

Midwifery

Under the Australian Safety and Quality Healthcare Standards, Local health Districts are required to carry out consumer engagement.

- 1. Is consumer engagement being undertaken Local Health Districts?
 - a. Is it to the level that is required by the Australian Safety and Quality Healthcare Standards, in particular ‘Standard 2 - Partnering with Consumers’?**
 - b. How often is this engagement occurring?**
 - c. Is the feedback being taken on board and translated into services?****

- 2. What consumer engagement has been undertaken for the New Northern Beaches Hospital in Sydney?
 - a. Has there been any consumer engagement related to maternity services?**
 - b. There seems to be little clarity over what midwifery services will be offered at this new hospitals, in fact the information page of the website appears to have been removed. Can you explain why so little information is being given to the community about the maternity services at this hospital?**
 - c. In a Manly Daily article in February this year Minister, you said that you thought it was important that women have a choice when it comes to childbirth. Pursuant to this, will you ensure that the Mona Vale Hospital retains its midwife-led maternity services once the Northern Beaches Hospital opens?
 - i. When will the community know the future of this service?**
 - ii. If it is not retained, what other choices will be available to expectant mothers in the Northern Beaches?******

Earlier this year Tamworth Community Midwifery Service stopped accepting new mothers. This is another example of the continuity of care model that is recommended for the health and safety of mothers and babies.

- 3. Will this service be re-opening?
 - a. When will it be re-opening?****
- 4. What choice of care do expectant mothers in the area have while this service is closed?**
- 5. Can you confirm that the community service going forward for mothers will operate in the same framework that the Community Midwife Practice did?**
- 6. Do you expect to abruptly close other services like this in rural areas?**

ANSWER

1. LHDs undertake substantial amounts of consumer engagement at many different levels of the organisation. This includes the Board level, LHD level, hospital/facility level and at ward/team and project level. Each LHD has a Consumer and Community Participation Manager. This person is responsible for accreditation of Standard 2 Partnering with Consumers. The Clinical Excellence Commission (CEC) supports LHDs with achieving the accreditation standards.

2. (a) Yes. Consumer engagement has been undertaken throughout a number of forums over the past two years, with approximately 12,000 people engaged face to face. A Consumer Advisory Group is established for the Northern Beaches Hospital and this group meets providing input into aspects of planning, service design and delivery from the development phase and throughout the operating term.

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(b) Models of care available to women will include midwifery led care, obstetrician led care, shared care and water immersion in labour and birth. A comprehensive range of birthing services will be offered at the Northern Beaches Hospital including early pregnancy assessment service, antenatal education for pain management and breast feeding, newborn testing, specialist obstetric ultrasound services, lactation consultations, diabetes services, psychology services, mental health consultation and liaison, follow up care in the home post-delivery, antenatal and postnatal drop in care and multidisciplinary care.

(c) (i) and (ii) There will be no freestanding birth centre at Mona Vale Hospital post 2018. All maternity services including midwifery led services will be co-located at the new Northern Beaches Hospital which will address the expected demand for such services.

3. For the time being, the community midwifery program is unable to accept new women until vacant positions across the maternity service are filled. Women who were already on the program continue to access the service.

(a) Advertising for vacant positions continues. When all positions are filled the program will be able to accept new women into the program.

4. The service is not closed. Women who are currently receiving community midwife support continue to do so. All women wishing to give birth at Tamworth Hospital will continue to receive care from the midwives and doctors in the hospital's core maternity service.
5. A Tamworth Maternity Consumer Committee has been established, which is made up of members of the community who have expressed an interest in shaping the future of maternity services in the region.
6. The community midwifery program in Tamworth has not been closed.

Community health and wellbeing

The community of Bulli have recently has a win for health, with the DA for a KFC in the town turned down by council last week. However, the community found when pushing against this development, they were not able to make submissions on the grounds of the impacts it would have on health.

- 7. We know that obesity is a significant health challenge we are facing, so why are communities not able to object to fast food developments like this KFC on these basis?**
- 8. Would the Minister support changes that would allow communities to challenge developments on the basis of the adverse health effects they may cause?**
- 9. What options are there to object to developments on health grounds?**

ANSWER

7-9. Planning legislation in NSW is the primary responsibility of the NSW Department of Planning and Environment. These questions should be referred appropriately.

Privatisation

In the past year, the Government has dropped the Public Private Partnerships plans for Goulburn, Wyong and Bowral Hospitals.

- 10. Why were the plans dropped?**
 - a. Have there been any financial ramifications as a result of these changes?**
- 11. Will the PPP for Shellharbour and Maitland also be dropped?**
- 12. Given the recent changes, does the Government plan to continue to pursue these public-private partnerships as policy going forward?**
 - a. If so, what will be the cost to the public of getting care at these PPP hospitals?**
 - b. Are the number of jobs for doctors, nurses and other medical professionals going to be affected by PPPs in the future?**
- 13. In the past, the Government has had to buy back hospitals when the private partnership has failed. Has the Government factored the potential cost of having to buy back these hospitals into their budget plans?**
 - a. If not, where will the money come from when they have to be bought back?**

Regarding the Public Private Partnership plans for Maitland Hospital:

- 14. Why has the Government chosen to restrict the tenders for the PPP for Maitland Hospital to not-for-profit providers?**
- 15. Will the value of service for the Maitland PPP provided by the not-for-profit provider match the expected value of service that was outlined in the business case approved by cabinet?**
- 16. What is the impact of restricting the number of hospital operators that can apply for these tenders?**
- 17. Why has this restriction been applied to the tender for Maitland Hospital, but not for the Shellharbour Hospital Public Private Partnership?**
 - a. Can we expect either of these hospitals to be disadvantaged by this inconsistent approach?**
 - b. If so, why is the Government choosing to use the people of Maitland and the people of Shellharbour as guinea pigs in this healthcare experiment?**

ANSWER

10. The NSW Government has tested the market to determine if a Public Private Partnership model could produce better value for the community in a number of locations. The decisions not to pursue Expressions of Interest were based on Government's determination that a better outcome could be delivered by a traditional delivery model in particular locations following the Expression of Interest process.

(a) The Government has previously committed and accounted for these projects proceeding. As such, funding allocated in the budget has not changed as a result of the method of delivery.
11. The Government is progressing a Request for Proposal to identify a not-for-profit operator to deliver the new Maitland Hospital. No decision has been made on the procurement model for Shellharbour Hospital at this stage.

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12. The NSW Government will continue to look at each hospital on a site by site basis to determine the best delivery model for each specific location, noting that the delivery model must deliver the best value for the community.
- (a) There will be NO COST to public patients in any hospital delivered under a Public Private Partnership arrangement.
- (b) Generally an increase in staffing numbers is expected.
13. The NSW Government has committed \$450 million to Maitland Hospital and \$251 million to Shellharbour Hospital regardless of the delivery model pursued.
14. The not-for-profit health sector has a significant track record of delivering health services for and within health facilities across the state. The decision to proceed with not-for-profit providers was based on significant consultation with the community and clinicians.
15. Responses to the Request for Proposal will be assessed against the value they offer to the Government and the community and quality of service offered.
16. Proposals will be carefully assessed to ensure they deliver value for the Government and the community.
17. The Government is still considering the preferred procurement model for Shellharbour Hospital. No decision has been made on the procurement model for Shellharbour Hospital at this stage.
- (a) No
- (b) For both Maitland Hospital and Shellharbour Hospital the delivery model selected and proposals will be carefully assessed to ensure they deliver value for NSW and the local community. Both projects are being delivered in line with the NSW Government's NSW Public Private Partnership Guidelines 2017.

Use of artificial intelligence

- 18. 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**
- 19. What planned uses does the department have for artificial intelligence?**
- 20. What policy guidelines, if any, guide the exploration and use of artificial intelligence by the department?**

21. What research, if any, has the department undertaken regarding the use of AI in Government services?

ANSWER

18-21. As outlined in the Digital Government Strategy, the NSW Government will continue to explore the use of cognitive and machine learning, and related Artificial Intelligence technologies, to simplify processes, eliminate duplication, and improve customer experience.

Influenza

- 22. As of September 8, how many influenza outbreaks have occurred in NSW institutions?**
- a. How many of those were in aged care facilities;
 - b. How many of those were in hospital wards;
 - c. How many of those were in public schools;
 - d. How many of those were in private schools;
 - e. How many of those were in child care centres;
 - f. How many of those were in institutions for people with disabilities; and
 - g. How many of those were in other facilities?
- 23. As of September 8, how many deaths in NSW have been attributed to influenza in 2017?**
- 24. Between January 1 and September 8, 2017, how many flu vaccinations occurred in NSW?**
- 25. Has NSW Health conducted any modelling of the cost of influenza on the state's health system?**
- a. For 2017
 - b. The State's emergency departments
- 26. Between January 1 and September 8, how many NSW Health staff have been vaccinated against the flu?**
- 27. How many people work for NSW Health?**
- 28. Has the NSW Government and/or NSW Health set up a working party/group to improve the flu season response in 2018?**
- a. If yes, what is its name?
 - b. If yes, what departments/divisions are represented?
 - c. What is its budget?
 - d. When will its report or recommendations be provided to the NSW Government?

ANSWER

22. This information is available on the NSW Health website. Also see answer to the Hon Paul Green in the transcript, page 7.

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23. It has been estimated that between 800 to 1000 people die from influenza-related illnesses annually in NSW.
24. NSW Health does not collect information on the number of influenza vaccinations performed each year in NSW.
25. NSW Health has not conducted modelling on the costs of influenza on the State's health system in 2017 or the State's emergency departments.
26. NSW Health makes influenza vaccine available for the vaccination of NSW Health staff in local health districts and specialty networks, but does not collect information on the number of influenza vaccinations performed each year for NSW Health staff.
27. This information is publically available.
28. Many areas within NSW Health contribute to the overall response to the annual influenza season.

Heatwave

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">29. Has the NSW Government made any preparations for an expected hot 2017-18 summer and its impact on the elderly particularly in western Sydney?<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Is there a working group or working party to respond to blackouts or brownouts and its impact on the community?30. Has NSW Health undertaken any modelling or scoping on how this will impact on the elderly, children or people with a chronic disease especially in western Sydney and western NSW?31. Has the Government given consideration to opening public spaces –like so-called cool rooms in the United States and Mildura in Victoria – in anticipation of heatwaves? |
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ANSWER

29. NSW Health prepares for each summer by preparing public health advice about the health impacts of heat exposure, measures that can be taken to avoid exposure to heat, and actions which can minimise the health impacts of heat exposure.
30. NSW Health has published research on the health impact of heat waves on health service utilisation across rural and metropolitan NSW.
31. NSW Health provides public advice, through their 'beat the heat' website that people can attend indoor spaces with air-conditioning, such as shopping centres and libraries, to reduce their exposure to heat during heat waves.

Randwick Hospital

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- 32. What is the total cost of Prince of Wales re-development?**
- 33. When will it be completed?**
- 34. How much of the total budget will go to land acquisitions?**
- 35. What is the timetable? Some have been told they have to be out by July 2018 and then others have been told by September 2018?**
- 36. Do you know how many homes will be affected?**

ANSWER

32. The NSW Government has committed \$720 million to deliver the Randwick Campus Redevelopment.
33. Stage One of the Randwick Campus Redevelopment is scheduled for completion and commissioning in late 2022.
34. Health Infrastructure is in the early stages of the property acquisition process. The total funding investment of \$720 million includes property acquisition costs.
35. Health Infrastructure is working towards vacant possession in mid to late 2018, to enable construction of the new Acute Services Building to begin.

Property acquisition in NSW is governed by the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991 (the Act).

Each property acquisition is unique and therefore the timeframe for the vacant possession of each property will be different. All interested parties have been provided with information regarding the indicative timeframes associated with the compulsory acquisition process by their Personal Manager.

36. 89 properties will be affected.

Converge International

- 37. What is the total budget allocated to the activities of Converge International in relation to the compulsory acquisitions for the Prince of Wales site?**
- 38. Do Converge International get paid a flat rate or per resident?**
- 39. Does Converge International get a success payment at the end when the residents are removed?**
- 40. Will Yoga and meditation services through Converge International be provided to the residents?**

ANSWER

37. A provisional budget has been provided for counselling services in relation to property acquisition. This budget is not intended to place a limit on the support that will be

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provided to residents and will be revised on an as needs basis to ensure an appropriate level of support is provided for the duration of the property acquisition process.

38. These are commercial in confidence.

39. No.

40. No.

M J Davis Realty Appraisals

41. How much is being paid to M J Davis Realty Appraisals to provide advice to the residents?
42. Is it per resident or per hour or per home?

ANSWER

41. and 42. M J Davis has been engaged under a commercial in confidence arrangement to undertake property valuations that will form the basis of offers to acquire the interests of property owners. As required under the *Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991*, property owners will be reimbursed for reasonable costs incurred in obtaining their own independent valuation from a suitably qualified valuer.

Cosmetic surgery patients

43. How many people have died within the NSW health and hospital system due to complications from cosmetic surgery procedures in NSW
a. 2017 (January 1, 2017 – September 8, 2017)
b. 2016
c. 2015
d. 2014
e. 2013
f. 2012

ANSWER

43. For the period January 2012 to 8 September 2017 no Reportable Incident Briefs denoting deaths from cosmetic surgical procedures have been received.

Fake medical practitioners

44. Since 1 January 2017, how many doctors have been investigated in regard to their qualifications in NSW?
a. What was the result of those investigations?
45. Since 1 January 2017, how many nurses and midwives have been investigated in

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regard to their qualifications in NSW?

a. What was the result of those investigations?

ANSWER

44 – 45

In the NSW Public Health system, all medical practitioners, nurses and midwives are required to be registered with the relevant national registration board (the Medical Board of Australia or the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia). In order to be registered, those practitioners must have attained certain qualifications as determined by the Board. Those qualifications are verified by the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) prior to registration. This process has become significantly more robust in recent years.

The registration of all registered health practitioners is checked prior to employment or appointment in the NSW Public Health Service.

Where a matter regarding the verification of a registered practitioner's qualification comes to the attention of a NSW public health organisation, NSW Health policy requires that organisation to refer the matter to the relevant authority under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (NSW) for investigation. In NSW that may either be AHPRA, the Health Care Complaints Commission, the Medical Council of NSW or the Nursing and Midwifery Council of NSW, depending on the practitioner and the circumstances of the case.

There are a range of matters that these independent authorities may investigate regarding a practitioner's qualifications and immediate action can be taken to suspend a practitioner if there are any concerns that the health of the public is being put at risk. Data regarding investigations is published in the various authorities' annual reports.

Section 122 inquiries

- 46. How many Section 122 inquiries were conducted in :**
- a. 2017 (January 1, 2017 – September 8, 2017)**
 - b. 2016**
 - c. 2015**
 - d. 2014**
 - e. 2013**
 - f. 2012**
 - g. 2011**

ANSWER

46. From 2011-2017, three Section 122 inquiries were conducted.

Chemotherapy scandal

- 47. How many of the recommendations of the Section 122 “Off-protocol prescribing of chemotherapy for head and neck cancers” inquiry have been implemented or accepted?**

48. How many of the recommendations of the Section 122 “Off-protocol prescribing of chemotherapy for head and neck cancers” inquiry have not been fully implemented?

ANSWER

47 – 48.

All recommendations made by the Section 122 inquiry have been accepted.

21 recommendations have been fully implemented.

There are currently 18 where implementation has begun but is yet to be fully finalised.

Knee replacements

49. How many knee replacements were conducted within the NSW health and hospital system in – and what was the length of wait for the procedure:

- a. January 1 – September 8, 2017:
- b. 2016;
- c. 2015;
- d. 2014;
- e. 2013;
- f. 2012; and
- g. 2011.

ANSWER

49. This data is publically reported on by both the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) and the Bureau of Health Information (BHI).

Total hip replacements

50. How many hip replacements were conducted within the NSW health and hospital system in – and what was the length of wait for the procedure:

- a. January 1 – September 8, 2017:
- b. 2016;
- c. 2015;
- d. 2014;
- e. 2013;
- f. 2012; and
- g. 2011.

ANSWER

50 This data is publically reported on by both the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) and the Bureau of Health Information (BHI).

Cataract removal

- 51. How many cataract removals were conducted within the NSW health and hospital system in – and what was the length of wait for the procedure:**
- a. January 1 – September 8, 2017:**
 - b. 2016;**
 - c. 2015;**
 - d. 2014;**
 - e. 2013;**
 - f. 2012; and**
 - g. 2011.**

ANSWER

51 This data is publically reported on by both the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) and the Bureau of Health Information (BHI).

Gall bladder removal

- 52. How many gall bladder removals were conducted within the NSW health and hospital system in – and what was the length of wait for the procedure:**
- a. January 1 – September 8, 2017:**
 - b. 2016;**
 - c. 2015;**
 - d. 2014;**
 - e. 2013;**
 - f. 2012; and**
 - g. 2011.**

ANSWER

52 This data is publically reported on by both the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) and the Bureau of Health Information (BHI).

Hospital Privatisation

- 53. How many expressions of interest were received for each of the proposed Private-**

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Public Privatisation for;

- a. **Bowral Hospital,**
- b. **Goulburn Base Hospital,**
- c. **Shellharbour Hospital,**
- d. **Maitland hospital, and**
- e. **Wyong Hospital?**

54. Can you rule out privatising elements of, or the entire hospital at:

- a. **Bega,**
- b. **Nepean,**
- c. **Lismore,**
- d. **Manning,**
- e. **Queanbeyan,**
- f. **Muswellbrook,**
- g. **Randwick,**
- h. **Goulburn,**
- i. **St George,**
- j. **Liverpool,**
- k. **Shellharbour,**
- l. **Sutherland, or**
- m. **Westmead.**

ANSWER

53. The Government is still considering the procurement process initiated by the Expression Of Interest EOI released in 2016, in particular for the Maitland Hospital and Shellharbour Hospital projects. As such, the number of EOI's is considered commercial in confidence.
54. The NSW Government is committed to delivering the best health outcomes expected by communities. Under the former Labor government some services in various areas of the State were purchased from private providers.

Sentinel events

- 55. What is a Sentinel event?**
- 56. How many Sentinel events occurred in NSW between 1 January 2017 and September 8, 2017?**
- 57. How many Sentinel events were investigated in 2016?**
- 58. How much compensation has the government paid for sentinel events in;**
- a. **2017 (January 1, 2017 – September 8, 2017)**
 - b. **2016**
 - c. **2015**
 - d. **2014**
 - e. **2013**
 - f. **2012**

ANSWER

55. I refer you to my answer of Question on Notice 1644.

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56. I refer you to my answer of Question on Notice 1644.
57. In keeping with the NSW Health Policy, 'Incident Management Policy', all sentinel events are investigated.
58. Data does not distinguish between compensation paid in relation to Sentinel events and compensation paid in relation to other incidents, so it is not possible to provide figures relating to Sentinel event compensation.

Sugar Tax

59. How many local health districts have banned the sale of sugar sweetened drinks in health and hospital facilities?

ANSWER

59. The Murrumbidgee Local Health District removed sugary drinks from its health facilities at the end of 2016.

The remaining local health districts are working to implement the Healthy Food and Drink in NSW Health Facilities for Staff and Visitors Framework.

Ambulance Privatisation

60. As of September 8, how many private companies provide patient transfer services in NSW – under the Health Services Amendment (Ambulance Services) Act?

61. How many patients have been transferred by private operator between 1 January – September 8, 2017?

a. 2016

b. 2015

ANSWER

60. The Health Services Amendment (Ambulance Services) Act 2015 has not yet commenced. At the present time a private company that wishes to provide patient transfer services must obtain consent from the Health Secretary under section 67E of the Health Services Act 1997.
61. NSW Health does not collect data in respect of the number of patients transported by private operators that have consent from the Secretary under s67E.

Codeine changes

- 62. Given that the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) ruled on 20 December 2016 that after February 1, 2018, all painkillers containing codeine such as Nurofen Plus, Codral Original Cold and Flu, and Mersyndol will require a prescription from a GP or an emergency department, what advice has NSW Health given you on the plan?**
- 63. Have you made any representations to your Federal counterpart?**
- 64. Has NSW Health done any modelling on how this will impact on NSW emergency departments – especially in areas where there is difficulty in accessing after hours GPs or bulk-billing GPs?**

ANSWER

62. The transition is being managed by a Nationally Coordinated Codeine Implementation Working Group. The Commonwealth has published education and support materials for pharmacists, doctors, consumers and remote area patients.
63. I have regular discussions with my Federal colleagues on a range of matters.
64. Most patients who take these medicines will be as effectively and more safely treated with an alternative over the counter medicine provided by a pharmacist, and will not require an ED visit.

Asset Sales

- 65. Can you confirm that in the Financial Year 2011/12 Health cluster sold 25 properties at a value of \$15.16M?**
- 66. Can you confirm that in the Financial Year 2012/13 Health cluster sold 16 properties at a value of \$19.63M?**
- 67. Can you confirm that in the Financial Year 2013/14 Health cluster sold 12 properties at a value of \$94.44M?**
- 68. Can you confirm that in the Financial Year 2014/15 Health cluster sold 17 properties at a value of \$5.05M?**
- 69. Can you confirm that in the Financial Year 2015/16 Health cluster sold 10 properties at a value of \$16.03M?**
- 70. How many properties were sold by the Health cluster in the Financial Year 2016/17 and what the total value of those sales?**
- 71. For each of the Financial Years, 11/12 through to 16/17 inclusive, can you provide the breakdown, within the Health cluster, as to which specific departments/agencies sold what volume of properties and at what value, for each of the financial years?**
- 72. For each of the Financial Years, 11/12 through to 16/17 inclusive, what portion, as a percentage or dollar value, of the properties sold went back into the Budgets within the Health cluster, and what portion went into the Restart NSW fund?**
- 73. Are you able to provide a breakdown by specific department/agency?**
- 74. Since July 1, 2011, with regard to the total sales of assets and properties across the combined Health Cluster, are you able to provide a breakdown of the total**

number and total value of assets sold by Electorate?

ANSWER

65 - 74.

The number and value of asset disposals in the Health cluster is contained in the NSW Health Annual Report. All revenue from the sale of properties is retained by NSW Health.

Linear Accelerators at Wollongong Hospital

- 75. Could the Minister please provide information relating to Wollongong Hospital's Linear Accelerators;**
- a. How many Linear Accelerators does Wollongong Hospital currently have?**
 - b. Of these Linear Accelerators how many are in operating order?**
 - c. How many Linear Accelerators are currently being used by Wollongong Hospital?**
 - d. If the hospital is not using all the Linear Accelerators, can the Minister please outline the reasons why Wollongong Hospital is not using all of them?**
 - e. What is the cost of one Linear Accelerator?**
- 76. In relation to radiation treatment at Wollongong Hospital;**
- a. What is the average waiting period for a new patient to receive radiation treatment, with a Linear Accelerator at Wollongong Hospital?**
 - b. Can the Minister explain the how many Linear Accelerators can be in operation at any given time treat patients at Wollongong Hospital?**
 - c. Please explain the number of trained staff at Wollongong Hospital who is fully skilled to operate the Linear Accelerators?**
 - d. Can the Minister explain if there is a shortage of trained Linear Accelerator staff at Wollongong Hospital?**

ANSWER

75.

a – c. 3

d. n/a

e. The cost is dependent upon specifications and options.

76.

a. All patients are triaged and are prioritised according to their clinical urgency. Across all urgency categories, data from January to September 2017 indicates that no patient

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waits longer than 21 days from the oncologist assessment as ready for care to the commencement of treatment. All patients assessed as urgent commence their treatment within the clinically appropriate timeframe.

- b. Three can be in operation at once.
- c. The current FTE breakdown is 26 FTE fully qualified registered practitioners.
- d. At the present time there is no vacancy in the established FTE.

Office Administration

- 77. 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?
- 78. 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?
- 79. 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?
- 80. Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in your ministerial office in 2016-17?
 - a. What is the cost of this?
- 81. 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?
- 82. 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?
- 83. 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?
- 84. What was the total amount your office spent on stationery?
- 85. 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?
- 86. Do you purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for your office?
 - a. What is the monthly cost of this?
- 87. What non-standard features are fitted to your ministerial vehicle?
 - a. What is the cost of each non-standard feature?
- 88. What was the total bill for your office in 2016-17 for:

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- a. Taxi hire
 - b. Limousine hire
 - c. Private hire care
 - d. Hire car rental
 - e. Ridesharing services
- 89. 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?

ANSWER

77. Ministers' staff numbers and salary bands are available on the DPC website. Refer to: http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers_and_ministers_staff_numbers

78. There were 240 smart phones allocated across the Ministerial Offices in 2016-17. The total usage cost of these smart phones and other mobile devices (including iPads) was \$269,644, a 53.4% per cent reduction on the 2008-09 expenditure of \$578,691. The cost of replacing any lost or stolen devices is claimed through the NSW Treasury Managed Fund. Repairs are funded by the Department of Premier and Cabinet, Corporate and Ministerial Services.

79. There were 139 iPads in use across the Ministers' IT network in 2016-17. The cost of replacing any lost or stolen devices is claimed through the NSW Treasury Managed Fund. Repairs are funded by the Department of Premier and Cabinet, Corporate and Ministerial Services.

80. Yes. Two paintings totalling \$100 paid for personally by the Minister. (Purchased from the Sisters of Charity).

81 and 82. No

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

84. Expenditure on stationery in 2016-17 across the Ministry was in accordance with Ministerial and Government guidelines.

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

86. No.

87. Ministers, the Leader of the Opposition, other nominated public office holders and certain former office holders are provided with official cars and drivers. During 2016-17 all costs associated with these vehicles were paid from the relevant office's budget.

88. Expenditure on taxis, hire cars and ride share services in 2016-17 across the Ministry was less than half of the 2009-10 expenditure.

89. Zero.

Hospitality

- 90. How much did your ministerial office spend on hospitality, including catering and beverages, in 2016-17?**
- 91. How much did your Department/agency spend on hospitality, including catering**

and beverages, in 2016-17?

ANSWER

90. Expenditure on hospitality for stakeholder meetings and courtesy calls with visiting dignitaries was managed within the office recurrent budget.

91. Costs are managed within each agency's recurrent budget.

Labour Hire Firms

- 92. 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**

ANSWER

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

Media and Public Relations

- 93. 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?**
- 94. 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?**
- 95. What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities?**
- 96. 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?**
- 97. 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?**
- 98. 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?**

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ANSWER

93. MoH staff numbers are included in the Annual Report.

94. MoH staff numbers undertaking media or public relations activities are commensurate with need and can go down or up as required.

95. The NSW Government purchases all commercial media monitoring centrally through the Department of Premier and Cabinet which delivers significant savings through aggregated procurement.

96 and 97. Staff numbers undertaking these roles are commensurate with need. All expenditure on media or public relations advisers employed has been within existing NSW Government remuneration bands.

98. No.

Facebook

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

ANSWER

99. No taxpayer money has been spent on Facebook advertising or sponsored posts.

100. Where appropriate social media is used by agencies alongside other forms of advertising as a cost effective medium of communication.

Overseas Trips

- 101. 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?
102. 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?

ANSWER

101-102. Details of overseas travel including costs are published on the Department of Premier and Cabinet's website.

Department/Agency Travel

- 103. What was the total expenditure in 2016-17 by Departments/agencies within your**

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portfolio on:

- a. Taxi hire
- b. Limousine/private car hire
- c. Hire car rental
- d. (Ridesharing services)

- 104. 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?

ANSWER

103. Expenditure on travel is contained within the audited Financial Statements published each year in the Annual Report.

104. No, NSW Health does not employ drivers for this purpose.

Consulting

- 105. 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?
- 106. 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

ANSWER

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

Department/Agency Staffing

- 107. 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?
- 108. 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?

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- 109. 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?
- 110. 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?
- 111. 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?
- 112. 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?
- 113. Are any staff formerly employed by your ministerial office now employed by Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibility?**
- 114. How many staff were dismissed from Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibilities in 2016-17?**
a. What were the reason/s for each dismissal?
- 115. What was the total amount your Departments/agencies spent on stationery?**

ANSWER

107. Public Service Senior Executive (PSSE) numbers are reported in the NSW Health Annual Reports.

108. Public Service Senior Executive (PSSE) remuneration is reported in the NSW Health Annual Reports.

109-110. Staff numbers and their cost are managed within the agency's Labour Expense Cap, as part of the sector's Budget Controls.

111-112. Voluntary redundancies are a component for agencies to achieve their efficiency dividends.

113. No

114. Refer to answer 111.

115. Stationery expenses are accounted for in agencies recurrent budgets.

Smart Phone Accounts

- 116. 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?
- 117. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an Android account?**

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

ANSWER

116-117. IT costs are managed within each agency's budget and are guided by NSW Government's ICT and procurement policies and frameworks.

Websites visited

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

ANSWER

118 - 119. The configuration of the Ministers' IT network infrastructure by our third party service providers does not allow the determination of such data.

Merchant Fees

- 120. 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.
121. 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.
122. What was the total amount paid in merchant fees on credit and/or debit card payments in your Department/agency in 2016-17?**

ANSWER

120-122. All NSW Government agencies are required to impose surcharges to recoup their merchant interchange fees, pursuant to Treasury Circular TC12/13. Whole credit cards are used. NSW Health has exemption to the circular in respect to donations paid via credit card.

It would not be possible to determine fees charges to Departmental cards, as these would either be embedded in the individual transaction cost, or if separately disclosed would require each monthly card statement for each user to be reviewed.

Probity Auditor

- 123. 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."**

ANSWER

123. In accordance with the NSW Procurement Board's Direction (PBD-2013-05), NSW Health and its reporting entities have internal mechanisms in place to ensure that probity considerations are routinely taken into account in its procurement decisions.

Use of artificial intelligence

- 125. 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
- 126. What planned uses does the department have for artificial intelligence?**
- 127. What policy guidelines, if any, guide the exploration and use of artificial intelligence by the department?**
- 128. What research, if any, has the department undertaken regarding the use of AI in Government services?**

ANSWER

Refer to Question 18 to 21.

Cardiovascular research

- 129. Does NSW Health have plans to increase the number of PhD Scholarship Programs in cardiovascular research?**

ANSWER

A new PhD Scholarship round will be launched in 2018/19 and will include a focus on cardiovascular disease.

Westmead Precinct

- 130. Has the Minister for Health discussed the promotion of the Westmead Medical Precinct with the Planning Minister?**

ANSWER

I have regular discussions with Ministerial colleagues about a range of matters.

Office Administration

131. 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?
132. 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?
133. 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?
134. Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in your ministerial office in 2016-17?
 - a. What is the cost of this?
135. 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?
136. 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?
137. 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?
138. What was the total amount your office spent on stationery?
139. 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?
140. Do you purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for your office?
 - a. What is the monthly cost of this?
141. What non-standard features are fitted to your ministerial vehicle?
 - a. What is the cost of each non-standard feature?
142. 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

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- 143. 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?

ANSWER

Refer to Question 77 to 89

Hospitality

- 144. How much did your ministerial office spend on hospitality, including catering and beverages, in 2016-17?**
- 145. How much did your Department/agency spend on hospitality, including catering and beverages, in 2016-17?**

ANSWER

Refer to Question 90 to 91

Labour Hire Firms

- 146. 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

ANSWER

Refer to Question 92

Media and Public Relations

- 147. 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?**
- 148. 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?**
- 149. What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities?**

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150. 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?
151. 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?
152. 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?

ANSWER

Refer to Question 93-98

Facebook

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

ANSWER

Refer to Question 99 - 100

Overseas Trips

155. 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?
156. 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?

ANSWER

Refer to Question 101 -102

Department/Agency Travel

157. 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
158. 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

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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?

ANSWER

Refer to Question 103-104

Consulting

159. 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?
160. 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

ANSWER

Refer to Question 105-106

Department/Agency Staffing

161. 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?
162. 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?
163. 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?
164. 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?
165. 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?

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166. 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?
167. Are any staff formerly employed by your ministerial office now employed by Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibility?
168. How many staff were dismissed from Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibilities in 2016-17?
- a. What were the reason/s for each dismissal?
169. What was the total amount your Departments/agencies spent on stationery?

ANSWER

Refer to Question 107-115

Smart Phone Accounts

170. 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?
171. 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?

ANSWER

Refer to Question 116-117

Websites visited

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

ANSWER

Refer to Question 118-119

Merchant Fees

174. 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.
175. Please provide the percentage and/or amount of the merchant fees applied to all

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

ANSWER

Refer to Question 120-122

Probity Auditor

177. 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.”

ANSWER

Refer to Question 123