



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEES

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017-2018 Supplementary Questions

Portfolio Committee No. 1 – Premier and Finance

TREASURY, INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

Hearing: Wednesday 6 September 2017

Answers due by: Monday 2 October 2017

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TREASURY

Questions from Dr Mehreen Faruqi MLC

Funding of projects

1. Are Government agencies that borrow from the NSW Government's Infrastructure Fund required to pay any form of interest during construction?
 - (a) If yes, what is that interest?
2. Please provide the budgeted capital expenditure (capex), the financing charges and the total project cost of the Sydney Metro North West Project.
3. Please provide the budgeted capital expenditure (capex), the financing charges and the total project cost of the Sydney Metro City and South West Project.
4. Please provide the budgeted capital expenditure (capex), the financing charges and the total project cost of the Sydney West Metro Project.
5. Please provide the budgeted capital expenditure (capex), the financing charges and the total project cost of the CBD and South East Light Rail Project.
6. Please provide the budgeted capital expenditure (capex), the financing charges and the total project cost of the Parramatta Light Rail Project.
7. Please provide the budgeted capital expenditure (capex), the financing charges and the total project cost of the Newcastle Light Rail Project.
8. Please provide the budgeted capital expenditure (capex), the financing charges and the total project cost of the WestConnex Project.
9. Please provide the budgeted capital expenditure (capex), the financing charges and the total project cost of the NorthConnex Project.
10. Please provide the budgeted capital expenditure (capex), the financing charges and the total project cost of the F6 Extension Project.
11. Please provide the budgeted capital expenditure (capex), the financing charges and the total project cost of the Northern Beaches Tunnel project.
12. Please provide the budgeted capital expenditure (capex), the financing charges and the total project cost of the Second Harbour Crossing Project.
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. What planned uses does the department have for artificial intelligence?
15. What policy guidelines, if any, guide the exploration and use of artificial intelligence by the department?
16. What research, if any, has the department undertaken regarding the use of AI in Government services?

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

AASB1059

17. Have you or Treasury forecasted how the NSW budget and finances will be impacted by AASB1059?
 - (a) Can you please provide us with any updated forecasts of the forward estimates?

Transport Asset Holding Entity (TAHE)

18. What is the commercial rate of return the TAHE is expected to make? Please provide on notice.
19. Please provide the 10 year forecasts for the general rate of return for the Transport Asset Holding Entity (TAHE). Please provide on notice.
20. Please provide the 10 year cash flow projections for Transport for NSW with the TAHE and without the TAHE. Please provide on notice.
21. What is the total difference over the forward estimates between pre-TAHE and post-TAHE reporting?

Privatisations and Transaction Costs

22. Can you provide a breakdown of the transaction costs incurred in leasing Transgrid, Ausgrid and Endeavour itemised by strategic and financial advice, legal advice, public relations [PR], advertising, probity services—all the constituent parts that make up the total figure?
23. Can you provide a breakdown of the transaction costs incurred in leasing the LPI itemised by strategic and financial advice, legal advice, public relations [PR], advertising, probity services—all the constituent parts that make up the total figure?
24. How much were LPI's annual profit and revenue levels before it was privatised?
25. What are the forecasted/expected dividends to be received by the NSW Government from Ausgrid and Endeavour Energy over the forward estimates? Please provide a breakdown year by year and by network.

Commissioning and Contestability Unit

26. What policy work has been undertaken with NSW Health?
27. What policy work has been undertaken in Education?
28. What policy work has been undertaken in Justice?
29. What policy work has been undertaken in Industry?
30. What have been the total costs incurred by the Commissioning and Contestability Unit since its inception?

Sydney Gateway

31. Was NSW Treasury made aware of the \$1-\$1.8 billion Estimates Total Cost of the Sydney Gateway prior to the 2017-18 Budget?
32. What is the total amount allocated to the Sydney Gateway?

Unfunded Projects

33. Please list the total funding commitments for the:
 - (a) Sydney Metro CBD and Southwest
 - (b) Sydney Metro West
 - (c) Parramatta Light Rail
 - (d) CBD and South East Light Rail
 - (e) Newcastle Light Rail

- (f) Central Station Concourse
- (g) F6
- (h) Western Harbour Tunnel
- (i) Northern Beaches Tunnel

34. Is the NSW Governments Infrastructure program fully funded?

Sydney Stadiums

35. How much of the \$1.6 billion for stadiums will go towards stadiums outside of Sydney?
36. Will the upgrade of the ANZ Stadium, Allianz Stadium, Parramatta Stadium, Indoor Stadium, Spotless Stadium be fully funded for the \$1.6 billion?
- (a) If not, what is the total needed to fund these projects.

Negative Gearing and Capital Gains tax

37. Does NSW Treasury advice support a review of capital gains tax discounts?
38. Does NSW Treasury advice support a review of negative gearing policies?

Circular Quay

39. On the 28th of September 2015, Premier Mike Baird and the Minister for Finance Dominic Perrottet issued a media release titled, *Making It Happen At Circular Quay* in which said, “The \$200 million in funding for the upgrade will be reserved in the NSW Government’s infrastructure fund, Restart NSW.” Is the Circular Quay Wharf listed under the Restart NSW Reservations?
- (a) If so, where?
40. Under what line item in the 2017-18 budget is the Circular Quay upgrade?
41. What is the total revenue that has been raised from the sale of Sydney Harbour Foreshore Assets?
- (a) Are these assets fully deposited into Restart NSW?
 - (b) Will these assets fully fund the Circular Quay upgrade?

Centrally Held Contingency Budget

42. What is the Centrally Held contingency budget in:
- (a) Transport for NSW?
 - (b) NSW Health?

- (c) NSW Department of Education?
- (d) FACS?

Financial Management Transformation (FMT)

- 43. What is the estimated total cost of the FMT program?
- 44. What is the total dollar amount that has been spent on consultants that have assisted with the FMT program?
- 45. What was the peak number of staff working on the FMT program at the same time?
- 46. What is the current number of staff working on the FMT program?

Dividends for state-owned water utilities

- 47. What is the projected size of the regular annual dividends paid by:
 - (a) State Water
 - (b) Hunter Water
 - (c) Sydney Water?
- 48. What is the projected size of the additional dividend paid by:
 - (a) State Water
 - (b) Hunter Water
 - (c) Sydney Water?
- 49. In what financial years will these three utilities be required to pay the additional dividend?
- 50. Will the payment of these additional dividends affect the investments made by the three utilities in coming years?
- 51. Following the announcement of changes to the financial management of these state-owned water utilities, do you agree with the public criticism that suggests the changes are “irresponsible” and “short-sighted”?
- 52. What arguments do you put forward which rejects this criticism?

Property NSW – Agency Property Assets – Total Asset Management Plan

- 53. Can you confirm whether or not each Government agency has submitted a Total Asset Management (TAM) Plan as per Premiers Memorandum M2012-20?
 - (a) Can you provide a list of the agencies that have submitted TAM plans?

- (b) Can you provide a list of the agencies that have not submitted TAM plans?
- (c) Are TAM plans publicly available and if so, where can they be found?
- (d) Who provided valuations for real property assets for each of the agencies in preparation for their TAM plans?
- (e) Can you provide a detailed list of each property sold, since June 2014, which was sold an amount in excess of its TAM valuation, by providing both the TAM valuation and the final sale price for each property?
- (f) Can you provide a detailed list of each property sold, since June 2014, which was sold for an amount lower than its TAM valuation, by providing both the TAM valuation and the final sale price for each property?
- (g) In each instance referred to in part (e) above, what happened to the proceeds of sale where the sale price was in excess of the TAM amount?
- (h) What happens to the proceeds of any sale for an agency that has not yet submitted a TAM plan?

Property Asset Sale Proceeds

54. With regard to the mix of Policy details found in Premiers memorandum M2012-20 and the Property Asset Utilisation Taskforce Report, can you clarify in plain and easy to understand English language, what happens to the proceeds from the sale of real property assets?
- (a) Do the proceeds go back to the agency? Always?
 - (b) Does just a portion of the Proceeds go back to the agency?
 - (c) Do the proceeds go elsewhere in NSW Treasury or Restart NSW?
 - (d) Are there grounds on which the Expenditure Review Committee can choose where to direct the money, and if so, what are the terms conditions of this?
 - (e) Any other relevant information related to the directing of proceeds from real property asset sales?

Workers Compensation – Collection of outstanding Premiums and the role of Law firms

55. Prior to December 2016, how many law firms were employed by Scheme Agents to recover outstanding premiums from employers for the Workers Compensation Fund?
56. Did iCare have the power to determine which law firms Scheme Agents were permitted to utilise to undertake debt recovery and other legal work?

57. When was the decision made to appoint TurksLegal as the sole provider of legal work for Scheme Agents in the Workers Compensation Scheme?
58. What reason was provided to the law firms that their services were no longer required?
59. When were the law firms informed of this?
60. What decision-making process was implemented to appoint TurksLegal?
61. Was a tender process undertaken prior to the awarding of this work, exclusively to TurksLegal?
62. Who was directly involved in the decision-making process?
63. Were Scheme Agents invited to be involved in this decision-making process?
64. How were the law firms that had been previously utilised to provide legal work for Scheme Agents informed their services were no longer warranted?
 - (a) Did iCare advise them directly?
 - (b) Did the individual Scheme Agents advise them?

Workers Compensation - Scheme agents

65. When you became Minister, how many Scheme Agents had a license with iCare to manage workers compensation claims?
66. Upon your appointment as Minister for Finance, Services and Property, did you receive a briefing on the deed renewal process between iCare and Scheme Agents?
67. Following the completion of the deed renewal process for the period 2018-2020, are you aware which Scheme Agents were granted a new licence to perform services on behalf of iCare?
68. Are you aware of the development process implemented to
69. What does this process involve?
70. On 26 April 2017, iCare issued a media release announcing that there would be greater “choice for employers and injured workers” through the decision to only appoint three Scheme Agents to perform services on behalf of iCare. Do you agree the reduction in the number of insurers in the Scheme offers workers greater choice?
71. Prior to their announcement to reduce the number of Scheme Agents, did you meet with the iCare leadership team to discuss their proposal?
72. If so, did you agree or offer your support to the leadership team to reduce the number of Scheme Agents?

73. What reasons were offered to not renew QBE's licence?
74. Why did CGU withdraw from the selection process?
75. Following intense media coverage of the announcement by iCare that three Scheme Agents would provide claims services, iCare issued a clarification that EML had been appointed as the sole Scheme Agent. GIO and Allianz had only been selected as "transition" agents. Minister, what is the role and responsibility of these "transition" agents?
76. Would you agree the media release issued by iCare on 26 April, was in fact misleading, as it failed to identify Allianz and GIO as "transition" agents?
77. When will the licence for these "transition" agents expire?
78. In the media release issued on 26 April, iCare claimed that customers of QBE and CGU would be required to transition to the "remaining partners".
 - (a) What does this transition process look like?
 - (b) How much will this transition cost?
 - (c) With what funds will these costs be covered?
 - (d) Will customers be transitioned to Allianz and GIO?
 - (e) If Allianz and GIO are only "transition" agents, will customers be forced to transition to EML
79. Once these licences have expired, will EML be the only sole Scheme Agent for the workers compensation scheme?
80. Minister, do you agree this contradicts the claim by iCare that their changes offer customers and injured workers greater "choice"?
81. Is the monopolisation of this role the most effective and efficient means of delivering customer-focused workers compensation?

Workers Compensation – Classification of Labour Hire employees in coal mines

82. Can a person be employed as casual under the National Employment Standards and the Black Coal Award, when they work 52.36 hrs per week and have a permanent set 4 panel roster, working 12.5 hr shifts - day and night shifts and weekends and public holidays in open cut mine?
83. Can an enterprise agreement be approved without the Fair Work Commission checking the enterprise agreement and applying the BOOT test and not checking the documents and information in the submitted documents as to it being truthful and factual?

84. Can an enterprise agreement be less than the Black Coal Award, and can the agreement allow casual employment in production and engineering when the Black Coal Award does not allow casual employment in production and engineering as ruled by a full bench hearing?
85. Can an employer refuse to pay accident pay, as per an agreement and the mining industry standard?
86. Can an employer dismiss an injured worker within 2 weeks of being injured at work, whilst on workers compensation and not notify the employee?
87. Can a supervisor ask an injured worker not to report a workplace injury, and then tell an injured worker that their job is not safe if they have time off work?
88. Can coal miners have workers compensation insurance with any other insurer, other than Coal Mines Insurance?
 - (a) If yes, which other insurers?
 - (b) If no, why is that?
89. Does the Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Act 2013 apply to all employers and employees and mine operators and owners working in the coal industry?
90. Does SIRA or iCare have the authority to enforce who employers must have workers compensation insurance with in the mining industry?
91. Can a coal miner be insured under the general NSW workers compensation scheme?
92. Does SIRA or iCare have to comply with and enforce NSW workers compensation legislation and the Workers Compensation Act?
93. Can SIRA or iCare ask an injured worker not to contact them because they don't want to answer questions with regards to workers compensation legislation enforcement and the compliance of workers compensation in NSW?
94. Do coal miners working in NSW coal mines have to be insured under the specialised insurer Coal Mines Insurance as per the Coal Industry Act 2001 and SIRA's own legislation and guidelines?
95. What processes do mining regulatory bodies, such as NSW Mines Safety, SIRA and iCare, implement to ensure adverse decisions or actions are not made in workplaces that are detrimental to injured and non-injured workers in the coal mining industry?
96. Do you believe these processes have been successful in assisting workers?

Workers Compensation – iCare auditing of company payrolls

97. Who is responsible for conducting audits into company payrolls to ensure that the companies are paying the correct amount of workers compensation insurance?
- (a) Which external companies are used for the auditing?
 - (b) How many FTE's does each external company engage to perform this work
 - i. 2012/13
 - ii. 2013/14
 - iii. 2014/15
 - iv. 2015/16
 - v. 2016/17
98. Does iCare undertake any of the auditing work, to investigate company payrolls to ensure that the correct contribution is being made to the workers compensation scheme?
99. Is there any plan to cut back or reduce the number of companies being used, or the number of FTE staff that each company employs, for the purpose of payroll audits?
100. What is the total amount spent in each financial year, for the purpose of payroll auditing?
- (a) 2012/13
 - (b) 2013/14
 - (c) 2014/15
 - (d) 2015/16
 - (e) 2016/17
101. Does the funding, for payroll audits, come from the workers compensation scheme?
102. How much money is budgeted to be sent on payroll auditing in 2017/18?
103. With regard to company payroll auditing and the rate of accuracy or error, how frequently, as a percentage of audits conducted, are variances found in each of the financial years:
- (a) 2012/13
 - (b) 2013/14
 - (c) 2014/15
 - (d) 2015/16

- (e) 2016/17
104. Of the variances found, what percentage were an under-declaration of wages, meaning that the company did not pay enough into the workers compensation scheme in the financial years:
- (a) 2012/13
 - (b) 2013/14
 - (c) 2014/15
 - (d) 2015/16
 - (e) 2016/17
105. Is iCare aware of companies that repeatedly and regularly under-declare their wages and subsequently have to be investigated or pursued for appropriate payment?
- (a) If so, does iCare deliberately and typically target these same companies for follow up in following years?
106. Does iCare have the capacity to fine companies that under-declare?
- (a) If so, how many fines have been issued each year over the last 5 financial years and what is the size of the average fine?
107. If businesses currently under-declare, with considerable frequency, what evidence or research would underpin a decision to allow companies to do more self-assessment and why would iCare expect a better outcome from these same companies that at the moment, knowingly, under-declare?
108. Is there an estimated dollar figure as to the amount of money lost to the workers compensation scheme as a result of under-declaration, and if so, what is the amount?
109. Of the variances found, what percentage were an over-declaration of wages, meaning that the company was entitled to a refund from the workers compensation scheme in each of the financial years:
- (a) 2012/13
 - (b) 2013/14
 - (c) 2014/15
 - (d) 2015/16
 - (e) 2016/17

110. As at July 1, 2015, what was the likelihood that a company would actually be audited for the purpose of determining whether or not their workers compensation contribution matched their payroll (e.g.: Once every 10 years, or, once every 100 years)?
111. As at July 1, 2016, what was the likelihood that a company would actually be audited for the purpose of determining whether or not their workers compensation contribution matched their payroll (e.g.: Once every 10 years, or, once every 100 years)?
112. As at July 1, 2017, what was the likelihood that a company would actually be audited for the purpose of determining whether or not their workers compensation contribution matched their payroll (e.g.: Once every 10 years, or, once every 100 years)?
113. As at January 1, 2018, what do you anticipate will be the likelihood that a company would actually be audited for the purpose of determining whether or not their workers compensation contribution matched their payroll (e.g.: Once every 100 years, or, once every 500 years)?

Workers Compensation – Funding of the Scheme and Persons to be Removed from the Scheme under S39 of the Act

114. What is the current surplus of the Workers Compensation Scheme?
115. What is the current funding ratio?
116. What is deemed to be the suitable funding ratio and does this figure, or its suitability, change at times and if so, who makes that decision based on what detail?
117. What is the projected surplus and ratio over the next four financial years?
118. How many people, currently on the Scheme, will no longer be entitled to payments under S39 from:
 - (a) September 2017?
 - (b) October 2017?
 - (c) November 2017?
 - (d) December 2017?
 - (e) January 2018?
 - (f) February 2018?
119. What transitional arrangement or support has been organised or established to assist those whose weekly payments will end in the coming months?
 - (a) What exactly does this program or support involve?

- (b) Will mental health support be included in the program?
 - (c) What has been the total cost to initiate, establish and implement this program or support?
 - (d) What are the ongoing costs for this support?
 - (e) How will this program be funded?
120. Since 2012, how many workers have been cut off from receiving weekly payments even though they continue to be impacted by injury and unable to work?
121. How many workers that would have been affected by Section 39 in the coming months, have been rehabilitated during 2017, and have left the workers compensation scheme prior to the 5 year time expiry that looms?
122. What has iCare done in terms of decreasing the number of workers affected by the 5 year time expiry of S39?
- (a) What exact programs has iCare implemented/started in relation to efforts to decrease the number of workers affected by this 5year time limit under S39?
 - (b) Who have they partnered with if anyone?
123. How does iCare monitor the performance of self-insurers?
124. How does iCare monitor the performance specialised insurers?
125. What data is available in relation to the complaints and queries received with regard to performance of self-insurers and specialised insurers?
126. Does the Government have any legislated power to intervene, if necessary, in the performance of a self-insurer and/or a specialised insurer and if so, under what statutory power?
127. What factors led to the \$1B change in the financial position of the Workers Compensation scheme over the past 6 months?

Emergency Services Levy – Expenses for Valuer General

128. What was the additional cost, additional funding necessary, for the Valuer General to conduct a whole of state valuation in a single year, in preparation for the Fire and Emergency Service Levy (FESL), given that the Valuer General is normally only funded to complete valuation 1/3 of all properties across the State in any given, single, Financial Year?
129. Will funding to the Valuer General be affected in the current, or coming financial years, as a result of the additional funding provided for FESL preparation in 2016/17?

Budget – Revenue Growth and Expenses Growth

130. Why did you tell Budget Estimates (p21 of Transcript) that long term revenue growth was at 5.6% when in fact, 2017/18 Budget Paper 1, Chart 2.2 shows the long term revenue growth 2011 – 2021, to be 3.9%?
131. Do you accept that 2017/18 Budget Paper 1, Chart 2.2 shows revenue growth falling over the forward estimates from approximately 5% in 17/18 to 3.5% in 18/9, to 2.5% in 19/20 and to 1.8% in 20/21?
132. What is the cause of the falling revenue growth as per Chart 2.2 in the 17/18 Budget Paper 1?
133. Do you accept that according to the 17/18 Budget Paper 1, Chart 2.3, that expenses growth over the forward estimates will be approximately 4.5% in 17/18, 4% in 18/19, 3.8% in 19/20 and 2.8% in 20/12?
134. Do you agree that, as per 17/18 Budget Paper 1 Charts 2.2 & 2.3, it is highly likely that during 18/19 and for the estimates beyond, that the rate of expenses growth will be higher than revenue growth?
135. Can you confirm that the State's long term unfunded superannuation liability as at June 30, 2011 was \$34.053B and if this figure is incorrect, what was the correct figure?
136. Can you confirm that the State's long term unfunded superannuation liability as at June 30, 2012 was \$50.921B and if this figure is incorrect, what was the correct figure?
137. Can you confirm that the State's long term unfunded superannuation liability as at June 30, 2013 was \$43.186B and if this figure is incorrect, what was the correct figure?
138. Can you confirm that the State's long term unfunded superannuation liability as at June 30, 2014 was \$51.040B and if this figure is incorrect, what was the correct figure?
139. Can you confirm that the State's long term unfunded superannuation liability as at June 30, 2015 was \$55.155B and if this figure is incorrect, what was the correct figure?
140. Can you confirm that the State's long term unfunded superannuation liability as at June 30, 2016 was \$71.159B and if this figure is incorrect, what was the correct figure?
141. Can you confirm what the State's actual long term unfunded superannuation liability was as at June 30, 2017?
142. Given that the unfunded superannuation liability is now more than double what it was when your Government was elected in 2011, what is being done to actually start getting the unfunded superannuation liability to decline, instead of increase?

143. How much funding has been contributed to the unfunded superannuation liability each financial year for the past 5 financial years?

NSW Restart Infrastructure Fund and the Illawarra

144. How many of the 969 direct jobs and 647 construction jobs noted on the Infrastructure NSW website as part of the *Illawarra Infrastructure Fund* have been delivered as at 24 August 2017?

145. How have the estimates of jobs created in (1) been verified by Infrastructure NSW?

146. If the number of estimates jobs in (1) have not materialised, what action has the Government taken to ensure the deed of funding has been accurately acquitted?

147. Are all of the 12 projects approved completed?

148. If so, list the projects that are completed?

149. If not, what is the status of each project not completed?

150. When are the projects in (4) due for completion?

151. Has the Government made further funding contributions to any of the projects beyond the funding that was initially approved?

152. Has the approved funding under the NSW Restart Infrastructure Fund, Illawarra Infrastructure Fund, all been spent?

153. If not, how much remains to be spent?

154. When will the Government publish and make public the evaluation report into the NSW Restart Infrastructure Fund, *Illawarra Infrastructure Fund*?

Electricity assets

155. What are the total transaction costs to date for the sale of Ausgrid, Endeavour Energy and Transgrid?

(a) Please provide a breakdown of total legal, financial advisers, PR and all other consultancies – breakdown to date?

(b) Please also provide an estimate of the final total transaction costs?

156. Have any payments by NSW to the bidders for Ausgrid, Endeavour & Transgrid been made or agreed?

Economic Effects of Home Sharing

157. Do you accept the finding in the recent report by Deloitte's entitled 'Economic Effects of Airbnb in Australia' that Airbnb contributes \$512.5 million and 4,452 FTE jobs to the NSW economy?
158. Have regulations supporting home sharing been enacted in other Australian states?
 - (a) If so, which ones?
159. Did a NSW parliamentary committee, chaired by Liberal MP Mark Coure examine at these issues for eighteen months and unanimously adopt twelve recommendations?
 - (a) Why has the government decided not to act on these recommendations?
160. By avoiding making a regulatory decision on this issue is NSW now the state which is the least supportive of home sharing?

Workers Compensation

161. How many ICare covered Injured Workers are expected to lose their weekly benefits between 26th September and 31st December 2017?
162. Have these workers in many cases been diagnosed with an acquired lifetime disability as a result of a compensable injury, but have been assessed at below the 21 per cent required for ongoing weekly benefits?
163. Is it the case that most of these workers will not have entitlements to disability benefits under the Commonwealth's social security system?
 - (a) If not, what is the estimated percentage of those who will not have such entitlements?
164. Is it the case that these workers will have a minimum waiting period of 13 weeks before they can access New Start Allowance?
165. Is it the case that two years after this cohort of Injured Workers lose their weekly benefits they will lose their entitlements to medical expenses pushing them onto the public system?
166. Is it the case that following this cohort losing their weekly benefits there will be a large number of Injured Workers subjected to this same indignity due to the operation of the legislation?
167. Is it the case that ICare has done nothing to ensure that Injured Workers in this initial cohort have exhausted all their rights and entitlements?
168. Has there been any systematic review of Injury Management Plans by ICare's Scheme Agents to ensure that all treatment options and rehabilitation options have been exhausted maximising the opportunities these Injured Workers have of obtaining future employment?

- (a) Is it the case that ICare's only advice is to contact Beyond Blue if someone are contemplating committing suicide, and to contact Centrelink early?
 - (b) If not, what advice is given?
169. Do both SIRA & ICare acknowledge that there will be an increase in suicides from Injured Workers expected over this coming period?
- (a) If not, what is the estimated rate of suicide over the previous six months for Injured Workers?
170. What is the estimated number of Injured Workers who are now suffering varying degrees of mental illness?
171. Has ICare taken measures to control the reasonably necessary treatment that workers can access despite the rights of an Injured Worker to choose? For instance, is it the case that physiotherapists have been told they must sign an agreement with ICare with fees set below the market costs or they will not be eligible to provide workers compensation work?
- (a) Will this lead to workers only been able to access inexperienced physiotherapists, leading to poorer outcomes for injured workers and likely inflating the cost of claims due to prolonged durations on workers compensation?
 - (b) What action has SIRA taken on this issue?
 - (c) Has ICare been told that this behaviour is likely in breach of ACCC laws as ICare is a monopoly in NSW?

Office Administration

172. 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?
173. 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?

174. 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?
175. Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in your ministerial office in 2016-17?
- (a) What is the cost of this?
176. 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?
177. 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?
178. 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?
179. What was the total amount your office spent on stationery?
180. 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?
181. Do you purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for your office?
- (a) What is the monthly cost of this?
182. What non-standard features are fitted to your ministerial vehicle?
- (a) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?
183. 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

184. 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

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

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

Labour Hire Firms

187. 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

188. 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?

189. 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?

190. What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities?
191. 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?
192. 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?
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- (a) If yes, who paid for it?
 - (b) If paid by taxpayers, what was the amount paid in 2016-17?

Facebook

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

Overseas Trips

196. 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?
197. 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

198. 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

199. 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?

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200. 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?

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(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

202. 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?

203. 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?

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

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- (a) Of these redundancies, how many were:
- i. Voluntary
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- (b) What was the total cost of all redundancies?
207. 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?
208. Are any staff formerly employed by your ministerial office now employed by Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibility?
209. How many staff were dismissed from Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibilities in 2016-17?
- (a) What were the reason/s for each dismissal?
210. What was the total amount your Departments/agencies spent on stationery?

Smart Phone Accounts

211. 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?
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- (a) What was the total expenditure in 2016-17 on Android?
- i. What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through Android?

Websites Visited

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Merchant fees

215. 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.
216. 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.
217. 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

218. 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.

Questions from Mr Justin Field MLC

Stamp duty

219. In the budget estimates hearing, you stated that you expect \$1.1 billion in stamp duty discounts. Please provide detail on:
- (a) How this figure was forecasted
 - (b) What time period this forecast relates to
 - (c) The ratio of the type of discounts that are expected to be relied upon, i.e. how much is expected to be claimed for the full stamp duty reduction for homes less than \$650,000 or how much is expected to be claimed for stamp duty discounts for homes up to \$800,000
220. Has any modelling been done for the transition from stamp duty to land tax, as recommended in the Henry Tax Review?
- (a) Have the short-term costs and long-term benefits been costed? If so, please provide.

Climate change

221. Please provide a breakdown of how much money in the 2016-17 Budget is dedicated to the following:

- (a) Climate change programs
 - i. Please list the types of programs
 - ii. Please identify which programs are for the purposes of mitigation and which for the purpose of adaptation

Warragamba Dam

222. How much of the Climate Change Fund will be designated to raising Warragamba Dam wall?

223. How much of the budget will be designated to raising Warragamba Dam wall?

224. What is the total predicted cost for raising the Warragamba Dam wall?

Snowy Hydro

225. If the Commonwealth Government buys the NSW share of the Snowy Hydro:

- (a) How much money is the Government expecting to receive from this sale?
 - i. What is the rationale behind this figure?

Economic indicators

226. In reference to the article 'NSW Ministers will have to justify their program outcomes' in the Australian (<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/state-politics/nsw-ministers-will-have-to-justify-their-program-outcomes/news-story/83788f1aae966cb8047e57bf249da33f>):

- (a) Have these benchmarks been released? If not, when will they be released?

227. In the article benchmarks such as hospital waiting times, school test results and homelessness rates were referred to as examples:

- (a) Are these to be included as benchmarks?
- (b) What is the full list of benchmarks?
- (c) Will the indicators include the following:
 - i. Inequality
 - ii. Concentration of wealth
 - iii. Closing the gap (Indigenous disadvantage)

- iv. Intergenerational equity
- v. Environmental sustainability
- vi. Climate change adaptability/preparedness
- vii. Local community resilience

Coal

228. Noting that several large new projects that could create the equivalent additional coal supply as the Adani mine are in the pipeline in New South Wales, has the Government conducted any research or analysis into the economic damage to NSW and mining regions of excessive further new thermal coal supply being approved in this state?
229. By what volume has production and export of thermal coal in NSW increased since 2010?
230. How much public money has been spent since 2010 on projects, research and infrastructure to further the expansion in the volume of coal being produced and exported from New South Wales?
231. Was the contraction in coal imports to Asia now being forecast by the Commonwealth Office of the Chief Economist forecast by Treasury?
232. Has Treasury modelled or investigated the impact on the NSW coal industry and economy more broadly of the likely pathway for the world to limit global warming to below 2 degrees above pre-industrial temperatures, in line with Australia's and the world's commitments under the Paris Agreement?
233. Has any planning been undertaken to implement structural adjustment for mining-dominated regions to ensure this transition is smooth and equitable?

Housing

234. How many homes are considered vacant homes in:
- (a) Rural NSW
 - (b) Sydney metropolitan area
 - (c) NSW
235. What is the mean and median prices for homes in:
- (a) NSW
 - (b) Rural NSW

(c) Sydney metropolitan area

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

Questions from Mr David Shoebridge MLC

Right to strike

236. Does the Minister support the right of workers to strike?

Penalty rates

237. Does the Minister support penalty rates as fair and equitable recognition of work being done during sociable hours on the weekend?

Casual workers

238. What steps are being taken to implement stronger working conditions and rights for casual workers?

239. Has any consideration been given to increasing the casual loading on hourly rates to recognise casual workers lack of paid annual leave, paid sick leave, paid public holidays or protection against unfair dismissal?

240. What are the current trends regarding the increasing casualization of workplaces in NSW? What research has been undertaken by your department about this?

Use of contract workers by the NSW Government

241. What proportion of the current NSW Government workforce is occupied by temporary contract workers?

242. If this data is not available, why not?

243. What monitoring do you undertake of the use of temporary contract workers?

244. Which employment agencies are currently utilised to produce temporary contract workers for NSW Government Agencies?

245. What consideration has been given to the fact that such arrangements essentially bypass the provisions and intention of Public Sector Management Act?

246. What assessment, if any, has been undertaken of the lost training, expertise and career development opportunities for NSW Public Sector workers related to the use of temporary contract workers within Government agencies?

Silicosis

247. What consultation has the Minister had with unions, the medical profession and workers within the manufacturing industry regarding the considerable increase in the number of workers with silicosis?
248. What steps has the Minister taken to ensure that workplace safety standards are being enforced and workers are not being exposed to dangerous chemicals without any dust suppression?

Changes to award for staff of Lower House MP's

249. Is the Minister aware that the recent changes to the award regarding the loss of relief cover in cross bench offices, mean that staff are effectively prevented from taking leave during sitting periods as with one staff member located in the parliament office, the electorate office will be left attended by only one person, if leave is taken. This has been recognized an OHS issue as this is not a safe or acceptable workplace environment for our office in a high traffic area with significant drop in constituent activity.
250. What steps is the Minister taking to ensure that electorate officers are not left alone in their electorate offices as a result of these changes, which is a breach of OHS?

Industrial Relations Commission

251. How many cases has the Industrial Relations Commission heard since being transferred from the from the Industrial Court to the Common Law Division of the Supreme Court?

Portable Long Service Leave

252. Is the review of the proposal to extend long service leave to industries beyond contract cleaning publicly available?
253. What steps are currently proposed in relation to Portable Long Service in NSW?

Use of artificial intelligence

254. 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

255. When did the department implement AI technologies and which technologies were these?
256. What planned uses does the department have for artificial intelligence?
257. What is the anticipated timeline for the expansion of existing AI uses or implementation of new technologies?
258. What policy guidelines, if any, guide the exploration and use of artificial intelligence by the department?
259. What research, if any, has the department undertaken regarding the use of AI in Government services?

<p>Questions from the Hon Shaoquett Moselmane MLC (on behalf of the NSW Labor Opposition)</p>
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Office of Industrial Relations

260. The following questions relate to information about the NSW Office of Industrial Relations which is not published in the NSW Treasury's Annual Report;
- What is the Budget for the Office of Industrial Relations in 2017-2018?
 - What functions will be performed by the Office of Industrial Relations in 2017-2018?
 - What was the Budget for the Office of Industrial Relations in 2016-2017?
 - What was the expenditure of the Office of Industrial Relations in 2016-2017?
 - What was the breakdown of expenditure of the Office of Industrial Relations in 2016-2017, by item?
 - What functions were performed by the Office of Industrial Relations in 2016-2017?
 - How many complaints regarding breaches of industrial legislation were made to the Office of Industrial Relations in 2016-2017? What is the breakdown of those complaints by industry and by agency?
 - How much was recovered in wages in 2016-2017? How much was imposed and recovered in penalties against employers, by industry and by agency?

- (i) How many investigations regarding breaches of industrial legislation were undertaken by the Office of Industrial Relations in 2016-2017? What is the breakdown of those complaints by industry and by agency?
- (j) How many investigations were completed by the Office of Industrial Relations in 2016-2017? What is the breakdown of those complaints by industry and by agency?

Office Administration

261. 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?
262. 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?
263. 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?
264. Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in your ministerial office in 2016-17?
- (a) What is the cost of this?
265. 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?
266. 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?

267. 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?
268. What was the total amount your office spent on stationery?
269. 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?
270. Do you purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for your office?
- (a) What is the monthly cost of this?
271. What non-standard features are fitted to your ministerial vehicle?
- (a) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?
272. 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
273. 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?

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Labour Hire Firms

276. 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:

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- (a) If yes, who paid for it?
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283. How much did your ministerial office spend on Facebook advertising or sponsored posts in 2016-17?

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

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

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