

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEES

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2021-2022 Supplementary Questions

Portfolio Committee No. 4 – Industry

LANDS & WATER, HOSPITALITY & RACING

Hearing: 9 March 2022

Answers due by: 5 April 2022

Budget Estimates secretariat Phone 9230 2112 BudgetEstimates@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Questions from the Hon Mark Pearson MLC

Greyhound Racing

- 1. It has come to my attention that a GRNSW staff member raised "confidential and urgent" complaints about Bathurst's track and a staff member there being involved in cash-betting via a third party on races they worked on. Was this incident investigated and what did this investigation find?
- 2. It has come to my attention that a senior GWIC staff member raised concerns in an email about somebody else "advising participants to ignore NSW health orders" during covid-19 restrictions. Is the Minister aware of this incident and was it investigated?
- 3. It has come to my attention that in October 2021, a senior member of GWIC staff stated in an internal email that "I don't think we can claim that we haven't had any evidence of live baiting any longer given the [redacted] matter in which we are alleging one of the rabbits found in [the] fridge have evidence of being used as a lure". Can the Minister confirm whether he is aware of this incident, or any other recent incidents of live baiting, and what is being done to investigate and prosecute those found to have been live baiting?
- 4. Does GWIC have a mandatory post mortem policy for greyhounds who are euthanised due to catastrophic injuries?
- 5. I am aware of staff at Moree track raising concerns about the horrible conditions at the track, including staff shortages so bad they considered abandoning the meeting, the computer and printer not working, lure falling off the cable, cramped kennels being "decades old". When were facilities at Moree last upgraded, and when are new upgrades planned to occur?
- 6. I'm aware that Bathurst's track has seen one death and a number of injuries during 2021, and that community concerns have been raised about track conditions. Is it true that Bathurst received funding that was spent on a new driving tower and new kitchen facilities, before or rather than track upgrades?
- 7. It has come to my attention that an internal GWIC email described the relationship between Greyhound Racing NSW and The Telegraph as "commercial".
 - (a) Can the Minister clarify exactly how GRNSW's relationship with The Daily Telegraph is commercial?
 - (b) Apart from advertisements for GRNSW, has GRNSW funded any greyhound-racingrelated content by The Daily Telegraph in the previous five years?
- 8. It has come to my attention that internal GWIC emails state that FIREFLY JEN, who died at Kempsey race track on June 19, 2021, had multiple skull fractures which "cannot be explained by this vision". Can the Minister confirm if he is aware of this incident,

whether it was investigated, and whether the cause of the skull fractures determined?

- 9. I have been made aware of a fatal incident at a racing event where there were no owners or trainers on track, who then had to be contacted by phone in order to grant permission for euthanasia to be performed. Is this a breach of policy, for a trainer or owner not to be at a track when the greyhound is racing, or is there currently no such policy that would prevent the unnecessary delay of euthanasia when a greyhound is suffering immensely?
- 10. It has come to my attention that a senior member of GWIC staff does not believe GWIC should have to answer questions to the media, and that it is GRNSW's role to do so. Can the Minister clarify whether it is the role of one or both organisations to respond to media requests?
- 11. Given the mortality risk of racing is intensified due to extreme weather conditions and poor track conditions, does GWIC have policies about when exactly racing must not proceed due to weather and track conditions?
- 12. It has come to my attention that GWIC is aware that greyhound TIME TO SHOUT, who died at Wauchope on 7 August 2021, died because of what his owner thinks was "human error".
 - (a) Was this incident investigated, and what did the investigation find?
 - (b) I'm aware of an internal email that recommendation racing at Wauchope be suspended until the lure in use during the race in which TIME TO SHOUT died was inspected and replaced. Was this lure replaced or repaired, and if not, why not?
- 13. Were concerns raised by staff or the community about track conditions at The Gardens prior to two catastrophic injuries occurring in two days in September 2021?
- 14. Given it has been 2 years since the release of UTS's "GRNSW Phase II Final report", how many of the report's five recommendations have been implemented industry-wide?
- 15. Richmond was Australia's deadliest track in 2021, with 10 deaths. After 8 of these deaths, the track was worked on. I am aware of a letter from a welding company that was contracted to work at Richmond track, in which the contractor states, on September 17, "given the condition and age of this infrastructure I cannot guarantee [fatal incidents] will not happen in the future". A week later, FINAL OCCASION died at Richmond. I am also aware that GWIC staff said they were "hardly comforted" by the welder's comments, and questioned when the track was going to be upgraded.
 - (a) Who allowed racing to continue at Richmond?
 - (b) Was a track safety upgrade scheduled to take place, and if so, has it taken place?

LANDS & WATER, HOSPITALITY & RACING

Questions from the Hon Mark Banasiak MLC

Heading - Wyangala Dam, Hydropower contracts

- Hydropower Pty ltd comprises of three farming families who established a hydroelectric facility on Wyangala dam in the 90s. In exchange they were given exclusive hydro rights to the dam for 50+ years.
 - (a) With the proposed raising of the wall, what is the government's intention with regards to the continuation of this contract?
 - (b) Has that intention been communicated clearly to Hydropower Pty Ltd?
 - (c) Given that Hydropower's ten year contract was up for renewal in January, will this renewal occur? If not, why not?

Heading - Native title claims

- 17. In the last three years , how many native title claims have caused an impending sale of a property to fail
 - (a) Of those failures to sell, how many landholders were notified of native title claim prior to sale and how many only discovered after sale process had begun.
 - (b) Why is there no obligation to notify existing landholders of native title claims that exist on their land?

LANDS & WATER, HOSPITALITY & RACING

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

Warragamba Dam

- 18. Could the Minister please explain the Government's Warragamba Dam wall raising in relation to:
 - (a) The actual location of the proposed biodiversity offsets?
 - (b) Whether Water NSW has developed a clear plan to fully deliver these offset requirements in full?

Parramatta River Fish Kill

- 19. Could the Minister please provide an update on the Environment Protection Authority's investigation into the fish kill events at Haslam's Creek and Rydalmere in relation to:
 - (a) The status of the investigation
 - (b) The number of fish that DPIE estimates to have died
 - (c) Measures that are being undertaken to prevent a re-occurrence of these fish kills?

Unclean Beaches

- 20. Does the Minister currently have any policy measures aimed at addressing the decrease in the water quality of NSW beaches?
- 21. Does the Minister currently have any policy measures to address the decrease in water quality in NSW estuarine beaches which have higher pollution levels than other beaches?
 - (a) If so, how would each of these policies prevent:
 - i. Pollution caused by storm water and runoff
 - ii. Sewage-related pollution more generally

EPA 2021 Report - State of the Environment Report on river health

- 22. Why are major river systems in the Murray-Darling basin in a worse environmental condition than coastal rivers in NSW?
- 23. Does the Minister currently have any policy measures designed to address:
 - (a) The poor condition of major river systems in the NSW Murray-Darling basin of which 90% are rated 'poor' or worse
 - (b) The poor condition of waterbirds and fish in NSW coastal rivers
 - i. If so, what would each of these policies entail?
 - ii. What would the impact of the policy be on the surrounding natural environment?

Hunter WSP issues

- 24. What is the status of the Hunter WSP for Unregulated and Alluvial Water?
- 25. Could the Minister please provide an exact figure for:
 - (a) The number of water licence holders who will be impacted
 - (b) The number of submissions that have been received
 - (c) The number of public consultations that have taken place
 - (d) The number of people involved in the consultation process
- 26. What has the NSW Government done to progress the \$40m federal allocation to indigenous cultural water?

Menindee Lakes and Yanco Creek

- 27. What is the proposed scope of the works for the Menindee Lakes and Yanco Creek SDL Adjustment Mechanisms?
- 28. What will the impact of the works be on the surrounding natural environment?
- 29. What will the impact of the works be on the local community?

Macquarie River Re-regulating Storage

- 30. Could the Minister please provide an update on:
 - (a) The status of the business case as this was due in late 2021
 - (b) Whether an investment decision has been made regarding the project
 - (c) The status of the EPBC Act approval

"Funny-tasting" water in Western Sydney October 9 2021

- 31. Can the Minister guarantee that the water in Sydney is safe to drink?
- 32. Is Sydney Water aware of anyone becoming sick as a result of consuming this water in the last six months?
 - (a) If so, how many?
 - (b) What was the response of Sydney Water to these reports?
- 33. Does the Minister currently have any policy measures aimed at improving the taste of water in Sydney?
 - (a) If so, what would this policy entail?
 - (b) What would the impact of this policy be on the local community?

- (c) Are there any foreseeable risks or limitations to this policy?
- 34. Does the Minister currently have any policy measures aimed at reducing the high wind levels in the Warragamba catchment area?
 - (a) If so, what would this policy entail?
 - (b) What would the impact of this policy be on the local community?
 - (c) Are there any foreseeable risks or limitations to this policy?
- 35. How many complaints has Sydney water received in relation to the "funny-tasting" water in Sydney? Including:
 - (a) How many complaints has the Minister's office had in relation to this
 - (b) How many of these complaints have been responded to
 - i. Could the Minister please provide a copy of the response?
 - ii. Could the Minister identify the source of this response?

Questions relating to credit card statements

36. What is the status of the fraudulent charges totalling \$1 212.85 on:

- (a) Mr Roch's card
- (b) Mr Plowman's card

Water NSW

- 37. Could the Minister please provide an update on the Gleninnes Creek Pumped Hydro Project in relation to:
 - (a) The concerns raised around the procurement process
 - (b) Whether the successful bid is still before FIRB
- 38. If the successful bid is still before FIRB, what impact will this have upon the delivery of energy storage infrastructure under the energy roadmap?
- 39. Why has no investigation occurred into the procurement process of the Gleninnes Creek Pumped Hydro Project?

Water Resource Plans

- 40. How many NSW Water Resource Plans have been returned to the Murray-Darling Basin Authority for accreditation?
- 41. What water sources have had Water Resource Plans revised and returned to the Murray-Darling Basin Authority for accreditation?

- 42. What revisions have been made to the Water Resource Plans to address inconsistencies with the Murray-Darling Basin Plan, as outlined by the Murray-Darling Basin Authority?
- 43. How have First Peoples Nations been consulted through the process of addressing the inconsistencies in Water Resource Plans?

Minister's Office

- 44. How many Ministerial staff redundancies occurred there during the Ministerial changeover in late 2021?
 - (a) How many were:
 - i. Forced
 - ii. Voluntary
- 45. What is the total cost of these redundancies?
- 46. What was the total value in dollar terms of all termination payments paid to exiting staff?
- 47. Could the Minister please provide a list of job descriptions corresponding to redundancy payouts if they occurred?
 - (a) Could the Minister please also provide a list of job descriptions corresponding to whether they were forced or voluntary?
- 48. What was the total cost of the following from Oct 2021 March 2021:
 - (a) Office fit outs
 - (b) Office Upgrades
 - (c) Moving or relocation services
 - (d) Plants
 - (e) Business Cards
 - (f) Stationary
 - (g) Art
 - (h) Book cases or other office furniture
- 49. Were any upgrades or alterations made to the office during or after the Ministerial changeover?
- 50. Were any office assets unaccounted for after the Ministerial changeover?
 - (a) If so, could an itemised list please be provided with the costs of the assets
- 51. How many full-time equivalent staff are engaged at 1 January 2022

- 52. How many of these positions are:
 - (a) on-going and
 - (b) non-ongoing
- 53. Could the Minister please provide job titles for all current positions/employees in the Minister's office?
- 54. Could the Minister please provide total (incl. superannuation and other benefits) remuneration awarded to each member of staff and their corresponding job title?
- 55. How much has been spent on ministerial stationery requirements in FY 2020-21 and FY 2021-22 to date
- 56. How much did the Minister's office spend on Christmas Party Functions in 2021?
- 57. Does the Minister have a clothing allowance?
 - (a) If so, what is it?
 - (b) Could an itemised list be provided and cost associated with each item
- 58. What requests have been made from the Minister regarding office upgrades or furniture?
 - (a) Could details of these requests be provided?

Redundancies - DPIE - Water

- 59. How many Departmental staff redundancies occurred during or around the Ministerial changeover in late 2021?
 - (a) How many were:
 - i. Forced
 - ii. Voluntary
- 60. What is the total cost of these redundancies?
- 61. What was the total value in dollar terms of all termination payments paid to exiting staff?
- 62. Could the Department please provide a list of job descriptions corresponding to redundancy payouts if they occurred?
 - (a) Could the Department please also provide a list of job descriptions corresponding to whether they were forced or voluntary?

DPIE Water

63. Could the Minister please provide the most recent copy of the Executive Organisation Chart for DPIE – Water?

Briefings

- 64. Has the Minister's office provided briefings to independents/minor parties in the Legislative Council or Legislative Assembly? If so, can the following be provided:
 - (a) The subject matter of the briefing.
 - (b) The location and date of the briefing.
 - (c) Who proposed the briefing?
- 65. Attendees of the briefing by level/position

Communications staff – DPIE Water

- 66. For DPIE –Water, please provide in relation to all public relations, communications and media staff the following:
 - (a) How many ongoing staff, the classification, the type of work they undertake and their location.
 - (b) How many non-ongoing staff, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location.
 - (c) How many contractors, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location.
 - (d) How many are graphic designers
 - (e) How many are media managers
 - (f) How many organise events
 - (g) How many times was the Media studio used since it was first set up?
 - i. Could DPIE please provide a list of what projects or other media utilised the studio?

Ministerial Travel

- 67. Can an itemised list of the costs of all domestic and international travel undertaken by the Minister since 21 December 2021 be provided including:
 - (a) Flights for the Minister as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the airline and class of travel.
 - (b) Ground transport for the Minister as well as any accompanying departmental officials.

- (c) Accommodation for the Minister, as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the hotels the party stayed at and the room category in which the party stayed.
- (d) Meals and other incidentals for the Minister as well as any accompanying departmental officials. Any available menus, receipts for meals at restaurants and the like should also be provided.
- (e) Any available photographs documenting the Minister's travel should also be provided.

Ministerial Functions

- 68. In relation to any functions or official receptions hosted by Ministers or Assistant Ministers in the portfolio since 21 December 2021, can the following be provided:
 - (a) List of functions.
 - (b) List of all attendees.
 - (c) Function venue.
 - (d) Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive).
 - (e) Details of any food served.
 - (f) Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage.
 - (g) Any available photographs of the function.
 - (h) Details of any entertainment provided.

Advertising and information campaigns -DPIE -Water

- 69. What was the DPIE –Water's total expenditure on advertising and information campaigns for FY 2020-21 and for the current financial year to date
- 70. What advertising and information campaigns did the DPIE –Water run in each relevant period. For each campaign, please provide:
 - (a) When approval was first sought.
 - (b) The date of approval, including whether the advertising went through the Independent Campaign Committee process.
 - (c) the timeline for each campaign, including any variation to the original proposed timeline.
- 71. Can an itemised list of all eTenders offer notice ID numbers for all advertising and information campaign contracts in each period be provided

Advertising and information campaigns -Water NSW

- 72. What was the Water NSW's total expenditure on advertising and information campaigns for FY 2020-21 and for the current financial year to date.
- 73. What advertising and information campaigns did the Water NSW run in each relevant period. For each campaign, please provide:
 - (a) When approval was first sought.
 - (b) The date of approval, including whether the advertising went through the Independent Campaign Committee process.
 - (c) the timeline for each campaign, including any variation to the original proposed timeline.
- 74. Can an itemised list of all eTenders offer notice ID numbers for all advertising and information campaign contracts in each period be provided

Advertising and information campaigns -Sydney Water

- 75. What was Sydney Water's total expenditure on advertising and information campaigns for FY 2020-21 and for the current financial year to date.
- 76. What advertising and information campaigns did Sydney Water run in each relevant period. For each campaign, please provide:
 - (a) When approval was first sought.
 - (b) The date of approval, including whether the advertising went through the Independent Campaign Committee process.
 - (c) the timeline for each campaign, including any variation to the original proposed timeline.
- 77. Can an itemised list of all eTenders offer notice ID numbers for all advertising and information campaign contracts in each period be provided

Promotional merchandise - Sydney Water

- 78. What was the Sydney Water total expenditure on promotional merchandise for FY 2020-21 and the current financial year to date
- 79. Can an itemised list of all eTenders offer notice ID numbers for all promotional merchandise contracts in that period please be provided.
- 80. Can photographs or samples of relevant promotional merchandise please be provided.

Social media influencers - Sydney Water

- What was Sydney Water's total expenditure on social media influencers for FY 2020-21 and 2021-22 to date.
- 82. What advertising or information campaigns did Sydney Water use social media influencers to promote.
- 83. Can a copy of all relevant social media influencer posts please be provided.
- 84. Can an itemised list of all eTenders offer notice ID numbers for all relevant social media influencer contracts please be provided

Crown Casino

- 85. Has the Minister been briefed by the Independent Liquor and Gaming Authority on the status of the Crown Casino Barangaroo site and when gaming operations will open at full capacity?
- 86. Has the Minister been briefed by the Independent Liquor and Gaming Authority about Blackstone's bid to takeover Crown Casino?
- 87. Has a probity report been commissioned to investigate the Blackstone bid to takeover Crown Casino?
- 88. If so, who is undertaking this probity report?
- 89. What is the total cost of the probity report?
- 90. It is understood that even if the Independent Liquor and Authority approves this bid that for it to move forward the Government will need to address issues with existing contracts with Crown Casino. What action will be required by Government?
- 91. Do you have any concerns about Crown Casino being owned by a company such as Blackstone that is not listed on the ASX, and the impact this could have on transparency?
- 92. Does the Liquor and Gaming Authority have legislative powers to investigate the business partners of NSW Casino Licence holders for links to organised crime?
 - (a) If so, has it undertaken any investigations with respect to the probity of Blackstone?

- 93. Will the Government follow the advice provided by the Independent Liquor and Gaming Authority regarding the suitability of Blackstone's bid to take over Crown Casino?
- 94. Will the new Independent Casino Commission have legislative powers to investigate the business partners of NSW Casino Licence holders for links to organised crime?

Data Transparency

95. NSW publishes six monthly data by LGA (more or less) on the Liquor and Gaming webpage. However, the Business Intelligence Unit creates three monthly/quarterly reports. These used to be circulated by email, but are now uploaded to a sharepoint site. The public webpage announces that the quarterly data is available on request. Why is the quarterly data not just uploaded to the public data webpage, along with or instead of, the six monthly data?

Support for the Live Music Industry

- 96. As part of the Customer Service Legislation Amendment Bill 2021, the Minister is required to implement recommendations 5, 10 and 12 of the review into the Music Festivals Act 2019. What is the progress of the implementation of these recommendations?
- 97. The Outdoor and Alfresco Dining trial as of June 2021 had 311 venues using outdoor dining of which 303 were in the City of Sydney area. How many venues are participating in the trial and how many are located in the City of Sydney as of 9 March 2021?

Disability Employment

- 98. How many employees who identify with having a disability are employed by:
 - (a) Water NSW
 - (b) Essential Energy
 - (c) Hunter Water
 - (d) Sydney Water
- 99. How many senior managers who identify with having a disability are employed by:
 - (a) Water NSW
 - (b) Essential Energy
 - (c) Hunter Water
- (d) Sydney Water

Questions from Mr Justin Field MLC

Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) report

- 100. In regards to the questions from Mr Field on page 9 of the transcript regarding the Government's response to the ICAC report '*Investigation into complaints of corruption in the management of water in NSW and systemic non-compliance with the* Water Management Act 2000':
 - a. Which 7 of the 15 recommendations made by ICAC have been "fully implemented" as described by the Minister? Please list.
 - b. How has recommendation 1 of the ICAC report, that recommended section 5 of the Water Management Act 2000 be given effect, been implemented to date?
 - i. What are the primary policy and guidance documents that have been reviewed and updated? Please list.
 - ii. How has the Government ensured this recommendation is fulfilled in regards to its healthy floodplains project reforms?
 - iii. Have staff from Environment Energy and Science been involved or consulted with as part of fulfilling this recommendation? If so, please describe how.

Floodplain harvesting proclamation

- 101. In regards to the Water Management (Application of Act to Certain Water Sources) Proclamation 2022 published in the NSW Gazette on 18 February 2022:
 - a. How many determinations under this proclamation have been made for the Border Rivers?
 - b. How many determinations under this proclamation have been made for the Gwydir Valley?
 - c. What is the total volume (GL) of these determinations for the Border Rivers?
 - d. What is the total volume (GL) of these determinations for Gwydir Valley?
 - e. Do the above volumes of the determinations equate to licence volumes for floodplain harvesting? If not, please explain.
 - f. What are the next steps to be taken before water can be taken under a floodplain harvesting access licence in the Border Rivers and Gwydir Valley?
 - g. Are there conditions or rules that allow irrigators to take more than the face value of these determinations? Please explain.
- 102. Has the Government sought legal advice on whether water can be taken outside of the Border Rivers and Gwydir valleys since the Water Management (Application of Act to Certain Water Sources) Proclamation 2022 was published in the NSW Gazette on 18 February 2022?
 - a. If so, will the Government table this advice?
 - b. Who provided this advice?

Water Management (General) Amendment Regulation 2021

- 103. The Water Management (General) Amendment Regulation 2021 as gazetted on 17 December 2021 and disallowed by the NSW Legislative Council on 22 February 2022, contained a reference in section 23B(2)(a) to "another work to which the work was related or connected":
 - a. What is the effect of this inclusion, which was not contained within the previous 2021 regulation?

- b. How many works would become eligible as a result of this inclusion?
- c. What circumstances might arise where this extension of eligibility for replacement floodplain harvesting access licences be relied upon? Please provide an example.

Floodplain harvesting regulations and compensation

- 104. Has the Government sought any legal advice outside the Department of Planning and Environment on whether any changes to floodplain harvesting regulations, licences, determinations or entitlements could trigger a claim for compensation under the Water Management Act 2000?
 - a. If so, who provided this advice?
 - b. If so, will the Government make this advice public?

Dendrobium coal mine and water licences

105. South32 is taking surface water without a licence from Sydney's drinking water catchment via its Dendrobium coal mine. The Government has known about this since at least the 2016 Catchment Audit. Why has no action been taken to penalise this mining company for taking water without a licence?

Water sharing plans and climate change

106. Are surface water sharing plans across the state going to be updated to account for the impact of increased losses from evaporation as a result of increased temperatures and climate change?

Potential AUSTRAC Investigations into NSW pubs and clubs?

- 107. Is the Minister aware of any AUSTRAC investigations in relation to anti-money laundering compliance at any NSW clubs or hotels?
- 108. Has AUSTRAC sought any information from Liquor and Gaming NSW or the Independent Liquor and Gaming Authority in the exercise of their functions in the last 12 months?a. If yes, what was the nature of this information?
- 109. Please describe the nature of any routine information sharing between Liquor and Gaming NSW or the Independent Liquor and Gaming Authority and AUSTRAC?
- 110. Is there a formal or informal MOU between Liquor and Gaming NSW and AUSTRAC?
- 111. Is there a formal or informal MOU between the Independent Liquor and Gaming Authority and AUSTRAC?

LANDS & WATER, HOSPITALITY & RACING

Questions from Ms Abigail Boyd MLC

Coal Ash Dams

- 112. Following the recent catastrophic weather conditions and flooding events, what is the status of the coal ash dams?
 - (a) How many dams have spilled?
 - (b) How much coal ash is being washed over the top?
 - (c) What water testing are you doing?
- 113. Following the closure of the Myuna Bay sport and recreation centre in 2019 following reports that the ash dam at Eraring presented an unacceptable risk, I understand that Origin undertook to urgently repair the ash dam wall, to be completed by June 2022.
 - (a) What is the progress of the Design and Construction process to address the risk?
 - (b) Since 24 September 2020, how many site visits have been made by Dams Safety NSW officers?
 - (c) When was the last site visit made by a Dams Safety NSW officer?
- 114. Will Eraring's consequence rating be downgraded once it completes its repair process?
- 115. How many disclosures have you received relating to ash dams since 1 November 2019?
- 116. Has Dams Safety NSW made any recommendations or consultation regarding risk regarding the new location in Morisset of the Myuna Bay Sport and Rec Camp?
- 117. What is the current consequence category given to Eraring's ash dams?
- 118. Will Dams Safety NSW be giving feedback on Origin Energy's MOD2 Ash Recycling Facilities application?
- 119. Will Dams Safety NSW be making recommendations or providing feedback during the planning process for the Eraring battery project proposal?
- 120. Did Dams Safety NSW investigate reports of a breach of the Maules Creek tailings dam last week?

Portfolio: Hospitality and Racing

\$30 million welfare improvement fund

The NSW Government's media release (28 March 2017 - Response to Greyhound Reform Panel) announced "the safety of greyhound tracks will be improved with \$30 million to improve animal welfare standards that lower the risk of injury". Please provide full details regarding:

- 121. how much expenditure has been made under this program at each NSW greyhound racing track and/or trial track,
- 122. how each track expenditure has improved animal welfare standards that lower the risk of injury at each location (provide empirical evidence of same),
- 123. in which state electorate each of the track related sums was spent,
- 124. how much funding remains to be spent overall,
- 125. at which tracks and in which state electorates the Government intends to spend these remaining funds,
- 126. how the intended expenditure at each track will lower the risk of injury to racing greyhounds at that track for said expenditure,
- 127. how this will be measured,
- 128. what the Government intends with regard to providing any funds in addition to those already allocated, given GBOTA's statement in its submission to the GWIC inquiry that this sum is already known in the racing industry to be insufficient to address NSW greyhound track infrastructure.

Interstate transfers

- 129. For financial years 2019, 2020 and 2021, how many greyhounds were NSW transferred out of NSW?
- 130. Noting that in answers to Better Regulation supplementary questions in November 2021 you advised that '[GWIC] and other controlling bodies utilise the national database which provides for continuous tracking of greyhounds including those transferred interstate', for financial years 2019, 2020, and 2021:
 - (a) Please name each dog transferred interstate from NSW,
 - (b) the state or territory it was transferred to,
 - (c) whether the dog was transferred to an industry participant or transferred outside of the industry, and if an industry participant please provide the owner's name,
 - (d) whether the dog is currently owned by an industry participant, and if an industry participant please provide the owner's name,
 - (e) whether the dog is still alive, and if not, its cause of death.
- 131. Where is the national database stored?
- 132. For financial years 2019, 2020 and 2021, how many greyhounds were NSW transferred into NSW?
- 133. For financial years 2019, 2020 and 2021:
 - (a) Please name each dog transferred interstate to NSW,
 - (b) the state or territory it was transferred from,

- (c) the industry participant that owned the dog at the time of the transfer,
- (d) the industry participant that owned the dog at the conclusion of the transfer,
- (e) whether the dog is currently owned by an industry participant, and if an industry participant please provide the owner's name,
- (f) if the dog is currently racing,
- (g) whether the dog is still alive, and if not, its cause of death.

Greyhounds retired to industry participants

134. How often was each greyhound retired to a registered industry participant in NSW inspected during the 2019, 2020 and 20221 financial years, and how many were subsequently transferred interstate and in what year?

Betting revenue

- 135. How much betting revenue from greyhound racing did the NSW Government receive for each of the following financial years:
 - 2017
 2018
 2019
 2020
 2021

How much has the NSW Government spent on funding the greyhound racing industry compared to the total betting revenue it has received from greyhound racing since March 2017?

Greyhound Industry Future Fund

- 136. Are tracks able to receive funds for spectator improvements and prize money if the track minimum standards are as yet unmet?
- 137. What are the financial terms of GRNSW's Future Fund contributions?
- 138. Are contributions required to match the Government's contributions after PoC tax to GWIC?
- 139. Please provide a list of individual greyhound racing projects funded, part funded, or planned to be funded by the Greyhound Industry Future Fund including the name of the project, location of project, purpose of project, NSW Government contribution and any other contributions.

90-day stand-down periods

- 140. Regarding greyhounds given 90-day stand-down periods for an injury in NSW, and covering the separate 2019, 2020 and 2021 years:
 - (a) what percentage returned to racing?
 - (b) what percentage were rehomed?

- (c) what percentage were euthanised?
- (d) what percentage were transferred interstate?
- (e) what percentage are unaccounted for?
- 141. For each greyhound registered in this state which is listed in a steward's report as having been stood down for 90 days during 2020 and hasn't raced since, please advise whether this dog is still alive, and if so, whether it was adopted by an industry participant or by a non-industry participant, and if not still alive, what is the reason recorded for its death.
 - (a) Where is this information held?

Greyhounds as Pets

- 142. How many dogs were euthanised by the GAP program in 2020/2021? Please provide a list of the dogs euthanized including the reason for euthanasia.
- 143. How many dogs were assessed by GAP in 2020/2021 and how many were accepted and rejected?
- 144. Please provide the number of staff employed by GAP in 2020/2021, broken down by job title.

Bylong Park greyhound rehabilitation facility

- 145. How much is the proposed Bylong Park greyhound rehabilitation facility expected to cost to operate per annum?
- 146. When will it begin operations?

GWIC Funding from **GRNSW**

- 147. According to GRNSW's 2020/21 annual report, GRNSW paid GWIC \$2.5M. Following the NSW Government's announcement of funding for GWIC, will:
- 148. GRNSW be required to provide any payments to GWIC in the future?
- 149. GWIC have to return any funds to GRNSW?

Broadcast of Million Dollar Chase

- 150. Did GRNSW make a financial payment to Channel 9 to broadcast the TAB Million Dollar Chase?
- 151. If so, how much was that payment for the years 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021?

Greyhound Industry Reform Panel recommendations

152. In answers to Better Regulation supplementary questions in March 2021 asking for specific progress updates on the 120 Greyhound Industry Reform Panel recommendations that the Government accepted or accepted in principle, you advised that the recommendations 'were largely implemented by the Greyhound Racing Act 2017 (the Act) and legislative instruments made in accordance with the Act'.

For each individual recommendation, in non-collated form, please explain what measurable outcomes have been achieved in each case.

153. Noting that the Government accepted or accepted in principle 120 of 122 recommendations, why is there no publicly available version of this document which lists the implementation status of each of the recommendations?

Surgical artificial insemination

154. The UK has banned surgical artificial insemination on dogs. What is the State Government's position on banning surgical AI on dogs in this state? Please provide the rationale for this position.

GAP Rehoming

- 155. How many greyhounds were rehomed in this state/territory during FY2020-21:
 - (a) by GAP itself,
 - (b) by community-run rehoming groups,
 - (c) to industry participants,
 - (d) by industry participants to third parties,
 - (e) to other organisations (such as labs, research facilities, blood banks, etc.) and please list these organisations by name.

National Greyhound Welfare Strategy

- 156. As part of the National Greyhound Welfare Strategy national breeding rules were introduced in July 2015 which have been adopted by all states. Please explain how each of the following rules are enforced in NSW:
 - (a) the licensing of all breeders,
 - (b) registration of all dams,
 - (c) breeding females over the age of eight years must obtain a veterinary certificate of breeding soundness, and obtain permission from the relevant authority to breed the dog,
 - (d) a maximum of three litters can be bred from any one bitch and permission to breed a fourth litter must be obtained from the state racing authority. A certificate of breeding soundness must be obtained before the fourth breeding can occur,
 - (e) no breeding females may have more than two litters in any 18-month period,
 - (f) all pups have a compulsory C3 and C5 vaccinations,
 - (g) all dogs must receive C5 vaccination prior to being named or commencing racing.

Breeding caps

157. What plans are there in NSW to introduce caps on greyhound breeding?

Trial injuries

- 158. Please advise for FY 2020-21 in NSW:
 - (a) how many dogs were injured in trials,

- (b) how many of those injured dogs were then euthanised (either at the track or within 14 days afterwards),
- (c) at which tracks these injuries and deaths occurred,
- (d) the names of the dogs injured or killed.

Track upgrades

- 159. How much has the government invested in upgrading each greyhound racing track (including trial tracks) in NSW?
- 160. How many injuries and deaths have occurred at each upgraded track since re-opening?

Operating Licence

- 161. Section 25 of the Greyhound Racing Act 2017 makes reference to a process of consultation with GWIC to be undertaken by the responsible Minister before GRNSW's Operating Licence can be renewed. As of March 2021, you advised that 'The process and timeline for renewal of the Greyhound Racing NSW Operating Licence is yet to be determined.'
 - (a) Please outline the process involved in this consultation.
 - (b) The current operating licence expires in July 2022. What is the timeline for consultation with GWIC on the licence?
 - (c) What, if any, parts of this consultation, including opportunity for comment and release of outcomes, will be made available to the public?

Rehoming policy breaches

- 162. How many breaches of GWIC's rehoming policy have been recorded in each financial year since 1 July 2018, including in financial year 2022 to date? Please provide information about how many breaches were alleged, how many resulted in no regulatory action, how many resulted in verbal or written warnings, and how many resulted in disciplinary action.
- 163. How many greyhounds have been euthanised in breach of GWIC's rehoming policy in each financial year since 1 July 2018, including in financial year 2022 to date?
- 164. How are these euthanasias recorded (or, if none, how would they be recorded) in GWIC's reporting?

Impact of flooding

165. Have any NSW industry greyhounds have died as a result of recent flooding events? If yes, please provide the name of the greyhound/s.

Questions from Ms Cate Faehrmann MLC

- 166. What is the total volume of floodplain harvesting determinations the Government intends to make?
 - (a) What is the total estimated value of these determinations?
- 167. How many floodplain harvesting determinations were made prior to the disallowance of the regulations?
 - (a) What is the total gigalitres of these determinations?
 - (b) In what valleys were these determinations made?
 - (c) What is the estimated value of these determinations?
- 168. How many floodplain harvesting determinations were made in the Gwydir Valley?
 - (a) What is the total gigalitres of these determinations?
 - (b) What is the estimated value of these determinations?
- 169. How many floodplain harvesting licences have been granted?
- 170. The <u>proclamation made on 18 February</u> declared that Chapter 3 part 2 of the Water Management act now apply to floodplain harvesting water sources. Does this mean that Part 2 60A of the act now applies to floodplain harvesting?
 - (a) Is the effect of this that it is now an offence to floodplain harvest without a licence?
- 171. Will the department amend the Water Sharing Plans before the Water Resource Plans are fully accredited by the MDBA?
 - (a) Will there be any consultation period for the changes to the water resource plans?
 - (b) Will any first-flush rules or flow targets be placed into the water sharing plans?
- 172. Why was the commencement of the floodplain harvesting regulation delayed until February 14th 2022?
- 173. What is the legal mechanism that prevents floodplain harvesting licences from being compensable despite provisions in the Water Management Act 2000?
 - (a) Will it be included in future water sharing plans? If so can you provide this?
 - (b) Why did the Government not achieve the same effect by repealing the relevant provisions of the Water Management Act 2000?

- 174. Was the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder Office eligible for a floodplain harvesting share determination and licence?
 - (a) If they are, have they applied for a licence?
 - (b) If they are, has DPIE advised the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder Office that they're eligible for a licence?

Mole River Dam

- 175. Has the development of the strategic business case and the associated assessment for the proposed Mole River Dam used all the \$12 million Commonwealth funding and the matching \$12 million NSW funding as per the Project Agreement under the National Water Infrastructure Development Fund Feasibility Component (2019 2025) Schedule E?
 - (a) Which NSW Government agency budget provided the \$12 million NSW funding?
- 176. Will the NSW Government be progressing to the development of a final business case for the proposed Mole River Dam?

Wyangala Dam wall raising

- 177. What assessment work is currently underway for the proposed Wyangala Dam wall raising project?
- 178. Has construction work commenced on the upgrade of the Wyangala Village water treatment works?
- 179. How has Water Infrastructure NSW managed the shortfall of \$40 million through the failure to meet milestones 2 and 3 under Schedule E of the Commonwealth-States Agreement under the National Water Infrastructure Development Fund signed in 2019?
- 180. What consultation has been conducted with the community in 2022 on the proposed Wyangala Dam wall raising project?

Dungowan Dam

- 181. How has the final business case for the proposed Dungowan Dam considered new climate modelling developed by the Department of Planning and Environment -Water for the Namoi region?
- 182. What consideration has the final business case for the proposed Dungowan Dam given to mitigation of environmental impacts such as cold-water pollution, fish passage, loss of threatened species habitat, greenhouse gas emissions from an enlarged water storage, loss of natural flows to Dungowan Creek, the Peel and Namoi Rivers and loss of recharge to alluvial aquifers?
- 183. What consideration has the final business case for the proposed Dungowan Dam given to social and economic impacts such as conversion of water licences from unregulated to regulated entitlements in Dungowan Creek, increased cost of water to WaterNSW

customers including Tamworth Regional Council, loss of flows to downstream water users in the regulated Namoi River, loss of access to groundwater recharge?

184. Has the commonwealth committed to 50% funding of Dungowan beyond its initial cost estimate of \$480m?