



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEES

## **BUDGET ESTIMATES 2019-2020 Supplementary Questions**

**Portfolio Committee No. 1 – Premier and Finance**

**TREASURY**

Hearing: Tuesday 29 October 2019

**Answers due by: Friday 22 November 2019**

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## Treasury

<b>Questions from the Hon Mark Buttigieg MLC (on behalf of the NSW Labor Opposition)</b>
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### **GST**

1. GST and stamp duty were described as ‘regressive’ taxes. What other taxes do Treasury consider regressive?
  - (a) What taxes do Treasury consider ‘progressive’?
2. Mr Pratt, you said GST “is a progressive tax if you look at it as a percentage of household expenditure”. Would you still hold this opinion if the GST was broadened to include fresh food, health and childcare good and services that are currently exempt?
  - (a) If so, why?
  - (b) Would the GST become relatively more progressive or less progressive, as a percentage of household expenditure, if you broadened it to include fresh food, health and childcare goods and services that are currently exempt?
3. Would the GST become more progressive or less progressive, as a percentage of household expenditure, if the per cent number is increased? (e.g. from 10% to 15%)
4. Ms Wilkie, would the GST become relatively more regressive or less regressive if you broadened it to include fresh food, health and childcare goods and services that are currently exempt?
5. Ms Wilkie, would the GST become more progressive or less progressive, as a percentage of household expenditure, if the per cent number is increased? (e.g. from 10% to 15%)

### **Restart NSW**

6. Mr Midha, you said that 80 per cent of the Restart NSW fund will be expended over the forward estimates. How much of the remaining 20 per cent of the fund would need to go towards Regional projects in order to hit the 30% regional expenditure target?
  - (a) Can you please provide absolute dollar figures to elucidate your answer?

### **Property and Stamp Duty**

7. What is the estimated impact of lack of confidence in the new construction building market on sales of new dwellings and therefore on stamp duty revenue?

### **Infrastructure**

8. Aside from Metro West, what are the other projects on prospective list that the Department is preparing to submit for funding requests to the Commonwealth?

### **Gambling Revenue**

9. It was stated that “Gambling and betting taxes are forecast to provide \$2.6 billion in 2019-20 and are forecast to grow at an average annual rate of 3 per cent over the forward estimates. Of that gambling revenue about 65 per cent is poker machine duty.” What is the basis for that 3% increase, since poker machines are capped in NSW and the total number of poker machines in use in NSW is decreasing?