PORTFOLIO COMMITTEES

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2018-2019 Supplementary Questions

Portfolio Committee No. 6 - Planning and Environment

ENVIRONMENT, LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HERITAGE

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Answers due by: Wednesday 3 October 2018

Budget Estimates Secretariat

Phone 9230 3313

BudgetEstimates@parliament.nsw.gov.au

ENVIRONMENT

Questions from Mr David Shoebridge MLC

Gap Bluff

- 1. Has the Minister considered the implications for emergency services should the Gap Bluff functions centre be approved?
 - (a) These include access for ambulances, fire and emergency vehicles which may be impeded as a result of increased traffic congestion at Gap Bluff during peak seasons?
- 2. Is the proposed lease to Mr Drivas transferrable?
 - (a) If so, what are the conditions for assigning the lease?
 - (b) Can it be assigned to foreign entities?
 - (c) Or only domestic corporations?
 - (d) How can the community be assured that any transfer would protect our public and national interest?
- 3. Why is OEH accepting a lease application from a nominee company (GBH) and not its substantial backer, the Dockside Group?

Fire retardants

- 4. What monitoring is undertaken by the EPA to measure the impact of the PFAS used as part of fire-fighting efforts in NSW?
- 5. What liaison if any has been undertaken with Emergency Services to obtain data about the volume of PFAS materials used, and the distribution around residential areas in particular?
- 6. What concerns if any have been raised with the Office of Environment and Heritage or the EPA about PFAS use in NSW?

Questions from the Hon Paul Green MLC

Sydney Water Catchment

7. Dr Ian Wright at the University of Western Sydney found in his research at the Boral Berrima Colliery at Medway found the mine, in care and maintenance mode, was discharging 30 litres a second of heavy metal contaminated water directly into the Wingecarribee River.

- (a) What steps is Water NSW taking to protect the Wingecarribee River, given its critical role in being the main transfer for water pumped from the Shoalhaven River to the Sydney Drinking Catchment as occurred in the 2000 drought?
- (b) Does Water NSW hold concerns about this pollution event given it occurs in the same river that is the transfer of emergency water supplies for Sydney?
- 8. In 2016 the NSW Government was warned by the NSW Audit office of rising salinity in the Sydney Drinking Water Catchment linked to coal mining activity in the catchment. The Auditor General flagged salinity from coal mining having "a cumulative and possibly accelerated' impact".
 - (a) the Auditor called on the government to investigate the source and implication of salinity"– what progress has been made?
- 9. How can the Government with any confidence approve expansion to existing mines and seek EOIs for new coal exploration licences within the Sydney Water Catchment when it fails to examine the risks highlighted in the Auditor General's report?
- 10. Dr Ian Wright is one of the leading experts on the closure of coal mines and has and continues to study coal mines, related pollution and their impacts on the Sydney Water Catchment. Recently he said in relation to coal mining in the drinking water catchment. "I'm just yet to see any mine that doesn't create considerable pollution problems," and ""We are in 'la la land' and we're heading for serious problems."
 - (a) Given his expertise and his record in this area, can you please outline the Governments response to his comments?
- 11. Why isn't there a clear picture of what is happening across the entire Sydney Drinking Water Catchments in respect of coal mine discharges and impacts on ground water quantity, supply and safety?

Questions from the Hon Mark Pearson MLC

Environment-Kangaroos

Background

The 2018 Quota Report New South Wales Commercial Kangaroo Harvest Management Plan 2017–2021 provides for 15 kangaroo management zones in NSW, making up four regions: Western Plains, Northern Tablelands, South-East NSW and Central Tablelands. On page 4 of the Quota Report, there is an explanation that the population estimates of Eastern Grey Kangaroos per zone are derived. The

Appendices on p23, refers to correction factors being used of '100 metres' and '200 metres' for surveying densities in some western districts. The estimated number of kangaroos per zone, for each zone in tables 5, 6 and 7, are all very close to the estimated number of kangaroos per square kilometre multiplied by the number of square kilometres, but never quite exact, and usually higher.

- 12. Can the Minister confirm that the methodology for estimating kangaroo numbers in NSW is as follows:
 - (a) actual aerial counts alone a transect line crossing the zone (repeated where MRDS sampling is used);
 - (b) these counts are used to derive an estimated density of kangaroos per square kilometre;
 - (c) this density is multiplied by the number of square kilometres in the zone;
 - (d) this figure is adjusted for 'correction factors."
- 13. Can the Minister explain how if two transect counts (using MRDS sampling) have been conducted in each zone, exactly how have any differences between the two counts been rationalised into the final estimated density per square kilometre?
- 14. Can the Minister explain how if two (or more) transect counts are undertaken in the same zone to derive a density of kangaroos per square kilometre, then
 - (a) how close to each other in time are these flyovers, and
 - (b) how, if at all, is double counting of kangaroos moving along the transect line avoided?
- 15. Can the Minister explain how the part of a zone which is used for the transect count is selected?
- 16. Can the Minister explain what measures (if any) are taken to ensure the area where the transect count is undertaken is representative of other parts of the zone?
- 17. Can the Minister explain how
 - (a) the number of square kilometres in a zone are adjusted to remove geographical areas within the zone where it should be expected that there are much lower numbers of kangaroos, or none, for example in urban areas, industrial areas, water bodies, burnt areas, farms where culling has recently occurred, and
 - (b) other features that make the geography unsuitable for kangaroos?
- 18. Can the Minister explain how the transect count turned into a per square kilometre estimate?
- 19. Can the Minister explain how long before the population estimate is derived, are the transect counts undertaken (to ensure they are still accurate when the quota is announced)?

- 20. Can the Minister explain the basis for the correction factors and
 - (a) what are the correction factors?
 - (b) how are these correction factors applied to adjust the final estimate of kangaroos per zone?
- 21. Can the Minister explain given the long maturation period required by both male and female kangaroos, and the 18 months it takes for a kangaroo joey to be weaned,
 - (a) what measures (if any) are used to establish the gender, size/age of the kangaroos counted during the aerial surveys, and
 - (b) how (if at all) are quota numbers adjusted to correspond to these factors?

Background

In the Western Plains zones, between 2015 and 2016, red kangaroos (Table 8) are estimated to have increased by 8.1%, and western greys (Table 13) by 7.2%. Eastern greys (Table 9) are reported to have decreased by 0.5 %. These changes are attributed to use of the MRDS (ie two transect flights instead of one).

22. Can the Minister advise whether the Red and Western Greys figures above were underestimates, or were Reds or Western Greys mistaken for Eastern Greys in the earlier surveys?

Background

In the Northern Tablelands zone, between 2015 and 2016 (Table 10), a 60% increase in Eastern Grey kangaroos is reported. This increase is attributed to immigration, and aspects of the survey design.

- 23. Can the Minister explain whether
 - (a) the 60% increase in Eastern Grey kangaroos is due to immigration, and if so,
 - (b) identify the corresponding decline either elsewhere in the zone or in another zone.

Background

In South-East NSW, between 2015 and 2016 (Table 11) an increase in Eastern Grey kangaroos of 50% is reported. This increase is attributed to a larger area being surveyed, but there seems to be no reference to any of the other areas of other zones, or within the zone, having been correspondingly decreased. On the Central Tablelands North and South between 2015 and 2016 (Table 12), there is an increase of 109% in Eastern Grey kangaroos reported, without any attempt at explanation. On the Northern Tablelands, a 100% increase in wallaroos is reported, again without explanation.

24. Can the Minister explain how the reported increased estimates of the following macropods was determined:

- (a) Eastern Grey Kangaroo populations in the Central Tablelands;
- (b) Eastern Grey Kangaroos and Wallaroos in the Northern Tablelands; and
- (c) Eastern Grey Kangaroos in South East NSW?

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

Land and vegetation clearing

- 25. Given that monthly calls reporting illegal clearing to the Environment Line phone number have jumped by approximately 25% since the new Biodiversity Conservation Act was introduced in August 2017:
 - (a) Is the Government investigating all reported instances of illegal clearing?
 - (b) What action is the Government taking in instances where there is suspected illegal clearing?
 - (c) When will the Government make public information on rates of vegetation clearing under the new laws?
 - (d) When will the Government make public information on compliance action under the new laws?
- 26. When will the Native Vegetation Regulatory Map be finalised and commence operation?
- 27. What is the reason for the delay of the Native Vegetation Regulatory Map being finalised?
- 28. When will the Native Vegetation Panel be appointed?
- 29. What is the reason for the delay of the Native Vegetation Panel being appointed?
- 30. Of the \$240 million for the Biodiversity Conservation Trust and private land conservation, how much funding was spent in 2017-18?
 - (a) Of this amount, how much was spent on private land conservation?

Forests

31. Did the Government undertake a thorough assessment of the adequacy of the protected area network at a regional (or at least sub-regional) scale in order to determine the conservation implications of the proposed new Integrated Forestry Operations Approvals (IFOA), as recommended by Office of Environment and Heritage contributors to the Threatened Species Expert Panel examining the impacts of the proposed IFOA settings on threatened species?

- (a) If so, when will the assessment be made public?
- (b) If not, why not?
- 32. What steps did the Minister for the Environment take to investigate the likely impacts of the new IFOA on matters of national environmental significance, specifically the koala, greater glider, swift parrot and regent honeyeater?

Koalas

- 33. In light of the NSW Koala Strategy recommendation that 'the Natural Resources Commission will deliver an independent research project to better understand how koalas are responding to regeneration harvesting on the North Coast of NSW', what was the data or other information that was used to create the koala settings for the proposed 'intensive harvesting zone' in the new IFOA, including what advice was provided on the efficacy of the prescriptions?
- 34. What was the method and technical criteria adopted for selecting the areas of state forest that are proposed to become 'koala reserves' and 'koala parks', as identified by NSW Koala Strategy?
- 35. What is the Government's estimated cost for the administration, operation and upkeep of new reserves and other new protected areas announced as part of the transfer of 24,000 hectares of land from State Forests to NPWS for 12 koala reserves and parks as part of its Koala Strategy?
- 36. Will the Government direct the management of these koala reserves and parks within the current allocated budget for NPWS?
- 37. How many of the proposed reserves and park parks have no current protection?
- 38. How many of the proposed reserves and parks are already zoned as FMZ2 or FMZ3?
- 39. In what year was the most recent confirmed koala sighting for each of the areas covered by the following proposed reserves and parks:
 - (a) Mount Lindesay koala reserve
 - (b) Oakes koala park
 - (c) Carrai koala park
 - (d) Mount Boss koala park
 - (e) Barrington Tops koala reserve
 - (f) Corrabare koala reserve
 - (g) Watagan koala reserve

- (h) Olney koala reserve
- (i) Comleroy koala reserve
- (j) Jellore koala reserve
- (k) Meryla koala reserve
- (l) Belanglo koala reserve
- 40. What proportion of the following proposed reserves and parks contains high quality koala habitat:
 - (a) Mount Lindesay koala reserve
 - (b) Oakes koala park
 - (c) Carrai koala park
 - (d) Mount Boss koala park
 - (e) Barrington Tops koala reserve
 - (f) Corrabare koala reserve
 - (g) Watagan koala reserve
 - (h) Olney koala reserve
 - (i) Comleroy koala reserve
 - (j) Jellore koala reserve
 - (k) Meryla koala reserve
 - (l) Belanglo koala reserve
- 41. How does the Government designate koala habitat as high quality, as for example identified in the previous question? Please provide detailed specifications.
- 42. How many of the proposed koala reserves and parks are currently open to hunting?
- 43. How many of the proposed koala reserves and parks will remain open to hunting?
- 44. Given that Ewan Waller, the independent reviewer appointed by the NSW government to review the 10 and 15-year Regional Forest Agreement (RFA) implementation reports and submissions to those reports, recommended that: "the parties conduct a contemporary review of the native forest timber industry considering the effect of climate change, the overall conservation status of the forest, the socio-economic position of relevant rural communities, and support for the industry" and that "the parties ensure future RFAs"

fully consider the risks associated with climate change and agencies plan, monitor and report on changes made to forest management practice to adapt to the changing environment", and that the NSW Natural Resources Commission identified in its advice on the IFOA that climate change and associated drought and fire would make timber resources increasingly uncertain, and that bell-miner associated dieback has already rendered 11,000 hectares of forests 'impractical to manage for commercial purposes', who made the decision not to consider climate change and bell-miner associated dieback as part of the RFA and IFOA reviews, and what was the rationale behind this decision?

- 45. Can the Minister advise on progress by the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) in spending the \$20 million allocated to the purchase of private land for koalas, as committed to in the koala strategy?
- 46. What information will OEH use to identify suitable properties for prioritisation and purchase under this program?
- 47. How will the identification process deal with threats posed by climate change, urban development and land clearing?

National Parks

- 48. What advice has the Minister sought and received on the impacts of any changes to the Water Sharing Plan for the Murray on water-dependent National Parks such as the Murray Valley National Park?
- 49. What advice did the Minister receive from the Member for Murray on the Water Sharing Plan for the Murray, referenced on ABC News on 27 August 2018?
- 50. What was the actual expenditure for the National Parks and Wildlife Service in 2017-18?
- 51. Did the Government provide a budget allocation for the National Parks and Wildlife Service for 2018-19?
 - (a) If so, what is the budget allocation for 2018-19, broken down into recurrent and capital funding?
- 52. What is the current total FTE for the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)?
- 53. What was the FTE for the NPWS at 30 June 2018?
- 54. With the announcement of 34,759 hectares of new Flora Reserves managed by NPWS, how much money has been budgeted for extra resources to manage this area?

- 55. In relation to the Flora Reserves where management has been transferred to NPWS, was funding to manage these areas transferred from Forests NSW for each of these flora reserves or are they to be managed within existing NPWS resources?
 - (a) If any, how much additional funding was provided for each reserve?
- 56. Given that these reserves come with new management requirements for NPWS, such as shooting and illegal forestry, how were additional funding requirements established?
- 57. What is the budget for the Enhanced Bushfire Management Program in 2018-19?
- 58. What was the actual expenditure on the Enhanced Bushfire Management Program in 2017-18?
- 59. What is the budget for the Supplementary Pest Control Program in 2018-19?
- 60. What was the actual expenditure on the Supplementary Pest Control Program in 2017-18?
- 61. How many individuals employed as national park rangers have ceased employment with the NPWS to date as a result of efficiency dividend measures since 2015?
- 62. How many individuals employed as national park rangers are forecast to cease employment with the NPWS as a result of efficiency dividend measures by 30 June 2018?
- 63. What were the gazetted additions to the NSW reserve system in the following financial years, listed by name and hectares added:
 - (a) 2015-16;
 - (b) 2016-17;
 - (c) 2017-18?
- 64. How many new reserves (not additions to existing reserves) were created in the following financial years, including each reserve's name and size in hectares:
 - (a) 2015-16;
 - (b) 2016-17;
 - (c) 2017-18?
- 65. How many times did each of the state and regional advisory committees, which provide community input into how the NSW reserve system is managed, meet in the following years? Please list by committee name and number of meetings per year.
 - (a) 2015-16;
 - (b) 2016-17;

- (c) 2017-18?
- 66. From June 2015 to July 2018 which of the above advisory committees required appointment or reappointment of their members?
 - (a) What was the timeframe for each advisory committee to appoint or reappoint members from the time the appointment of previous committee members ended to the time when new or reappointed committee members were officially appointed?
- 67. Given that a significant portion (\$770,740) of the \$1,050,000 fine imposed on Clarence Colliery for the 2015 mine waste collapse into the Wollangambe River is to be spent on activities such as track stabilisation which would usually be funded within the NPWS budget, were all the Clarence Colliery fine funds awarded provided to OEH as additional expenditure?
- 68. Given the community's concern about this spill, will the Minister agree to make public, through OEH's website, information demonstrating that the fine monies will remain additional to Treasury allocation for OEH?
- 69. How many full-time national parks senior rangers are currently employed?
 - (a) Of these current senior ranger employees, how many are permanent/ongoing and how many are temporary/limited term positions?
- 70. How many full-time national parks rangers are currently employed?
 - (a) Of these current ranger employees, how many are permanent/ongoing and how many are temporary/limited term positions?
- 71. How many full-time field officers are currently employed? Please provide broken down into regular/senior positions.
 - (a) Of these current field officer employees, how many are permanent/ongoing and how many are temporary/limited term positions?
- 72. How many Regional Managers are currently employed?
- 73. How many Area Managers are currently employed?
- 74. Regarding reserves managed by the National Parks and Wildlife Service for which tickets are sold or an entry fee is charged to access areas to observe Sydney's New Year's Eve fireworks:
 - (a) What is the proposed ticket price for each ticketed/fee-restricted area in 2018? Please list each area separately.

- (b) How many tickets are proposed to be available for each ticketed/fee-restricted area in 2018? Please list each area separately.
- 75. How many licences to permit harm to native animals were issued; which species were subject of licenses issued; how many of each species were permitted to be harmed; and how many of each species were destroyed, in 2017-18? Please provide the full list in table form.

Organisation

- 76. How many individual staff members across all areas of the Office of Environment and Heritage have lost their jobs to date as a result of efficiency dividend measures since 2015?
- 77. How many more individual staff members across all areas of the Office of Environment and Heritage are proposed to lose their jobs as a result of efficiency dividend measures by 30 June 2019?
- 78. How many contractors are currently engaged by the Office of Environment and Heritage and what is the budget forecast for expenditure on contractors in 2018-19?
- 79. How many contractors were engaged by the Office of Environment and Heritage and what was the expenditure on those contractors each year for the past five financial years? Please provide separate figures for each financial year.
- 80. How much did the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) spend on management conferences for staff in 2017-2018?
- 81. What was the expenditure for the EPA's management conference held in March 2018 at the Merewether Beach Surf Club?
- 82. What is the budgeted cost of the relocation and transfer of Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) staff to the new centralised office hub at Parramatta?
- 83. What will be the impact of this relocation and transfer on OEH staff numbers measured in FTE?
- 84. How many voluntary redundancies were granted within OEH in the 2015-16, 2016-17, and 2017-18 financial years?
- 85. Of those voluntary redundancies, how many were granted to female staff, and how many were granted to male staff, in the 2015-16, 2016-17, and 2017-18 financial years?
- 86. What was the average age of staff granted voluntary redundancies in OEH in the 2015-16, 2016-17, and 2017-18 financial years?

- 87. Of those voluntary redundancies granted within OEH, how many were granted in the 2015-16, 2016-17, and 2017-18 financial years to staff within the divisions of:
 - (a) National Parks and Wildlife Service (Park Operations and Park Programs),
 - (b) Regional Operations (Communities and Greater Sydney; Conservation and Regional Delivery),
 - (c) Heritage,
 - (d) Policy,
 - (e) Science, and
 - (f) Strategy and Performance?
- 88. Of those voluntary redundancies granted in the 2015-16, 2016-17, and 2017-18 financial years, how many were granted to staff within the National Parks and Wildlife Service (Park Operations and Park Programs) Division for each year, classified as:
 - (a) Area Managers,
 - (b) Staff previously classified as Regional Managers,
 - (c) Rangers,
 - (d) Senior Rangers,
 - (e) Senior Field Officers,
 - (f) Field Officers,
 - (g) Specialist staff such as Pest Species Officers and Fire Management Officers,
 - (h) Project Officers,
 - (i) Senior Project Officers,
 - (i) Policy Officers,
 - (k) Senior Policer Officers?
- 89. Given that as part of the OEH restructure the grading of many positions were assessed at lower pay grades, how many positions within the National Parks and Wildlife Service (Park Operations and Park Programs) Division have been assessed to a lower pay grade since 1 July 2015?

Snowy Mountains rehabilitation program

- 90. What is the estimated cost of rehabilitation for each site in Kosciuszko National Park damaged by the construction of the original Snowy Hydro Scheme and identified within the Snowy Mountains rehabilitation program for former snowy scheme sites? Please list each site and the corresponding cost estimate.
- 91. Which sites have now been repaired/rehabilitated under the program?
 - (a) What was the expenditure to repair/rehabilitate these sites?
- 92. Which sites have not yet been repaired/rehabilitated under the program?
 - (a) What is the estimated cost of reparing/rehabilitating each site?
- 93. How much total funding has been spent to date through the program?
- 94. How much total funding remains to be spent in future through the program?
- 95. What date is the program proposed to end, if any?
- 96. Has the Government undertaken any evaluation on the public benefits accruing from the repair of sites in Kosciusko National Park under the program?
 - (a) If so, when will this be made available to the public?

Saving Our Species

- 97. Has the entire amount of the \$100 million for the Saving Our Species program been allocated?
 - (a) If not, how much has been allocated to date?
 - (b) When will the remainder be allocated?
 - (c) What will happen to any surplus remaining funds?
- 98. Is funding guaranteed for all identified projects?
- 99. How much of the \$100 million has been allocated for actual on-ground activities compared to program administration costs?
- 100. What analysis has been done on the effectiveness the program in terms of ecological outcomes and value for money?
- 101. How many populations of species targeted under the program will be under threat of localised extinction due to areas of old-growth forest and rainforest now being made available for logging under revisions and re-mapping undertaken in the proposed changes to Integrated Forestry Operations Approvals and Regional Forest Agreements?

102. Does the Government plan to commit ongoing funding for the program beyond the initial allocation?

Climate Change Fund

- 103. Why has the Government failed to deliver its Climate Change Fund Strategic Plan to date?
- 104. When will the Government deliver its Climate Change Fund Strategic Plan?

Paint disposal and recycling

- 105. How many Community Recycling Centres (CRCs) are currently in operation in NSW?
- 106. How many of these CRCs have industry-funded product stewardship schemes available through them?
- 107. How many kilograms of household hazardous waste was collected through CRCs in 2017-18?
 - (a) How much of this amount was waste paint?
- 108. How many kilograms of household hazardous waste are expected to be collected through CRCs in 2018-19?
 - (a) How much of this amount is expected to be waste paint?
- 109. What expenditure is budgeted to support this collection?
 - (a) How much of this is estimated to be applied to dealing with waste paint?
- 110. What is the reason New South Wales has only four CRCs offering the Paintback scheme, in comparison to other Australia states such as Victoria which has more than 30 such sites?
- 111. Does the Government plan to incorporate Paintback and other industry product stewardship schemes into all existing CRCs?
 - (a) If yes, when will Paintback and other such schemes be incorporated into existing CRCs?
 - (b) If not, why not?

Botanic Gardens

- 112. Regarding areas of the Botanic Gardens for which tickets are sold or an entry fee is charged to observe Sydney's New Year's Eve fireworks:
 - (a) What is the proposed ticket price for each ticketed/fee-restricted area in 2018? Please list for each area separately.

(b) How many tickets are proposed to be available for each ticketed/fee-restricted area in 2018? Please list for each area separately.

Centennial Park

- 113. What was the total construction cost for all aspects of the Ian Potter Wild Play Garden in Centennial Park?
- 114. What was the stated budgeted amount for the Ian Potter Wild Play Garden?
- 115. What is the reason for any variance in these figures?
- 116. Given the State Heritage Register curtilage for the listing comprising 'Centennial Park, Moore Park, Queens Park' includes all areas including roads and tracks within Centennial Park, how can your statement in response to Question 23 in last year's Answers to Questions on Notice 1 September 2017 for the 2017-18 Budget Estimates hearing into the Environment and Heritage Portfolio, that "the horse track is not a listed heritage item", be correct?
 - (a) Do you accept that the horse track in question is a part of the Centennial Park listing on the State Heritage Register?

Glenrock State Recreation Reserve

- 117. How much money was allocated to manage noxious weeds in Glenrock state recreation reserve in the following years:
 - (a) 2011;
 - (b) 2012;
 - (c) 2013;
 - (d) 2014;
 - (e) 2015;
 - (f) 2016;
 - (g) 2017; and
 - (h) 2018?
- 118. Will the Minister ban PFAS in NSW?
 - (a) If not, why not?
- 119. What is the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) doing to reduce air pollution in Newcastle?

- 120. What is the EPA doing to reduce coal dust in Newcastle?
- 121. Does the EPA believe covering coal wagons would reduce coal dust pollution in Newcastle?
- 122. Why does the Minister support the use of single use plastic bags in NSW?
- 123. Has the Minister considered banning plastic straws in NSW?
- 124. Why won't the Minister ban single use plastic bags in NSW?
- 125. What is the Minister doing to reduce the number of feral animals in NSW?
- 126. What damage do feral horses cause to the Environment?
- 127. Why does the Minister support the protection of feral animals in Kosciusko National Park that cause damage to the pristine alpine environment?
- 128. Does the Minister acknowledge that coastal erosion is occurring at Stockton Beach?
- 129. Will the Minister visit Stockton Beach to see first-hand the erosion problems?
- 130. What preparations has the Minister made to ensure that the Stockton Childcare centre will not wash into the ocean when Stockton next experiences large and powerful surf conditions?
- 131. Will the Minister consider allowing offshore sand dredging for beach nourishment purposes?
- 132. Will the Minister match Labor's \$270,000 commitment to identify long term solutions to address erosion at Stockton Beach?
- 133. Are there any plans to upgrade the mountain bike trails in the Glenrock State Recreation area?
- 134. What action is being taken to reduce feral animals in the Glenrock State recreation area?
- 135. What strategies are in place to improve water quality in flaggy creek and little flaggy creek?
- 136. How is aboriginal heritage in the Glenrock State Recreation area being protected?

Efficiency dividends

- 137. What is the forecast efficiency dividend saving for each agency within your portfolio in 2018-19?
- 138. What is the forecast efficiency dividend saving for each agency within your portfolio in 2019-20?
- 139. What is the forecast efficiency dividend saving for each agency within your portfolio in 2020-21?
- 140. What is the forecast efficiency dividend saving for each agency within your portfolio in 2021-22?
- 141. What was the total efficiency dividend that was achieved for each agency within your portfolio between 2011-12 and 2017-18 inclusively?

Ministerial Travel/Meal Allowance

- 142. How many nights' travel were claimed by the Minister during the 2017-18 period?
- 143. How many nights' travel were claimed by the Minister's spouse during the 2017-18 period?
- 144. What was the total amount of travel allowances claimed by the Minister and their spouse (if applicable) during 2017-18?
- 145. What is the total amount of meal allowances claimed by the Minister and their spouse (if applicable) during 2017-18?

Office Administration

- 146. How many staff are in your ministerial office?
 - (a) What was the average salary for staff members in your office during 2017-18?
 - (b) What is the estimated average salary for a ministerial staffer in your office in 2018-19 based on current appointments?
- 147. How many blackberries/iPhone/smart phones are assigned to your staff?
 - (a) For each phone, how much was each bill in 2017-18?
 - (b) How many phones have been lost or replaced due to damage in your office?
 - i. What is the cost of replacing those phones?
- 148. 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 2017-18?
 - (b) How many iPads or tablets have been replaced due to lost or damage in 2017-18?
 - i. What was the cost of replacing these devices?
- 149. Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in your ministerial office in 2017-18?
 - (a) What is the cost of this?
- 150. Have any floral displays or indoor plants or pot plants been hired or leased for display in your ministerial office in 2017-18?
 - (a) If so, what was the cost of these items?
- 151. Have any floral displays or indoor plants or pot plants been purchased for display in your ministerial office in 2017-18?

- (a) If so, what was the cost of these items?
- 152. What was the total cost of all subscriptions by you and your staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals in 2017-18?
 - (a) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?
 - i. Who is the subscriber for each of these?
- 153. What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by you and your office in 2017-18?
 - (a) What were the gifts purchased?
 - i. Who were they gifted to?
- 154. Do you purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for your office?
 - (a) What is the monthly cost of this?
- 155. What non-standard features are fitted to your ministerial vehicle?
 - (a) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?
- 156. What was the total bill for your office in 2017-18 for:
 - (a) Taxi hire
 - (b) Limousine hire
 - (c) Private hire care
 - (d) Hire car rental
 - (e) Ridesharing services
- 157. Were any planes or helicopters chartered by you or your office and paid for with public money in 2017-18?
 - (a) If yes, will you please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?

Agile Workspaces/Activity Based Working/Hot-desking

- 158. Has your department adopted "agile working environment/activity based working" practices e.g. hot-desking?
 - (a) If not, are there plans to introduce activity based working practices in 2018-19?
- 159. How much has your department spent in the roll-out of the agile working environment Including laptops, furniture, lockers and other equipment?

Hospitality

- 160. How much did your ministerial office spend on hospitality, including catering and beverages, in 2017-18?
- 161. How much did your Department/agency spend on hospitality, including catering and beverages, in 2017-18?

Labour Hire Firms

- 162. Do any Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities utilise the services of Labour Hire Firms?
- 163. If yes, please advise in table form for 2017-18:
 - (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

- 164. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies?
- 165. 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?
- 166. What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities?
- 167. 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 2017-18?

Facebook

168. How much did your ministerial office spend on Facebook advertising or sponsored posts in 2017-18?

169. How much did your Department/agency spend on Facebook advertising or sponsored posts in 2017-18?

Overseas Trips

- 170. 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?
- 171. Have you undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded?
 - (a) If so, what was the nature of these trips?
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- 172. What was the total expenditure in 2017-18 by Departments/agencies within your portfolio on:
 - (a) Taxi hire
 - (b) Limousine/private car hire
 - (c) Hire car rental
 - (d) Ridesharing services

Drivers

- 173. Are any of the senior executives in the relevant Department provided drivers?
 - (a) If so, can you please specify which positions are provided drivers?
 - (b) In total, how many drivers are used by senior executives in the Department?
 - (c) What is the total cost of drivers for senior executives in the Department?

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- 174. How much did the Department/agencies under your portfolio responsibility spend in legal costs in 2017-18?
 - (a) For what specific purposes or matters was legal advice sought?
- 175. Have Department/agencies under your portfolio engaged any consultants to provide the following services or advice in 2017-18:
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 - i. And the cost of these services

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

Department/Agency Staffing

- 176. How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2017-18?
 - (a) Of these redundancies, how many were:
 - i. Voluntary
 - ii. Forced
 - (b) What was the total cost of all redundancies?
- 177. 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?
- 178. Are any staff formerly employed by your ministerial office now employed by Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibility?
- 179. How many staff were dismissed from Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibilities in 2017-18?
 - (a) What were the reason/s for each dismissal?

Smart Phone Accounts

- 180. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an iTunes account?
 - (a) What was the total expenditure in 2017-18 on iTunes?
 - i. What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through iTunes?
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- 182. 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.
- 183. 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.
- 184. What was the total amount paid in merchant fees on credit and/or debit card payments in your Department/agency in 2017-18?

Probity Auditor

185. 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.

Domestic Violence Leave Policies, Awareness and Usage

- 186. For each department, statutory agency and/or other bodies in the Minister's portfolio please report:
 - (a) A copy of the entity's policy or web link to the entity's domestic violence leave policy;
 - (b) Date of introduction of domestic violence leave into enterprise agreements/contracts of employment, awards as applicable;
 - (c) Whether or not all employees and/or contractors are eligible for domestic violence leave;
 - (d) Number of days of domestic violence leave that have been taken in each financial year since the introduction of such leave;
 - (e) Number of days available for eligible staff to access domestic violence leave in each financial year;
 - (f) Number of other personal days of leave that have been taken in each financial year since the introduction of domestic violence leave;
 - (g) Number of sick days available for eligible staff to access domestic violence leave in each financial year;
 - (h) Whether or not all staff and/or contractors have access to Employee Assistance Programs?

- 187. What training has been undertaken with management and administration for those involved in approving and/or processing domestic violence leave on issues such as?
 - (a) Privacy and confidentially of information about domestic violence
 - (b) Access to emotional, psychological, financial and medical support which may be required
- 188. Who has provided training on domestic violence in the workplace?
- 189. What percentage of staff in each agency has undertaken domestic violence training?
- 190. What efforts have been made to ensure that perpetrators (or their accomplices) within the staffing profile are not able to access personal information of victims in order to identify their location, or other information which may assist in committing domestic violence against them, including changing or accessing records in such a way as to disadvantage them financially or legally?

Sexual harassment and Anti-bullying training and awareness programs

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

Participation of women in Government

- 194. For each department, statutory agency and/or other bodies in the Minister's portfolio please report:
 - (a) What number and percentage of women are employed within the agency?
 - (b) What number and percentage of women are employed within the management levels of the agency?
 - (c) What number and percentage of women are employed in the top ten leadership positions of the agency?
 - (d) How is this data publicly reported on a regular basis?
 - (e) What strategies does the agency use to encourage women in to management and leadership positions?
 - (f) What is the gender pay gap within your agency?
 - (g) Does the agency report participation of women figures to Women NSW on a regular basis?

Energy

- 195. For each agency in your portfolio by name, how much electricity did it consume for each of:
 - (a) 2014-15?
 - (b) 2015-16?
 - (c) 2016-17?
 - (d) 2017-18?
- 196. What proportion of the electricity consumed by each agency in your portfolio by name for those years came from renewable sources? Please name each source of energy (coal, solar, wind, etc.) and the proportion of the total electricity used.
- 197. How much money was spent on electricity for each agency in your portfolio by name in each of the above financial years?
- 198. What was the name of the energy supplier to each agency in your portfolio by name for those financial years?
- 199. How much electricity is it estimated that each agency in your portfolio will consume in:
 - (a) 2018-19?

- (b) 2019-20?
- (c) 2020-21?
- (d) 2021-22?
- 200. What proportion of that electricity is it estimated will come from renewable sources, for each year?
- 201. For each agency in your portfolio by name, please provide the estimated proportion of energy to be used from each kind of energy (coal, gas, solar, wind etc.)?
- 202. What is the name of the energy supplier to each agency in your portfolio for each of:
 - (a) 2018-19?
 - (b) 2019-20?
 - (c) 2020-21?
 - (d) 2021-22?

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Questions from Mr David Shoebridge MLC

Ratings report

203. When will the Government release the Local Government ratings report?

Medium density housing

- 204. Was the Office of Local Government consulted on the date until which some councils will be exempt from the medium density housing code?
- 205. Given the large number of councils seeking exemptions from the code what has the Minister or Office done to raise concerns about the code with the Minister for Planning?

Loss of public open space - bowling clubs across Sydney

- 206. What consideration has been given to the impact across councils in NSW of the number of bowling clubs in NSW that have been converted to seniors living/retirement villages since 2011?
- 207. Has the Planning Minister been approached for changes to the Seniors Living SEPP to prevent bowling greens being built on for seniors living?
 - (a) If not, why not?

Infrastructure

- 208. What is the impact of Government signalling rezoning for greater development on land prices generally?
- 209. What was the impact on land prices of the announced rezoning around the Sydenham to Bankstown corridor?
- 210. What is the anticipated cost impact on required infrastructure of these land price increases?

Parramatta Planning Agreements

- 211. Why was the Special Infrastructure Contribution Levy not charged in Parramatta at the same time as the reduced 20% public value share rate and how much public revenue has been lost to the benefit of developers and land owners due to this delay?
- 212. How much revenue has been lost due to the delay in implementation of this SIC Levy in other areas of NSW and was all foregone SIC revenue included incorrectly in the 2016/17 and 2017/18 Budget Income statements?

213. When will this SIC Levy now be imposed and how much loss of SIC revenue has been provided for in the 2018/19 Budget Estimates due to ongoing delay in charging the Levy?

Library funding

- 214. Of the announced increased library funding, how will the funding be allocated?
- 215. What social indicators will be used to determine the funding allocation?
- 216. What funding increase is anticipated for each council area by year until 2022-23?
- 217. How much of the funding will be recurrent funding and how much will be capital funding?

Questions from the Hon Paul Green MLC

Local Government

- 218. We found from the Local Government Inquiry that Councils were concerned cost shifting is hurting their bottom line and that the State Government needs to bring an end to this practice which is corroding council finances. Given there is about \$6 million in cost shifting in NSW:
 - (a) Will the Government transfer responsibility for providing services, assets (such as regional roads), concessions, or other regulatory functions to local government, and provide full cost recovery?
 - (b) In regards to Section 94, will the Government allow councils access to their interest so they can clear the backlog of maintenance?
- 219. Currently Local Councils are restricted when it comes to investing council funds, following the Global Financial Crisis. For example Councils are restricted to investing in low-risk low return investments such government bonds and term deposits.
 - (a) Would the NSW Government consider easing the restrictions of how Councils can invest or increasing the sectors that councils can invest in?
- 220. Joint Organisations (JOs) were announced after successful trials of the model in 5 regions during 2015 as a way on increasing the collaboration of councils, state agencies and other parties with shared interests. Last year the House passed legislation to enable the creation of the joint organisations of councils.
 - (a) Minister can you update the Committee on how Joint Organisations are progressing?
 - (b) Minister to date how many JO's have been established and what is the total value of financial support that has been provided Joint Organisations to date?

(c) In the future will Joint Organsiations be granted powers and resources to develop and implement regional transport plans?

Ian Potter Wild Play Garden

- 221. During Estimates, OEH Chief Executive Anthony Lean, failed to inform the committee that several safety assessors had advised that moving the playground entrance could eliminate the very likely death or injury to a child. Mr Lean told the Budget Estimates Committee last Friday 7 September 2018 that it was his understanding that "there is no other practical option that doesn't raise more significant issues in terms of safety." Yet no safety issues with other options have been identified at all. Experienced assessors clearly stated that moving the entrance from the current dangerous Grand Drive location to Dickens Drive could eliminate the risk. None of the other entrance options pose any safety concerns. Two assessors explicitly stated that the Grand Drive location was likely to cause a serious accident. Both their reports indicated that the alternate lower garden entrance near Dickens Drive entrance could eliminate this likely risk. (Safety In Focus and Horse Safety Australia).
 - (a) Will the Minister advise what steps she will take to address the safety issues regarding the entrance to the Ian Potter Wild Play Garden?

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

Regional Council

- 222. How do you define what a 'regional' council is?
- 223. Different state funding programmes use different definitions of 'regional', meaning some councils are ineligible for some regional funding, but eligible for others. So how does the NSW Government and its local government minister define what a regional council is?

Local Airports

- 224. How many local councils in NSW are responsible for operating local airports?
 - (a) What are the councils involved?

Impounding Act

225. Given recent developments such as share bikes, will you refer the Impounding Act for review by a Parliamentary Inquiry?

Superannuation

226. Local Government NSW supports making mandatory the payment of superannuation to mayors and councillors, in addition to the stipend paid to elected officials. What action will you take to support?

Funding Shortfalls

227. Given the additional supplementation for funding shortfalls for your forced mergers for Hilltops and Cootamundra-Gundagai Councils, will you supplement other affected councils?

Council Engagement Managers

- 228. What are the names and contact details of the Council Engagements Managers?
 - (a) What KPIs does the position have?
 - (b) Will funding for these positions be recurrent?
 - (c) Has supplementation for funding for the positions been sought?
 - (d) What is the estimated total cost of these positions?

Productivity

- 229. What actions will the OLG take this financial year to meet the 3 per cent productivity cut?
 - (a) What positions and programmes will be reduced or deleted?

Council Rates

- 230. Does the Minister support an increase the pensioners rebate for Council rates?
- 231. What is the Ministers response to the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal's review of the local government rating system?

Amalgamations

- 232. Does the Minister have plans to amalgamate any more Councils in NSW?
 - (a) Can the Minister rule out forced amalgamations in the future?

Efficiency dividends

- 233. What is the forecast efficiency dividend saving for each agency within your portfolio in 2018-19?
- 234. What is the forecast efficiency dividend saving for each agency within your portfolio in 2019-20?
- 235. What is the forecast efficiency dividend saving for each agency within your portfolio in 2020-21?
- 236. What is the forecast efficiency dividend saving for each agency within your portfolio in 2021-22?

237. What was the total efficiency dividend that was achieved for each agency within your portfolio between 2011-12 and 2017-18 inclusively?

Ministerial Travel/Meal Allowance

- 238. How many nights' travel were claimed by the Minister during the 2017-18 period?
- 239. How many nights' travel were claimed by the Minister's spouse during the 2017-18 period?
- 240. What was the total amount of travel allowances claimed by the Minister and their spouse (if applicable) during 2017-18?
- 241. What is the total amount of meal allowances claimed by the Minister and their spouse (if applicable) during 2017-18?

Office Administration

- 242. How many staff are in your ministerial office?
 - (a) What was the average salary for staff members in your office during 2017-18?
 - (b) What is the estimated average salary for a ministerial staffer in your office in 2018-19 based on current appointments?
- 243. How many blackberries/iPhone/smart phones are assigned to your staff?
 - (a) For each phone, how much was each bill in 2017-18?
 - (b) How many phones have been lost or replaced due to damage in your office?
 - i. What is the cost of replacing those phones?
- 244. 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 2017-18?
 - (b) How many iPads or tablets have been replaced due to lost or damage in 2017-18?
 - i. What was the cost of replacing these devices?
- 245. Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in your ministerial office in 2017-18?
 - (a) What is the cost of this?
- 246. Have any floral displays or indoor plants or pot plants been hired or leased for display in your ministerial office in 2017-18?
 - (a) If so, what was the cost of these items?

- 247. Have any floral displays or indoor plants or pot plants been purchased for display in your ministerial office in 2017-18?
 - (a) If so, what was the cost of these items?
- 248. What was the total cost of all subscriptions by you and your staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals in 2017-18?
 - (a) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?
 - i. Who is the subscriber for each of these?
- 249. What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by you and your office in 2017-18?
 - (a) What were the gifts purchased?
 - i. Who were they gifted to?
- 250. Do you purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for your office?
 - (a) What is the monthly cost of this?
- 251. What non-standard features are fitted to your ministerial vehicle?
 - (a) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?
- 252. What was the total bill for your office in 2017-18 for:
 - (a) Taxi hire
 - (b) Limousine hire
 - (c) Private hire care
 - (d) Hire car rental
 - (e) Ridesharing services
- 253. Were any planes or helicopters chartered by you or your office and paid for with public money in 2017-18?
 - (a) If yes, will you please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?

Agile Workspaces/Activity Based Working/Hot-desking

- 254. Has your department adopted "agile working environment/activity based working" practices e.g. hot-desking?
 - (a) If not, are there plans to introduce activity based working practices in 2018-19?

255. How much has your department spent in the roll-out of the agile working environment Including laptops, furniture, lockers and other equipment?

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- 256. How much did your ministerial office spend on hospitality, including catering and beverages, in 2017-18?
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 - (f) Number of other personal days of leave that have been taken in each financial year since the introduction of domestic violence leave;

- (g) Number of sick days available for eligible staff to access domestic violence leave in each financial year;
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 - (a) What number and percentage of women are employed within the agency?
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Energy

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- 292. What proportion of the electricity consumed by each agency in your portfolio by name for those years came from renewable sources? Please name each source of energy (coal, solar, wind, etc.) and the proportion of the total electricity used.
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 - (a) 2018-19?
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 - (c) 2020-21?
 - (d) 2021-22?

HERITAGE

Questions from Mr David Shoebridge MLC

Hadley farm

- 299. How long did the approval to list Hadley farm take?
- 300. In 2017/18 what was the average time to determine a listing?
- 301. In 2017/18 how many other heritage applications were decided as quickly in two weeks or less?
- 302. In 2017/18 how many times were the required timelines under the act breached?
- 303. What steps are being taken to address this?

Windsor Bridge

- 304. What protections have been provided by the Department of Heritage or Minister for Heritage for the brick barrel drains discovered at Thompson Square?
- 305. Is it true that these are the oldest brick barrel drains in Australia?
- 306. What damage has occurred to these drains to date as a result of works in the area?
- 307. What intervention, if any, has been undertaken by Heritage to protect this area?

Integrated Forestry Operations Approvals

- 308. How many Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permits (AHIPs) within the NSW forest estate were issued in the last financial year?
- 309. How many breaches related to Aboriginal heritage within the NSW forest estate were reported to the OEH in 2017/18?
 - (a) How many of these were investigated?
 - (b) If suspected harm to Aboriginal heritage was not investigated, why not?
- 310. How much money has been budgeted for the transition to the proposed single Coastal IFOA in the 2018-19 financial year?
- 311. How many Aboriginal staff are currently employed by the Environmental Protection Agency, and in what capacity?

Butterfly Cave

312. Has the Minister been asked to provide advice to the Federal Government in relation to the protection of the Butterfly Cave at West Wallsend?

- (a) What advice has the Minister provided?
- 313. Has OEH received applications to protect the Butterfly Cave?
 - (a) What is the status of the applications?

Investigations and prosecutions

- 314. How many breaches related to Aboriginal heritage were reported to the OEH in 2017/18?
 - (a) How many of these were investigated?
 - (b) If suspected harm to Aboriginal heritage was not investigated, why not?
- 315. How many Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permits (AHIPs) did OEH issue in 2017/18 that did not have the support of the Aboriginal community?
- 316. How many Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permits (AHIPs) did OEH issue in 2017/18 that related to:
 - (a) Scarred or carved trees?
 - (b) Burial sites?

Biodiversity laws

- 317. How is the Government addressing concerns that the new laws will allow significant cultural heritage sites, such as scar tress to be destroyed?
- 318. How much has the NSW Government allocated to compliance and enforcement of the new biodiversity laws?

Joint management

- 319. What is the OEH's total budget for joint management (activities specifically related to national parks and reserves that are/will be jointly managed under Part 4A of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*) in 2017/18?
 - (a) Of this, how much is spent on the following:
 - i. Staff?
 - ii. Rent?
 - iii. Proposals to develop new jointly managed parks?
- 320. What is the OEH's total budget for co-management activities related to increasing Aboriginal peoples participation and management in national parks and reserves?

- (a) arrangement over national parks and other conservation areas' (Goal 26, NSW 2021)?
- (b) Investigating incidents of alleged unauthorised harm to Aboriginal heritage?
- 321. How many applications for joint management (under Part 4A of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act*) has OEH received in total?
 - (a) How many of these are outstanding?

Aboriginal heritage protected

- 322. How much money has been allocated to specifically increase the number of Aboriginal heritage items listed on the State Heritage Register in 2018/19?
 - (a) Is this more or less than previous years?

Compliance and enforcement – Aboriginal heritage

- 323. How many compliance and enforcement staff are employed by OEH?
- 324. Of all OEH compliance and enforcement activities, how many relate to investigating and enforcing Part 6 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act* relating to Aboriginal objects and Aboriginal places?

Aboriginal heritage protected via the State Heritage Register and Aboriginal Places Program

325. How many items does OEH expect to list on the State Heritage Register for Aboriginal Heritage significance in 2018/19?

Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS)

- 326. How many new entries were listed on AHIMs in 2017/18?
- 327. How much money has been allocated in 2017/18 to improve the information contained in AHIMS reports?
 - (a) What specifically is this funding intended to be spent on?
- 328. What was the actual budget for managing and operating AHIMS in 2017/18?
- 329. What is the forecast expenditure for operating the AHIMS database in 2017/18?

Biodiversity reform

- 330. Of the \$240 million announced for the new Biodiversity Conservation Trust:
 - (a) How much was spent in 2017/18?
 - (b) Were any funds provided to Aboriginal land holders?

(c) How much will be made available in 2018/19?

Aboriginal communities

- 331. Does the Office of Local Government have any strategies or programs in place to assist Aboriginal communities to engage with Local Government?
 - (a) Has any funding been budgeted for this purpose in 2018/19?
- 332. Has the Office of Local Government implemented any initiatives to improve the working relationship and consultation between Local Government and Local Aboriginal communities?

Emissions

333. What liaison does the Minister and Office of Local Government have with local councils regarding the implementation of effective coastal planning guidelines and sea level rise planning benchmarks?

Questions from the Hon Paul Green MLC

Heritage

- 334. Korean energy company KEPCO has bought the prime agricultural land of Tarwyn Park and intends on turning the beautiful Bylong Valley into an enormous open cut coal pit. Minutes of an October 2017 meeting of the NSW Heritage Council show KEPCO is disputing an expert assessment that Tarwyn Park could be of state significance, and should be on the State Heritage Register.
 - (a) Minister will you recognise the outstanding cultural, scenic and heritage values of the Bylong Valley and protect these values via a State Heritage Register listing?

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

Development in Heathcote East, 1-21 Dillwynnia Grove. DA 17/0467

Please note there has been an evacuation alert for East Heathcote in January this year with an out of control Bush Fire 8km away in the Royal National Park at Waterfall.

335. Minister for Heritage, are you aware that Sutherland Shire Council has approved the Development in principle and that the Sydney South Planning Panel are currently considering approving the construction of 55 Town Houses and Apartments on a 5 acre Heritage Site described by the Office of Heritage and Environment as an imposing two storey building

designed in the Victorian Italianate style and is <u>one of the oldest and grandest buildings</u> in the Sutherland Shire. Built in 1887 by Isaac Harber?

- 336. Minister, are you aware of the Sutherland Shire LEP 2015 Heritage status clause (e) "the proposed development would not have any significant adverse effect on the amenity of the surrounding area"?
 - (a) The construction and development of 55 apartments, with 5 levels, will obviously have "significant adverse effect on the amenity of the surrounding area". Minister have you considered the effects on the majestic Heathcote Hall, site of state significance?
 - (b) How it's very foundations will be threatened by the construction site being in such close proximity?.
- 337. Is the Minister prepared to intervene, meet with residents and community groups and their families, understand the issues and have this life threatening development stopped before lives are put at risk in the event of a major fire and to preserve Heathcote Hall for future generations?

Heritage Council

- 338. Why does it take the Minister on average over six months to list items on the State Heritage Register once the recommendation has been received from the NSW Heritage Council?
- 339. Why has the Newcastle recreation reserve still not been listed on the State Heritage Register despite the Minister receiving the recommendation from the Heritage Council?
- 340. When will consideration be given to the recommendation of the NSW Heritage Council as required under section 34(1) of the Heritage Act 1997?

Redundancies

- 341. How many redundancies were accepted in NSW National Parks in the following years:
 - (a) 2011;
 - (b) 2012;
 - (c) 2013;
 - (d) 2014;
 - (e) 2015;
 - (f) 2016;
 - (g) 2017; and

(h) 2018?

Efficiency dividends

- 342. What is the forecast efficiency dividend saving for each agency within your portfolio in 2018-19?
- 343. What is the forecast efficiency dividend saving for each agency within your portfolio in 2019-20?
- 344. What is the forecast efficiency dividend saving for each agency within your portfolio in 2020-21?
- 345. What is the forecast efficiency dividend saving for each agency within your portfolio in 2021-22?
- 346. What was the total efficiency dividend that was achieved for each agency within your portfolio between 2011-12 and 2017-18 inclusively?

Ministerial Travel/Meal Allowance

- 347. How many nights' travel were claimed by the Minister during the 2017-18 period?
- 348. How many nights' travel were claimed by the Minister's spouse during the 2017-18 period?
- 349. What was the total amount of travel allowances claimed by the Minister and their spouse (if applicable) during 2017-18?
- 350. What is the total amount of meal allowances claimed by the Minister and their spouse (if applicable) during 2017-18?

Office Administration

- 351. How many staff are in your ministerial office?
 - (a) What was the average salary for staff members in your office during 2017-18?
 - (b) What is the estimated average salary for a ministerial staffer in your office in 2018-19 based on current appointments?
- 352. How many blackberries/iPhone/smart phones are assigned to your staff?
 - (a) For each phone, how much was each bill in 2017-18?
 - (b) How many phones have been lost or replaced due to damage in your office?
 - i. What is the cost of replacing those phones?
- 353. 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 2017-18?
 - (b) How many iPads or tablets have been replaced due to lost or damage in 2017-18?

- i. What was the cost of replacing these devices?
- 354. Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in your ministerial office in 2017-18?
 - (a) What is the cost of this?
- 355. Have any floral displays or indoor plants or pot plants been hired or leased for display in your ministerial office in 2017-18?
 - (a) If so, what was the cost of these items?
- 356. Have any floral displays or indoor plants or pot plants been purchased for display in your ministerial office in 2017-18?
 - (a) If so, what was the cost of these items?
- 357. What was the total cost of all subscriptions by you and your staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals in 2017-18?
 - (a) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?
 - i. Who is the subscriber for each of these?
- 358. What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by you and your office in 2017-18?
 - (a) What were the gifts purchased?
 - i. Who were they gifted to?
- 359. Do you purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for your office?
 - (a) What is the monthly cost of this?
- 360. What non-standard features are fitted to your ministerial vehicle?
 - (a) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?
- 361. What was the total bill for your office in 2017-18 for:
 - (a) Taxi hire
 - (b) Limousine hire
 - (c) Private hire care
 - (d) Hire car rental
 - (e) Ridesharing services

- 362. Were any planes or helicopters chartered by you or your office and paid for with public money in 2017-18?
 - (a) If yes, will you please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?

Agile Workspaces/Activity Based Working/Hot-desking

- 363. Has your department adopted "agile working environment/activity based working" practices e.g. hot-desking?
 - (a) If not, are there plans to introduce activity based working practices in 2018-19?
- 364. How much has your department spent in the roll-out of the agile working environment Including laptops, furniture, lockers and other equipment?

Hospitality

- 365. How much did your ministerial office spend on hospitality, including catering and beverages, in 2017-18?
- 366. How much did your Department/agency spend on hospitality, including catering and beverages, in 2017-18?

Labour Hire Firms

- 367. Do any Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities utilise the services of Labour Hire Firms?
- 368. If yes, please advise in table form for 2017-18:
 - (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

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

- 370. 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?
- 371. What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities?
- 372. 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 2017-18?

Facebook

- 373. How much did your ministerial office spend on Facebook advertising or sponsored posts in 2017-18?
- 374. How much did your Department/agency spend on Facebook advertising or sponsored posts in 2017-18?

Overseas Trips

- 375. 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?
- 376. 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

- 377. What was the total expenditure in 2017-18 by Departments/agencies within your portfolio on:
 - (a) Taxi hire
 - (b) Limousine/private car hire
 - (c) Hire car rental
 - (d) Ridesharing services

Drivers

- 378. Are any of the senior executives in the relevant Department provided drivers?
 - (a) If so, can you please specify which positions are provided drivers?

- (b) In total, how many drivers are used by senior executives in the Department?
- (c) What is the total cost of drivers for senior executives in the Department?

Consulting

- 379. How much did the Department/agencies under your portfolio responsibility spend in legal costs in 2017-18?
 - (a) For what specific purposes or matters was legal advice sought?
- 380. Have Department/agencies under your portfolio engaged any consultants to provide the following services or advice in 2017-18:
 - (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

- 381. How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2017-18?
 - (a) Of these redundancies, how many were:
 - i. Voluntary
 - ii. Forced
 - (b) What was the total cost of all redundancies?
- 382. 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?

- 383. Are any staff formerly employed by your ministerial office now employed by Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibility?
- 384. How many staff were dismissed from Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibilities in 2017-18?
 - (a) What were the reason/s for each dismissal?

Smart Phone Accounts

- 385. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an iTunes account?
 - (a) What was the total expenditure in 2017-18 on iTunes?
 - i. What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through iTunes?
- 386. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an Android account?
 - (a) What was the total expenditure in 2017-18 on Android?
 - i. What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through Android?

Merchant fees

- 387. 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.
- 388. 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.
- 389. What was the total amount paid in merchant fees on credit and/or debit card payments in your Department/agency in 2017-18?

Probity Auditor

390. 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.

Domestic Violence Leave Policies, Awareness and Usage

- 391. For each department, statutory agency and/or other bodies in the Minister's portfolio please report:
 - (a) A copy of the entity's policy or web link to the entity's domestic violence leave policy;
 - (b) Date of introduction of domestic violence leave into enterprise agreements/contracts of employment, awards as applicable;

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

Sexual harassment and Anti-bullying training and awareness programs

- 396. For each department, statutory agency and/or other bodies in the Minister's portfolio please report:
 - (a) Date of introduction of sexual harassment and anti-bullying training and awareness programs and a copy of such documentation.
 - (b) Whether or not all employees and/or contractors have received such training?
 - (c) Is this course mandatory for all employees/ contractors?
 - (d) How long for each session, how many sessions?

- (e) Who delivers it?
- (f) Is the program tailored to take into consideration specific needs of LGBTQIA, ATSI and CALD or other at risk groups?
 - i. How?
- 397. What percentage of staff in each agency has undertaken sexual harassment and anti- bullying training and awareness programs?
- 398. How many complaints have been initiated in relation to:
 - (a) Sexual harassment
 - (b) Bullying
 - (c) Workplace violence

Participation of women in Government

- 399. For each department, statutory agency and/or other bodies in the Minister's portfolio please report:
 - (a) What number and percentage of women are employed within the agency?
 - (b) What number and percentage of women are employed within the management levels of the agency?
 - (c) What number and percentage of women are employed in the top ten leadership positions of the agency?
 - (d) How is this data publicly reported on a regular basis?
 - (e) What strategies does the agency use to encourage women in to management and leadership positions?
 - (f) What is the gender pay gap within your agency?
 - (g) Does the agency report participation of women figures to Women NSW on a regular basis?

Energy

- 400. For each agency in your portfolio by name, how much electricity did it consume for each of:
 - (a) 2014-15?
 - (b) 2015-16?

- (c) 2016-17?
- (d) 2017-18?
- 401. What proportion of the electricity consumed by each agency in your portfolio by name for those years came from renewable sources? Please name each source of energy (coal, solar, wind, etc.) and the proportion of the total electricity used.
- 402. How much money was spent on electricity for each agency in your portfolio by name in each of the above financial years?
- 403. What was the name of the energy supplier to each agency in your portfolio by name for those financial years?
- 404. How much electricity is it estimated that each agency in your portfolio will consume in:
 - (a) 2018-19?
 - (b) 2019-20?
 - (c) 2020-21?
 - (d) 2021-22?
- 405. What proportion of that electricity is it estimated will come from renewable sources, for each year?
- 406. For each agency in your portfolio by name, please provide the estimated proportion of energy to be used from each kind of energy (coal, gas, solar, wind etc.)?
- 407. What is the name of the energy supplier to each agency in your portfolio for each of:
 - (a) 2018-19?
 - (b) 2019-20?
 - (c) 2020-21?
 - (d) 2021-22?

ENVIRONMENT, LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HERITAGE

Questions from Ms Cate Faehrmann MLC

Land clearing

- 408. How much land in hectares has been cleared in New South Wales since the new legislation arrangements under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act* 2016 and *Local Land Services Amendment Act* 2016 took effect 25 August 2017?
- 409. How much land in hectares had been cleared in the 12 months prior to the new arrangements?
- 410. How much land in hectares had been cleared in the 24 months prior to the new arrangements?
- 411. How many hectares of Koala habitat have been cleared around Moree and Collarenebri since new laws have taken effect?
- 412. How many hectares of Koala habitat across New South Wales have been cleared since the new laws have taken effect?
- 413. How many hectares of Painted Honeyeater habitat have been cleared since the new laws have taken effect?
- 414. How many threatened native species have had lost habitat due to land clearing since the new laws have taken effect?
- 415. How many of those species are classified as endangered or critically endangered?
- 416. How many of those species are classified as of National Environmental Significance?
- 417. How much land in hectares has been cleared since the new legislative arrangements that provided habitat for either threatened native species or species of National Environmental Significance?

Native Vegetation Regulatory (NVR) Map

- 418. With reference to the Native Vegetation Regulatory Map, when will the maps be complete?
- 419. How long will these transitional arrangements for self-regulation be in place?
- 420. How many investigations into improper clearing has the OEH undertaken?
- 421. What compliance is OEH undertaking?
- 422. What amount of land in hectares has the Department approved for clearing since the new laws came into force on 25 August 2017?

- 423. What amount of land in hectares had the Department approved for clearing in the 12 months prior to those laws coming into effect?
- 424. What amount of land in hectares had the Department approved for clearing in the 24 months prior to those laws coming into effect?

Waste

- 425. What is the expected growth rate of waste generation in NSW for each of the following:
 - (a) Municipal solid waste?
 - (b) Commercial and Industrial Waste?
 - (c) Construction and Demolition?
- 426. What are the current recycling rates for each waste stream?
- 427. What was the rate of recycling for beverage containers prior to the introduction of the Container Deposit Scheme (CDS)?
- 428. What is the rate of recycling for beverage containers since the introduction of the CDS?
- 429. What cost-benefit studies have been conducted to date on the impact of banning single use plastic bags in NSW?
- 430. How many single use plastic bags are used in NSW annually?
- 431. What proportion of these bags are not captured in landfill or otherwise escape into the environment?

Waste Processing

- 432. What percentage of NSW waste is processed in private facilities and what percentage is processed in Council run facilities?
- 433. How much money has the NSW Government given to Local councils since 2011 to help them with waste processing and recycling?
- 434. How much money is budgeted over the next 4 years to be given to local councils for waste processing and recycling?

Major Resource Recovery Infrastructure Grants

- 435. How many companies applied for a grant under the scheme?
- 436. How many of those applications were granted?

- 437. How many local councils applied for a grant under the scheme?
- 438. How many of those applications were granted?
- 439. How many of the projects are on track in terms of milestones?
- 440. How many have missed milestones?
- 441. Which are these?

Resource Recovery Facility Expansion and Enhancement program

- 442. How many companies applied for a grant under the scheme?
- 443. How many of those applications were granted?
- 444. How many local councils applied for a grant under the scheme?
- 445. How many of those applications were granted?

Geneses Xero Waste Facility

- 446. In 2014 the EPA granted Dial-a-Dump \$5 million for their Geneses Xero Waste facility, which was to make up over 40% of the waste stream for the western Sydney incinerator. Now that the incinerator has been rejected what is the future for that facility?
- 447. Has the money been granted?
- 448. Was it conditional on the construction of the incinerator?
- 449. Was the diversion of the waste to the incinerator one of the key aspects of the approval for the grant money?
- 450. Has the facility been built?

National Parks

- 451. How many new National Parks has the NSW Liberal/National Government established since being elected in 2011?
- 452. What was the National Park acquisition budget in:
 - (a) 2015/2016
 - (b) 2016/2017
 - (c) 2017/2018
 - (d) 2018/2019 (budgeted)
- 453. How much was spent in 2017/2018 on invasive species control?

- (a) Please provide a list of how much is spent on the following measures:
 - i. Shooting
 - ii. Baiting
 - iii. Non-lethal measures
- (b) How many kilograms of 1080 poison did the National Parks and Wildlife Service use in 2017/2018?
- 454. How much is planned to be spent in 2018/2019 on invasive species control?
 - (a) Please provide a list of how much is spent on the following measures:
 - i. Shooting
 - ii. Baiting
 - iii. Non-lethal measures
- 455. Is the NPWS trialling or planning to trial any invasive species controls measures as a more humane alternative to 1080?
- 456. How much was spent in 2017/2018 on the Supplementary Pest Control Program? Please provide a list of each species and number of animals that were removed under the program?
- 457. Please provide an update of the activities of the Extinct Animal Reintroduction Program in the 2017/2018 financial year.
- 458. How many frontline staff are employed by OEH as part of the National Parks and Wildlife Service?
 - (a) Of these, how many rangers are employed by the OEH?
- 459. What criteria is used to determine the adequacy of staffing requirements for ranger positions in the National Parks and Wildlife Service?
- 460. How many rangers are required by NPWS to efficiently manage its estate?
- 461. How many visitors to NSW National Parks occurred in 2017-2018?
- 462. How do these rates of visitation compare with the numbers from 2011-2016?
- 463. What has been the overall reduction in funding to the NPWS each year since 2011?
- 464. What have been the overall staffing numbers of OEH each year since 2011?

- 465. How many walking tracks have been closed due to lack of maintenance since 2011? For what duration?
- 466. How many facilities at National Parks, including toilet and visitor amenities, have been closed due to lack of maintenance since 2011? For what duration?
- 467. What is the timeline for the Draft NSW National Parks System Directions Statement?

OEH Science division

- 468. What has been the reduction in staff in OEH's science division over the last four years?
- 469. How many permanent full-time people are working in the science division now?
- 470. How many redundancies have occurred since you became Environment Minister?

Biodiversity Conservation Investment Strategy

- 471. Why do the short and long term targets in the Biodiversity Conservation Investment Strategy contain no measurable area targets?
- 472. What is the targeted amount of private land (in hectares) in NSW protected under private land conservation agreements by 2023?
- 473. What is the targeted amount of private land (in hectares) in NSW protected under private land conservation agreements by 2038?
- 474. What is the targeted amount of land holdings to include areas under private land conservation agreements by 2023?
- 475. What is the targeted amount of land holdings to include areas under private land conservation agreements by 2038?

Wilton South East Precinct

- 476. What correspondence was provided to the Planning Minister during consideration of the rezoning of the Wilton South East Precinct
- 477. Did your Department advice against the rezoning?
- 478. Does the OEH still believe that part of the Wilton South East Precinct should not be rezoned due to the impact this would have on the local koala population?
- 479. What koala protection strategy is in place for that Precinct?

480.	Do you agree that the State Government should repeal the rezoning of Wilton South East
	Precinct until a local koala protection strategy is in place and there is certainty the habitat will be
	protected into the future?