



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEES

**BUDGET ESTIMATES 2019-2020
Supplementary Questions**

Portfolio Committee No. 5 – Legal Affairs

POLICE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Hearing: Thursday 29 August 2019

Answers due by: Tuesday 24 September 2019

**RESPONSES TO SUPPLEMENTARY
QUESTIONS**

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References in answers to the **NSWPF** refer to the NSW Police Force, **FRNSW** to Fire and Rescue NSW, **NSW RFS** to the NSW Rural Fire Service, **SLS NSW** to the Surf Life Saving NSW, and **NSW SES** to the NSW State Emergency Service.

POLICE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Governance and Compliance

1. **Is there a unit within the NSW Police Force that is responsible for overall Corporate Governance and Compliance?**

I am advised:

Yes. The Governance, Risk and Compliance Team within the Performance and Program Support Command is responsible for governance and compliance

2. **Does NSW Police Force have an Audit and Risk Committee?**

I am advised:

Yes.

3. **Who is responsible for ensuring the NSW Firearms Registry complies with government directives contained in Circulars issued by Treasury and Memos and Circulars issued Department of Premier and Cabinet?**

I am advised:

The Assistant Commissioner, Police Prosecutions and Licensing Enforcement Command.

Program Evaluation

4. **Who in the NSW Police Force is responsible for the NSW Firearms Registry's compliance with [Treasury Circular TC18-03 Program Evaluation](#), and its predecessor [DPC Circular C2016-01- Program Evaluation](#)?**

5. **What Program Evaluation reports has NSW Police Force Firearms Registry submitted since March 2011?**

(a) Please supply report titles and dates prepared.

6. **Has NSW Police Force, or any other government oversight agency, ever taken disciplinary action against the NSW Firearms Registry for non-compliance with directives issued in Treasury and DPC Circulars and Memos?**

Compliance Management

7. **Has NSW Police Force ever conducted a risk assessment on the impact of non-compliance by the NSW Police Force Firearms Registry with governance and compliance obligations as set out in:**

(a) **NSW government Circulars and Memoranda issued by Treasury and Department of Premier and Cabinet?**

(b) **Administrative decisions made by the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal?**

(c) **If so, can the risk assessment(s) be provided?**

I am advised:

(Questions 4 – 7)

The Firearms Registry is not considered a discrete program of work as it is a Command of the NSWPF. As such, it is subject to usual performance evaluations in accordance with the COMPASS system.

The NSW Firearms Registry complies with administrative decisions made by NCAT as appropriate to each individual case. The Firearms Registry uses these decisions, among other information, to revise processes if necessary and to ensure consistency in decision making.

8. **Has the NSW Police Force Firearms Registry ever obtained legal advice regarding the conclusion [at 15] by the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal in [Blacktown Pistol Club v Commissioner of Police, NSW Police Force \[2013\] NSWADTAP 55](#) that the requirements as set out in the NSW Firearm Registry's *Range Users Guide* are not the law and that it is not a statutory instrument?**
- (a) **If so, can that advice be provided?**

I am advised:

No.

Shooting Ranges

9. **How many shooting ranges has the NSW Firearms Registry closed or suspended approval to operate, due to purported non-compliance with the Range Users Guide for the following periods:**
- (a) **1 January 2013 – 31 December 2013**
- (b) **1 January 2014 – 31 December 2014**
- (c) **1 January 2015 – 31 December 2015**
- (d) **1 January 2016 – 31 December 2016**
- (e) **1 January 2017 – 31 December 2017**
- (f) **1 January 2018 – 31 December 2018**
- (g) **1 January 2019 - 1 August 2019**

I am advised:

- a. 4
b. 2
c. 3
d. 3
e. 2
f. 6
g. 0

10. **What are the names of the ranges that have been closed or suspended from operating for the following periods:**
- (a) **1 January 2013 – 31 December 2013**
 - (b) **1 January 2014 – 31 December 2014**
 - (c) **1 January 2015 – 31 December 2015**
 - (d) **1 January 2016 – 31 December 2016**
 - (e) **1 January 2017 – 31 December 2017**
 - (f) **1 January 2018 – 31 December 2018**

I am advised:

This information is available on the NSW Police Force website.

11. **For each of the shooting ranges closed or suspended from operating in Question 2, what was:**
- (a) **The date of closure / suspension of operation**
 - (b) **The date of re-opening / lifting of the suspension on operation.**
 - (c) **The period of closure.**

I am advised:

Please refer to the response to supplementary question 9.

12. **For each of the shooting ranges closed or suspended from operating in Question 2, how was required remedial action required by the Firearms Registry communicated to the club/range by the Registry range inspector:**
- (a) **In writing**
 - (b) **Verbally**

I am advised:

In all cases, where remedial action is required or noted, it is conveyed to the range approval holder both verbally during the inspection and in writing in a subsequent inspection report or amendment to a range approval. Since 2017, peak bodies of which a range approval holding club is affiliated are also notified verbally of the restrictions/suspension placed upon a range.

Prohibited Weapons (“Silencer”) Permits

13. How many applications for Prohibited Weapons (“Silencer”) Permits did the NSW Firearms Registry receive for the Recreational/Sporting Purposes genuine reason over the following periods:

(a) 1 January 2018 - 31 December 2018

(b) 1 January 2019 - 1 August 2019

I am advised:

a) 42

b) 4

14. How many applications for Prohibited Weapons (“Silencer”) Permits did the NSW Firearms Registry receive for the Business/Employment Purposes genuine reason over the following periods:

(a) 1 January 2018 - 31 December 2018

(b) 1 January 2019 - 1 August 2019

I am advised:

a) 80

b) 41

15. For applications under the Recreational/Sporting Purposes and Business/Employment Purposes genuine reasons, how many applications were approved/rejected over the following time periods:

(a) 1 January 2018 - 31 December 2018

(b) 1 January 2019 - 1 August 2019

I am advised:

| Period | Action/Outcome | Recreational/Sporting | Business/Employment |
|----------------------|----------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Jan – 31 Dec 2018 | Approved | | 25 |
| | Refused | | |
| | Withdrawn | 13 | 9 |
| | To be Assessed | 29 | 46 |
| | Total | 42 | 80 |
| 1 Jan – 31 July 2019 | Approved | | 19 |
| | Refused | 1 | |
| | Withdrawn | | |
| [Half Year Only] | To be Assessed | 3 | 22 |
| | Total | 4 | 41 |

Medical Records

16. Has the NSW Firearms Registry ever obtained or sought to obtain private medical records of firearm licence holders without express permission of the licence holder or relevant authority?

I am advised:

No.

Efficiency Savings

17. **The Police Commissioner stated that in the period from 2012-2017 \$550 million was realised through efficiency savings. How much of the \$583.6 million funding for 1,500 police officers comes from these efficiency savings?**

If not then how much of the \$550 million in efficiency savings has been returned to

I am advised:

There is no correlation between efficiency savings and the funding of additional police officers.

18. **What was the real recurrent expenditure per person as measured by the Report of Government Services for the following years:**

(a) **2016/17**

(b) **2018/19**

I am advised:

Information on the Report on Government Services is available at www.pc.gov.au.

19. **The Report on Government Services shows that from 2016/17 to 2017/18 there were 162 less civilians on the operation side servicing more police officers. Who is currently performing the tasks undertaken by civilians on the operational side and are they now filled by any operational police?**

I am advised:

Please refer to the response to supplementary question 18.

20. **The Police Commissioner stated there were 900 public servants doing classic public servant roles that would be liable to efficiency savings. Are any of these 900 public servants currently employed in operational administrative roles?**

I am advised:

If administrative officers performing 'classic public servant roles' are not engaged in frontline duties as per the definition of the Public Sector Commission (70% public facing), then none of these officers are performing operational administrative roles.

Psychological injuries

21. **How many officers were medically retired with a psychological injury in the following years 2016/17, 2017/18 and 2018/19?**

I am advised

Information on Police Numbers in NSW is available at www.police.nsw.gov.au.

22. **How many officers were accommodated in restricted duties from the 1,790 reportable psychological claims from 1 July 2016 to 31 May 2019?**

I am advised:

NSWPF systems are unable to provide an exact figure.

Staffing

23. **How many personnel from Government Agencies support the Minister for Police's office and are located in that office?**

I am advised:

Ministers' Office staff numbers and salary bands are available on the DPC website. Refer to: <https://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/publications/premiers-and-ministers-staff-numbers>

24. **How many staff are there currently in the Police Media Unit?**

I am advised:

20.

25. **How many public servant positions, authorised and actual, are currently attached to the Highway Patrol Command?**

I am advised:

15 authorised administrative positions, and an administrative officer headcount of 21.

26. **How many contractors and labour hire staff are employed across NSW Police overall?**

(a) **How does this compare with the previous two years?**

(b) **What is the breakdown of Commands they are employed in?**

I am advised:

The NSW Police Force engages consultants and contractors in line with the Administrative Officer Recruitment and Selection Guidelines. Contingent labour can only be used as the most efficient and effective option and where the capabilities are not readily available within NSW Police Force.

27. **What is the current amount NSW Police spends on Contractors/Labour hire per year?**

I am advised:

Information on NSW Police operating expenses is available at in the NSW Police Force Annual Report.

28. **What is the current total staff for the Office of Emergency Management?**

I am advised:

47 full time equivalent.

The Office for Emergency Management employs additional temporary project and 'surge' operational staff as required.

Impounded vehicles

29. **Speeding cars and dangerous driving is the number one concern about crime and anti-social behaviour in local neighbourhoods. How many vehicles were impounded last year for these offences?**

I am advised:

40.

Cycling hospitalisations

30. **Is it correct that hospitalisations of male cyclists over 45 years of age has increased by over 500% in the past 17 years?**

31. **Is it correct that that the number of people aged 45+ killed while riding has doubled from 41 to 81 deaths?**

32. **Is it correct that 90% of cycling fatalities and 58% of hospitalisations occurred on the road?**

33. **Why does the Minister think there has been a sharp increase in the number of hospitalisations from cycling in NSW?**

34. **How is the Government responding to this?**

Cycling licenses

35. **Does the Government have any plans to introduce registration or licenses for cyclists?**

36. **When was this last canvassed?**

(Questions 30-36)

I am advised:

These are matters for the Minister for Transport and Roads.

Dashcams

37. **What is the policy in regards to the threshold of injury or damage at which Police investigate cycling accidents?**

I am advised:

Police will attend to a major traffic crash. A major traffic crash is classified by the NSWPF a collision between 2 or more vehicles, or any other accident or incident involving a vehicle on a road or road related area in which;

- someone is killed or injured, or
- a party fails to stop and exchange particulars, or
- a driver is allegedly under the influence of intoxicating liquor or a drug.

38. **What is the policy of Police investigating an accident or near-miss where the cyclist has evidence on a personal recording device, go-pro or dash-cam?**

I am advised:

As with any report made to the NSWPF, Police will investigate allegations of driving offences, provided there is formal reporting of the incident. This can require witnesses to provide a statement outlining what has occurred. To secure a conviction, the court must be satisfied beyond a reasonable doubt that the offence was committed.

Electric Scooters

39. **How many people in NSW have been fined for riding an electric scooter on public roads or thoroughfares in each of the past five years?**

I am advised:

This information is available at www.revenue.nsw.gov.au

40. **Are NSW Police involved in the consultation around a potential trial of electric scooters?**
41. **What was NSW Police's advice in relation to the proposed trial of electric scooters in Many that was deferred by the former Roads Minister in January 2019?**
42. **Does NSW Police believe it is safer for electric scooters to be ridden on the road, cycleways or footpaths?**

(Questions 40-42)

These are matters for the Minister for Transport and Roads.

Infringement notices

Is it correct that in 2012-2013, a total of 3,298 fines were issued for cycling or personal transport fines (a total of \$217,805 in revenue)?

I am advised:

This information is available at www.revenue.nsw.gov.au

Is it correct that in 2017-2018, a total of 10,419 fines were issued for cycling or personal transport fines, for a total revenue intake of \$2,705,083?

I am advised:

This information is available at www.revenue.nsw.gov.au

Minimum Distance Passing Law

43. How do Police enforce the Minimum Distance Passing law?

I am advised:

By enforcing Road Rule 144-1.

44. Where has there been a concentration of fines issued for failing to adhere to the Minimum Distance Passing law?

I am advised

6.9% of infringements issued have been in the Sydney CBD and 2.6% of infringements have been in Frenchs Forest. No other suburb or town has more than 2% of the total.

45. Are they predominantly on metropolitan or regional roads?

Please refer to the response to supplementary question 44.

46. What strategies are NSW Police engaging to enforce the Minimum Passing Distance Law?

I am advised:

The NSWPF has recently released a video reminding police to prosecute offences related to the minimum passing distance.

47. **Will NSW Police investigate alleged breaches of the Minimum Passing Distance Law in cases where a cyclist can produce evidence from a dashcam, personal recording device or go-pro?**

I am advised

That as with any report made to the NSWPF, Police will investigate allegations of driving offences, provided there is formal reporting of the incident.

Walking

48. **How many fines were issued for jaywalking in each of the past ten financial years?**

I am advised:

This information is available at www.revenue.nsw.gov.au.

Regulatory reform

49. **Is the Government considering calls from advocates like Bicycle NSW for driver education on road rules as part of license renewal?**
50. **Does the Minister support the proposal?**
51. **If not, why not?**
52. **How many road rules have changes over the past 5 years in total?**
53. **How many of these pertain specifically to cycling?**
54. **How many of these pertain specifically to pedestrian safety?**
55. **What process does the Centre for Road Safety have for ensuring that drivers understand new rules?**

Questions (49 – 55).

I am advised:

These are matters for the Minister for Transport and Roads.

Fire and Rescue Newcastle

56. **Can the Minister advise how many times in the last year Carrington Fire Station, a retained fire station, was 'offline' due to a lack of retained fire fighters to staff the station during a call out?**

57. **Can the Minister advise how many times in the last year Stockton Fire Station, a retained fire station, was ‘offline’ due to a lack of retained fire fighters to staff the station during a call out?**
58. **Can the Minister advise how many times in the last year Merewether Fire Station, a retained fire station, was ‘offline’ due to a lack of retained fire fighters to staff the station during a call out?**
59. **Does this level of staffing provide adequate levels of coverage for Newcastle?**

(Questions 56 – 59)

I am advised:

Any changes to staffing levels at retained fire stations are closely monitored to ensure community safety is not compromised.

60. **Has the Government investigated if per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) were used at any of the following Fire and Rescue NSW Stations:**
- (a) **Newcastle;**
 - (b) **Carrington;**
 - (c) **Stockton;**
 - (d) **Merewether;**
 - (e) **Hamilton;**
 - (f) **Lambton; &**
 - (g) **Mayfield West?**
61. **If not, will the Government investigate if PFAS chemicals were used at the above Station to ensure that there is not a health risk to neighbouring residents?**
62. **If PFAS were used, what action has the Government taken to ensure this does not pose a health risk to neighbouring residents?**

(Questions 60–62)

I am advised:

FRNSW has been working closely with the NSW Environment Protection Authority to identify the potential risk from past use of PFAS, including at the above locations. At FRNSW’s invitation, the EPA tested soil and water samples at a range of sites. The EPA recently provided approval of

FRNSW's risk assessment process for fire stations and off-site training locations to inform the development of a future works program.

63. Are there any plans to close any further Fire Stations in the Newcastle electorate?

I am advised:

There are no plans to close any further fire stations in the Newcastle electorate at this stage.

64. How many aerial Fire and Rescue appliances are located in Newcastle Area MN1?

(a) Does this provide appropriate coverage for Newcastle?

I am advised:

The Newcastle area is provided with coverage by the Aerial Ladder Platform positioned at Newcastle Fire Station, as well as by the network of 22 aerial appliances across the state, which can be deployed and moved from areas to area in accordance with operational needs.

65. Can the Minister provide a breakdown by station of the number of ambulance call outs Fire and Rescue crews have attended in Newcastle and the Hunter over the last 12 months?

I am advised

Information about FRNSW call outs can be found in FRNSW Annual Reports, which can be accessed at www.fire.nsw.gov.au.

66. How many buildings in the Newcastle Area MN1 contain flammable cladding?

I am advised:

This question should be addressed to the Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation.

Police in Newcastle

67. How many Police graduated from the following classes:

- (a) **326;**
- (b) **327;**
- (c) **328;**
- (d) **329;**
- (e) **330;**
- (f) **331;**

- (g) **332;**
- (h) **333;**
- (i) **334;**
- (j) **335;**
- (k) **336;**
- (l) **337; and**
- (m) **338?**

I am advised:

- | | |
|--------|--------|
| a) 105 | h) 234 |
| b) 109 | i) 246 |
| c) 208 | j) 257 |
| d) 130 | k) 201 |
| e) 178 | l) 261 |
| f) 226 | m) 269 |
| g) 199 | |

68. **How many Police were allocated to the Newcastle City Police District for the following classes:**

- (a) **326;**
- (b) **327;**
- (c) **328;**
- (d) **329;**
- (e) **330;**
- (f) **331;**
- (g) **332;**
- (h) **333;**
- (i) **334;**
- (j) **335;**
- (k) **336;**
- (l) **337; and**
- (m) **338?**

I am advised:

Allocations are made by the NSW Police Commissioner based on operational requirements and NSW Government Commitments.

69. **What action has the Minister taken to ensure that the growing population of Newcastle has appropriate police resources?**

I am advised:

For the 2019/2020 allocations as part of the NSW Government's 1,500 new police positions, Newcastle City Police District will receive 5 new general duty positions and 1 new Child Protection Register Coordinator position.

70. **What hours is the Stockton Police Station staffed for each of the following days?**

- (a) **Monday;**
- (b) **Tuesday;**
- (c) **Wednesday;**
- (d) **Thursday;**
- (e) **Friday;**
- (f) **Saturday; and**
- (g) **Sunday?**

I am advised:

Staffing is determined based on rostering arrangements determined by the Police District. This can vary based on rostering requirements for a particular period (e.g. leave or court attendance requirements).

The Stockton Sector also receives a 24/7 response from Waratah Police Station.

71. **How many police staff the following stations:**

- (a) **Newcastle;**
- (b) **Waratah; and**
- (c) **Stockton?**

I am advised:

Information on police officer numbers is available in the NSW Police Force annual report which can be accessed at www.police.nsw.gov.au.

The Commissioner of Police is responsible for the allocation of police positions based on operational requirements and Government Commitments.

The NSW Police Force facilitates flexible workforce allocation and deployment to meet demand and community need. All police positions attached to Police Area Commands or Police Districts are flexible resources available to respond to incidents. Local resources are supplemented by specialist police who are managed centrally but can be deployed across boundaries to respond to changing community needs, crime patterns and emerging issues.

72. Does the Minister plan to close any of the following police stations:

- (a) **Newcastle;**
- (b) **Waratah; and**
- (c) **Stockton?**

No.

73. What has been the result of the Prisoner Transport pilot in Newcastle?

- (a) **Has the pilot allowed police to focus on other duties?**

I am advised

The Newcastle Offender Transport Pilot commenced on 7 January 2019 and involves Corrective Services collecting police bail refused offenders from local police station and housing them in Newcastle Police cells and undertaking mental health escorts in the Newcastle area.

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

I am advised:

27.

SES

75. What is the Minister doing to address the poor condition of the Newcastle SES building in Tighes Hill?

I am advised:

Under section 17 of the *State Emergency Service Act 1989*, local councils are responsible for providing suitable facilities to support the functions of the Local SES Commander.

The NSW Government is liaising with Newcastle City Council regarding the facility.

Marine Rescue

76. What is the total cost of the new Marine Rescue base in Stockton?

- (a) **When will construction start?**
- (b) **When will the base open?**

- (c) **Will Marine Rescue require the current demountable building that is located at the Stockton site?**

I am advised:

Stockton Marine Rescue NSW unit is currently in the planning stage, with construction expected to be complete by the end of 2021.

Capital Expenditure FRNSW

77. **Have FRNSW provided a briefing on what the capital cost would be to bring every fire station in NSW up to a safe standard would be, to ensure firefighters can decontaminate after a fire and reduce their cancer risk?**

I am advised:

No.

78. **What is the potential cost in workers compensation claims arising from health problems associated with contamination, exposure to diesel fumes, etcetera, versus the capital cost of upgrading stations to ensure these risks are adequately mitigated?**

79. **Last year, the Government passed a bill to compensate firefighters who contract cancer after a promulgation date, ie the legislation was not retrospective. What would the cost have been of making this legislation retrospective for FRNSW firefighters?**

- (a) **Why has there not been a review within 100 days as promised by the government to examine this cost?**

(Questions 78-79)

I am advised:

These are matters for the Minister for Customer Service and the Treasurer.

80. **How many fewer civilian staff do you have now compared to 2011?**

I am advised:

Information relating to agency staffing is available in agencies' annual reports.

81. **In 2017, the construction of new fire stations at Oran Park and Marsden Park was delayed by a number of years. At Estimates in 2017, the Acting Commissioner said that land had been acquired however these would commence construction within two years – has that occurred at Oran Park and Marsden Park?**

- (a) **If not, when?**

- (b) **If yes, when is construction scheduled to finish and the fire stations become operational?**
- (c) **Will you provide additional staffing? Or will it be staffed by existing crew from elsewhere?**

I am advised:

FRNSW has acquired land in both Marsden Park and Oran Park for the construction of new fire stations to service these areas. The land acquisition enables Fire and Rescue NSW to ensure its fire stations are optimally positioned to provide the response the community needs.

82. Does the Minister plan to sell the old Fire and Rescue training centre landholding at Alexandria?

- (a) **Why?**
- (b) **When?**
- (c) **Have any alternate uses by government been considered for the site instead of turning public land over to further private residential development projects in Alexandria?**

I am advised:

No.

83. Have the number of training days for new recruits to the ranks of retained firefighters been reduced to accommodate budget cuts?

- (a) **How many days did they used to receive?**
- (b) **How many now?**
- (c) **What is the value of this saving?**

I am advised:

No.

State Emergency Service – Vehicle Replacement Programme

84. How many vehicles remain in the fleet which meet the criteria for replacement or renewal under the Vehicle Replacement Programme?

I am advised:

The fleet replacement program will replace or renew 270 vehicles, 124 marine vessels and 95 trailers.

85. **What is the timeline for their replacement?**

I am advised:

4 years.

86. **What is the difference between the funding allocated for this project and the overall cost to replace all of the vehicles which currently meet the criteria for replacement?**

I am advised:

The \$56.4 million Fleet Replacement Program will provide the SES with 270 vehicles, 124 marine vessels and 95 storm trailers across four years to support communities in their times of crisis.

Rural Fire Service

87. **Does the RFS use third-party or outsourced call centres to do dispatch?**

I am advised

The NSW RFS always maintains oversight, control and management of dispatch arrangements for Rural Fire Brigades. The NSW RFS currently uses a provider (Immediate Reception) in Northern NSW to facilitate initial call receipt and initial dispatch for eight Rural Fire Districts. The NSW RFS continues to move towards a centralised dispatch arrangement for all Rural Fire Districts facilitated through its State Operations Centre.

(a) **If so, which providers?**

I am advised:

Information on RFS contractors and expenses is available in the annual report.

(b) **How much are those contracts worth?**

I am advised:

Information on RFS contractors and expenses is available in the annual report.

88. **What does the \$26.7 million cut to the RFS's recurring expenditure budget mean for service delivery by the RFS?**

(a) **With the RFS being largely a volunteer organisation, where will you make cuts to staff?**

(b) **Will this increase the administrative burden on volunteers in each brigade?**

I am advised:

The NSW RFS budget was not cut by \$26.7 million in 2019-20. This figure arises by comparing the 2018-19 Revised Budget with the 2019-20 Budget. The initial budget in each year does not include any budget for natural disaster expenses, as the level of natural disasters in any given year is unknown and unpredictable. In the Revised 2018-19 Budget, the projected expenditure on natural disasters is included, which in that year was \$35.7 million. This is being compared to a NIL budget allocation in the 2019-20 Budget.

89. **Are all airborne firefighting assets leased from overseas being leased for the duration of this season or just the Boeing 737 Large Air Tanker ‘Marie Bashir’?**

(a) **If some are not being leased all year, when are the short-term lease aircraft being leased to/from?**

b. **What are the lease costs for the Boeing 737 Large Air Tanker ‘Marie Bashir’ this year?**

I am advised:

The NSW RFS owns the 737 Large Air Tanker ‘Marie Bashir’ and three helicopters.

a) Not all aerial firefighting assets are from overseas providers. The NSW RFS, through the National Aerial Firefighting Centre and its own state based Call When Needed provisions, has access to a significant number of aerial firefighting assets both from overseas and Australian companies.

b) The 737 Large Air Tanker 'Marie Bashir' is not leased.

90. **In view of heightened fire risk caused by climate change, does the RFS expect to revise the bushfire “season” dates?**

I am advised:

There are a variety of reasons that cause a heightened fire risk.

The NSW RFS does not currently have any plans to change the statutory Bush Fire Danger Period (BFDP) as prescribed in the *Rural Fire Act 1997* (Act). However, there are provisions within the Act for the Commissioner to be informed, principally by Bush Fire Management Committees as to either a temporary or permanent variation of any BFDP for that local area. This decision is best made by locals who can assess local fuel conditions and are more informed of the needs of the community.

91. **What additional funding is allocated or expected to be required in future budgets to respond to the heightened fire risk arising from climate change?**

I am advised:

Funding for Emergency Services Organisations is announced as part of the budget process.

92. **In September 2013 we had a catastrophic bushfire season that came after a particularly dry winter. This winter has been even drier than 2013's, so it follows that the bushfire risk may be greater again in September and October. What special arrangements has the agency made in anticipation of the coming bushfire season?**

I am advised:

The NSW RFS has contracted two Large Air Tankers for the 2019/20 fire season, in addition to their own Large Air Tanker which is now operational. Fire fighters will also be further supported by over 150 tactical aircraft, 30 aviation fuel trucks, specialist aircrew and aerial intelligence capability available through the Call When Needed (CWN) arrangements.

State and Regional pre-season briefings have been conducted throughout July 2019 ending in a State Exercise.

Many Bush Fire Management Committees have brought forward their Bush Fire Danger Period (BFDP). During the BFDP, land owners and managers are required to obtain permits prior to lighting fires for land clearance and fire breaks. The fire permit system provides a level of increased supervision and control measures for landholder burning.

A number of Rural Fire District Incident Response Plans, particularly in regional areas, have been adjusted to include actions for increased vehicle responses and/or bulk water carriers for initial response, to mitigate the limited water availability. Where practical, dry firefighting strategies and heavy plant engagement may be used to further limit the amount of water used. However, the NSW RFS continues to work with NSW Department of Primary Industries and Local Land Services to replace water for livestock and agricultural purposes where it is taken for firefighting purposes.

Surf Life Saving NSW

93. **Does the agency support the so-called “opt in mandatory” life jacket laws for rock fishing in certain local government areas?**

I am advised:

Yes

94. **Does the agency identify areas with high rates of drownings or near-drownings by people engaged in rock fishing where the local government has not opted-in to the mandatory lifejacket rules?**

I am advised:

The Office of Emergency Management monitors data on drowning and near-drownings related to rock fishing.

95. **Would the agency support making lifejackets mandatory for all rock fishing in every local government area?**

The Rock Fishing Safety Act 2016 requires people to wear life jackets while rock fishing in declared areas. Lifejackets are a key safety measure, and together with proper footwear and other safe practices, can make sure that rock fishers go home safe at the end of the day. Questions about gazettals of Local Government Areas is a matter for the Minister for Local Government.

Ministerial Travel/Meal Allowance –

96. **How many nights travel were claimed by the Minister during the 2018-19 period?**
97. **How many nights travel were claimed by the Minister’s spouse during the 2018-19 period?**
98. **What was the total amount of travel allowances claimed by the Minister and their spouse (if applicable) during 2018-19?**
99. **What is the total amount of meal allowances claimed by the Minister and their spouse (if applicable) during 2018-19?**

(Questions 96 –99)

I am advised:

In 2018-19, total expenditure by the Ministry on domestic travel was \$1,093,735.

Efficiency dividends

100. **What was the forecast efficiency dividend saving for each department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio in 2018-19?**

I am advised:

Savings from the NSW Government’s efficiency dividend are outlined in the Budget Papers.

101. **What is the forecast efficiency dividend saving for each department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio in**

(a) **2019-20?**

(b) **2020-21?**

(c) **2021-22?**

I am advised:

Savings from the NSW Government's efficiency dividend are outlined in the Budget Papers.

102. **What was the total efficiency dividend that was achieved for each department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio between 2011-12 and 2018-19 inclusively?**

I am advised:

Savings from the NSW Government's efficiency dividend are outlined in the Budget Papers.

Ministerial Office Administration

103. **How many staff are in your ministerial office?**

(a) **What was the average salary for staff members in your office during 2018-19?**

(b) **What is the estimated average salary for a ministerial staffer in your office in 2019-20 based on current appointments?**

I am advised:

Ministers' Office staff numbers and salary bands are available on the DPC website. Refer to: <https://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/publications/premiers-and-ministers-staff-numbers/>

104. **How many iPhone/smart phones are assigned to your staff?**

(a) **For each phone, how much was each bill in 2018-19?**

(b) **How many phones have been lost or replaced due to damage in your office?**

(c) **What is the cost of replacing those phones?**

I am advised:

There were 261 smartphones and other mobile devices allocated across the Ministers' IT Network in 2018-2019. The total usage cost of these smart phones and other mobile devices (including iPads) was \$334,630, compared to 2009-10 expenditure of \$434,854 under Labor. There were 6 devices lost/stolen across the Ministerial Offices during 2018-2019. 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.

105. **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 2018-19?**
 - (b) **How many iPads or tablets have been replaced due to lost or damage in 2018-19?**
 - (c) **What was the cost of replacing these devices?**

I am advised:

There were 111 iPads allocated across the Ministers' IT Network in 2018-2019. 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.

106. **Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in your ministerial office in 2018-19?**
- (a) **What is the cost of this?**

I am advised:

Artwork in Ministers' Offices includes art donated at no cost.

107. **Have any floral displays or indoor plants or pot plants been hired or leased for display in your ministerial office in 2018-19?**
- (a) **If so, what was the cost of these items?**

I am advised:

Floral arrangements purchased by the Ministry are managed within Ministerial office budgets.

108. **Have any floral displays or indoor plants or pot plants been purchased for display in your ministerial office in 2018-19?**
- (a) **If so, what was the cost of these items?**

I am advised:

Ministers' offices subscribe to a modest number of publications, which are managed within Ministerial office budgets.

109. **What was the total cost of all subscriptions by you and your staff to news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals (including online services) in 2018-19?**
- (a) **What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?**

(b) **Who is the subscriber for each of these?**

I am advised:

Ministers' offices subscribe to a modest number of publications, which are managed within Ministerial office budgets.

110. **What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by you and your office in 2018-19?**

(a) **What were the gifts purchased?**

(b) **Who were they gifted to?**

I am advised:

Gifts are presented to dignitaries during overseas missions and to dignitaries visiting NSW in accordance with established protocol.

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

(a) **What is the monthly cost of this?**

I am advised:

The Ministry spent \$466 on filtered water for their offices in 2018-19.

112. **How much did your ministerial office spend on hospitality, including catering and beverages, in 2018-19?**

I am advised:

Expenditure on hospitality across the Ministry totalled \$27,782 in 2018-19, which includes catering for stakeholder meetings and courtesy calls with visiting dignitaries.

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

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

I am advised:

Ministers, the Leader of the Opposition, other nominated public office holders and certain former office holders are provided with official cars and drivers. During 2018-19, all costs associated with these vehicles were paid from the relevant Ministerial office budget.

114. **What was the total bill for your office in 2018-19 for:**

(a) **Taxi hire**

(b) **Limousine hire**

- (c) **Private hire care**
- (d) **Hire car rental**
- (e) **Ridesharing services?**

I am advised:

- (f) Expenditure on taxis, hire cars and ride share services in 2018-19 across the Ministry was \$119,179, compared to 2009-10 expenditure of \$175,776 under Labor.

115. **Were any planes or helicopters chartered by you or your office and paid for with public money in 2018-19?**

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

I am advised:

Expenditure on charter flights for the Ministry totalled \$83,845 in 2018-19, compared to 2009-10 expenditure of \$281,567 under Labor.

116. **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 2018-19?**

I am advised:

No.

Agile Workspaces/Activity Based Working/Hot-desking

117. **Have any of your departments, statutory agencies and/or other bodies 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 2019-20?**

I am advised:

Accommodation planning for Stronger Communities Cluster agencies is undertaken in accordance with the Government's accommodation strategy and design guidelines. Opportunities for employees to be more flexible in their ways of working, including creating more agile working environments, will be considered where appropriate. There are no specific projects being delivered in 2019-20.

118. How much have your departments, statutory agencies and/or other bodies spent in the roll-out of the agile working environment including laptops, furniture, lockers and other equipment in 2018-19?

I am advised:

Accommodation planning for Stronger Communities Cluster agencies is undertaken in accordance with the Government's accommodation strategy and design guidelines. Opportunities for employees to be more flexible in their ways of working, including creating more agile working environments, will be considered where appropriate. There are no specific projects being delivered in 2019-20.

A total of \$6.72m was spent directly and indirectly by the former FACS and Justice departments during the 18/19 FY supporting agile and mobile working in an ICT context.

Hospitality

119. For each department, statutory agency and/or other body in the Minister's portfolio please report:

(a) **How much was spent on hospitality, including catering and beverages, in 2018-19?**

(b) **Whether the department, statutory agency and/or other body has coffee machines?**

And if so:

i. How many?

ii. What was their purchase cost?

iii. What is their maintenance cost?

iv. Who has access to them?

v. Which staff have access to the machines?

I am advised:

Expenditure on hospitality is limited to official work related purposes with any related staff benefits subject to Fringe Benefits Tax provisions.

The provision and acceptance of gifts, benefits and hospitality is subject to specific policies and agency Codes of Conduct and is strictly monitored.

Labour Hire Firms

120. **Do any departments, statutory agency and/or other bodies within your portfolio responsibilities utilise the services of Labour Hire Firms? If yes, please advise in table form for 2018-19:**

- (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**
- (h) **Who authorised the use of labour hire companies?**
- (i) **Do staff under these labour hire arrangements receive as much training and security clearance as permanent staff?**

I am advised:

The Stronger Communities Cluster uses Labour Hire firms in accordance with NSW Public Service policies to cover temporary vacancies as required. These arrangements are subject to agencies' overall labour expense cap.

Stationary

121. **For each department, statutory agency and/or other body in the Minister's portfolio please report:**

- (a) **What was the cost of stationary for the following financial years:**
 - i. **2015-16**
 - ii. **2016-17**
 - iii. **2017-18**
 - iv. **2018-2019**
 - v. **2019-present**
- (b) **What brand of paper is used?**

i. Is this paper Australian made?

I am advised:

Stationery purchases by the Stronger Communities Cluster agencies are made in accordance with the applicable policies and procedures on procurement.

Credit Cards

122. For each department, statutory agency and/or other body in the Minister's portfolio please report:

- (a) How many credit cards are currently on issue for staff?**
 - i. Please provide a break-down of this information by grade.**
- (b) What was the value of the largest reported purchase on a credit card for the following financial years:**
 - i. 2015-16**
 - ii. 2016-17**
 - iii. 2017-18**
 - iv. 2018-2019**
 - v. 2019-present**
- (c) What was each largest reported purchase for?**
- (d) How much interest was paid on amounts outstanding from credit cards for the following financial years:**
 - i. 2015-16**
 - ii. 2016-17**
 - iii. 2017-18**
 - iv. 2018-2019**
 - v. 2019-present**
- (e) How much was paid in late fees on amounts outstanding from credit cards for the following financial years**
 - i. 2015-16**
 - ii. 2016-17**

- iii. 2017-18
 - iv. 2018-2019
 - v. 2019-present
- (f) What was the largest amount outstanding on a single card at the end of a payment period and what was the card holder's employment grade?
- (g) How many credit cards have been reported lost or stolen?
- i. What was the cost to replace them?
- (h) How many credit card purchases were deemed to be illegitimate or contrary to agency policy?
- i. What was the total value of those purchases?
 - ii. How many purchases were asked to be repaid on the basis that they were illegitimate or contrary to agency policy and what was the total value thereof?
 - iii. Were all those amounts actually repaid?
 - iv. If no, how many were not repaid, and what was the total value thereof?
- (i) What was the largest purchase that was deemed illegitimate or contrary to agency policy and asked to be repaid, and what was the cardholder's employment grade?
- i. What that amount actually repaid, in full?
 - ii. What amount was left unpaid?
- (j) Are any credit cards currently on issue connected to rewards schemes?
- i. Do staff receive any personal benefit as a result of those reward schemes?
- (k) Can a copy of the staff credit card policy please be provided?

I am advised:

All NSW Government agencies are required to impose surcharges to recoup their merchant interchange fees, pursuant to Treasury Circular TC12/13. DCJ does not accept payment for goods and services, so we do not impose merchant fees on our customers.

Staff only use their Pcards for the purchase of goods and services for official business purposes. If particular vendors elect to impose a merchant fee on card transactions, that is an unavoidable cost of doing business. 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.

Media and Public Relations

123. **For each department, statutory agency and/or other body in the Minister's portfolio please report:**

- (a) **How many media/communications/public relations advisers are employed?**
 - i. **What is the total salary cost for media/communications/public relations advisers in 2018-19?**
- (b) **What is the forecast for the current financial year for the number of media/communications/public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost?**
- (c) **What is the total cost of media monitoring services?**
 - i. **Please provide a breakdown by department, statutory agency and/or other body.**
- (d) **Are any media or public relations advisers currently engaged as contractors?**
 - i. **Who are these contracts with?**
 - ii. **What is the value of these contracts?**
- (e) **How much was spent on media or public relations advisors in financial year:**
 - i. **2015-16**
 - ii. **2016-17**
 - iii. **2017-18**
 - iv. **2018-2019**
 - v. **2019-present?**

I am advised:

(a-b) Stronger Communities Cluster staff numbers are included in the agency's Annual Report. Staff undertaking media or public relations activities are commensurate with need and can go down or up as required.

(c-e) The Financial Statements, including legal, consulting and any other general costs from third party service providers, are available in the agency annual report. These are available in accordance with NSW Government Procurement Policy.

Facebook

124. **How much did your ministerial office spend on Facebook advertising or sponsored posts in 2018-19?**

I am advised:

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

125. **How much did your department, statutory agency and/or other body in the Minister's portfolio spend on Facebook advertising or sponsored posts in 2018-19?**

I am advised:

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

Overseas Trips

126. **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?**
- (b) **Have you undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded?**
- (c) **If so, what was the nature of these trips?**
- (d) **Who paid for these trips?**

I am advised:

Details of overseas travel including costs are published on agency websites.

Department/Agency Travel

127. **What was the total expenditure in 2018-19 by departments, statutory agencies and/or other bodies within your portfolio on:**

- (a) **Taxi hire**
- (b) **Limousine**

- (c) **Private car hire**
- (d) **Hire car rental**
- (e) **Ridesharing services**
- (f) **Chartered flights?**

I am advised:

Agency travel was conducted in accordance with relevant NSW Government policies and guidelines including Treasury Circular TC18-15 and ATO determinations.

Drivers

128. Are any of the senior executives in the relevant department, statutory agency and/or other body 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, statutory agency and/or other body?**
- (c) **What is the total cost of drivers for senior executives in the department, statutory agency and/or other body?**

I am advised:

No senior executive in the NSW Police Force except the Commissioner of Police is provided a driver. The total cost for 2018/19 was \$112,072.

No senior executives at Fire & Rescue NSW are provided with a dedicated driver.

No senior executives at the NSW Rural Fire Service are provided with a dedicated driver.

No senior executives at NSW State Emergency Service are provided with a dedicated driver.

Consulting

129. For each department, statutory agency and/or other body in the Minister's portfolio please report:

- (a) **How much was spent in legal costs in 2018-19?**
 - i. **For what specific purposes or matters was legal advice sought?**
- (b) **Have departments, statutory agencies and/or other bodies under your portfolio engaged any consultants to provide the following services or advice in 2018-19:**

- i. **Social media**
- ii. **Photography**
- iii. **Acting training**
- iv. **Ergonomics**

(c) **What was the cost of these services?**

- i. **Social media**
- ii. **Photography**
- iii. **Acting training**
- iv. **Ergonomics**

I am advised:

The Financial Statements, including legal, consulting and any other general costs from third party service providers, are available in agency annual report.

Web Content

130. **For each department, statutory agency and/or other body in the Minister's portfolio please report:**

- (a) **What were the top 20 most utilised (by data sent and received) unique domain names accessed this year?**
- (b) **What were the top 20 most accessed (by number of times accessed) unique domain names accessed this year?**

I am advised:

(a) Data sent and received is not tracked as a website metric as this does not provide customer benefit.

(b) By Site and Page views 1 July 2018-30 Jun 2019:

1. justice.nsw.gov.au; 31,580,408
2. facs.nsw.gov.au; 18,061,897
3. bdm.nsw.gov.au; 12,863,635
4. lawaccess.nsw.gov.au; 5,002,016
5. ncat.nsw.gov.au; 4,688,877
6. supremecourt.justice.nsw.gov.au; 3,917,758

7. localcourt.justice.nsw.gov.au; 3,537,942
 8. correctiveservices.justice.nsw.gov.au; 3,389,009
 9. courts.justice.nsw.gov.au; 3,215,283
 10. jp.nsw.gov.au; 2,054,658
 11. victimsservices.justice.nsw.gov.au/; 1,936,311
 12. districtcourt.justice.nsw.gov.au; 1,514,667
 13. coroners.justice.nsw.gov.au; 1,468,683
 14. lpab.justice.nsw.gov.au; 1,327,323
 15. jc.nsw.gov.au; 1,325,510
 16. judcom.nsw.gov.au; 1,325,510
 17. bocsar.nsw.gov.au; 1,196,456
 18. lec.justice.nsw.gov.au; 917,437
 19. antidiscrimination.justice.nsw.gov.au; 777,407
 20. ucprforms.justice.nsw.gov.au; 690,461
- In 2018/19 - FRNSW www.fire.nsw.gov.au total page views 867,235
- Brigades Kids website visits www.brigadekids.com.au total page views 12,480
- In 2018/19 – NSW SES website : total page views 752,954
- In 2018/19 - NSW RFS website rfs.nsw.gov.au total page views 10,219,524
- In 2018/19 - The top 20 most accessed web pages for the NSWPF all related to the top level domain police.nsw.gov.au (document attached).

Department/Agency Staffing

131. **How many redundancies were processed by departments, statutory agencies and/or other bodies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2018-19?**
 - (a) **Of these redundancies, how many were:**
 - i. **Voluntary?**
 - ii. **Involuntary?**
132. **What was the total cost of all redundancies?**
133. **Have any staff who received a redundancy in the last two years undertaken any paid work or provided any paid services for the department, statutory agency and/or other body 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?**

(Questions 131-133)

I am advised:

Voluntary redundancies are a component for agencies to achieve their efficiency dividends. Redundancy figures can be found in Annual Reports. The Labour Expense Cap introduced in the 2012-13 Budget also continues to give Secretaries as much flexibility as possible to achieve these savings in the most appropriate ways to meet the service requirements of their agencies. Frontline staff such as, nurses, police officers and school teachers and regional employees have been quarantined from this measure.

NSW SES had 3 VR's

NSWPF had 51 VRs

134. **Are any staff formerly employed by your ministerial office now employed by departments, statutory agencies and/or other bodies under your portfolio responsibility?**

I am advised:

Staff are employed in accordance within the Government Sector Employment Act 2013.

135. **How many staff were dismissed from departments, statutory agencies and/or other bodies under your portfolio responsibilities in 2018-19?**

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

I am advised:

Staff dismissals are compliant with the Government Sector Employment Act 2013 or other relevant legislation.

In 2018/19, seven FRNSW staff were dismissed.

In 2018/19, one NSW RFS member was dismissed.

In 2018-19, one NSW SES Senior Executive's contract was terminated.

In 2018-2019 in the NSWPF there were:

- 5 Probationary Constables dismissed pursuant to s80(3) of the Police Act.
- 24 sworn (confirmed) police officers removed under s181D of the Police Act
- 16 unsworn staff dismissed pursuant to s69(4) and/or s68(2) of the GSE Act (misconduct and/or unsatisfactory performance)

136. **How much was spent advertising for recruitment for the following financial years:**

(a) **2015-16**

(b) **2016-17**

- (c) **2017-18**
- (d) **2018-2019**
- (e) **2019-present?**

I am advised:

Advertising expenses can be found in the agencies Annual Report

Smart Phone

137. **How many mobile phones are given to staff or board members?**

- (a) **How many new mobile phones were purchased in the last year?**

I am advised:

IT costs are managed within each agency's budget and in accordance with NSW Government's ICT and procurement policies and frameworks.

138. **What is the total cost of these phones for the following financial years:**

- (a) **2015-16**
- (b) **2016-17**
- (c) **2017-18**
- (d) **2018-2019**
- (e) **2019-present?**

139. **How many had to be replaced due to damage?**

140. **How many were reported as lost?**

141. **How many tablets are given to staff or board members?**

- (a) **How many new tablets in the last year?**

142. **What is the total cost of these tablets for the following financial years?**

- (a) **2015-16**
- (b) **2016-17**
- (c) **2017-18**
- (d) **2018-2019?**

143. **How many phones and tablets had to be replaced due to damage?**

144. **How many were reported as lost?**

145. **How many people have both a smart phone and a tablet?**
- (a) **What is the lowest ranked official who has both a work smart phone and tablet?**
146. **How many staff or board members overspent on their phone or tablet data bill?**
- (a) **By how much?**
- (b) **What was the average cost of data bills for tablets and mobile phones?**
- (c) **What was the highest monthly cost?**
147. **Do the departments, statutory agencies and/or other bodies within your portfolio have an iTunes account?**
- (a) **What was the total expenditure in 2018-19 on iTunes?**
- (b) **What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through iTunes?**
148. **Do the departments, statutory agencies and/or other bodies within your portfolio have a Google Play Store account?**
- (a) **What was the total expenditure in 2018-19 on through the Google Play Store?**
- (b) **What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through the Google Play Store?**

(Questions 138 – 148)

I am advised:

IT costs are managed within each agency's budget and in accordance with NSW Government's ICT and procurement policies and frameworks.

Merchant fees

149. **Please provide a list of all transactions where customers need to pay a merchant fee on credit and/or debit card payments to a department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio.**
150. **Please provide the percentage and/or amount of the merchant fees applied to all credit and/or debit card payments/transactions to a department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio.**
151. **What was the total amount paid in merchant fees on credit and/or debit card payments to departments, statutory agencies and/or other bodies within your portfolio in 2018-19?**

(Questions 149-151)

I am advised:

All NSW Government agencies are required to impose surcharges to recoup their merchant interchange fees, pursuant to Treasury Circular TC12/13. DCJ does not accept payment for goods and services, so we do not impose merchant fees on our customers. Staff only use their Pcards for the purchase of goods and services for official business purposes. If particular vendors elect to impose a merchant fee on card transactions, that is an unavoidable cost of doing business. 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.

Advertising and Sponsorships

152. For each department, statutory agency and/or other body in the Minister's portfolio please report:

(a) How much was spent on advertising in the following financial years:

i. 2015-16

ii. 2016-17

iii. 2017-18

iv. 2018-2019?

I am advised:

The Financial Statements, including advertising and sponsorship, are available in agency annual reports. The NSW Government may use advertising to inform the public of their rights, obligations and entitlements as well as to explain government policies, programs, services and initiatives. Government advertising is conducted within guidelines outlined in the NSW Government Advertising Handbook. Any sponsorship arrangements are conducted within ICAC principles.

153. Has your department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio engaged in any corporate sponsorships?

(a) Who were these sponsorships with?

(b) What was the purpose of these sponsorships?

(c) What was the value of these sponsorships, by case and year?

(d) What was the value of these sponsorships in the following financial years:

- i. 2015-16
- ii. 2016-17
- iii. 2017-18
- iv. 2018-19?

I am advised:

The Financial Statements, including advertising and sponsorship, are available in agency annual reports. The NSW Government may use advertising to inform the public of their rights, obligations and entitlements as well as to explain government policies, programs, services and initiatives. Government advertising is conducted within guidelines outlined in the NSW Government Advertising Handbook. Any sponsorship arrangements are conducted within ICAC principles.

Probity Auditor

154. **Has your office or department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio 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.**

I am advised:

In accordance with the NSW Procurement Board's Direction (PBD-2013-05), agencies have internal mechanisms in place to ensure that probity considerations are routinely taken into account in its procurement decisions, and the use of external probity advisers and auditors is the exception rather than the rule. Agencies Annual Report includes all consultancies including those involving probity advisors valued more than \$50,000.

Energy

155. **For each department, statutory agency and/or other body within 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?
 - (e) 2018/19?

156. **What proportion of the electricity consumed by each department, statutory agency and/or other body within 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.**
157. **How much money was spent on electricity for each department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio by name in each of the above financial years?**
158. **What was the name of the energy supplier to each department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio by name for those financial years?**
159. **How much electricity is it estimated that each department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio will consume in:**
- (a) **2019-20?**
 - (b) **2020-21?**
 - (c) **2021-22?**
160. **What proportion of that electricity is it estimated will come from renewable sources, for each year?**
161. **For each department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio by name, please provide the estimated proportion of energy to be used from each kind of energy (coal, gas, solar, wind etc.)?**
162. **What is the name of the energy supplier to each department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio for each of:**
- (a) **2019-20?**
 - (b) **2020-21?**
 - (c) **2021-22?**

(Questions 155-162)

I am advised:

Energy purchases by the Stronger Communities Cluster agencies are made in accordance with the applicable policies and procedures on procurement under whole of government Contracts 776 (small sites under 100,000 kwh per annum) and 777.

Under these contracts the following suppliers are mandated:

- 776 – Origin Energy Electricity Limited

- 777 – ERM Power Retail Pty Ltd

The NSW Government Resource Efficiency Policy was introduced in 2014 to reduce the NSW Government's operating costs and lead by example in increasing the efficiency of the resources it uses.

NSW Government agencies are required to report on energy use under the Government Resource Efficiency Policy. The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment publishes progress reports on compliance with the policy.

General Costs

163. **For each department, statutory agency and/or other body in the Minister's portfolio please report:**

(a) **Any gardening services used for indoor or outdoor pot plants/flowers maintenance?**

i. **Who are the contracts with?**

ii. **How much does each contract cost?**

iii. **How often do they visit?**

iv. **How much was spent on this service in financial year:**

- 2015-16

- 2016-17

- 2017-18

- 2018-19?

(b) **Any floral displays or indoor plants or pot plants hired or leased for display in any offices?**

i. **Who were the contracts with?**

ii. **How much was each contract cost?**

iii. **How much was spent on this service in financial year:**

- 2015-16
- 2016-17
- 2017-18
- 2018-19?

I am advised:

The Financial Statements, including expenditure on any general costs, are available in an agencies annual report. Plant and related purchases by Cluster agencies are made in accordance with the applicable policies and procedures on procurement.

Domestic Violence Leave Policies, Awareness and Usage

164. **For each department, statutory agency and/or other body 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?**
- (i) **What training has been undertaken with management and administration for those involved in approving and/or processing domestic violence leave on issues such as?**

- i. Privacy and confidentiality of information about domestic violence**
- ii. Access to emotional, psychological, financial and medical support which may be required**

I am advised:

(a) Section 6.18 of the Public Service Industrial Relations Guide provides guidance to staff and management on appropriate strategies for supporting a staff member experiencing domestic violence. This guidance further references Section 84A of the Award (leave for matters arising from domestic violence) and Treasury Circular 19-08 Domestic and Family Violence Workplace Support Policy – Guiding Principles for Agencies, which can be accessed here:

<https://www.treasury.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2019-06/TC19->

[08%20Domestic%20and%20Family%20Violence%20Support%20with%20attachment.pdf](https://www.treasury.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2019-06/TC19-08%20Domestic%20and%20Family%20Violence%20Support%20with%20attachment.pdf)

(b) Section 84A was added to the Award in 2011. The extension of this leave to all government sector employees commenced on January 1 2019 and was enacted by Premier's Memorandum M2018-03-Support for Employees Experiencing Domestic and Family Violence.

(c) All staff members employed under the Award in a cluster agency are entitled to be absent from the workplace due to an incident of domestic violence if required. Similar clauses apply to agencies covered by their own negotiated agreements.

(d) From 1 January 2019, a separate leave type of Domestic & Family Violence Leave was made available as a separate leave type. Across relevant systems, the number of reported leave days of this type are not able to be delineated because the data is not captured in a discernible way. In relation to NSWPF, two.

(e-g) In accordance with the Premier's Memorandum M2018-03-Support for Employees Experiencing Domestic and Family Violence, NSW Government Sector employees are entitled to ten days paid domestic and family violence leave per calendar year. This leave is non-cumulative and can be taken in part-days, single days, or consecutive days. Staff may also utilise all available Family and Community Service Leave, Sick Leave and Carer's Leave to assist with managing domestic violence circumstances. If this leave is unavailable special leave maybe granted up to five days per calendar year.

(h) All staff, their families and contractors have access to the Employee Assistance Program.

(i) An e-learning module has been developed in consultation with the former department of Family and Community Services. DPC is working to ensure all staff are trained in line with the developed modules.

165. Who has provided training on domestic violence in the workplace?

I am advised:

The previous Department of Family and Community Services was an accredited White Ribbon Workplace through White Ribbon Australia. The Department of Communities and Justice will seek accreditation as its new entity and will continue to provide ongoing support and guidance to cluster agencies on best practice approaches to supporting women who are experiencing domestic violence.

166. What percentage of staff in each agency has undertaken domestic violence training?

I am advised:

An e-learning module has been developed. The Department of Communities and Justice is working to ensure all staff are trained in line with the developed modules.

167. 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?

I am advised:

All agencies comply with the highest levels of document and privacy management consistent with the Privacy and Personal Information Act 1998 (NSW).

Sexual harassment and Anti-bullying training and awareness programs

168. For each department, statutory agency and/or other body 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.**

- i. Whether or not all employees and/or contractors have received such training?
- ii. Is this course mandatory for all employees/ contractors?
- iii. How long for each session, how many sessions?
- iv. Who delivers it?
- v. Is the program tailored to take into consideration specific needs of LGBTQIA, ATSI and CALD or other at risk groups?

- How?

- (b) What percentage of staff in each department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio have undertaken sexual harassment and anti- bullying training and awareness programs?
- (c) How many complaints have been initiated in relation to:
 - i. Sexual harassment
 - ii. Bullying
 - iii. Workplace violence

I am advised:

Such training is a mandatory module as part of agencies induction program. Upon commencement all staff and contractors are also required to read and sign the Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct addresses the need for all staff to treat each other with dignity and respect, reinforcing professional standards of behaviour.

Complaints of this nature are addressed through the agency's Complaints and Investigation Policy. Not all complaints are raised as a formal complaint and may be addressed informally and directly between the complainant and the individual being complained of.

Participation of women in Government

169. For each department, statutory agency and/or other body in the Minister's portfolio please report:

- (a) What number and percentage of women are employed within the department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio?
- (b) What number and percentage of women are employed within the management levels of the department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio?

- (c) **What number and percentage of women are employed in the top ten leadership positions of the department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio?**
- (d) **What strategies does the department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio use to encourage women in to management and leadership positions?**
- (e) **What is the gender pay gap within your department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio?**
- (f) **Does the department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio report participation of women figures to Women NSW on a regular basis?**

I am advised:

(a)-(c) This information is available in each agency's Annual Report.

(d) All agencies use gender balance on interview panels as well as offering flexible working arrangements to allow better management of work and home commitments. Agencies continue to promote diversity and inclusion strategies which promote a workplace free from social biases of any kind.

(e) All equivalent positions determined by an objective assessment of their work value are paid the same salary within all agencies. The relevant distribution of women in each classification of work across the sector is reported by the Public Service Commission (PSC) but is also available in the agency's Annual Report.

(f) The workforce profile data collected by the PSC is made available to Women NSW.

Professional Photography

170. **How much has been spent on professional photography for the following financial years:**

- (a) **2015-16**
- (b) **2016-17**
- (c) **2017-18**
- (d) **2018-2019**
- (e) **2019-present?**

I am advised:

The Financial Statements, including expenditure on professional photography, are available in agency annual reports.

Unmanned Aerial Services

171. **How much has been spent on Unmanned Aerial Services for the following financial years:**

- (a) **2015-16**
- (b) **2016-17**
- (c) **2017-18**
- (d) **2018-2019**
- (e) **2019-present?**

I am advised:

The Financial Statements, including expenditure on professional photography, are available in agency annual reports.

Seconded Staff

172. **How many staff from your department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio have been seconded to your Ministerial Office, for the following financial years:**

- (a) **2015-16**
- (b) **2016-17**
- (c) **2017-18**
- (d) **2018-2019**
- (e) **2019-present?**

I am advised:

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

173. **Please provide their names, their substantive work title, and their seconded work title.**

I am advised:

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

Consultant Costs

174. **For each department, statutory agency and/or other body in the Minister's portfolio please report, the total expenditure on consultants by financial year:**

- (a) **2015-16**
- (b) **2016-17**
- (c) **2017-18**
- (d) **2018-2019**
- (e) **2019-present?**

I am advised:

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

175. **What are names and values of the five most expensive reports produced by consultancies for each department, statutory agency and/or other body in the Minister's portfolio by financial year:**

- (a) **2015-16**
- (b) **2016-17**
- (c) **2017-18**
- (d) **2018-2019**
- (e) **2019-present?**

I am advised:

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

Strip searches in 2018/19

176. **What training is provided at police academy about appropriate methods to carry out strip searches?**

I am advised:

All sessions of the ADPP include theory, practical learning and examinations in relation to person searches (including strip searches). At the Academy, powers are revised and reinforced in each lesson during the program. Students are required to pass a 'powers examination' directly linked to LEPPRA use at the end of sessions 1 and 2 with a 100% pass mark.

During the period as probationary constables in Commands, students are assessed by the FTAO, EDO and their Commander in relation to operational policing incidents. They also undertake a practical assessment where the Probationary Constable has to show competence in the task and use of powers. This is a PASS/FAIL competency.

177. **When will the Lessons Learnt Unit- internal report - about 'strip searches' – November 2018 be made publicly available?**

I am advised:

The internal report authored by the Lessons Learned Unit in November 2018 on strip searches is not appropriate for public release. The NSWPF has recently updated its Standard Operating Procedures that relate to strips searches and are incorporated into the Police Handbook.

178. **How many strip searches were carried out by police in 2018/19?**

- (a) **Of these, how many were following a drug dog indication?**
- (b) **Of the strip searches carried out:**
- (c) **How many found a traffickable quantity of drugs?**
- (d) **How many found a personal use quantity of drugs?**
- (e) **How many found something else that constituted an offence?**

I am advised:

Statistics on strip searches is available on the NSW Police website.

179. **Of the strip searches following a drug dog indication:**

- (a) **How many found a traffickable quantity of drugs?**
- (b) **How many found a personal use quantity of drugs?**

(c) **How many found something else that constituted an offence?**

Please refer to the answer to Supplementary Question 178.

Tents

180. **How many strip search/privacy tents do the NSW Police Force have?**

I am advised:

The Privacy and Dignity Rules for All Person Searches within the NSWPF Person Search Manual states that Police should conduct the search in a way that provides reasonable privacy for the person searched. When person searches are conducted in large events/planned operations, Police utilise facilities available/provided by the event organisers - be it a room or a marquee for the purposes of privacy when required to conduct person searches.

181. **Which police commands in NSW have strip search/privacy tents?**

I am advised:

Please refer back to the answer to Supplementary Question 180.

182. **Where are these strip search/privacy tents obtained from?**

I am advised:

Please refer back to the answer to Supplementary Question 180.

Command Performance Accountability System (COMPASS)

183. **What kinds of targets are set within COMPASS?**

I am advised:

The following COMPASS indicators have targets:

- Legal Action Rate - Breach DV AVO (Proactive)
- Sexual Assault (Adult)
- Assault (Non-DV)
- Robbery
- Break and Enter – Dwelling
- Steal from Dwelling
- Break and Enter - Non-Dwelling
- Malicious Damage
- Stolen Vehicles
- Steal from Motor Vehicle
- Steal from Retail Store
- Steal from Person
- Fraud
- Assault (Alcohol & Non-DV)
- Drug Detection - Supply (Proactive)
- Warrants Executed (Proactive)
- Child Protection Register
- UFO (In Custody) DNA NOT Taken
- Successful Prosecutions (Proactive)
- Powers - Move On (Proactive)
- Powers - Person Search (Proactive)
- Injury and Fatal Crashes
- Response Time (P1 & P2) (Proactive)
- Customer Service Related Complaints
- Victim Follow-Up (Proactive)

- Sick Leave
- Workplace Injury Leave
- Annual Leave - Sworn Officers
- Annual Leave - Unsworn Officers
- Operational Capacity (Proactive)
- Accountable Net Cost of Services

184. Does this include numbers or targets of personal searches?

I am advised:

There is a COMPASS indicator 'Police Powers – Person Search'. The indicator displays the number of person searches conducted under police powers. There is a business plan target for this indicator which is calculated based on a 3 year average of actuals.

185. Does this include numbers or targets for strip searches?

I am advised:

The COMPASS indicator 'Police Powers – Person Search' counts all person searches regardless of search type. There is no specific target for strip searches.

186. Does this include numbers or targets for searches where items of interest are found, or just search numbers in general?

I am advised:

The 'Police Powers – Person Search' includes the following further classifications:

- Item/Object found
- Item/Object Not found
- Refused to be searched
- Refused to produce object

The indicator counts both instances where objects were found and not found. There are no specific targets for searches where items of interest were found.

187. Does this include numbers or targets for other kinds of searches – like car or property searches?

I am advised:

There is a COMPASS indicator for 'Police Powers – Vehicle Searches' which displays the number of vehicle searches undertaken. There is no business plan target for this indicator. It is for information and monitoring purposes only.

188. Does this include numbers or targets for move on orders?

I am advised:

There is a COMPASS indicator for 'Police Powers – Move On' which displays the number of move on incidents. There is a business plan target for this indicator. This target is calculated on the 3 year average of actuals.

189. Does this include numbers or targets for STMP listings?

I am advised:

COMPASS has a 'DV STMP (Proactive)' indicator which shows the number of Suspect Target Management Plan cases (domestic violence related). There is no business plan target, however, PACs/PDs have a mandatory requirement to report at least quarterly on this indicator.

190. How are the numbers or targets determined?

I am advised:

The methodology used for nominating 2019-2020 targets was the same as 2018-19:

- Violent crime: 3 year average of actuals
- Property crime: 3 year average of actuals less 3 per cent
- Proactive indicators: 3 year average of actuals
- Response Times: 3 year average of actuals, rounded up to the nearest 5 seconds
- Other indicators (e.g. Domestic Violence Evidence in Chief, Legal Action Rate - Breach AVO etc) targets remain the same as the prior year.

The targets for Injury & Fatal Crashes were based on the 3-year average of actuals minus 3 per cent. These targets have recently been endorsed by the Traffic and Highway Patrol Command and are consistent with the intent of the NSW Road Safety Plan 2021.

191. What would it take for the individual numbers or targets to be reevaluated?

I am advised:

Business plan targets are determined each financial year. Examples of circumstances requiring the targets to be re-evaluated include:

- PAC/PD amalgamations
- Changes in methodology (e.g. changes to COMPASS indicators and what they are displaying)
- New indicators introduced into COMPASS

192. What kinds of benchmarks are set within COMPASS?

I am advised:

COMPASS displays actuals and target variation, as well as comparisons for same period previous year.

Civil litigation

193. **In 2018/19 how many civil cases were brought against the NSW Police in total?**
194. **In how many of these cases were there adverse judgments?**
195. **In how many of these cases were there settlements?**
196. **In how many of these cases did the police win the case?**
197. **What is the overall value of all civil cases against the NSW Police?**
198. **What proportion of the cases brought against the police involve alleged or actual police misconduct (for example illegal arrest, false imprisonment, trespass, assault, and other civil liberties infringements)?**
199. **What is the estimates financial value of personal injury claims brought by serving and former police officers relating to injuries incurred in the course of their duties in 2018/19?**

(Questions 193 – 199)

I am advised:

Information on civil matter claims, judicial decisions and personal injury claims are listed in the NSW Police Annual report.

Spyware usage

200. **How many licences for Finfisher does NSW Police have?**
201. **What is the oversight, controls and governance of the use of Finfisher and other spyware by NSW Police?**
202. **Is (or has) NSW Police deploying spyware on criminal defence lawyers?**
203. **In this case what controls are in place to ensure confidential client/lawyer communications is protected?**

(Questions 200– 203)

I am advised:

The NSWPF does not comment on methodology it may or may not have, as it may impact on the effectiveness of investigations. Any use of a methodology is in accordance with relevant legislative requirements.

Refund strategy re GIPA

204. **You supported the use of refund strategy to identify any applicants who may be entitled to a refund from the NSWPF misinterpretation of section 57(2) of the GIPA Act. Can you explain what that strategy involved?**
205. **As result of the refund strategy that you supported, how many people contacted the NSWPF who may have been entitled to a refund?**
206. **Do you accept that the refund strategy that you supported was a complete failure?**
207. **Do you accept that NSWPF do not know the total number of applicants affected by the misinterpretation of section 57(2) of the GIPA Act**
208. **Given that the refund strategy was a complete failure, will you now allocate resources to ascertain how many people are entitled to a refund from the NSWPF misinterpretation of an Act of Parliament? If not, why not?**

Questions 204 – 208:

I am advised:

The NSWPF placed a public notice in a national newspaper to invite anyone who believes they may have been affected by this error to apply for a review of their application with a view to a possible refund. A banner on the issue has also been placed on the police website. The NSW Information Commissioner supported the NSWPF's use of the media strategy in this matter.

87 GIPA applicants were identified as being entitled to a refund of their access application fee. Those applicants were contacted by NSWPF and invited to process their refunds.

Police shootings & mental illness

209. **How many people were shot and killed by police in 2018/19?**

I am advised:

1.

210. **How many non fatal police shootings were there in 2018/19?**

I am advised:

5.

211. **Of these how many of the people show in 1 and 2 had an identified mental illness?**

I am advised:

2.

212. **How many people died in the course of police operations in 2018/19?**

I am advised:

7.

213. **Of these how many had an identified mental illness?**

I am advised:

4.

214. **What consideration has been given to revising the police use of force model to provide greater clarity to officers about the need for non-aggressive and non-confrontational responses, particularly to vulnerable people or people with mental illness?**

I am advised:

The Tactical Options Model is deliberately flexible and allows great latitude in the method of response. Mandating a particular 'style' of response for a person believed to be suffering from a mental health crisis is not practical - one size does not fit all. While there are times that non-aggressive and non-confrontational responses are the best approach to a person experiencing a mental health crisis, there are also circumstances where a confrontational response is required to save the life of the person in crisis, or to protect others from the threat posed by that person's actions. The Tactical Options Model is considered sound and provides good guidance to officers regarding the criteria for the use of all their available tactical options.

215. **What training do the NSW Police receive regarding the use of lethal force and near lethal force against people with mental illness? Is this considered satisfactory?**

I am advised:

The training in relation to the use of any force by NSWPF officers is a situational model. Officers are trained to assess the situation based on circumstances, the level of threat and their own capabilities.

Police are trained to use lethal force only when their life, or the life of another is at immediate risk, or there is a risk of serious injury to themselves or someone else, and no other way to prevent the risk. If the behaviour of the person reaches that threshold, then the officer's use of lethal force is in accordance with policy and training.

While the Tactical Options Model includes considerations as to a person's mental state, this is one of a number of factors an officer should consider. The training related specifically to the use of

lethal force does not differentiate between causes for the behaviour, because fundamentally, a non-compliant individual armed with an edged weapon is a risk to the safety of police, the public and themselves regardless of whether they are suffering a mental illness or not. Regardless of root causes, the threat posed by the subject always outweighs their vulnerability.

The NSWPF does not recognise any appointment as “near lethal”. They are either considered lethal, such as a firearm, or less lethal, such as a Conducted Electrical Weapon, OC spray or a baton. As such, the answer provided only addresses lethal force.

Based on the ongoing review of Coronial recommendations, research and internal review, the ‘threshold’ (for the want of a better term) for the use of lethal force is still considered satisfactory. The NSWPF provides significant initial and ongoing training to officers in recognising and responding to persons with a mental illness.

216. When was the last time that these training protocols were reviewed?

I am advised:

Training is reviewed regularly to ensure best practice. This may include consideration of research, the occurrence of a critical incident, the findings of a Coronial Inquest, or findings by other oversight bodies.

Drug dog ticket removal

217. How many people have been denied entry to music events and festivals following false positive searches following sniffer dog indications?

I am advised:

NSW Police Force currently does not collect such data to identify whether a person was denied entry to a festival, following a drug dog indication.

218. How many of these people denied entry to music events and festivals were strip searched?

I am advised:

See response to supplementary question 217.

Firearms inspections

219. How many random inspections were conducted in 2018-19 of storage and licensing requirements for firearms?

I am advised:

6,270.

220. How many breaches were discovered?

I am advised,

218.

221. Are there KPIs or equivalent requiring certain numbers of random inspections per year?

(a) **If so, how are these determined?**

(b) **If not, why not?**

I am advised

That following a state-wide safe storage inspection program, which ran from 2009 - 2013, the Firearms Registry introduced a Risk-Based Safe Storage Inspection Program. As part of this approach, the Registry identified safe storage premises deemed to be 'at risk' due to a range of risk factors, including but not limited to length of time since last inspection, large volumes of firearms, categories of firearms etc.

As this was an agile program with fluid risk factors no inspection number targets were established; rather the emphasis was on targeting locations where risk was identified.

STMP

222. How many people are currently subject to an STMP?

I am advised

As at 3 September 2019, 325.

223. What proportion of those individuals subject to the STMP are Aboriginal?

I am advised

There is no identifying information specific to the STMP case creation.

224. Since November 2017, how many children under the age of 12 have been subject to the STMP?

I am advised:

None.

225. **Since November 2017, how many children under the age of 14 have been subject to the STMP?**

I am advised:

9.

226. **Since November 2017, how many children under the age of 18 have been subject to the STMP?**

I am advised:

224.

227. **Does the Commander for Youth, Commissioner Cassar, now review all children under the age of 14 proposed to be subject to an STMP, or only those under 12?**

I am advised:

Yes, all STMP proposals for persons under the age of 14.

228. **Since November 2017, have any amendments been made to the manner in which STMP targets are identified and targeted?**

I am advised:

The STMP policy and guidelines are updated as necessary to ensure they aligned to best practice and suit the needs of the NSW Police Force and community.

Breach of bail

229. **In 2018, how many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people were arrested for a technical breach of bail only, that is, a breach of bail that involved no further offending?**

I am advised

1025.

230. **In 2018, how many non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people were arrested for technical breach of bail only, that is, a breach of that involved no further offending?**

I am advised:

3093.

231. **In 2018, how many young people under 18 were arrested for a technical breach of bail only?**

I am advised:

710.

232. **In 2018, how many children under 14 were arrested for a technical breach of bail only?**

I am advised:

104.

233. **In 2018, how many people did NSW Police issue warnings for breach of bail to?**

I am advised:

2503.

234. **Do NSW Police collect data with respect to the different actions taken by police with respect to suspected breaches of bail?**

I am advised:

Yes.

235. **At the November 2017 Budget Estimates Commissioner Fuller spoke to about a trial regarding individuals being able to record two addresses for the purposes of their bail conditions. Have NSW Police implemented this policy state-wide now?**

I am advised:

This question is best directed to the Attorney-General.

236. **Have any other programs or policies been implemented to address the issue of arrests for breach of bail and its contribution to the over incarceration of Aboriginal people?**

I am advised:

NSWPF has been and continues to be a member of the Aboriginal Over-Representation Steering Committee within the Stronger Communities cluster including ALS (NSW/ACT). The 'Reducing Aboriginal Over-representation in the Criminal Justice System 2018 - 2020' has been developed and implemented. NSWPF, under the plan, has implemented the Dubbo Bail Project in which flexible bail conditions are set with a view to reducing the number of breaches of bail.

The plan tasks all Stronger Communities cluster agencies with responsibility for implementation of a raft of other strategies aimed at reducing the over-representation of Aboriginal people in the

justice system. If successful, the Bail Project may be extended to other commands. Priority 3 of the NSWPF 'Aboriginal Strategic Direction 2018 - 2023' highlights the need for police to consider diversionary options specifically to reduce the over-representation issue, e.g. Protected Admissions.

237. **In 2018, how many individuals were arrested for breach of bail, when they were not actually in breach of their bail?**

I am advised:

This information is not available.

Criminal Infringement Notices

238. **What guidelines (if any) do the NSW Police have in issuing CINs and charging individuals for offensive language and offensive behaviour that inform them as to what conduct constitutes offensive language and offensive behaviour?**

I am advised:

This is covered during training at the Academy. There are also a number of resources available to officers including Six-Minute Intensive Training Sessions (SMITS), Mandatory Continuing Police Education (MCPE), and Fact Sheet Guides.

239. **What is the total number and (financial) value of Criminal Infringement Notices (CINs) issued for the period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019, disaggregated on the basis of:**

- (a) **Offence type?**
- (b) **Gender?**
- (c) **Age group?**
- (d) **Indigenous status?**
- (e) **Socio-economic / Centrelink status?**

I am advised:

Information on Criminal Infringement Notices is available at www.revenue.nsw.gov.au.

240. **What is the total number and value of CINs issued for the period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019, disaggregated on the basis of local government area?**

I am advised:

Please refer to the response to supplementary question 239.

241. **What information do police give to CIN recipients at the time of issuing the notice? For example, are CIN recipients informed of their right to seek an internal review of the CIN, or their right to seek legal advice?**

I am advised:

That at the time of issuing a Criminal Infringement Notice, information is provided on the notice of the recipient's rights to request, and procedure to request an internal review, the process to elect to have the matter heard at Court, and the process to pay the infringement via the State Debt Recovery Office (Revenue NSW). This is generally explained to the recipient by the issuing officer at the time of issue. The NSWPF website provides information publicly by way of a document named Criminal Infringement Notices. This document explains the process to seek review of a CIN, process for Court election, and payment options.

242. **Do NSW police keep a written record of their reasons for issuing a CIN and the facts of the alleged offence? If so, what form does this written record take?**

I am advised:

Police Officers are required to record matters relating to CINs on the Computerised Operational Policing System (COPS). The COPS Event describes the offence as well as record the legal process taken, whether it is the issue of a Court Attendance Notice or a Criminal Infringement Notice. Police Officers are also required to use their official police notebook to record certain interactions with members of the public including those against whom action has been taken.

243. **Do CIN recipients have to admit to committing the offence before being issued a CIN?**

I am advised

No.

244. **What is the total number of applications for internal reviews of CINs made in the period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019? What was the outcome of these internal reviews?**

I am advised:

This information is not available.

245. **What is the total number of appeals (court-elections) against CINs in the period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019?**

I am advised

There were 71 court elections.

Criminal Record Checks

246. Does NSWPF maintain a ‘register of authorised personnel’ linked to ‘Registered Organisations’?

I am advised

Information on Criminal History Checks is available at www.police.nsw.gov.au.

247. How many people are currently listed as ‘authorised personnel’ for the purpose of conducting criminal record check for Registered Organisations?

I am advised:

Please refer to the response to supplementary question 246.

248. What is the process of adding or removing names of person from the list or register of ‘authorised personnel’?

I am advised:

Please refer to the response to supplementary question 246.

249. Are the names of people which are submitted as ‘authorised personnel’ by existing or applicant Registered Organisations subject to criminal record checks?

I am advised:

Please refer to the response to supplementary question 246.

250. What is the criteria for refusal?

I am advised:

Please refer to the response to supplementary question 246.

251. How many prosecutions for the unlawful dealing in criminal histories have occurred in the last three years?

I am advised:

0.

252. How many criminal record checks were requested through Registered Organisations in 2016, 2017 and 2018?

I am advised:

2016: 43,117

2017: 31,503

2018: 38,680

253. **What was the total of the application fees collected by NSWPF in the corresponding years?**

I am advised:

Financial information is listed in the NSW Police Force annual report.

254. **How many criminal record checks were requested directly through NSWPF in 2016,207 and 2018?**

I am advised:

2016: 68 498

2017: 62 864

2018: 70,259

255. **What was the total of the application fees collected by NSWPF in the corresponding years?**

I am advised:

Revenue information is listed in the NSW Police Force annual report.

Law Enforcement Conduct Commission

256. **What steps have been taken to provide adequate funding to the LECC as recommended by the organisation itself and the review of the Parliamentary committee?**

257. **How many investigations has the LECC been unable to commence due to resource constraints?**

258. **How many investigations has the LECC undertaken?**

259. **Of the investigations finalised by the LECC how many of these have resulted in findings against police of improper conduct?**

260. **Of the findings of improper conduct how many of these have resulted in any disciplinary action? What action was this?**

(Questions 256 – 260)

I am advised:

These are matters for the Special Minister of State, Minister for the Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs, and the Arts, and Vice-President of the Executive Council.

Cops database audits

261. What is the time period of the access covered in a random audit?

I am advised:

The time period is a range of at least 14 days, but may be longer for staff members with lower volume accesses. Specialist Commands tailor this period to suit the volume of accesses in that Command.

262. What is the time period of the access covered in a targeted audit?

I am advised:

The time period is the same as for random audits and also based on the information/risks that lead to the decision to perform a targeted audit.

263. How many disciplinary actions resulted from random audits?

I am advised:

4 incidents identified and action taken against these incidents.

264. How many resulted from targeted audits?

I am advised:

7 incidents identified and action taken against these incidents.

Drug Detection Dogs

265. How many drug detection dogs does the NSW Police Force have?

I am advised:

22.

266. What is the annual cost of deploying police officers from outside the dog squad in drug dog operations?

I am advised:

This information is not available.

267. What is the estimated hourly cost of drug dog deployments (including all required officers and the dog)?

I am advised:

This information is not available.

268. How are locations for drug dog operations determined?

I am advised:

Requests for drug dog operations are made by a PAC, PD or other command unit via the DDS (Dog Deployment System which is soon to be Blue Portal). As a support command, the Dog Command completes the request and supplies the dog/handler based on availability.

Replica firearms

269. How many offences were committed using replica or imitation firearms in 2018/19?

I am advised:

Of the 10 incidents involving the use of replica firearm as a weapon, 9 resulted in related charges.

270. How many incidents have police been alerted to that involved a suspected replica or imitation firearm in 2018/19?

I am advised:

10.

271. How many replica or imitation firearms were seized by police in 2018/19?

I am advised:

24.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Logging

272. **What consideration do you give to the impact of logging of native forests on fire behavior?**

I am advised:

The NSW RFS is in the process of obtaining accurate and ‘real time’ data for forest areas including forestry activities, age and management stages of plantation. In the absence of accurate information, the NSW RFS assumes maximum fuel loads when predicting fire behaviour.

Keelty review

273. **How many RFS response vehicles are there?**

I am advised:

Information about RFS and their response vehicles can be found in RFS Annual Reports, which can be accessed at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au.

274. **How many Automatic Vehicle Locators (AVL) have been fitted to RFS trucks since the Keelty review?**

I am advised:

Automatic Vehicle Locators continue to be rolled out as part of the response to the Keelty review.

275. **When do you plan to have AVL fitted to all the response vehicles?**

I am advised:

Late 2020.

276. **When installation is complete, will AVL data be shared with FRNSW in real time?**

I am advised:

Yes.

RFS dispatch

277. **How many RFS stations are there in NSW?**

I am advised:

Information about RFS stations can be found in RFS Annual Reports, which can be accessed at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au.

278. **How are these stations dispatched now?**

I am advised:

Currently, all fire related Triple Zero (000) calls in NSW are received by the Fire and Rescue NSW (FRNSW) Communications Centres regardless of the location of the incident (either fire district or rural fire district). When the incident call details are passed to the NSW RFS, Rural Fire Brigades (RFBs) are either dispatched locally by the relevant Rural Fire District or by the Operations Communication Centre (OCC) located at NSW RFS Headquarter (Sydney Olympic Park), for RFBs that are on Centralised Dispatch.

279. **Regarding readiness, is the manning of all stations known at all times by the RFS' centralised dispatch?**

I am advised:

The NSW RFS is aware when stations are open and Rural Fire Brigades' general availability to respond to incidents.

280. **Will you ever have to call individual local commands to ensure call turn out?**

I am advised:

The NSW RFS always maintains oversight of Rural Fire Brigades' (RFBs) availability. NSW RFS Duty Officers are aware of the capacity of local RFBs and put in place appropriate practices to ensure a suitable response is provided to incidents.

281. **How many of fire districts does the RFS have?**

I am advised:

Information about RFS and their fire districts can be found in RFS Annual Reports, which can be accessed at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au.

282. **Of these districts, how many are on centralised dispatch?**

I am advised:

Information about RFS and centralised dispatch can be found in RFS Annual Reports, which can be accessed at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au.

283. **Is dispatch information shared with FRNSW in real time?**

I am advised:

Information about dispatch can be found in the Annual Reports of both NSW Rural Fire Service and Fire and Rescue NSW respectively. The Keelty Review made a number of recommendations with relation to dispatch arrangements, recommendations which the Government is pursuing.

284. What does RFS dispatch do if the nearest station to a fire is offline, not available?

I am advised that in the event of an incident occurring within a rural fire brigade area who are not available, the nearest most appropriate resource is located and dispatched to the incident.

285. How long does it take to find out if a RFS station is offline or not available?

I am advised:

NSW RFS Duty Officers know the capacity and availability of local Rural Fire Brigades (RFB) and are responsible for notifying when an RFB may be unavailable. Additionally, the NSW RFS is developing an Availability App which is expected to provide increased awareness of member availability and further enhance the identification and rostering of members.

RFS communications

286. Does the RFS use a non-priority communications network?

I am advised:

NSW RFS communications can be considered as either strategic, tactical or task based. The NSW RFS use a mix of radio networks, the NSW Government Radio Network (GRN) within that footprint and the RFS PMR network (both strategic and tactical based networks). These are used under the same operating methodology as FRNSW.

The GRN and PMR covers the majority of the NSW RFS operating areas across NSW. The NSW RFS PMR network also shares its back haul with other NSW government agencies such as Police and NSW Telco. The NSW RFS also operates VHF Radio on a task based fire ground basis. This is primarily this is vehicle to vehicle communication and not networked. The NSW RFS also operates a VHF Paging Network which is shared with the NSW SES.

287. Is there any reason to use this non-priority network and not FRNSW's priority network?

I am advised:

The NSW RFS understands that FRNSW use the NSW GRN within that footprint and operates a limited coverage network in towns and villages across NSW outside that footprint.

288. **Is adding all districts and stations to centralised dispatch currently feasible?**

I am advised

Yes

289. **Does the RFS use third-party or outsourced call centres to do dispatch? If so, which providers?**

Refer to the answer to supplementary question 87

290. **How much are those contracts worth?**

Refer to the answer to supplementary question 87.

291. **Under your legislation, do you have the authority to engage these call centres?**

Refer to the answer to supplementary question 87.

292. **Does the current FRNSW call/dispatch system have the capacity to dispatch all RFS stations?**

Refer to the answer to supplementary question 87.

293. **Do you allow FRNSW to dispatch your trucks?**

(a) **If not why not?**

I am advised:

No. The NSW RFS always maintains oversight, control and management of dispatch arrangements for Rural Fire Brigades, as a number of factors are considered when dispatching resources. These can include but are not limited to current and predicted weather conditions, brigade area of jurisdiction, type of incident reported, location of the incident, and any relevant known health and safety considerations. Further, local NSW RFS knowledge and its use in bush fire management is particularly relevant across rural and regional NSW.

294. **Can you tell us the current average time lag between 000 calls and dispatch of station via the current system the RFS uses?**

I am advised:

For 2018/19 financial year, the average time for Rural Fire Brigades on Centralised Dispatch is 1 minute and 48 seconds.

295. **Do the RFS have a guarantee of service?**

I am advised:

The NSW RFS ensures an appropriate response to incidents within Rural Fire Districts. Given the vast distances and terrain of where Rural Fire Brigades (RFB) are located around the State, the appropriate resource is somewhat different across these areas. (For example, an RFB in urban area verses a regional RFB.)