



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEES

## **BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-2018 Supplementary Questions**

**Portfolio Committee No. 4 – Legal Affairs**

**POLICE, EMERGENCY SERVICES**

Hearing: Thursday 31 August 2017

**Answers due by: Tuesday 26 September 2017**

**Budget Estimates Secretariat**

Phone 9230 2412

[budget.estimateds@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:budget.estimateds@parliament.nsw.gov.au)

## POLICE

### Questions from the Hon Mark Pearson MLC

#### Police correspondence forwarded to Minister

1. Given that the NSW Police is an independent statutory body established by the Police Act 1990, defining their legislative responsibility to provide services for the prevention and detection of crime, can you please explain on what basis NSW Police are directing operational correspondence to your office?
2. The Police Act provides the Minister with administrative oversight of the functions, including staffing of the NSW Police Force but this does not include oversight of operational matters such as the investigation of alleged criminal offences. Can the Minister explain how his administrative powers allow him to view correspondence forwarded, not the Minister for Police, but to an Assistant Commissioner of Police in regard to criminal matters?
3. What are the protocols in place that identify which correspondence received by NSW Police Force is selected for forwarding to the Minister?
4. What is the protocol where correspondence to NSW Police makes allegations of criminal activities by the Minister, ministerial staff, or any members of the government? Is that also forwarded to the Minister's office?
5. Is the Minister able to advise why I have not received a response to my letter sent to Asst Cmr McKechnie on the 24th November 2016?

### Questions from Mr David Shoebridge MLC

#### Police Shootings

6. How many fatal police shootings have there been in the last 12 months?
7. How many non-fatal police shootings have there been in the last 12 months?
8. What training do the NSW Police receive regarding the use of lethal force and near lethal force against people with mental illness?
9. When was the last time that these training protocols were reviewed?

#### Bowraville Recommendations

10. What steps has the NSW Police taken to implement the recommendations of the Parliamentary Inquiry into the family response to the murders in Bowraville report?

## **NSW Police Compliance with LEPR**

Note: On July 19 2016 Rebecca Maher died in NSW police custody after being arrested for intoxication. Ms Maher had been arrested but not charged and accordingly the police did not notify the Custody Notification Service.

11. In Budget Estimates last year you were informed of a loophole that does not require NSW Police to notify the Aboriginal Legal Service when an Aboriginal person is detained but not charged, what has the Minister done since this to ensure that the NSW Police notify ALS every time an Aboriginal person is detained?

## **Law Enforcement Conduct Commission (LECC)**

12. Given that legislation establishing the Law Enforcement Conduct Commission passed Parliament in November 2016, why did it take until July 2017 for the LECC to start accepting complaints?
13. How many complaints has the LECC received since it commenced?
14. Of these complaints how many has the LECC declined to investigate?

## **Adler A110**

15. Given that the NSW Police's internal advice on the Adler A110 shotgun stated:

*“The public safety concern with the Adler A-110 shotgun and other types of emerging technologies is their rapid rate of fire and their higher magazine capacity. These types of shotguns were not considered a high public safety risk at the time of writing the National Firearms Agreement because their action, at the time did not allow for rapid rate of fire. Technological advancement has meant that these types of firearms are now similar in terms of their rapidly similar in terms of their rapidity to pump action shotguns, which are classified as Category C firearms (prohibited except for occupational purposes)”*

Why did the Minister advocate for the Adler A110 to be categorised as a Category A weapon?

16. How many Adler A110 shotguns are registered in NSW?

## **Private firearms ownership**

17. Given that NSW is on track to have more than 1,000,000 registered guns by 2020 why has the Minister watered down our gun laws by weakening safe storage requirements and removing the recording of information in relation to ammunition sales?
18. Is the Minister aware of the accumulation of private arsenals that has allowed 100 citizens in NSW to have more than 70 guns each, with one individual owning 312 guns?
19. The current law requires individuals to establish a “genuine” or “good reason” for owning a firearm, what “genuine” or “good reason” do individuals have to own more than 70 guns?

### **Sexual assault training for NSW Police**

20. What is the current program for training NSW Police officers for responding to reports of sexual assault?
21. How long is the training given to police officers?
22. How frequently do officers receive such training?
23. What encouragement is provided to officers to undertake such training?
24. How many officers undertake this training each year?
25. As at 31 June 2017 how many officers in the whole NSW Police Force had received such training?
26. As at 31 June 2017 how many officers in the whole NSW Police Force had NOT received such training?
27. What steps are being taken to ensure that at least one officer at every LAC has relevant and up to date training in relation to responding to reports of sexual assault?
28. Is there any specific training provided to officers about responding to reports received from or on behalf of child victims of child sexual assault?

### **Organisational Chart**

29. Can an organisational chart of the NSW Police please be provided that indicates the reports and operational responsibilities of the Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner and Assistant Commissioners?

### **Domestic Violence training for NSW Police**

30. What is the current program for training NSW Police officers for responding to reports of domestic violence?
31. How long is the training given to police officers?
32. How frequently do officers receive such training?
33. What encouragement is provided to officers to undertake such training?
34. How many officers undertake this training each year?
35. As at 31 June 2017 how many officers in the whole NSW Police Force had received such training?

36. As at 31 June 2017 how many officers in the whole NSW Police Force had NOT received such training?
37. What steps are being taken to ensure that at least one officer at every LAC has relevant and up to date training in relation to responding to reports of domestic violence?

### **COPS Database**

38. Does the NSWPF conduct random audits of COPS access by NSWPF members?
  - (a) If so, how many random audits were conducted in 2016-17?
39. How many targeted audits of COPS access by NSWPF members were conducted in 2016-17?
40. What is the time period of the access covered in a random audit?
41. What is the time period of the access covered in a targeted audit?
42. How many disciplinary actions resulted from random audits?
43. How many resulted from targeted audits?
44. Has the NSWPF considered the use of risk assessment algorithms to assist in auditing database access?
45. In relation to Intelligence Reports, what is the default Admiralty Rating assigned to an Intelligence Report created by an ordinary constable of the NSWPF?
46. The NSWPF routinely adds intelligence information to national criminal intelligence databases. If the NSWPF later determines that certain intelligence is inaccurate or unreliable, what procedures are in place to ensure that the national databases are updated to reflect that?

### **DNA Database**

47. Does the NSWPF conduct audits of whether DNA samples are correctly taken?
  - (a) If so, when was the last audit and how many samples did it cover?
48. If a sample is taken in error, what processes are in place to ensure that this person does not incorrectly end up on the DNA database?

### **Maules Creek investigation**

49. What is the current status of the investigation by NSW Police Security Licensing and Enforcement Directorate (SLED) into the unlicensed intelligence officers from C5 Management Solutions subcontracted to Idemitsu Boggabri Coal's security who infiltrated our nonviolent protest camp at Maules Creek?

50. When did Barwon LAC conclude its investigation into this matter?
- (a) If the matter has not yet been finalised, why has it taken so long?
  - (b) If the matter has been finalised what recommendations did the LAC have about taking action?
51. What was the outcome of the legal assessment following this investigation?

### **Roadside drug testing**

52. Why doesn't the NSW Police test for the impairment of drivers in the expanded roadside drug testing program?
53. Why does the NSW Police roadside drug testing program only test for the trace presence of cannabis, methylenedioxy-methamphetamine and amphetamines?
54. Why doesn't the NSW Police roadside drug testing program test for drugs that are commonly known to impair driving such as cocaine or benzodiazepines?
55. To the Minister's best knowledge, how long does cocaine remain detectable in a person's saliva?
56. What is the reason for the recently announced trial of cocaine testing in the Eastern suburbs?
57. What consideration has been given to expanding this trial to the North Shore and Northern Beaches?
58. To the Minister's best knowledge, how long does cannabis remain detectable in a person's saliva?
59. Will the Government commission an independent, expert, evaluation of NSW's roadside drug testing program, perhaps using research methods similar to those used to evaluate the first few years of the introduction of random breath testing of drivers in NSW?
60. What evidence is there that roadside drug testing improves road safety?

### **Replica firearms**

61. How many offences were committed using replica or imitation firearms in each of the following financial years:
- (a) 2012-13?
  - (b) 2013-14?
  - (c) 2014-15?
  - (d) 2015-16?

- (e) 2016-17?
62. How many incidents have police been alerted to that involved a suspected replica or imitation firearm in each of the following financial years:
- (a) 2012-13?
- (b) 2013-14?
- (c) 2014-15?
- (d) 2015-16?
- (e) 2016-17?
63. How many replica or imitation firearms were seized by police in each of the following financial years:
- (a) 2012-13?
- (b) 2013-14?
- (c) 2014-15?
- (d) 2015-16?
- (e) 2016-17?

### **Use of artificial intelligence**

64. What current uses of artificial intelligence does the department undertake?

Note: Please include all uses of AI including uses for resource allocation and administrative support, big data analysis, replacement and assistance of experts and researchers, procedural matters, or summarising diverse data – for reference this might include:

- Chatbots for customer service or advice
- Customer management systems
- Scanning legal documents to find relevant case law
- Categorising and searching documents
- Directing petitions efficiently
- Translation
- Document drafting

65. When did the department implement AI technologies and which technologies were these?

66. What planned uses does the department have for artificial intelligence?

67. What is the anticipated timeline for the expansion of existing AI uses or implementation of new technologies?
68. What policy guidelines, if any, guide the exploration and use of artificial intelligence by the department?
69. What research, if any, has the department undertaken regarding the use of AI in Government services?

#### **Inclosed Lands, Crimes and Law Enforcement Legislation Amendment (Interference) Bill 2016**

70. Since the Inclosed Lands, Crimes and Law Enforcement Legislation Amendment (Interference) Bill 2016 came into effect, how many people have been charged under:
  - (a) The new aggravated form of the offence of unlawful entry on inclosed lands?
  - (b) The offences of intentionally or recklessly interfering with a mine to extend the meaning of 'mine' to mineral, gas or petroleum exploration sites?

<b>Questions from Hon Robert Borsak MLC</b>
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#### **Firearm Suppressors (“Silencers”)**

71. Can the Commissioner advise why the NSW Firearms Registry takes over 16 months to decide an application for suppressor (silencer) permit?
72. Can the Commissioner advise why Internal Reviews of applications lodged with NSW Firearms Registry are not being conducted, as they must, within 21 days, in accordance with Section 53(6) Administrative Decisions Review Act 1997?
  - (a) Does the Minister understand that failure to do so, allows the Applicant to commence proceedings in the New South Wales Civil and Administrative Tribunal (NCAT) which necessitates the Police Commissioner retaining legal representation costing and wasting Government money, in contravention of the NSW government’s Model Litigant Policy?
73. Can the Commissioner give one example of a genuine reason for possession of a suppressor for use in Recreational/Sporting Purposes genuine reason which would satisfy the Commissioner to grant a suppressor permit?
  - (a) Or, is it a case that all applications made under the genuine reason category of Recreational/Sporting Purposes are being perversely and unwarrantedly refused?



- (b) What concerns have been raised about making suppressors readily available to Recreational/Sporting Purpose applicants?
  - (c) What evidence has been presented to support concerns raised in (b)
74. What advice or directives has the NSW Firearms Registry been given by the Minister, Commissioner, or Ministry for Police regarding its assessment of applications for firearm “silencers” (suppressors) under the Weapons Prohibition Act 1998?
75. What advice and/or recommendations, including: policy position, adjudication criteria, technical aspects, procedures for Internal Reviews by suppressor applicants, instruction to legal counsel (internal and external) from:
- (a) Forensic Ballistics Investigation Section
  - (b) Specialist Support Section
  - (c) Forensic Services Group
  - (d) Operational Communications & Information Command
  - (e) State Crime Command
  - (f) Police Ministry
  - (g) Police Senior Executive, including the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioners
  - (h) Corporate Services
  - (i) NSW Police Legal Counsel
76. On 23 March 2017 the two delegates from NSW Firearms Registry on the Firearms Registry Stakeholder Committee (Legislation Group) were provided copies of the draft *Firearm Suppressor Guidelines – Genuine Reasons*. Were the draft guidelines ever passed on to or discussed with Firearms Registry senior management i.e. the Registry Director, the General Manager of Operations or the General Manager of Industry Regulation? If not, why not?

### **Firearm Licences**

77. What is the most up-to-date data on the number of NSW firearm licences:
- (a) by firearm Category: A, B, C, D, H
  - (b) by type: individual, business, clubs, collectors, dealer- individual, dealer- business, club armourer
  - (c) by Postcode

- (d) by Genuine Reason: Recreational Hunting/Vermin Control; Sport/Target Shooting; Vertebrate Pest Control.

<b>Questions from Hon Shaoquett Moselmane MLC (on behalf of the NSW Labor Opposition)</b>
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### **Equipment**

78. How often is frontline Police Officer equipment checked to ensure it is operating correctly and is not malfunctioning?
79. On how many occasions over the past year has any equipment being carried by frontline officers malfunctioned?

### **Police budget spend compared to infrastructure spend**

80. Billions of dollars are being spent on the West Connex, North Connex, Eastern Light Rail and other transport and road projects by this Government. Relative to this spend, do you believe there has been an underspend on Police?

### **Specialist Negotiator Truck**

81. Is the specialist negotiator truck in operation yet? If not, why has it been delayed?

### **Counter-Terrorism Strategy**

82. In August 2017, Prime Minister Turnbull announced the Australia's Strategy for Protecting Crowded Places from Terrorism report – which recommended that makeshift barriers be installed to protect popular places such as stadiums and shopping centres; and that bollards or planter boxes should be used to protect pedestrians in shared traffic zones. Can you elaborate on any plans for the installation of such barriers or bollards in New South Wales?

### **Specialist Squads**

83. As of the 1 September 2017:
- (a) (How many police officers were assigned to the Child Abuse Squad?
  - (b) How many support staff were assigned to the Child Abuse Squad?
  - (c) How many detectives were assigned to the Counter Terrorism and Special Tactics Command?
  - (d) How many Police Officers were assigned to the firearms and organised crime related squads?

- (e) How many Police Officers were employed at the Real Time Intelligence Response Centre?
- (f) How many intelligence analysts were employed at the Real Time Intelligence Response Centre?
- (g) How many specialist forensic accountants are employed by the Cybercrime and Fraud Squad?
- (h) How many Police Officers were employed with the Serious Sex and violent Offenders Investigation Unit?

### **Lindt Siege Inquest Recommendations**

84. Please list each recommendation of the Lindt café Siege Inquest that has been implemented.

### **Firearms**

85. How many illegal firearms were discovered by police in each recurring year from 2011 to 2017?

### **NSW Police Website**

86. What were the total costs of upgrading the NSW Police website?

### **NSW Police Budget**

87. What was the total spend on NSW Police in each recurring year from 2011 to 2017?

### **Local Area Commands**

88. What are the five LAC's that have had the highest number of reported shootings in 2017?

- (a) How many shootings did each of these LACs have?

### **Police Media Unit**

89. What is the total annual budget for the police media unit?

90. As at 1 July 2017, how many FTE staff were employed in the police media unit?

91. How many people are employed to run the NSW Police social media pages?

### **Medical Discharges**

92. How many police officers have been medically discharged in the period between July 2015 to July 2017?

- (a) Of those officers, how many included a psychological component?

### **Stress Leave**

93. How many NSW Police officers are currently on permanent stress leave?

### **Queanbeyan Police Station**

94. What is exact status of the old Queanbeyan Police Station?

95. At what time did the NSW Police start discussions with the Queanbeyan Palerang Council?

(a) Are there any other examples where NSW police sits in a NSW Regional council office block?

96. For what purpose is the \$17million allocation outlined in 2017-18 Budget Papers?

97. When was the local MP, John Barilaro advised of these changes?

### **Police Stations**

98. How many Police stations have been constructed since March 2011?

(a) What is the breakdown of these new stations in terms of:

i. City LACs

ii. Regional LACs

(b) How many new stations have been constructed during this period in:

i. Central Hunter LAC

ii. Newcastle City LAC

iii. Lake Macquarie LAC

iv. Port Stephens LAC

v. Hunter Valley LAC?

99. What process or procedure is used to determine when and where a new Police station is to be constructed?

100. What is the average timeframe from the commencement of construction to the opening of the station?

101. Of the new Police stations that have been constructed since March 2011, has there been an increase in the number of officers allocated to each area?

102. Is there a specific list or database of potential sites across NSW that require a new station to be constructed?

103. Are new stations constructed on sites or land currently owned by the NSW Government?

104. Does the NSW Government own, or have they earmarked potential parcels of land in Cessnock or Kurri Kurri where new Police stations could be constructed?
105. Are there any imminent plans to construct new Police stations in the localities of Cessnock or Kurri Kurri?
106. When was the existing Cessnock Police station constructed and opened?
107. When was the existing Kurri Kurri Police station constructed and opened?
108. How many officers are currently stationed at Cessnock Police station?
  - (a) How many of these officers are uniformed?
  - (b) How many of these officers are plain-clothed?
109. How many vehicles are stationed at Cessnock Police station?
  - (a) How many of these vehicles are marked?
  - (b) How many of these vehicles are unmarked?
110. How many officers are currently stationed at Kurri Kurri Police station?
  - (a) How many of these officers are uniformed?
  - (b) How many of these officers are plain-clothed?
111. How many vehicles are stationed at Kurri Kurri Police station?
  - (a) How many of these vehicles are marked?
  - (b) How many of these vehicles are unmarked?

**In relation to Police numbers positioned at Wollongong Local Area Command**

112. How many Police officers (all levels) are positioned within the Wollongong Local Area Command?
  - (a) Police figures as at 1<sup>st</sup> July 2013
  - (b) Police figures as at 1<sup>st</sup> July 2014
  - (c) Police figures as at 1<sup>st</sup> July 2015
  - (d) Police figures as at 1<sup>st</sup> July 2016
  - (e) Police figures as at 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017

## **Newcastle LAC**

113. How many new police recruits have been deployed to the Newcastle LAC for each of the following years:

- (a) 2011;
- (b) 2012;
- (c) 2013;
- (d) 2014;
- (e) 2015;
- (f) 2016; and
- (g) 2017?

114. Does the Minister plan to close any Police Stations within the Newcastle LAC?

115. When will the Minister resolve the issue between Police and Corrective Services regarding the transportation and care of prisoners between courts and mental health services for section 33 assessments?

116. How many officers in the Newcastle LAC have completed active armed offender training?

117. Have crime rates in Hamilton decreased since extra resources were tasked with patrolling this area?

118. How many officers from the Police Transport Command are located in Newcastle?

## **Office Administration**

119. How many staff are in your ministerial office?

- (a) What was the average salary for staff members in your office during 2016-17?
- (b) What is the estimated average salary for a ministerial staffer in your office in 2017-18 based on current appointments?

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

- (a) For each phone, how much was each bill in 2016-17?
- (b) How many phones have been lost or replaced due to damage in your office?
  - i. What is the cost of replacing those phones?

121. 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 2016-17?
  - (b) How many iPads or tablets have been replaced due to lost or damage in 2016-17?
    - i. What was the cost of replacing these devices?
122. Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in your ministerial office in 2016-17?
- (a) What is the cost of this?
123. Have any floral displays or indoor plants or potplants been hired or leased for display in your ministerial office in 2016-17?
- (a) If so, what was the cost of these items?
124. Have any floral displays or indoor plants or potplants been purchased for display in your ministerial office in 2016-17?
- (a) If so, what was the cost of these items?
125. What was the total cost of all subscriptions by you and your staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals in 2016-17?
- (a) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?
    - i. Who is the subscriber for each of these?
126. What was the total amount your office spent on stationery?
127. What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by you and your office in 2016-17?
- (a) What were the gifts purchased?
    - i. Who were they gifted to?
128. Do you purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for your office?
- (a) What is the monthly cost of this?
129. What non-standard features are fitted to your ministerial vehicle?
- (a) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?
130. What was the total bill for your office in 2016-17 for:
- (a) Taxi hire

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

131. Were any planes or helicopters chartered by you or your office and paid for with public money in 2016-17?

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

### **Hospitality**

132. How much did your ministerial office spend on hospitality, including catering and beverages, in 2016-17?

133. How much did your Department/agency spend on hospitality, including catering and beverages, in 2016-17?

### **Labour Hire Firms**

134. Do any Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities utilise the services of Labour Hire Firms? If yes, please advise in table form for 2016-17:

- (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**

135. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies and what is the total cost to employ these advisers?

136. 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?



137. What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities?
138. By how much has the number of media or public relations advisers employed for each of your portfolio agencies increased since 2011-12 to the current date?
139. By how much has the expenditure on media or public relations advisers employed for each of your portfolio agencies increased since 2011-12 to the current date?
140. 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 2016-17?

### **Facebook**

141. How much did your ministerial office spend on Facebook advertising or sponsored posts in 2016-17?
142. How much did your Department/agency spend on Facebook advertising or sponsored posts in 2016-17?

### **Overseas Trips**

143. 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?
144. 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**

145. What was the total expenditure in 2016-17 by Departments/agencies within your portfolio on:
- (a) Taxi hire
  - (b) Limousine/private car hire
  - (c) Hire car rental
  - (d) Ridesharing services

146. Do any senior executive service employees in your Departments/agencies have a driver that is paid for by the Departments/agencies? If so, what is the number of senior executive service employees that have a driver and which senior executive service employees have a driver?

(a) How much was spent on these drivers in 2016-17?

### **Consulting**

147. How much did the Department/agencies under your portfolio responsibility spend in legal costs in 2016-17?

(a) For what specific purposes or matters was legal advice sought?

148. Have Department/agencies under your portfolio engaged any consultants to provide the following services or advice in 2016-17:

(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**

149. What was the number of senior executive service employees employed by Departments/agencies within your portfolio in 2016-17?

(a) How much was this number in 2011-12?

150. What was the expenditure on senior executive service employees employed by Departments/agencies within your portfolio in 2016-17?

(a) How much was this number in 2011-12?

151. What was the number of internal legal counsel employees employed by Departments/agencies within your portfolio in 2016-17?

(a) How much was this number in 2011-12?

152. What was the expenditure on internal legal counsel employees employed by Departments/agencies within your portfolio in 2016-17?
- (a) How much was this number in 2011-12?
153. How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2016-17?
- (a) Of these redundancies, how many were:
- i. Voluntary
- ii. Forced
154. What was the total cost of all redundancies?
155. 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?
156. Are any staff formerly employed by your ministerial office now employed by Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibility?
157. How many staff were dismissed from Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibilities in 2016-17?
- (a) What were the reason/s for each dismissal?
158. What was the total amount your Departments/agencies spent on stationery?

### **Smart Phone Accounts**

159. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an iTunes account?
- (a) What was the total expenditure in 2016-17 on iTunes?
- i. What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through iTunes?
160. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an Android account?
- (a) What was the total expenditure in 2016-17 on Android?
- i. What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through Android?

**Websites Visited**

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

**Merchant fees**

163. 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.
164. 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.
165. What was the total amount paid in merchant fees on credit and/or debit card payments in your Department/agency in 2016-17?

**Probity Auditor**

166. 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.”

## EMERGENCY SERVICES

### Questions from the Hon Mark Pearson MLC

#### Rescuing Domestic Animals

1. Does the Minister intend to direct the department to develop a triage procedure that will identify the process for addressing the safety needs and resources required to evacuate domestic animals during future emergencies so that domestic animals are not at risk of perishing in floods and bushfires?
2. Can the Minister confirm that the refusal to evacuate domestic animals was standard practice during the Cyclone Debbie emergency?
3. During the Cyclone Debbie emergency, what steps, if any, did State Emergency Services take to ensure that when people were provided with emergency accommodation, they were also provided with facilities to house companion animals and thus assist evacuees to ensure their companion animals were not illegally abandoned in the rising flood waters?
4. Does the Department have any policies or procedures in place to ensure evacuees are not placed in the position of having to abandon their animals due to a lack of facilities provided by emergency services during times of natural disaster?
  - (a) If so, what are they?
5. Does the Department provide funding for the establishment of companion animal facilities during natural disasters?
  - (a) If so, how much. If not, why not?
6. What planning, if any, does the Department undertake to establish the anticipated needs of owners of companion animals in times of emergencies and natural disasters?

### Questions from Mr David Shoebridge MLC

#### Bullying

7. What steps have you taken to address concerns raised by emergency service workers in the course of the Parliamentary Inquiry into bullying in emergency services?

### **Fire-resistant panelling**

8. What work, if any, have you undertaken as Minister to ascertain the prevalence of insulation panelling (such as that which was implicated in the Grenfell fire in London) on buildings in NSW?
9. Has your department issued any guidelines relating to the use of such panelling/cladding?

### **60-70 Bournemouth St, Bundeena**

With reference to the Bushfire Safety Authority issued by the Rural Fire Service for the proposed eco-tourist facility at 60-70 Bournemouth St, Bundeena (RFS Reference DA14/3551), can the Minister advise whether

10. The Inner Protection Area of the Asset Protection Zone specified in the Bushfire Safety Authority would satisfy the requirements of the draft 2017 Planning for Bushfire Protection as exhibited?
11. The design of the proposed fire refuge building would satisfy the radiant heat exposure limit required by the draft 2017 Planning for Bushfire Protection as exhibited?
12. The Minister's opinion, the proposed access road through the Royal National Park will provide safe access for evacuation of the proposed eco-tourist facility during a bush fire emergency?

### **Use of artificial intelligence**

13. What current uses of artificial intelligence does the department undertake?

Note: Please include all uses of AI including uses for resource allocation and administrative support, big data analysis, replacement and assistance of experts and researchers, procedural matters, or summarising diverse data – for reference this might include:

- Chatbots for customer service or advice
- Customer management systems
- Scanning legal documents to find relevant case law
- Categorising and searching documents
- Directing petitions efficiently
- Translation
- Document drafting

14. When did the department implement AI technologies and which technologies were these?
15. What planned uses does the department have for artificial intelligence?

16. What is the anticipated timeline for the expansion of existing AI uses or implementation of new technologies?
17. What policy guidelines, if any, guide the exploration and use of artificial intelligence by the department?
18. What research, if any, has the department undertaken regarding the use of AI in Government services?

<b>Questions from Hon Shaoquett Moselmane MLC (on behalf of the NSW Labor Opposition)</b>
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### **NSW SES & RFS**

19. Current legislation does not provide NSW SES with an authoritative voice in land use planning on flood plains. Rather, the SES has relied on influence and its advisory capacity. Do you support the NSW SES' proposed legislative review of the State Emergency Service Act 1989 to seek an increased authority with respect to land use planning in flood plains?
20. The number of callouts for SES volunteers in 2015/16 was 37,048 and in 2016/17 was 35,000. Why is the number of SES callouts for 2017/18 forecast at only 26,000?
21. Will you increase the budget allocation to upgrade the SES website to ensure it can manage the volume of hits during operational events?
22. Should you be made aware that Rural Fire Service Brigades and NSW SES Units have concerns regarding the increase in power prices, what will you do to ensure these units and brigades have extra funding to manage the payment of increasing power prices?
  - (a) Do you support shifting emergency services off the domestic supply market?

### **Flood Mitigation**

23. How much has been spent on flood mitigation strategies throughout NSW over the past 6 years?
24. How much has the NSW Government spent on raising public awareness and educating communities about the importance of emergency preparedness?
25. What has been the cost to NSW for disaster recovery efforts and relief throughout NSW over the past 6 years?

## **Fire & Rescue NSW**

26. Are Fire & Rescue NSW 4 Wheel Drive Bush Fire Tankers fitted with Crew Protection Systems to protect the firefighters in the event of a burn-over?
  - (a) If no, are there any plans to fit Crew Protection Systems into the appliances?
  - (b) If there are future plans to fit these systems, how much will this cost, when will the upgrades commence and when will they be completed?

## **Flood training**

27. How many SES branches have flash flood evacuation plans?
28. How many SES volunteers are trained to use boats in flood water?

## **Medical discharges**

29. How many firefighters have been medically discharged in each recurring year from 2011 to 2017?
30. Of the firefighters who have been medically discharged, how many discharges had a psychological component?

## **Stress Leave**

31. How many firefighters are currently on permanent stress leave?
32. How many firefighters have taken stress leave from July 2012 to July 2017?

## **Firefighters**

33. How many FTE firefighters were employed in each recurring year from 2011 to 2017?
34. Given that a Victorian Inquiry found a conclusive link between firefighting and cancers, and found certain cancers to be up to five times more likely than in the general population, are you looking to introduce legislation to bring NSW in line with the rest of Australia by introducing automatic, or presumptive, compensation for firefighters affected by cancer?

## **Hazard reduction burns**

35. What process is implemented to determine the priority areas/regions that require hazard reduction burns?
36. Are there specifically trained individuals in the Rural Fire Service (RFS) who supervise hazard reduction burns?
37. Must these supervisors be in attendance when hazard reduction burns are taking place to ensure the correct policies and procedures are followed?



38. How many of these supervisors are required to be at each hazard reduction burn?
39. How many specifically trained supervisors monitor hazard reduction burns across NSW?
  - a. How many are located in the Hunter region?
40. Is it a requirement for hazard reduction burns to go ahead, these trained supervisors from the RFS must be in attendance?

### **RFS Volunteers**

41. In the 12 months to 31 August 2017, how many individuals applied to be a volunteer member of the RFS in the Lower Hunter region?
  - (a) How many of these applicants were prevented from joining?
  - (b) What were the main reasons for rejection during the 12 month period?
42. What training is provided to applicants during the 6 month probation period?
43. What is the strength of each of the Brigades in the Lower Hunter region?
44. Which Brigades in the Lower Hunter region have accepted new volunteers during this 12 month period?

### **In relation to emergency service vehicles**

45. How many emergency service vehicles are servicing the Illawarra region?
  - (a) What is the average age of these emergency service vehicles?
  - (b) What is the average mileage of these emergency service vehicles?
46. How many full time equivalent emergency service employees are servicing the Illawarra region?
  - (a) Of these employees, how many are working in front line emergency services positions?
  - (b) Of these employees, how many are employed in administrative, management positions, or positions other than front line response employees?

### **Newcastle**

47. What is the Minister doing to address the poor condition of the Newcastle SES building in Tighes Hill?
48. How many aerial firefighting appliances are located in the Newcastle electorate?
  - (a) Are there any plans to increase this number as the number of high rise in the Newcastle CBD increases?

49. Are there any plans to close any more Fire Stations in the Newcastle electorate?
50. I refer to Mr Hamilton's statement, "We have been given a list of 1,041 locations across New South Wales which potentially have cladding located on them." How many of these building are located in the Newcastle electorate?
  - (a) Where are these building located?
  - (b) Has this information been provided to Fire and Rescue NSW crews who are responding to emergency events?
51. How much was raised from the sale of the Hamilton Fire Station?
  - (a) What will these funds be spent on?
  - (b) Will they be spent in the Newcastle electorate?
52. Has the emergency management plan for the Newcastle 500 been completed?
  - (a) If not, why not?
  - (b) If not, when will this be completed?
  - (c) How will the information from the plan be communicated to Newcastle East residents?

### **Office Administration**

53. How many staff are in your ministerial office?
  - (a) What was the average salary for staff members in your office during 2016-17?
  - (b) What is the estimated average salary for a ministerial staffer in your office in 2017-18 based on current appointments?
54. How many blackberries/iphones/smart phones are assigned to your staff?
  - (a) For each phone, how much was each bill in 2016-17?
  - (b) How many phones have been lost or replaced due to damage in your office?
    - i. What is the cost of replacing those phones?
55. 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 2016-17?
  - (b) How many iPads or tablets have been replaced due to lost or damage in 2016-17?
    - i. What was the cost of replacing these devices?

56. Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in your ministerial office in 2016-17?
- (a) What is the cost of this?
57. Have any floral displays or indoor plants or potplants been hired or leased for display in your ministerial office in 2016-17?
- (a) If so, what was the cost of these items?
58. Have any floral displays or indoor plants or potplants been purchased for display in your ministerial office in 2016-17?
- (a) If so, what was the cost of these items?
59. What was the total cost of all subscriptions by you and your staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals in 2016-17?
- (a) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?
    - i. Who is the subscriber for each of these?
60. What was the total amount your office spent on stationery?
61. What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by you and your office in 2016-17?
- (a) What were the gifts purchased?
    - i. Who were they gifted to?
62. Do you purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for your office?
- (a) What is the monthly cost of this?
63. What non-standard features are fitted to your ministerial vehicle?
- (a) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?
64. What was the total bill for your office in 2016-17 for:
- (a) Taxi hire
  - (b) Limousine hire
  - (c) Private hire care
  - (d) Hire car rental
  - (e) Ridesharing services

65. Were any planes or helicopters chartered by you or your office and paid for with public money in 2016-17?

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

### **Hospitality**

66. How much did your ministerial office spend on hospitality, including catering and beverages, in 2016-17?

67. How much did your Department/agency spend on hospitality, including catering and beverages, in 2016-17?

### **Labour Hire Firms**

68. Do any Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities utilise the services of Labour Hire Firms? If yes, please advise in table form for 2016-17:

(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**

69. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies and what is the total cost to employ these advisers?

70. 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?

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

72. By how much has the number of media or public relations advisers employed for each of your portfolio agencies increased since 2011-12 to the current date?

73. By how much has the expenditure on media or public relations advisers employed for each of your portfolio agencies increased since 2011-12 to the current date?

74. 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 2016-17?

### **Facebook**

75. How much did your ministerial office spend on Facebook advertising or sponsored posts in 2016-17?

76. How much did your Department/agency spend on Facebook advertising or sponsored posts in 2016-17?

### **Overseas Trips**

77. 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?

78. 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**

79. What was the total expenditure in 2016-17 by Departments/agencies within your portfolio on:

(a) Taxi hire

(b) Limousine/private car hire

(c) Hire car rental

(d) Ridesharing services

80. Do any senior executive service employees in your Departments/agencies have a driver that is paid for by the Departments/agencies? If so, what is the number of senior executive service employees that have a driver and which senior executive service employees have a driver?

(a) How much was spent on these drivers in 2016-17?

### **Consulting**

81. How much did the Department/agencies under your portfolio responsibility spend in legal costs in 2016-17?

- (a) For what specific purposes or matters was legal advice sought?
82. Have Department/agencies under your portfolio engaged any consultants to provide the following services or advice in 2016-17:
- (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**

83. What was the number of senior executive service employees employed by Departments/agencies within your portfolio in 2016-17?
- (a) How much was this number in 2011-12?
84. What was the expenditure on senior executive service employees employed by Departments/agencies within your portfolio in 2016-17?
- (a) How much was this number in 2011-12?
85. What was the number of internal legal counsel employees employed by Departments/agencies within your portfolio in 2016-17?
- (a) How much was this number in 2011-12?
86. What was the expenditure on internal legal counsel employees employed by Departments/agencies within your portfolio in 2016-17?
- (a) How much was this number in 2011-12?
87. How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2016-17?
- (a) Of these redundancies, how many were:
    - i. Voluntary

ii. Forced

(b) What was the total cost of all redundancies?

88. 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?

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

90. How many staff were dismissed from Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibilities in 2016-17?

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

91. What was the total amount your Departments/agencies spent on stationery?

#### **Smart Phone Accounts**

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

(a) What was the total expenditure in 2016-17 on iTunes?

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

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

(a) What was the total expenditure in 2016-17 on Android?

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

#### **Websites Visited**

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

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

#### **Merchant fees**

96. 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.

97. 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.
98. What was the total amount paid in merchant fees on credit and/or debit card payments in your Department/agency in 2016-17?

**Probity Auditor**

99. 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.