



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEES

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2021-2022

Supplementary Questions

Portfolio Committee No. 1 – Premier and Finance

PREMIER

Hearing: 21 April 2022

Answers due by: 20 May 2022

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PREMIER

Questions from the Hon Mark Banasiak MLC

Kamay Ferry

1. The current Transport' State Significant Infrastructure Kamay Ferry Wharves DA that was flagged in the Kurnell Master Plan announced April 29th 2018 is a joint project between the Commonwealth and State for the Cook 2020 commemoration.

DPI Fisheries do not support the project because of the damage to Commonwealth and State protected marine species and the EPA have raised issues concerning the gross inadequacy of Transport's contamination report. The SEARs have not been met.

Fishers are rightly concerned about the impacts of this development on the integrity of Botany Bay as a Recreational Fishing Haven.

At Budget Estimates for Transport 3rd September, Deputy Secretary Howard Collins referred to involvement by Mr Reardon and Mr Betts in progressing this project. With Mr Betts being terminated by you, and coupled with all these concerns including funding

Can you please explain why this project still has your confidence?

Questions from the Hon Mark Latham MLC

ERC Meeting Issues

2. Which ERC meetings has Mr Perrottet attended where the Central Barangaroo development was discussed?

Furthermore,

- (a) Why has the Government deliberately disadvantaged Grocon and assisted Lendlease, Crown and Aqualand in the negotiation and timing of the release of sightlines?
- (b) At ERC, which ministers declared a conflict of interest regarding Warwick Smith's involvement with Aqualand?

Definition of "Woman" and Misleading the Committee

3. Did Mr Coutts Trotter mislead the Committee in his definition of the meaning of 'woman' in citing the NSW *Anti-Discrimination Act*?

- (a) Doesn't section 23 of the Act define woman as meaning "a member of the female sex irrespective of her age"?
- (b) Will the Secretary now apologise, correct the record and instruct all NSW public sector agencies to follow the ADA s23 definition?

Stamp Duty Reform

- 4. I refer the Premier to an article in the *Daily Telegraph* on 1st March which reported that the Premier was going to exclude farmland, and I ask:
 - (a) Can the Premier confirm the report that farmland will be exempt from the property tax reform proposal?
 - (b) How will this exemption be delivered to provide farmers long term financial certainty?

Outcomes Based Budgeting

- 5. Can the Premier please explain how constant substantial increases in Domestic Violence Spending have not resulted in reductions in NSW Domestic Violence rates?
- 6. What will the NSW Government's carbon abatement programs achieve in measurable reductions in average global surface temperatures (combating climate change) for the following years:
 - (a) 2030,
 - (b) 2040 and
 - (c) 2050.

Energy and Power Generation

- 7. I refer to Malcolm Turnbull's recent description of the lack of hydro power back-up for renewables as a "crisis inside a crisis" and ask:
 - (a) Other than Snowy 2.0, which some experts say will use more electricity than it generates, what hydro-power projects are either being built in NSW or the Government plans to build?
- 8. What advice has the Premier received about the likelihood of blackouts in NSW from:
 - (a) State agencies, and
 - (b) the Federal Government?

9. What action is the Premier taking to avoid the blackouts referred to in Supplementary Question No. 7 (above) in NSW?

Indigenous Issues

10. In relation to the display of the Aboriginal flag:
- (a) Does the Premier recall on 3 February 2018 describing the permanent placement of an Aboriginal flag on the Sydney Harbour Bridge as a
- “lavish exercise in trendy virtue signaling (that) ... won't make one iota of practical difference to the lives of the people of NSW. It won't lift a single indigenous community out of poverty and it won't close the gap one inch”*
- (b) Why is he now doing this exact same thing?
11. Is the Premier aware of assessment by government officials in Bourke, Wilcannia and Toomelah that every Indigenous child over the age of 5 has been sexually abused?
- (a) What is the Premier doing to overcome this tragedy and crisis of indescribable proportions?

Environmental Radicalism

12. Is the Premier aware of criticism inside his government that he is captive to the woke-Green political agenda of Matt Kean?
- (a) Why would the Premier make the substantial sacrifices of high office in public life to implement Mr Kean's agenda drawn from the Greens?

Education

13. Why has it taken so long for the Department of Education to use the funded “Teach For Australia” program to put extra teachers in NSW classrooms?
- (a) When will this happen?

Achievements in Office

14. What public policy reforms can the Premier point to during his time as head of government? In his answer, can the Premier limit his response to reforms he has actually implemented, and not to issues he talks about.

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

Major Projects

15. Over the past few months, Minister Stokes and Premier Perrottet have indicated that the Government is about to cancel projects.
- (a) Which projects are being cancelled?
 - (b) Is the Government committed to delivering the Northern Beaches Link?
 - (c) If so, by when?
 - (d) Is the Government committed to delivering the Parramatta Light Rail Stage 2?
 - (e) If so, by when?

Rail Shutdown

16. Did Premier Perrottet inform Minister Elliott prior to sending a text message to the Chief Executive of Sydney Trains stating: ‘Hi Matt its Dom – understand you are with the union. I want to be crystal clear. I want the trains back on the tracks tomorrow morning. You need to take whatever steps are required to make that happen.’?

Flood Recovery

17. Did the Premier consider Deputy Premier Toole for the role of Minister for Flood Recovery?
- (a) Did Deputy Premier Toole reject the role?

Privatisation

18. Are there currently any plans for further privatisation of Government assets with expected sale values in excess of \$10 million?
- (a) Have any scoping studies been undertaken for such privatisations?
 - (b) Will the Government rule out further privatisation of the electricity network assets?
 - (c) Will the Government rule out any privatisation of Essential Energy?

Questions from Ms Abigail Boyd MLC

Kamay Ferry Wharf

19. What involvement has the Department of Premier and Cabinet had in relation to the proposed Kamay Ferry Wharf construction and operation DA SSI-10049?
- (a) What is the significance of this project to the Department?
 - (b) The project was originally part of a plan to celebrate Captain Cook (the Kurnell Master Plan) - does the Premier accept that ‘reconciliation’ is not a valid rationale for the project?
20. What is the Premier’s view on the serious contamination issues involved with the project?

21. Will the Premier commit to ensure that independent marine sediment testing, overseen by an EPA accredited site auditor, will take place before the Planning Minister makes his decision on the project?
22. Can the Premier clearly rule out any future use, in any form, of the ferry wharves by the cruise industry should a terminal be built anywhere in Yarra Bay?

Roads and Crimes Legislation Amendment Bill 2022

23. Did the Premier ensure that external legal advice was provided to the government before proceeding with the introduction and passage of the Roads and Crimes Legislation Amendment Bill 2022?
 - (a) If yes, who provided that external legal advice?
24. Is the Premier concerned about the possibility of the legislation being struck down?