



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEES

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

**Portfolio Committee No. 5 – Legal Affairs**

**FAMILIES, COMMUNITIES AND DISABILITY SERVICES**

Hearing: Tuesday, 17 March 2020

**Answers due by: 5.00 pm Monday 13 April 2020**

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## FAMILY, COMMUNITIES AND DISABILITY SERVICES

### Questions from Ms Abigail Boyd MLC

#### **Older women experiencing homelessness**

Census data republished in the Sydney Morning Herald in February shows that ‘the number of women aged 65 to 74 describing themselves as homeless increased by 51 per cent in the five years to 2016’. In the NSW Women's Strategy Year One Final Report, the Minister for Women has identified the need to respond to the homelessness crisis affecting older women, and committed to "encourage" new housing proposals through the Social and Affordable Housing Fund that target older women.

1. What has actually been achieved from this collaboration between the Women's Ministry and yours?
2. Are there plans for specialist shelters and medium-term accommodation solutions, and an increase in public housing stock, to meet the demands of this crisis?

#### **Support for marginalised groups experiencing domestic and family violence**

According to the Australian Law Reform Commission, 90% of women with an intellectual disability have experienced domestic & family violence.

3. What new and dedicated resources are being committed to support women with disabilities who are experiencing or have experienced domestic violence?
4. What new and dedicated resources are being committed to support the voices of children and young people who are experiencing or have experienced domestic violence?

#### **Crisis accommodation for people experiencing domestic & family violence**

5. What additional supports will the Government provide to ensure that people experiencing domestic and family violence who are living in bushfire affected areas are not displaced due to general community need, and can still access temporary, crisis, transitional and longer-term housing to be safe?
6. What is the NSW Government doing to ensure that people with disability who are experiencing domestic and family violence can access temporary, crisis, transitional and longer-term housing that meets their needs?
7. Why are people experiencing domestic and family violence sometimes being granted only two days of temporary accommodation through Link2Home, DVLine or Housing?

The DCJ Deputy Secretary of Strategy, Policy & Commissioning advised last September in Budget Estimates Questions on Notice that in August 2018 there were 478 bedrooms in government-funded women's refuges, which could support up to 1,500 people at any given time.

8. What is the justification for this level of crisis accommodation provision, given that there are almost 17,000 women and girls that Australian Institute of Health and Welfare recognised as needing crisis accommodation in the 2017-2018 financial year?

### **Women's Safety NSW Funding**

It is understood that Women's Safety NSW provided a funding proposal to the Government which requested enough funds to employ Aboriginal and Multicultural identified policy and advocacy positions within this peak body to specifically advise on legislative and policy reform as it affects these particular target groups.

9. Will the Government commit to providing this essential funding for this peak industry body for women's safety in the 2019/20 budget?

### **Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service (WDVCAS) funding**

Since before the commencement of the Safer Pathway rollout in September 2014, WDVCASs have experienced rising demand. Since July 2015 there has been an increase in client numbers each year, totalling a 61% increase over the four-year period to 2019 (i.e. 19,496 additional clients), and then following the rollout of Safer Pathways have continued to experience a 12% increase in clients. Despite this however, WDVCAS has seen no funding increase in this time.

10. When will the NSW Government be increasing the funding for these crucial frontline women's specialist DFV services?
11. How will the NSW Government ensure that as the service system improves and becomes more accessible, and as a consequence more women feel confident in reaching out for support, that funding for these crucial services for women and children's safety matches projected increases in client numbers?

### **Case management**

Safer Pathways has now been independently evaluated (February 2019), as has the WDVCAP Program which manages WDVCAS (August 2018). Both evaluations identified the need for women experiencing DFV supported by WDVCASs through Safer Pathway to be offered case management support. Legal Aid NSW submitted a bid to have these recommendations effected in the 2018/19 budget and were

unsuccessful. There have been assurances given that a decision on case management implementation will be made in time for the 2020/21 budget.

12. Can you confirm that case management will be made available through Safer Pathways in 2020/2021?

13. What steps are currently being undertaken to ensure implementation during 2020/2021?

### **Accessible Transport**

According to the current Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport requirements, 90% of the rail network should have been accessible by Dec 2017. 100% of our public transport should have been accessible by 2022, but this has now been pushed back to 2032. Once again accessible transport targets are severely lacking, with still just of half of all train stations in the Sydney Metro being accessible, and the government being unable to meet the current required timeframe to have all accessible.

14. What is the government doing to fund additional infrastructure projects that will speed up the timeline for full accessibility across the rail network, so those with disability don't have to wait another 12 years to be able to access their local station?

15. What are you personally doing as Minister for Disability Services to ensure accessibility is prioritised?

### **Lift & Change Facilities**

I acknowledge the work done by the NSW Government in the provision of Lift and Change Facilities across a number of local government areas, and I understand that the State Government is currently providing co-contributions of \$35,000. However, in 2013 estimated costs for building Lift and Change Facilities was over \$100,000 per facility.

16. Is the Government committed to investing additional funding to LGAs for the provision of these facilities?

(a) If so, how much funding will the Government commit?

## Questions from Mr David Shoebridge MLC

### Overrepresentation

17. How many children are currently in OOHC in NSW? How many of those, and what proportion, are identified as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander?
- (a) How many children entered care in the 2018/2019 financial year?
  - (b) And to date in the 2019/2020 financial year?
  - (c) How many of those, and what proportion, were identified as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander on entry into care?

### Early support for families

18. The Family Is Culture Review noted that the proportion of NSW spending on family support services in relation to total child protection spending has declined and represented just 14.3% in 2017-2018
- (a) What was the dollar amount and proportion of spending on family support services in relation to total child protection spending for the 2018-2019 financial year?
  - (b) Does the Government plan to increase spending on these services in the 2020-2021 budget?
  - (c) What proportion of spending on family support services goes to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander controlled services?
  - (d) What plan is in place for the Government to increase this proportion so that it is consistent with the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in care?

### Connection to Culture

19. How many, and what proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in OOHC in NSW are placed in relative or kinship care?
- (a) Of those children, how many and what proportion are placed in relative or kinship care with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander members of their family?
  - (b) How many, and what proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in OOHC in NSW are placed with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander foster carers?
  - (c) How many, and what proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in OOHC in NSW are case-managed by an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation?

- (d) The Family Is Culture Review found that 32% of the children reviewed did not have a cultural plan at the time of the review.
- (e) What is the current number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in care without a cultural care plan or cultural support plan?

### **Case workers**

- 20. How many case workers are currently employed by the department of community & justice working on child protection reports?
  - (a) Are there any contracted caseworkers?

### **Housing**

- 21. Last financial year, how many placements received financial support to ensure a young person could remain with their carer? That is, how many children in OOHC were able to remain in their OOHC placement under the Post Care Education Financial Support for Carers Policy?
  - (a) Last financial year, how many children leaving OOHC at age 18 were referred to homelessness support services within 12 months of leaving care? How many were referred to social housing services?
  - (b) Under Their Futures Matter, how much total funding is allocated across agencies in 2019-20 for program expenditure on children, young people and families initiatives? How is this forecast to change over 2020-21 to 2022-23?
  - (c) Of this, how much is spent on programs for:
    - i. OOHC (permanency support)
    - ii. intensive family preservation and restoration programs
    - iii. early intervention programs relating to child protection and wellbeing?
- 22. How much total funding is allocated for programs addressing social and affordable housing and homelessness in 2019-20? How is this forecast to change over 2020-21 to 2022-23?

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

23. Will the funding for the community sector incorporate the entire Equal Remuneration Order for community workers once the current agreement has expired in 2021?

**Working With Children Checks**

24. In the recent reviews of the operation of the Children's Guardian, did the cases selected for review include the cases where staff had disagreed with the decision of the Director to grant clearances?
25. What examination was conducted of working with children checks that have been approved by the director against staff recommendations?
- (a) How were these checks being identified?
  - (b) Were the checks identified as being of this nature been suspended?
  - (c) Will the detailed outcome of each review of a working with children check of this nature, de-identified, be provided to the committee?
  - (d) Is there an ongoing process of review examining checks that are approved by the director against staff recommendations?

**Temporary accommodation**

26. How many women and children were provided with temporary accommodation due to domestic violence in the periods:
- (a) 2018-19
  - (b) 2017-18
  - (c) 2016-17

**Documented case plans**

27. The Productivity Commission's 2020 Report on Government Services (RoGS) stated that 18.7% of children in out of home care were without a 'current documented case plan'. In answers provided in the 2019-20 Budget Estimates further hearing for this committee on March 17, it was said that the explanation for this was that children entering out of home care may not have a plan for the first 30 days of care.

- (a) What is the department's definition of a 'current documented case plan' as what was described in the RoGS?
- (b) According to available data from September 2018-June 2019, the average number of children entering out of home care per quarter is 542. 18.7% of the current number of children in out of home care according to answers provided in the 2019-20 Budget Estimates hearing is 3,154. How do you explain the significant disparity of more than 2,612 of children in out of home care who reportedly have no current documented case plan and have been in out of home care for longer than 30 days?
- (c) What percentage of children in out of home care, according to the most recent figures available to the department, have no current documented case plan that have been in out of home care for:
  - i. Less than 30 days
  - ii. 30-90 days
  - iii. 3-6 months
  - iv. 6-12 months
  - v. More than 1 year

Please report these figures separately by children that are case managed by Family and Community Services (DCJ) and children that are case managed by NGOs, separated by children who are identified as being Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and by children who are not identified as being Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander.

28. What percentage of children and young people had documented case plans in the years:
- (a) 2018-19, and what percentage of these had a goal of:
    - i. Family preservation
    - ii. Restoration
    - iii. Guardianship
    - iv. Adoption
    - v. Long term care
  - (b) 2017-18, and what percentage of these had a goal of:
    - i. Family preservation

- ii. Restoration
- iii. Guardianship
- iv. Adoption
- v. Long term care

### **Guardianship orders**

29. In your answer to question 27 of supplementary questions to the initial hearings of Budget Estimates 2019-20 in September 2019, you stated that data is currently unavailable as to how many guardianship orders have been made by consent in 2018-19, and how many of those orders relate to Aboriginal children.
- (a) Is this data now available?
  - (b) If this data is available, please provide the data
  - (c) If this data is still not available:
    - i. when will this data become available?
    - ii. why is this data unavailable?
    - iii. how is DCJ working to remedy the unavailability of this data?
  - (d) Why was the data unavailable when first requested?

### **ChildStory**

In your answer to question 48 of supplementary questions to the initial hearings of Budget Estimates 2019-20 in September 2019, you stated that all data relating to child protection and out of home care that was recorded in KIDS has been migrated to ChildStory.

30. How many reports or complaints has DCJ received from its staff or other stakeholders that data or records are missing or inaccessible from ChildStory since the database was considered fully implemented?
31. How many reports or complaints has DCJ received from its staff or other stakeholders that data or records are not easily located in ChildStory since the database was considered fully implemented?
32. How many reports or complaints has DCJ received from its staff or other stakeholders that data or records in ChildStory are not complete as to the identification of a child's Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander status since the database was considered fully implemented?

33. Are there any differences in the way permissions are managed between KIDS and ChildStory that could explain the difficulty some caseworkers experience when being unable to access information in ChildStory that is available in KIDS?
- (a) If so, how is the Department managing this issue?
34. How many times has ChildStory had service interruptions in 2018-19?
- (a) How many times in the last month?

### **Additional caseworkers**

35. How many of the additional 72 caseworkers in DCJ have been allocated to each DCJ district? Please supply these figures by district and number of caseworkers allocated to each district.
36. How many of the additional 72 caseworkers in DCJ have been recruited in each DCJ district? Please supply **these figures by district and number of caseworkers recruited in each district.**

### **Worker wellbeing**

37. Since the beginning of the 2019-20 financial year, how many DCJ Child Protection Caseworkers have left the department through:
- (a) Natural attrition
- (b) Physical injury
- (c) Psychosocial injury
38. How many Workers Compensation Claims has DCJ received in the last year for psychosocial injury?
- (a) How many casework staff have been directly assisted with these funds?
39. What is the comparative rate of Workers Compensation Claims for psychosocial injury in DCJ compared to the NSW public service generally?
40. Will the Department release any recent studies into the wellbeing of DCJ caseworkers?
- (a) If so, when will the recent studies be released?
41. What is the average retention rate for DCJ Child Protection Caseworkers since the beginning of the 2019-20 financial year?

### **The Helpline**

The 2019 budget papers included a commitment to employ 45 caseworkers at the Child Protection Helpline.

- (a) How many of the 45 caseworkers have been recruited?
- (b) How many more calls have been answered by the helpline since these caseworkers were employed?
- (c) How many more matters have been resolved as a result of these caseworkers being employed?
- (d) Will this commitment be ongoing?

### **The Efficiency Dividend and the Bushfires**

42. In the 2019-20 budget, the Government announced \$731.4 million whole of government and procurement savings. These savings were to target 'back-office savings' and were to be in addition to the 12% efficiency dividend (3% per year) over four years forecast in the 2018-19 budget. What is the total figure of savings DCJ has made so far in this financial year?

- (a) Where have those savings been made?

43. The previous Minister, The Hon Pru Goward MP, believed that Community Services staff were 'first responders'. Is this the view of the current Minister?

### **Service Cuts**

44. Given that rural and regional NSW is supposed to be quarantined from budget and service cuts, will the Minister rule out closing the Bowral Community Services Centre?

### **Cultural care plans**

45. What percentage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people in out of home care have cultural care plans?

- (a) If the answer is that this information is not available:
  - i. Why is this information not available?
  - ii. When will this information be made available?

### **Northern District**

Caseworker positions in the Northern District have decreased from 106 to 102 in the past year.

Technically, caseworker positions have dropped to 92, as 10 'extra' caseworker positions were created

to manage the 180 cases that were transferred in from other districts for the Queensland Interstate Team.

46. Was there a decrease in casework in the Northern District to justify the decrease in caseworker positions?
47. How does the Department intend to manage the workload of the caseworkers in the Northern District?
48. As a result of these changes, has there been a loss of a:
  - i. Manager of Casework position in Lismore?
  - ii. Manager of Casework position in Ballina?

(b) How many caseworker positions have been lost in:

  - i. Lismore, and
  - ii. Ballina

### **Social Housing Priority Waiting List**

49. What are the common attributes of applicants currently on the priority waiting list for public and social housing?
50. How many applicants are currently on the priority waiting list for public and social housing?
51. Has the cohort of people on the priority waiting list increased from 2015-16 to 2018-19?
  - (a) If this cohort has increased,
    - i. how much has the size of the cohort increased?
    - ii. Why has the size of this cohort increased?
52. What is the current average wait time for applicants on the priority waiting list to receive a public housing placement (as distinct from alternative accommodation or private rental assistance)?
  - (a) Has the current average wait time for applicants on the priority waiting list increased from 2015-16 to 2018-19?
  - (b) If the current average wait time for applicants increased, why are people with disability, feeling domestic violence and people who are homeless waiting longer for public and social housing?

### **Social Housing Waiting List**

53. Has the department estimated the cost of meeting the current demand for public and social housing, the 50,000 applicants on the waiting list?
  - (a) Which funding model does it estimate to be most efficient to meet this need?
54. What is the full estimated cost of meeting the current demand for public and social housing?
55. There is increasing pressure on an already overburdened social housing system; given the loss of so many homes in the current climate events, and the phasing out of the National Rental Affordability Scheme, what does the NSW Government intend to do to address the issue of the huge lack of social housing?

### **Temporary Accommodation**

56. How many individuals were accommodated through the Temporary Accommodation program since FY2011-2012 to current, with current being the most recently available data?
57. What was the total expense for Temporary Accommodation FY2011-2012 to to current, with current being the most recently available data?
58. How many nights of Temporary Accommodation have been provided FY2011-2012 to current, with current being the most recently available data?
59. We understand there is a shortfall of Temporary Accommodation across the State, can you please provide information regarding the number of individuals who have not been accommodated in the LGA they have presented for assistance?
60. Please provide information of what transportation is used in situations where temporary accommodation is located in a different suburb away from where the individuals has first presented?
61. What was the total expense of transportation associated with Temporary Accommodation from FY2011-2012 to current, with current being the most recently available data?

### **Assertive Outreach Programs**

62. Assertive Outreach Programs are currently being delivered by the Department of Communities and Justice in the City of Sydney, Newcastle and Tweed Heads.
  - (a) What further opportunities has the Government identified to introduce more Assertive Outreach Programs in the State?

- i. Which Local Government Areas have been identified for more Assertive Outreach Programs in NSW?
- ii. When are these proposed programs going to commence?
- iii. When will Assertive Outreach Programs be rolled out broadly across NSW?
- iv. If not Assertive Outreach Programs will not be rolled out broadly across NSW, why will these programs not be rolled out broadly?

### **Premier's Priority on Rough Sleeping**

63. It is almost 12 months since the Premier's Priority on Rough Sleeping was announced. Please provide:

- (a) The baseline number being used for the 2021 target
- (b) The number of people sleeping rough who have been housed since the announcement
- (c) The number of people who are receiving ongoing support to maintain that housing
- (d) Progress made on action plans to meet the 2021 and 2025 targets and key deliverables contained within these plans
- (e) Information regarding the allocation of funding has been made to meet the key deliverables and whether this funding is ongoing

### **\$1 billion investment in homelessness**

64. In June 2018 the NSW Government, alongside the NSW Homelessness Strategy, announced investment of \$1 billion over four years for homelessness services. The four years being: 2018/19 – 2021/2022. One year later, in June 2019, the NSW Government, within the Budget papers, announced investment of \$1 billion over four years for homelessness services. In October 2019 Minister Ward advised Specialist Homelessness Services that there will be a 12 month contract extension for the Program in 2020/2021 followed by a commitment to three year contracts from 2021/2022 to 2023/2024. Please clarify:

- (a) What the funding within \$1 billion is allocated to. How much is:
  - i. SHS Program funding (including Sector Support Fund, Homeless Youth Assistance Program, DVRE and Youth 24/7 enhancement)
  - ii. Temporary Accommodation Program
  - iii. Link2Home

- iv. DCJ programs including the HOST
  - v. Homelessness Strategy initiatives
- (b) What is the \$30 million per annum Commonwealth contribution via the National Housing and Homelessness Agreement allocated to?
- (c) Whether the \$1 billion investment will be maintained from 2021/2022 until 2023/2024. That is, can the Specialist Homelessness Services be assured that the funding envelope for the SHS Program will be at least maintained at current levels in the new contracting periods?

### **Premier's Youth Initiatives Projects**

65. The funding arrangements, security and adequacy of funding in the homelessness area has become a serious problem and concern. Can the Minister confirm whether the Premier's Youth Initiative Projects will continue to be funded after June 2020?
- (a) This project is being reviewed and an evaluation was underway as at September 2019. Can you please provide a detailed update of this evaluation?

### **Privatisation**

66. Can the Minister please provide a breakdown of the number of social housing transfers to community housing providers since the introduction of the Management Transfer Program?
67. Of the 14,000 social housing properties under the Management Transfer Program how many tenancies have been transferred to community housing providers?
68. Has the Government reached its goal of 32% of social housing tenancies to be managed by community housing providers?

### **Disaster Welfare Assistance Line**

69. How many people accessed the Disaster Welfare Assistance line since implementation to current, with current being the most recently available data?
- (a) What additional funds have been allocated to deliver this program?
- (b) How long will the Government fund and provide this service?
- (c) How many calls have been logged on the 1800 018 444?

### **NSW Bushfire Customer Care Service**

70. How many calls were logged 13 77 88 since implementation to to current, with current being the most recently available data?

### **Bushfire Housing Assistance Service**

71. How many individuals were assisted with emergency temporary accommodation through the Bushfire Housing Assistance Service since implementation to current, with current being the most recently available data?

72. What is the expense of temporary accommodation for bushfire effected individuals since implementation to current, with current being the most recently available data?

73. What is the average length of time clients have been accommodated in Temporary Accommodation as a result of bushfire?

74. Of the individuals assisted with emergency temporary accommodation, how many have secured more permanent housing options through private rental or short term accommodation?

### **Rent Choice Assist**

75. Can you provide an update on Rent Choice Assist?

76. Currently this trial is being conducted in Blacktown, Campbelltown, Hurstville or Newcastle/Lake Macquarie. Please provide reasoning for why this trial is only being conducted in these locations?

(a) Will the trial be extended to include more locations?

(b) Rent choice was budgeted 2018-2019 to assist only up to a total of 200 households in the four locations. Will this trial be extended to 2019-2020?

### **SAHF Program**

77. How many additional social and affordable housing dwellings since the implementation of the SAHF program have been delivered?

(a) Of these provide a breakdown in the dwellings;

i. How many are new construction?

ii. How many are refurbishment and re-purpose of existing dwellings?

iii. How many long term lease hold arrangement?

78. How many individuals and families have moved into social and affordable homes funded under the SAHF program?

79. What commitment has been made under the SAHF and SAHF 2 in terms of increasing social housing stock, i.e. how many additional social housing properties have been promised via SAHF/SAHF 2?
80. How many social housing properties via SAHF/SAHF 2 are currently tenanted i.e. have tenants living in them?

### **Indexation**

81. Will the NSW Government confirm an adequate indexation rate for community services in the portfolio of DCJ?
  - (a) Will the indexation rate be in the vicinity of 5% to meet previous shortfalls?

### **The ERO**

82. How much has NSW Government provided in ERO supplementation?
83. When does ERO funding cease?
84. Will ERO funding be extended in any equivalent funding capacity?

### **Youth Homelessness Funding**

85. Will the NSW Government provide longer term security of funding for all homelessness programs after June 2021? For example: the NSW Premiers Youth Initiative, Homeless Youth Assistance Program (HYAP), Service Support Fund, Inner City Restoration, Domestic Violence Response Enhancement, and the Youth Crisis Accommodation Enhancement?

### **Community Services**

86. Will the NSW Government make a commitment to longer term contracts of 5-7 years for the community services sector?
  - (a) How these will be factored into the forward estimates?
87. Will the NSW Government commission an independent inquiry into the amount of red-tape, accreditation, regulation, and compliance expected of the community services sector to assess the impact on efficiency and effectiveness (especially the reduction to direct service delivery)?
88. Is any form of modelling planned by NSW Treasury to assess the impact of the recent bushfires on demand for health services (especially mental health services) and community services (especially family support, restoration services, emergency and financial assistance) and housing and homelessness services across NSW over the next 5 years?

- (a) There are concerns that DCJ have authorised changes to Activity Work Plans for some community development organisations in bushfire affected areas so they can deliver crisis relief and recovery work under their current contract. This leads to a service reduction in other essential areas. Can the NSW Government assure us this will be additional funds and not be at the expense of existing vital community services?

### **Place Plans**

89. What is the status of the Place Plans initiative under Future Directions for Social Housing?
90. When does funding for Place Plans cease?
- (a) If funding will not be extended beyond 30 June 2020, how many job losses will that loss of funding create?
- i. Will regional jobs be lost as part of these job losses?
  - ii. Does that break the Premier's promise that there will be no regional job losses in her Government?

### **NSW performance compared to other States**

91. Why has social housing expenditure fallen \$200 million (15% and over) in two years according to the Productivity Commission Report on Government Services?
92. Only three quarters (75.9%) of dwellings are of an acceptable condition compared to national average of 80.3%. Why does NSW have the worst dwelling conditions in the country?
93. Why is the proportion of occupied public housing at an all-time low of 98.1 % from a high of 99.9% when the Government took office?
94. Why has the proportion of new public housing tenancies allocated to households with special needs collapsed and is now the second lowest percentage in the country (55.6%)?
95. Why has real spending on assistance for Indigenous community housing fallen 45% from \$16,659 (2013-14) to \$9,226 (2017-18) and is well below the national average of \$11,786?

### **Carers**

96. The NSW Carers (Recognition) Act 2010 strategy expired last year – why hasn't it been renewed?
- (a) Has the Minister received any feedback from NSW carers regarding the expiration of this strategy?
- i. What feedback has the Minister received?

97. What changes has the Minister made to the conduct of NSW Government workers to ensure that The NSW Carers (Recognition) Act 2010 is implemented at all levels of government?
98. How many complaints have been received relating to a lack of implementation of the NSW Carers Act, or more broadly the treatment of carers?
- (a) What are you doing to reduce these complaints?
99. How many frontline or back office staff are dedicated purely to helping carers in the department?
100. Outline, what if any, specialised training staff undergo relating to the NSW Carers (Recognition) Act. Please include:
- (a) Training program names
- (b) Length of training
- (c) Cohort of staff who are projected to undergo each training program
- (d) Number of staff who have undergone each training
- (e) Date training rolled out
- (f) Details of any future training courses being developed or proposed
101. What are the tangible KPIs associated with the implementation of the NSW Carers (Recognition) Act 2010?
- (a) Please provide information as to which of these KPIs have been:
- i. met
- ii. partially met
- iii. not met
102. Given many carers are elderly or living with chronic disease in NSW?
- (a) What support are you providing to carers who can't carry out their caring responsibilities due to Coronavirus?

**Funding of DFV services by DCJ:**

103. What will the Minister do to ensure Jenny's Place Domestic Violence Resource Centre continues to operate in Newcastle? What funding will the Minister allocate to this?
104. Minister, what efforts have you made to consult regional communities about the best way to provide specialist domestic violence services?

105. Specifically what consultation has been undertaken with *Restore Our Refuge* regarding *Lynn's Place* in the Taree area?
106. Minister, what will you do to ensure the Yacaaba Centre continues to operate in the Tomaree/Port Stephens area?
107. What finding will you provide Yacaaba to ensure this important service continues?

### **Safer Pathway**

108. What is the Minister doing to ensure that women and children who have experienced domestic violence have access to the range of services they need and at the right time?
109. What is the Minister doing to ensure that women referred through Safer Pathway are able to get help when needed?
110. What will the Minister do to address the gaps in the system placing women and children at risk identified and articulated by the Australian Women Against Violence Alliance (AWAVA)?
111. Which NSW Departments and workers are trained on the nature and dynamics of sexual assault, domestic and family violence and how is this done?
112. What is the NSW Government doing to ensure that Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander and culturally and linguistically diverse women, women with disability and LGBTQI who are experiencing violence can access specialist and culturally safe support?

### **Our Watch and Change the Story**

113. Prior to signing up to Our Watch, the government maintained the position that its efforts were already achieving its primary prevention aims, what whole of community primary prevention programs has the Government invested in? What is the total amount spent on these initiatives?
114. Will we see investment in a comprehensive primary prevention strategy in line with the Change the Story Framework from the NSW Government OR will it continue to be a piecemeal approach of small pilot projects?
115. How much funding and resources has the NSW Government dedicated to addressing the gendered drivers of violence against women and their children, as identified through the national framework of "Change the Story"?

### **Aboriginal Women and Children**

116. When will the Department keep their commitment to appropriately fund Western Sydney's Aboriginal women's refuge, Wirrawee Gunya?

117. In 2017 the Department offered all Specialist Homeless Services an extended 3-year funding contract. At that time the Department offered WCDVS a 1-year contract unless they agreed to include Wirrawee Gunya in the contract with no additional funding. How is Wirrawee Gunya expected to absorb the additional \$700k operational cost of running this 24-hour service without additional funding from DCJ?

### **Youth Justice**

118. What part of the recommended changes to the operating model of the Youth Justice Centres have been implemented since the Review conducted by Former NSW Police Assistant Commissioner Lee Shearer APM into the incident at the Frank Baxter Youth Justice Centre in Kariang on 21 and 22 July 2019 (known as the Shearer Report)?
119. Have all Youth Justice Centres been separately audited to identify all security gaps to prevent detainees accessing roofs and elevated structures as per Recommendation 17 of the Shearer Report?
120. Has an emergency management training program been rolled out as outlined in Recommendation 51 of the Shearer Report?
121. Can you provide a list of all assaults on detainees by detainees, allocated by type of assault, including general assaults, sexual assaults for the 2018/19 period and for the current 2019/20 period?
122. What proportion of detainees have a mental health condition prior to or upon being detained?
123. What proportion of detainees have a mental health condition upon release?
124. Does a mental health professional sign off or confirm that a detainee is appropriate for release or that a mental health management plan is in place to ensure ongoing management of mental health conditions prior to a detainee being released from a Youth Justice facility?
125. What are the conditions placed upon release for a detainee with identified mental health conditions and a treatment plan to continue with said plan?
126. Has there been any additional funding allocated in order to reduce the 84% of detainees who have a history of recidivism?
127. What funding was provided each financial year since 2014/15 for rehabilitation of detainees?
- (a) Is additional funding for rehabilitation provided for offenders managed in the community by Youth Justice?

- (b) If so, how much has been provided each year since 2014/15?
128. Can you provide a list of rehabilitation programs provided by Youth Justice for detainees in Youth Justice Centres?
- (a) Are different programs provided for offenders managed in the community by Youth Justice?
- (b) Can you provide a list of all programs provided for in the community offenders?
129. Will organisations who provide frontline services under a contract to Youth Justice, including not for profit organisations, continue to operate as normal during the Covid-19 crisis?
- (a) If services are suspended in order to ensure safety of detainees or providers' staff, will contract payments be suspended?
- (b) Will contractor staff be provided with similar support to that being provided to departmental staff, including the additional 20 days of leave?
130. Do all detainees have the opportunity to complete their secondary schooling to year 12 while detained in a Youth Justice facility?
131. What Certificate (I, II, III, IV etc) Diploma level or employment training courses are provided to detainees at each Youth Justice Centre?
- (a) Has the number of courses been reduced over the last three years?
- (b) If so, which courses are no longer offered to students/detainees at each site?
132. How much was spent on consultancies in the previous two financial years by Youth Justice?
133. How much is forecast to be spent on consultancies in the current financial year?
134. Where was the \$3.6m announced by the Minister on 29 October 2019 to address Phase 1 of the Shearer Report recommendations reallocated from?
- (a) Did the department request additional funds to compensate for the reallocation?
- (b) Did the Treasurer or Premier support a reallocation of funds?
- (c) Was the \$3.6m reallocated from recurrent or program funds?
- (d) What other programs were affected by the reallocation?
- (e) Why was new or additional funding not provided to cover the \$3.6m?

## **NSW Health**

135. Prior to the rollout of the NDIS, NSW hospitals were able to call on the assistance of an ADHC caseworker to assist patients who have complex disability. What support do NSW hospitals now receive to assist patients with complex disability?

### **Corrections**

136. What support is provided by DCJ to Corrective Services NSW to manage prisoners with complex disability?

### **Local Government**

In answers provided in the 2019-20 Budget Estimates further hearing for Portfolio Committee No. 7 on Local Government, on the 4<sup>th</sup> March 2020, Deputy Secretary of the Department of Local Government Tim Hurst stated that his department does not monitor whether local councils have implemented Disability Inclusion Action Plans (DIAPs) and that the role of monitoring this falls to DCJ.

137. What percentage of local councils in NSW have created DIAPs?

138. What percentage of local council DIAPs include a local disability action group or similar consultative mechanism?

139. What mechanisms does DCJ use to monitor the level of implementation of council DIAPs?

140. Has DCJ found any councils to not be in compliance with their obligations under the Disability Inclusion Act 2014?

(a) Please provide a list of councils found to not be in compliance

(b) What action has DCJ taken against these councils?