



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEES

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2023-2024

Supplementary questions

Portfolio Committee No. 8 - Customer Service

**Better Regulation and Fair Trading, Industry and Trade, Innovation,
Science and Technology, Building, Corrections**

(Chanthivong)

Hearing: Friday 1 March 2024

Answers due by: Thursday, 28 March 2024

Budget Estimates secretariat

Phone (02) 9230 2809

BudgetEstimates@parliament.nsw.gov.au

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2023-2024
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS

Questions from Hon Chris Rath MLC *(on behalf of the Opposition)*

BETTER REGULATION AND FAIR TRADING

Rental Commissioner

- (1) What have the outcomes been of the Commissioner's 'extensive engagement and consultation program'?
- (2) What are the Commissioner's core focuses and priorities?
- (3) With rents continuing to soar, what tangible outcomes has the Commissioner achieved for renters to date?
- (4) Does the Commissioner have the resources necessary to make a meaningful impact for renters?
- (5) Are there any staff of resources in addition to those existing in Fair Trading or the Department of Customer Service that are available to the Commissioner?
- (6) How many staff (FTE) are allocated to the Commissioner's office?
- (7) Has the Commissioner asked for additional staff or funding?
 - (a) If yes, how has the government responded to the request?

Ending no grounds evictions

- (8) Will the government's prohibition of no grounds evictions include fixed term rental agreements or be confined to periodic agreements?
- (9) On what grounds will a residential tenancy agreement be able to be terminated?
- (10) Will the notice period for termination of fixed term agreements remain at 30 days or is the government considering increasing this period?

Portable rental bond scheme

- (11) What is the current timeline for the commencement of this scheme?
 - (a) Will it be opt-in?

Pets in rentals

- (12) Why did the government conduct a second public consultation on this subject after the previous government already conducted one in early 2023?
- (13) Will the valid reasons to refuse a request be clearly outlined in regulation? What will the reasons be?
- (14) Will a landlord be able to set reasonable conditions?

Secret rent bidding

- (15) Has the government abandoned the legislating of a ban on secret rent bidding?
- (16) What alternative options are being considered to increase rental market transparency particularly around rental prices?

Strata Commissioner

- (17) What is the commissioner's role and terms of reference?
- (18) What are the key accountabilities and how will success in the commissioner role be measured?
- (19) What are the Commissioner's core focuses and priorities?
- (20) Does the commissioner have the required resources for the role?
- (21) Are there any staff or resources in addition to those existing in Fair Trading or the Department of Customer Service that are available to the Commissioner?
- (22) How many staff (FTE) are allocated to the Commissioner's office?
- (23) Has the Commissioner asked for additional staff or funding?
 - (a) If yes, how has the government responded to the request?

Strata System

- (24) Is the strata system fit for purpose?
- (25) In relation to strata manager professional standards:
 - (a) What action is the government taking to lift professional standards and training for strata managers?
 - (b) How many complaints have been received about strata managers and were there any actions taken by FT in response?

- (26) In relation to lifting support and standards for strata committees:
- (a) Has the government considered providing funding to the Owner's Corporation Network to establish a Strata Committee Support Service?
 - (b) Are there any plans to utilise the Strata Hub to provide resources and training to strata committees?
- (27) Has the government been provided any advice recommending an increased role for Fair Trading to adjudicate minor disputes in place of NCAT and is this something under active consideration?
- (28) Does the government support requiring strata schemes to offer payment plans to owners in arrears?
- (29) Has the government sought any advice on policy options to increase the financial sustainability of strata schemes particularly older buildings with increasing maintenance costs? If yes, what options are under consideration?
- (30) Has the government considered providing support for the electrification of strata buildings including mandates of EV charging infrastructure or requiring provision for easy retrofitting of EV in new builds?
- (31) Is the government committed to building, promoting and growing the strata hub?
- (32) What is the estimated expenditure for strata hub in the current year and over the forward estimates?
- (33) Are any expansions of the Strata Hub under consideration?
- (34) Does the government consider there to be a need to legislate a right for owners to possess and maintain an e-bike on a strata property?
- (35) Does the government remain committed to establishing a dedicated ombudsman or a Dispute Resolution Office for the retirement village industry?
- (a) If yes – what are the timelines?
- (36) What consultation process is envisaged on this policy?

Lithium-ion battery safety

- (37) At what stage is the national process to harmonise lithium battery safety regulation at?
- (a) What engagement has occurred to date and what is the anticipated timeline around this process?

- (38) Notwithstanding the national process what is Fair Trading doing in relation to:
- (a) Running education campaigns on battery handling and safety
 - (b) Stopping unsafe products entering the supply chain
- (39) Does Fair Trading have a specific enforcement campaign targeting lithium batteries?
- (a) How many compliance checks has Fair Trading conducted?
 - (b) How many seizures of non-compliant products containing batteries?
 - (c) How many reportable battery fires has Fair Trading received notification for in each of the past 5 years?
 - (d) Does Fair Trading have the resources to adequately enforce existing regulations and standards?

CORRECTIONS

- (40) How many prison rehabilitation or recidivism prevention programs for Aboriginal offenders are currently run by Aboriginal-owned entities?
- (41) How long have they been operating?
- (42) Where are these programs located?

Junee Correctional Centre

- (43) Have you set aside a date for another visit to Junee in the near future?
- (a) If not, why not?
- (44) Minister, what arrangements have you put in place in terms of communications with the community during the transition period, to ensure they're not left in the dark?
- (45) During that first visit, the Member for Cootamundra invited you to attend a community round table to hear directly – also for the first time – from the community about their concerns over the government's decision to take over operations at the centre. During that meeting you heard just how worried locals are about the loss of in-kind and financial support that the current operator GEO Group provides in the town.
- (a) Do you now accept that this decision could potentially have quite a detrimental impact on this regional community?
 - (b) Do you agree that in hindsight, you and the government were negligent in not consulting the community ahead of making this decision?

- (c) Do you concede that your communication with the community about this decision was handled poorly, and did not meet expectations?
- (46) During this first meeting with the community, you were made aware of just how extensive GEO's level of investment is in the town and surrounding region (\$77,143 in scholarships, \$172,290 in sponsorships & donations to NFP/sporting groups over last five years).
- (a) Will you commit to continuing this level of investment in the local Junee community?
- (b) Do you concede that a loss of these scholarships and sponsorships will have a detrimental impact on the health and wellbeing of residents?
- (c) Do you agree that without these sorts of scholarships, and sponsorships, children will miss out on sporting and educational opportunities?
- (47) During this first meeting with the community, you were informed that the kitchen at the centre supplies the local Meals on Wheels service – 10 meals a day (main and desert).
- (a) Can you advise who will provide these hot meals to the vulnerable members of the community, when Corrective Services NSW takes over the centre?
- (48) During this first meeting with the community, you were told about how GEO Group uses local small businesses to supply the centre – the local butchery, the baker, and the supermarket for example... in fact the annual spend last year alone by GEO on goods and services in the town was \$7.5 million.
- (a) Minister, can you commit to ensuring these small businesses continue to supply the centre when Corrective Services NSW takes over?
- (49) You mentioned during the previous Budget Estimates that the operations of Junee are not expected to change and, therefore, the operational requirements of Junee shouldn't change either.
- (a) Does that mean the current security classification level of inmates at Junee Correctional Centre won't change?
- i. If there is a change, do you concede that will have an impact on police resources in the region?
 - ii. Have you spoken with NSW Police (Riverina PD) at all about the changes underway at the centre?

- iii. Do you acknowledge that if the security classification changes, this would have significant flow-on effects in terms of the demand on social-services in the town?
- (50) Under Corrective Services NSW, will there be 24- hour medical assistance available to inmates?
- (a) If not, have you held discussions with the Murrumbidgee Local Health District and Wagga Base Hospital about the added burden on their services?
- (51) Can you guarantee that no member of this small community will be left worse-off by your decision for Corrective Services NSW to take over the operations of the Junee Correctional Centre?

INDUSTRY & TRADE

Industrial relations campaign against DP World by the Maritime Union of Australia

- (52) Were you aware of the ongoing industrial relations campaign against DP World by the Maritime Union of Australia since approximately October last year?
- (a) If yes, when were you made aware?
- (53) What impact does a one-day shutdown of DPWA terminals have on NSW?
- (a) What is the cost to the economy?
- (54) Did you speak to the Federal Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations about this issue?
- (55) Did you make representations to the Federal Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations regarding this issue?
- (56) Did you meet with the Maritime Union to discuss this issue?
- (57) In the event of a future industrial relations campaign, would you support and lobby the Federal Minister to invoke Section 431 of the Fair Work Act 2009?
- (58) The Victorian Government has set up an emergency consultation response group. Would you commit to this in NSW?

Investment in Priority Industries

- (59) The NSW Government states that it takes a structured approach to developing and evaluating ideas, and implementing policies that deliver more and better jobs, globally

competitive industries and a resilient economy. Can you outline what these structured approaches are?

(a) Does it vary between the following industries?

- i. Manufacturing
- ii. Agrifood
- iii. Clean Economy
- iv. Technology
- v. Health and Life Sciences
- vi. Defence and Aerospace

(60) What policies are being implemented in the following industries to deliver “*more and better jobs*”?

- (a) Manufacturing
- (b) Agrifood
- (c) Clean Economy
- (d) Technology
- (e) Health and Life Sciences
- (f) Defence and Aerospace

INNOVATION, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

NSW Space Industry

(61) Following confirmation that the Department of Enterprise, Investment and Trade is the lead agency, not Treasury, when it comes to initiatives in the NSW Space Industry Development Strategy, what dedicated NSW space industry communication channel to provide information about regular workshops, networking opportunities and events for industry?

(62) What work has been undertaken to increase engagement with universities and vocational education and training providers to determine the currency of space education and training pathways, and opportunities to enhance them?

- (63) What opportunities have been identified to leverage renewed interest in space to generate enthusiasm in young people?
- (64) What involvement has the Minister's office and Department of Enterprise, Investment and Trade had with the Department of Education in identifying opportunities to promote STEM uptake?
- (a) Has this assisted in any update in STEM amongst students?
 - (b) If this data is not collected or monitored by the Department of Enterprise, Investment and Trade will they consider obtaining this data to improve their collaboration with the Department of Education to further promote update in STEM?
- (65) How is the Government working with space businesses to encourage them to take on more apprentices, interns and recent graduates?
- (66) Has a Space Industry Working Group been established?
- (a) Who is involved in this working group?
 - (b) How were they selected?
 - (c) If a working group hasn't been established, why not?
- (67) Are there plans to provide a report on the progress of all initiatives in the NSW Space Industry Development Strategy?
- (a) If not, why not?

Innovation Blueprint

- (68) In the hearing, the Minister stated that the Government needs to move away from "a purely transactional relationship". Does the Minister consider the initiatives in the *2016 NSW Innovation Strategy*, *2021 Turning ideas into jobs Accelerating research and development in NSW Action Plan*, *the 20-year R&D Roadmap from the Chief Scientist released in May 2022* as purely transactional relationships between Government and the Innovation sector?
- (69) Given these documents have helped contribute to a 325% increase in innovators locating to NSW since 2013, why is the Government now disregarding these documents?
- (70) Why has it taken 12 months for the Government to only reach the "public submissions" phase of developing the innovation blueprint.
- (71) When can the sector expect the Innovation Blueprint to be finalised?

- (72) The Government is also developing an Industry Policy (the Policy) that will be supported by the Innovation Blueprint. Will the Policy be released before or after the Innovation Blueprint is finalised?
- (73) Why is stakeholder feedback being requested on the Innovation Blueprint before anyone is aware of what the new Government's focus sectors are for the Industry Policy?
- (74) Will priorities and goals for advanced manufacturing be included in the Innovation Blueprint?
- (75) Minister, why weren't you quoted in the Departmental media release announcing the Innovation Blueprint Discussion Paper?
- (76) How much money has been budgeted for the Innovation Blueprint in:
- (a) 2023/24
 - (b) 2024/25
 - (c) 2025/26
 - (d) 2026/27

Quantum

- (77) Minister, is quantum computing a priority industry for the NSW Labor Government?
- (78) Will the Government develop a NSW Quantum Strategy, as Queensland has?
- (79) Has the Minister written to the Federal Government regarding their accelerated plan to acquire a full-stack error-corrected quantum computer, worth between \$100m and \$200m?
- (80) Has the Minister advocated for NSW quantum technology companies to be strongly considered for the contract in writing to the Minister?
- (81) Has the Minister met with Minister Husic about this matter?
- (82) Will the Quantum Computing Commercialisation Fund be funded in the next budget?
- (a) How much funding will it receive?
- (83) Will the SQA receive funding in the 2024/25 budget?
- (a) How much, over how long?

Boosting Business Innovation Program

- (84) What process occurred to determine that an appropriate level of funding for the BBIP would be \$7.15m over four years?
- (85) What success metrics exist to determine the effectiveness of the TechVouchers?
- (86) How many start ups have applied for TechVouchers in:
- (a) 2021
 - (b) 2022
 - (c) 2023
 - (d) 2024
- (87) How much money was budgeted for the TechVouchers scheme in:
- (a) 2021
 - (b) 2022
 - (c) 2023
 - (d) 2024
- (88) Has the Department calculated how many hours it expects grant applications for TechVouchers to take to complete?
- (a) How many hours?
 - (b) How was this calculated?

MVP Ventures Grants

- (89) Has the Department calculated how many hours it expects grant applications for MVP Ventures Grants to take to complete?
- (a) How many hours in stage 1?
 - (b) How many hours in stage 2?
 - (c) How was this calculated?
- (90) Has the Department asked applicants to record and report how many hours their applications take?
- (a) If yes, what is the average hours taken?

- (b) If no, can the Department ask applicants to record and report how many hours applications take?

Diversity

- (91) Will the Sydney School of Entrepreneurship be funded under the NSW Labor Government?
- (92) How much will the SSE receive in:
 - (a) 2024/25
 - (b) 2025/26
 - (c) 2026/27
 - (d) 2027/28
- (93) What diversity metrics is the Department collecting for the following diversity programs, funded by the Government:
 - (a) iAccelerate
 - (b) I2N
 - (c) Startmate
 - (d) UNSW Founders

Federal advocacy

- (94) Minister, have you advocated to the Federal Government for the reclassification of cell-based and other synthetic food products, to ensure they are classified as food and can be sold domestically and internationally?

Metrics

- (95) Could you please provide details of what metrics for investment success are being considered as part of an evaluation framework for grants?
- (96) When will a formal framework be published?
- (97) Minister, will you publish the length of time it takes the Department to determine grant applications, including earliest, average, mean and longest time periods for each grant?

BUILDING

Building Industry Sustainability

- (98) ASIC has reported that 31% of insolvencies in Q3 2023 were in the construction industry. What is the government doing to address this insolvency crisis?
- (99) Is the building industry able to meet the government's housing targets?

Building Commission

- (100) How many of the 400 staff of the commission are permanently allocated to the commission?
- (a) How many of these staff will revert to Fair Trading or DCS once the commission's establishment period has concluded?
- (101) Since the Commission has been established:
- (a) How many site inspections have been conducted?
 - (b) How many complaints have been received?
 - i. How many of these have proceeded to an investigation or compliance action?
 - (c) On how many occasions has compliance actions been taken including:
 - i. Prohibition orders
 - ii. Stop work orders
 - iii. Rectification orders, and
 - iv. Enforceable undertakings
 - (d) Of the above, how many of these were on buildings outside of Sydney?
- (102) Is the Building Commission Sydney centric?
- (a) What steps will be taken to increase the capacity of the commission in regional and rural NSW?
 - (b) How many staff (FTE) of the Commission are based outside of the Sydney Metropolitan Area?
 - (c) Are there any recruitment activities to hire staff outside of Sydney?
 - (d) Are there any plans to open offices of the Commission outside of Sydney?

Decennial liability insurance

(103) Will the government peruse a mandatory decennial liability insurance scheme?

Certifiers

(104) Does the government remain committed to introduce 'new, stricter requirements on certifiers, limiting their work from a single building or developer to 50% of their total income'?

(105) How many complaints have been received in relation to certifiers each year in the past 5 years and what compliance actions have resulted?

Home Building Compensation Fund Review

(106) What is the scope, terms of reference and timing of the review into the Home Building Compensation Fund?

CORRECTIONS

Corrections Portfolio

(107) How many correctional facilities have you visited since becoming Minister for Corrections?

(108) How many staff in your office are allocated to the corrections portfolio?

Junee Correctional Centre

(109) Can the Minister confirm staff at Junee Correctional Centre will not be compelled to join a Union when the facility transfers to NSW Corrective Services?

(110) Can the Minister confirm staff at Junee Correctional Centre will not be compelled to join a Union when the facility transfers to NSW Corrective Services?

(111) Can the Minister confirm staff at the Junee Correctional Centre will not be disadvantaged when their employment is transferred to NSW Corrective Services?

(112) Can the Minister confirm if there is any cost to the NSW Government as a consequence of not renewing the current operating contract at the Junee Correctional Centre?

(113) Can the Minister advise whether he has had any verbal or written contact with the Public Service Association regarding the Junee Correctional Centre since he became Minister?

(114) If the Minister has communicated with the Public Service Association regarding the Junee Correctional Centre, provide all records of those communications.

(115) Does the Government have plans to change the security breakdown of Junee Correctional Centre?

(116) Will Junee's XIT180 works release program continue at Junee Correctional Centre under the ownership of NSW Correctives?

No Body No Parole Legislation

(117) Are you aware that Kelli Lane is due for parole in May this year?

(a) Will the no body, no parole legislation will be applied to this case?

Day Release and Nexus Program

(118) How many inmates are currently on the day release program?

(119) How many inmates are currently eligible for the Nexus program?

(a) How many inmates are currently partaking in the Nexus program?

(b) What are the objectives of the Nexus Program?

Questions from Ms Cate Faehrmann MLC

FAIR TRADING

Strata Reforms

(120) Has any work been done on progressing mandatory online self-paced training for strata committee office holders and/or building managers in NSW?

(a) If so, what work has been done?

(121) Is the department considering regulating the appointment of building managers in a similar way that the appointment of strata managers is regulated (i.e. under [section 49\(3\)](#) of the Strata Schemes Management Act 2015)?

Short-Term Letting Register

(122) Does the department intend on making data from the mandatory STRA premises register publicly available?

(a) If so when, and in what format?

(123) How many people have been listed on the STRA exclusion register?

(a) If there has been no one listed, why not?

Urgent General Meetings

(124) Can the Strata Commissioner confirm whether Lot Owners with 25% unit entitlement can require the Secretary to convene a General Meeting under section 19(2)?

Retirement Villages

(125) Does the scope of the Strata and Property Services Commissioner's work include the retirement village sector?

(a) If so, how many complaints has the Strata and Property Services Commissioner received in relation to the retirement village sector in the last financial year?

(126) What progress has the department made to further assess the potential for a dedicated ombudsman service for the retirement village sector?

Fire Safety – Cladding

(127) Who has responsibility for fire safe public buildings in NSW, in particular the assessment of cladding and the potential removal and repair thereof?

(128) What specific cladding products were used in respect of the following recently constructed public buildings?

(a) Gosford Hospital

(b) Refurbishment at Wyong Hospital Block H

(c) Administration Building at Terrigal High School.

Questions from Ms Sue Higginson MLC
--

CORRECTIONS

Phone calls in NSW prisons

(129) Can you provide a breakdown of the cost of a ten minute phone call made from prison for the following financial years:

(a) 2019-20?

(b) 2020-21?

(c) 2021-22?

(d) 2022-23?

(e) 2023-24?

(130) What is the revenue generated from outgoing prison phone calls for the following financial years:

- (a) 2019-20?
- (b) 2020-21?
- (c) 2021-22?
- (d) 2022-23?
- (e) 2023-24?

(131) How many telephone calls have inmates made from NSW prisons in the following financial years:

- (a) 2019-20?
- (b) 2020-21?
- (c) 2021-22?
- (d) 2022-23?
- (e) 2023-24?

(132) How many security breaches have been recorded during telephone calls from NSW prisons in the following financial years:

- (a) 2019-20?
- (b) 2020-21?
- (c) 2021-22?
- (d) 2022-23?
- (e) 2023-2024

(133) Will you introduce free phone calls?

- (a) If yes, when?
- (b) If not, why not?

Letters

- (134) Are CSNSW obliged to provide facilities and materials for inmates to write out physical letters?
- (a) What materials are provided to inmates?
 - i. How regularly are these materials restocked for inmates?
 - (b) What materials are able to be purchased using Buy Ups?
 - i. Can you provide a price list of materials available for purchase under the Buy Ups scheme?
- (135) Does CSNSW accept the report of the Inspector of Custodial Services in her judgement that destroying original letters going to prisoners is illegal?
- (a) Has legal advice been obtained regarding destruction and non-delivery of original mail?
 - i. What was the advice obtained?
- (136) Is the practice of Blanket photocopying still ongoing?
- (137) How many letters have been found containing contraband in the financial years:
- (a) 2019-20?
 - (b) 2020-21?
 - (c) 2021-22?
 - (d) 2022-23?
 - (e) 2023-24?
- (138) How many letters have been destroyed by Corrective Services in the financial years:
- (a) 2019-20?
 - (b) 2020-21?
 - (c) 2021-22?
 - (d) 2022-23?
 - (e) 2023-24?
- (139) How many incoming letters to inmates have been censored by Corrective Services in the financial years:

- (a) 2019-20?
- (b) 2020-21?
- (c) 2021-22?
- (d) 2022-23?
- (e) 2023-24?

Tablets

(140) Do inmates have access to email facilities on their tablets?

- (a) If not, can you provide a detailed explanation as to why this facility is not currently available?
 - i. Is there any scope to include this on the tablet program with the current term of Government?

(141) What programs do inmates currently have access to on their tablets?

- (a) How many educational programs do inmates have access to?
 - i. Are these programs provided free of charge?
 - ii. Please outline each program provided.
- (b) How much do entertainment services cost on these devices per month?
 - i. How many entertainment programs are provided per month?
 - ii. How often are these renewed?
 - iii. Does CSNSW provide free-to-air programs on these devices?

(142) When will video calls be provided on these tablets as has been foreshadowed?

(143) Are prisoners able to access online educational studies via the tablet program?

- (a) From Curtin University?
- (b) From the University of Southern Queensland?
- (c) From Open Universities?
- (d) From NSW TAFE?

(144) What is the value of the contract to provide tablets to inmates?

- (a) Who holds this contract?

- (b) What was the tender process for this contract?
- (145) What is the reason inmates are unable to access the Custodial Operations Policy Procedures on their tablets?
- (146) Has access to the Australian Electoral Commission's website for enrolment to vote been reinstated on inmate tablets following an assessment of there being no security risk?
- (147) Are external psychological services provided on inmate tablets?

Facilities

- (148) Do prisoners at Goulburn Correctional Centre have access to the following facilities and services:
 - (a) Trained hairdressers?
 - (b) Libraries?
 - (c) Live events and entertainment?
 - (d) Support to start businesses?
 - (e) Support to write, publish and distribute an inmate magazine?
- (149) Do prisoners at Long Bay Correctional Centre have access to the following facilities and services:
 - (a) Trained hairdressers?
 - (b) Libraries?
 - (c) Live events and entertainment?
 - (d) Support to start businesses?
 - (e) Support to write, publish and distribute an inmate magazine?
- (150) Do prisoners at Bathurst Correctional Centre have access to the following facilities and services:
 - (a) Trained hairdressers?
 - (b) Libraries?
 - (c) Live events and entertainment?
 - (d) Support to start businesses?
 - (e) Support to write, publish and distribute an inmate magazine?

(151) Do prisoners at Parklea Correctional Centre have access to the following facilities and services:

- (a) Trained hairdressers?
- (b) Libraries?
- (c) Live events and entertainment?
- (d) Support to start businesses?
- (e) Support to write, publish and distribute an inmate magazine?

(152) Do prisoners at Metropolitan Special Programs Centre have access to the following facilities and services:

- (a) Trained hairdressers?
- (b) Libraries?
- (c) Live events and entertainment?
- (d) Support to start businesses?
- (e) Support to write, publish and distribute an inmate magazine?

Prison food and health issues

(153) What is included in a standard month of rations for an inmate?

(154) How many fresh vegetables does an inmate receive in a week?

(155) What is the cost for a month of rations for one inmate?

(156) What are the rates of bowel cancer in the NSW prison population?

- (a) Of these, how many have developed this condition since entering the prison system?

(157) What are the rates of stomach cancer in the NSW prison population?

- (a) Of these, how many have developed this condition since entering the prison system?

(158) What are the rates of Diabetes Type 2 in the NSW prison population?

- (a) Of these, how many have developed this condition since entering the prison system?

Lock ins

(159) How many half-day lock-ins (outside of the standard 3:30pm to 8:30am lock-in) have occurred in NSW Prisons in the following financial years:

- (a) 2019-20?
 - i. Broken down by each correctional facility?
- (b) 2020-21?
 - i. Broken down by each correctional facility?
- (c) 2021-22?
 - i. Broken down by each correctional facility?
- (d) 2022-23?
 - i. Broken down by each correctional facility?
- (e) 2023-24?
 - i. Broken down by each correctional facility?

(160) How many full-day lock-ins (outside of the standard 3:30pm to 8:30am lock-in) have occurred in NSW Prisons in the following financial years:

- (a) 2019-20?
 - i. Broken down by each correctional facility?
- (b) 2020-21?
 - i. Broken down by each correctional facility?
- (c) 2021-22?
 - i. Broken down by each correctional facility?
- (d) 2022-23?
 - i. Broken down by each correctional facility?
- (e) 2023-24?

(161) What is the total number of hours prisoners have been kept in their cells during these irregular lock-in hours (outside of the standard 3:30pm to 8:30am lock-ins) in the following financial years:

- (a) 2019-20?
 - i. Broken down by each correctional facility?
- (b) 2020-21?
 - i. Broken down by each correctional facility?
- (c) 2021-22?
 - i. Broken down by each correctional facility?
- (d) 2022-23?
 - i. Broken down by each correctional facility?
- (e) 2023-24?
 - i. Broken down by each correctional facility?

(162) What obligation is CSNSW under to accurately record these lock-ins?

(163) What constitutes a security risk that would trigger the need for a lock-in?

- (a) Are staff shortages a factor that contribute to the increase in lock-ins?
 - i. If so, what is being done to ensure staff shortages are minimised at correctional facilities, given the adverse effect of lock-ins on inmate wellbeing?

Staff and Staff Wellbeing

(164) How many employees at CSNSW are currently on long-term sick leave or stress-leave?

- (a) Can you break these numbers down by Correctional facility?

(165) What was the number of employees on long-term sick leave or stress leave in the following financial years:

- (a) 2019-20?
 - i. Can you break down these numbers by Correctional facility?
- (b) 2020-21?
 - i. Can you break down these numbers by Correctional facility?
- (c) 2021-22?
 - i. Can you break down these numbers by Correctional facility?

- (d) 2022-23?
 - i. Can you break down these numbers by Correctional facility?
- (e) 2023-24?
 - i. Can you break down these numbers by Correctional facility?

(166) What percentage of the Employment related expenditure for each of these years was attributable to long-term sick leave?

Education and Access to information

(167) When the contract for BSI learning concludes this year, will it be renewed?

- (a) Is there an intention to revert education delivery back to university-qualified teachers?

(168) What is the value of the contract held by BSI to deliver education into correctional facilities?

- (a) What was the tender process for this contract?

(169) Is there an intention within this term of Government to de-privatise the Language, Literacy and Numeracy education program?

(170) How many university-qualified teachers are currently delivering educational programs in correctional services across the state?

- (a) Can you break these down by correctional facility?

(171) What facilities or services are available to inmates who are illiterate?

(172) How many Educational Services Coordinators are employed at each of the Corrective Services facilities across the State?

- (a) How many prisoners do each Educational Service Coordinator support?

- (b) Do these coordinators advocate on behalf of the prisoners or CSNSW?

(173) How many prisoners have formally expressed interest in pursuing Tertiary education programs not currently made available through CSNSW's partner universities?

- (a) Of these, how many inmates are undertaking these courses?

- (b) Of these, how many inmates have been blocked from undertaking these courses?

- i. What is the reason these inmates have been unable to undertake these courses?

Astill Inquiry Report

- (174) How does the Minister intend to respond to the recent findings in the Astill Report?
- (a) Will the Minister accept each of the recommendations outlined in the report?
 - (b) If not, why not?
- (175) When will the Minister respond publicly to the findings of the Astill Report?
- (176) Does the Minister accept the findings that the culture of corrections is either corrupt and or incompetent?
- (177) Will the Minister require the resignation of the Corrections officers involved in the maladministration of Wayne Astill including:
- (a) Kevin Cocoran?
 - (b) Governor Shari Martin?

Questions from Ms Abigail Boyd MLC

BETTER REGULATION AND FAIR TRADING, INDUSTRY AND TRADE, INNOVATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, BUILDING, CORRECTIONS

Procurement

- (178) How much money has the Department and its agencies spent on products purchased from Hewlett Packard (inclusive of HP Enterprise businesses, HP end-user businesses, and any other businesses representing the Hewlett Packard brand)
- (a) Please provide this information for each financial year since 2018/19 including 2023/24 to 31 December 2023, divided by agency, and include a short description of the kinds of products purchased for each agency each year, including whether any money has been spent since 7 October 2023.
- (179) What policies and procedures does the Department and its agencies use to ensure that procurement is ethical and meets community standards?
- (180) If the Department or any of its agencies procure products from Hewlett Packard (meaning any business representing the Hewlett Packard brand), what probity checks have been done to investigate whether HP is involved in the 'plausible genocide' taking place in Gaza?
- (181) How many contractors currently work within the Department?

(182) How many contractors have been on contracts longer than

- (a) 3 months
- (b) 6 months
- (c) 12 month
- (d) 18 months
- (e) 24 months
- (f) 36 months

(183) What is the longest period of continuous employment for a contractor employed by the Department or its agencies?

Defence Industry

(184) Please list all defence related companies with which the NSW Government has a commercial relationship with, including through the provision of tax breaks, incentives or grants.

(185) What is the value of tax breaks, incentives or grants provided to defence related industries in NSW?

(186) Which defence related companies are operating in NSW?

(187) What is the value of the defence industry in NSW?