



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEES

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2016-2017 Supplementary Questions

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

AGEING, DISABILITY SERVICES, MULTICULTURALISM

Hearing: Tuesday 29 August 2016

Answers due by: Friday 23 September 2016

Budget Estimates Secretariat

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AGEING

Questions from Ms Jan Barham MLC

NSW Ageing Strategy

1. Can you provide some detail or breakdown about how the \$6.5 million allocated for implementing the NSW Ageing Strategy in 2016-17 will be used?
2. Has the renewed version of the Ageing Strategy been finalised and is there an Implementation Plan in place for this year?

Questions from the Hon Shaoquett Moselmane MLC (on behalf of the NSW Labor Opposition)

Elder Abuse

3. Could you provide the Committee the number of calls made to the Elder Abuse Helpline to date?
4. Will the NSW Government adopt the recommendations of the recent Legislative Council Inquiry into Elder Abuse?
5. Have you read the final report of the Elder Abuse Inquiry?
6. Have you read the submission from People with Disability Australia?
7. Will the NSW Government adopt PWDA's recommendation to create a Royal Commission into violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation of people with disability in all settings?
8. Will the NSW Government adopt PWDA's recommendation to collaborate with other states and territories to establish a national system for reporting and investigating violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation of people with disability in all settings?
9. Will the NSW Government adopt PWDA's recommendation to establish a supported decision-making framework that promotes and supports people to effectively assert and exercise their legal capacity?
10. Will the NSW Government adopt PWDA's recommendations that the NSW Ombudsman be given stronger power in relation to cases of abuse, neglect and exploitation, and that the Disability Reportable Incidents Scheme be extended to include all types of institutions in which people with disability and older people reside?

11. Will the NSW Government adopt PWDA's recommendations that NSW contributes funds to the ABS to increase the scope of the Personal Safety Survey and of the Disability, Ageing and Carers survey, to include institutional and residential settings in which older people with disability are overrepresented?
12. Will the NSW Government adopt PWDA's recommendations to provide more funding for existing social networks, such as Probus Clubs, to become more inclusive for older people with disability, as a way to protect older people against violence?
13. There are a range of health-related services that are currently block-funded by FACS including research roles in intellectual disability, outreach psychiatry clinics in regional areas of NSW, School Physical Disability Therapy Teams - amongst others. What is happening to these services?

Gold Opal

14. Why are pensioners unable to purchase a single-use, Opal paper pensioner excursion ticket for \$2.50, when machines exist at many train stations that sell single-use, Opal paper tickets for Adults and half-fare concessions?

Employment

15. What is the NSW Government's response to the Australian Human Right's Commission's "Willing to Work" inquiry into employment discrimination against older people and people with disability?

Social Media Spending

16. How much does the Department of Family and Community Services spend on social media related activities in relation to ageing?
17. How much did the Department of Family and Community Services (Ageing, Disability and HomeCare) spend on social media in the 2015-16 Financial Year?
18. How much did the Department of Family and Community Services (Ageing, Disability and HomeCare) spend on social media in the 2014-15 Financial Year?
19. How much does the Department of Family and Community Services (Ageing, Disability and HomeCare) plan to spend on social media in the 2016-17 Financial Year?

Domestic Violence Leave and Awareness

20. For each department, statutory agency and/or other bodies in the Minister's Portfolio please report:

- (a) Date of introduction of domestic violence leave into enterprise agreements/contracts of employment, awards as applicable;
- (b) Whether or not all employees and/or contractors are eligible for domestic violence leave;
- (c) Number of days of domestic violence leave that have been taken in each financial year since the introduction of such leave;
- (d) Number of days available for eligible staff to access domestic violence leave in each financial year;
- (e) Number of other personal days of leave that have been taken in each financial year since the introduction of domestic violence leave;
- (f) Number of sick days available for eligible staff to access domestic violence leave in each financial year;
- (g) Whether or not all staff and/or contractors have access to Employee Assistance Programs?
- (h) What training has been undertaken with management and administration for those involved in approving and/or processing domestic violence leave on issues such as?
 - i. Privacy and confidentiality of information about domestic violence
 - ii. Access to emotional, psychological, financial and medical support which may be required
- (i) Who has provided training on domestic violence in the workplace?
- (j) What percentage of staff in each agency has undertaken domestic violence training?
- (k) What efforts have been made to ensure that perpetrators (or their accomplices) within the staffing profile are not able to access personal information of victims in order to identify their location, or other information which may assist in committing domestic violence against them, including changing or accessing records in such a way as to disadvantage them financially or legally?

Sexual harassment and Anti-bullying training and awareness programs

21. For each department, statutory agency and/or other bodies in the Minister's Portfolio please report:
- (a) Date of introduction of sexual harassment and anti-bullying training and awareness programs
 - (b) Whether or not all employees and/or contractors have received such training?
 - (c) Is this course mandatory for all employees/ contractors?
 - (d) How long for each session, how many sessions?
 - (e) Who delivers it?
 - (f) Is the program tailored to take into consideration specific needs of LGBTQIA, ATSI and CALD or other at risk groups?
 - (g) How?
 - (h) What percentage of staff in each agency has undertaken sexual harassment and anti-bullying training and awareness programs?

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Ageing

24. What is the Government doing to advocate on behalf residents in Retirement Villages to ensure that they receive the same rebate as aged residents living in single dwellings?
25. Is the rate rebate for pensioners consistent across all Water Authorities in NSW for those entitled to the pension rebate on water rates?
26. For those living in retirement villages, what Water Authorities apply the rebate to individuals entitled to the rebate and living in retirement villages?
27. Is the Government planning to increase the Pensioner rebate for local government rates, electricity, car registration/licensing?

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2 report: *Elder Abuse in NSW*

28. Has the Minister read the Report of the General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2 *Elder Abuse in NSW* published on 24 June 2016. Did the Minister or any of his staff provide any evidence or other assistance to the Inquiry?
29. Does the Minister have responsibility for protecting older citizens in NSW from sexual abuse/sexual assault or other forms of abuse, regardless of the circumstances of the assault? Specifically, across the range of assaults depending on the setting, the timing, or the perpetrator's relationship with the victim/survivor? Eg:
 - (a) Perpetrators who are unknown to the victim/survivor?
 - (b) Perpetrators who are known to the victim/survivor as acquaintances or are in a relationship with them ?
 - (c) Online pornography, "revenge porn", websites inciting stalking behaviour of individuals?
 - (d) Perpetrators who are family members?
 - (e) Perpetrators who are employees of private and not for profit residential care facilities (aged care elder abuse, refuges, emergency accommodation, homelessness services, disability care facilities)?
 - (f) Crimes in institutional settings (eg: churches, defence forces, tertiary education facilities, extracurricular activities, workplaces)
 - (g) Historic cases of child sexual assault/abuse where the survivor/victim has not reported the crime at the time it was committed.
30. What is the Minister doing to address elder abuse of vulnerable people including:

- (a) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Peoples
 - (b) People from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
 - (c) People with disabilities
 - (d) Women
31. Does the Government address the sexual assault by employees of private and not for profit residential care facilities differently to sexual assault in any other setting?
32. What action has the Minister taken personally in his role as Minister for Ageing and Disability to ensure that residents of other residential care facilities (such as nursing homes, homes for people with disabilities) are not subjected to abuse, domestic violence and/or sexual assault, aside from the legislative changes made to the Crimes (Domestic & Personal Violence) Act 2007 earlier this year? Eg:
- (a) Meetings with relevant Ministers and Agency heads?
 - (b) Assistance with drafting appropriate policies?
 - (c) A register of cases highlighting gaps in policy?
 - (d) An evaluation of policies in residential care facilities and the development of a draft code of best practice?

Office Administration

33. How many staff are in your ministerial office?
- (a) What was the average salary for staff members in your office during 2015-16?
 - (b) What is the estimated average salary for a ministerial staffer in your office in 2016-17 based on current appointments?
34. How many blackberries/iphones/smart phones are assigned to your staff?
- (a) For each phone, how much was each bill in 2015-16?
 - (b) How many phones have been lost or replaced due to damage in your office?
 - i. What is the cost of replacing those phones?
35. How many iPads or tablets has DPC assigned to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?
- (a) What was the cost of providing iPads or tablets to your Ministerial Office in 2015-16?

- (b) How many iPads or tablets have been replaced due to lost or damage in 2015-16?
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- 36. Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in your ministerial office in 2015-16?
 - (a) What is the cost of this?
- 37. Have any floral displays or indoor plants or potplants been hired or leased for display in your ministerial office in 2015-16?
 - (a) If so, what was the cost of these items?
- 38. Have any floral displays or indoor plants or potplants been purchased for display in your ministerial office in 2015-16?
 - (a) If so, what was the cost of these items?
- 39. What was the total cost of all subscriptions by you and your staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals in 2015-16?
 - (a) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?
 - i. Who is the subscriber for each of these?
- 40. What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by you and your office in 2015-16?
 - (a) What were the gifts purchased?
 - i. Who were they gifted to?
- 41. Do you purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for your office?
 - (a) What is the monthly cost of this?
- 42. What non-standard features are fitted to your ministerial vehicle?
 - (a) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?
- 43. What was the total bill for your office in 2015-16 for:
 - (a) Taxi hire
 - (b) Limousine hire
 - (c) Private hire care
 - (d) Hire car rental
 - (e) Ridesharing services

44. Were any planes or helicopters chartered by you or your office and paid for with public money in 2015-16?

(a) If yes, will you please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?

Hospitality

45. How much did your ministerial office spend on hospitality, including catering and beverages, in 2015-16?

46. How much did your Department/agency spend on hospitality, including catering and beverages, in 2015-16?

Labour Hire Firms

47. Do any Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities utilise the services of Labour Hire Firms? If yes, please advise in table form for 2015-16:

(a) The names of the firms utilised

(b) The total amount paid to each firm engaged

(c) The average tenure period for an employee provided by a labour hire company

(d) The longest tenure for an employee provided by a labour hire company

(e) The duties conducted by employees engaged through a labour hire company

(f) The office locations of employees engaged through a labour hire company

(g) The highest hourly or daily rate paid to an employee provided by a labour hire company

Media and Public Relations

48. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies?

49. What is the forecast for the current financial year for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost?

50. What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities?

51. Have you had media training or speech training?

(a) If yes, who paid for it?

- (b) If paid by taxpayers, what was the amount paid in 2015-16?

Facebook

52. How much did your ministerial office spend on Facebook advertising or sponsored posts in 2015-16?
53. How much did your Department/agency spend on Facebook advertising or sponsored posts in 2015-16?

Overseas Trips

54. Were any of your overseas trips in the last financial year paid for in part or in full by using public money?
- (a) If so, did any of your relatives or friends accompany you on these trips?
55. Have you undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded?
- (a) If so, what was the nature of these trips?
- (b) Who paid for these trips?

Department/Agency Travel

56. What was the total expenditure in 2015-16 by Departments/agencies within your portfolio on:
- (a) Taxi hire
- (b) Limousine/private car hire
- (c) Hire car rental
- (d) Ridesharing services

Consulting

57. How much did the Department/agencies under your portfolio responsibility spend in legal costs in 2015-16?
- (a) For what specific purposes or matters was legal advice sought?
58. Have Department/agencies under your portfolio engaged any consultants to provide the following services or advice in 2015-16:
- (a) Social media

- i. And the cost of these services
- (b) Photography
 - i. And the cost of these services
- (c) Acting training
 - i. And the cost of these services
- (d) Ergonomics
 - i. And the cost of these services

Department/Agency Staffing

59. How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2015-16?
- (a) Of these redundancies, how many were:
 - i. Voluntary
 - ii. Forced
 - (b) What was the total cost of all redundancies?
60. Have any staff who received a redundancy in the last two years undertaken any paid work or provided any paid services for the agency with which they were formerly employed?
- (a) What was the nature of these works/services?
 - (b) What was the total cost of these works or services?
61. Are any staff formerly employed by your ministerial office now employed by Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibility?
62. How many staff were dismissed from Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibilities in 2015-16?
- (a) What were the reason/s for each dismissal?

Smart Phone Accounts

63. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an iTunes account?
- (a) What was the total expenditure in 2015-16 on iTunes?

- i. What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through iTunes?
64. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an Android account?
- (a) What was the total expenditure in 2015-16 on Android?
 - i. What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through Android?

Websites Visited

65. What were the top 20 most utilised (by data sent and received) unique domain names accessed by your Ministerial office this year?
66. What were the top 20 most accessed (by number of times accessed) unique domain names accessed by your Ministerial office this year?

Merchant fees

67. Please provide a list of all transactions where customers need to pay a merchant fee on credit and/or debit card payments in your Department/agency.
68. Please provide the percentage and/or amount of the merchant fees applied to all credit and/or debit card payments/transactions in your Department/agency.
69. What was the total amount paid in merchant fees on credit and/or debit card payments in your Department/agency in 2015-16?

Probity Auditor

70. Has your office or department used a Probity Auditor or Probity Advisors, or similar, in the past five years? If so please list the company and/or individual, the project, the engagement dates, and their total remuneration in tabular format.

Flexible Workplaces

71. Minister, the Premier announced on International Women's Day that the public service would all have access to flexible working arrangements by 2019.
- (a) Do you centrally register staff who have flexible work arrangements?
 - (b) What numbers of staff within your Department currently have flexible working arrangements?

(c) Are you aware of any measures that are currently underway to implement this?

DISABILITY

Questions from Ms Jan Barham MLC

Transfer of Specialist Disability Services

72. Now that the Expression of Interest (EOI) stage for the transfer of ADHC's specialist disability services has closed, what information can you provide about how the second stage of selecting non-government providers is going to proceed?
- (a) Have the criteria or the configuration of service clusters been changed or refined from those listed in the Pre-EOI Release document?
73. What consultation and involvement will people with disability, their families and advocates have in the second stage of the selection process?

Disability Housing

74. Regarding the 2016-17 Budget's allocation of \$22 million to finance and establish new housing for people currently residing in Large Residential Centres:
- (a) Can you provide some detail about how many residents are going to move into new homes this year?
- (b) Can you please outline what has occurred and what remains to be done in terms of planning with the residents, their families and advocates about where they will live and who they will live with?

Questions from the Hon Shaoquett Moselmane MLC (on behalf of the NSW Labor Opposition)

Abuse in schools

75. What are you doing as Minister to respond to reports of students with disability being mistreated in NSW schools?

Census

76. What actions has the Department of Family and Community Services taken to ensure that people with disability in supported accommodation were counted in this year's Census?
77. Were these clients required by the Australian Bureau of Statistics to complete the Census online?

78. Given the difficulties surrounding the Australian Bureau of Statistics' administration of this year's Census, what steps has the NSW Government taken to ensure people with disability are counted?

Closure of Large Residential Centres

79. What is the status of the Government's moves to close the remaining large residential centres?
80. How many residents currently remain in large residential centres?

Disability Advocacy - Funding for State Issues

81. Will the NSW Government continue to fund disability advocacy organisations, given their role advocating on policy issues such as access to transport, health care services, education and law and justice issues (ie: areas of state responsibility)?

Disability Employment

82. What actions is the Government taking to ensure that more people with disability have employment opportunities in the NSW public sector?
83. What actions is the Government taking to ensure that more people with disability have employment opportunities in NSW?

NDIS Payment Issues

84. What are you doing as Minister to respond to issues regarding the payments system used by the NDIA?

NDIS Transition

85. How many people are currently participating in the NDIS in NSW?
86. What is the average value of support packages offered to people participating in the NDIS in NSW?
87. What steps is the Government taking to ensure that disability service workers who are currently covered by the NSW industrial relations system do not face any reduction in their pay or conditions under the Federal workplace relations system as those workers transition into the NDIS?

88. What is the status of the development of the quality and safeguard systems for the NDIS?
89. What steps have you taken through the Council of Australian Government's to ensure that disability support workers receive pay and conditions that recognise the value of their work?
90. Will you guarantee that every NDIS recipient will receive enough funding to secure the disability accommodation they need?

Ombudsman's Reviewable Deaths

91. What progress has the Government made responding to the recommendations of the most recent report by the NSW Ombudsman into reviewable deaths of people with disability?

Disability Reportable Incidents Scheme

92. How many people with disability are covered in total by the Reportable Incidents Scheme?
93. How many of these are in FACS-funded NGOs?
94. How many are in FACS-operated services?
95. Is the Minister concerned that the Disability Reportable Incidents Scheme will no longer operate under the NDIS?
96. How many staff have been terminated after allegations have been made against them in line with the Disability Reportable Incidents Scheme?
97. How many facilities have had incidents reported?
98. How many staff have been suspended after allegations have been made against them in line with the Disability Reportable Incidents Scheme?
99. How many facilities have had their contracts withdrawn after allegations have been made against them?

Social Media Spending

100. How much does the Department of Family and Community Services spend on social media related activities in relation to disability services?

Supported Accommodation Transfer

101. What is the current status of the transfer of the NSW Government's supported accommodation for people with disability to the non-government sector?

102. Have there been any instances where families of clients currently in NSW Government provided supported accommodation have been unable to agree on a new non-government provider? If so, how have these issues been resolved?
103. On what terms will supported accommodation properties be transferred to non-government providers? Will non-government providers receive the freehold title to these properties, or will the NSW Government retain ownership of the properties and lease them to non-government providers?
104. What legal rights to current ADHC clients in supported accommodation have in relation to the transfer of the property they live in?
105. If a person who is currently ADHC client in a group home becomes unhappy with a non-government service in the future (for example, in 2019, after NSW has fully transitioned into the NDIS) and they wish to change providers, could they remain in the home and change providers, or would they have to move homes to change providers? What would be the dispute resolution mechanism in relation to this? Will the National Disability Insurance Agency have protocols to resolve this, or is it really a residential tenancy matter for the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal? How will these issues be resolved in instances where ADHC has 'purpose built' a home in consultation with a client and families, as has been ADHC's practice in relation to new homes built in recent years?

Transition Fund

106. What is the status of the \$100 million NDIS Transition Fund you announced from the proceeds of the sale of HomeCare? How much of this fund has been spent; what initiatives have been funded; and what outcomes have been achieved? How is this money accounted for in the NSW Budget Papers?

NSW Ageing Strategy

107. At the roundtable on the renewal of the NSW Ageing Strategy held on Friday 15 April 2016, were there any representatives from the culturally and linguistically diverse communities of NSW?
 - (a) If so please name them?
 - (b) If not why not?
 - (c) Were they any indigenous representatives?

- (d) Were there any people with Disability representatives?

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- (g) How?
- (h) What percentage of staff in each agency has undertaken sexual harassment and anti-bullying training and awareness programs?

Payment of Disability Service Providers

110. Is the Minister aware that there have been significant delays in payment to providers of services under the NDIS, in some cases in the order of over \$1,000,000 per month?

- (a) What Is the Minister doing to assist private and not-for-profit providers impacted by these payment delays?
- (b) What Is the Minister doing to ensure that providers are able to pay employees, contractors and suppliers?

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- (a) If yes, will you please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?

Hospitality

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124. How much did your Department/agency spend on hospitality, including catering and beverages, in 2015-16?

Labour Hire Firms

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 - (b) The total amount paid to each firm engaged
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 - (d) The longest tenure for an employee provided by a labour hire company
 - (e) The duties conducted by employees engaged through a labour hire company
 - (f) The office locations of employees engaged through a labour hire company
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Media and Public Relations

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Facebook

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131. How much did your Department/agency spend on Facebook advertising or sponsored posts in 2015-16?

Overseas Trips

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 - (c) Hire car rental

- (d) Ridesharing services

Consulting

135. How much did the Department/agencies under your portfolio responsibility spend in legal costs in 2015-16?
- (a) For what specific purposes or matters was legal advice sought?
136. Have Department/agencies under your portfolio engaged any consultants to provide the following services or advice in 2015-16:
- (a) Social media
 - i. And the cost of these services
 - (b) Photography
 - i. And the cost of these services
 - (c) Acting training
 - i. And the cost of these services
 - (d) Ergonomics
 - i. And the cost of these services

Department/Agency Staffing

137. How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2015-16?
- (a) Of these redundancies, how many were:
 - i. Voluntary
 - ii. Forced
 - (b) What was the total cost of all redundancies?
138. Have any staff who received a redundancy in the last two years undertaken any paid work or provided any paid services for the agency with which they were formerly employed?
- (a) What was the nature of these works/services?
 - (b) What was the total cost of these works or services?

139. Are any staff formerly employed by your ministerial office now employed by Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibility?
140. How many staff were dismissed from Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibilities in 2015-16?
- (a) What were the reason/s for each dismissal?

Smart Phone Accounts

141. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an iTunes account?
- (a) What was the total expenditure in 2015-16 on iTunes?
- i. What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through iTunes?
142. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an Android account?
- (a) What was the total expenditure in 2015-16 on Android?
- i. What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through Android?

Websites Visited

143. What were the top 20 most utilised (by data sent and received) unique domain names accessed by your Ministerial office this year?
144. What were the top 20 most accessed (by number of times accessed) unique domain names accessed by your Ministerial office this year?

Merchant fees

145. Please provide a list of all transactions where customers need to pay a merchant fee on credit and/or debit card payments in your Department/agency.
146. Please provide the percentage and/or amount of the merchant fees applied to all credit and/or debit card payments/transactions in your Department/agency.
147. What was the total amount paid in merchant fees on credit and/or debit card payments in your Department/agency in 2015-16?

Probity Auditor

148. Has your office or department used a Probity Auditor or Probity Advisors, or similar, in the past five years? If so please list the company and/or individual, the project, the engagement dates, and their total remuneration in tabular format.

Flexible Workplaces

149. Minister, the Premier announced on International Women's Day that the public service would all have access to flexible working arrangements by 2019.

- (a) Do you centrally register staff who have flexible work arrangements?
- (b) What numbers of staff within your Department currently have flexible working arrangements?
- (c) Are you aware of any measures that are currently underway to implement this?

Closure of the Stockton Centre

150. Is the Government still on track to close the Stockton Centre facility on the 30th of July 2018?

- (a) To date how many residents have been relocated from the Stockton Centre?
- (b) How many residents are still waiting to be relocated from the Stockton Centre?

151. Why have staff at the Stockton Centre who have had to transfer to the private sector not been given similar conditions to other former public sector workers (for example when Sydney Ferry workers were transferred to the private sector)?

MULTICULTURALISM

Questions from Dr Mehreen Faruqi

Countering Violent Extremism

152. In reference to the quote below from the transcript on Page 21

The Hon. JOHN AJAKA: Yes, it does. The program for violent extremism is based on any form of violent extremism. It is not violent extremism of extreme Right only or extreme Left only. Any form of violent extremism is unacceptable. If I recollect, one of the 14 successful applicants was based on right-wing extremism, and that applicant was All Together Now.

Please provide a list of the 14 successful applicants, including budget and program details.

153. Please provide an update of all the initiatives being funded by the Countering Violent Extremism Program in 2015/2016 and budgeted for in 2016/2017.

Multicultural NSW

154. The Infrastructure Statement (page 5-10) indicates that ten million dollars is set aside for Language Services Transformation. Please provide details of what this funding is for?

155. Is the Religious Leaders multicultural Forum still active?

(a) If yes, who are the members

(b) How many are women?

Questions from the Hon Shaoquett Moselmane MLC (on behalf of the NSW Labor Opposition)

Legislative Compliance

156. What actions have been taken to ensure local councils comply with their obligations under section 3 of the *Multicultural NSW Act 2000*?

Multicultural NSW - Independence

157. Under the *Multicultural NSW Act 2000* (the Act), does Multicultural NSW have the status of a statutory corporation, separate from Executive Government?

158. The Act states Multicultural NSW is not subject to the control and direction of the Minister “in relation to the contents of any advice, report or recommendation given to the Minister or any other person or body”.

159. Does Multicultural NSW have the capacity to give advice or recommendations, independent of the Minister’s direction?

160. Does Multicultural NSW have any **policy** or practice regarding consultation of the Minister, before it issues advice or recommendations to the Minister or other persons?
161. Does Multicultural NSW enjoy the same degree of independence as its predecessor bodies, including the Community Relations Commission and the Ethnic Affairs Commission?

Multicultural NSW Funding

162. Does the Minister believe that continued cuts to Multicultural NSW funding in 2015 and 2016 Budgets will benefit multicultural organisations in Western Sydney?
163. Does the Minister agree that the percentage of grant applications rejected by Multicultural NSW – 60 percent – is too high?
164. Which multicultural organisations based in Electoral District of Prospect have had grants rejected in the previous financial year?

Multicultural NSW - Duties

165. Is it Multicultural NSW's role to “to promote the multicultural principles and the advantages of a multicultural society”?
166. Is it part of Multicultural NSW's role “to promote a cohesive and harmonious multicultural society with mutual respect for and understanding of cultural diversity, including by combating racism”?
167. Do you believe Multicultural NSW has a leadership role in combatting racism?
168. Does Multicultural NSW's objective of “combating racism” extend to combatting racist statements made by politicians?
169. Are you aware of any previous Chair of the Community Relations Commission or Ethnic Affairs Commission speaking out in response to racist incidents or attacks on multiculturalism?

One Nation

170. Have you contacted Brian Burston, the new One Nation Senator for NSW? If yes, what was the nature of that contact?
171. Has Multicultural NSW had any contact with Brian Burston, the new One Nation Senator for NSW? If yes, what was the nature of that contact?
172. Will you contact Brian Burston, the new One Nation Senator for NSW, to express the NSW Government's support for multiculturalism in NSW?

173. What is your response to One Nation Senator Brian Burston's comment that Lakemba is a "Centrelink sinkhole"? Do you think it is appropriate for someone representing NSW in the Commonwealth Parliament to denigrate communities in our state? What effect do you feel his comments have on community harmony in NSW?
174. What is your response to One Nation Senator Pauline Hanson's comment that Hurtsville is being "swamped by Asians"? What actions has the NSW Government to respond to a Federal politician seeking to undermine community harmony in NSW?
175. Has Multicultural NSW made any public response to Pauline Hanson's statements?
176. Does Multicultural NSW believe this view is racist?
177. Does Multicultural NSW believe this view is compatible with multiculturalism?
178. Do you believe Multicultural NSW should combat statements such as this?
179. What is Multicultural NSW's advice or comment in relation to this statement?
180. How many statements have you made in relation to One Nation?
181. Given the effect of their comments on community harmony, will you arrange for One Nation Senators to be invited to ALL events organised by, or sponsored by, Multicultural NSW, so that they have an opportunity to experience the positive aspects of multiculturalism in NSW?

Multicultural NSW

182. Does the Government support Multicultural NSW's role in speaking out against racism, including by politicians?
183. Has the minister issued any direction or policy to Multicultural NSW regarding its capacity to make public statements?
184. How many full-time staff were employed by Multicultural NSW between 2013-14?
185. How many full-time staff were employed by Multicultural NSW between 2014-15?
186. How many full-time staff were employed by Multicultural NSW between 2015-16?
187. How many of those staff deal with complaints from the public regarding racial violence?
188. Can you confirm that Wollongong office of Multicultural NSW has closed?
189. Can you confirm that Newcastle office of Multicultural NSW has closed?
190. Where does Multicultural NSW suggest the people of Wollongong go for services?
191. Does Multicultural NSW receive complaints from the community regarding racial violence?

192. How many complaints does Multicultural NSW receive a week regarding racial violence and racial attacks?

193. Will you establish a register for people to report racial abuse?

Racial Vilification

194. What action have you taken as Minister for Multiculturalism in response to swastikas and other racist graffiti appearing around Bondi in early August?

195. Does the Government agree with leaders from 35 diverse communities who say that NSW laws need to be strengthened to protect against racial vilification?

196. Will the Government support Labor's private members bill to strengthen the NSW Anti-Discrimination Act to protect against hate speech and support community harmony in NSW? If not, why not?

197. Have you written to Commonwealth Senators who have proposed watering down the protections against racial vilification found in section 18C of the Commonwealth Racial Discrimination Act to express the NSW Government's view on how such changes might affect community harmony in NSW?

198. How does the NSW Government keep track of crimes which may have racial motivation?

199. As Minister for Multiculturalism, have you met with NSW Police to discuss racially motivated crimes? If so, how often have you met with Police to discuss this issue?

Regional Offices

200. How has the closure of regional offices affected the ability of Multicultural NSW to deliver services outside Sydney?

Social Media Spending

201. How much does Multicultural NSW spend on social media?

Office Administration

202. How many staff are in your ministerial office?

(a) What was the average salary for staff members in your office during 2015-16?

(b) What is the estimated average salary for a ministerial staffer in your office in 2016-17 based on current appointments?

203. How many blackberries/iphones/smart phones are assigned to your staff?

- (a) For each phone, how much was each bill in 2015-16?
 - (b) How many phones have been lost or replaced due to damage in your office?
 - i. What is the cost of replacing those phones?
204. How many iPads or tablets has DPC assigned to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?
- (a) What was the cost of providing iPads or tablets to your Ministerial Office in 2015-16?
 - (b) How many iPads or tablets have been replaced due to lost or damage in 2015-16?
 - i. What was the cost of replacing these devices?
205. Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in your ministerial office in 2015-16?
- (a) What is the cost of this?
206. Have any floral displays or indoor plants or potplants been hired or leased for display in your ministerial office in 2015-16?
- (a) If so, what was the cost of these items?
207. Have any floral displays or indoor plants or potplants been purchased for display in your ministerial office in 2015-16?
- (a) If so, what was the cost of these items?
208. What was the total cost of all subscriptions by you and your staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals in 2015-16?
- (a) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?
 - i. Who is the subscriber for each of these?
209. What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by you and your office in 2015-16?
- (a) What were the gifts purchased?
 - i. Who were they gifted to?
210. Do you purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for your office?
- (a) What is the monthly cost of this?
211. What non-standard features are fitted to your ministerial vehicle?
- (a) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?

212. What was the total bill for your office in 2015-16 for:

- (a) Taxi hire
- (b) Limousine hire
- (c) Private hire care
- (d) Hire car rental
- (e) Ridesharing services

213. Were any planes or helicopters chartered by you or your office and paid for with public money in 2015-16?

- (a) If yes, will you please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?

Hospitality

214. How much did your ministerial office spend on hospitality, including catering and beverages, in 2015-16?

215. How much did your Department/agency spend on hospitality, including catering and beverages, in 2015-16?

Labour Hire Firms

216. Do any Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities utilise the services of Labour Hire Firms? If yes, please advise in table form for 2015-16:

- (a) The names of the firms utilised
- (b) The total amount paid to each firm engaged
- (c) The average tenure period for an employee provided by a labour hire company
- (d) The longest tenure for an employee provided by a labour hire company
- (e) The duties conducted by employees engaged through a labour hire company
- (f) The office locations of employees engaged through a labour hire company
- (g) The highest hourly or daily rate paid to an employee provided by a labour hire company

Media and Public Relations

217. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies?

218. What is the forecast for the current financial year for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost?

219. What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities?
220. Have you had media training or speech training?
- (a) If yes, who paid for it?
 - (b) If paid by taxpayers, what was the amount paid in 2015-16?

Facebook

221. How much did your ministerial office spend on Facebook advertising or sponsored posts in 2015-16?
222. How much did your Department/agency spend on Facebook advertising or sponsored posts in 2015-16?

Overseas Trips

223. Were any of your overseas trips in the last financial year paid for in part or in full by using public money?
- (a) If so, did any of your relatives or friends accompany you on these trips?
224. Have you undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded?
- (a) If so, what was the nature of these trips?
 - (b) Who paid for these trips?

Department/Agency Travel

225. What was the total expenditure in 2015-16 by Departments/agencies within your portfolio on:
- (a) Taxi hire
 - (b) Limousine/private car hire
 - (c) Hire car rental
 - (d) Ridesharing services

Consulting

226. How much did the Department/agencies under your portfolio responsibility spend in legal costs in 2015-16?
- (a) For what specific purposes or matters was legal advice sought?

227. Have Department/agencies under your portfolio engaged any consultants to provide the following services or advice in 2015-16:

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 - i. And the cost of these services
- (b) Photography
 - i. And the cost of these services
- (c) Acting training
 - i. And the cost of these services
- (d) Ergonomics
 - i. And the cost of these services

Department/Agency Staffing

228. How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2015-16?

- (a) Of these redundancies, how many were:
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 - ii. Forced

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229. Have any staff who received a redundancy in the last two years undertaken any paid work or provided any paid services for the agency with which they were formerly employed?

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- (b) What was the total cost of these works or services?

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231. How many staff were dismissed from Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibilities in 2015-16?

- (a) What were the reason/s for each dismissal?

Smart Phone Accounts

232. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an iTunes account?

- (a) What was the total expenditure in 2015-16 on iTunes?
 - i. What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through iTunes?

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- (a) What was the total expenditure in 2015-16 on Android?
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Websites Visited

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237. Please provide the percentage and/or amount of the merchant fees applied to all credit and/or debit card payments/transactions in your Department/agency.

238. What was the total amount paid in merchant fees on credit and/or debit card payments in your Department/agency in 2015-16?

Probity Auditor

239. Has your office or department used a Probity Auditor or Probity Advisors, or similar, in the past five years? If so please list the company and/or individual, the project, the engagement dates, and their total remuneration in tabular format.

Multiculturalism in Regional NSW

240. What avenues does the Minister use to get input from multicultural communities in regional NSW as to their needs and concerns?

241. Which local areas are represented on those avenues?

242. Is the Minister aware that many Local Government Areas do not have a migrant resource centre, when they have emerging and small fragmented culturally and linguistically diverse communities?

243. How are these people able to access settlement information?

244. Is the Minister aware of the Reclaim Australia movement which is very active in the Hunter?

245. Is the Minister aware of the Q organisation, which is an anti-Islamic organisation operating in the Hunter?
246. Is the Minister aware of the significant difficulties that Muslim people in the Hunter have had in trying to get mosques and prayer rooms approved?
247. Has the Minister or his offices provided any information to communities seeking to build mosques and prayer rooms to assist them in making applications?
248. What actions is the Minister taking to increase community harmony and reduce ignorance and hate speech in regional NSW?
249. What is the Minister doing to educate local government of culturally appropriate behaviours and Councils' role in promoting community harmony and multiculturalism?

Domestic Violence Leave and Awareness

250. For each department, statutory agency and/or other bodies in the Minister's Portfolio please report:
- (a) Date of introduction of domestic violence leave into enterprise agreements/contracts of employment, awards as applicable;
 - (b) Whether or not all employees and/or contractors are eligible for domestic violence leave;
 - (c) Number of days of domestic violence leave that have been taken in each financial year since the introduction of such leave;
 - (d) Number of days available for eligible staff to access domestic violence leave in each financial year;
 - (e) Number of other personal days of leave that have been taken in each financial year since the introduction of domestic violence leave;
 - (f) Number of sick days available for eligible staff to access domestic violence leave in each financial year;
 - (g) Whether or not all staff and/or contractors have access to Employee Assistance Programs?
 - (h) What training has been undertaken with management and administration for those involved in approving and/or processing domestic violence leave on issues such as?
 - i. Privacy and confidentiality of information about domestic violence
 - ii. Access to emotional, psychological, financial and medical support which may be required

- (i) Who has provided training on domestic violence in the workplace?
- (j) What percentage of staff in each agency has undertaken domestic violence training?
- (k) What efforts have been made to ensure that perpetrators (or their accomplices) within the staffing profile are not able to access personal information of victims in order to identify their location, or other information which may assist in committing domestic violence against them, including changing or accessing records in such a way as to disadvantage them financially or legally?

Sexual harassment and Anti-bullying training and awareness programs

251. For each department, statutory agency and/or other bodies in the Minister's Portfolio please report:

- (a) Date of introduction of sexual harassment and anti-bullying training and awareness programs
- (b) Whether or not all employees and/or contractors have received such training?
- (c) Is this course mandatory for all employees/ contractors?
- (d) How long for each session, how many sessions?
- (e) Who delivers it?
- (f) Is the program tailored to take into consideration specific needs of LGBTQIA, ATSI and CALD or other at risk groups?
- (g) How?
- (h) What percentage of staff in each agency has undertaken sexual harassment and anti-bullying training and awareness programs?

Flexible Workplaces

252. Minister, the Premier announced on International Women's Day that the public service would all have access to flexible working arrangements by 2019.

- (a) Do you centrally register staff who have flexible work arrangements?
- (b) What numbers of staff within your Department currently have flexible working arrangements?
- (c) Are you aware of any measures that are currently underway to implement this?