



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2019-2020
Supplementary Questions

Portfolio Committee No. 4 – Industry

WATER, PROPERTY AND HOUSING

Hearing: Friday 6 September 2019

Answers due by: Wednesday 2 October 2019

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WATER

Questions from Mr Justin Field MLC

Menindee Lakes

1. Did NSW direct, instruct, or request the Murray Darling Basin Authority to make any releases from Menindee Lakes under s95 of the Murray-Darling Agreement in 2016 or 2017?

ANSWER:

No

2. Was the Basin Official Committee asked to consider (including approve, agree, direct or note):
 - (a) Releases from, the Menindee Lakes in 2016-17;
 - (b) Inundation of the Barmah-Millewa forest in 2018-19.

ANSWER:

- (a) Yes (noted)
- (b) Yes (noted)

Western Land Leases

3. In the gazette dated 30 August 2019, 537 hectares of crown land reserved as travelling stock routes near Lightning Ridge was revoked and granted to one Western Lands Lease holder (WLL 8047)?
 - (a) Why was this land revoked?
 - (b) Who is the leaseholder for Western Lands Lease holder (WLL 8047)?
 - (c) What process was undertaken to make this decision?
 - (d) Was there any assessment of the ecological or cultural value of this crown land before it was revoked?
 - (e) Was there any cost to the leaseholder?

ANSWER:

- (a) The Travelling Stock Route (TSR) that was revoked was a reservation that overlaid Western Lands Lease 8047 and forms part of the lease. TSR's enclosed within a Western Lands Lease form part of the lawful leasehold estate and are not vested in Local Land Services. These TSRs remain available as part of the lease for the lessee's exclusive use subject to the land remaining available for the passage of travelling stock through a permit issued by the Local Land Services. They are not available to any other member of the public for access or other uses.
The land was revoked because it was subject to a purchase application to convert the lease to freehold title. Prior to final approval of a purchase application any overlying reserves are revoked.
- (b) Roderick Allan HALL
- (c) The process to convert Western Lands Lease 8047 to freehold followed the legislative provisions in section 5.9 and schedule 4 of the Crown Land Management Act 2016 and the Department's policy Purchasing Crown leasehold land to obtain freehold title. It also included referencing the North West Local Land Service to determine if the TSR was required for the passage of travelling stock.

- (d) No, the ecological and cultural values are not altered by the tenure changing from leasehold to freehold title. Any potential future impacts to these values from land use change would be assessed under the relevant legislation at the time.
- (e) Yes, the leaseholder was required to pay the calculated purchase price to convert Western Lands Lease 8047 to freehold title.

Water transfers from the Shoalhaven River

4. What was the total volume of transfers from the Shoalhaven for each year for which transfers were made since 2000?

ANSWER:

Date	Shoalhaven Transfer (ML)
2000:	1726
2001:	813
2002:	1078
2003:	106293
2004:	81521
2005:	182743
2006:	134517
2007:	185329
2008:	141055
2009:	10628
2010:	12193
2011:	22680
2012:	1231
2013:	1167
2014:	919
2015:	1212
2016:	478
2017:	0
2018:	23444
2019 YTD:	20718

5. What was the total annual volume of water released from Tallowa Dam or that flowed over Tallowa Dam for each year since 2000?

ANSWER:

Note this data is based on daily read values.

Year	Total of Release and Spill (ML)
2000:	239932
2001:	503171

2002: 308382
 2003: 233103
 2004: 46412
 2005: 192195
 2006: 56707
 2007: 593923
 2008: 129671
 2009: 68715
 2010: 480243
 2011: 658895
 2012: 1443599
 2013: 939593
 2014: 707933
 2015: 994072
 2016: 530503
 2017: 403651
 2018: 118707
 2019 YTD: 68143

6. From 1 May 2019 until the most recently available date:
- (a) What was the daily transfer rate from Lake Yarrunga?
 - (b) What was the daily inflow rates into Lake Yarrunga over the same period?
 - (c) What was the daily flow rate from Tallowa Dam over the same period?
 - (d) What was the daily extraction rate by Shoalhaven Water from the Shoalhaven River?

ANSWER:

Date	Shoalhaven Transfers (ML) Burrawang Pumping	Tallowa Inflow (ML/d)	Total Discharge/Release from Tallowa Inc Spill (ML)	Release to Shoalhaven City Council (ML)
1/05/2019	0	157	231	32
2/05/2019	0	121	217	32
3/05/2019	0	121	217	32

4/05/2019	0	113	217	90
5/05/2019	0	113	217	90
6/05/2019	0	113	217	32
7/05/2019	0	100	200	32
8/05/2019	0	93	179	32
9/05/2019	0	85	167	0
10/05/2019	0	85	148	0
11/05/2019	0	85	102	0
12/05/2019	0	85	116	0
13/05/2019	0	85	102	0
14/05/2019	0	85	102	0
15/05/2019	0	85	102	0
16/05/2019	0	78	102	0
17/05/2019	0	78	102	0

18/05/2019	0	72	102	0
19/05/2019	0	72	102	0
20/05/2019	0	79	102	0
21/05/2019	0	85	102	0
22/05/2019	0	85	102	0
23/05/2019	0	72	102	0
24/05/2019	0	72	87	0
25/05/2019	0	66	87	0
26/05/2019	0	60	87	0
27/05/2019	0	61	87	0
28/05/2019	0	55	87	0
29/05/2019	0	55	58	0
30/05/2019	0	55	73	0
31/05/2019	0	55	73	0

1/06/2019	0	51	73	0
2/06/2019	0	51	73	0
3/06/2019	0	52	73	0
4/06/2019	0	170	73	60
5/06/2019	0	1076	217	60
6/06/2019	0	872	590	60
7/06/2019	0	590	615	60
8/06/2019	0	429	502	90
9/06/2019	0	426	502	90
10/06/2019	0	340	640	90
11/06/2019	0	297	486	60
12/06/2019	0	270	415	60
13/06/2019	0	241	328	60
14/06/2019	0	199	328	90

15/06/2019	0	199	328	90
16/06/2019	0	177	310	90
17/06/2019	0	218	293	60
18/06/2019	0	325	293	60
19/06/2019	0	255	350	60
20/06/2019	0	212	293	60
21/06/2019	0	180	293	60
22/06/2019	0	169	261	90
23/06/2019	0	159	270	90
24/06/2019	0	251	225	60
25/06/2019	0	637	320	60
26/06/2019	0	507	465	32
27/06/2019	0	342	410	32
28/06/2019	0	282	375	32

29/06/2019	0	331	380	90
30/06/2019	0	302	430	32
1/07/2019	0	250	310	32
2/07/2019	0	227	310	32
3/07/2019	0	209	326	32
4/07/2019	0	202	286	32
5/07/2019	0	262	254	90
6/07/2019	0	584	371	90
7/07/2019	0	412	510	90
8/07/2019	0	307	423	32
9/07/2019	0	273	350	32
10/07/2019	0	269	464	32
11/07/2019	0	275	499	32
12/07/2019	0	238	548	30

13/07/2019	0	219	582	90
14/07/2019	900	202	312	32
15/07/2019	0	191	309	32
16/07/2019	1362	180	174	32
17/07/2019	2409	180	234	32
18/07/2019	1911	160	213	32
19/07/2019	0	160	225	32
20/07/2019	0	140	273	90
21/07/2019	0	140	250	90
22/07/2019	0	140	225	32
23/07/2019	0	132	234	32
24/07/2019	0	122	235	32
25/07/2019	601	117	235	32
26/07/2019	0	108	244	90

27/07/2019	0	108	225	90
28/07/2019	0	108	225	90
29/07/2019	0	101	145	32
30/07/2019	0	101	147	32
31/07/2019	0	101	147	32
1/08/2019	14	101	148	32
2/08/2019	0	96	149	32
3/08/2019	0	88	192	90
4/08/2019	0	88	99	0
5/08/2019	0	83	93	32
6/08/2019	0	88	92	32
7/08/2019	0	84	94	0
8/08/2019	0	77	88	0
9/08/2019	0	77	78	0

10/08/2019	0	70	78	0
11/08/2019	0	70	71	0
12/08/2019	0	70	71	0
13/08/2019	0	63	71	0
14/08/2019	0	70	65	0
15/08/2019	0	67	72	0
16/08/2019	0	67	69	32
17/08/2019	0	60	66	0
18/08/2019	0	54	66	0
19/08/2019	0	54	57	0
20/08/2019	0	49	56	0
21/08/2019	0	46	49	0
22/08/2019	0	46	48	0
23/08/2019	0	46	50	0

24/08/2019	0	46	49	0
25/08/2019	0	42	49	90
26/08/2019	0	42	42	0
27/08/2019	0	58	43	0
28/08/2019	490	74	59	0
29/08/2019	1007	74	75	0
30/08/2019	742	109	75	0
31/08/2019	85	300	231	90
1/09/2019	737	172	408	90
2/09/2019	1216	128	251	73
3/09/2019	0	102	217	73
4/09/2019	0	94	131	73
5/09/2019	0	77	86	73
6/09/2019	0	77	176	0

7/09/2019	0	67	114	90
8/09/2019	0	60	70	73
9/09/2019	0	62	70	73
10/09/2019	0	58	69	73
11/09/2019	0	57	65	73
12/09/2019	0	58	64	73
13/09/2019	0	49	65	73
14/09/2019	0	47	54	90
15/09/2019	0	47	50	0
16/09/2019	0	47	50	0
17/09/2019	0	64	49	73
18/09/2019	0	1115	68	73
19/09/2019	101	1376	407	73

A-class water licences in the Barwon Darling

7. Do you agree with the statement contained in the ‘Technical Review of the Water Sharing Plan for the Barwon-Darling Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2012’ by Professor Fran

Sheldon, dated August 2019, that 'Of the 158 licence holders in the Barwon Darling, 10 control 86% of the total share component in the river and 4 of these holders' control 75% of the total share component'? If not, why not?

ANSWER:

Our data confirms the statement that 10 licence holders control 86% of the total share component and 4 of these control 75%. Of the 10 licence holders, 15% of the share component belongs to the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder and 85% is non-government, this includes Bourke Shire Council, private irrigators and farmers.

8. Please provide the name/property description for each holder of A-class licence holder in the Barwon Darling River.

ANSWER:

WaterNSW maintains the NSW Water Register. The purpose of the NSW Water Register is to provide public access to information about water licences, approvals, water trading, water dealings, environmental water and other matters related to water entitlements in NSW.

The NSW Water Register does not include the names of licence holders on licences or approvals, in consideration of section 57 of the Privacy and Personal Information Act 1998.

Consistent with our approach to the publication of personal details of licence holders, WaterNSW will not provide the specific detail requested.

2012 Barwon Darling Water Sharing Plan

9. Will you provide, or otherwise make public, the full list of submissions to the 2012 Barwon Darling Water Sharing Plan? If not, why not.

ANSWER:

No. The Department did not seek permission from the submitters to publish the submissions to the Barwon Darling Water Sharing Plan in 2012.

10. Was the 2012 Barwon Darling Water Sharing Plan that was given concurrence by the then NSW Environment Minister identical to the plan that was gazetted? If not, what sections were different?

ANSWER:

Yes

11. Will you provide, or otherwise make public, the draft Barwon Darling Water Sharing Plan that was put on public exhibition in 2012? If not, why not.

ANSWER:

Yes

Barwon Darling Water Sharing Plan – review by Natural Resources Commission

12. You stated that modelling prepared by Water NSW in relation to the Natural Resources Commission's July 2019 'Draft Water Sharing Plan Review for the Barwon-Darling Unregulated & Alluvial Water Sources 2012' showed that from 1 January 2017 to August 2019 a total of 22 gigalitres was extracted upstream of Bourke from a total system inflow of 772 gigalitres:

- (a) Will you provide, or otherwise make public, the first tranche of modelling undertaken by Water NSW for the period of 1 January 2017 to August 2019?
- (b) Will you provide, or otherwise make public, the second tranche of modelling currently being undertaken by Water NSW?
- (c) What date was Water NSW requested to do this modelling?

ANSWER:

- (a) WaterNSW will publish an overview of the modelling results on its website within 21 days of the tabling of these answers.
- (b) WaterNSW will publish an overview of the modelling results on its website within 21 days of the tabling of these answers.
- (c) 16/08/2019

Barwon Darling – data and transparency

13. The totalled annual metered water usage data for the Barwon Darling River is only available from 2012. Will you make the historical records of annual metered water usage public?

ANSWER:

Data verification needs to be undertaken on historical data, and this is underway. Once data verification is complete the data will be available on request.

14. Can you provide the totalled annual metered water usage for the Barwon Darling River for each year from 2000 to present?

ANSWER:

Yes, we can provide the total annual metering water usage for 201-17 & 2017-18

2016-17: 302,887 ML

2017-18: 19,500 ML.

Data verification needs to be undertaken on earlier data and this is underway. Once data verification is complete the data will be available on request.

15. Does the Government undertake a natural ‘model run’ of data that models water flows on the Barwon Darling River with no obstructions?
- (a) If so, can this be made publicly available? If not, why not?

ANSWER:

DPIE Water has a ‘pre-development’ model run for the Barwon-Darling configured with data between 1895 and 2009. The results from these were used primarily to understand natural flow patterns to inform environmental watering plans. Prior to this year, there was no demand to update annually. We are currently updating our models, and will include an update of the pre-development flow to June 2019.

- (a) The model outputs are available by request.

Menindee Lakes Water Savings Project

16. In regards to the Menindee Lakes Water Savings Project, will the Government use the recommendations in the final report ‘Independent assessment of the 2018-19 fish deaths in the lower Darling’ dated 29 March 2019 by Professor Robert Vertessy to inform the Environmental Impact Statement?
- (a) If not, why not? If so, how?

ANSWER:

Yes

Warragamba inflows

17. What were/are the inflows into the Warragamba system over each of the years 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 (estimated)?

ANSWER:

Inflows into Lake Burragorang:

FY	Inflow (GL)
2015/16	713
2016/17	763
2017/18	82
2018/19	131

18. What were the storage volumes at Warragamba Dam over the each of the years 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 (current)?

ANSWER:

Date	Storage Volume Warragamba (ML)
1/01/2016	1917396
1/02/2016	1917396
1/03/2016	1884492
1/04/2016	1840357
1/05/2016	1800383
1/06/2016	1761376
1/07/2016	2005728
1/08/2016	2007045
1/09/2016	1955765
1/10/2016	1964619
1/11/2016	1942483
1/12/2016	1907803
1/01/2017	1867851
1/02/2017	1820951
1/03/2017	1784781
1/04/2017	1935842
1/05/2017	1935842
1/06/2017	1910017
1/07/2017	1897530
1/08/2017	1864234
1/09/2017	1835292
1/10/2017	1798255
1/11/2017	1764922
1/12/2017	1734175
1/01/2018	1691788
1/02/2018	1642020
1/03/2018	1607574
1/04/2018	1574964

1/05/2018	1530285
1/06/2018	1483716
1/07/2018	1450376
1/08/2018	1414839
1/09/2018	1378878
1/10/2018	1347080
1/11/2018	1324606
1/12/2018	1299346
1/01/2019	1287323
1/02/2019	1253544
1/03/2019	1213419
1/04/2019	1181560
1/05/2019	1144944
1/06/2019	1104593
1/07/2019	1077263
1/08/2019	1052562
1/09/2019	1033974

Transfers from Wingecarribee Reservoir to Marulan

19. What volume of water was transferred from Wingecarribee Reservoir to Marulan each month since 1 January 2018?

ANSWER:

Water from Wingecarribee Dam is used to supply either one of two locations, Wingecarribee Shire Council's Bowral WFP or Goulburn Mulwaree Council who own, operate and maintain the Highland Source Pipeline. The amount supplied to those locations are as follows:

Date	Discharge to Bowral (ML)	Discharge to Goulburn Mulwaree (ML)
2018-JAN	609	4
2018-FEB	545	3
2018-MAR	462	2.3
2018-APR	500	1.7
2018-MAY	449	2

2018-JUN	366	0.4
2018-JUL	408	0.4
2018-AUG	431	1.8
2018-SEP	454	16.7
2018-OCT	424	6.7
2018-NOV	474	2.2
2018-DEC	472	3.4
2019-JAN	521	4.4
2019-FEB	532	6.9
2019-MAR	518	10.1
2019-APR	412	12
2019-MAY	421	12
2019-JUN	350	0.6
2019-JUL	377	0.04

2019-AUG	420	11
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20. What is the proportion of Goulburn’s water supply that has been provided by transfers from Wingecarribee Reservoir for each month since 1 January 2018?

ANSWER:

WaterNSW does not have access to this information. This question is best directed to Goulburn Mulwaree Council.

21. For what periods since 1 January 2018 has Goulburn been on water restrictions and what was the level of restriction?

ANSWER:

Goulburn-Mulwaree Council has been operating under long term permanent water conservation measures but has not implemented water restrictions since 1 January 2018.

22. Are there any water recycling or efficiency programs current operating or in planning for the Goulburn region and what is the financial or other support being provided by Water NSW for those projects?

ANSWER:

WaterNSW is aware that Goulburn Mulwaree Council has a range of water recycling and efficiency programs in place. WaterNSW’s predecessor organisation, the Sydney Catchment Authority, contributed funding as part of the Accelerated Sewerage Program to upgrade the Goulburn Sewerage Treatment Plant, and has also contributed funding to wastewater network relining programs to reduce the amount of nutrients being discharged to waterways to improve water quality.

WaterNSW has no projects in place funding water efficiency projects.

However, Goulburn Mulwaree Council are eligible for WaterNSW's Urban Program, which assists local councils to improve sewage and stormwater management. Councils in the catchment control most of the sewage and stormwater infrastructure, and also have a responsibility under the [Local Government Act 1993](#) to regulate on-site wastewater management systems.

The program addresses stormwater issues by developing the capacity of councils to help improve stormwater and on-site sewage management practices by promoting best practice and passing on the latest science, identifying pollution hotspots and addressing them, delivering targeted education and training, and networking with industry leaders and policy makers.

23. Are any mines in the Goulburn accessing water for operations that has been transferred from Wingecarribee Reservoir to Marulan?

ANSWER:

Goulburn’s water supply is a matter for Goulburn-Mulwaree Council. The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment - Water is unaware of any arrangement to supply water to mines from Goulburn's water supply.

Questions from Ms Cate Faehrmann MLC

Peel River

24. In June Water NSW announced that they will be constructing temporary soil weirs on the peel river near Dungowan village and the Jewry Street bridges. The letter states that the peel river downstream of Dungowan would be reliant on tributary flows from generated rain events until the inflows into the Chaffey dam improve. Has Water NSW modelled the environmental impacts of effectively drying up a 50 km stretch of the peel river
- (a) Is Water NSW aware that this stretch of the peel river has a healthy population of platypus?
 - (b) Does Water NSW have a plan to prevent the devastation of the platypus population in the peel river?
 - (c) Does Water NSW have a plan to prevent fish kill events in the peel river?
 - (d) How long does Water NSW foresee the Temporary Soil Weirs staying in place?

ANSWER:

- (a) to (d) The drought is putting pressure on all the ecosystems in the region, this is particularly true for aquatic lifeforms which will suffer the most in this low inflow period.

With regard to emergency drought works on the Peel River, environment impacts will be considered and addressed through the Review of Environmental Facts (REF), which is under development.

Once finalised, the REF will be made public on WaterNSW's website.

WaterNSW intends to remove the temporary soil weirs once the permanent pipeline becomes operational in 2020.

Emergency Relief for Regional Town Water Supplies

25. Which regional cities and towns in NSW are considered at risk of running out of drinking water in the next 12-18 months?
- (a) Which of these are at risk of running out in the next 6 months?
 - (b) Which of these is considered to be at greatest risk?
 - (c) What modelling has been conducted by the NSW Government to forecast and assess the risks to regional town water supplies over the next 12 months?

ANSWER:

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment is closely monitoring the drought situation and its impact on towns and communities throughout regional NSW. The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment employs a risk-based approach to reporting and management of critical water shortages in regional NSW towns.

As part of this monitoring, the department routinely collects information on more than 380 water supply systems.

- (a) There are 40 water supply systems that have less than 6 months water supply - under a worst case scenario. A number of these communities are very small and experience inherently poor water security. Water carting to these communities can arise at any time. Within this group the following water supply systems have a population greater than 500 people.
 - Cobar and Canbelego

- Tenterfield
- Coonabaraban
- Bourke
- Nyngan
- Walgett (Raw water supply only)
- Walcha
- Murrurundi
- Dunedoo
- Stroud and Stroud Rd

(b) The department has rated the water supply systems that provide water following communities as high risk.

- Taree, Forster, Wingham, Pacific Palms
- Orange, Spring Hill & Lucknow
- Tamworth
- Dubbo, Brocklehurst, Wongarbon, Eumungerie & Moriguy
- Bathurst
- Cobar and Canbelego
- Tenterfield
- Coonabarabran
- Bourke
- Nyngan
- Walgett (Raw water supply only)
- Walcha, Summervale
- Murrurundi
- Bribbaree
- Girilambone
- Coolabah
- Nymagee
- Caragabal
- Byrock
- Fifield
- Oxley Village

(c) The Department's risk-based approach considers affected population, remaining water available and the availability of solutions that could sustain emergency levels of supply. The approach is designed to assess and report on the relative risk of water supply failure under restricted emergency supply conditions. The approach is dynamic and does respond to changes in conditions as they occur.

The Department's risk based assessment relies on up to date information being provided by regional NSW's local water utilities.

26. Which regional towns have applied for government assistance under the Emergency Relief for Regional Town Water Supplies for the cost of water cartage?

- (a) How many of those projects have been funded and are currently operating in NSW?
- (b) How much has the Government contributed towards the cost of water cartage in the last 12 months?

- (c) How much does the Government expect to spend carting drinking water in trucks over the next 12 months?

ANSWER:

Financial and technical assistance is available to Regional NSW's Local Government water utilities to support the continued delivery of town water services when a town or village supply is threatened by an extreme event such as drought.

Regional NSW's Local Government water utilities have applied for NSW Government funding to assist with the cost of water carting to:

- Byrock
- Mount Hope
- Fifield
- Regulated River users near Menindee
- Regulated River users near Pooncarie
- Oxley
- Carabagal
- Bimbi
- Byrock
- Girilambone
- Coolabah Village
- Nymagee
- Murrurundi
- Guyra
- Bribbaree

The NSW Government has also provided assistance to support water supplies to the Packsaddle and Tibooburra communities, north of Broken Hill in the unincorporated area of NSW.

- (a) NSW Government funding has been provided to assist with the costs of water carting to each of the communities above.
NSW Government funding, once committed, is provided on demand, based on water carted. Conditions will dictate the volume and frequency of water carting to each community. The funding remains available for each of the communities.
- (b) Since the start of this drought the NSW Government has committed \$2 million to assist with the costs of water carting as part of the \$16.8 million committed to date on water carting and emergency infrastructure.

The NSW Government is expecting that the demand for water carting will continue until drought conditions ease. For this reason, \$16.4 million has been made available to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment in 2019/20 for the provision of funding to water carting and emergency infrastructure.

27. What is the total amount of water that is being carted around the state in trucks for town water supplies?

ANSWER:

The NSW Government provides funding assistance to Regional NSW's Local Government water utilities based on a water carting plan. Council's water carting plans will specify the volumetric needs of

each community as well as the source of water. Conditions will dictate the volume and frequency of water carting to each community.

28. What is the total amount of truck movements to cart this water? Is there a co-ordinated, state-wide strategy for ensuring the security of regional, town water supplies, or are you responding in an ad hoc way based on applications for emergency funding?

ANSWER:

In Regional NSW, Local Government water utilities are responsible for the planning, pricing and delivery of water supply and sewerage services to their communities. Part of this responsibility extends to the management of water supplies during periods of drought.

The NSW Government has structured program of funding to support water utilities with funding for water carting and emergency infrastructure.

In June 2019, the Minister for Water, Property and Housing wrote to all Councils in regional NSW to bring the current drought situation to front of elected Councillors' attention. The letter also referred Councils to the support that is available from the NSW Government.

For major towns that are facing critical water situations the NSW Government has established Town water Steering Committees. In these committees, James McTavish, the Regional Town Water Supply Coordinator, leads collaboration between the state and local Government bodies to provide oversight, direction and further assistance to manage the situation. This approach has been successfully utilised in other locations such as Tamworth, Orange, Bathurst and Dubbo and may be leveraged in further locations as the drought continues.

29. What is the Government's plan for sustainable town water supply for Guyra?

ANSWER:

Armidale Regional Council is the local water utility responsible for the provision of water and sewerage services to the community of Guyra.

In 2018, Armidale Regional Council was successful in gaining funding support from the NSW Government, through the Safe and Secure Water Program, to complete the design and construction of a pipeline that connects Malpas Dam with the community of Guyra.

The construction of this pipeline was completed in August 2019 and is currently being commissioned. In June 2019 as water supplies in Guyra's existing system fell, the NSW Government approved funding of up to \$820,000 for Armidale Regional Council to allow water carting to Guyra to be carried out. The approved funding also provides allocation for an alternate, temporary, power supply to allow for the pipeline to be operational earlier than planned.

Council has advised the NSW Government that, as a result of the funding and ongoing water carting, water supplies to Guyra will be sustained until the pipeline is fully commissioned. Once in full operation, the pipeline is expected to secure the supply for Guyra.

30. Armidale Regional Council Mayor Simon Murray said Armidale has less than a year's supply of water left. So what is the Government's plan for urban water supply for Armidale?

ANSWER:

Armidale Regional Council is the local water utility responsible for the provision of water and sewerage services to the community of Armidale.

The NSW Government is aware that the storage levels in Malpas Dam have fallen below 50%. Council have taken a proactive approach to the management of the situation and implemented Level 4 water restrictions to limit the usage of water.

The NSW Government is in routine communication with Regional NSW's Local Government water utilities hit by drought, including Armidale Regional Council. The NSW Government is aware that Armidale Regional Council are exploring alternate water supply options.

31. There are a number of State Government supported water carting projects operating in Cobar Shire. Can you detail how much water is currently being trucked into the shire, and from where?

ANSWER:

Since the start of this drought, the NSW Government has committed funding to assist Cobar Shire Council with the costs associated with carting water to the small communities of Nymagee and Mount Hope.

The NSW Government provides funding assistance to Councils based on a water carting plan. Councils' water carting plans will specify the volumetric needs of the community and the source of water. Conditions will dictate the volume and frequency of water carting to each community.

32. With these four new projects, what is the revised time horizon for town water supply for Cobar, Nyngan and Dubbo?

ANSWER:

Water infrastructure projects announced as part of the Drought Stimulus Program are part of a number of actions that are designed to extend water supplies to the communities of Cobar, Nyngan and Dubbo.

For example in Dubbo, the NSW Government has committed up to \$30 million to plan for and deliver an expansion of Council's groundwater bore field. The project will reduce the city's reliance on surface water supplied by the Macquarie River.

Water Restrictions and Pricing Structures

33. Has the desalination plant been costed for long term use?

ANSWER:

Yes. The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) considers all operating scenarios for costing.

34. How much does it cost to produce one kL of desalinated water?

ANSWER:

Around \$3 per KL

Floodplain Harvesting

35. What assessment of the downstream environmental, social and economic impacts of floodplain harvesting has been undertaken during the process of calculating final volumes for the granting of access licences?

ANSWER:

Water take, regardless of how it is taken is required to be managed within the Murray Darling Basin Plan's sustainable diversion limits.

The process of licensing and regulating floodplain harvesting will ensure that sustainable diversion limits can be achieved. This will protect downstream users, communities and the environment from the impacts of unconstrained floodplain harvesting.

In valleys where floodplain harvesting has grown above the relevant limits, implementing the floodplain harvesting policy will deliver improved environmental outcomes. Reports that describe these environmental benefits will be developed on a valley by valley basis as the policy is implemented across the Northern Basin, and will be published by September 2020.

36. What assessment of loss of flows to the Barwon-Darling River through the upstream capture of medium and low flood flows by floodplain harvesting structures has been undertaken?

ANSWER:

Estimation of the volumes of floodplain waters harvested in the northern tributaries and in the Barwon Darling is at an advanced stage, and is being independently peer reviewed prior to finalising these estimates and issuing entitlements.

Questions from the Hon Mark Banasiak MLC

Toorale station

37. How much of the allocated \$9 million Commonwealth funding for the two stage plan for the removal and modification of infrastructure at Toorale station has been spent?

ANSWER:

This is a matter for the Minister for Energy and Environment

38. What date will the full project to remove the levy banks at Toorale be complete?

ANSWER:

This is a matter for the Minister for Energy and Environment

Questions from the Hon Mark Buttigieg MLC (on behalf of the NSW Labor Opposition)

Broken Hill Pipeline

39. Are the funds which are provided into Restart NSW and Rebuilding NSW which come from the sale of NSW assets being used to fund a range of water projects such as bores, weirs with fish hatchery capacity, storage capacity projects, feasibility studies and pipelines?
- (a) What are the projects which are being funded?

- (b) Are the funds provided into all/some of these projects expected to be paid back to the NSW Government from these respective communities?
 - i. Which projects are expected to be paid back and which customers or section of the community will be expected to contribute?

ANSWER:

This is a matter for the Treasurer

40. Can you identify the funding source for the Broken Hill pipeline from the Murray River to Broken Hill?
- (a) Was 100% of this project funded from Restart NSW/Rebuilding NSW?
 - i. If not, what percentage was from this source?
 - ii. If not, what percentage was from Consolidated Revenue?
 - (b) Are the water customers of Broken Hill and surrounds expected to repay all or part of the funding?
 - i. If yes, what percentage of the funding are they expected to repay?
 - ii. Residents of Broken Hill and surrounds currently have a 4 year moratorium on any requirement for them to pay back any water infrastructure money spent – when does this end?
 - iii. Will the moratorium be extended?

ANSWER:

- (a) This is a matter for the Treasurer
- (b) No. The upfront capital costs of the pipeline have been fully funded by the NSW Government. The ongoing operating and maintenance costs will be funded by Essential Water and the NSW Government.
 - (i) n/a
 - (ii) & (iii) The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) has been asked to ensure that the share of the cost borne by Broken Hill customers through the Essential Water determination is fair and affordable. All other costs above the customer share determined by IPART will be met by the NSW Government.

41. If some of the funding was from Consolidated Revenue for the Broken Hill pipeline why was this funding changed after 3 years of Budgets indicated funding was from Restart NSW/Rebuilding NSW?

ANSWER:

This is a matter for the Treasurer

42. Will the Government commit to the guarantee given by Minister Kevin Humphries that the people of Broken Hill and surrounds would not pay for a single cent of emergency water supply works?
- (a) What is the dollar value of these emergency works?

ANSWER:

This matter should be referred to the Treasurer.

43. With regard to the Murray river to Broken Hill water pipeline:
- (a) what is the total value/cost of that project?
 - (b) what is the value of that project that is owned by Water NSW Infrastructure Pty Ltd?
 - (c) does Water NSW Infrastructure Pty Ltd have a corporate responsibility to fully depreciate that asset and if so, over what timeframe?
 - (d) what customers will have proportional responsibility and monetary value for the future depreciation of this asset over the coming years?
 - (e) when the water licence was transferred from the Lower Darling to the Murray, was this entitlement transferred on a simple megalitre for megalitre basis or was there a need to forfeit/gain some of the entitlements one way or the other?

ANSWER:

- (a) \$445M
- (b) As per the audited WaterNSW Infrastructure Financial Statements at 30 June 2019, the value of the pipeline assets (i.e. the property, plant and equipment value) was \$392.3M
- (c) Yes. Depreciation is determined on a straight-line basis to write off the net cost of each item of property, plant and equipment over the expected useful lives as follows:
Infrastructure systems 10-100 years; plant and Equipment 3-7 years.
- (d) Currently only Essential Energy. IPART have determined that offtake customers are not liable to pay a capital contribution to the construction of the pipeline. To date no Offtake Customer is receiving any water
- (e) The issue of new entitlement in the Murray system has been on the basis of providing the necessary entitlement to meet the demands of Broken Hill. The efficiencies gained by the operation of the Broken Hill pipeline will result in less entitlement necessary for Broken Hill than was originally held in the Lower Darling.

Recycling Water and Waste Water Pumped out to Sea

44. How many megalitres are pumped daily into the ocean from North Head Waste Treatment Plant at Sydney?

ANSWER:

Average dry weather flow for North Head Wastewater Treatment Plant for the most recent reporting year 2018-19 was 339.8 ML/day. This was submitted to the EPA.

45. How many megalitres are pumped daily into the ocean from Toukley Sewerage System?

ANSWER:

Central Coast Council publicly reports data for the Toukley Sewage Treatment System. Between 1 January 2019 and 31 August 2019 the median recorded flow from the Toukley Sewage Treatment System is 24.9 ML/day.

46. What volume of Treated Waste water is Hunter Water pumping into the ocean each day?
- (a) What investigations are underway to recycle and re-use these various, large volumes of water?

ANSWER:

The average volume of fully treated effluent discharged to ocean is 108 ML/day.

- (a) In 2017-18, Hunter Water supplied 6,450 million litres of recycled water. Hunter Water ranks in the top ten nationally amongst major water utilities for total recycled water supplied.

Hunter Water is actively exploring a number of opportunities to reuse treated effluent. These include: Hunter Water treatment plant process water replacement, industrial recycling scheme investigations, municipal open space recycling investigations, dual reticulation for greenfield residential development, and agricultural irrigation investigations. Hunter Water is working with large industrial customers to gauge their interest in industrial recycled water services, and is working with local councils to explore recycled water schemes for public open spaces. Hunter Water is additionally exploring agricultural reuse options as part of the Hunter River Estuary wastewater masterplan.

47. Is any work being done - investigations, research or capital projects to potentially catch this treated waste water and instead of pumping it out to sea, using it in some form of recycled manner?

- (a) If so, what is currently underway?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 46 (a)

Water Recycling for Toilets at Stadiums

48. Sydney's ANZ Stadium currently captures the rainwater and it is recycled via the toilets. Is water recycling of this nature a compulsory feature of any of the new stadiums in Sydney?

- (a) Is this the case at the new Parramatta stadium?
(b) Will this be the case for the now demolished Stadium at Moore Park in the city?
(c) Will this be the case at the new Homebush stadium?

ANSWER:

This is a matter for Infrastructure NSW and should be referred to the Premier

Water Data and Modelling on the Barwon-Darling River

49. For which years has WaterNSW performed modelling on water extractions from the Barwon-Darling River?

ANSWER:

WaterNSW maintains an operational model of the Barwon Darling which is used for river management purposes. If requested, WaterNSW can run the model for a specific timeframe – as was the case with the recent request from the Natural Resources Commission.

50. Which Government agency – DPI Water or WaterNSW – is responsible for water data from the Barwon-Darling?

- (a) Extraction Rates
(b) Flow Rates
(c) Etc?

ANSWER:

- (a) WaterNSW
- (b) WaterNSW
- (c) n/a

51. Was any water modelling undertaken between 2009 and 2016?

- (a) If yes, why was it not provided to the Natural Resources Commission upon their request?
- (b) If no, why not?

ANSWER:

- (a) Refer to the answer provided for Question 49
- (b) Following the release of its draft report, the NRC requested WaterNSW to model test Prof Sheldon's hypothesis by running WaterNSW's Barwon Darling Operations Model with and without extraction.

It was agreed in the meeting that WaterNSW would model the period from 2016/17 to 2019 to assess the impact of the extractions. At no stage in the meeting was it discussed nor did NRC in the meeting request WaterNSW to run the model from 2012.

Federal Funds for Water Supply works at Menindee Lakes

52. Budget documents show that between 2014-2017, the Federal Government were willing to contribute up to \$156million to secure water supply to Broken Hill and the Menindee townships:

- (a) Was any of this funding accessed to improve water security around Broken Hill?
 - i. If so, how much and what was it spend on?
- (b) Was any of this \$156 million used to build the Murray River to Broken Hill pipeline?

ANSWER:

- a) The NSW Government did not rely on funding from the Commonwealth Government.
- b) No

Water Sharing Plans

53. How many water sharing plans are there in NSW/

- (a) Currently in place?
- (b) Currently being developed?
- (c) In total?

ANSWER:

- (a) 58
- (b) No new water sharing plans are being developed, however plans are regularly reviewed and updated.
- (c) 58

54. How many NSW water sharing plans have been endorsed/ratified by the Federal Government?

- (a) Is there a timeline?
- (b) When are they due?
- (c) How is NSW tracking?
- (d) Have NSW previously had 'extensions' granted?
- (e) Is NSW seeking further 'extensions'?

ANSWER:

Zero. Water sharing plans are NSW legal instruments. Water sharing plans form part of Water Resource Plans which require accreditation by the Commonwealth Water Minister. No water resource plans have been accredited by the Commonwealth Water Minister.

- (a) Yes
- (b) Submitted to the MDBA by 31 December 2019
- (c) NSW will meet the deadline
- (d) Yes from 30 June 2019 to 31 December 2019
- (e) No

55. Are there grounds on which a Water Sharing Plan might be refused by the Federal Government?

- (a) What grounds?
- (b) Does NSW have examples of this?
- (c) Are there concerns about any of the current Water Sharing Plans?
 - i. Then what happens?

ANSWER:

- (a) Water sharing plans are NSW legislative instruments, but also form part of water resource plans, which are assessed by the MDBA. If the MDBA assesses that the water resource plan does not meet the requirements of Chapter 10 of the Basin Plan, the plan will not be accredited. This means that the water resource plan, under the Basin Plan, will not be in force. However the water sharing plan, as a NSW instrument, will still apply to water users in NSW.
- (b) No
- (c) NSW is working with the MDBA to ensure there are no concerns
 - i. If a water resource plan does not meet the requirements of Chapter 10 of the Basin Plan the state can withdraw and resubmit the water resource plan or the MDBA will recommend to the Commonwealth Minister to accredit or not accredit the water resource plan.

56. With regard to the Water Sharing Plan audits that are overdue and referred to during budget estimates:

- (a) Is it the 25 water Sharing Plans or the 25 Water Sharing Plan audits that are overdue?
- (b) When were these first due?
- (c) Has any extension previously been sought and approved/refused?
- (d) What were the subsequent due dates to any extension previously provided?
- (e) Who are these due to and what are the consequences of failing to meet the due dates?
- (f) Why have these not previously been completed on time?

ANSWER:

- (a) Audits of 25 water sharing plans are outstanding.
- (b) Water sharing plans are to be audited within the first five years of the plan being made. The 25 plans and the dates by which they were due to be audited are:
 - Plans due to be audited by 2015:
 - Peel Valley Regulated, Unregulated, Alluvium and Fractured Rock Water Sources 2010
 - Murrumbidgee Area Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2010
 - Richmond River Area Unregulated, Regulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2010
 - Towamba River Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2010
 - Tweed River Area Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2010

- Plans due to be audited by 2016:
 - Bega and Brogo Rivers Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2011
 - Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2011
 - Greater Metropolitan Region Unregulated River Water Sources 2011
 - Castlereagh River Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2011
 - North Western Unregulated and Fractured Rock Water Sources 2011
 - Intersecting Streams Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2011
 - NSW Great Artesian Basin Shallow Groundwater Sources 2011
 - NSW Murray Darling Basin Fractured Rock Groundwater Sources 2011
 - NSW Murray Darling Basin Porous Rock Groundwater Sources 2011
 - Lower Murray-Darling Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2011
 - Murray Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2011
 - Plans due to be audited by 2017:
 - Lower Murray Shallow Groundwater Source 2012
 - NSW Border Rivers Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2012
 - Gwydir Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2012
 - Lachlan Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2012
 - Barwon-Darling Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2012
 - Belubula Regulated River Water Source 2012
 - Macquarie Bogan Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2012
 - Murrumbidgee Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2012
 - Namoi Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2012
- (c) There is no process to seek an extension and so no extensions have been sought or granted. The Department has committed to completing the outstanding audits by December 2019.
- (d) See answer (c)
- (e) The audits are being provided to the audit panel that is managing the outstanding audits. The backlog of audits arose from 2015 due to the substantive workload over the last few years relating to Basin Plan implementation and resourcing constraints. In early 2018, the former Minister for Regional Water Niall Blair MLC appointed an independent water panel to oversee the work to clear this backlog.

57. Does NRAR maintain a table (similar to the former CIRAM Compliance table) of compliance, investigations, advisory, letters, notices and prosecutions for each of the Water Sharing Plans and is that table available or can it be made available?

ANSWER:

NRAR maintains a table of compliance actions broken down by Water Sharing Plan, published quarterly to June 2019 on the NRAR website and monthly from then onwards.

Financial Status of Sydney Water and WaterNSW

58. What is the current debt ratio of Sydney Water?

- (a) How has this been tracking over the last 4 years?

ANSWER:

Sydney Water's debt ratio (defined as Debt / Debt + Equity) was 54.5% as of 30 June 2019.

- (a) Sydney Water's Debt Ratio over the last years was

2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
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49.2%	49.7%	49.9%	54.5%
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The debt ratio increase in 2018-19 is reflective of Sydney Water's implementation of the NSW Government's policies on Capital Structures (TPP 16-03) and Financial Distributions (TPP 16-04) appropriate for State Owned Corporations.

59. What is the current Standard & Poores or Moody's 'rating' of the Sydney Water entity?

- (a) When did it stop being AAA?
- (b) What is the lowest rating?
 - i. What Debt ratio would drive this?

ANSWER:

Sydney Water's standalone credit rating is determined by an external independent rating agency (Moody's) and takes into account a range of qualitative and quantitative factors.

Sydney Water's current A1 rating incorporates a Baseline Credit Assessment (bca) of baa2, and a four-notch uplift under Moody's Joint-Default Analysis approach for Government-related issuers.

Sydney Water's credit profile benefits from supportive funding arrangements with the NSW Government (which has a AAA rating). Moody's however also considers the corporation's exposure to hydrological risk to be mitigated by Sydney Water's track record of managing such risk and the majority of the organisation's revenue not being subject to sales volume risk.

- (a) Sydney Water Corporation's credit rating has never been AAA.
- (b) As determined by the ratings agencies
 - i. As determined by the ratings agencies.

60. If 'rating' for Sydney Water has slipped from AAA:

- (a) What are the impacts of the rating downgrade?
- (b) Will this mean less capital works?
- (c) Will this mean less ability to borrow?
- (d) Will this mean higher water prices?

ANSWER:

- (a) Sydney Water's current credit rating is consistent with the NSW Government's target credit rating for State Owned Corporations.
- (b) Sydney Water's capital expenditure proposals are subject to regulatory scrutiny from IPART as part of its price setting process. Sydney Water's recent submission to IPART proposes record investment in water and wastewater infrastructure.
- (c) Sydney Water's credit rating is at the target level for State Owned Corporations as per the NSW Government's Capital Structure Policy. It's capacity to borrow is consistent with this policy.
- (d) Water prices are determined by IPART as part of its price setting process. IPART uses a theoretical efficient capital structure to determine prices and does not consider Sydney Water's actual capital structure for this purpose.

61. What is the current debt ratio of WaterNSW?
(a) How has this been tracking over the last 4 years?

ANSWER:

WaterNSW's debt to regulated asset base (RAB) ratio is 57%, as at 30 June 2019. FY16: 21%
FY17: 21%
FY18: 49%
FY19: 57%

62. What is the current Standard & Poore's or Moody's 'rating' of the WaterNSW entity?
(a) When did it stop being AAA?
(b) What is the lowest rating?
i. What Debt ratio would drive this?

ANSWER:

WaterNSW's stand-alone Moody's credit rating is currently Baa2.

- (a) WaterNSW's credit rating has never been AAA.
(b) Moody's lowest rating is Caa.
(c) According to the Moody's rating methodology for regulated water utilities, a debt ratio equal or greater to 100% net debt to regulated asset base (RAB) would be consistent with a Caa credit rating.

63. If 'rating' for WaterNSW has slipped from AAA:
(a) What are the impacts of the rating downgrade?
(b) Will this mean less capital works?
(c) Will this mean less ability to borrow?
(d) Will this mean higher water prices?

ANSWER:

WaterNSW's credit rating has never been AAA.

64. What has been the annual profit of WaterNSW each year, since its inception (2014)?
(a) Does WaterNSW pay a dividend to the State Government?
(b) Each year since 2014 what has been the \$\$ dividend paid?

ANSWER:

WaterNSW was established on 1 January 2015.

WaterNSW historic net profit after tax:

- o 2015-16: \$53.8 million
- o 2016-17: \$100.2 million
- o 2017-18: \$83.3 million
- o 2018-19: \$68.6 million

WaterNSW's historical financial distributions include:

- o 2015-16: 60.6 million
- o 2016-17: \$38.2 million
- o 2017-18: \$98 million dividend and \$652 million capital return (\$750 million total)
- o 2018-19: \$20 million

Lake Toolooma Dam

65. When was the Lake Toolooma Dam established in the Heathcote National Park?
- (a) How often is the dam inspected to ensure it meets safety requirements?
 - (b) Who is responsible for establishing the Lake Toolooma Dam safety requirements?
 - (c) Since the establishment of the dam, how many incidents of misses or near-misses relating to safety have been recorded?
 - (d) Does the Dam have a Dam Safety Plan?
 - (e) What measures are being taken to remove PFAS from the dam water?
 - (f) Is swimming allowed within the Dam?
 - (g) When was it deemed that Lake Toolooma Dam did not meet the criteria to be listed as a prescribed dam?

ANSWER:

- (a) to (f) Given that Lake Toolooma is situated within Heathcote National Park, these questions should be directed to the Minister for Energy and Environment.
- (g) The DSC has not assessed the Toolooma Dam to determine whether it is required to be prescribed.
Options for a water flow down the Barwon-Darling

66. Does the NSW Government currently own, or have access to, any large water supply in the Northern Barwon-Darling river system?
- (a) Is there any supply that is available to be run down the Barwon-Darling river system to prevent further mass river ecosystem deaths in the coming summer: including endangered species if fish, snails, mussels, frogs and other aquatic species?

ANSWER:

The only water currently in the northern Basin is in the Copeton storage. There is current 23 GL in the planned environmental water account (ECA) and 12GL held by environmental water customers in general security licence accounts.

WaterNSW is currently working with the environmental water agencies to identify a delivery plan for the Gwydir to provide water for environmental assets in the Gwydir to assist in mitigating the impact of the drought on critical environmental habitat. The volume in the system is not likely to be able to provide a benefit in the Barwon Darling due to the losses likely to be experienced in the Gwydir but work is continuing to assess where best to use the water.

67. Has the NSW Government made efforts to talk to water holders in Queensland to possibly purchase any water supply to run down the Barwon-Darling river system to prevent further mass river ecosystem deaths in the coming summer: including endangered species if fish, snails, mussels, frogs and other aquatic species?

ANSWER:

No. Under the Basin Plan more water will be returned to the system, and environmental water holders have a large portfolio of environmental water holdings.

However, given the current severe and extended drought, there is no water available in the system that could be delivered to the Barwon-Darling, and only good rainfall, in the right locations, can make a significant difference.

Environmental water holders, with the support of the NSW Government, delivered the Northern Fish Flow Event, an environmental water delivery from April to June 2019 to support the health of the Dumaresq, Macintyre, Mehi and Barwon river systems. There is not sufficient water remaining in storage to undertake another similar event.

Caring for Endangered Aquatic Species this Summer – ‘Noah’s Ark’

68. Will the “Noah’s Ark’ initiatives, announced by Agriculture Minister Adam Marshall at Narrandera on August 28 2019, include any species to be rescued and bred and later re-introduced to this critically ill river system, other than fish?

ANSWER:

This is a matter for the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales

69. Will the fish species to be ‘rescued’ under this package include the full variety of endangered and vulnerable fish species found along this Barwon-Darling river system?

ANSWER:

This is a matter for the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales

Decision Making Details of the Broken Hill Pipeline

70. Which Government body, DPI Water or Water NSW, was primarily responsible for scoping and delivery of the Murray River to Broken Hill water pipeline?
(a) Which agency, or who, engaged Deloitte to assess and scope the final business case?

ANSWER:

The former DPI Water was responsible for the development of the Broken Hill Long Term Water Supply Preliminary and final business cases and ensuring that these business cases were assessed by Infrastructure NSW through the Gateway Assurance process. WaterNSW was responsible for delivery of the project.

71. Can the relevant Government body confirm that the Upper House call for papers shows several years’ worth of emails, reports and correspondence that indicates that the deep bore groundwater source proposed out at Menindee would cost approximately \$160M (give or take \$10M)?
- (a) If internal documents show a bore project costed at \$160M, who provided the capital cost figure, to Deloitte, for the Final Business Case that suggested this Menindee deep bore project would cost \$613M?
 - (b) Was this massive discrepancy in the estimated cost for the bore project – a 400% blowout questioned ?
 - (c) After the final business case had been submitted, why were DPI expert staff still referring to the groundwater sources (bores) at Menindee as a \$160M project?
 - (d) Right up until the Budget preparation process of April 2016, and even by the end of May 2016, the groundwater option (bores) at Menindee was still receiving most of the attention and focus in DPI, Treasury NSW and Finance NSW email exchanges – despite the Final Business Case being finalised in March 2016:
 - (e) Can the relevant Government body explain why staff from DPI, Treasury and Finance NSW, people that had been working on this issue for year, had no apparent line of sight on the existence of the Final Business Case, nor the fact that the pipeline to Murray was becoming top priority?
 - (f) Who ultimately made the call to go for the Murray pipeline option?
 - (g) Did DPI experts, internally, warn that Deloitte, who were responsible for preparing the final business case had no understanding of environmental needs and/or water management principles covered under the various Acts?

ANSWER:

Cost estimates of the cost of the borefields were not fully verified and costed until detailed analysis was undertaken in the Broken Hill Long Term Water Supply Preliminary and Final Business Cases. The cost estimates were developed and checked by Public Works with input from WaterNSW, and all options were rigorously assessed and tested by the agencies involved.

Deloitte fulfilled all the requirements of the NSW Government in preparing the preliminary and final business cases.

Following robust analysis, the NSW Government made the decision to proceed with the Wentworth to Broken Hill Pipeline.

72. Can the relevant Government body confirm that Infrastructure NSW, the Department of Premier and Cabinet, Treasury and the Department of Industries approved a privatised approach to provide water for the Broken Hill and surrounding communities?
- (a) Is privatisation of the water supply network for Broken Hill and surrounds still an ongoing option?

ANSWER:

The NSW Government has no plans to privatise the water supply network for Broken Hill.

- (a) No. Water supplies to Broken Hill are provided by WaterNSW and Essential Water.

Meetings with State Owned Corporations

73. Sydney Water, a State Owned Corporation, requires Ministerial approval to meet with a non-Government MP – Why?

ANSWER:

There is no policy or direction requiring such approval

74. WaterNSW, a State Owned Corporation, requires Ministerial approval to meet with a non-Government MP – Why?

ANSWER:

It is a longstanding practice for the portfolio Minister to coordinate correspondence and meeting requests from Members of Parliament.

Natural Resources Access Regulator (NRAR)

75. Penalty notices may be issued for a large variety of offences under the Act, including Taking water Without an Access Licence, Using Water Without a Water Use Approval and Meter Tampering:
- (a) Does the Government believe that penalty infringement notices are an adequate compliance outcome?
- (b) Does the NRAR believe that the maximum penalty, for a penalty issued via penalty notice, of \$750 for an individual and \$1,500 for a corporation, adequate?

ANSWER:

- a) Yes
- b) The NRAR has a range of enforcement tools available to it for the purposes of resolving alleged breaches of water management legislation, including warning and advisory letters,

statutory directions, prosecution and penalty infringement notices (PIN). All these tools have a measure of deterrence effect based on the level to which they penalise an offending party. Other regulatory authorities in NSW such as the Environment Protection Agency have PINs set at a significantly higher quantum, thus increasing the deterrence effect. NRAR will continue to evaluate the effectiveness of its PIN quantum in achieving compliance outcomes for its purposes.

76. What is the process for determining that a breach will be pursued through a penalty notice rather than prosecution in the Land and Environment Court?

ANSWER:

The Natural Resources Access Regulator (NRAR) takes a graduated and proportionate approach to non-compliance based on the severity of the non-compliance (its impact on the environment and potential harm to people or property) in accordance with its Regulatory Policy and Prosecution Guidelines. The NRAR will use discretion in choosing the appropriate regulatory response, striving to achieve fairness in regulatory outcomes while ensuring we act in the public interest in accordance with its Regulatory Policy and priorities.

NRAR has various internal processes to ensure consistency in applying its discretion as to whether to issue a penalty notice instead of a prosecution in any individual case. In particular, the investigator recommending a penalty notice will have their recommendation endorsed by both team leader for their region and the Manager for the East, West or Water Enforcement Investigative team. In the case of recommendations for prosecution, these matters are endorsed by the NRAR Enforcement Committee that meets monthly to ensure the consistent application of the Prosecution Guidelines and Regulatory Priorities, and that prosecutions are reserved for cases of the highest harm or culpability.

77. Is the NRAR adequately resourced to take on an appropriate number of prosecutions?

- (a) Is the NRAR relying on the penalty notice system to achieve ‘slap on the wrist’ results due to a lack of resources for larger litigation?

ANSWER:

The NRAR is adequately resourced to undertake prosecutions in the current quantum of cases that have been deemed of sufficient harm and culpability to warrant this level of sanction.

NRAR Prosecutions taken under the Water Management Act 2000 are considered ‘core legal work’ by the NSW Government Core Legal Work Guidelines, and as such are referred to the Crown Solicitors Office and funded by the Attorney Generals Legal Fund (formerly the Core Legal Fund).

- a) Penalty notices are among a range of compliance tools available to NRAR – each differing in the quantum of penalty and each applied as a sanction according to the nature and severity of the alleged breach. Only the most severe breach allegations are considered for resolution through prosecution.

78. What are the maximum fines that can be imposed for a person or corporation interfering with a local water utility or local water supply?

- (a) Has any work been done to potentially adjust the legislation such that higher and more severe fines can be imposed?

ANSWER:

There are significant penalties available under the Water Management Act 2000 for these offences. Section 342 makes it an offence to destroy, damage or interfere with any work that is owned by or under the control of the Minister, the Ministerial corporation, a water supply authority, an irrigation corporation, a private irrigation board, a private drainage board or private water trust.

Section 343 of the Water Management Act 2000 creates an offence for taking water from any water supply work without authority that is owned by or under control or management of the Minister, the Ministerial Corporation, a water supply authority, an irrigation corporation, a private irrigation board, a private drainage board or a private water trust.

Both offences are subject to a tier 2 penalty, which is a maximum penalty of \$2,002,000 for a corporation and a further penalty of \$132,000 for each day of the offence, or \$500,000 in case of individual or \$66,000 for each day the offence continues.

- (a) The Water Management Amendment Act 2018 significantly increased both tier 1 and tier 2 maximum penalties for individuals and corporations under the Water Management Act 2000.

79. Is NRAR responsible for any enforcement action on, in or around local water utilities?

- (a) If no, who is responsible for enforcement of rules/conduct around local water utilities?

ANSWER:

NRAR is responsible for undertaking all enforcement actions under the Water Management Act on behalf of the NSW Government.

80. With regard to the NRAR and evidence given during the recent Budget Estimates:

- (a) Where are the 13 offices or co-locations throughout the State and what number of FTE's are located at each of these sites?
- (b) Are any NRAR staff located in the metro areas of Sydney, Wollongong or Newcastle?
- (c) For the purpose of possible efficiency dividends, are the 107 staff referred to as frontline, as per Mr Barnes evidence at Budget Estimates, excused from consideration?

ANSWER:

- a) NRAR has 20 office locations, with investigators based in 16 (the '13' figure quoted by Mr Barnes in the hearing is subject to a transcript correction letter currently with the committee for consideration). The locations and FTE are as follows:

Albury	5
Armidale	5
Buronga	1
Deniliquin	3
Dubbo	13

Goulburn	2
Grafton	4
Murwillumbah	3
Narrabri	2
Newcastle West	12
Nowra	2
Orange	4
Ourimbah	1
Parramatta	58
Port Macquarie	5
Queanbeyan	2
Tamworth	13
Wagga Wagga	1
Wollongong	6
Yanco	4
Grand Total	146

- b) Yes – a total of 76 staff are located in the metro areas of Sydney (58), Wollongong (6) and Newcastle (12).
- c) This question has been referred to DPIE CSP to answer.

Telemetry

- 81.** How many compliance officers are currently employed on the Barwon-Darling River system, and tributaries, to monitor the water being pumped?
- (a) And these compliance officers are responsible for watching over how many irrigation farms?
- (b) How many compliance officers were there 5 years ago?

- (c) How many compliance officers were there 10 years ago?
- (d) Are these compliance officers funded by a fee/levy charged to irrigators?
 - i. How much does each irrigator pay?
 - ii. How is this calculated?
 - iii. Has the rate of charge gone up/down in recent years/
 - iv. How much in fee/levy \$\$ is collected annually on the Barwon-Darling and its tributaries?
 - v. Do irrigators pay less \$\$ for less compliance supervision and more \$\$ for more compliance supervision?
 - vi. What happens to the excess \$\$ that is not spent on compliance measures?
 - vii. Does the excess \$\$ go into Consolidated Revenue?

ANSWER:

NRAR presently has 67 dedicated compliance staff across the state. These staff are comprised of:

- 67 Compliance staff (26 East, 32 West, 9 Water Enforcement Taskforce)
 - o 41 Investigators
 - o 22 Monitoring and Audit officers
 - o 3 Directors and 1 Principal Water Regulation Officer

The 32 compliance officers from NRAR's West Operations team cover the Barwon-Darling River system, but are not tied to a particular part of the states West – they cover all WSP's west of the dividing range. These staff are also assisted by staff from the Water Enforcement Taskforce when matters are progressing to prosecution.

- a) And these compliance officers are responsible for watching over how many irrigation farms?

NRAR compliance officers are responsible for ensuring compliance with water management legislation for all water licence holders, including irrigation farms.

- b) How many compliance officers were there 5 years ago?

In 2014-15, a total of 42.6 FTEs were assigned to compliance, of which 19.0 FTE were externally-funded by a Commonwealth grant.

- c) How many compliance officers were there 10 years ago?

Data is limited, however publicly available information through IPART suggests that 15.5 FTE were assigned to the compliance function in 2008/09.

- d) Are these compliance officers funded by a fee/levy charged to irrigators?

Compliance activities are funded via charges determined by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) under its 2016 pricing determination for the Water Administration Ministerial Corporation (WAMC).

Note: this excludes additional government funding that has been provided following the recommendations of the Matthews investigation.

- i. How much does each irrigator pay?

Under the current IPART determination customer charges vary by location (valley) and water type (Regulated, Unregulated and Groundwater).

Regulated water type customers pay either;

- 2 part tariff (an entitlement charge and water take charges)
- water take charge only (for certain specified categories of licence)

Unregulated and Groundwater customers either pay either;

- 2 part tariff (entitlement and water take charges)
- water take charge only (for certain specified categories of licence)
- 1 part tariff (that assumes that entitlements are fully used), or
- a minimum annual charge which currently applies if a customer's bill (based on their entitlement and usage) would be less than or equal to \$213.74)

- ii. How is this calculated?
IPART determined the charges based on its assessment of the efficiency and prudence of water resource management costs (including compliance costs) submitted by the then Department of Primary Industries - Water. These charges apply until the next WAMC pricing determination which is scheduled to commence on 1 July 2021.
- iii. Has the rate of charge gone up/down in recent years
The current IPART charges determined in 2016 are adjusted annually for inflation but otherwise remain constant until the next determination.
- iv. How much in fee/levy \$\$ is collected annually on the Barwon-Darling and its tributaries?
IPART set regulated entitlement and usage charges in the Far West to recover approximately \$1.3M (\$15-16) in revenue per annum from customers.
- v. Do irrigators pay less \$\$ for less compliance supervision and more \$\$ for more compliance supervision?
IPART determine the efficient cost of compliance and other water resource management activities which is reflected in its determination of customer charges. The review process involves water agency and stakeholder submissions, public forums and the release of IPART issues papers and draft reports.
- vi. What happens to the excess \$\$ that is not spent on compliance measures?
NRAR received approximately \$4.2m in revenue from water users through IPART determined compliance charges in 2018/19. The cost of delivering these services was in excess of \$11.5m.
NRAR is a legal entity with its own bank account, separate from that of the parent Department of Planning, Industry & Environment. If revenue raised for compliance measures exceeded the cost of the service in any given year these monies would be rolled forward for compliance efforts in the following year.
- vii. Does the excess \$\$ go into Consolidated Revenue?
NRAR is a legal entity with its own bank account, separate from that of the parent Department of Planning, Industry & Environment. If revenue raised for compliance measures exceeded the cost of the service in any given year these monies would be rolled forward for compliance efforts in the following year.

82. When was the Data Acquisition System (DAS) turned on so that testing of telemetry data information exchange could begin?

- (a) Following the initial testing phase for the telemetry systems and DAS, is the Barwon-Darling telemetry system scheduled to go live on December 1, 2019?
- (b) Will the December 1, 2019 deadline for telemetry operations going live, be met?
- (c) If the December 1, 2019 deadline is not going to be met, has an alternate date been set for a delayed deadline?

ANSWER:

7 July 2019.

- (a) No
- (b) n/a
- (c) Yes. 31 March 2020

Tallowa Dam

83. Under the Metropolitan Water Plan and proposed transfers from Shoalhaven's Tallowa Dam:
- What would normally be the trigger for those transfers to begin?
 - Has the recent August/September 2019 transfers been unusual or unexpected in any way and if so how?
 - What pumping infrastructure is involved in this transfer process and who is responsible for its ownership and maintenance?

ANSWER:

- What would normally be the trigger for those transfers to begin?
Tallowa Dam is a WaterNSW asset. The dam was constructed as part of a dual-purpose water supply and pumped hydro system. The scheme augments Sydney's water supply and provides electricity generation capability.
Transfers are to commence when total system storage reaches 75% capacity and the level in Tallowa Dam is higher than 1m from FSL.
- Has the recent August/September 2019 transfers been unusual or unexpected in any way and if so how?
The transfer carried out in August and September were partly due to increases in available storage due to rainfall and also in response to a suspension of clause 30 of the Metro Water Sharing Plan and associated amendment to conditions of the Work Approvals 10CA117211, whereby access is permitted to 3 metres higher than FSL. The changes allow WaterNSW to access additional storage in Tallowa Dam for the purposes of Shoalhaven Transfers. Transfers were carried out until the system was taken offline for planned maintenance on 3 September 2019.
- What pumping infrastructure is involved in this transfer process and who is responsible for its ownership and maintenance?

Transfer Scheme Asset	Owner/Operator/Maintainer
Tallowa Dam	WaterNSW
Bendeela Pumping and Power Station	Origin Energy
Bendeela Pipeline	WaterNSW
Bendeela Pondage	WaterNSW
Kangaroo Valley Pumping and Power Station	Origin Energy

Kangaroo Pipeline	WaterNSW
Fitzroy Canal	WaterNSW
Fitzroy Falls Reservoir	WaterNSW
Burrawang Canal	WaterNSW
Burrawang Pumping Station	WaterNSW
Sharps Weir	WaterNSW
Wingecarribee Reservoir	WaterNSW
Glenquarry Cut	WaterNSW

Safe and Secure Water Projects

84. With regard to the 111 projects that have been provided a mix of funding from the \$680M Safe and Secure Water Program, as per the evidence provided by Dr Jim Bentley at Budget Estimates, can a list of the 111 projects and their individual monetary value be provided?

ANSWER:

Since its launch in June 2017, the Safe and Secure Water Program has approved funding to 111 projects across regional NSW with a NSW Government contribution of more than \$680 million. This program provides funding to projects that improve water security, water quality and sewerage services for communities in regional NSW.

This funding comes on top of \$366 million allocated between 2014 and 2017 to water infrastructure projects through the NSW Government's Water Security for Regions fund.

While some approved projects are yet to be announced, information about announced projects under current and historic NSW Government's water infrastructure grants projects is publicly available on the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment - Water's website:

<https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water/water-utilities/infrastructure-programs>

Dams

85. Has the NSW Government made any submission to the Commonwealth Government for access to the \$1.3B funding of dams?
- If so which projects?
 - Were any of these applications for funding support successful and if so which projects?
 - What is the value, project by project, of the Commonwealth funding currently approved to NSW projects?

ANSWER:

Yes.

Successful NSW applications to the National Water Infrastructure Development Fund feasibility component were:

- Peel water infrastructure investment feasibility study (application for \$4.5 m and \$850,000 awarded in 2016)
- Border Rivers infrastructure investment feasibility study (Mole River Dam) (2016 application for \$550,000)
- Cobar and Nyngan water supply feasibility study (Albert Priest Channel) (2016 application for \$850,000)
- Walcha water security feasibility study (\$100,000 in 2016).

These feasibility studies have been completed.

Unsuccessful NSW applications to the National Water Infrastructure Development Fund feasibility component were:

- Catchment needs analysis for NSW unregulated and alluvial groundwater systems (2016 application for \$350,000)
- Economic assessment of catchment needs in NSW (2016 application for \$400,000)
- Mid-Murray River storage (2016 application for \$3.58 m)
- Murrumbidgee storage (Lake Coolah) (2016 application for \$3.66 m)
- Wilcannia Weir (2016 application for \$750,000)

An additional request was made in 2019 under the feasibility component for additional options assessment for the Peel (one third of \$550,000).

In addition, the Minister for Water, Property and Housing wrote to the Deputy Prime Minister on 6 August 2019 requesting that National Water Infrastructure Development funding already committed for Dungowan Dam (\$75 m) be made available to progress a final business case on a new Dungowan Dam, including geotechnical studies, and for the construction of a new pipeline between Chaffey Dam and Dungowan Village.

The Deputy Prime Minister responded on 8 September 2019 inviting a detailed submission to progress the proposal for a final business case on Dungowan Dam.

The following NSW applications made in 2017 to the National Water Infrastructure Development Fund capital component were unsuccessful:

- Cobar and Nyngan water supply project (Albert Priest Channel) (2017 application for \$37.6 m)
- Werris Creek and Quirindi water security project (2017 application for \$4.15 m)
- Malpas Dam to Guyra pipeline project (2017 application for \$6.425 m)
- Lake Rowlands to Carcoar Dam pipeline project (2017 application for \$8.6 m)

NSW applications made in 2019 to the National Water Infrastructure Development Fund capital component are under consideration:

- Boorowa water supply project (2019 application for \$25.37 m)
- Eurobodalla Southern Storage project (2019 application for \$51.2 m)

The following NSW applications to the National Water Infrastructure Development Fund capital (drought round) 2019 component were unsuccessful:

- Lake Rowlands to Carcoar Dam pipeline project (\$8.6 m)
- Re-regulating weir on the Macquarie River (\$20 m)
- Yenda and Roaches en-route surge reservoirs (\$22.725 m)
- Mandamah rural water supply scheme (\$4.5 m)
- Scone to Murrurundi pipeline upsizing to Cressfield Road (\$665,000)
- Central Tablelands water security project (\$4.23 m)

Tamworth raw water harvesting efficiency and security project (\$2.4 m)

86. In order of priority, what are the top 10 dam projects in NSW according to the NSW government?

ANSWER:

In 2018 WaterNSW released a 20-year infrastructure options study (rural valleys) which provides a strategic level qualitative assessment of potential infrastructure options to meet long-term level of service objectives in regulated river water supply areas across NSW (excluding Greater Sydney).

Following the release of the study, WaterNSW identified several dam-related water infrastructure projects within the 20-year infrastructure options study that are worthy of further investigation and consideration by Government. These include, in no order of priority, a new dam on the Mole River and a new Dungowan Dam, among others. The Government has also committed to raising Wyangala Dam wall..

In addition, Minister Pavey has written to the Deputy Prime Minister requesting that funding allocated to Dungowan Dam under the National Water Infrastructure Fund be redirected to progress a final business case on a new Dungowan Dam, including geotechnical work, to get the project to the point where Governments can make investment decisions.

A Class Licence Buybacks

87. With regard to A class licences on the Barwon-Darling and any proposed buybacks:

- (a) Has the number of buybacks been discussed with the Commonwealth Government about the volume, value or number of A class licences to be bought back?
- (b) If so, when did this happen and what information is confirmed and publicly available about the proposed buybacks?
- (c) Does the NSW Government have a policy position that either supports or rejects the proposed buybacks?
- (d) Has the recent report of the Natural Resources Commissioner, where he identifies the NSW Governments support for Licence buybacks, as at April 2019, accurately reflected current Government policy position?

ANSWER:

- a) Yes
- b) 27 June 2019 at a workshop held between the Commonwealth and NSW Governments. The Commonwealth Government has not released any information about the proposed buyback.

- c) No.

The Commonwealth Minister announced the Commonwealth will, in consultation with community and the NSW Government, seek to secure A class licences to protect low flows in the Barwon-Darling into the future as recommended by the report. This was in response to the Independent Assessment of the 2018-19 fish deaths in the lower Darling.

- d) The Natural Resource Commission report does not say this.

Murray Darling Basin Plan

88. As a result of the NSW Premier signing on to the Intergovernmental Agreement on Implementing Water Reforms in the Murray-Darling basin on August 9, 2019, are amendments to the NSW Water Management Act 2000 now required?

ANSWER:

No

89. With regard to the Federally purchased water stored in dams at Toorale Station, what progress had been made in accessing this water for the purpose of river flows, in each financial year, year by year as way of a timeline, since the purchase in 2009?

ANSWER:

The purchase of Toorale by the Commonwealth and the cessation of irrigation in 2009 means that flows are no longer pumped onto lands for consumptive purposes. Since 2009, the Commonwealth has investigated various accounting treatments to have the additional flow recognised downstream.

River flows can be seen from publicly available stream gauge information at sites in proximity to Toorale.

To clarify, the CEWO purchased the unregulated river licences, not the water stored in the Toorale dams as the question suggests. The Warrego is an ephemeral system with very infrequent water flows. No usage has been recorded against water accounts for these licences in the NSW water accounting systems. No mechanisms for non-extractive take in the Warrego has been approved under NSW legislation. CEWO may have recorded watering outcomes under its own reporting protocols.

DPIE EES are managing the Toorale infrastructure upgrade/modification project with funding from DAWR, so are better placed to give an update on the progress of this project.

90. What is currently known about the positive and negative impacts of withdrawing from the Murray Darling Water Plan, as per the predatory work currently being undertaken that Water NSW acknowledged during Budget Estimates?

ANSWER:

The NSW Government regularly considers its options and the risks associated with these options relating to the future of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan, and these change over time.

Permanent Plantings that Require Murray-Darling Water for Survival

91. Over the past 5 years by what size or area has the total hectares of permanent plantings grown along the Murray-Darling river system, within NSW?

ANSWER:

This is a matter for the Minister for Agriculture and Western NSW

92. Does the NSW Government have any role to play in the approval of permanent plantings that will ultimately draw down water supply, via licence, from the Murray-Darling river system?

ANSWER:

The NSW Government does not have an approval role for permanent plantings on appropriately zoned land. Water licences and approvals are required for any water user.

NSW is working with the Victorian and Commonwealth governments to better understand the nature of development occurring in the region, and how best to jointly manage any water delivery challenges in the Murray River.

93. Does the NSW Government have any concerns with the spread of permanent plantings along the Murray-Darling river system and the pressure that is being placed on water access licences for this specific type of agricultural product?

ANSWER:

The NSW Government does not have an approval role for permanent plantings on appropriately zoned land. Appropriate water licences and approvals are required for any water user.

NSW is working with the Victorian and Commonwealth governments to better understand the nature of development occurring in the region, and how best to jointly manage any water delivery challenges in the Murray River.

94. Is the NSW Government working on, or planning for, a change in the approval system that has allowed for the expansion of the permanent plantings along the Murray-Darling river system?

ANSWER:

The NSW Government does not have an approval role for permanent plantings on appropriately zoned land. Appropriate water licences and approvals are required for any water user.

NSW is working with the Victorian and Commonwealth governments to better understand the nature of development occurring in the region, and how best to jointly manage any water delivery challenges in the Murray River.

Desalination and Reverse Osmosis Water Treatments

95. With regard to the testimony given by Mr McTavish during the recent budget Estimates where he makes reference to water treatment plants:

- (a) Are there currently temporary mobile (small unit) desalination plants operating at various sites across NSW to support the supply of higher quality water and if so, where are they operating and how many of them are in operation?
- (b) As per past (a) above, who is funding the supply, transport and installation of each of these units?

- (c) As per part (a) above, who is funding the daily ongoing maintenance, care and operation of each of these plants?
- (d) Are the costs referred to in parts (b) and (c) above being passed on to water users, particularly residential and business customers?
- (e) Are there currently temporary mobile (small unit) reverse osmosis plants operating at various sites across NSW to support the supply of higher quality water and if so, where are they operating and how many of them are in operation?
- (f) As per part (e) above, who is funding the supply, transport and installation of each of these units?
- (g) As per part (e) above, who is funding the daily ongoing maintenance, care and operation of each of these plants?
- (h) Are the costs referred to in parts (f) and (g) above being passed on to water users, particularly residential and business customers?
- (i) Are there currently reverse osmosis plants under construction, or perhaps recently constructed in response to the drought, for operation at various sites across NSW to support the supply of higher quality water and if so, where are they operating and/or under construction and how many of them, in total, will be in operation by December 31, 2019?
- (j) As per part (i) above, who is funding the supply, construction and installation of each of these units?
- (k) As per part (i) above, who is funding the daily ongoing maintenance, care and operation of each of these plants?
- (l) Are the costs referred to in parts (j) and (k) above being passed on to water users, particularly residential and business customers?

ANSWER:

- (a) The NSW Government is aware of one temporary desalination/reverse osmosis unit currently operating in regional NSW that is connected to the water supply system. This unit is in Tenterfield and being trialled on a waste stream from the water treatment plant.
- (b) The unit in Tenterfield was donated by a charity, Rural Aid.
- (c) The NSW Government understands that costs associated with the unit installed in Tenterfield, most importantly the power supply costs, are being covered by Tenterfield Shire Council.
- (d) Any costs borne by Tenterfield Shire Council are likely to be passed on to their water supply customers.
- (e) - (h) see responses to (a) - (d)

Woronora Reservoir

96. With regard to the Woronora Reservoir:

- (a) Is the Government currently aware of any surface cracking in this catchment area that is leading to the loss of water from the catchment?
- (b) What work is currently underway to better understand water in the catchment that apparently disappears temporarily into cracks and fissures only to re-appear further downstream with a coloured appearance possibly due to mineral influences from underground?
- (c) What mining is currently approved underneath the Woronora Reservoir?

- (d) What is the current status of the application for an additional series of up to 10 long-wall panels underneath the Woronora Reservoir?
- (e) Is it possible to measure or determine the amount of water, by volume, that is being lost through the cracks and fissures within the Woronora catchment and if so what is that total loss per annum?
- (f) Has any work been undertaken to fill or close the cracks and fissures within the catchment and if so, what is the nature of this work and how is it progressing and is the success or failure able to be measured?
- (g) Given the potential for water within the Woronora Reservoir to be tainted by various minerals, is any additional work done on the screening and treatment of water being delivered to customers from this reserve?

ANSWER:

- (a) This is a matter for the Deputy Premier.
- (b) This is a matter for the Deputy Premier.
- (c) This is a matter for the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces
- (d) This is a matter for the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces
- (e) This is a matter for the Deputy Premier.
- (f) This is a matter for the Deputy Premier.
- (g) Sydney Water and WaterNSW regularly review risks to our water supply at Woronora and this informs how we operate the system. Water from Woronora is filtered and monitored 24/7 to ensure the water supplied to customers meets Australian Drinking Water Guidelines. A comprehensive ongoing monitoring program is in place and is regularly reported to NSW Health.

Hunter Water Dividend

97. Before the state election in March the Government ruled out stripping an additional \$100 million from Hunter Water but after the election back flipped and took the additional money, why?

ANSWER:

I understand that this question has been addressed by the Treasurer.

98. Considering the government is requiring Hunter Water to pay an additional \$100 million dividend and Hunter Water will need to borrow these funds from TCorp, what is the cost of Hunter Water servicing this debt?

ANSWER:

I understand that this question has been addressed by the Treasurer.

99. Why is the Government stripping an extra \$100 million dollar dividend out of Hunter Water?

ANSWER:

I understand that this question has been addressed by the Treasurer.

100. Will the cost of servicing this debt be passed on to customers?

- (a) If not, how will the interest be paid?

ANSWER:

I understand that this question has been addressed by the Treasurer.

101. Will the Government be seeking any more additional dividends from Hunter Water this financial year?

ANSWER:

I understand that this question has been addressed by the Treasurer.

102. Will the cost of servicing this debt result in reduced funds in Hunter Water's budget to deliver improved services and infrastructure for their customers, like sewer services to customers in Hexham?

ANSWER:

I understand that this question has been addressed by the Treasurer.

103. Why has the government imposed this water tax on Hunter Water customers?

ANSWER:

I understand that this question has been addressed by the Treasurer.

Ministerial Travel/Meal Allowance

104. How many nights travel were claimed by the Minister during the 2018-19 period?

ANSWER:

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

105. How many nights travel were claimed by the Minister's spouse during the 2018-19 period?

ANSWER:

Refer to answer provided for Question 104

106. What was the total amount of travel allowances claimed by the Minister and their spouse (if applicable) during 2018-19?

ANSWER:

Refer to answer provided for Question 104

107. What is the total amount of meal allowances claimed by the Minister and their spouse (if applicable) during 2018-19?

ANSWER:

Refer to answer provided for Question 104

Efficiency dividends

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

ANSWER:

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

109. What is the forecast efficiency dividend saving [sic] for each department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio in

- (a) 2019-20?
- (b) 2020-21?
- (c) 2021-22?

ANSWER:

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

110. 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?

ANSWER:

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

Ministerial Office Administration

111. 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?

ANSWER:

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/>

112. 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?

ANSWER:

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.

113. 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 [sic] in 2018-19?
 - (c) What was the cost of replacing these devices?

ANSWER:

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.

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

ANSWER:

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

115. 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?

ANSWER:

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

116. 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?

ANSWER:

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

117. 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?

ANSWER:

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

118. 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?

ANSWER:

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

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

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

ANSWER:

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

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

ANSWER:

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

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

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

ANSWER:

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.

122. 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?

ANSWER:

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.

- 123.** 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?

ANSWER:

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

- 124.** 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?

ANSWER:

No.

Agile Workspaces/Activity Based Working/Hot-desking

- 125.** 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?

ANSWER:

Accommodation planning for Planning, Industry and Environment Cluster agencies is undertaken in accordance with the Government's accommodation strategy and design guidelines. Agile working environments are being rolled out as appropriate.

- 126.** 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?

ANSWER:

Accommodation planning for Planning, Industry and Environment Cluster agencies is undertaken in accordance with the Government's accommodation strategy and design guidelines. Agile working environments are being rolled out as appropriate.

Hospitality

127. 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?

ANSWER:

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

128. 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?

ANSWER:

The Planning, Industry and Environment Cluster uses Labour Hire firms, in accordance with NSW Public Service policies to cover temporary vacancies as required.

Stationary

129. 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?

ANSWER:

Stationery purchases by Planning, Industry and Environment Cluster agencies are made in accordance with the applicable policies and procedures on procurement.

Credit Cards

130. 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?

ANSWER:

The NSW Government has implemented a PCard program to realise a number of benefits including savings from the use of cards over traditional high cost procure-to-pay processes and the enhanced capability to track and monitor expenditure.

Cards are issued to staff according to business need and are managed in accordance with Treasury Policy TPP 17-09 Use and Management of NSW Government Purchasing Cards.

Staff are prohibited from using official PCards for personal or other unofficial purposes and cards are not connected to reward schemes or any other program that would provide a personal benefit to the cardholder.

All NSW Government card balances are paid within bank payments terms and therefore no late fees or interest charges are incurred.

Media and Public Relations

131. 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?

ANSWER

(a)-(b) DPIE staff numbers are included in the Annual Report. DPIE staff numbers 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

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

ANSWER:

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

133. 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?

ANSWER:

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

Overseas Trips

134. 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?
- (e)

ANSWER:

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

Department/Agency Travel

135. 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?

ANSWER:

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

Drivers

136. 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?

ANSWER:

No senior executives in the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment are provided drivers.

Consulting

137. 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

ANSWER:

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

Web Content

138. 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?

ANSWER:

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

b) Based on the information available on 27 September top 20 websites by unique URL (domain) for DPIE.

Notes:

- As DPIE is a new cluster, data has been retrieved from several agencies/departments.
- Data tagging and reporting standards vary and has not been normalized across the cluster.
- This may impact the overall data quality.
 - As an example, Google Analytics accounts are filtered inconsistently across the accounts. Some exclude all "internal" government users to give a pure customer view, some data includes all traffic.
- Data is reported as Total Sessions from 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019.
- Some Agencies are in the process of transitioning in and out of the PDIE infrastructure. This may impact-full data sets.
- We are sourcing but do not currently have data for the following websites. These may impact the rankings: asset.gov.com.au, basix.nsw.gov.au, ipcn.nsw.gov.au, mhl.nsw.gov.au, zoo.nsw.gov.au, landcare.nsw.gov.au, landcom.nsw.gov.au, landmanagement.nsw.gov.au, leadsmart.nsw.gov.au, lhib.nsw.gov.au, mpgp.nsw.gov.au, nrc.nsw.gov.au, nvp.nsw.gov.au, peopleandplaces.nsw.gov.au

nationalparks.nsw.gov.au
planningportal.nsw.gov.au
environment.nsw.gov.au
planning.nsw.gov.au
dpi.nsw.gov.au
epa.nsw.gov.au
industry.nsw.gov.au
rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au
foodauthority.nsw.gov.au
darlingharbour.com
Sydneyolympicpark.com.au
energysaver.nsw.gov.au
therocks.com
olg.nsw.gov.au
petregistry.nsw.gov.au
liquorandgaming.nsw.gov.au
centennialparklands.com.au
forestrycorporation.com.au
aquaticcentre.com.au
wildaboutwhales.com.au

Department/Agency Staffing

139. 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?

ANSWER:

Voluntary redundancies are a component for agencies to achieve their efficiency dividends. Redundancy figures can be found in the Annual Report. 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.

140. What was the total cost of all redundancies?

ANSWER:

Voluntary redundancies are a component for agencies to achieve their efficiency dividends. Redundancy figures can be found in the Annual Report. 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.

141. 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?

ANSWER:

Voluntary redundancies are a component for agencies to achieve their efficiency dividends. Redundancy figures can be found in the Annual Report. 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.

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

ANSWER:

Yes. One former Ministerial adviser has been employed on a short term basis as a contractor by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment.

143. 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?

ANSWER:

11 staff were dismissed in 2018/2019. The reasons were as follows: 4 - inappropriate behaviour; 2 - criminal conviction; 3 -unsatisfactory performance; 1 - fraud; 1 - failure to follow direction.

144. 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?

ANSWER:

Advertising expenses can be found in the Annual Report.

Smart Phone

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

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

ANSWER:

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

146. 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?

ANSWER:

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

147. How many had to be replaced due to damage?

ANSWER:

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

148. How many were reported as lost?

ANSWER:

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

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

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

ANSWER:

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

150. 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?

ANSWER:

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

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

ANSWER:

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

152. How many were reported as lost?

ANSWER:

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

153. 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?

ANSWER:

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

154. 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?

ANSWER:

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

155. 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?

ANSWER:

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

156. 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?

ANSWER:

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

Merchant fees

157. 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.

ANSWER:

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

Department of Planning Industry and Environment staff only use their P-cards 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.

158. 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.

ANSWER:

Please refer to the response to 157

159. 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?

ANSWER:

Please refer to the response to 157

Advertising and Sponsorships

160. 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?

ANSWER:

The Financial Statements, including advertising, are available in agency annual reports. The NSW Government uses 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.

- 161.** 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?

ANSWER:

The Financial Statements, including advertising, are available in agency annual reports. The NSW Government uses 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

- 162.** 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.

ANSWER:

In accordance with the NSW Procurement Board's Direction (PBD-2013-05), the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment has 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. The former Department of Industry and former Department of Planning and Environment specifically incorporated PBD2013-05 into procurement procedures, in addition to providing guidance regarding probity on intranets. Agency Annual Report includes all consultancies including those involving probity advisors valued more than \$50,000.

Energy

- 163.** 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?

ANSWER:

Energy purchases by Planning, Industry and Environment 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.

164. 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.

ANSWER:

Please refer to the response to 163

165. 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?

ANSWER:

Please refer to the response to 163

166. 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?

ANSWER:

Please refer to the response to 163

167. 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?

ANSWER:

Please refer to the response to 163

168. What proportion of that electricity is it estimated will come from renewable sources, for each year?

ANSWER:

Please refer to the response to 163

169. 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.)?

ANSWER:

Please refer to the response to 163

170. 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?

ANSWER:

Please refer to the response to 163

General Costs

171. 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?

ANSWER:

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

Domestic Violence Leave Policies, Awareness and Usage

172. 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

ANSWER:

- (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. The Department's Leave Management Policy is available on it's Intranet.
- (b) 2009 and amended in 2012 with a new clause Section 84A.
- (c) Domestic Violence leave is covered in the Crown Employees (PS Conditions of Employment) Award which applies across the sector for all employees. Contractors are not eligible for Domestic Violence leave.
- (d) From 1 January 2019, a separate leave type of Domestic & Family Violence Leave was made available as a separate leave type. In 2018-19, there were no reported leave days of this type taken.

- (e) – (g) In accordance with the Award, 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. Data is not available for days of domestic violence leave or days of other personal leave taken, as these are not separately noted when special leave is processed as a single leave category.
- (h) All staff and their immediate family members have access to EAP. Contractors should in the first instance utilise the EAP service provided by their primary employer, if this is not available the DPIE service is made available to them.
- (i) There is currently no cluster wide training targeting domestic violence as the topic. Privacy and Personal Information Protection online training covers privacy.
The Department is currently considering a variety of options with regard to supporting people affected by or managing people affected by domestic violence. Staff may contact Human Resources for support and seek flexible work arrangements. As contractors are not employed by DPE, where requiring support, DPE will work with the contractor's agency to facilitate access to appropriate services to provide the best possible outcome for contractors wellbeing.

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

ANSWER:

There is currently no cluster wide training targeting domestic violence as the topic. Privacy and Personal Information Protection online training covers privacy. The Department is currently considering a variety of options with regard to supporting people affected by or managing people affected by domestic violence.

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

ANSWER:

E-learning is made available however this is voluntary and the system does not hold nor provide data or statistics on attendance.

175. 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?

ANSWER:

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment complies 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

176. 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

ANSWER:

- (a) & (b) The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment includes anti-bullying and harassment training as part of the induction process for new staff. The training is interactive, comprising of videos and knowledge quizzes that must be passed with 100% accuracy and takes 30 minutes to complete.
- (c) Complaints of this nature are addressed through the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment’s relevant policies and procedures. Not all complaints are raised as a formal complaint and may be addressed informally and directly between the individuals concerned.

Participation of women in Government

177. 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?

ANSWER:

(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

178. 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?

ANSWER:

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

Unmanned Aerial Services

179. 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?

ANSWER:

The Financial Statements, including expenditure on unmanned aerial services, are available in agency annual reports.

Seconded Staff

180. 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?

ANSWER:

NSW Government sector employees may be seconded from agencies to Ministers' offices in accordance with Clause 35 of the Government Sector Employment Regulation 2014.

181. Please provide their names, their substantive work title, and their seconded work title.

ANSWER:

NSW Government sector employees may be seconded from agencies to Ministers' offices in accordance with Clause 35 of the Government Sector Employment Regulation 2014.

Consultant Costs

182. 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?

ANSWER:

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

183. 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?

ANSWER:

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

GIPA Questions to the CEOs/ Department Secretaries

184. Since March 30, how many formal GIPAs have your cluster/ department received?

ANSWER:

Note: The current Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) did not exist until 1 July 2019. Prior to this, the primary agencies which now make up DPIE were:

- The Department of Planning and Environment (DPE)
- The Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH)
- The Department of Industry (DOI)

- The Office of Local Government (OLG)

Some other business units which now make up DPIE were part of other clusters prior to 1 July, and some parts of the previous agencies no longer form part of DPIE. For example:

- Heritage is now part of the Department of Premier and Cabinet
- The State Archives and Records Authority is now part of Premier and Cabinet
- Property NSW was previously part of the Department of Finance, Services and Innovation
- The Land and Housing Corporation was previously part of Family and Community Services.

DPIE's response to the questions taken on notice are therefore split into two categories:

1. 30 March to 30 June 2019, and
2. 1 July to 11 September 2019

The first category will include figures for DPE, OEH, DOI and OLG only, and separately. The second category will provide a single figure for the current DPIE cluster.

30 March to 30 June 2019	
DPE	40
OEH	23
DOI	43
OLG	2
1 July to 11 September 2019	
DPIE	103
Hunter Water	3

185. Out of the received formal GIPAs, how many have you determined to:

- (a) Grant full access to the information?
- (b) Grant partial access to the information?
- (c) Not grant access to the information?

ANSWER:

- a) Grant full access to the information?

30 March to 30 June 2019	
DPE	8

OEH	4
DOI	11
OLG	2
1 July to 11 September 2019	
DPIE	9
Hunter Water	2

b) Grant partial access to the information?

30 March to 30 June 2019	
DPE	17
OEH	7
DOI	13
OLG	0
1 July to 11 September 2019	
DPIE	22
Hunter Water	1

c) Not grant access to the information?

30 March to 30 June 2019	
DPE	3
OEH	2
DOI	1

OLG	0
1 July to 11 September 2019	
DPIE	5
Hunter Water	1

Note: Where there are discrepancies between the number received and the number of outcomes, it will be because of one of the following:

- Transferred to another agency
- Withdrawn by the applicant
- Not yet finalised
- Information not held
- Refuse to deal (see section 60 of the GIPA Act for the reasons an agency can refuse to deal with an application)

186. Out of the GIPA where partial information or no information was granted, how many have decided to appeal?

(a) Out of those who have decided to appeal, how many have decided to use:

- i. The agency's internal appeals' mechanism?
- ii. Review by the Information Commissioner?
- iii. Review by NCAT?

(b) How many of those GIPAs have been overturned on appeal?

- i. Internal appeals' mechanism?
- ii. Review of the Information Commissioner?
- iii. Review by NCAT?

ANSWER:

30 March to 11 September 2019 = 15

Note 1: Whilst there is no formal 'appeal' function under GIPA, applicants and third parties consulted during the processing of an application can request a decision be reviewed by the NSW CAT. Requests for review by third parties are because that party has objected to release but the agency has decided to release despite their objections. A third-party application for review is therefore usually because they want information to be withheld.

The figures are therefore given for reviews requested by the original applicant, as these are more likely in the nature of an 'appeal' against access to information being declined.

Note 2: The figures are given as consolidated figures for the full period of 30 March 2019 to 11 September 2019.

a) Out of those who have decided to appeal, how many have decided to use:

- i. The agency’s internal appeal mechanism?
- ii. Review by the Information Commissioner?
- iii. Review by the NCAT?

i. The agency’s internal appeal mechanism	8
ii. Review by the Information Commissioner	5
iii. Review by the NCAT	2

- b) How many of those GIPAs have been overturned on appeal?
 - i. Internal appeals mechanism?
 - ii. Review by the Information Commissioner?
 - iii. Review by NCAT?

i. Internal appeals mechanism	4
ii. Review by the Information Commissioner	1
iii. Review by the NCAT	1

Decisions are not ‘overturned’ by internal review the original decision is varied. The Information Commissioner cannot vary a decision, only make recommendations to the agency to review a decision.

187. GIPAs that have been granted full or partial access, how many appear on the agency’s disclosure log?

- (a) What is the rationale for not putting GIPAs on the agency’s disclosure log (excluding GIPAs asking for personal information)?

ANSWER:

DPIE is in the process of consolidating disclosure logs for the agencies that now form DPIE, creating a single disclosure log. DPIE did not exist prior to 1 July 2019, and decisions in relation to applications to DPIE will not be posted to the disclosure log until the review period has expired (40 working days after decision). The disclosure logs with decisions of agencies made between 1 April to 30 June 2019, where information maybe of interest to members of the public, are being updated as the review period for those decisions expires. Websites are currently being updated and decisions made, which are appropriate for the disclosure log, will be posted in due course.

Note: decisions to release information will not be put on the disclosure log while a third party has a right to request review of an agency’s decision to release. This would be a minimum of 40 working days from the date of the decision, and longer if review rights are activated.

- (a) The GIPA Act does not require all applications to be placed on a disclosure log, only those matters which the agency deems is likely to be of interest to other members of the public.

Hunter Water:

None

- (a) They are specific applications that are not considered to be of interest to other members of the public

188. Has any GIPAs that appeared on the agency's disclosure log been taken down?

- (a) For what reason/s?

ANSWER:

No.

- (a) N/A

Administration of Acts

189. What, if any, planned reviews are being done over the next 2 years for any of the acts and/or their regulations administered by the Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation?

- (a) Which regulations that fall under these acts are due to cease as at 1 September 2019, and 1 September 2020?
- (b) Given that various regulations, as set out under the Subordinate Legislation Act, cease five years after being published, what mechanisms have you set up to ensure that regulations which are required to be maintained after this 5 year period remain in force?

ANSWER:

No regulations under Acts in this portfolio are due for repeal at 1 September 2019.

The following regulations are due for repeal 1 September 2020:

- Cemeteries and Crematoria Regulation 2014
- Hunter Water Regulation 2015
- Residential Tenancies Regulation 2010
- Water Industry Competition (Access to Infrastructure Services) Regulation 2007
- Water Industry Competition (General) Regulation 2008
- Water NSW Regulation 2013

190. Which acts in this portfolio are yet to commence?

- (a) Are there any acts that have commenced but have provisions that are yet to commence?
- i. What are they?

ANSWER:

The following Acts are partially uncommenced:

- Dams Safety Act 2015 No 26
- Residential Tenancies Amendment (Review) Act 2018 No 58
- Water Industry Competition Amendment (Review) Act 2014 No 57
- Water Management Act 2000 No 92
- Water Management Amendment Act 2010 No 133
- Water Management Amendment Act 2014 No 48
- Water Management Amendment Act 2018 No 31

Note also that some Acts in this portfolio are subject to amendments by Acts in other portfolios which have not commenced.

(a) Amendments made to the following provisions in Acts in this portfolio are yet to commence:

- *Aboriginal Housing Act 1998*: section 39
- *Central Coast Water Corporation Act 2006*: section 58
- *Crown Land Management Act 2016*: section 3.30
- *Dams Safety Act 2015*: entire Act except clause 5 of Schedule 2
- *Housing Act 2001*: sections 17, 67
- *Hunter Water Act 1991*: section 36
- *Property NSW Act 2006*: section 21A
- *Residential Tenancies Act 2010*: sections 3, 26, 29, 31A, 36, 41, 52, 55, 55A, 64A, 65, 65A, 65B, 65C, 65D, 66, 80, 85, 88, 89, 92A, 98A, 100, 103A, 107, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 186, 196, 216, Schedule 2
- *Roads Act 1993*: sections 99, 211
- *Sydney Water Act 1994*: sections 12, 55, 90, 91, 97, Schedule 2
- *Valuation of Land Act 1916*: section 50
- *Waste Recycling and Processing Corporation (Authorised Transaction) Act 2010*: section 19
- *Water Act 1912*: sections 118A, 129, 129A
- *Water Industry Competition Act 2006*: long title, section 2A, Part 2, sections 42, 43, 46AA, 46AB, 46AC, 46AD, 46AE, 46AF, 47, 49, 50, 50A, 50B, 51, Part 5 Division 3, Part 6, Sections 58, 64, 65, 65A, Part 7, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 81, 84A, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 93A, 93B, 94, 96, 96A, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 104, Schedule 2, Schedule 4, Dictionary
- *Water Management Act 2000*: Sections 10, 51, 60G, 71, 71L, 71M, 71NA, 71QA, 71X, 71Y, 74, 77, 78, 78A, 84, 85AA, 85, 87D, 88A, 91AA, 106, 113, 120A, 125A, 136A, 137, 137A, Chapter 4 Parts 2 and 3, Sections 221, 222, Chapter 4 Part 4 Divisions 2-9, Sections 286, 342, 343, 346A, 354, 359, 367, 367B, 368, 368, 375, 391B, 397, 398, 399A, 399B, 399, Schedule 1A, Schedule 1B, Schedule 3, Schedule 5, Schedule 9, Schedule 10 clause 25, Schedule 13, Dictionary

(i) The following Acts are partially uncommenced:

- Dams Safety Act 2015 No 26
- Residential Tenancies Amendment (Review) Act 2018 No 58
- Water Industry Competition Amendment (Review) Act 2014 No 57
- Water Management Act 2000 No 92
- Water Management Amendment Act 2010 No 133

- Water Management Amendment Act 2014 No 48
- Water Management Amendment Act 2018 No 31

Note also that some Acts in this portfolio are subject to amendments by Acts in other portfolios which have not commenced.

191. In terms of each of the acts, are there any provisions that need clarifying for the department/agency/office to be able to better support the Minister?

(a) What amendments have been proposed?

ANSWER:

The Department identifies opportunities to make minor and non-controversial changes to portfolio legislation as part of the statute law revision program or its own miscellaneous legislative proposals.

(a) The Department is considering changes to reflect current administrative arrangements, such as updating references to the Department's name and the way agency heads are identified.

192. In terms of the jointly administered acts, how is the responsibility shared between the Ministers and their departments/agencies/offices?

- (a) With the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services?
- (b) With the Treasurer?
- (c) With the Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation
- (d) With the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces?
- (e) The 4 other Ministers associated with the Roads Act?

ANSWER:

- (a) Minister Pavey and the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services jointly administer the following acts
 - Aboriginal Housing Act 1998 No 47, jointly with the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services
 - Community Housing Providers (Adoption of National Law) Act 2012 No 59, jointly with the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services
 - Housing Act 2001 No 52, section 6 (and the remaining provisions of the Act jointly with the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services)
 - Residential Tenancies Act 2010 No 42, Part 7, jointly with the Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation and the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services
- (b) Minister Pavey and the Treasurer jointly administer the following act
 - Water Industry Competition Act 2006 No 104 (except Part 3, the Treasurer)
- (c) Minister Pavey and the Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation jointly administer the following act
 - Residential Tenancies Act 2010 No 42, Part 7, jointly with the Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation and the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services
- (d) Minister Pavey and the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces jointly administer the following act

- Crown Land Management Act 2016 No 58, jointly with the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces (except parts, the Special Minister of State, Minister for the Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs, and the Arts and the Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans)

193. How are these jointly administered acts operationalised between the Ministers and their departments/ agencies/offices?

ANSWER:

Each Minister meets with the senior executives of the relevant department/agencies/offices on a regular basis to administer the parts of the acts for which they are responsible.

194. What happens when there is a conflict in the administration of these acts between the Ministers and their departments/agencies/offices?

- (a) Other than matters that are referred to Cabinet, what is the mechanism to solve conflicts between the Ministers who share responsibility?

ANSWER:

In regards to shared responsibilities and possible conflict, these are addressed through the mechanism of Cluster Minister Committee held regularly and chaired by the Lead Cluster Minister.

Efficiency Dividend and staffing

195. How are the departments and agencies that fall under the administration of the Minister for Water, Property and Housing planning on achieving the Treasurer’s required efficiency dividend of 3%?

- (a) Will this mean that there will be a reduction in services?

ANSWER:

As outlined by the Secretary of the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment at the Planning and Public Spaces Budget Estimates hearing, held on 11 September 2019, the Planning, Industry and Environment cluster will first and foremost identify reductions in corporate overheads and expenditure. This will include identifying savings in consulting, advertising and IT costs. In taking this approach to achieving the savings required, it is anticipated there will be minimal impact on the services delivered by the cluster.

196. In Budget Paper no.1, Chapter 5 “Expenditure” indicated that there is “Reform, Savings, and Offsets”, which in total over the next 4 years will net approximately \$3.1 billion. What does saving tax payer dollars through reductions in procurement and employee expenses, and “other reform, savings and offset measures” look like in the public service departments/agencies that support Minister Anderson?

ANSWER:

This is a matter for the Minister of Better Regulation and Innovation.

197. Can you guarantee that there will be no staff reductions/ job losses/ voluntary redundancies to achieve the efficiency dividend?

ANSWER:

As outlined by the Secretary of the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment at the Planning and Public Spaces Budget Estimates hearing, held on 11 September 2019, the cluster will be looking to find savings through greater efficiencies and through a reduction in corporate overhead type expenses prior to impacts to staff where possible, however the Treasurer has made it clear in the budget that jobs will be affected. The cluster will also be taking into account the Government's commitment regarding no regional job losses in implementing measures to achieve required savings.

State Outcomes

198. What is or are the state outcomes that apply to the suite of portfolios in Minister Pavey's area of administration?
- (a) How does this apply to Minister Pavey's portfolios
 - (b) What outcome indicator information will be used to measure how NSW is going in relation to those stated State outcomes?
 - i. What data will be collected to provide outcome indicator information?
 - ii. What base year will be used?
 - iii. What is the timeframe to achieve the stated outcomes?
 - (c) If there are none, why are there no other state outcomes that apply to Minister Pavey's portfolios?

ANSWER:

- (a) As per the Budget Papers, the two State Outcomes that apply to Minister Pavey's portfolios within the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) are:
 - 1) Maximise community benefit from government land and property
 - 2) Sustainable and secure water resources
- (b) Indicators aligned to State Outcomes are currently under consideration and will be published in next year's Budget papers.
 - i. Data to be collected is outlined Treasury's Policy Paper on Outcomes Budgeting TPP18-09.
 - ii. Baseline date is outlined in Treasury's Policy Paper on Outcomes Budgeting TPP18-0.9
 - iii. TPP18-09 provides that a target is the desired level of performance for an Outcome Indicator and/or a Program Performance Measure that is expected to be attained on or before a defined period. This should include a specific value and period.
- (c) n/a

PROPERTY

Questions from the Hon Mark Buttigieg MLC (on behalf of the NSW Labor Opposition)
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Garden Island

199. Can you clarify that the NSW Government owns part of Garden Island?

ANSWER:

I am advised that Garden Island is the property of the Commonwealth of Australia

200. When does the lease to the Department of Defence/Australian Navy expire?

ANSWER:

I am advised that Garden Island is the property of the Commonwealth of Australia

201. On what date does the Australian Department of Defence/Australian Navy's lease of the NSW section of Garden Island expire?

- (a) Has it been renewed?
 - i. On what date was it renewed?
- (b) What was the process to determine the renewal of this lease?
- (c) Did Crown Land recommend the lease be extended?
 - i. Did the Department of Industry have any input into this decision?
- (d) What is the rent paid by the Commonwealth to rent the NSW owned section of Garden Island?
- (e) Can this lease be released?
- (f) When was the last time the rent was reviewed?
- (g) When the lease was most recently negotiated was there any consideration given to the fact that this land may have been required for a future cruise ship terminal?
- (h) What Ministerial involvement was there in this decision?
- (i) Was the Minister, previous minister or any other minister briefed on the extension of the lease at Garden Island in particular concerning the impact on the cruise industry?

ANSWER:

This is a matter for the Commonwealth of Australia

202. Did either the Port Authority or Transport for NSW have any input into the decision, if taken, to renew the Australian Navy/Department of Defence's lease at Garden Island?

ANSWER:

This is a matter for the Commonwealth of Australia

203. Were any cruise industry representatives consulted during the decision to renew the Australian Navy / Department of Defence's lease at Garden Island?

ANSWER:

This is a matter for the Commonwealth of Australia

204. Did the Australian Navy / Department of Defence consult the NSW Government regarding its renovations for Fleet Base East's Garden Island location?

ANSWER:

This is a matter for the Commonwealth of Australia

205. Is the NSW Government in receipt of any correspondence from the Australian Navy regarding its ongoing desire to remain at Garden Island? Will this be released?

ANSWER:

This is a matter for the Commonwealth of Australia

Cemeteries and Crematoria

206. On the 1st of August the Government opened applications for the Cemeteries and Crematoria NSW Community and Consumer Consultative Group. What is the purpose of this group?

- (a) How many applications were received?
- (b) What is the selection criteria for successful applicants?

ANSWER:

The CCCG will use the member's expertise to explore how the interment industry can continue to sustainably offer what the people of NSW want and need, and how a broader range of options can be offered for those with strong environmental values, those looking for greater affordability or who are interested in innovation.

- (a) Thirty six (36) applications were received by the closing date of 9 September 2019.
- (b) Applicants are evaluated on the following selection criteria: Community and/or consumer involvement; knowledge of the interment sector and its models including 'traditional' and 'alternative' options; practical experience in supporting the public with death arrangements and planning; and membership of relevant Boards, organisations or committees.
The CCNSW Board will consider and determine successful applicants.

207. In what year is the new cemetery at Varroville set to be operational?

- (a) Have investigations being done to predict how long it will be before the cemetery will be at capacity? If yes, how long?

ANSWER:

Varroville (to be known as Macarthur Memorial Park) is anticipated to be operational in early 2022. All studies undertaken by Catholic Cemeteries and Crematoria anticipate that the cemetery will be at capacity in approximately 100 years.

208. In the Government's response to Cemeteries and Crematoria regulation amendment inquiry, it stated the Government wrote to the Greater Sydney Commission requesting to provide advice and recommendations on strategic considerations for the provision of new cemeteries. What was their response?

ANSWER:

The Greater Sydney Commission is still in the process of providing this advice.

209. In the Government's response to Cemeteries and Crematoria regulation amendment inquiry, it stated that land acquisition for Cemeteries and Crematoria was 'an option being perused', is the Government looking at other sites for cemeteries to meet future need in the greater Sydney area?
- (a) If yes, where?

ANSWER:

As stated in the response to the inquiry the focus is on a holistic approach to resolving these issues, which will draw on the GSC's advice and will involve CCNSW working collaboratively with other government agencies and key stakeholders.

210. Are there currently regulations surrounding renewable interment fees?

ANSWER:

The Act and Regulation require full disclosure of fees and charges for interment rights, and provide a 10 day cooling off period for the purchase of renewable interment rights. The current IPART investigation into interment costs could also make further recommendations.

211. In the Guide to the interment rights system in NSW it states that the cemetery operator may reuse the site after all bodily remains are in a 'sufficiently decomposed state'. Has the Government outlined what that state is or is it up to the cemetery operators to determine?

ANSWER:

The Government will be informed from evidence arising from the current soil decomposition research project being managed by Rookwood General Cemetery

212. Has the Government or are the Government undertaking studies surrounding decomposition in different soil types?

ANSWER:

The Government will be informed from evidence arising from the current soil decomposition research project being managed by Rookwood General Cemetery

213. If it is found that due to different soil types that 25 years does not adequately allow for decomposition, what is the government's plan for those families who have already taken out a 25 year renewable interment contract?

ANSWER:

The Act prevents disturbance of human remains if there is insufficient decomposition. The Act and Regulation also permit renewable interment to be longer than 25 years.

214. Has the Government set regulations around what materials can be used for coffins?

ANSWER:

Refer to the Government Response to the Regulation Committee of the Legislative Council on the Inquiry into the Cemeteries and Crematoria Amendment Regulation 2018. Note that the requirement to use a coffin is contained in the Public Health Regulation 2012.

Crown lands

215. How many development applications have been submitted to Wollongong City Council for the demolition of the property at 17 Judbooley Parade, Windang?

- (a) What is the expected timeline for the demolition of the property?
- (b) How much, including staff costs, has the proposed demolition cost Crown Lands to date?
- (c) What does Crown Lands plan to do with the property once the vacant residence has been demolished and removed?
- (d) Why has this taken nearly 3 years longer to complete than the original expected timeline of completed demolition by Christmas 2016?
- (e) Has the Aboriginal Heritage Report for this site complete? If no, when is it set to be completed?

ANSWER:

Two:

- (a) Unknown at this time. Subject to obtaining development consent from Wollongong City Council.
- (b) Over the last three years approximately \$65,000 has been spent on 17 Judbooley Parade, Windang. The Department's staff hours were not recorded against this particular project.
- (c) Add to foreshore reserve for public recreation and enjoyment.
- (d) The Department has had to comply with the requirements set by Council, which has included the provision of additional information and reports given the significance of the Aboriginal heritage aspects of the site.
- (e) The consultant engaged to deliver the Aboriginal Heritage report has indicated that their report will be delivered to the Department by 27 September 2019.

Cooks River

216. Which Government Department is responsible for the removal and funding of the steel sheet piling?

ANSWER:

Issues surrounding the steel sheet piling will be considered as part of the coastal management program scoping study. Please refer questions about these matters to the Minister for Local Government.

217. What has the Government planned in relation to replacing steel sheet piling along the riverbank?

ANSWER:

Issues surrounding the steel sheet piling will be considered as part of the coastal management program scoping study. Please refer questions about these matters to the Minister for Local Government.

218. What is the appropriate Government Body that Councils and local MPs can contact regarding their concerns for the Cooks River such as working together to have a plan to remove the steel sheet piling?

ANSWER:

Aspects of water management sit across multiple government agencies. Some of these responsibilities along the river are shared between the different agencies. Sydney Water can be contacted with regard to issues relating to its assets and services.

Issues surrounding the steel sheet piling will be considered as part of the coastal management program scoping study. Please refer questions about these matters to the Minister for Local Government.

219. Does the Government or Sydney Water offer grant funding for the Cooks River to Councils?

ANSWER:

Sydney Water does not offer grant funding, but it does:

- Collaborate with Councils on water quality management and flood risk management initiatives within sub catchments where it manages trunk drainage assets.
- Fully-fund works on its trunk drainage systems and assets where works meet Sydney Water's objectives.

Matters related to funding under the NSW Government's Coastal and Estuary Management Program are a matter for the Minister for Local Government.

A range of other environmental grants may be available. This is a matter for the Minister for Energy and Environment.

220. Which department or agency has the responsibility for the health of the Cooks River?

ANSWER:

Sydney Water is responsible for the stormwater systems it operates and manages along the Cooks River. This includes partial responsibility to improve waterway health where feasible.

Questions about the development of a Coastal Management Program are a matter for relevant councils and the Minister for Local Government.

221. What role do you think the Cooks River Alliance plays in assisting the Government with understanding the Cooks River?

ANSWER:

The Cooks River Alliance is a partnership of Bayside, City of Canterbury Bankstown, Inner West, and Strathfield Councils. This group provides an avenue to collaborate with a single group that has a major interest in the Cooks River.

222. What engagement has Sydney Water and Government had with the Cooks River Alliance?

ANSWER

Sydney Water has a long history of productive engagement, collaboration and partnership with the Alliance (and with its predecessors, the Cooks River Foreshores Working Group and the Cooks River Catchment Association of Councils). Sydney Water recently sought to become part of the Cooks River Alliance.

223. What is the projected overall cost to remove the piling at Cooks River?

ANSWER:

Issues surrounding the steel sheet piling will be considered as part of the coastal management program scoping study. Please refer questions about these matters to the Minister for Local Government.

Sydney Water is willing to provide technical advice based on its experience with waterway naturalisation to the minister for local government and to councils and other agencies.

224. Is the Government prepared sit down with the Local MPs, Council and the community to discuss this important issue to remove the steel sheet piling?

ANSWER:

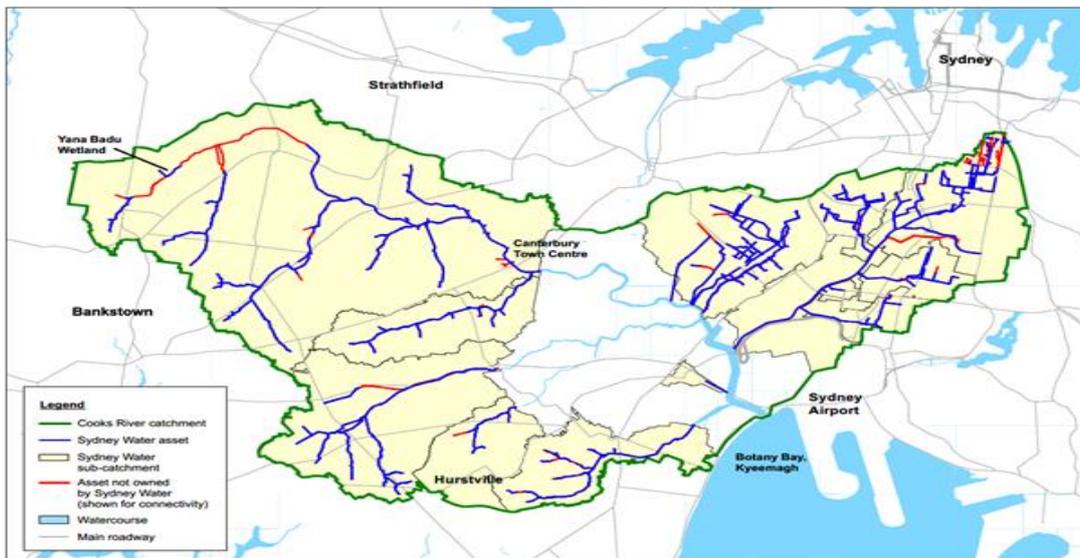
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225. Are different Government Bodies responsible for different aspects of the river? If so, what are all the relevant Government Bodies that can be contacted regarding Cooks River?

ANSWER:

Yes. Sydney Water has responsibility to operate and manage the stormwater systems it owns along the Cooks River. Refer to Attachment 1 below for a map of these assets and sub catchments. The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment also has responsibilities.

Attachment 1: Cooks River catchment



226. What is the difference between a river and a stormwater asset?

ANSWER:

A river is a natural watercourse, being a depression in the land formation where water runoff converges.

A stormwater asset is a human-made structure that has been constructed in an attempt to direct / control water runoff.

Over the course of Sydney's history, many stormwater assets were constructed in the early half of the 20th century to reduce frequent nuisance flooding and attempt to control watercourses to allow development nearby.

227. Is the Cooks River classified as a river or a stormwater asset?

(a) Why is Cooks River classified this way?

ANSWER:

Sydney Water does not 'classify' definitions about watercourses. Sydney Water considers a human-made asset (whether brick, concrete, steel or mimicking a natural composition) is usually a 'liner' along the natural riverbank.

In this sense, the Cooks River is both a river and a stormwater asset (for locations where an asset exists).

Some sections of Cooks River stormwater asset however have been constructed in locations where the river did not naturally occur.

- (a) As per above.

228. How much debris and silt has been collected from the Cooks River?

- (a) How much more is expected to be removed?
- (b) Does the program also remove rubbish and larger objects that may be present in the river system?
- (c) What standards will Sydney Water be using to evaluate the effectiveness of this Program?

ANSWER:

Since 1 January 2010, Sydney Water has removed a total of 2505.6m³ of litter and 18394.76 tonnes of sediment from the Cooks River main watercourse.

Additional sediment and debris has also been removed from devices located on tributaries of the river which contribute to improving the river's health.

- (a) This is not known.
It might be possible to report on average yearly capture rates, but the amounts captured each year vary widely and cannot be traced to deterministic sources.
- (b) Yes, Sydney Water regularly responds to customer complaints and requests to remove rubbish and other items from Sydney Water assets if it is impeding flow, damaging our assets, creating a public safety hazard, or polluting the channel. Examples include dumped hard rubbish, mattresses, fallen trees, and vehicles.
- (c) Sydney Water uses volume and the weight of material removed from the river to evaluate the effectiveness of their program.

229. Has Sydney Water of the Government spoken to residents around Cooks River regarding specific projects?

ANSWER:

Yes

230. What specific strategies and projects is the NSW Government implementing to protect the indigenous heritage along the Cooks River Valley?

- (a) How is this different from projects by the Federal Government?

ANSWER:

Sydney Water has recently had its Chullora Wetland renamed to Yana Badu and implements its own Reconciliation Action Plan, which is independent of Commonwealth Government projects.

- (a) As above.

231. How many times has the Government met with the City of Canterbury Bankstown Council to discuss strategies for the Cooks River?

ANSWER:

Sydney Water has met with council multiple times in relation to the management of current and future stormwater assets along the Cooks River.

232. Are there plans for the Government to have in-depth discussion with the Council to clean and preserve the river?

ANSWER:

Sydney Water continues to work with the City of Canterbury Bankstown Council on improving the Cooks River.

233. How does the Government support the protection flora and fauna around Cooks River?

ANSWER:

Sydney Water ensures appropriate environmental protection controls are in place to manage any works on our stormwater assets.

For specific information about protections under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016, please refer to the Minister for Energy and Environment.

For information about the planning process, please refer to the Minister Planning and Public Spaces..

234. Has the Government and local council experienced difficulty in building a single vision for the future of the Cooks River?

ANSWER:

There have been many activities over multiple decades to envisage the future of the Cooks River.

235. What is the overall cost to naturalise the Cooks River riverbank?

ANSWER:

It is impractical to naturalise the entire Cooks River riverbank, as some locations do not have available adjacent space (private property directly adjacent) or are constrained by significant other infrastructure (road bridges, electricity transmission).

Sydney Water's asset along the main watercourse (from Sugar House Rd, Hurlstone Park to Yana Badu Wetland) have a total length of 7.3 km. If it were possible to naturalise this extent, the cost would be approximately \$130 million.

236. How much funding has the State Government allocated in the last 3 years towards naturalising the Cooks River riverbank?

ANSWER:

- Sydney Water completed an \$8.6 million naturalisation at three sites along the Cooks River in 2015.
- Sydney Water completed a \$3.4 million bank renewal/stabilisation of 300 metres of Alexandra Canal in 2016.
- Sydney Water is currently planning the naturalisation along Muddy Creek at Rockdale.
- Sydney Water has also initiated planning for further renewals/riverbank restoration along Alexandra Canal.

237. Why has there been a significant delay on the Government's part to begin the GreenWay Project from Cooks River to Iron Cove?

ANSWER:

The GreenWay Project is not related to Sydney Water's systems. The Greenway project's design and construction however needs to respond to the constraints relevant to Sydney Water's assets along its alignment.

The Greenway Project is a joint Inner West Council and Transport for NSW project.

238. Will the State Government funding for the GreenWay project be upheld if the project is not started by next State Budget?

ANSWER:

This question is not relevant for Sydney Water.

The Greenway Project is part funded by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's Parramatta Road Urban Amenity Improvement Program (\$8.8 million funding) and Transport for NSW (\$7.19 million).

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment has entered into a funding agreement with Inner West Council and will monitor project funding in accordance with the deed.

239. Given that ocean plastics are still entering the Cooks River system, what has the NSW Government done or plan to do to assist in ensuring ocean plastics do not further damage to the Cooks River?

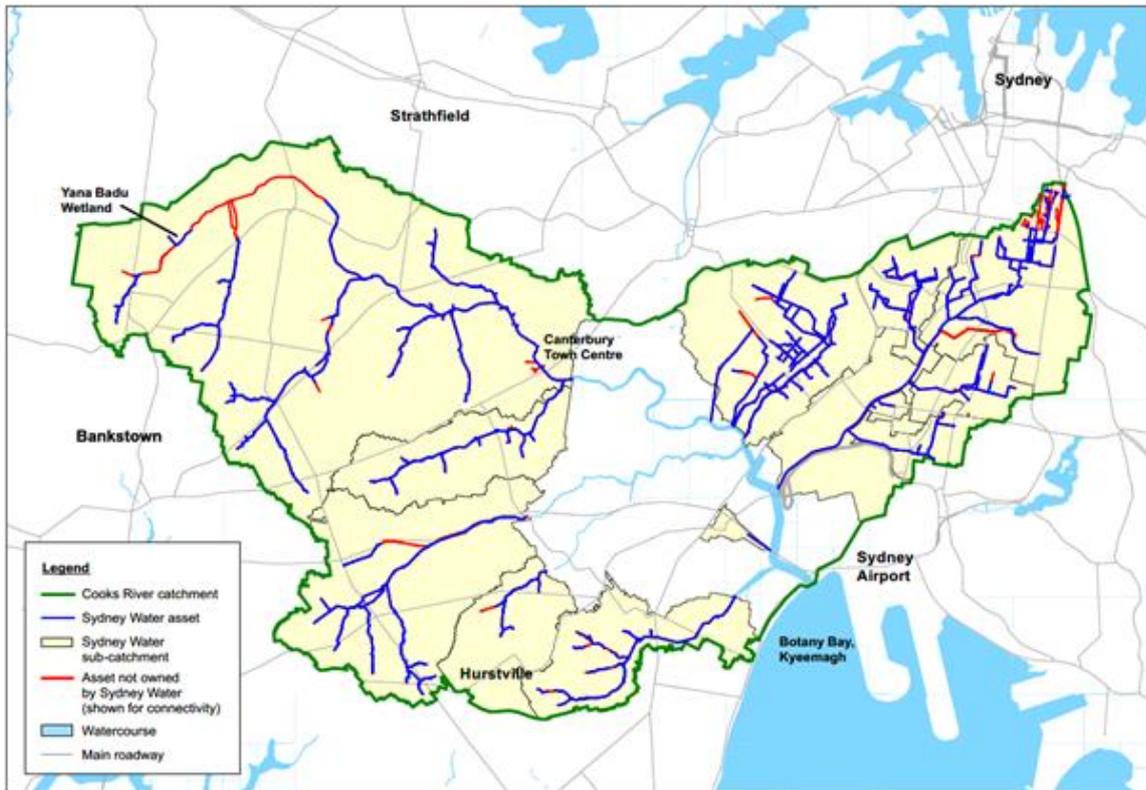
ANSWER:

Tidal-borne pollutants that enter areas of Sydney Water's responsibility may be removed if they enter a pollution capture device or part of wider sediment removal operations.

240. What sections of the river is the NSW Government responsibility and ownership of?

ANSWER:

Sydney Water has responsibility to operate and manage stormwater systems it owns along the Cooks River. Refer to Attachment 1 for a map of these assets and sub catchments.



241. What complications has the Government experienced in recent years in trying to clean and naturalise the Cooks River?

ANSWER:

Complications include:

- the need to ensure naturalisation will not make existing flood risk along the Cooks River worse.
- contaminated fill and acid sulphate soils along the riverbank.
- inadequate foundation material in the riverbed for riverbank works.
- potential safety risks to workers as a result of working in a 'live' waterway.

242. Has the Government developed a long term master plan that ensure a cleaner and healthier river?

ANSWER:

Sydney Water has collaborated with other parts of the NSW Government and councils to develop:

- A Cooks River Stormwater Management Plan (through the Cooks River Catchment Association of Councils).
- Cooks River Bank Naturalisation Overall Concept Design (Sydney Water, Sydney Metropolitan CMA, Cooks River Foreshore Working Group).

Questions about the development of a Coastal Management Program are a matter for relevant councils and the Minister for Local Government.

United Voice Cleaning Contracts

243. Is the Minister aware that the newest entrant to the NSW Whole of Government Cleaning Contract has had to write to their employees telling them they had been paying them wrongly from the start of the contract in March 2019?

ANSWER:

Yes, there have been no findings of wrongdoing by Fair Work Australia and FFA has stated it will fully meet all obligations following audit of its payroll.

244. Is the Minister aware that a second contractor (Joss) is ignoring its legal obligations to employees who transferred from the former contractor Menzies?

ANSWER:

No

245. Is the Minister comfortable with the administration of this contract and the compliance with legal obligations of the companies selected to clean hours to floor space?

ANSWER:

Yes. The NSW Government ran a rigorous two-stage procurement process (EOI & RFP) in 2017 and 2018 to re-let the contract.

246. Can the Minister guarantee schools and other public facilities will be cleaned to an adequate standard without increasing the workload of already over-worked cleaners?

ANSWER:

The objective of negotiating a new facilities management contract was to deliver cleaning services that are consistent with industry best practice across all facilities.

The current industry standard is that cleaning services are contracted to providers based on how many square metres are cleaned. A standard per square metre model will ensure the amount of cleaning at different locations is based on a set standard that applies equally across NSW.

Property Owned by Government

247. What is the total current value of property owned by the Government?

(a) What was the total value at this time last year?

ANSWER:

According to the 2019/20 NSW Budget Paper 1 – Budget Statement - the total value of property owned by Government is as follows:

	June 2019 (Revised)	June 2020 (Budget)
General Government	\$89,660m	\$96,897m
Public non-financial corporations	\$74,939m	\$ 76,744m
Non-financial public sector	\$165,168m	\$174,234m

(a). According to the 2018/19 NSW Budget Paper 1 – Budget Statement - the total value of property owned by Government is as follows:

	June 2018 (Revised)	June 2019 (Budget)
General Government	\$ 84,775m	\$ 88,640m
Public non-financial corporations	\$ 74,195m	\$ 75,377m
Non-financial public sector	\$ 159,543m	\$ 164,616m

248. Last year, the Government said the pipeline for property asset sales was \$1 billion between 17/18 and 19/20.

- (a) Has the government exceeded this target?
- (b) What is the future pipeline for property sales between 19/20 and 20/21?
- (c) In 2017, the Government said revenue from property asset sales was a total of \$9.14B from 11/12 through 16/17.
 - i. 11/12 \$997M
 - ii. 12/13 \$1.41B
 - iii. 13/14 \$1.35B
 - iv. 14/15 \$1.58B
 - v. 15/16 \$2.15B
 - vi. 16/17 \$1.65B
 - vii. 17/18 \$2.07B
 - viii. 18/19 ??
- (d) What is your forecast for the coming year for asset sales?
- (e) What is your internal target at Property NSW?

ANSWER:

- (a). No
- (b). As part of the 2018/19 NSW Budget, the NSW Government set a target for land and property sales to bring divestments back up to the long-term average. The proposed pipeline for property sales for 19/20 and 20/21 to achieve this target totals \$3.323 billion.
- (c). Property NSW is now part of the broader Planning, Industry and Environment Cluster. The Planning, Industry and Environment Cluster's land and property sales target over the forward estimates is \$180 million.
- (d). The NSW Government has set a 'whole-of-government' target of \$1.804 billion in land and property sales for 2020-21.
- (e). Property NSW is now part of the broader Planning, Industry and Environment Cluster. The Planning, Industry and Environment Cluster's land and property sales target over the forward estimates is \$180 million.

249. In 2018-19, the Government sold \$2.07B in assets, that's correct isn't it?

- (a) What was the total value of asset sales this year?
- (b) What was the total number of lots sold?

- (c) What was the total number of residential lots sold?
- (d) What was the total number of commercial lots sold?
- (e) What was the total number of vacant or cleared land lots sold?

ANSWER:

No.

- (a) The total value sold to date is \$1,006 million
Note: This excludes transfers between State Governments
Source Date: Government Property Register (as at 13 September 2019)
- (b) The total number of lots sold was 3,304
Note: This excludes transfers between State Governments
Source Date: Government Property Register (as at 13 September 2019)
- (c) Based on the Notice of Sale Database the total number of lots sold with the nature of property being 'residential' is 821.
Note: Notice of Sale database only provides on use for the whole site and it has been assumed that all lots associated with the site have the same use.
For the purpose of residential anything with a use as 'Residence or Unit Buildings'
There are 785 additional lots that have alternate use of unidentified use which have not been further assessed
- (d) Based on the Notice of Sale Database the total number of lots sold with the nature of property being 'commercial' is 46.
Note: Notice of Sale database only provides on use for the whole site and it has been assumed that all lots associated with the site have the same use.
For the purpose of residential anything with a use as 'Building, Commercial, Office, or Retail Shop'
There are 785 additional lots that have alternate use of unidentified use which have not been further assessed
- (e) Based on the Notice of Sale Database the total number of lots sold with the nature of property being 'vacant or cleared' is 1652.
Note: Notice of Sale database only provides on use for the whole site and it has been assumed that all lots associated with the site have the same use.
For the purpose of residential anything with a use as 'Vacant land or Land'
There are 785 additional lots that have alternate use of unidentified use which have not been further assessed.

250. Who bought the largest total amount (in lots) of Government property in the last budget year?

- (a) What was the total value of this property?

ANSWER:

The property that was sold in the last budget year with the largest number of lots (17 lots) within one property was: 1 Burroway Road, Wentworth Point 2127 owned by Sydney Olympic Park Authority was sold to Payce Communities Wentworth Point Pty Ltd, SH FWT Development Pty Ltd.

Note: This excludes transfers between State Governments and known transfer of property at nil value.

- (a) The total sale value of this property was \$ 720,000

251. What was the largest property in area sold by the Government in the last budget year?

- (a) What was the value of that property?
- (b) Who was that property sold to?
- (c) What is the use of this property – e.g. industrial, residential?

ANSWER:

The property that was sold in the last budget year with the largest area within one property is listed as 3104 Back Morundah Road, Morundah and owned by Crown Lands. The total area of this site is 260ha.

Note: This site is a Crown Land road closure and sold to the adjoining owner.

This excludes transfers between State Governments and known transfer of property at nil value.

- (a) The total sale value of this property was \$190,000
- (b) This property was sold to Tarabah PTY LIMITED
- (c) The property was originally used for road purposes

252. What were the next 4 largest properties in area sold by the Government in the last budget year?

- (a) What were the value of those properties?
- (b) Who were those properties sold to?
- (c) What is the use of these properties (industrial, residential)?
- (d) Are there planning controls attached to these sales that allow for a large number of

ANSWER:

No Agency Property Address Area (sqm)

1. Primary Industries (Crown Land) Back Morundah Road, Lots 3 & 4 DP1238524, Morundah 2700 2,485,084sqm

2. Forestry Corporation 440 Old Taradale Road, Taradale 2653 2,131,389sqm

3. Primary Industries (Crown Land) Lot 1-3, Jerilderie 2716 2,069,589sqm

4. Primary Industries (Crown Land) Castlereagh Highway, Walgett 2832 1,803,384sqm

(a) The total sale value of these four properties was \$781,472

(b)

1. Morundah Holdings Pty Ltd

2. Malcolm Edward Onslow Poulton

3. Silesian Downs Pty Limited

4. J.J. & J.M. O'Brien Holdings Pty. Limited

(c)

1. Vacant Land

2. Residence

3. Vacant Land

4. Vacant Land

(d) This is a matter for each of the land owners

253. What was the largest property in value sold by the Government in the last year?

- (a) What is the nature of this building/property?
- (b) Will the Government need to use this land after its sale (e.g. will the Government be leasing it back from the new owner as a tenant of the building)?

ANSWER:

Sydney Olympic Park Authority, located at 2 Figtree Drive, Homebush.

Note: The assessment of the largest sale value excluded sales within State Government

Dates based on Titling 'Settlement Date'

Source Data: Government Property Register (As at 13 September 2019)

- (a). Based on the Notice of Sale Database the nature of property is vacant:
Address: 2 Figtree Drive, Homebush Nature of Building/Property (Vacant Land)
- (b). No

254. Which department had the greatest sale of assets made via Property NSW?

- (a) What was the nature of those property sales? (e.g. buildings? Housing?)
- (b) What was the major reason for these sales? (e.g. land not used)

ANSWER:

PNSW sold real property on behalf of the DFSI with an aggregate value of \$128,322,500 in FY19.

- (a) There were 49 DFSI owned real property assets sold by PNSW in FY19 that spanned all property classes including vacant residential land, industrial and commercial offices.
- (b) All Government assets must be declared surplus to Government service delivery and infrastructure requirements before being offered for sale to third parties."

Science House

255. Science House at 157-161 Gloucester Street in the Rocks is up for sale, is this correct?

- (a) It's currently listed on Real Commercial as for sale by way of a Tender Process, that's correct isn't it?
- (b) Why is this building listed for sale?
- (c) Is this building 95% leased?
- (d) Why is the Government selling this property that is well tenanted, and returns revenue to the Government through its leases?

ANSWER:

Yes

- (a). Yes
- (b). It is not required for government service delivery. Net proceeds will go to Restart NSW.

- (c). Yes
- (d). Net proceeds will go to Restart NSW for application to government infrastructure projects.

Acquisitions

256. What is the total number of acquisitions made by Property NSW on behalf of other government agencies in the last 12 months?
- (a) What is the total number of acquisitions made then, since 2011?
 - (b) What is the ratio of sales to acquisitions since 2011, and in the last 12 months?

ANSWER:

Property NSW completed a total of 24 acquisitions on behalf of other government agencies from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019.

The acquisitions were on behalf of:

- Fair Trading: 16 properties
- Department of Finance Service and Innovation: 8 properties

- (a). The department has maintained a database of its acquisitions and disposal projects from FY2014/15 onwards.

132 acquisitions on behalf of other government agencies from 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2019.

The acquisitions were on behalf of:

- Fair Trading 107 properties
- Department of Finance Service and Innovation: 25 properties

- b. The department can only comment on its transactions from FY2014/15 onwards. Based on the acquisitions identified in 1. and 1. (a) above, the ratio of sales to acquisitions since:

- i. 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2019 is 400:132 or 3:1.
- ii. 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 is 66:24 or 2.75:1.

257. Has the Government acquired land in the last financial year on behalf of Government infrastructure projects?

- (a) What additional compulsory acquisitions has Property NSW made on behalf of the Westconnex project in the last financial year?
 - i. What was the value of these acquisitions made in the last financial year?
 - ii. How many lots total were acquired?
 - iii. What is the total value of acquisitions made across the Westconnex project to date?
 - iv. How was the value of properties determined for those residential owners?
 - v. Do you think the remuneration to those owners is fair and reflects market value?
 - vi. How many of the buildings acquired to date as a part of the Westconnex project have been identified as heritage buildings?
- (b) How many lots have been compulsorily acquired across all NSW infrastructure projects?

- (c) Can you please provide the list of infrastructure projects you have completed or are undertaking acquisition projects for, and the total value of those acquisitions, and the number of lots for each of these acquisitions?

ANSWER:

This is a matter for the Minister for Transport and Roads

Peat Island

258. What is the progress of the Peat Island planning proposal?

- (a) Has this land been rezoned?
- (b) What consultation has been done by Property NSW with the Mooney Mooney community on Peat Island?
- (c) Property NSW has slated a public exhibition period in 2019?
 - i. What was the nature of this public exhibition?
 - ii. How long has it, or will it, run for?
- (d) Has the rezoning gazettal happened yet?
- (e) Have Property NSW done its market sounding and developer EOI process?
- (f) What interest has Property NSW had from developers regarding this parcel of land?

ANSWER:

- (a) No. Property NSW (PNSW) submitted a Planning Proposal Addendum to Central Coast Council in December 2018. In March 2019, Central Coast Council provided substantial feedback on the Planning Proposal Addendum. Since that time, PNSW has been working with its technical consultants to address the comments raised by Council and other stakeholders.
- (b) PNSW has undertaken the following consultation with the Mooney Mooney community to date:
 - Providing updated information via its website at: <https://www.property.nsw.gov.au/peat-island-0>
 - Issued periodical project updates to individuals who have registered their interest in the project
 - Provided responses to email enquiries emailed to DTprojects@property.nsw.gov.au
 - Held a public open day and walking tour on 10 February 2019 which provided public access to Peat Island and a community briefing
 - Held a community briefing in Mooney Mooney on the planning proposal in April 2017
 - i. Public exhibition of the Planning Proposal is proposed for the end of 2019. This Planning Proposal would be publicly exhibited by Central Coast Council. When the public exhibition period has been confirmed by Central Coast Council, PNSW intend to hold a community open day and information drop in sessions for the local community and other interested stakeholders to present details and respond to enquiries on the Planning Proposal.
 - ii. Council has previously announced that the publicly exhibition period for the Planning Proposal will be 3 months. This is beyond the usual statutory

requirements for a Planning Proposal, however Property NSW is supportive of this timeframe as it will give the community and other interested stakeholders time to review, consider and respond to the Proposal.

- (d). No
- (e). No
- (f). PNSW has not sought, nor has it received any interest from developers in relation to the site."

259. The land is slated for residential as well as commercial use.

- (a) What preparations has Property NSW made in regards to the sale of land for residential use?
- (b) Is this land slated to be dense residential?
- (c) What revenue does Property NSW expect to make as a result of the sale of this land?
- (d) What percentage of the parcel of land has been slated as open space, parkland and bushland?

ANSWER:

- a. Property NSW (PNSW) has undertaken a number of technical reports to confirm the appropriateness of proposed land uses across the site. This information will be contained in the Planning Proposal placed on public exhibition by Central Coast Council.
- b. The Planning Proposal proposes a mix of R1 General Residential and R2 Low Density Residential. Note, no residential is proposed for Peat Island, only Mooney Mooney.
- c. This can only be estimated with any reasonable degree of accuracy when the Planning Proposal has been approved and subject to prevailing market conditions.
- d. The Planning Proposal includes approximately:
 - more than two kilometres of public access along the Mooney Mooney and Peat Island foreshore, and
 - in excess of 21 hectares of open space

260. Deerubbun Reserve boat ramp is too small for the use that occurs in summer.

- (a) Will the Peat Island project include expanding public boat ramp facilities at Deerubbun Reserve?

ANSWER:

- (a). Property NSW is not the owner or manager of Deerubbun Reserve or its boat ramp and parking. Central Coast Council is the Crown Land Manager and licence holder of the boat ramp. Property NSW will liaise with the Council relating to the Deerubbun Reserve boat ramp, but it is not included in the Planning Proposal.

261. There is also additional Crown Land at Kowan Street where there is significant oyster farming. Are you aware of this particular parcel of land?

- (a) Given the current oyster crisis on the Hawkesbury River and the slated development of Peat Island, has Property NSW put this land in the pipeline for sale?

ANSWER:

Yes. Crown Lands made a submission to Central Coast Council in relation to the planning proposal for Mooney Mooney and Peat Island to amend Gosford LEP 2014 on 4 February 2019 and raised the following in relation to Crown land off Kowan St, Mooney Mooney:

- The subject land is Crown land and is currently zoned IN4 – Working Waterfront. It provides land based processing for the oyster industry within the Hawkesbury River and is considered to be at least a regionally significant resource for the oyster industry.
- That Council should ensure that the current planning proposal does not impact upon the ability of the oyster industry to operate free of land use conflict.
- That Council should consult with the NSW Department of Primary Industries – Fisheries on the matter.

(a). This land is not owned or managed by Property NSW and is not included in the Planning Proposal.

Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC)

262. What is the number and total value of properties sold by LAHC in 2018-19?

- (a) How many properties of each configuration have been sold in this period? i.e. 1 bedroom, 2 bedroom, 3 bedroom

ANSWER:

352 dwellings plus land parcels were sold for \$333 million with proceeds being reinvested to fund maintenance and build new fit-for-purpose contemporary social housing.

- (a) 48 x 1 bedroom/ studios
123 x 2 bedroom
181 x 3 bedrooms plus

263. What is the number and cost of properties acquired by LAHC in 2018-19?

- (a) How many properties of each configuration have been acquired in this period? i.e. 1 bedroom, 2 bedroom, 3 bedroom

ANSWER:

Of the 390 dwellings completed and ready for tenanting in 18/19, 38 were acquired for \$16.1 million and the remainder constructed.

- (a) 22 x 2 bedroom
14 x 3 bedroom
2 x 4 bedroom

264. What is the total amount expended on maintenance for LAHC properties in 2018-19?

- (a) And what is the amount expended in the three financial years previous?

ANSWER:

\$452 million on day to day and planned maintenance.

- (a) \$1.696 billion

265. Does LAHC have figures on the total maintenance backlog across its properties?

ANSWER:

The latest figures on the total maintenance backlog were recorded in 2015.

266. How many LAHC properties are projected to be sold in 2019-20?

(a) And how many are projected to be sold in 2020-21, 2021-22, and 2022-23?

ANSWER:

429 dwellings are projected to be sold with proceeds being reinvested to fund maintenance and build new fit-for-purpose contemporary social housing.

(a) 2020/21 - 345 dwellings

2021/22 - 368 dwellings

2022/23 - 368 dwellings

267. How many properties does LAHC project will be acquired in 2019-20?

(a) And how many are projected to be acquired in 2020-21, 2021-22, and 2022-23?

ANSWER:

8 fit for purpose social housing dwellings are projected to be acquired.

(a) 2020/21 - 34 dwellings

2021/22 - 91 dwellings

2022/23 - 168 dwellings

268. What is the average time that LAHC properties are left vacant after a tenant vacates where there *is no* outstanding maintenance or rectification works required to the property?

ANSWER:

The average time that properties are vacant and no maintenance or rectification works are required is around 6 days. This allows maintenance to be undertaken with contractors who are required to complete minimum health & safety standard work to every new vacant property.

269. What is the average time that LAHC properties are left vacant after a tenant vacates where there *is* outstanding maintenance or rectification works required to the property?

ANSWER:

The average time properties are left vacant where maintenance is required is 20 days.

270. What is total number of days that properties of each configuration (i.e. 1 bedroom, 2 bedroom, 3 bedroom) were vacant in 2018-19?

ANSWER

Minister's Office to advise refer answer 269

271. What is total number of days that properties of each configuration (i.e. 1 bedroom, 2 bedroom, 3 bedroom) were vacant in 2018-19 following any outstanding maintenance or rectification works?

ANSWER:

Refer to the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability. The Department of Communities and Justice holds data on the time taken to allocate a property following rectification works.

272. What is total number of days that properties of each configuration (i.e. 1 bedroom, 2 bedroom, 3 bedroom) were vacant in 2018-19 while awaiting any outstanding maintenance or rectification works?

ANSWER

Refer to the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability. The Department of Communities and Justice holds data on the time taken to process a vacant property before rectification works are undertaken by the Land and Housing Corporation.

273. For the above three questions can you provide the figures for three financial years prior?

ANSWER:

Crown Lands continues to improve processes around the case allocation and prioritisation of Aboriginal Land Claims for determination. This includes greater engagement with Aboriginal Land Councils to seek prioritisation of claims or facilitate the withdrawal of claims over non claimable land. This prioritisation approach together with process improvements saw the number of land claims resolved last financial year approximately double from that resolved in the 2017/18 year.

The lodgement of Aboriginal Land Claims is a statutory right under the Aboriginal Lands Right Act 1983 and the Department has no control over the number of claims lodged.

Aboriginal Land Claims

274. There are currently approximately 36,000 outstanding Aboriginal land claims awaiting determination. This backlog has increased by more than 3,700 land claims since the end of the 2017-18 financial year. What is the Government's strategy to address the lost opportunity this represents for Aboriginal communities and this State?

ANSWER:

Crown Lands continues to improve processes around the case allocation and prioritisation of Aboriginal Land Claims for determination. This includes greater engagement with Aboriginal Land Councils to seek prioritisation of claims or facilitate the withdrawal of claims over non claimable land. This prioritisation approach together with process improvements saw the number of land claims resolved last financial year approximately double from that resolved in the 2017/18 year.

The lodgement of Aboriginal Land Claims is a statutory right under the Aboriginal Lands Right Act 1983 and the Department has no control over the number of claims lodged.

Aboriginal Land Agreements

275. Could you please provide a breakdown of the 2018-19 2019-20 budgets for the Land Negotiation Program, including the amounts spent on internal government administration and advice?

ANSWER:

ANSWER:

275.

Land Divestment Combined	2018/19 FY		2019/20 FY
	Actual \$'000	Budget \$'000	Budget \$'000
EXPENDITURES	1,733	6,429	6,371
EMPLOYEE RELATED	910	1,370	1,312
OPERATING EXPENSES	462	5,059	5,059
GRANTS & SUBSIDIES (Capacity Building Actual)	361	0	0
NET INTERNAL CHARGES	27	45	45
NET COST OF SERVICE	1,760	6,474	6,416

Land Divestment - Actual and Budget for Advice	2018/19 FY		2019/20 FY
	Actual	Budget	Budget
Contractors	170	125	125
Consultants	88	811	811
Legal	70	157	157

276. How many staff are currently employed to work on the Land Negotiation Program? How many of these staff are Aboriginal?

ANSWER:

Within Crown Lands there are many staff that work on the Land Negotiation Program on an as needs basis, such as Regional staff that provide local expertise, systems staff providing specialist spatial knowledge and legal branch to assist with negotiations.

Currently there are 10 staff directly working on the Land Negotiation Program.

277. In 2016, when the *then* Minister for Crown Lands, Niall Blair, appeared before the Legislative Council Inquiry into Crown Land he emphasised that Aboriginal Land Agreement negotiations would 'speed up the processing of land claims, and provide more sustainable social, cultural and economic outcomes for Local Aboriginal Land Councils and Aboriginal communities'. This objective is also embedded in the Aboriginal Land Agreement Negotiation Framework agreed to by the NSW Government that is intended to guide negotiations. How is the NSW Government, through the Land Negotiation Program, ensuring that sustainable social, cultural and economic outcomes for Local Aboriginal Land Councils and Aboriginal communities are being achieved?

ANSWER:

Crown Lands has partnered with the NSW Aboriginal Land Council (NSWALC), Local Aboriginal Land Councils (LALCs) and local councils to implement the Land Negotiation Program (the program) in response to recommendations from the Crown Lands Management Review in 2014.

Negotiations, under the Land Negotiation Program, are being carried out in line with the agreed principles as outlined in the Aboriginal Land Agreement Negotiation Framework.

278. In 2016 at the Legislative Council Inquiry into Crown Land, the then Minister also spoke of the Eden Local Aboriginal Land Council Aboriginal Land Agreement, that was making ‘good progress’ at the time. Can you provide an update on the status of this agreement?

ANSWER:

The draft Aboriginal Land Agreement for Eden has been provided to stakeholders and the Department is awaiting feedback.

279. At the same time the then Minister also spoke to the outcomes from land Eden Local Aboriginal Land Council had prioritised in the Agreement and that the agreement would resolve land claims that were duplicates or were no longer needed; can you advise if these are the kind of outcomes the Government is continuing to support and seek through the Land Negotiation Program?

ANSWER:

Yes

280. Can you please explain how the Government is adhering to the principles embedded in the Land Negotiation Framework? Including negotiations are to be voluntary, conducted in transparently and in good faith, will be based on relationships and a shared understanding, outcomes will be equitable and accessible to Aboriginal people?

https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0008/142496/Aboriginal-Land-Agreement-Negotiation-Framework.pdf

ANSWER:

All negotiations, under the Land Negotiation Program, are being carried out in line with the agreed principles as outlined in the Aboriginal Land Agreement Negotiation Framework.

281. The Negotiation Framework also speaks of the Government’s capacity to engage with Aboriginal communities, and of Government bringing other agencies and non-land outcomes to the table; What is the government doing to consolidate its approaches to the administration Aboriginal land programs (the land negotiation program, Native Title, Aboriginal Land Claims) and other government initiatives to foster economic outcomes minimise the impact of historical disposition of Aboriginal communities in NSW?

- (a) If the Government responds with a response about capacity of LALCs, please consider the below further question. You have noted the capacity of LALCs as an issue in ensuring that sustainable social, cultural and economic outcomes for Local Aboriginal Land Councils and Aboriginal communities are being supported through the Land Negotiation Program. Could you please advise what you are undertaking to ensure that the Department has

capacity and culture to engage in negotiations in an open and transparent manner and in good faith?

ANSWER:

Voluntary negotiations are being held between the NSW Government, the NSW Aboriginal Land Council, Local Aboriginal Land Councils, and local governments in line with the agreed Aboriginal Land Agreement Negotiation Framework. Native Title is considered as part of these negotiations.

Crown Lands has facilitated work with other NSW Government agencies responsible for land and resource management to negotiate Indigenous Land Use Agreements as a part of the process to settle native title claims.

Five native title claims have been finalised since 2017, including the two oldest outstanding claims in the State.

Relationships, adversarial approaches and future claims

282. In 2016 at the Legislative Council Inquiry into Crown Land, the then Minister spoke of the previous adversarial approach to Aboriginal land claims and the importance of relationships, being open and transparent and able to negotiate. What is the Department doing to foster open, transparent non-adversarial approaches to the negotiation of Aboriginal Land Claims? Is this approach manifest in the process and the outcomes the government is pursuing in negotiations?

ANSWER:

Crown Lands has partnered with the NSW Aboriginal Land Council (NSWALC), Local Aboriginal Land Councils (LALCs) and local councils to implement the Land Negotiation Program (LNP) in response to recommendations from the Crown Lands Management Review in 2014. Negotiations, under the LNP, are being carried out in line with the agreed principles as outlined in the Aboriginal Land Agreement Negotiation Framework (ALANP), which is available on the Department's website.

Cultural awareness training is regularly made available to all departmental staff.

Crown Land Management Act 2016

283. One of the objects of the *Crown Lands Management Act 2016* is facilitating Aboriginal peoples use and management of Crown land. How many Crown land reserves are in use or management control of Aboriginal community groups?

ANSWER:

The use of Crown land by any community group is difficult to quantify due to the many and varied management arrangements across Crown land. There are approximately 20 reserves that are managed by groups that identify as Aboriginal.

284. How many of that these have come into that arrangement since the *Crown Lands Management Act 2016* was enacted?

ANSWER:

One

285. The *Crown Lands Management Act 2016* transfers Native Title management responsibilities, and potential future act liabilities to Local Governments. What support in terms of financial and other resources are being provided to Local Government's to appropriately manage such responsibilities and potential liabilities?

ANSWER:

Since 2017, Crown Lands, in conjunction with the Crown Solicitor's Office, has provided three rounds of native title manager training, totalling 14 training sessions, to approximately 300 local council employees across the state. The training provides local council employees with information and resources to act as native title managers.

286. What is being done to avoid this engendering an adversarial relationship between local governments and local Aboriginal communities?

ANSWER:

The native title manager training provides local councils with the necessary information to consider native title and comply with the *Native Title Act 1993*, including ensuring that native title claimants and holders are afforded all necessary procedural and substantive rights. By guiding local councils to act in a way that complies with the requirements of the *Native Title Act 1993*, the Department reduces the opportunity for adversarial relationships to form between local councils and local Aboriginal communities.

NSW Government Property Sales in Newcastle

287. How many government properties have been sold in the Newcastle electorate since FY2011-12 to date?

(a) What is the total value of these sales?

ANSWER:

789 properties have been disposed.

(a). \$418,577,669

288. Can the Minister provide the addresses of all properties in the Newcastle electorate sold since FY2011-12 to date?

ANSWER

See Tab A (attached)

Please note the following disclaimers apply:

- The Government Property Register uses a combination of data sourced from Agencies (as required to report via *Public Finance and Audit Act 1983*) and feeds from NSW Land and Registry Services. As such reported numbers may differ to those reported by individual Agencies. Data accuracy (especially historical) cannot be guaranteed.
- Property make up is defined by each agency. If the agency provides no definition the system automatically defines the property based on the lots in a transaction.
- Multiple properties can be affected by one transaction, the address information provided in TAB A refers to a property per row. Therefore the same transaction information (Value, settlement date etc.) may be duplicated. These are highlighted in red.

Newcastle Crown Lands

289. Can the Minister please provide the details of all crown land within the Newcastle electorate?

ANSWER:

As at 12 September 2019, in the Newcastle state electoral district, the details of all Crown land are as follows:

- 85 Crown reserves and dedications (comprising approximately 281 hectares)
- Of these reserves and dedications –
 - 39 comprising approximately 199 hectares are managed by Newcastle City Council as Crown Land Manager
 - 25 comprising approximately 37 hectares are managed by the Minister administering the Crown Land Management Act 2016
 - 21 comprising approximately 45 hectares are managed by non-Council Crown land managers
- 28 Crown tenures (comprising approximately 13 hectares) direct from the Minister administering the Crown Land Management Act 2016. Noting that tenures from other Crown Land Managers are not included in these figures.
- Approximately 25 hectares of Crown roads
- Approximately 278 hectares of Crown waterways

Ministerial Travel/Meal Allowance

290. How many nights travel were claimed by the Minister during the 2018-19 period?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 104

291. How many nights travel were claimed by the Minister's spouse during the 2018-19 period?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 105

292. What was the total amount of travel allowances claimed by the Minister and their spouse (if applicable) during 2018-19?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 106

293. What is the total amount of meal allowances claimed by the Minister and their spouse (if applicable) during 2018-19?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 107

Efficiency dividends

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

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 108

295. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 109

296. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 110

Ministerial Office Administration

297. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 111

298. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 112

299. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 113

300. Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in your ministerial office in 2018-19?

(a) What is the cost of this?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 114

301. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 115

302. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 116

303. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 117

304. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 118

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

(a) What is the monthly cost of this?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 119

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

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 120

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

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

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 121

308. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 122

309. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 123

310. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 124

Agile Workspaces/Activity Based Working/Hot-desking

311. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 125

312. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 126

Hospitality

313. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 127

Labour Hire Firms

314. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 128

Stationary

315. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 129

Credit Cards

316. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 130

Media and Public Relations

317. 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 advisers in financial year:
 - i. 2015-16
 - ii. 2016-17
 - iii. 2017-18
 - iv. 2018-2019
 - v. 2019-present?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 131

Facebook

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

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 132

- 319.** 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 133

Overseas Trips

- 320.** 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 134

Department/Agency Travel

321. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 135

Drivers

322. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 136

Consulting

323. 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

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 137

Web Content

324. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 138

Department/Agency Staffing

325. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 139

326. What was the total cost of all redundancies?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 140

327. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 141

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

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 142

329. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 143

330. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 144

Smart Phone

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

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

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 145

332. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 146

333. How many had to be replaced due to damage?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 147

334. How many were reported as lost?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 148

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

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

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 149

336. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 150

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

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 151

338. How many were reported as lost?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 152

339. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 153

- 340.** 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 154

- 341.** 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 155

- 342.** 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 156

Merchant fees

- 343.** 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.

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 157

- 344.** 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.

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 158

345. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 159

Advertising and Sponsorships

346. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 160

347. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 161

Probity Auditor

348. 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.

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 162

Energy

349. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 163

350. 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.

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 164

351. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 165

352. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 166

353. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 167

354. What proportion of that electricity is it estimated will come from renewable sources, for each year?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 168

355. 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.)?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 169

356. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 170

General Costs

357. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 171

Domestic Violence Leave Policies, Awareness and Usage

358. 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

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 172

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

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 173

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

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 174

361. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 175

Sexual harassment and Anti-bullying training and awareness programs

362. 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

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 176

Participation of women in Government

363. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 177

Professional Photography

364. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 178

Unmanned Aerial Services

365. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 179

Seconded Staff

366. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 180

367. Please provide their names, their substantive work title, and their seconded work title.

Consultant Costs

368. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 182.

369. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 183.

GIPA Questions to the CEOs/ Department Secretaries

370. Since March 30, how many formal GIPAs have your cluster/ department received?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 184.

371. Out of the received formal GIPAs, how many have you determined to:

- (a) Grant full access to the information?
- (b) Grant partial access to the information?
- (c) Not grant access to the information?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 185.

- 372.** Out of the GIPA where partial information or no information was granted, how many have decided to appeal?
- (a) Out of those who have decided to appeal, how many have decided to use:
 - i. The agency's internal appeals' mechanism?
 - ii. Review by the Information Commissioner?
 - iii. Review by NCAT?
 - (b) How many of those GIPAs have been overturned on appeal?
 - i. Internal appeals' mechanism?
 - ii. Review of the Information Commissioner?
 - iii. Review by NCAT?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 186.

- 373.** GIPAs that have been granted full or partial access, how many appear on the agency's disclosure log?
- (a) What is the rationale for not putting GIPAs on the agency's disclosure log (excluding GIPAs asking for personal information)?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 187.

- 374.** Has any GIPAs that appeared on the agency's disclosure log been taken down?
- (a) For what reason/s?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 188.

Administration of Acts

- 375.** What, if any, planned reviews are being done over the next 2 years for any of the acts and/or their regulations administered by the Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation?
- (a) Which regulations that fall under these acts are due to cease as at 1 September 2019, and 1 September 2020?

- (b) Given that various regulations, as set out under the Subordinate Legislation Act, cease five years after being published, what mechanisms have you set up to ensure that regulations which are required to be maintained after this 5 year period remain in force?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 189.

376. Which acts in this portfolio are yet to commence?

- (a) Are there any acts that have commenced but have provisions that are yet to commence?
- i. What are they?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 190.

377. In terms of each of the acts, are there any provisions that need clarifying for the department/agency/office to be able to better support the Minister?

- (a) What amendments have been proposed?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 191.

378. In terms of the jointly administered acts, how is the responsibility shared between the Ministers and their departments/agencies/offices?

- (a) With the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services?
- (b) With the Treasurer?
- (c) With the Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation
- (d) With the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces?
- (e) The 4 other Ministers associated with the Roads Act?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 192.

379. How are these jointly administered acts operationalised between the Ministers and their departments/ agencies/offices?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provide for Question 193.

380. What happens when there is a conflict in the administration of these acts between the Ministers and their departments/agencies/offices?

- (a) Other than matters that are referred to Cabinet, what is the mechanism to solve conflicts between the Ministers who share responsibility?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provide for Question 194.

Efficiency Dividend and staffing

381. How are the departments and agencies that fall under the administration of the Minister for Water, Property and Housing planning on achieving the Treasurer's required efficiency dividend of 3%?

- (a) Will this mean that there will be a reduction in services?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 195.

382. In Budget Paper no.1, Chapter 5 "Expenditure" indicated that there is "Reform, Savings, and Offsets", which in total over the next 4 years will net approximately \$3.1 billion. What does saving tax payer dollars through reductions in procurement and employee expenses, and "other reform, savings and offset measures" look like in the public service departments/agencies that support Minister Anderson?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 196.

383. Can you guarantee that there will be no staff reductions/ job losses/ voluntary redundancies to achieve the efficiency dividend?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 197.

State Outcomes

384. What is or are the state outcomes that apply to the suite of portfolios in Minister Pavey's area of administration?

- (a) How does this apply to Minister Pavey's portfolios
- (b) What outcome indicator information will be used to measure how NSW is going in relation to those stated State outcomes?
- i. What data will be collected to provide outcome indicator information?
 - ii. What base year will be used?
 - iii. What is the timeframe to achieve the stated outcomes?
- (c) If there are none, why are there no other state outcomes that apply to Minister Pavey's portfolios?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 198.

HOUSING

Questions from Ms Cate Faehrmann MLC

PUBLIC HOUSING LAHC and NCAT

385. What mechanisms LAHC has to ensure that the Asset Maintenance Services Contracts with Spotless and Broadspectrum are being met to acceptable standards and timeframes?

- (a) What process exists when the supplier does not meet the standards and or timeframes of the Asset Maintenance Services Contract with LAHC?

ANSWER:

The Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) has a rigorous system to manage contractors, including conducting regular inspections of work quality and measuring their performance against six key metrics which includes timeliness, quality, work health and safety, and governance. Contractor performance is monitored and measured on a monthly basis.

- (a) If a contractor fails to meet LAHC's key metrics including quality and timeliness then penalties may apply

386. Has LAHC taken any legal action in relation to breaches any part of the contracts with either Spotless or Broadspectrum since Dec 2015.

ANSWER:

No.

387. How are complaints which have been made in relation to the level of maintenance in public housing recorded?

- (a) How many complaints were made in relation to the level of maintenance in public housing properties in 2018?

ANSWER:

The Department of Communities and Justice manage and record complaints about maintenance. Please refer to Minister for Families, Communities and Disability.

388. How does the Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) calculate the costs incurred by defending itself again claims brought by public and social housing tenants through the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal (NCAT)?

ANSWER:

The Department of Communities and Justice manage NCAT matters on behalf of LAHC. Refer to Minister for Families, Communities and Disability

389. How many NCAT hearings does LAHC attend annually in relation to public and social housing tenants' complaints

(a) What is the average time spent in preparation and appearance for each hearing?

ANSWER:

The Department of Communities and Justice manage NCAT matters. Refer to Minister for Families, Communities and Disability

390. Who is responsible for providing staff and/or lawyers to defend LAHC against claims brought by public and social housing tenants through NCAT?

(a) How many lawyers/staff are employed for this purpose?

(b) What is the cost of employing these staff?

ANSWER:

The Department of Communities and Justice manage NCAT matters. Refer to Minister for Families, Communities and Disability

Cladding

391. How many buildings in NSW have been registered as having combustible cladding?

(c) How many of these have been assessed by building inspectors?

ANSWER:

This matter should be referred to the Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation

Public Housing Selloffs

392. What is the revenue raised by selling off public housing in the last financial year? How many properties were sold?

(a) What is the number of bedrooms lost in those sales?

ANSWER:

Refer answer 262

393. How many have been built or planned to be built with these funds? (Total properties, as well as total bedrooms)

ANSWER:

Under Communities Plus, 23,000 new social housing and 500 affordable housing.

394. What was the total sale figure for these properties? Was that higher than the original estimated?

ANSWER:

Refer to questions 262.

395. Given the justification for this was to enable the government to build more public housing and deal with the enormous waiting list, how many new properties/homes have been built? Or are being built using these funds?

ANSWER:

See answer 393

396. How much money remains from the total sell off figure that still needs to be spent on building or buying new public housing?

ANSWER:

All sales proceeds are reinvested to fund maintenance and build new fit-for-purpose contemporary social housing.

General Property and Housing

397. How many new public housing homes (houses or other residential dwellings) did the NSW Government build in 2018/the last year?

ANSWER:

352 social housing dwellings were completed and ready for tenanting in 2018/19.

398. How many public housing homes did the NSW Government purchase in 2018/the last year?

ANSWER:

See answer 263

399. What percentage of this record number of homes being constructed in NSW will be social housing?

- (a) Public housing?
- (b) Community housing?
- (c) Affordable housing?

ANSWER:

See answer 393

400. Is this acceptable amount given over 100,000 people on the waiting list?

ANSWER:

In addition to new homes being delivered through Communities Plus, the NSW Government is also increasing the supply of social and affordable housing through the Social and Affordable Housing Fund (SAHF), with over \$1 billion being invested to fund contracts to deliver access to over 3,400 new social and affordable dwellings across metropolitan and regional NSW. There are also a range of other housing and homelessness programs supporting eligible clients through Department of Communities and Justice including temporary accommodation, private rental assistance and private rental subsidies.

Questions from the Hon Mark Buttigieg MLC (on behalf of the NSW Labor Opposition)

Number of social housing properties / vacant properties

401. What is the current total number of social housing properties in NSW (public, community and Aboriginal Housing)?
- (a) What is the total number of vacant housing properties as at (today's date)?
 - (b) What is the average timeframe these properties are idle and not tenanted?
 - (c) Please provide an explanation of why these properties are sitting idle when we have close to 60,000 applications waiting to be accommodated?
 - (d) What is the average length of time Land and Housing Corporation is taking to restore vacant properties?
 - (e) How many properties does Housing NSW currently have tenanted under a head lease arrangement?
 - (f) Are these properties included in your first answer of current total number of social housing properties?

ANSWER:

Published data on the number of social housing residential dwellings (SHRD) as at 30 June 2018 by District is available on SHRD dashboard at

<https://public.tableau.com/profile/facs.statistics#!/vizhome/SocialHousingDwellings/Dashboard>.

The SHRD will be updated by data as at 30 June 2019 and will be available in October 2019.

(a) Aboriginal housing #

Published data for number of vacant properties as at 23/09/2019 is not available.

(b) Refer to 401 (a).

(c) Refer to 401 (a).

d) Refer answer 269

e) Refer to Minister for Families, Communities and Disability

f) Refer to Minister for Families, Communities and Disability

Maintenance

402. Please explain how the LAHC maintenance contractors are paid?

- (a) On completion of the job?
- (b) On inspection?

ANSWER:

Contractors are required to provide information to LAHC that works have been appropriately completed and to standard in accordance with the contract prior to payment. This includes that any required inspections have been completed by LAHC and, where a property is occupied, the tenant has confirmed that the contractor has attended to undertake the work.

403. How often has LAHC been taken to tribunal as a result of incomplete maintenance or a lack of maintenance in 2018 and so far this year?

ANSWER:

Refer to Minister for Families, Communities and Disability

404. What was the expense to LAHC to audit contractor's performance during 2017-2018?

ANSWER:

\$569,994 (incl GST).

405. What were the findings from this independent audit?

ANSWER:

Public Interest Immunity and Commercial in Confidence is claimed in response to this question.

406. What is the Minister doing to ensure that correct compliance with maintenance contractors is being adhered to as outlined from the independent audit?

ANSWER:

Public Interest Immunity and Commercial in Confidence is claimed in response to this question.

407. How much has Housing NSW spend on providing disabled upgrades to existing properties in 2018/19?

ANSWER:

\$8.7 million was expended on disability modifications in 2018/19.

Housing

408. We have seen figures suggesting the current shortfall for social and affordable dwellings for Aboriginal people in NSW is 24,000, and is predicted to rise to 65,000 by 2031. Do these figures accord with the Governments modelling? and what is the government undertaking to address this significant shortfall?

[Figures are provided Australian Institute of Health and Welfare; Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people: a focus report on housing and homelessness 2019]

ANSWER:

Please see the NSW Housing Register.

The Aboriginal Housing Office (AHO) is unable to validate the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) cited figures on the shortfall of social and affordable dwellings in NSW pertaining to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People. However, we are aware that demand is increasing and the NSW Government has a number of policies to address social and affordable housing demand including Future Directions for Social Housing in NSW, the NSW Homelessness Strategy 2018 - 2023 and the Aboriginal social housing strategy Strong Family, Strong Communities 2018 - 2028.

Strong Family, Strong Communities includes commitments to drive uplift in use of private rental products and to strengthen the Aboriginal community housing sector to better respond to Aboriginal families' need for housing including through property management transfers and an Aboriginal Community Housing Innovation Fund.

The AHO continues to increase its housing portfolio year on year, with 17% growth since 2011. The AHO will continue to focus on the delivery of new high quality homes through acquisition and construction in line with its Capital Investment Plan. This new supply will focus on key demand areas highlighted in its Supply and Demand model."

409. In NSW 42% of Aboriginal households own or are purchasing their homes, compared to 65% of non-Aboriginal households. What strategies is the Government employing to address this gap and support Aboriginal people's purchasing homes?

ANSWER:

The Strong Family, Strong Communities Implementation Plan commits the Aboriginal Housing Office (AHO) to a target of 100 home ownership opportunities by 2022. To achieve this the AHO:

- Has engaged an Aboriginal consultancy to investigate options for a long term Aboriginal home ownership initiative.
- Is partnering with the NSW Aboriginal Land Council (NSWALC) to share evidence, insights and collaborate on home ownership model options.
- Is engaging with IBA and other banks to explore how more funds could be made available for lending for home ownership in NSW.
- Is promoting the AHO's current Home Purchase Scheme in partnership with IBA, which supports AHO tenants who have not previously purchased a property to buy the home they live in."

410. What is the Government doing to support the Aboriginal housing sector to compete with the mainstream housing sector relating to future growth initiatives?

ANSWER:

The Aboriginal Housing Office (AHO) is working with 'Growth Providers' to tell us their plans to grow, and how the AHO could assist. We have also committed to transfer 1,500 properties to Aboriginal community housing providers by 2022.

The AHO has established a Peak Reference Group of Aboriginal and mainstream housing, homelessness and adjacent sector peaks. It is chaired by the Aboriginal Community Housing Industry Association. The AHO has committed to co-design and collaborate on all its sector investment initiatives with the group.

411. How much has been budgeted for 2019-20 for additional housing supply for Aboriginal social housing? And how many new houses is the Aboriginal Housing Office planning to deliver in 2019-20?

ANSWER:

The Aboriginal Housing Office (AHO) has a capital budget of \$35.8m in 2019/20 to deliver 51 new homes and upgrades for 250 homes.

Land and Housing Corporation

412. What was the maintenance backlog for social housing properties located in the Newcastle electorate for each of the following years:

- (a) 2011;
- (b) 2012;
- (c) 2013;
- (d) 2014;
- (e) 2015;
- (f) 2016;
- (g) 2017;
- (h) 2018; and
- (i) 2019?

ANSWER:

See answer 265.

413. How many properties located in the Newcastle electorate are affected by mould for each of the following years;

- (a) 2011;
- (b) 2012;
- (c) 2013;
- (d) 2014;
- (e) 2015;
- (f) 2016;
- (g) 2017;
- (h) 2018; and
- (i) 2019?

ANSWER:

In 2018/19, almost 740,000 maintenance work orders were received and actioned across NSW including reports about mould.

414. How many properties have been sold in the NN07 Newcastle zone in each of the following years:

- (a) 2011;
- (b) 2012;
- (c) 2013;
- (d) 2014;
- (e) 2015;
- (f) 2016;
- (g) 2017;
- (h) 2018; and
- (i) 2019?

ANSWER:

In the Newcastle electorate the following number of dwellings were sold:

- (a) 2010/11 - 4 dwellings
- (b) 2011/12 - 4 dwellings
- (c) 2012/13 - 7 dwellings
- (d) 2013/14 - 31 dwellings
- (e) 2014/15 - 3 dwellings
- (f) 2015/16 - 4 dwellings
- (g) 2016/17 - 3 dwellings
- (h) 2017/18 - 6 dwellings
- (i) 2018/19 - 6 dwellings

415. How many new social housing properties were constructed in the NN07 Newcastle zone in each of the following years:

- (a) 2011;
- (b) 2012;
- (c) 2013;
- (d) 2014;
- (e) 2015;
- (f) 2016;
- (g) 2017;
- (h) 2018; and
- (i) 2019?

ANSWER:

In the Newcastle electorate the following number of social housing dwellings were constructed/acquired:

- (a) 2010/11 - 11 dwellings
- (b) 2011/12 - 38 dwellings
- (c) 2012/13 - 28 dwellings
- (d) 2013/14 - 5 dwellings
- (e) 2014/15 - 0 dwellings
- (f) 2015/16 - 0 dwellings
- (g) 2016/17 - 0 dwellings
- (h) 2017/18 - 11 dwellings
- (i) 2018/19 - 2 dwellings

416. What is the total amount of revenue from the sale of social housing properties in the NN07 Newcastle zone in each of the following years:
- (a) 2011;
 - (b) 2012;
 - (c) 2013;
 - (d) 2014;
 - (e) 2015;
 - (f) 2016;
 - (g) 2017;
 - (h) 2018; and
 - (i) 2019?

ANSWER:

In the Newcastle electorate, sales totalled \$37.5 million with proceeds being reinvested to fund maintenance and build new fit-for-purpose contemporary social housing.

417. How much money was spent on the construction of new social housing properties in the NN07 Newcastle zone in each of the following years:
- (a) 2011;
 - (b) 2012;
 - (c) 2013;
 - (d) 2014;
 - (e) 2015;
 - (f) 2016;
 - (g) 2017;
 - (h) 2018; and
 - (i) 2019?

ANSWER:

In the Newcastle electorate, the following was expended on the construction of new social housing:

- (a) 2010/11 - \$4.6m
- (b) 2011/12 - \$4.2m
- (c) 2012/13 - \$0.4m
- (d) 2013/14 - \$2.1m
- (e) 2014/15 - \$0.0m
- (f) 2015/16 - \$0.0m
- (g) 2016/17 - \$0.0m
- (h) 2017/18 - \$2.5m
- (i) 2018/19 - \$1.2m

418. How many maintenance requests were made in the NN07 Newcastle zone in each of the following years:
- (a) 2011;
 - (b) 2012;
 - (c) 2013;
 - (d) 2014;
 - (e) 2015;

- (f) 2016;
- (g) 2017;
- (h) 2018; and
- (i) 2019?

ANSWER:

Refer answer 413

419. How many maintenance requests were actioned in the NN07 Newcastle zone in each of the following years:

- (a) 2011;
- (b) 2012;
- (c) 2013;
- (d) 2014;
- (e) 2015;
- (f) 2016;
- (g) 2017;
- (h) 2018; and
- (i) 2019?

ANSWER:

Refer answer 413

420. What was the average wait time from when a maintenance request was made to when it is actioned in NN07 Newcastle zone in each of the following years:

- (a) 2011;
- (b) 2012;
- (c) 2013;
- (d) 2014;
- (e) 2015;
- (f) 2016;
- (g) 2017;
- (h) 2018; and
- (i) 2019?

ANSWER:

Expected maintenance response timeframes are based on the nature and urgency of the issue.

421. What is the total value of Land and Housing Corporation assets in the NN07 Newcastle zone:

- (a) 2011;
- (b) 2012;
- (c) 2013;
- (d) 2014;
- (e) 2015;
- (f) 2016;
- (g) 2017;
- (h) 2018; and
- (i) 2019?

ANSWER:

The total value of all LAHC owned assets in the Newcastle electorate is as follows:

- (a) 2010/11 - not available
- (b) 2011/12 - \$465.2m
- (c) 2012/13 - \$521.9m
- (d) 2013/14 - \$517.6m
- (e) 2014/15 - \$483.7m
- (f) 2015/16 - \$540.4m
- (g) 2016/17 - \$603.6m
- (h) 2017/18 - \$673.3m
- (i) 2018/19 - \$725.3m

422. How much money was spent on maintenance in the NN07 Newcastle zone in each of the following years:

- (a) 2011;
- (b) 2012;
- (c) 2013;
- (d) 2014;
- (e) 2015;
- (f) 2016;
- (g) 2017;
- (h) 2018; and
- (i) 2019?

ANSWER:

The total spend on maintenance in the Newcastle electorate is as follows:

- (a) 2010/11 - not available
- (b) 2011/12 - \$6.4m
- (c) 2012/13 - \$7.0m
- (d) 2013/14 - \$6.5m
- (e) 2014/15 - \$12.1m
- (f) 2015/16 - \$16.8m
- (g) 2016/17 - \$8.1m
- (h) 2017/18 - \$13.6m
- (i) 2018/19 - \$9.4m

423. How many properties do Land and Housing Corporation own in the NN07 Newcastle zone?

ANSWER:

Refer to the Social Housing Residential Dwellings Dashboard at

<https://public.tableau.com/profile/facs.statistics#!/vizhome/SocialHousingDwellings/Dashboard?publish=yes>

424. How many times was Land and Housing Corporation taken to the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal (NCAT) in each of the following years:

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

- (h) 2018; and
- (i) 2019?

ANSWER:

Department of Communities and Justice manage NCAT matters. Refer to Minister for Families, Communities and Disability.

425. How many orders were made against Land and Housing Corporation in each of the following years:

- (a) 2011;
- (b) 2012;
- (c) 2013;
- (d) 2014;
- (e) 2015;
- (f) 2016;
- (g) 2017;
- (h) 2018; and
- (i) 2019?

ANSWER:

Department of Communities and Justice manage NCAT matters. Refer to Minister for Families, Communities and Disability.

426. How many times did Land and Housing breach NCAT orders in each of the following years:

- (a) 2011;
- (b) 2012;
- (c) 2013;
- (d) 2014;
- (e) 2015;
- (f) 2016;
- (g) 2017;
- (h) 2018; and
- (i) 2019?

ANSWER:

Department of Communities and Justice manage NCAT matters. Refer to Minister for Families, Communities and Disability.

427. How much compensation has been paid to tenants as a result of NCAT orders regarding maintenance issues in the NN07 Newcastle zone in each of the following years?

- (a) 2011;
- (b) 2012;
- (c) 2013;
- (d) 2014;
- (e) 2015;
- (f) 2016;
- (g) 2017;
- (h) 2018; and
- (i) 2019?

ANSWER:

Department of Communities and Justice manage NCAT matters. Refer to Minister for Families, Communities and Disability.

428. Are you aware that the carpet in unit 98/18 Fowler Street, Hamilton South is damaged and not up to standard?

(a) Will you replace the carpet in unit 98/18 Fowler Street, Hamilton South?

ANSWER:

The carpet was repaired in 2017 and 2018. The carpet showed minor loose thread defects and general wear.

429. What action are you taking to address the mould issues in unit 43/3 Neill Terrace, Hamilton South?

ANSWER:

The property is currently undergoing maintenance including addressing any mould issues.

430. What action has Land and Housing Corporation taken to repair the leaks in unit 20/28 Fowler Street, Hamilton South?

ANSWER:

This matter is being addressed by LAHC.

431. Are you aware that the carpark lines in the Darby Street Housing have faded away and are no longer visible?

(a) Will you arrange for the lines to be repainted?

ANSWER:

Painting of carpark lines has been placed on a future program of works.

432. What is Land and Housing's policy for dealing with abandoned vehicles on its property?

ANSWER:

Department of Communities and Justice is responsible for liaising with tenants about abandoned vehicles on LAHC properties. Refer to Minister for Families, Communities and Disability

433. Are you aware that there are a number of abandoned vehicles in the Darby Street Housing complex some that have been there for over a year?

ANSWER:

Refer answer 432

434. What action will be taken in regards to the abandoned vehicles in the Darby Street complex?

ANSWER:

Refer answer 432

435. Is there asbestos in the Light Street Housing complex?

ANSWER:

A number of houses built in Australia before 1988 could contain some form of asbestos material, irrespective of whether they are social housing or privately owned homes.

436. What should tenants do if they believe they have been exposed to asbestos in their property?

ANSWER:

Any tenant who suspects there may be asbestos in their home is urged to call the maintenance line on freecall 1800 422 322 which is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

437. Are you aware that the fence at 17 Mary Street, Merewether is damaged and needs replacing?
(a) Will you direct Land and Housing Corporation to repair the fence?

ANSWER:

This matter has been addressed by LAHC.

438. Does Land and Housing Corporation own 82 Newcommon Street?
(a) Are there any plans to sell 82 Newcommon Street?
(b) Will 82 Newcommon Street be retained as Social Housing?

ANSWER:

LAHC owns the property at 82 Newcomen Street, The Hill.

- a) There are no plans to sell the property.
- b) Yes

Ministerial Travel/Meal Allowance

439. How many nights travel were claimed by the Minister during the 2018-19 period?

ANSWER:

See answer to Question 104.

440. How many nights travel were claimed by the Minister's spouse during the 2018-19 period?

ANSWER:

See answer to Question 105.

441. What was the total amount of travel allowances claimed by the Minister and their spouse (if applicable) during 2018-19?

ANSWER:

See answer to Question 106.

442. What is the total amount of meal allowances claimed by the Minister and their spouse (if applicable) during 2018-19?

ANSWER:

See answer to Question 107.

Efficiency dividends

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

ANSWER:

See answer to Question 108.

444. What is the forecast efficiency dividend saving [sic] for each department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio in

(a) 2019-20?

(b) 2020-21?

(c) 2021-22?

ANSWER:

See answer to Question 109.

445. 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?

ANSWER:

See answer to Question 110.

Ministerial Office Administration

446. 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?

ANSWER:

See answer to Question 111.

447. 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?

ANSWER:

See answer to Question 112.

448. 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?

ANSWER:

See answer to Question 113.

449. Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in your ministerial office in 2018-19?

- (a) What is the cost of this?

ANSWER:

See answer to Question 114.

450. 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?

ANSWER:

See answer to Question 115.

451. 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?

ANSWER:

See answer to Question 116.

452. 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?

ANSWER:

See answer to Question 117.

453. 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?

ANSWER:

See answer to Question 118.

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

(a) What is the monthly cost of this?

ANSWER:

See answer to Question 119.

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

ANSWER:

See answer to Question 120.

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

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

ANSWER:

See answer to Question 121.

457. 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?

ANSWER:

See answer to Question 122.

458. 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?

ANSWER:

See answer to Question 123.

459. 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?

ANSWER:

See answer to Question 124.

Agile Workspaces/Activity Based Working/Hot-desking

460. 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?

ANSWER:

See answer to Question 125.

461. 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?

ANSWER:

See answer to Question 126.

Hospitality

462. 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?

ANSWER:

See answer to Question 127.

Labour Hire Firms

463. 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?

ANSWER:

See answer to Question 128.

Stationary

464. 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?

ANSWER:

See answer to Question 129.

Credit Cards

465. 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?

ANSWER:

See answer to Question 130.

Media and Public Relations

466. 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 advisers in financial year:
 - i. 2015-16
 - ii. 2016-17
 - iii. 2017-18
 - iv. 2018-2019
 - v. 2019-present?

ANSWER:

See answer to Question 131.

Facebook

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

ANSWER:

See answer to Question 132.

468. 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?

ANSWER:

See answer to Question 133.

Overseas Trips

- 469.** 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 134

Department/Agency Travel

470. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 135

Drivers

471. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 136

Consulting

472. 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

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 137

Web Content

473. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 138

Department/Agency Staffing

474. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 139

475. What was the total cost of all redundancies?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 140

476. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 141

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

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 142

478. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 143

479. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 144

Smart Phone

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

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

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 145

481. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 146

482. How many had to be replaced due to damage?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 147

483. How many were reported as lost?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 148

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

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

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 149

485. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 150

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

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 151

487. How many were reported as lost?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 152

488. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 153

489. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 154

490. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 155

491. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 156

Merchant fees

492. 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.

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 157

493. 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.

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 158

494. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 159

Advertising and Sponsorships

495. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 160

496. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 161

Probity Auditor

497. 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.

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 162

Energy

498. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 163

499. 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.

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 164

500. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 165

501. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 166

502. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 167

503. What proportion of that electricity is it estimated will come from renewable sources, for each year?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 168

504. 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.)?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 169

505. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 170

General Costs

506. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 171

Domestic Violence Leave Policies, Awareness and Usage

507. 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 confidentially [sic] of information about domestic violence
 - ii. Access to emotional, psychological, financial and medical support which may be required

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 172

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

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 173

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

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 174

510. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 175

Sexual harassment and Anti-bullying training and awareness programs

511. 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

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 176

Participation of women in Government

512. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 177

Professional Photography

513. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 178

Unmanned Aerial Services

514. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 179

Seconded Staff

515. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 180

516. Please provide their names, their substantive work title, and their seconded work title.

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 181

Consultant Costs

517. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 182

518. 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?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 183

GIPA Questions to the CEOs/ Department Secretaries

519. Since March 30, how many formal GIPAs have your cluster/ department received?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 184

520. Out of the received formal GIPAs, how many have you determined to:

- (a) Grant full access to the information?
- (b) Grant partial access to the information?
- (c) Not grant access to the information?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 185

521. Out of the GIPA where partial information or no information was granted, how many have decided to appeal?

- (a) Out of those who have decided to appeal, how many have decided to use:
 - i. The agency's internal appeals' mechanism?
 - ii. Review by the Information Commissioner?

- iii. Review by NCAT?
- (b) How many of those GIPAs have been overturned on appeal?
 - i. Internal appeals' mechanism?
 - ii. Review of the Information Commissioner?
 - iii. Review by NCAT?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 186

- 522.** GIPAs that have been granted full or partial access, how many appear on the agency's disclosure log?
- (a) What is the rationale for not putting GIPAs on the agency's disclosure log (excluding GIPAs asking for personal information)?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 187.

- 523.** Has any GIPAs that appeared on the agency's disclosure log been taken down?
- (a) For what reason/s?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 188

Administration of Acts

- 524.** What, if any, planned reviews are being done over the next 2 years for any of the acts and/or their regulations administered by the Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation?
- (a) Which regulations that fall under these acts are due to cease as at 1 September 2019, and 1 September 2020?
 - (b) Given that various regulations, as set out under the Subordinate Legislation Act, cease five years after being published, what mechanisms have you set up to ensure that regulations which are required to be maintained after this 5 year period remain in force?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 189

- 525.** Which acts in this portfolio are yet to commence?
- (a) Are there any acts that have commenced but have provisions that are yet to commence?
 - i. What are they?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 190

- 526.** In terms of each of the acts, are there any provisions that need clarifying for the department/agency/office to be able to better support the Minister?

- (a) What amendments have been proposed?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 191

527. In terms of the jointly administered acts, how is the responsibility shared between the Ministers and their departments/agencies/offices?

- (a) With the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services?
- (b) With the Treasurer?
- (c) With the Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation
- (d) With the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces?
- (e) The 4 other Ministers associated with the Roads Act?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 192

528. How are these jointly administered acts operationalised between the Ministers and their departments/ agencies/offices?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 193

529. What happens when there is a conflict in the administration of these acts between the Ministers and their departments/agencies/offices?

- (a) Other than matters that are referred to Cabinet, what is the mechanism to solve conflicts between the Ministers who share responsibility?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 194

Efficiency Dividend and staffing

530. How are the departments and agencies that fall under the administration of the Minister for Water, Property and Housing planning on achieving the Treasurer's required efficiency dividend of 3%?

- (a) Will this mean that there will be a reduction in services?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 195

531. In Budget Paper no.1, Chapter 5 "Expenditure" indicated that there is "Reform, Savings, and Offsets", which in total over the next 4 years will net approximately \$3.1 billion. What does saving tax payer dollars through reductions in procurement and employee expenses, and "other reform, savings and offset measures" look like in the public service departments/agencies that support Minister Anderson?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 196

532. Can you guarantee that there will be no staff reductions/ job losses/ voluntary redundancies to achieve the efficiency dividend?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 197

State Outcomes

533. What is or are the state outcomes that apply to the suite of portfolios in Minister Pavey's area of administration?
- (a) How does this apply to Minister Pavey's portfolios
 - (b) What outcome indicator information will be used to measure how NSW is going in relation to those stated State outcomes?
 - i. What data will be collected to provide outcome indicator information?
 - ii. What base year will be used?
 - iii. What is the timeframe to achieve the stated outcomes?
 - (c) If there are none, why are there no other state outcomes that apply to Minister Pavey's portfolios?

ANSWER:

Refer to the answer provided for Question 198.