



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEES

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2021-2022 Supplementary Questions

Portfolio Committee No. 1 – Premier and Finance

FINANCE AND SMALL BUSINESS

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Budget Estimates secretariat
Phone 9230 2898
BudgetEstimates@parliament.nsw.gov.au

FINANCE AND SMALL BUSINESS

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

Small Business Fees and Charges Rebate

1. When the Small Business Fees and Charges Rebate was announced in November 2020, how many businesses were expected to use the rebate?
2. How many businesses have applied for the Small Business Fees and Charges Rebate since applications opened in April 2021?
 - (a) How many businesses were deemed eligible?
 - (b) How many businesses were deemed ineligible?
 - i. What were the three most common reasons for businesses being deemed ineligible?
3. What is the total value of Small Business Fees and Charges Rebates issued since April 2021?
4. What is the average time taken for applications for the Small Business Fees and Charges Rebate to be assessed?
5. Of the Small Business Fees and Charges Rebates issued since April 2021, what is the average amount drawn down or claimed by businesses against the original \$1500 rebate amount?
6. Given the announcement on 12 October 2021 that the rebate would increase from \$1500 to \$2000:
 - (a) Of the businesses that have already received the \$1500 rebate, how many have had the rebate automatically increased to \$2000?
 - (b) When will all approved rebates be raised to \$2000?
7. The original Budget allocation for the Small Business Fees and Charges Rebate was \$472 million. What extra funding has been allocated to the scheme following the announcement the rebate would increase from \$1500 to \$2000?
8. Following the changes to the Small Business Fees and Charges Rebate, how many extra businesses are expected to use the rebate, compared to when the rebate was first announced?
9. Given the announcement on 12 October 2021 that road tolls would become an eligible Government fee or charge under the Small Business Fees and Charges Rebate, can businesses claim the costs of invoices from 1 March 2021?
 - (a) If not, what is the date from when businesses can claim invoices for road tolls?
 - (b) If not, why have road tolls been treated differently to the other fees and charges that can be claimed against the Small Business Fees and Charges Rebate?

10. As at 1 November 2021, if a business successfully applied for the Small Business Fees and Charges Rebate via the Service NSW website, would a rebate of \$1500 or \$2000 be granted?
 - (a) If the answer is \$1500, what is the reason for the delay in updating the system to grant the \$2000 rebate after the Government's 12 October 2021 announcement of changes to the scheme?
 - i. When will the system be updated to automatically grant the \$2000 rebate for when applications are assessed?
11. Are there any plans to extend the Small Business Fees and Charges Rebate beyond 30 June 2022?
 - (a) If not, why not?

Infringement notices for breaching COVID-19 public health orders

12. In relation to infringement notices for breaching COVID-19 public health orders issued between 25 June 2021 and 17 October 2021:
 - (a) How many relating to the non-wearing face masks were issued to people living in LGAs of concern?
 - (b) How many relating to the non-wearing face masks were issued to people living outside of LGAs of concern?
 - (c) What fine relief is being considered for residents in LGAs of concern who were disproportionately affected by harsher restrictions?
 - (d) Given the significant financial impact of the harsher restrictions in LGAs of concern, will payment periods for infringement notices for COVID-19 public health order breaches be extended for people who live in LGAs on concern?
 - (e) How many requests for review have been received from people who live in LGAs of concern?
 - i. How many reviews have resulted in infringement notices being waived or replaced with a caution?
 - (f) How many requests for review have been received from people who live outside of LGAs of concern?
 - i. How many reviews have resulted in infringement notices being waived or replaced with a caution?

Dine and Discover vouchers

13. In relation to Dine NSW vouchers:
 - (a) How many have been issued in Greater Sydney since the program started?

- i. What is the total value of vouchers issued?
 - (b) How many have been issued in Regional NSW since the program started?
 - i. What is the total value of vouchers issued?
 - (c) How many vouchers are yet to be redeemed in Greater Sydney?
 - i. What is the total value of vouchers yet to be redeemed?
 - (d) How many vouchers are yet to be redeemed in Regional NSW?
 - i. What is the total value of vouchers yet to be redeemed?
- 14. In relation to Discover NSW vouchers:
 - (a) How many have been issued in Greater Sydney since the program started?
 - i. What is the total value of vouchers issued?
 - (b) How many have been issued in Regional NSW since the program started?
 - i. What is the total value of vouchers issued?
 - (c) How many vouchers are yet to be redeemed in Greater Sydney?
 - i. What is the total value of vouchers yet to be redeemed?
 - (d) How many vouchers are yet to be redeemed in Regional NSW?
 - i. What is the total value of vouchers yet to be redeemed?
- 15. What has been the cost of advertising the Dine and Discover NSW program for:
 - (a) Television media
 - (b) Print media
 - (c) Digital media
 - (d) Social media
- 16. What has been the cost of IT development and support for the Dine and Discover NSW program?

Government procurement

- 17. How many Government contracts worth less than \$1 million were awarded during the 2020/21 financial year?
 - (a) How many of those contracts were awarded to SMEs?
 - i. How many of those SMEs are located in Western Sydney and South-West Sydney?
- 18. How many Government contracts worth between \$1 million and \$5 million were awarded during the 2020/21 financial year?
 - (a) How many of those contracts were awarded to SMEs?
 - i. How many of those SMEs are located in Western Sydney and South-West Sydney?

19. How many Government contracts worth more than \$5 million were awarded during the 2020/21 financial year?
 - (a) How many of those contracts were awarded to SMEs?
 - i. How many of those SMEs are located in Western Sydney and South-West Sydney?
20. What is the total value of Government procurement contracts awarded to NSW SMEs in the 2020/21 financial year?

Payroll Tax

21. How many businesses entered into a Tax Debt Instalment Plan for payroll tax during the 2019/20 financial year?
 - (a) How many of those businesses are classified as small and medium enterprises (SMEs)?
 - i. What was the average payroll tax debt for SMEs in the 2019/20 financial year?
 - (b) How many businesses with a Tax Debt Instalment Plan are located in Western and South-Western Sydney?
22. How many businesses entered into a Tax Debt Instalment Plan for payroll tax during the 2020/21 financial year?
 - (a) How many of those businesses are classified as small and medium enterprises (SMEs)?
 - i. What was the average payroll tax for SMEs in the 2020/21 financial year?