate review of the circumstances, the need for such expenditure and within appropriate guidelines.*

In the case of core work for public sector agencies the Crown Solicitor meets these costs.

- (8) (a) and (b) *All office accommodation fit-outs and refurbishments were undertaken in accordance with OH&S requirements and appropriate guidelines.*

It is not possible to predict so early in the financial year the likely expenditure on accommodation and fit-outs in 2002-03.

- (9) (a) and (b) *The Government Asset Management Committee (GAMC) monitors the leasing of the majority of Government office space.*

Costs are kept to a minimum by virtue of the whole of Government approach taken to leasing.

- (10) (a) and (b) *The Government Asset Management Committee (GAMC) oversees the leasing of the majority of government office space. It monitors lease negotiations to maximise occupancy and avoid vacancies.*

For each of your portfolio agencies in 2001-02:

- (11) (a) How much money was spent on performance pay for public servants in:
 (i) 2000-01?
 (ii) 2001-02?
 (b) Did you personally approve these bonus payments?
- (12) (a) How much was spent on the salary packages for the Senior Executive Service?
 (b) What is the estimated cost for 2002-03?

Answers:

- (11) (a) and (b) *On 28 August 2001 Premier's Memorandum 2000-21 was issued indicating that performance pay was not to be made available to members of the Chief and Senior Executive Services.*

Approvals for performance payments prior to 28 August 2001 as well as all other remuneration to members of the Senior Executive Service were made by the respective Chief Executive Officers.

- (12) (a) and (b) *Upon election, the Government inherited a Chief and Senior Executive Service of 1,434 positions. The Government reduced the number of Senior Executive Service positions in accordance with a commitment to do so. As at April 2002 there were 1,003. This is a reduction of 431.*

Remuneration for the Senior Executive Service (SES) is determined by the Independent Statutory and Other Offices Remuneration Tribunal (SOORT). It is not possible to predict so early in the financial year the likely expenditure on SES remuneration. However, expenditure will be in accordance with any determinations by SOORT.

For each of your portfolio agencies in 2001-02:

- (13) (a) Have any Departments or agencies been fined by a court or statutory or regulatory authority between July 1 2001 and June 30, 2002?
- (b) If so, detail each fine and amount, and the reason for each fine?
- (14) How many times were matters referred for independent investigation to ICAC? *Please provide a breakdown of these referrals?*

Answers:

- (13) (a) and (b) *Any penalties imposed by a court or statutory authority are on the record of that court or statutory authority.*
- (14) *Section 11 of the Independent Commission Against Corruption Act 1988 requires the principal officer of an agency to report any matter the officer suspects on reasonable grounds concerns or may concern corruption.*

Disclosure of information may identify issues under investigation and therefore impede these investigations.

For each of your portfolio agencies in 2001-02:

- (15) (a) What fees were increased, and by how much?
- (b) What fees are expected to be increased in 2002-03?

Answer:

- (15) (a) and (b) *As was the case in the former Greiner/Fahey Governments any increases in fees are measured and take into account the specific fee, movements in the CPI and other related factors.*

10. Mr Jobling asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Hunter Development, the Hon Richard Face, MP—

- (1) (a) In 2001-02, how many board appointments were made you, or by your portfolio agencies?
- (b) Of these appointments:
- (i) How many were women?
- (ii) How many were of people from a non-English speaking background?
- (iii) How many were of people with a disability?
- (iv) How many were Aboriginal Torres Strait Islanders?
- (v) How many were young people?

Answer:

- (1) (a) *The Government made a total of 1754 appointments to boards and committees in 2001-02.*
- (b) (i) *Approximately 694 were female.*
- (ii) *Due to the self-identifying nature of the nomination form no reliable figures are available for people from a non-English speaking background.*
- (iii) *Due to the self identifying nature of the nomination form no reliable figures are available for people with a disability.*

- (iv) *Due to the self identifying nature of the nomination form no reliable figures are available for Aboriginal Torres Strait Islanders.*
- (v) *Due to the self identifying nature of the nomination form no reliable figures are available for young people.*

'Gaming'

11. Ms Gardiner asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Hunter Development, the Hon Richard Face, MP—

- (1) How much of the estimated \$12.2 million expenditure by the Casino Community Benefit Fund in 2002-03 will be allocated to gambling related projects and activities?
- (2) What are these projects and what funds are allocated to each project?

Answers:

- (1) *Of the estimated \$12.2 million, allocations totalling \$10.604 million will be made. Funding will also be provided to community projects to address the causes and consequences of problem gambling. The level of funding to be provided through the community projects program has not been determined at this stage.*

(2) <i>Counselling and Treatment (including G-line)</i>	<i>\$8.416 million</i>
<i>Research</i>	<i>\$1.533 million</i>
<i>Community Awareness Campaign</i>	<i>\$0.655 million</i>
<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>\$10.604 million</i>

12. Ms Gardiner asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Hunter Development, the Hon Richard Face, MP—

- (1) Why is the average staffing level of the Liquor and Gaming Machine Compliance Division expected to fall again to 115 in 2002-03?
- (2) To what programs are the 115 staff of the Liquor and Gaming Machine Compliance Division allocated?

Answers:

- (1) *Average staffing levels within the Liquor and Gaming Machine Compliance Division are expected to fall in 2002-03 due to the transfer of the gaming machine tax assessment function to TAB Limited as part of its functions as CMS licensee, and the transfer of the machine gaming tax collections function to the Office of State Revenue. These functions were transferred from 1 December 2001 when the CMS commenced.*

- (2) *Enforcement Branch*

Legal and Licensing Branch

Court Registry

Gaming Technology Branch

CMS Business Unit

Keno

Other support areas (Liquor Administration Board, financial services and corporate support).

13. Ms Gardiner asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Hunter Development, the Hon Richard Face, MP—

- (1) Is the Centralised Monitoring System (CMS) fully operational?
- (2) What ongoing problems have developed with the Centralised Monitoring System?
- (3) (a) What are the fees for comparable monitoring systems in other States?
(b) Are they higher or lower?
- (4) Why is the fee for the monitoring system in NSW higher than the fee charged in other States?
- (5) Was the \$900,000 under-expenditure on central monitoring fee assistance for clubs due to the delay in the implementation of the centralised monitoring system?

Answers:

- (1) *The Centralised Monitoring System (CMS) commenced operations on 1 December 2001 and is undertaking the functions required by the CMS licence. This involves the electronic collection of gaming machine taxation data, collection of certain integrity events, configuration records, calculation and billing of gaming machine taxation, data analysis and management and control reporting.*

The CMS also provides support functions including the collection of gaming machine taxation and the monitoring of the shut down period.

As with large complex systems, it is continually being developed to provide greater functionality and efficiencies for machine gaming venues and Government.

- (2) *The CMS commenced operation for duty calculation and assessment purposes on 1 December 2001. Prior to this date replication of data from venues to the central site computer had improved significantly.*

The problems experienced during the first 6-9 months of live operation revolved around the performance and supply of the Gaming Machine Interface card. Hardware and software faults were detected soon after the CMS commenced operation despite many months of testing. The faults have now been resolved and the scope of the problems identified and managed.

The logistics management and supply issues with regard to interface cards have now been addressed by the CMS licensee and it is anticipated that by the end of August 2002 these issues will be resolved and replacement cards will be installed in the field.

It is not anticipated that CMS will have ongoing problems.

- (3) (a) *Monitoring fees vary from State to State depending on the number of operators, numbers of gaming machines and service provided.*

New South Wales \$26.10 per machine per month

South Australia \$37.40 per machine per month

*Queensland between approximately \$14 and \$30 per machine per month
depending upon the licensed monitor and the services provided.*

Victoria Not applicable (venues do not own machines)

Tasmania Not applicable (venues do not own machines)

ACT Not applicable (no monitoring system)

Western Australia No gaming machines in hotels or clubs

(b) *See above*

(4) *The monitoring fee was determined by the Minister for Gaming and Racing following consultation with the Treasurer and the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal. It is understood that the monitoring fees in Queensland are lower due to a number of factors, including the provision by the Queensland Government of a range of monitoring infrastructure at no cost to licensed monitors, the system contains less redundant features, etc.*

(5) *Yes.*

14. Ms Gardiner asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Hunter Development, the Hon Richard Face, MP—

(1) When will struggling clubs in NSW be able to access funding from the Small Clubs Assistance Package?

(2) How will clubs apply for funding from the Small Clubs Assistance Package?

Answers:

(1) *The details of the legal and administrative arrangements for the Club Assistance Scheme are still being finalised in consultation with ClubsNSW. At this stage I am advised that information will be provided to individual clubs by the end of August in relation to the policies and procedures governing the new scheme.*

(2) *Refer (1).*

15. Ms Gardiner asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Hunter Development, the Hon Richard Face, MP—

(1) How long does the average application take to progress through the Licensing Court and the Liquor Administration Board?

(2) Are there backlogs in the Licensing Court and the Liquor Administration Board?

Answers:

(1) *Average processing times for applications before the Licensing Court and the Liquor Administration Board depend on a variety of circumstances, including the type of application, strength of objections lodged, statutory timeframes, completeness of evidence provided, appeal processes, etc. At present timeframes vary between one day for simple applications, and up to 6 months for determinations of applications for new hotels and retail liquor licences.*

(2) *Yes. These are being addressed by changes to Court and Board processes and procedures, and the provision of additional resources.*

16. Ms Gardiner asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Hunter Development, the Hon Richard Face, MP—

(1) What is the average time for premises reviews and probity reports to be completed by the Department of Gaming and Racing?

(2) Has the reduction in staffing levels in the Department of Gaming and Racing led to an increase in the time taken to complete premises reviews and probity reports?

Answers:

(1) *Premises Reviews 47.3 days: Probity Reports 21.7 days.*

(2) *No. There has been a reduction in the time taken to complete these tasks.*

17. Mr Jobling asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Hunter Development, the Hon Richard Face, MP—

- (1) (a) How many liquor accords are in place in NSW?
 (b) Where are they located?
 (2) What, if any, are the differences between accords from area to area?

Answers:

- (1) (a) 48.
 (b) *The locations are as follows:*

<i>Albury</i>	<i>Gosford</i>	<i>Newcastle, Waratah</i>
<i>Armidale</i>	<i>Goulburn</i>	<i>North Sydney/ Mosman</i>
<i>Bankstown</i>	<i>Griffith</i>	<i>Shoalhaven</i>
<i>Bathurst</i>	<i>Port Macquarie</i>	<i>Orange</i>
<i>Baulkham Hills</i>	<i>Hawkesbury, Windsor, Richmond</i>	<i>Penrith, St Marys</i>
<i>Bega Valley</i>	<i>Holroyd City</i>	<i>Quakers Hill</i>
<i>Bourke</i>	<i>Inverell</i>	<i>Queanbeyan</i>
<i>Byron Bay</i>	<i>Kings Cross</i>	<i>Shellharbour/Kiama</i>
<i>Campbelltown</i>	<i>Lake Cargelligo</i>	<i>Shoal Bay</i>
<i>Cessnock</i>	<i>Lake Macquarie</i>	<i>Taree</i>
<i>City of Sydney</i>	<i>Leeton</i>	<i>Temora</i>
<i>Collarenebri</i>	<i>Lithgow, Portland, Wallerawang</i>	<i>The Rocks</i>
<i>Deniliquin</i>	<i>Maitland</i>	<i>Tumut</i>
<i>Dubbo</i>	<i>Manly</i>	<i>Wagga Wagga</i>
<i>Eastern Beaches, Sydney, Coogee, Maroubra, Randwick</i>	<i>Miranda/Sutherland</i>	<i>Wyong</i>
<i>Fairfield</i>	<i>Mudgee</i>	<i>Young</i>

- (2) *The liquor accord is underpinned by the four accord principles, namely the Responsible Service of Alcohol, Safety and Security, Commitment to being Good Neighbours, and Cooperation with Police and the Community. Each accord is unique in that it attempts to solve local problems with local solutions. Evidence has shown that what works for a problem in one accord area, may not be effective in addressing a like problem in a different area. Accordingly, a range of specific strategies are packaged together as a solution for an area. Some of the more common strategies include curfews, late night venue transport, designated driver and mandatory juvenile identification checks.*

18. Mr Jobling asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Hunter Development, the Hon Richard Face, MP—

- (1) What is the Minister doing to help resolve disputes between hotel lessors and lessees over the ownership of poker machine entitlements?
- (2) How long will the Liquor Administration Board take to assess hardship applications by hotels for additional poker machines?
- (3) Will the assessment of the hardship applications result in further delays in finalising other applications through the Liquor Administration Board?

Answers:

- (1) *The Minister is closely monitoring the issue and has supported the Australian Hotels Association (NSW) in facilitating mediation processes for the parties who remain in dispute.*
- (2) *It is expected that the Liquor Administration Board will process a large percentage of hardship applications by 30 September 2002. However, certain applications may take a longer period of time to finalise.*
- (3) *There will be some impact on the usual time taken to finalise applications by the Liquor Administration Board. The matter is being carefully monitored.*

19. Mr Jobling asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Hunter Development, the Hon Richard Face, MP—

- (1) What was the total revenue for contracted services received by the Department of Gaming and Racing from the Department of Local Government?
- (2) For what services did the Department of Gaming and Racing receive payment from the Department of Local Government?

Answers:

- (1) *\$19,565 per month (excluding GST). Services provided that are not part of the services listed below are charged on a time and materials basis.*
- (2) *Financial services that relate to processing and recording of accounts and financial transactions, human resource services and payroll services.*

'Racing'

20. Ms Gardiner asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Hunter Development, the Hon Richard Face, MP—

Relevant area in the Budget papers: Budget Paper No.3, Volume 1, p 7-14

- (1) What proportion of the \$1.883 million allocated in this year's Budget to fund the development, control and regulation of the racing industry is allocated to the Race Clubs Advisory Service?
- (2) Can the Minister indicate what, if any, staff from the Office of Racing are involved in the provision of this service?
- (3) What proportion of the \$1.883 million allocated in this year's Budget to fund the development, control and regulation of the racing industry is allocated to Racing Training NSW?
- (4) Can the Minister indicate what, if any, staff from the Office of Racing are involved?

Answers:

- (1) *Nil.*
- (2) *Nil.*
- (3) *Nil.*
- (4) *The Office of Racing provides the Minister's representative which sits on the Management Committee of Racing Training NSW.*

21. Ms Gardiner asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Hunter Development, the Hon Richard Face, MP—

Relevant area in the Budget papers: Budget Paper No.3, Volume 1, Development, Control and Regulation of the Racing Industry, specifically the program objective, Monitoring of totalisators' and bookmakers' operations

- (1) How many representatives of the Office of Racing serve on the Bookmakers Revision Committee?
- (2) Can the Minister indicate the cost to the Department of the review undertaken into the software used for bookmaker betting ledgers?
- (3) Can the Minister indicate the likely impact the removal of the bookmaker turnover tax will have on the retention of bookmaker numbers in the racing industry?

Answers:

- (1) *One.*
- (2) *The review was undertaken by Departmental officers within the scope of their normal duties. Accordingly, no costs outside of normal running costs were expended.*
- (3) *It is expected to halt the decline in bookmaker numbers.*

22. Ms Gardiner asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Hunter Development, the Hon Richard Face, MP—

Relevant area in the Budget papers: Budget Paper No.3, Volume 1, Development, Control and Regulation of the Racing Industry, specifically the program objective to protect the interests of the public in relation to racing operations

Can the Minister indicate whether there have been any further prosecutions made under the Racing Administration Act during the past twelve months?

Answer:

Nil.

23. Ms Gardiner asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Hunter Development, the Hon Richard Face, MP—

Relevant area in the Budget papers: Budget Paper No.3, Volume 1, Development, Control and Regulation of the Racing Industry, specifically the program description, Monitoring of totalisators' and bookmakers' operations

Can the Minister indicate what progress has been made towards the development and installation of an automated totalisator monitoring system by TAB Limited?

Answer:

A condition of TAB Limited's off-course totalizator licence requires the development and installation of an automated system for the efficient monitoring and analysis of totalizator betting activities.

The system specifications were finalised on 22 February 2002 with a target date for the systems commencement being 25 March 2003. The most recent advice received from TAB Limited on 8 July 2002 is that development work is proceeding to schedule. The design has been completed for Phase 2 and development for this phase has commenced.

According to TAB Limited's project plan installation at the Department will be in early February 2003 and it is anticipated that the Department will undertake acceptance testing from 17 February 2003 to 15 March 2003. This will ensure that the target handover to the Department will be on or before 24 March 2003.

24. Ms Gardiner asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Hunter Development, the Hon Richard Face, MP—

Relevant area in the Budget papers: Budget Paper No.3, Volume 1, Development, Control and Regulation of the Racing Industry, specifically the program description, Advice to the Minister on the development, management and operation of on- and off- course betting

- (1) Does the Minister intend renewing the authorisation for the betting auditorium at Randwick Racecourse?
- (2) How many betting auditoria at other racecourses have been authorised this year?

Answers:

- (1) *The authorisation for the betting auditorium at Randwick racecourse is renewed on an annual basis. The authorisation for the 2002-03 financial year was granted on 25 June 2002.*
- (2) *During the 2001-02 financial year authorisation was given for a betting auditorium to be conducted on nominated dates at Ballina Racecourse, Coffs Harbour Racecourse, the Newcastle International Sports Centre, Border Park Racing Complex (Tweed Heads), Broadmeadow Racecourse, Fairfield Paceway and Showgrounds, and Randwick Racecourse.*

In addition, for Melbourne Cup day on 6 November 2001, the following race clubs conducted an authorised betting auditorium:

- *Gosford Race Club (Gosford Racecourse)*
- *Goulburn and District Race Club (Goulburn Racecourse)*
- *NSW Harness Racing Club (Harold Park Paceway)*
- *Penrith District Agricultural, Horticultural and Industrial Society (Penrith Showground)*
- *Port Macquarie Race Club (Port Macquarie Racecourse)*
- *Newcastle Jockey Club (Broadmeadow Racecourse)*
- *Sydney Turf Club (Rosehill Gardens Racecourse)*
- *Tweed Heads Coursing Club (Border Park Racing Complex)*

25. Mr Jobling asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Hunter Development, the Hon Richard Face, MP—

Relevant area in the Budget papers: Budget Paper No.3, Volume 1, Development, Control and Regulation of the Racing Industry, specifically the program description, Advice to the Minister on the development, management and operation of the greyhound industry

- (1) Has the Minister held discussions with his colleague the Minister for Land and Water Conservation over the future plans the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority may develop for the Wentworth Park site?
- (2) When will a new board for the Wentworth Park Sporting Complex Trust be appointed?

Answers:

- (1) *No.*
- (2) *Appointments to the Trust are the responsibility of the Minister for Land and Water Conservation.*

26. Mr Jobling asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Hunter Development, the Hon Richard Face, MP—

Relevant area in the Budget papers: Budget Paper No.3, Volume 1, Development, Control and Regulation of the Racing Industry, specifically the program objective to protect the interests of the public in relation to racing operations

- (1) What action is the Minister taking to ensure that participant stakeholders in the racing industry, in particular, the jockeys, the harness racing drivers and the greyhound owners, trainers and attendants have adequate public liability insurance?
- (2) Will the Government's second stage of tort law reforms provide adequate protection for racing clubs?
- (3) What are the likely implications for the racing industry should race clubs be left without adequate cover?

Answers:

- (1) *The arrangements for such insurance are the responsibility of the relevant controlling body of racing. Nevertheless, it is understood that each code's controlling body has, like other similarly affected bodies in the community, been negotiating the best possible industry wide arrangements with its respective insurance providers.*
- (2) *On 20 March 2002, the Premier announced the Government's plans for a detailed package of specific measures to address public liability insurance problems. The Civil Liability Act 2002, which the Parliament enacted recently, represents the first stage of the Government's reforms.*

The Act has made significant changes to the law relating to civil actions for damages. For example, the Act has imposed a range of restrictions on the awarding of damages that relate to the death of or injury to a person caused by the fault of another person. Specifically, the legislation introduces limits on damages for economic and non-economic loss; excludes awards of punitive, exemplary or aggravated damages; and places limits on legal costs for small claims.

The Premier has committed the Government to introducing a second stage of reforms, pursuing broad ranging changes to the law of negligence, later this year.

The measures announced by NSW on 20 March 2002 have facilitated national agreement on reform. That reform agenda was endorsed at the meeting of the Council on Australian Governments on 5 April 2002, and progress against the agenda reviewed in May 2002 at a meeting of the relevant Australian Ministers.

Once the reforms are in place, it will be incumbent on the insurance industry to pass on any savings to all consumers, which includes race clubs. In that regard, the Premier has called on the Commonwealth Government, which has responsibility for the regulation of the insurance industry, to ensure that the relevant Commonwealth bodies (ie the ACCC, APRA and ASIC) take appropriate action to ensure that any savings are in fact passed on to consumers by the insurance industry.

- (3) *The management of such insurance matters is the responsibility of the relevant controlling bodies of racing. Each controlling body, it is understood, is making the appropriate arrangements to obtain 'pooled' insurance arrangements on behalf of the relevant race clubs in each code, and also to review and introduce appropriate risk management practices at club level.*

27. Mr Jobling asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Hunter Development, the Hon Richard Face, MP—

Relevant area in the Budget papers: Budget Paper No.3, Volume 1, Development, Control and Regulation of the Racing Industry, specifically the program objective to support and enhance the viability of racing organisations

What discretion can the Minister exercise to seek an alteration to the existing Racing Distribution Agreement between TAB Limited and NSW Racing Limited should the commercial arrangements entered into by the parties concerned prove to be detrimental to the long term viability of this State's racing organisations, particularly those in country and regional NSW?

Answer:

The Racing Distribution Agreement (RDA) is a legally binding commercial agreement between the racing industry and TAB Limited. There is no discretion afforded to the Minister in the RDA of the type envisaged by the question.

'Hunter Development'

28. Ms Gardiner asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Hunter Development, the Hon Richard Face, MP—

In relation to the 'Multi-purpose terminal – Port of Newcastle'

- (1) What, if any, involvement has the Minister's Hunter Development personnel and office had advancing the building of a multi-purpose terminal at the Port of Newcastle?
- (2) What is the present status of that project?

Answers:

- (1) ***The Minister Assisting the Premier on Hunter Development and his staff have worked closely with the Newcastle Port Corporation, the Department of State and Regional Development, the Hunter Economic Development Corporation (HEDC), Newcastle City Council, the Newcastle and Hunter Business Chamber, and the Department of Transport in examining the Multi-Purpose Terminal (MPT) proposal.***

The Minister has facilitated meetings and operated in an advocacy role for this project.

- (2) ***Newcastle Port Corporation is currently preparing a business case for the MPT to be presented to the Minister for Transport. If endorsed, the proposal will then be submitted to the Cabinet.***