

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2016-17
AGEING, DISABILITY SERVICES
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS
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?**

The \$6.5 million investment in implementing the renewed NSW Ageing Strategy in 2016/17 includes:

- \$1 million for the Liveable Communities Grants Program to make communities more accessible and inclusive
- over \$650,000 for the Elder Abuse Helpline to address elder abuse
- over \$500,000 for the Tech Savvy Seniors program
- a total of \$1.1 million for four ageing advocacy peak bodies (Council on the Ageing, the Combined Pensioners and Superannuants Association, Older Women's Network, the Seniors Rights Service)
- \$250,000 for Grandparents Day

This budget allocation will support implementation of the renewed Strategy.

2. **Has the renewed version of the Ageing Strategy been finalised and is there an Implementation Plan in place for this year?**

The renewed NSW Ageing Strategy will be launched later in 2016.

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?**

I am advised since it commenced in March 2013, the total number of calls to the NSW Elder Abuse Helpline and Resource Unit was 5,718 (as of 31 August 2016).

4. **Will the NSW Government adopt the recommendations of the recent Legislative Council Inquiry into Elder Abuse?**

The NSW Government is considering the recommendations from the Legislative Council Inquiry into Elder Abuse.

5. **Have you read the final report of the Elder Abuse Inquiry?**

Refer to previous answer.

6. **Have you read the submission from People with Disability Australia?**

Refer to supplementary answer 4.

- 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?**

The NSW Government is awaiting the response of the Commonwealth Government to the Report's recommendations.

- 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?**

The NSW Government has been collaborating on these matters with other jurisdictions through the national governance of the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) Disability Reform Council (DRC).

At the COAG DRC meeting on 2 September 2016, the Disability Reform Council agreed to progress a draft national Quality and Safeguards Framework and Regulatory Impact Statement to COAG later in 2016. The framework sets out the key parameters of the national quality and safeguards system to be implemented for the full scheme NDIS.

Further information can be found in the public communique from the meeting, available at www.dss.gov.au.

- 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?**

I am advised NSW has funded eight projects to facilitate the embedding of Supported Decision Making principles and approaches across NSW. A key objective for each of the projects is to develop sustainable options for how supported decision making can best be embedded within the policy and practice of organisations in the longer term under the NDIS.

Supported Decision Making aligns with the principles of the NDIS, in that people with disability should have choice and control over their own supports.

Through national governance arrangements NSW has actively contributed to the design of the NDIS Quality and Safeguard Framework, which includes emphasising the importance of ensuring that developmental safeguards such as decision supports and supported decision making are available.

- 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?**

The NSW Government disability reportable incidents scheme has strengthened safeguards to reduce the risk of harm. Refer to question 8.

- 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?**

I am advised NSW is in discussion with the Australian Bureau of Statistics around the scope and content of future surveys as they relate to people with disability, carers, and older people.

- 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?**

The NSW Government is considering the recommendations from the Legislative Council Inquiry into Elder Abuse.

- 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?**

I am advised that along with Department of Premier and Cabinet, the Department of Family and Community Services is working with the Ministry of Health on the issue of health-related services funded by FACS as NSW transitions to the NDIS. It is also engaging with the Ombudsman and other stakeholder groups in relation 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?**

This question should be referred to the Hon. Andrew Constance, Minister for Transport.

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?**

The Australian Human Rights Commission *Willing to Work* Report makes 54 recommendations which aim to support the employment of older people and people with disability.

The NSW Government has a range of measures in place to address discrimination and boost the employment of 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?

Expenditure on social media related activities in relation to ageing are operational and within budget.

17. How much did the Department of Family and Community Services (Ageing, Disability and Home Care) spend on social media in the 2015-16 Financial Year?

Expenditure on social media related activities in relation to the Department of Family and Community Services (Ageing, Disability and Home Care) are operational and within budget.

18. How much did the Department of Family and Community Services (Ageing, Disability and Home Care) spend on social media in the 2014-15 Financial Year?

Refer to supplementary answer 17.

19. How much does the Department of Family and Community Services (Ageing, Disability and Home Care) plan to spend on social media in the 2016-17 Financial Year?

Refer to supplementary answer 17.

Domestic Violence Leave and Awareness

20. For each department, statutory agency and/or other bodies in your portfolio please report:

a) Date of introduction of domestic violence leave into enterprise agreements/contracts of employment, awards as applicable;

I am advised that Domestic Violence Leave was introduced into the Crown Employees (Public Service Conditions of Employment) Award 2009 on 28 February 2011.

b) Whether or not all employees and/or contractors are eligible for domestic violence leave;

I am advised that FACS domestic violence leave applies to permanent employees, temporary employees and casual employees (as specified in the Crown Employees (Public Service Conditions of Employment) Reviewed Award 2009, Section 84A - Leave for Matters Arising from Domestic Violence).

c) Number of days of domestic violence leave that have been taken in each financial year since the introduction of such leave;

I am advised this data is not available. FACS systems do not separately identify domestic violence leave.

d) Number of days available for eligible staff to access domestic violence leave in each financial year;

I am advised staff have access to Family and Community Services leave and

Sick Leave. Sick Leave may be used by eligible employees to Care for a Family Member experiencing domestic violence.

Family and Community Services Leave accrues as follows:

- two and a half days in the first year of service,
- two and a half days in the second year of service, and
- one day per year thereafter.

Employees accrue 15 sick leave days per year (pro rata for part time employees).

Where these leave entitlements are exhausted, eligible staff may be granted up to five days Special Leave per calendar year.

e) Number of other personal days of leave that have been taken in each financial year since the introduction of domestic violence leave;

Personal days is not a leave category.

f) Number of sick days available for eligible staff to access domestic violence leave in each financial year;

Refer to question 20(d).

g) Whether or not all staff and/or contractors have access to Employee Assistance Programs?

I am advised the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) provides workers and a worker's immediate family (partners and dependents) with access to confidential professional counselling services.

The service is not available to contractors as this is usually provided by the employer/agency.

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

I am advised a FACS eLearning program for all managers, including contractors, and an eLearning program for employees and contractors (non-managers) on preventing and responding to the issue of violence against women commenced in August 2016.

ii. Access to emotional, psychological, financial and medical support which may be required

I am advised through EAP, employees have access to counselling, support and referral services including:

- Relationship, family and parenting advice;
- Emotional wellbeing and mental health;
- Financial counselling; and
- Emergency counselling

i) Who has provided training on domestic violence in the workplace?

I am advised FACS has an eLearning program that provides training on

preventing and responding to domestic violence in the workplace for managers, employees and contractors.

j) What percentage of staff in each agency has undertaken domestic violence training?

Manager and employee training on preventing and responding to domestic violence in the workplace commenced in August 2016. The data will be available from 2017 onwards.

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?

The FACS Code of Ethical Conduct governs the behaviour of perpetrators. Access to SAP HR systems is limited and restricted. A risk assessment is conducted for victims where relevant controls are put in place to eliminate or minimise risks to the safety of victims. This may include changing location of a victim.

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

- *The Code of Ethical Conduct* eLearning course was introduced in 2013
- *What is Bullying? What isn't Bullying? What to do if you Experience Bullying.* (eLearning) was introduced in November 2014
- *How to Investigate a Complaint* (available as "just in time" mentoring or as a formal face to face training program) was introduced in November 2014
- *How to handle a complaint of bullying, harassment or discrimination* (formal face to face training program) was introduced in November 2014
- *How to build a respectful workplace* (formal face-to-face training program) was introduced in November 2014

b) Whether or not all employees and/or contractors have received such training?

I am advised the e-learning courses are included in the FACS induction program and all employees and contractors are expected to complete the training.

The face-to-face training programs are available to all areas on request.

c) Is this course mandatory for all employees/ contractors?

I am advised the e-learning courses are mandatory and are included in the FACS induction program. All employees and contractors are expected to complete the training.

The face-to-face training programs are available to all areas on request.

d) How long for each session, how many sessions?

This is dependent on the program.

e) Who delivers it?

I am advised that training is mostly provided through eLearning programs.

The face-to-face training programs are delivered by HR and industry leading subject matter experts in this field.

f) Is the program tailored to take into consideration specific needs of LGBTQIA, ATSI and CALD or other at risk groups?

Yes.

g) How?

I am advised the training includes information about:

- racial and sexual harassment
- legislation concerning the Racial Discrimination Act 1975, the Sex Discrimination Act 1984, the Disability Discrimination Act 1992, and the Age Discrimination Act 2004
- unlawful harassment because of any of the protected attributes specified in anti-discrimination or human rights legislation including: sex, sexuality, marital or domestic status, disability or impairment, including physical or mental disability or impairment, age, race, religion, gender identity.

h) What percentage of staff in each agency has undertaken sexual harassment and antibullying training and awareness programs?

I am advised that as at January 2016, 76% of employees had completed the Code of Ethical Conduct eLearning course

At January, 2016, 66% of employees had completed the anti-bullying training.

Domestic Violence Leave and Awareness

22. 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?

Refer to question 20.

Sexual harassment and Anti-bullying training and awareness programs

23. 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?

Refer to question 21.

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?

I am advised the NSW Government is currently considering its approach to concessions.

25. Is the rate rebate for pensioners consistent across all Water Authorities in NSW for those entitled to the pension rebate on water rates?

This question should be referred to the Hon. Niall Blair, Minister for Primary Industries, Lands and Water.

26. For those living in retirement villages, what Water Authorities apply the rebate to individuals entitled to the rebate and living in retirement

villages?

This question should be referred to the Hon. Niall Blair, Minister for Primary Industries, Lands and Water.

27. Is the Government planning to increase the Pensioner rebate for local government rates, electricity, car registration/licensing?

I am advised the NSW Government is currently considering its approach to concessions.

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?

The NSW Government is currently considering the recommendations from the Legislative Council Inquiry into Elder Abuse.

Representatives from the Department of Family and Community Services appeared at a hearing for the Inquiry on 18 March 2016. The transcript is available on the NSW Parliament website.

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.

Preventing and responding to sexual abuse and assault of people in NSW involves a range of agencies.

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

The NSW Government Submission to the Legislative Council Inquiry into Elder

Abuse outlines NSW Government initiatives to address elder abuse, including information on the work of the Elder Abuse Helpline and Resource Unit. The submission is available on the NSW Parliament website.

The NSW Elder Abuse Helpline and Resource Unit (the Helpline) is funded by the Department of Family and Community Services (FACS).

The Helpline currently provides information in five community languages: Traditional Chinese, Simplified Chinese, Croatian, Italian and Greek, and will add two more by the end of the year.

The Helpline develops partnerships with a range of agencies and NGOs to raise awareness of elder abuse, provide training, and develop resources and referral pathways. The Helpline works closely with both Alzheimer's Australia NSW and Capacity Australia.

EAHRU's collaborative members are from a wide range of organisations and include disability and social inclusion officers.

This year the Helpline is also focusing on building awareness among Indigenous communities and will begin consultations with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island people's groups.

FACS also funds peak bodies such as the Older Women's Network to conduct a range of activities such as community consultations, information dissemination, and advocacy for women; to assist in identifying and solving issues affecting women in NSW.

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?

The Commonwealth Government regulates residential aged care.

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?

The NSW Government takes allegations of abuse and neglect within residential care very seriously.

There are clear processes in place with regards to the reporting of incidents in FACS operated supported accommodation services, including those related to allegations of assault, neglect, unexplained injuries, misconduct and contravention of court orders.

I am advised FACS is working with the NSW Ombudsman to implement recommendations set out in the Ombudsman's 2014-15 Annual Report. FACS works collaboratively with the NSW Ombudsman to resolve individual

complaints, improve internal processes, address areas requiring improvement regarding client safety and wellbeing and to enable collective learning and improvement in preventing and responding to abuse and neglect.

I am further advised the NSW Ombudsman's Office has also conducted training on handling serious incidents and responding to serious incidents for over FACS 1,200 staff.

In January 2016, I am advised FACS released its Safeguarding Framework which included Abuse and Neglect Policy and Procedures, Abuse and Neglect Prevention Guidelines and other resources.

The Abuse and Neglect Procedures reflect new reporting requirements, particularly those related to reportable incidents as outlined in Part 3C of the *Ombudsmans Act 1974* and Schedule 3 of the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Regulation 2012. The Safeguarding Framework also contains a Risk and Safety Policy, Procedures and Guidelines which require FACS staff to identify people with disability at risk of abuse, domestic violence and/or sexual assault and to manage those risks.

FACS requires all funded non-government service providers to achieve Third Party Verification. This process enables FACS, as the contract manager, to ensure organisations are aware of their legislative obligations, including the Reportable Incidents Scheme, and have processes in place to meet them.

In regards to nursing homes, the Federal Government regulates residential aged care.

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?**

Ministers' staff numbers and salary bands are available on the DPC website.

Refer to:

http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers_and_ministers_staff_numbers.

- 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?**

There were 280 smart phones in use across all Ministers' offices in 2015-16. The total usage cost of these smart phones and other mobile devices (including iPads) was \$452,830, a 21.7% per cent reduction on the 2008-09 expenditure of \$578,691. The cost of replacing any lost or stolen devices is claimed through the NSW Treasury Managed Fund. Repairs are funded by the Department of

Premier and Cabinet, Ministerial and Correspondence Services.

- 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?**
 - i. What was the cost of replacing these devices?**

There were 148 iPads in use across all Ministers' offices in 2015-16. The cost of replacing any lost or stolen devices is claimed through the NSW Treasury Managed Fund. Repairs are funded by the Department of Premier and Cabinet, Ministerial and Correspondence Services.

- 36. Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in your ministerial office in 2015-16?**

No

- a) What is the cost of this?**

N/A

- 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?**

Floral arrangements indoor plants and potplants purchased by the Ministry are managed within the office's budget.

- 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?**

Floral arrangements indoor plants and potplants purchased by the Ministry are managed within the office's budget.

- 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?**
 - ii. Who is the subscriber for each of these?**

The Minister's Office subscribes to a modest number of publications, the cost of which is managed within the Office's budget.

- 40. What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by you and your office in 2015-16?**
- b) What were the gifts purchased?**

i. Who were they gifted to?

Gifts are presented to dignitaries during overseas missions and to dignitaries visiting NSW as appropriate.

41. Do you purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for your office?

a) What is the monthly cost of this?

Water is purchased for consumption in the Minister's Parliamentary Office and is managed within the office budget.

42. What non-standard features are fitted to your ministerial vehicle?

a) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?

Ministers, the Leader of the Opposition, other nominated public office holders and certain former office holders are provided with official cars and drivers. During 2015-16 all costs associated with these vehicles were paid from the relevant office's budget.

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**

Expenditure on taxis, hire cars and ride share services across the Ministry in 2015-16 was \$99,463. This compares with 2009-10 expenditure of \$175,776.

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?

Expenditure on charter flights for the Ministry totalled \$28,706 in 2015-16. This compares with expenditure in 2009-10 of \$282,000.

Hospitality

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

Expenditure on hospitality across the Ministry - which includes catering for stakeholder meetings and courtesy calls with visiting dignitaries - totalled \$25,059 in 2015-16.

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

Costs are managed within each agency's recurrent budget.

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:
- The names of the firms utilised
 - The total amount paid to each firm engaged
 - The average tenure period for an employee provided by a labour hire company
 - The longest tenure for an employee provided by a labour hire company
 - The duties conducted by employees engaged through a labour hire company
 - The office locations of employees engaged through a labour hire company
 - The highest hourly or daily rate paid to an employee provided by a labour hire company.

The Department of Family and Community Services uses Labour Hire firms, in accordance with NSW Public Service policies to cover temporary vacancies as required. There are no central records maintained, with operations authorised to make such arrangements, subject to their overall labour expense cap.

Media and Public Relations

48. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies?
Staff numbers are included in the Annual Report.
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?
There are currently no plans to increase the number of media staff undertaking media or public relations activities.
50. What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities?
The NSW Government purchases all commercial media monitoring centrally through the Department of Premier and Cabinet which delivers significant savings through aggregated procurement.
51. Have you had media training or speech training?
 - If yes, who paid for it?
 - If paid by taxpayers, what was the amount paid in 2015-16?

No

Facebook

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

Nil

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

The Department of Family and Community Services: \$1,971

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?

Details of overseas travel including costs are published on the Department of Premier and Cabinet's website.

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?

Details of overseas travel including costs are published on the Department of Premier and Cabinet's website.

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

Financial statements, including travel expenditure, are available in agency annual report.

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?

Financial statements, including Legal Services expenditure, are available in agency annual reports.

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**

Financial statements, including expenditure on consultants, are available in agency annual reports.

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:**
 - ii. **Voluntary**
 - iii. **Forced**
 - (b) What was the total cost of all redundancies?**
 Voluntary redundancies are a component for agencies to achieve their efficiency dividends. The Labour Expenses Cap introduced in the 2012-13 Budget also continues to give Secretaries as much flexibility as possible to achieve these savings in the most appropriate ways to meet the service requirements of their agencies.
- 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?**
 Refer to supplementary answer 59.
- 61. Are any staff formerly employed by your ministerial office now employed by Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibility?**
 Refer to supplementary answer 59.
- 62. How many staff were dismissed from Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibilities in 2015-16?**
- c) **What were the reason/s for each dismissal?**
 Refer to supplementary answer 59.

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?

FACS does not have a centralised iTunes account.

i. What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through iTunes?

Not applicable.

64. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an Android account?

FACS and its agencies do not have a centralised Android account.

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

i. What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through Android?

Not applicable.

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?

I am advised due to the way the Ministers' IT network infrastructure is configured with third party service providers, DPC does not have a single data source showing domain access and utilisation figures.

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

I am advised due to the way the Ministers' IT network infrastructure is configured with third party service providers, DPC does not have a single data source showing domain access and utilisation figures.

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.

FACS currently does not recover merchant fees that are charged to the department from clients.

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.

The Department's banking arrangement is managed through NSW Treasury and is part of a statewide contract with Westpac. Details of merchant fees should be directed to the Treasurer, the Hon. Gladys Berejiklian.

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

Refer to supplementary answer 68.

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.

Yes. There is no consolidated list of probity audit or probity advisor projects.

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?

No

b) What numbers of staff within your Department currently have flexible working arrangements?

FACS does not have a central registry of individual working arrangements.

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

A large proportion of FACS staff are covered by Flexible Working Hours Agreements or Award provisions. FACS staff also have access to part time work and job sharing arrangements by agreement, and flexible return to work arrangements after parental leave for parents with child care responsibilities. Policies are in place to facilitate working from home where this is suitable.

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?

I am advised the next step in the process is the binding proposal stage.

(a) Have the criteria or the configuration of service clusters been changed or refined from those listed in the Pre-EOI Release document?

I am advised that based on feedback received through the EOI process, geographical service groups have been confirmed.

73. What consultation and involvement will people with disability, their

families and advocates have in the second stage of the selection process?

The NSW Government will continue to provide opportunities for people with disability, their families or carers to be involved in the transfer process. To date, more than 1200 people have attended close to 150 family forums to discuss the transfer. The feedback received from these forums has been used to inform the transfer process.

I am advised FACS is developing a process for families, carers or guardians to give input to the selection of new service providers. Further details will be provided once available.

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?

I am advised 162 people will be moving to new purpose built accommodation in the community of their choice in 2016/17.

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?

I am advised a dedicated consultation team is based at each government operated large residential centre that consults with residents, families and guardians. I am further advised families and guardians are contacted a minimum of once every six weeks. Consultation will continue while the remaining residents transition to their new homes and I am informed there have been post transition visits to monitor how people have transitioned and provide assistance where necessary.

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?

I am advised any allegations within schools are treated as reportable conduct and are referred to the Department of Education for assessment and investigation, with involvement by the NSW Police as appropriate.

Any further questions on this matter should be referred to my colleagues, the Honourable Adrian Piccoli MP, Minister for Education and the Honourable Troy Grant, MP, Minister for Justice and Police.

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?

I am advised the Department of Family and Community Services (FACS) provided street addresses of all FACS-delivered and FACS-funded supported accommodation locations to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). This followed advice from the ABS that they would visit all locations in May 2016 to make preparations with a representative at each group home to:

- supply people with paper forms
- collect completed forms from people
- follow up with people who have not returned or completed their form, or
- provide administrative data where residents (e.g. clients) are unable to complete a form.

I am further advised prior advice of these visits was communicated to FACS-delivered accommodation through District emails and FACS-funded accommodation via the Service Provider Portal. For further information refer to the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

77. Were these clients required by the Australian Bureau of Statistics to complete the Census online?

I am advised paper forms were provided to most locations by ABS Census Area Supervisors from May 2016.

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?

I am advised the Department of Family and Community Services worked with the ABS to develop a strategy and process to ensure that people with disability were counted in the 2016 Census.

Closure of Large Residential Centres

79. What is the status of the Government's moves to close the remaining large residential centres?

I am advised the Department is continuing to work to the commitment of all large residential centres being redeveloped by June 2018.

80. How many residents currently remain in large residential centres?

I am advised there are currently 699 people 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)?

The NSW Government committed to funding for advocacy information and peak organisations, under a three year Funding Agreement, which will continue until 30 June 2018.

Under the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), individuals will continue to benefit from the types of activities currently provided by advocacy services and many of these activities will be included in a participant's plan. For example, individual funding packages may include assistance to coordinate supports or to develop skills for decision making to exercise choice and control. Existing advocacy services may choose to identify the types of supports that they will be able to offer people with disability to include in their plans.

Some of the functions currently undertaken by providers of individual advocacy may be provided within and outside of the NDIS. An example is the supports to be delivered through the Information, Linkage and Capacity Building (ILC) framework. The Commonwealth and NSW Governments are still determining the detail on how ILC will be implemented in the full scheme NDIS.

Systemic advocacy, legal review and representation will be funded outside of the NDIS. This will remain available to people with disability through Commonwealth funded programs such as the National Disability Advocacy Program (NDAP). The Commonwealth is currently reviewing this program to adapt it to a changing disability environment, including the introduction of the NDIS.

All jurisdictions have agreed to work together to review key policy directions and principles in the National Disability Advocacy Framework.

The NSW Government is actively contributing to national policy design work with other jurisdictions to ensure that people with disability can access a range of decision and safeguarding supports necessary to exercise their rights and live the life they want, both through the NDIS, and through Commonwealth funded programs like the NDAP.

The Disability Council NSW continues to provide advice on key inclusion issues for people with disability. This includes identifying emerging issues for people with disability and specific advice to public authorities on the content and implementation of their Disability Inclusion Action Plans.

Disability Employment

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

I directed my Department to make employment a priority area in 2016.

All NSW Government agencies have created tailored Disability Inclusion Action Plans, which include more than 100 practical actions that will directly impact on the employment of people with disability.

In addition, the Department, working with the Public Service Commission, has established the NSW Disability Employment Advisory Committee to identify the best actions for driving growth in this area. These actions include educating

hiring managers, creating sector wide talent pools and developing accessible capability based assessments.

I am advised disability rights training is currently being rolled out across NSW government. This training includes intensive, full day sessions led by people with lived experience of disability sharing their experiences of some the barriers they face. This prepares staff to better include disability rights in policy development and supports positive attitudes towards employees with disability.

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

The NSW Government is:

- Coordinating actions to support employment for people with disability which include employment programs such as the Transition to Work program and the \$6 million Employment Enablement strategy.
- Developing a Disability Employment Awareness Campaign to increase public awareness and of the positive impacts for individuals and the community to in providing employment opportunities for people with disability
- Building strategic partnerships with community partners with state-wide reach such as the NSW Business Chamber.
- Working closely with the National Disability Insurance Agency to ensure that the NDIS planning process supports young people with disability to achieve their goals of employment.

NDIS Payment Issues

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

I raised this issue directly with the Commonwealth Minister for Social Services, Christian Porter, and Assistant Minister for Disability Services, Jane Prentice.

This issue was also discussed at the Council of Australian Government Disability Reform Council on 2 September 2016. The Council was provided with an update on the remediation activity undertaken by the Commonwealth and all governments committed to working with the National Disability Insurance Agency to support them in resolving current issues and implementing a recovery strategy.

Further information is contained in the public communique from the meeting, available at www.dss.gov.au.

NDIS Transition

85. How many people are currently participating in the NDIS in NSW?

This information can be found in the latest NDIS quarterly report, available at <https://www.ndis.gov.au>.

86. What is the average value of support packages offered to people participating in the NDIS in NSW?

This information can be found in the latest NDIS quarterly report, available at <https://www.ndis.gov.au>.

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?

I am advised the NSW *NDIS Enabling Act 2013* operates in conjunction with the Commonwealth Fair Work Act to protect key employment entitlements for staff who transfer to a non-government provider.

I am further advised accrued leave entitlements, continuity of service and superannuation entitlements all transfer with staff and are protected by the legislation.

A package of transfer conditions, targeted to supporting the transfer of disability staff, also applies and is supported by the legislative framework. This package includes an employment guarantee of two years for ongoing staff and up to six months for temporary and casual staff. A transfer payment of up to eight weeks is also payable to ongoing staff.

A key objective of the Enabling Act is to promote retention of a skilled disability services workforce and continuity of services for people with disability.

88. What is the status of the development of the quality and safeguard systems for the NDIS?

Refer to question 8.

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?

I am advised COAG considers regular reports on the sustainability of the NDIS including matters of workforce development and growth. The Commonwealth is responsible for leading work on workforce reform to support the implementation of the NDIS nationally.

Refer to question 87.

90. Will you guarantee that every NDIS recipient will receive enough funding to secure the disability accommodation they need?

The Commonwealth *National Disability Insurance Scheme Act 2013* ensures all participants of the scheme will receive the reasonable and necessary supports they need to meet their needs in relation to their disability and achievement of their goals.

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?

I am advised in response to the Recommendations from NSW Ombudsman's Report of reviewable deaths in 2012 and 2013, Volume 2: Deaths of people with

disability in residential care, the Department of Family and Community Services recently provided a Status Report to the NSW Ombudsman. The Department regularly monitors the progress of actions responding to recommendations and I am advised the actions are either complete or on track.

Disability Reportable Incidents Scheme

92. How many people with disability are covered in total by the Reportable Incidents Scheme?

I am advised 4034 people with disability in ADHC group accommodation and centre-based respite services are covered by the Reportable Incidents Scheme in FACS operated services.

I am further advised 8785 people with disability in NGO group homes, centre-based respites and boarding houses are covered by the Reportable Incidents Scheme.

93. How many of these are in FACS-funded NGOs?

Refer to question 92.

94. How many are in FACS-operated services?

Refer to question 92.

95. Is the Minister concerned that the Disability Reportable Incidents Scheme will no longer operate under the NDIS?

During transition under the NSW Transitional Quality Assurance and Safeguards Working Arrangements, all existing ADHC funded providers and new providers of NDIS supported group accommodation and centre-based respite are subject to the NSW Ombudsman's Disability Reportable Incidents Scheme. This also includes providers of centre-based day program supports providing services to people with disability living in supported group accommodation.

At the Disability Reform Council (DRC) meeting on 2 September 2016, NSW agreed to a national Quality and Safeguarding Framework for NDIS full scheme. The Framework will proceed to COAG later in the year. DRC agreed that the Commonwealth would establish an independent, national complaints and serious incidents system and an NDIS Code of Conduct. The Commonwealth will also establish a national registrar, responsible for registering providers and overseeing providers' compliance with the registration requirements, including compliance with the National Standards for Disability Services.

96. How many staff have been terminated after allegations have been made against them in line with the Disability Reportable Incidents Scheme?

I am advised 10 FACS staff have had their employment terminated as a consequence of reportable incident allegations.

97. How many facilities have had incidents reported?

I am advised The Ombudsman has a direct reporting relationship with non-government services. This question should be directed to the NSW Ombudsman.

98. How many staff have been suspended after allegations have been made

against them in line with the Disability Reportable Incidents Scheme?

I am advised 11 FACS staff were formally suspended from duty as a consequence of reportable incident allegations.

99. How many facilities have had their contracts withdrawn after allegations have been made against them?

The Department of Family and Community Services (FACS) works with service providers to identify and resolve allegations and service delivery issues. I am advised no contracts have been withdrawn.

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?

Expenditure on social media related activities in relation to disability services are operational and within budget.

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?

The Expression of Interest (EOI) for the transfer of Family and Community Services (FACS) specialist disability services to the non-government sector has now closed. I am advised the next step in the process is the binding proposal stage.

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?

I am advised no transfers have taken place.

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?

I am advised the NSW Government is still considering its approach to specialist disability supported accommodation assets.

104. What legal rights to current ADHC clients in supported accommodation have in relation to the transfer of the property they live in?

I am advised ADHC clients do not currently sign an occupation agreement where rights in relation to a property would normally be found.

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?

I am advised if the majority of participants living in a group home wish to change service provider, the household can vote to do this, and stay in the home as part of the NDIS's principle of choice and control. I am further advised providers will be required by the National Disability Insurance Agency to ensure appropriate dispute resolution mechanisms are in place to address any issues that may arise. In relation to safeguards, refer to question 8.

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?

The primary objective of the Sector Transition Fund is to manage or mitigate key risks associated with the transition to the National Disability Insurance Scheme and transfer of disability services.

The NSW Government is currently considering options to ensure the best timing and use of the sector transition fund.

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 there any indigenous representatives?**
- d) Were there any people with Disability representatives?**

The NSW Ageing Strategy roundtable was attended by a range of representatives from the business and non-Government organisation sector, and was aimed at finding partner organisations to assist in the implementation of the renewed Ageing Strategy. A list of attendees is available on the FACS website, along with a summary of discussions on the day.

FACS consulted specifically with older people from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) and Aboriginal communities in November and December 2015. The consultations sought to gain insight into the experiences and needs of older CALD and Aboriginal people, and to ensure that the priorities and high-level directions in the renewed NSW Ageing Strategy reflect the concerns of all older people in NSW.

Domestic Violence Leave and Awareness

108. For each department, statutory agency and/or other bodies in your 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?

Refer to question 20.

Sexual harassment and Anti-bullying training and awareness programs

109. For each department, statutory agency and/or other bodies in your 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 antibullying training and awareness programs?

Refer to question 21.

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?

I am advised the Department of Family and Community Services (FACS) continues to pay FACS funded disability service providers. Payments are made monthly and in advance, ensuring providers can continue to deliver services to people. FACS will continue to work with the NDIA to meet transition target by the end of second quarter.

b) What Is the Minister doing to ensure that providers are able to pay employees, contractors and suppliers?

I am advised FACS will continue to fund disability services and people in NSW who have yet to transition to the NDIS. Issues in relation to staffing and cash flow are business decisions for individual service providers.

Office Administration

111. 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?

Refer to question 33.

112. 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?

Refer to question 34.

113. 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?

Refer to question 35.

114. Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in your ministerial office in 2015-16?

a) What is the cost of this?

Refer to question 36.

115. Have any floral displays or indoor plants or pot plants been hired or leased for display in your ministerial office in 2015-16?

a) If so, what was the cost of these items?

Refer to question 37.

116. Have any floral displays or indoor plants or pot plants been purchased for display in your ministerial office in 2015-16?

a) If so, what was the cost of these items?

Refer to question 38.

117. 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?

Refer to question 39.

118. 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?

Refer to question 40.

119. Do you purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for your office?

a) What is the monthly cost of this?

Refer to question 41.

120. What non-standard features are fitted to your ministerial vehicle?

a) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?

Refer to question 42.

121. 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

Refer to question 43.

122. 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?

Refer to question 44.

Hospitality

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

Refer to question 45.

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

Refer to question 46.

Labour Hire Firms

125. 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

Refer to question 47.

Media and Public Relations

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

Refer to question 48.

127. 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?

Refer to question 49.

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

Refer to question 50.

129. 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?

Refer to question 51.

Facebook

130. How much did your ministerial office spend on Facebook advertising or sponsored posts in 2015-16?

Refer to question 52.

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

Refer to question 53.

Overseas Trips

132. 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?

Refer to question 54.

133. 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?

Refer to question 55.

Department/Agency Travel

134. 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

Refer to question 56.

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?

Refer to question 57.

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

Refer to question 58.

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?**

Refer to question 59.

- 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?**

Refer to question 60.

- 139. Are any staff formerly employed by your ministerial office now employed by Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibility?**

Refer to question 61.

- 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?**

Refer to question 62.

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?**

Refer to question 63.

- 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?**

Refer to question 64.

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?**

Refer to question 65.

- 144. What were the top 20 most accessed (by number of times accessed) unique domain names accessed by your Ministerial office this year?**

Refer to question 66.

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.

Refer to question 67.

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.

Refer to question 68.

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

Refer to question 69.

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.

Refer to question 70.

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?

Refer to question 71.

Closure of the Stockton Centre

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

Refer to question 79.

- a) To date how many residents have been relocated from the Stockton Centre?

I am advised 10 residents have relocated from Stockton Centre.

- b) How many residents are still waiting to be relocated from the Stockton Centre?

I am advised there are 303 residents 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)?

I am advised that at present, there has been no staff at Stockton Centre who have transferred to the private sector.