

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEES

# BUDGET ESTIMATES 2022-2023 Supplementary Questions

Portfolio Committee No. 4 – Customer Service and Natural Resources

# SMALL BUSINESS AND FAIR TRADING

Hearing: 7 September 2022

Answers due by: 5 October 2022

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# Small Business and Fair Trading

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

#### **Audiometric Testing**

- 1. In the last 5 years, by yearly breakdown, please provide the number of requests for service and the number of incidents that were referred or notified to SafeWork NSW that involved risks of noise?
  - (a) How many of these were challenged by workplaces?
  - (b) How many of these were overturned?
- 2. How many risk assessments around minimising risk around noise has SafeWork required PCBU's to forward to SafeWork NSW in the last five years, please provide a breakdown by year.
- 3. How many businesses are currently 'using audiometric testing' referred to on page 41 of the uncorrected transcript of Budget Estimates?
- 4. Deputy Secretary, Better Regulation, Department of Customer Service, stated at Budget Estimates (pg.17) that the audiometric exemption "applies to businesses which use hearing protection as a control, not to businesses that are not using hearing protection', how many improvement or prohibition notices have SafeWork given for businesses who are not using hearing protection in the last 5 years? Please provide a breakdown by year.
  - (a) How many onsite visits have SafeWork inspectors undertaken at PCBU's around noise risk?
- 5. When Deputy Secretary, Better Regulation, Department of Customer Service, stated at Budget Estimates 'our focus at SafeWork is on regulating noise at the source" how are you doing this?
- 6. When was the "cost-benefit analysis as well, as required by clause 58" referred to at Budget Estimates with regard to audiometric testing undertaken?
  - (a) Who undertook this cost benefit analysis?
  - (b) On what basis was the cost calculated?
  - (c) On what basis was the risk calculated?
  - (d) Has the number of workers compensation claims for hearing loss been examined in regard to risk?

- 7. When Mr Tansey referred to 'the process of working up proposals to consult on the audiometric testing exemption..." who will be involved in the consultation?
  - (a) When will these consultations occur?
- 8. How is it that Mr Tansey referred to the requirement for audiometric testing as 'a holdover from the old legislation' when it is in the current model legislation to which NSW has signed up?

#### **COVID-19** response

- 9. Since January 2020, what actions have SafeWork NSW taken in the aged care sector in response to the continually high number of workers infected with Covid-19? In your response, please provide the numbers and types of actions including inspector field responses and provision of advice to PCBU's on requirements for infection control.
- 10. What knowledge does SafeWork NSW have about the measures NSW aged care providers are taking to ensure the health and safety of workers in relation to Covid-19?
- 11. Given the actions of the regulator in both Victoria and Queensland, how many SafeWork NSW specific COVID-related regulatory actions in the aged care sector have occurred in the 2.5 years since the commencement of Covid-19?
- 12. Why have SafeWork NSW inspectors (with access to properly fit-tested masks) not undertaken any on-site inspections around compliance with COVID regulations in the NSW aged care sector, including for locked down facilities, as has occurred in other jurisdictions?
- 13. On what date was the risk assessment undertaken that determined it was better not to send inspectors into Aged Care facilities or retirement villages to inspect COVID safety compliance? Please provide a copy of this risk assessment as well as the following details:
  - (a) When was this risk assessment completed?
  - (b) Who undertook that risk assessment?
- 14. How many requests for service has SafeWork received in relation to unsafe COVID WHS practices in Aged Care facilities or retirement villages?
  - (a) How many notifiable incidents has SafeWork received in relation to unsafe COVID WHS practices in Aged Care facilities or retirement villages?
- 15. How many of the desktop inspections undertaken by SafeWork into Aged Care facilities or retirement villages referred to at Budget Estimates were undertaken by SafeWork personnel?
  - (a) How many of these were undertaken by SafeWork inspectors?

- (b) Please provide a copy of the pro forma audit tool used in this process
- 16. How many of the desktop inspections undertaken by SafeWork into Aged Care facilities or retirement villages referred to at Budget Estimates were undertaken by Fair Trading personnel? How many of these desktop inspections were undertaken by Fair Trading inspectors?
- 17. How many of the desktop inspections undertaken by the Department of Customer Services referred to at Budget Estimates were solely looking at Covid WHS requirements such as PPE requirements for Aged Care facilities or retirement villages?
  - (a) How is SafeWork able to ascertain that Aged Care facilities or retirement villages are complying with PPE WHS protocols, or PPE is properly fit tested through a desktop inspection?
- 18. Of the desktop inspections or audits referred to in Budget Estimates of Aged Care facilities or retirement villages, how many facilities were inspected or audited?
  - (a) How many of these facilities have responded to the audit through emailing or writing to the regulator?

#### SafeWork Inspectors

- According to the 2021/22 Customer Service Annual Report for the financial year there were 37 authorised inspectors in Liquor and Gambling.
  - (a) How many authorised inspector roles are there in Liquor and Gambling to date?
  - (b) How many of these authorised inspector roles are filled?
- According to the 2021/22 Customer Service Annual Report for the financial year there were 65 authorised inspectors in Fair Trading.
  - (a) How many authorised inspector roles are there currently?
  - (b) How many of these authorised inspector roles are filled?
- 21. According to the 2021/22 Customer Service Annual Report for the financial year there were 240 authorised inspectors in SafeWork NSW. How many authorised inspector roles are there in SafeWork to date?
  - (a) How many of these authorised inspector roles are filled?
- 22. What is the total number of authorised inspector roles for the Department of Customer Services?
  - (a) How many of these roles are currently filled?

- 23. How many inspector roles work only in the SafeWork Construction division?
  - (a) How many of these roles are currently filled?
- 24. How many inspector roles are there in the hygiene and toxicology team?
  - (a) How many of these roles are currently filled?
- 25. How many SafeWork NSW inspectors are authorised under Section 126 of the Public Health Act 2010?
- 26. How many SafeWork inspectors hold authority under the WHS Act and have been appointed to be a SafeWork inspector as of 9 September 2022?
  - (a) How many of these positions are management positions?
  - (b) How many of these positions are Directors?
- 27. How many SafeWork inspectors hold authority under the WHS Act and have been appointed to be a SafeWork inspector for a 20-year tenure?
  - (a) How many SafeWork inspectors hold authority under the WHS Act and have been appointed to be a SafeWork inspector for a 15-year tenure?
  - (b) How many SafeWork inspectors hold authority under the WHS Act and have been appointed to be a SafeWork inspector for a 10-year tenure?
- 28. How many SafeWork inspectors have tenure for the following:
  - (a) 5 years?
  - (b) 4 years?
  - (c) 3 years?
  - (d) 2 years?
  - (e) 1 year?
- 29. How many Executive Directors and Directors are there for SafeWork NSW?
  - (a) How many of these have a Diploma of Government Inspection?
  - (b) How many of these have an Advanced Diploma of Government Inspection?
- 30. How many SafeWork NSW inspectors have an Advanced Diploma of Government Inspection?
- 31. How many Safework NSW Assistant State Inspectors are there?
  - (a) How many have an Advanced Diploma of Government Inspection?

- 32. Is the SafeWork Governance and Appeals Unit still operating?
  - (a) If not, what has replaced it?
- 33. How much money (including on contractors) has SafeWork spent on developing a new internal online Work Health and Safety Management System, including any online incident and hazard reporting system that SafeWork now uses?
- 34. Is the Work Health and Safety Management System that SafeWork now uses, a fully completed system?

#### Silicosis - Manufactured Stone

- 35. Does SafeWork NSW intend on publishing the information it has on importers of manufactured stone?
- 36. Does SafeWork NSW intend on publishing a list of sites for all manufactured stonework in NSW to enable it to be independently verified and allow doctors to determine whether the workplace of a worker they are assessing is known to SafeWork NSW?
- 37. How many onsite inspections of manufactured stone fabrication businesses were made in 2022?
- 38. How many onsite inspections of installation sites for manufactured stone were undertaken in 2022?
  - (a) When SafeWork reported on installation site inspections to the 2021 Dust Disease Review previously, does this include construction sites?
- 39. For the SafeWork late 2020 program visiting 6 randomly selected high rise residential apartment sites to inspect benchtop installation practices, did SafeWork give notice of their intention to visit to the Principle Contractors of those sites?

#### Silicosis

- 40. How many workers have silicosis from work at a quarry in NSW in the last 5 years?
- 41. How many workers have silicosis from tunnelling work in NSW in the last 5 years?

#### Silica requests for service (RFS)

- 42. How many of the 102 requests for service which were silica related in 2021 had a physical inspection by SafeWork inspectors?
  - (a) How many of these were at installation settings?

(b) How many received a fine?

# Dry cutting

- 43. How many actual workplace visits have been initiated as a response to a referral or a report of dry cutting occurring?
- 44. On page 19 of the August 2022 Budget Estimates hearing transcript, Ms McCool states 'there has been a lot more instances of not working below the exposure standard". Given there were only 2 visits to installation settings from 2021 to 31 March 2022 as per the 2021 Review of the Dust Disease Scheme 2.82 'Responding to questions about inspections to installation sites, SafeWork NSW indicated there was one visit to a residential property where manufactured stone products were being installed in 2021, and one visit in 2022 (to date), with no notices issued", (page 29). How is Ms McCool able to assert this?
- 45. How many requests for service with regard to silica did SafeWork receive in the last two years?
  - (a) How many of these requests for service were followed up by an inspector visit?
- 46. How many notifiable incidents did SafeWork receive in regard to silica in the last two years?
  - (a) How many of these notifiable incidents were followed up with an inspector visit?
- 47. How many Section 155 notices were issued to look at the manufactured stone supply chain in 2022 to date?
  - (a) 2021/22?
  - (b) 2020/21?
- 48. How many responses to Section 155 notices were received by SafeWork in 2022 to date?
  - (a) 2021/22?
  - (b) 2020/21?
- 49. In the August 2022 Budget Estimates hearing transcript, when Matthew Press refers to a three month blitz from January to March 'trying to make sure that we are doing those inspections for silica and dust on the construction site' (page 57), did this include the apartments referred to in Supplementary questions for the 2021 Dust Disease Inquiry?
  - (a) How many onsite visits by inspectors focused on silica and dust at construction sites have been undertaken for 2022, 2021, 2020?
  - (b) How many onsite visits by inspectors focused on silica and dust at foundry sites have been undertaken for 2022, 2021, 2020?
  - (c) How many onsite visits by inspectors focused on silica and dust at tunnelling sites have been undertaken for 2022, 2021, 2020?

#### Air Monitoring

- 50. How many manufacture stone sites does SafeWork have dust exposure readings from in NSW?
- 51. How many reports of air monitoring has SafeWork received from stone manufacturers in the last two years?
- 52. How many infringement notices have SafeWork issued for air monitoring since March 2022?
- 53. How many manufactured stone sites have health and safety representatives (HSR's)?
- 54. How many HSR initiated requests for a review control measure have there been from the engineered stone industry?
- 55. How many air monitoring reports for tunnelling sites did SafeWork request or receive in 2020/21?
  - (a) 2021/22?
  - (b) 2022 to present?
- 56. How many air monitoring reports for quarrying sites did SafeWork request or receive in 2020/21?
  - (a) 2021/22?
  - (b) 2022 to present?

#### Screening for Silicosis

- 57. Does SafeWork intend to review its screening and health monitoring for workers exposed to crystalline silica as recommended by the 2021 Dust Disease report?
- 58. Given experts to the 2021 Review of the Dust Disease Scheme and the report outlined the serious shortcomings of the Golder proper case finding study to identify cases of silicosis in NSW, will SafeWork undertake a proactive report as was undertaken in Queensland?
- 59. Does SafeWork intend to amend the WHS Regulation 2017 to provide certainty that high resolution CT scans are the primary method of screening for workers exposed to respirable crystalline silica?
- 60. How many health monitoring reports have been received from manufactured stone sites in 2020/21?
  - (a) 2021/22?
  - (b) 2022 to date?

- 61. How many reports for adverse results have been received for 2020/21?
  - (a) 2021/22
  - (b) 2022 to date?
- 62. How many notices have SafeWork given for PCBU's not meeting health monitoring for works for 2020/21?
  - (a) 2021/22?
  - (b) 2022 to date?
- 63. How many notices have SafeWork given for PCBU's not meeting health monitoring obligations for silica exposure for 2020/21?
  - (a) 2021/22?
  - (b) 2022 to date?

#### Prosecutions

- 64. How many prosecutions has Safework NSW undertaken for the last ten years?
- 65. Please provide a breakdown by year.
- 66. How many of these prosecutions were successful?
- 67. Please provide a breakdown for how many requests for Category 1 or 2 offences Safework NSW received in 2022 to date?
  - (a) 2021/2022?
  - (b) 2020/2021?
  - (c) 2019/2020?

#### **Requests for Service**

- 68. How many requests for service did SafeWork receive in 2020/2021?
  - (a) 2021/2022?
  - (b) How many of these requests for service received an inspection by a SafeWork inspector?
  - (c) How many requests for service did SafeWork receive in 2022 so far?
  - (d) How many of these requests for service received an inspection by a SafeWork inspector?

#### Notifiable Incidents

- 69. How many notifiable incidents did SafeWork receive in 2020/2021?
  - (a) 2021/2022?
  - (b) How many of these notifiable incidents received an inspection by a SafeWork inspector?
  - (c) How many notifiable incidents did SafeWork receive in 2022 so far?
  - (d) How many of these notifiable incidents received an inspection by a SafeWork inspector?
- 70. For 2021/22, how many improvement notices did SafeWork issue?
- 71. For 2021/22, how many prohibition notices did SafeWork issue?

#### **Penalty Notices**

- 72. How many penalty notices did SafeWork issue for the last 15 years?
- 73. From 2020 to the present how many penalty notices did SafeWork issue?
  - (a) How many of these were COVID infringement notices?
- 74. Of the 520 penalty notices that SafeWork issued in 2020/21, how many of these were for COVID infringement notices?

#### **People Matter Survey**

- 75. How many people in SafeWork completed the 2021/22 People Matters Survey for SafeWork?
  - (a) How many people in SafeWork completed the 2020/21 People Matters Survey for SafeWork?
- 76. How many people in the Investigation and Emergency Response Directorate completed the People Matters survey in the last 5 years?
  - (a) Please provide the total number of employees for this directorate for the same period.
- 77. How many people in the Incident Response and Enforceable Undertaking Directorate completed the People Matters Survey in the last 5 years?
  - (a) Please provide the total number of employees for this directorate for the same period.
- 78. How many SafeWork inspectors who hold authority under the WHS Act and have been appointed to be a SafeWork inspector to service the Sydney Metropolitan Area?
  - (a) How many are in Sydney Metropolitan Constructions?

- (b) How many in the Metropolitan Sydney area, not in Construction, have had a psychological injury workers compensation claim within the last 12 months?
- (c) How much has each claim cost?

#### Current Coronial Court NSW Newmarch House Inquiry

- 79. Can the Minister please advise if SafeWork NSW notified about work health and safety issues at Newmarch following an outbreak of Covid-19 at the site in 2020?
  - (a) If so, what issues were notified?
  - (b) What actions did SafeWork take in response to that notification?
  - (c) Why did SafeWork NSW decide not to send an inspector out to the site to ensure the safe systems of work were in place in relation to infection control procedures?

# **Occupational Violence**

- 80. Given the very high rates of occupational violence towards nurses (including 2 deaths of nurses in the last couple of years) can you advise of any prosecutions of hospitals in relation to Occupation Violence by SafeWork either current or in the past?
  - (a) If not, why not?
- 81. Did a SafeWork NSW inspector attend the site of the fatality of Sydney Local Health District mental health nurse, Stephen Douglas?
- 82. Did SafeWork investigate the death of mental health nurse Praween Maharaj who worked at Liverpool Mental Health?

#### Family of injured workers support group

83. How many meetings have the Family of Injured Workers Support Group had since its inception?

# Workers Compensation claims

- 84. How many inspectors work in the Metro South division of SafeWork?
  - (a) How many of these inspectors have been on workers compensation for psychological injuries for 2020/21?
  - (b) How many of these inspectors have been on workers compensation for psychological injuries for 2021/22?
  - (c) How many of these inspectors have been on workers compensation for psychological injury in 2022?

- 85. How many Workers compensation claims (accepted and not accepted) have been received from NSW SafeWork inspectors in the last five years?
  - (a) How many of these were for bullying or psychological injury?
  - (b) What SafeWork team or department were they from?

#### **Improvement Notices**

- 86. For the SafeWork NSW bullying improvement notice 7-387097 for the Department of Customer Services, how many extensions were requested for the compliance date?
- 87. What changes were undertaken by the Department of Customer Services as a result of this notice?

#### Workplace Cultural Review

- 88. How much did the Independent Workplace Cultural Review into Systemic Cultural issues in the Metropolitan Operation and Sector Initiatives (MOSI) SafeWork NSW by Wendy Klassons cost?
- 89. Following the tabling of that review, what other work was Ms Wendy Klassons commissioned to undertake arising from that Report?
- 90. How much money did the additional work cost?
- 91. Why was the Independent Workplace Cultural Review into Systemic Cultural issues in the Metropolitan Operation and Sector Initiatives (MOSI) SafeWork NSW report not given in its entirety to health and safety representatives (HSR's) when requested?

#### **Resource Regulator**

- 92. How many matters have been referred from SafeWork to the Resource Regulator in the last 10 years?
  - (a) Please provide a breakdown by year and by type of matter.
- 93. How many of referred complaints have been with regard to incidents of bullying in Safework?

#### Procurement training for small business

- 94. How many businesses have registered for the four online training courses announced in October 2021 to help small businesses win Government tenders?
  - (a) How many registered for the "Getting Business Ready" course?

- i. How many completed the course and received a certificate of acknowledgement?
- (b) How many registered for the "Finding Opportunities" course?
  - i. How many completed the course and received a certificate of acknowledgement?
- (c) How many registered for the "Selling to Government" course?
  - i. How many completed the course and received a certificate of acknowledgement?
- (d) How many registered for the "Successful Supplying" course?
  - i. How many completed the course and received a certificate of acknowledgement?
- 95. How many of the businesses that completed at least one of the online courses went on to win a government contract?
- 96. What was the total cost to set up the online courses?
- 97. What is the ongoing cost to run the courses?
- 98. Has feedback been obtained from business owners who completed the courses?
  - (a) What was the outcome of the feedback?
  - (b) What were each of the courses rated by business owners?
- 99. What review or monitoring process is in place to ensure the courses are achieving their objectives of increasing the number of small businesses bidding for and winning Government contracts?

#### Selling to NSW Government: A Guide for Small Business document

- 100. How many times has the "Selling to NSW Government: A Guide for Small Business" document been downloaded since it was released in October 2021?
- 101. What was the total cost to produce the guide?
- 102. How has the guide been promoted to small businesses?
- 103. Has feedback on the guide been obtained from business owners?
  - (a) What was the outcome of the feedback?

#### Third-party contractors or consultancies

- 104. For every agency, department, or state-owned corporation within your portfolio, please provide the following:
  - (a) A list of all third-party contractor or consultancies engaged in communications services, including:

- i. Contractor name,
- ii. Contractor ABN,
- iii. Service provided,
- iv. Total cost paid
- (b) A list of all third-party contractor or consultancies engaged in PR services, including:
  - i. Contractor name,
  - ii. Contractor ABN,
  - iii. Service provided,
  - iv. Total cost paid
- (c) A list of all third-party contractor or consultancies engaged in marketing services, including:
  - i. Contractor name,
  - ii. Contractor ABN,
  - iii. Service provided,
  - iv. Total cost paid
- (d) A list of all third-party contractor or consultancies engaged in Government relations or lobbying services, including:
  - i. Contractor name,
  - ii. Contractor ABN,
  - iii. Service provided,
  - iv. Total cost paid
- (e) A list of all third-party contractor or consultancies engaged in industry or peak body membership, including:
  - i. Contractor name,
  - ii. Contractor ABN,
  - iii. Service provided,
  - iv. Total cost paid

- (f) A list of all third-party contractor or consultancies engaged in policy or strategy development, including:
  - i. Contractor name,
  - ii. Contractor ABN,
  - iii. Service provided,
  - iv. Total cost paid
- (g) A list of all third-party contractor or consultancies engaged in project management, including:
  - i. Contractor name,
  - ii. Contractor ABN,
  - iii. Service provided,
  - iv. Total cost paid
- (h) A list of all third-party contractor or consultancies engaged in accounting and audit, including:
  - i. Contractor name,
  - ii. Contractor ABN,
  - iii. Service provided,
  - iv. Total cost paid
- (i) A list of all third-party contractor or consultancies engaged in legal services, including:
  - i. Contractor name,
  - ii. Contractor ABN,
  - iii. Service provided,
  - iv. Total cost paid
- (j) A list of all third-party contractor or consultancies engaged in any other services, including:
  - i. Contractor name,
  - ii. Contractor ABN,
  - iii. Service provided,

iv. Total cost paid

#### **Project Remediate**

105. How many buildings are registered for Project Remediate?

- (a) How many registered in 2019?
- (b) How many registered in 2020?
- (c) How many registered in 2021?
- (d) How many registered this year?
- 106. How many owners' corporations have withdrawn from Project Remediate?
  - (a) How many withdrew in 2020?
  - (b) How many withdrew in 2021?
  - (c) How many have withdrawn this year?
- 107. What is the status of the buildings registered for Project Remediate?
  - (a) How many have had cladding removed?
  - (b) How many have had cladding partially removed?
    - i. How many are at the authority commence stage?
    - ii. How many have had a site investigation completed?
    - iii. How many have a preferred design in development?
    - iv. How many have contracts signed and are in the pre-construction stage?
    - v. How many have commenced remediation work?
    - vi. How many are post construction?
- 108. How many tenders have been awarded as part of the project?
  - (a) How many are under contract?
  - (b) How many are in the field?
- 109. When did remediation work on the first building commence?
  - (a) What is the postcode of the first building?
  - (b) When is remediation work expected to finish?
- 110. How many briefings on Project Remediate have you held for local councils?

- (a) How often do they occur?
- (b) What information is provided to local councils in these briefings?
- 111. When was the Project Remediate pattern book released?
- 112. How is Project Remediate tracked?

#### **Building Compliance Orders**

- 113. How many building compliance orders have been issued since the RAB and DBP Act were introduced?
  - (a) How many stop-work orders?
  - (b) How many prohibition orders?
  - (c) How many building work rectification orders?
  - (d) How many developer undertakings?
- 114. How many building compliance orders have been varied?
  - (a) Which order was varied?
  - (b) When was the order issued?
  - (c) When was the order varied?
- 115. How many building compliance orders have been revoked?
  - (a) Which orders were revoked?
  - (b) When was the order issued?
  - (c) When was the order revoked?
- 116. How many building compliance orders have had new conditions imposed?
  - (a) Which orders have had a new condition imposed?
  - (b) When were these new conditions imposed?
  - (c) Was more than one new condition imposed?

#### **ICIRT Rating System**

- 117. How many builders have been rated?
  - (a) How many have a rating of 5?
  - (b) How many have a rating of 4?

- (c) How many have a rating of 3 or below?
- 118. How many developers have been rated?
  - (a) How many have a rating of 5?
  - (b) How many have a rating of 4?
  - (c) How many have a rating of 3 or below?

#### Strata Hub

- 119. When modelling the registration charge for the Strata Hub, how did the Department come to the \$3 per lot amount?
- 120. Has the Department considered an upper limit to the per lot charge so that mega schemes are not contributing significant amounts of money?
- 121. What is the total estimated revenue that will be received by the NSW Government because of the Strata Hub registration charge?
  - (a) How will strata owners be assured that all accumulated funds are used for their benefit?
  - (b) Why has the Department not established a statutory account to hold this money?
- 122. Why does the Strata Hub not have a relevant section on embedded networks?

#### Strata Schemes Management Act

- 123. The 5-year review of the Strata Schemes Management Act began in early 2020, when are Phase 1 reforms to commence?
- 124. When can we expect consultation on Phase 2 of the review?

#### Strata Schemes Development Act

125. When will the requirement for dissenting owners to 'act in good faith' commence?

#### Inspection and Re-certification

- 126. How many apartment buildings are 30 years old or more in NSW?
- 127. Will the Department consider introducing a mandatory inspection and re-certification of buildings when they reach 30 years old?

#### Electric Vehicle Infrastructure in Apartment Buildings

128. When will any of the details of the Strata Electric Vehicle co-fund program be made available?

- 129. Why did the NSW Government focus on larger schemes when most owner-residents live in schemes of less than 100 households?
- 130. Can the Minister confirm that the entire \$10M dedicated to the Electric Vehicle co-funding program will be for existing strata buildings?
- 131. Was the Building Commissioner consulted by the Office of Energy about whether existing standards are adequate for the installation and ongoing safety of EV charging in internal carparks in residential (and presumably commercial) strata buildings?

#### **Building Policy**

- 132. Beyond the Class 3 and 9c expansion of the Building Commissioner's oversight in the Draft Bills issued in early September for comment, does the government plan to expand this oversight to other classes of development?
  - (a) If so, what is the timeframe?
  - (b) Which classifications will be next?

#### Fair Trading resourcing

- 133. What is the average timeframe for the assessment of new certifier applications for registration by Fair Trading under the Building and Development Certifiers Act and Regulation?
- 134. What percentage of certifier renewals of registration have been processed within 30 days of lodgement of applications by Fair Trading under the Building and Development Certifiers Act and Regulation?
- 135. How many registrations of certifiers have been issued in NSW in the past 12 months by NSW Fair Trading under the Building and Development Certifiers Act and Regulation?
- 136. What levels/categories of registrations of certifiers have been issued in NSW in the past 12 months by NSW Fair Trading under the Building and Development Certifiers Act and Regulation?
- 137. How many assessment officers are in Fair Trading for the assessment of new certifier applications?
- 138. How many assessment officers are in Fair Trading for the assessment of applications for renewals of certifiers?
- 139. How many referrals have been made to the Fire Protection Accreditation Scheme by NSW Fair Trading in relation to complaints or issues with Accredited Fire safety designers or assessors?

#### **Registered Certifier Shortages**

- 140. In regional areas, there are often shortages of registered certifiers both in local government and in private practice, is this something the Government is aware of?
- 141. Is the Government doing anything to encourage more people to take up a career as a registered certifier?
- 142. How many new registrations in the past 12 months?
- 143. How many certifiers have resigned/cancelled their registration in the past 12 months?
- 144. What are prospective registered certifiers to do in this situation when they cannot complete a requirement listed in the Building and Development Certifiers Regulation 2020 because it is no longer provided by RTOs?
- 145. Why are specific courses listed in the Regulation when courses offered by RTOs are regularly changing?

#### **Professional Indemnity**

146. Does the Department monitor the professional indemnity insurance market?

#### NSWFR Resourcing and Fire Engineering Reports

- 147. When will NSW Fire and Rescue be given the resources required to review all of the Fire Engineering Brief Questionnaires submitted by Fire Safety Engineers in NSW?
- 148. When will NSW Fire and Rescue be given the resources required to review all of the Fire Engineering Report referrals required by Clause 27 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment (Development Certification and Fire Safety) Regulation 2021?
- 149. What Percentage of Fire Engineering Brief Questionnaire Referrals to NSW Fire and Rescue required by NCC Clause A2.2(4) are being reviewed?
- 150. What Percentage of Fire Engineering Brief Questionnaire Referrals to NSW Fire and Rescue required by NCC Clause A2.2(4) are being commented on?
- 151. What Percentage of Fire Engineering Brief Questionnaire Referrals to NSW Fire and Rescue required by NCC Clause A2.2(4) are not being reviewed due to resourcing issues?
- 152. What Percentage of Fire Engineering Report referrals under Clause 27 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment (Development Certification and Fire Safety) Regulation 2021 are being reviewed?

- 153. What Percentage of Fire Engineering Report referrals under Clause 27 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment (Development Certification and Fire Safety) Regulation 2021 are being commented on?
- 154. What Percentage of Fire Engineering Report referrals under Clause 27 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment (Development Certification and Fire Safety) Regulation 2021 are getting passed over due to lack of resourcing?
- 155. How much revenue was raised last FY from NSW Fire and Rescue from the commenting on Fire Engineering Brief Questionnaires as required by NCC Clause A2.2(4)?
- 156. How much revenue was raised last FY from NSW Fire and Rescue from Fire engineer report referrals by certifiers as required by Clause 27 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment (Development Certification and Fire Safety) Regulation 2021?
- 157. How much revenue was raised last FY from NSW Fire and Rescue from undertaking inspections of buildings as required by Clause 50 and 51 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment (Development Certification and Fire Safety) Regulation 2021?

#### Motor Trade Industry

- 158. What steps is the Department of Fair Trading taking to prevent the issue of licenses in NSW in the Automotive Industry based on interstate RTO's providing certification to students in Light Vehicle Mechanical Technology and Automotive Mechanical Diagnosis, when no on the job training has been provided as required?
- 159. How can the Department of Fair Trading properly police unscrupulous operators in the Motor Industry across the whole of New South Wales when the resources in the Automotive Unit are limited to 8 inspectors and 1 pool car?
- 160. How many consumer complaints does the Department of Fair Trading receive each year in respect to the Automotive Industry?
  - (a) Is the Department properly resourced to deal with these complaints?
- 161. Will the Department of Fair Trading be harmonising the consumer protection regimes of the Motor Dealers & Repairers Act and the Australian Consumer Law in the forthcoming Bill?

#### Motor Vehicle Repair Industry

162. Based on the information on the NSW Fair Trading website public register data there are 12,106 current Motor Vehicle Repairer Licences (MVRL) licence holders with 49,538 current Motor Vehicle Tradesperson Certificates (MVTC) tradesperson certificate holders. Can the Minister

confirm the number of Auto Body or Smash Repair businesses that have closed in the last 5 years?

- 163. The data on the website indicates there are 3,545 Panel Beaters and 2,421 Vehicle Painters. With over 8 million vehicles on the road in NSW and an estimated 500,000 motor vehicle claims annually in NSW, what is the Government doing to address the shortage of workers in the auto body repair industry?
- 164. Have the number of consumer complaints increased or decreased for motor vehicle related complaints?
- 165. How many inspectors are currently employed by NSW Fair Trading?
- 166. What is the time frame for a consumer to have an inspector discuss the complaint with a consumer?
- 167. Why do Motor Vehicle Assessors not require a license?
- 168. Is the Minister aware the Suncorp Group have had Admin Officers carrying out assessments instead of qualified assessors as required under the Code?

#### Toplace

- 169. Could the Building Commissioner please outline how many times he or his staff has inspected 42 Pemberton Ave, Botany?
  - (a) What follow up action has the Commissioner or the Office of the Building Commissioner taken?
  - (b) Has any action included orders?
- 170. Could the Building Commissioner please outline how many Toplace properties he or his staff has inspected?
- 171. Could the Building Commissioner please outline how many orders he or his staff has issued to Toplace properties?
- 172. Could the Building Commissioner please outline how many occupation certificate audits have been completed of Toplace developments?