

Question Number	Page Number	Question	Answer
1	3	<p>The Hon. NATASHA MACLAREN-JONES: Thank you, Minister. Can I ask when you first heard about the allegations of assault at Cumberland?</p> <p>The Hon. ROSE JACKSON: I can take the date on notice, although it was last year. It was sometime around the middle or—sometime last year. I'll have to take the exact date on notice, but it was last year.</p>	I am aware my office received correspondence regarding this in late 2023.
2	6	<p>The Hon. NATASHA MACLAREN-JONES: In relation to this incident, when will you have the review completed?</p> <p>The Hon. ROSE JACKSON: I'm not sure if we have a time line on that critical incident review. Perhaps Ms Willcox or Mr Wright may have that, or we may have to take it on notice.</p> <p>DEB WILLCOX: Take it on notice.</p>	Please refer to comments from the Minister for Water, Minister for Housing, Minister for Homelessness, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Youth, and Minister for the North Coast, on page 28 of the transcript.
3	15	<p>The Hon. SARAH MITCHELL: Minister, how many Murray-Darling communities have you visited since becoming the water Minister?</p> <p>The Hon. ROSE JACKSON: A number. I have some here—some list of the places that I have visited. I have visited Menindee. I visited Broken Hill. I visited Deniliquin. I visited Albury. I could take on notice the other places that I've visited.</p>	To the best of my recollection - Albury, Broken Hill, Deniliquin, Dubbo, Tamworth, Menindee, Moree, Narrabri, Orange, Parkes, Walgett, Wagga Wagga.
4	16	<p>The Hon. SARAH MITCHELL: Moving on now to boil water notices, can you tell me how many have been issued in New South Wales since the start of December last year and which communities have been impacted?</p> <p>The Hon. ROSE JACKSON: Not off the top of my head. Ms Jones may have that information; otherwise we can take it on notice.</p>	<p>Since 1 December 2023 there have been 8 boil water alerts issued in New South Wales.</p> <p>The communities affected include Yass, Murrumbateman, Bowring and Binalong (Yass Valley Council), Boorowa (Hilltops Council), Moama (Murray River Council), Brungle (Snowy Valleys Council), Jindabyne, Lakewood, Leesville, High Country, the Station resort (Snowy Monaro Regional Council, two alerts), Jerilderie (Murrumbidgee Council), Nimbin (Lismore City Council).</p>
5	17	<p>The Hon. SARAH MITCHELL: I think my colleague has a couple of questions on this too, but just a last one from me: Would you consider working with the Minister for Health to look at transporting bottled water in? My understanding is the local supermarket is struggling to keep up with demand. Is that something that you would look to do, literally today or shortly, to alleviate that issue?</p> <p>The Hon. ROSE JACKSON: Absolutely, yes. We do do water carting in areas where that is required. As I said, obviously our goal is to support the local water utility to get the water back within drinking water guidelines. But we do have a program of water carting to support communities where that is taking time and they are unable to access water.</p> <p>The Hon. SARAH MITCHELL: Would you look at that for Yass? Obviously you're here this morning, but could you take that on notice?</p> <p>The Hon. ROSE JACKSON: If the request is made, absolutely.</p>	I am advised that Yass Valley Council have done a great job in improving the water coming out of the water treatment plant at Yass. As a result, the Boil Water Alert was lifted on 1 March 2024. The Department's technical experts provided ongoing support to Council in resolving the problem. With supply restored it is not necessary for Council to seek further assistance and Council have not requested additional assistance.
6	20	<p>Ms CATE FAEHRMANN: How much does that research cost?</p> <p>The Hon. ROSE JACKSON: I'm not sure. I'll take that on notice.</p> <p>Ms CATE FAEHRMANN: Thank you. It's to back up a predetermined outcome. This is in a similar vein. Has there been any analysis on the economic cost to New South Wales communities as a result of water traded from New South Wales to Victoria and South Australia?</p> <p>The Hon. ROSE JACKSON: I'm not sure if that research has been done, although we are very engaged in the road map for water market reform, and so there may have been some research done in association with our work on the road map, but we could take that on notice.</p>	<p>Aither was engaged in November 2023 to conduct analysis on the potential impacts of a Australian Government water purchase program in NSW and provide recommendations on how a Australian Government purchase program could be designed to best minimise these impacts. The cost of this consultancy work was \$79,740 excluding GST.</p> <p>The Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences (ABARES) publishes a range of research and modelling, and the Bureau of Meteorology publishes an annual Water Market Report.</p> <p>While much of the analysis focuses on impacts to the broader southern Murray-Darling Basin (MDB) due to the connected nature of the system and the market, the former National Water Commission in 2010 reviewed the economic consequences of water trading.</p> <p>Economic modelling estimated that water trading between irrigators in the southern MDB increased the gross regional product in the southern MDB by over \$370 million in 2008–09. The modelling found that all states benefited from trading with New South Wales by an estimated \$79 million.</p>
7	27	<p>The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Minister, has the Government conducted an economic analysis regarding the impact of STRA on the New South Wales economy?</p> <p>The Hon. ROSE JACKSON: There has been some economic analysis done and that economic analysis—</p> <p>The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: By the New South Wales Government or independent of the New South Wales Government?</p> <p>The Hon. ROSE JACKSON: I'll have to take on notice who conducted it, but I'm happy to advise you of that. The economic impact is absolutely something that has been and will be considered in relation to future regulatory changes.</p>	<p>I am advised:</p> <p>Analysis of rental bond data indicates that nearly 50% of all dwellings registered for non-hosted STRA were previously used for LTRA.</p> <p>There are varying reasons why landlords convert from LTRA to STRA, but a key driver is personal use (e.g. family holiday home) and financial gain. Revenue measures being investigated by Treasury will closely consider this, specifically how owners can be incentivised to use their dwellings for LTRA rather than STRA.</p>
8	29	<p>Ms SUE HIGGINSON: What is the case manager turnover in government housing for the first quarter in the last 12 months?</p> <p>The Hon. ROSE JACKSON: That I will have to take on notice.</p>	<p>I am advised:</p> <p>Due to the establishment of HOMES NSW and the introduction of the Process and Technology Harmonisation program, data for 2023-24 quarters 1 and 2 are not available.</p> <p>The most recent data is for 2022-23 financial year. The attached tables show the monthly average numbers of Client Service Officers (CSOs) who Entered and Exited in each quarter of that financial year. Both the Head Count and the Full Time Equivalent (FTE) calculations are provided. For example, for Q4 (Apr 23 to Jun 23), there were 25 entries and 11 Exits. Because entries and Exits can occur at any time during the period, the actual impact of the entries and exits is calculated as an FTE. For Q4 (Apr 23 to Jun 23), the monthly average 25 headcount starters equated to a gain 16.9 FTE while the 11 exits equated to loss 3.9 FTE.</p>

9	30	<p>Ms CATE FAEHRMANN: I'd like to turn to the Barwon-Darling. How often will there be opportunities for floodplain harvesting in the Barwon-Darling in terms of years—every however many years—to your understanding?</p> <p>The Hon. ROSE JACKSON: That depends on how often it rains. I have not personally been briefed on the long-term meteorological outlook for the Barwon-Darling and our anticipated rainfall.</p> <p>Ms CATE FAEHRMANN: Roughly, historically, it's every one in three or, say, three in 10 years. Is that correct?</p> <p>The Hon. ROSE JACKSON: Does that roughly equate to your view?</p> <p>AMANDA JONES: I'll confirm that.</p> <p>The Hon. ROSE JACKSON: Ms Jones will confirm that. As I said, using historical rainfall, yes, I accept your point. You also know that can be dicey in terms of the unpredictable climate future that we're facing.</p>	<p>The frequency of access to floodplain harvesting is highly dependent on the specific geography and infrastructure of individual farms making it difficult to describe an "average" at a valley scale.</p> <p>To provide some further context, in the Barwon-Darling, opportunities to harvest overbank flows tend to be highest in the vicinity of Walgett with one farm getting access in around 62% of years, and lowest access farm being located near Bourke and set back from the river, only getting access in 5% of years.</p>
10	30	<p>Ms CATE FAEHRMANN: At the moment, are you aware of what the long-term average is in terms of the baseline diversion limit, the BDL, for the Barwon-Darling?</p> <p>The Hon. ROSE JACKSON: I don't know the Barwon-Darling BDL off the top of my head, but Ms Jones may be able to look that up.</p>	<p>The current BDL for the Barwon Darling, as set out in the water resource plan submitted to the MDBA for accreditation is 233.2 GL/y. There is a minor discrepancy with the number reported on the MDBA website (233.1 GL/y) resulting from rounding changes.</p>
11	33	<p>The Hon. SARAH MITCHELL: Coming to the issues around flood recovery, I know you mentioned some things in Lismore and those areas, but can you tell me how many people are still currently living in pod villages in the Northern Rivers?</p> <p>The Hon. ROSE JACKSON: I can't give you the exact number off the top of my head, although, I do know that we still have a number of people living in pod villages. I will take the exact number on notice, but most of the pod villages are still in operation.</p> <p>The Hon. SARAH MITCHELL: I'm happy for you to take this on notice as well. How many people are currently being housed out of their home town or their area? My understanding is there is a little bit of displacement as well, depending on the location of the villages.</p> <p>The Hon. ROSE JACKSON: I will take that on notice. Although, again, I accept the principle that the pod villages are still in operation and, in fact, are likely to have their time extended, that they are housing people in suboptimal housing situations for a range of reasons—including the one that you have identified, that people are being housed disconnected from their local community—and we are working through the solutions for each of those individuals. Sixty per cent of those, the latest briefing that I had, were people who would require some form of social housing. They did not have a private market solution that would be available to them. That does go back to your original premise, of course, which is there is a big piece of work to deliver more social housing on the Northern Rivers. I mentioned a couple of the projects that we're already doing, but I don't disagree that we need to do more.</p>	<p>This is a question for the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces. I am however advised that as of 18 March 2024, 930 people reside in temporary housing villages across the Northern Rivers. Approximately 70% of village residents reside in a temporary village that is within the LGA they lived in prior to the floods.</p>
12	35	<p>The Hon. NATASHA MACLAREN-JONES: Do you know how many women and children escaping domestic violence have been turned away?</p> <p>The Hon. ROSE JACKSON: I don't have that figure off the top of my head, but we could get that for you. Any number is unacceptable to me, but we can get that.</p>	<p>I am advised:</p> <p>In 2022-23, there were 16,975 unassisted requests (turn aways) to SHS in NSW or a daily average of 46.5 unassisted requests .</p> <p>An average of 4.1 unassisted requests daily were for assistance with family/domestic violence (DFV) services. This equates to a total of 1,497 unassisted requests for DFV services in 2022-23, with 88% of requests made by females. Of the 1,497 unassisted requests for DFV services, 32% were from single parents with children and the majority were from lone persons i.e. not part of a family group. Further disaggregation of single parents is not provided in the data published by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW). It should be noted that 45.3% of unassisted people in NSW went on to receive services through the year.</p> <p>The published data is available at https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/homelessness-services/specialist-homelessness-services-annual-report/data</p> <p>- Data tables: Specialist homelessness services annual report 2022-23. Table UNASSISTED.1: Daily average unassisted requests, by state and territory, 2022-23; Table UNASSISTED.4: Daily average unassisted requests, by type of service requested and sex, and by state and territory, 2022-23 and Table UNASSISTED.5: Daily average unassisted requests, by type of service requested and presenting unit type, and by state and territory, 2022-23.</p> <p>- Data tables: Specialist homelessness services historical tables 2011-12 to 2022-23. Table HIST.UNASSISTED: Unassisted requests for service, by client characteristics, 2017-18 to 2022-23.</p>

13	38	<p>Ms CATE FAEHRMANN: It's out there now. I will move to a different issue, just because of time. I will come back to this other one if I can. In early January I wrote to you about the Bloomberg article, which I've already mentioned in these budget estimates, titled "The Water Trade is Booming—and Sucking Australia Dry". In that article, it reported the situation with Murray Irrigation Limited's account where that irrigation organisation carried over one-half to two-thirds of the total valleys' carryover. This was during a time of incredible drought, between 2018-19 and 2019-20 when there were so many distressed farmers and landholders in that region. A lot of people in the community had no idea. This was completely hidden from the community. That's what Bloomberg uncovered. You replied to me on 8 February and said that your department was looking into that, it was investigating. What's the status of that investigation?</p> <p>The Hon. ROSE JACKSON: Amanda, I might ask you to give Ms Faehrmann an update.</p> <p>AMANDA JONES: The carryover that you refer to is actually allowable under the water sharing plan and under their licence—</p> <p>Ms CATE FAEHRMANN: Who have you spoken to as part of that investigation, firstly, Ms Jones?</p> <p>AMANDA JONES: I'll have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Ms CATE FAEHRMANN: It's a question as to whether any of the people who were mentioned— whether Bloomberg was contacted in terms of how they got that information. Maryanne Slattery from Slattery and Johnson was quoted—I think she was the one who discovered that carryover—plus others were quoted in that article. Did the department speak to them to work out what was going on?</p> <p>AMANDA JONES: I think, Ms Faehrmann, that the carryover wasn't an illegal carryover. As I understand it, the carryover was allowable under both the water sharing plan rules and their licence.</p> <p>The Hon. ROSE JACKSON: But in terms of the work that the department did and perhaps is still ongoing to explore that and come to that conclusion, I'm not sure if Ms Jones would have knowledge about who did that and who they spoke to. Perhaps you might take on notice—</p>	<p>The response to Ms Faehrmann dated 8 February 2024 addressed her 1 January 2024 suggested action to investigate Murray Irrigation Limited's carryover by noting that the carryover was allowed by the rules of the water sharing plan, did not evade detection, and as the largest licence holder in the valley, Murray Irrigation Limited usually holds the largest component of carryover.</p> <p>Water users are entitled to carry over water from year to year as a mechanism to allow them to manage the risk of low water availability in future years, however they must balance this with the risk of that water "spilling" from their accounts as new water allocations are made, as accounts are limited to 1.1 ML per entitlement share, and any further allocations made once this account limit is reached will cause water carried over to be forfeited.</p> <p>The volume of water held in carryover accounts is clearly indicated on regular NSW water allocation statements, as well as interactive online dashboards.</p> <p>There is no further investigation underway.</p>
14	39	<p>Ms CATE FAEHRMANN: Minister, in the last estimates I asked you the financial value of the floodplain harvesting licences issued and you were unable to provide that. I put in questions on notice and supplementary questions asking the same question, and the department was unable to provide that then. Have you calculated a financial value yet?</p> <p>The Hon. ROSE JACKSON: Have we done that, Amanda?</p> <p>AMANDA JONES: No, we haven't. We can come back on that.</p>	<p>The licensing of floodplain harvesting is relatively new and still being implemented. Also, temporary trades are prohibited for floodplain harvesting access licences. This means the water trading market is not well established and the value of shares are yet to be determined.</p> <p>However, Aither, was engaged to do an economic analysis on the value of irrigated agriculture and the economic impact from implementation of the NSW Floodplain Harvesting Policy. This analysis is available online and may provide useful information: https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0008/479636/floodplain-harvesting-economic-analysis-report.pdf</p> <p>It is important to acknowledge that the implementation of the NSW Floodplain Harvesting Policy seeks to regulate floodplain harvesting activities and manage water take within legal limits. This means implementation of the Policy will result in a reduction in on-farm economic value from floodplain harvesting activities. This is demonstrated in NSW Floodplain harvesting economic analysis: https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0008/479636/floodplain-harvesting-economic-analysis-report.pdf.</p>
15	41	<p>Ms CATE FAEHRMANN: Just to be clear, did anybody within the department—were they able to suggest changes to the reviews before they were finalised?</p> <p>AMANDA JONES: Not that I'm aware.</p> <p>The Hon. ROSE JACKSON: I would hope not.</p> <p>Ms CATE FAEHRMANN: Are you able to just take that on notice?</p> <p>The Hon. ROSE JACKSON: Absolutely.</p> <p>Ms CATE FAEHRMANN: Just to do that research would be good. Thank you.</p>	<p>The department has endeavoured to be open and transparent in making decisions. This approach has included independent probity reviews of floodplain harvesting licensing determinations. These reviews are available online at: https://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/water/our-work/floodplain-management/Floodplain-harvesting-licensing/probity-reviews-into-floodplain-harvesting-licensing.</p> <p>Review of draft reports by the Department's Floodplain Management branch pertained only to checking for factual errors and not to the provision of any comments or feedback which would influence the findings of the report.</p>

16	41	<p>Ms SUE HIGGINSON: Frankly, in some circumstances, it is quite the opposite. There are people who are just now displaying and coming out and have found the strength. I think the experts advised us that this is what we may face. In particular, with these organisations, they are services that government will never be able to support or never be able to take over. They are also organisations that are modelling what they've pioneered that will be replicable in other places as we walk through our changing climate and so on. They will need to carry on, as you've identified. We want them to carry on, because it's desperate. With the 11 pod villages, what about the 724, as of last November—I understand from the RA; they don't know what that number is. They were the people, in November, still desperately in need of accommodation or some form of housing. Are you aware of them?</p> <p>The Hon. ROSE JACKSON: Yes, I am. I think it's a challenging conversation I've been having with the RA. I'm sympathetic to the scale of the work that they have, but I have been a little bit frustrated with what I consider to be the somewhat limited engagement with that group. I agree with you; I'm not even sure that we have a level of confidence about what that number is.</p> <p>Ms SUE HIGGINSON: We don't.</p> <p>The Hon. ROSE JACKSON: That is, at the very least, what we should know: How many of those individuals are still in an unstable and unacceptable housing situation and essentially consider themselves on the waiting list for some kind of support? I don't even want to express to you confidence that number is in fact the number.</p> <p>Ms SUE HIGGINSON: Will you undertake to that find out?</p> <p>The Hon. ROSE JACKSON: I will. I am aware of that. I have been to the RA about it, and I will undertake to follow up on that.</p>	<p>This is a question for the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces. I am however advised that:</p> <p>The NSW Reconstruction Authority has engaged an independent organisation (Uniting) to contact households on the Temporary Housing Program waitlist to identify ongoing housing needs, eligibility and prioritise support where necessary. Uniting has a local presence in the Northern Rivers region, expertise in disaster welfare and existing community outreach experience and technology.</p> <p>Uniting has already commenced their outreach. As of 18 March 2024, there are approximately 550 households on the waitlist for temporary housing. It is anticipated that this number will continue to reduce as outreach continues over the coming months.</p> <p>The outreach project will give households on the Temporary Housing program waitlist an honest and transparent update on temporary housing programs and discuss their housing needs/plans. They will receive tailored advice based on their situation, including referrals to alternative housing support. It is anticipated that many households on the waitlist may no longer require temporary housing support, or will not be eligible.</p> <p>If the applicant is ineligible for the program, they will be referred to Link2Home or other support services that provide temporary accommodation services.</p>
17	45	<p>The Hon. NATASHA MACLAREN-JONES: My ones are actually more about reports and things. Ms Robinson, I have a couple of ones in relation to your vaping report. At the last estimates, we asked the Minister about whether or not she has met with you in relation to that. I just wanted to follow up. Have you had a chance to meet with the Minister to discuss that report? Has the Government provided a response?</p> <p>ZOË ROBINSON: I'll take on notice whether we received a formal response from the Government. We have engaged across health and with our Minister around that particular report. The Minister most recently met with our youth advisory council. I don't think vaping was discussed at that youth advisory council. But I can take on notice whether it was an issue raised before. As she suggested this morning, those recommendations, she is taking those forward with her Government colleagues. I would say that we're working with health in that key response around providing children and young people with cessation support and the supports that they need, and with the Department of Education in terms of some of the work that they're doing around implementing some of the recommendations around schools.</p>	<p>I am advised:</p> <p>The vaping report was presented to the Deputy Premier, Minister for Health, Secretary for Education and members of the Ministry of Health Executive at the Vaping Roundtable in November 2023.</p> <p>A formal response was received on November 9th, 2023, on behalf of Secretary Dizdar, Secretary for the Department of Education, noting that the report has been shared and recommendations discussed with the relevant directorates with the Department.</p>
18	45	<p>The Hon. NATASHA MACLAREN-JONES: My other question is in relation to the special inquiry that you're doing into out-of-home care. I understand submissions closed late last year. How many submissions did you receive? What is the time frame for reporting?</p> <p>ZOË ROBINSON: I'm going to say 12 written submissions, but I can take it on notice. I'm sure I'll get a text immediately about that. We are in the process of doing our private hearings. Our Act affords us the ability to do private hearings with young people, which we think is very important, considering the situations that they're in. At this stage, we have interviewed 12 young people who are currently in alternative care arrangements. We have five more next week. At this stage, we have committed to releasing an interim report in March. We think that's important because it's important to urgently hear some of the voices of these children and young people. And then there will be a final report tabled in late May.</p>	<p>I am advised:</p> <p>In total 20 submissions have been received.</p> <p>ACYP is currently developing an interim report which will be released at the start of April 2024. The intention is for the Special Inquiry Final Report to be tabled in NSW Parliament in June 2024.</p>
19	45	<p>The Hon. NATASHA MACLAREN-JONES: Will there be an opportunity to provide feedback before the final report is released?</p> <p>ANNE CAMPBELL: Correct.</p> <p>The Hon. NATASHA MACLAREN-JONES: What's the time frame for that?</p> <p>ANNE CAMPBELL: I'll just have a double-check. The SHS contracts were extended from June 2024 to June 2026, so new contracts would—recommissioning would start from 1 July. I'll take on notice the exact time frames in terms of the final report, but certainly we want to do that really early in the lead-up to the recommissioning.</p> <p>The Hon. NATASHA MACLAREN-JONES: Sorry, no, I was talking about the consultation on the strategy.</p> <p>ANNE CAMPBELL: I'll just take that on notice, and I might be able to come back towards the end.</p>	<p>I am advised:</p> <p>This question is answered in question 74. However, consultation on the NSW Homelessness Strategy 2024-2034 will commence from April 2024 and will continue throughout the life of the Strategy. DCJ will work in partnership with the sector to design programs and responses that have a real impact on homelessness.</p>

20	46	<p>The Hon. NATASHA MACLAREN-JONES: That's fine. In the budget, \$4.37 million was allocated to the Aboriginal homelessness sector growth program. Could I get an update on the details of that program, if all funds have been allocated and where to?</p> <p>ANNE CAMPBELL: My understanding is there are four new ACCOs that have been funded to deliver that program, and there are six ACCOs linked to that. I can give you in a minute—I'll try to find it for you—the actual locations and the time frames, but the funding has actually gone out to those providers. It's new funding that's come through—the homelessness program.</p>	<p>I am advised: Funding of \$4.37 million was allocated under the Aboriginal Homelessness Sector Growth Project (AHSGP) to four ACCOs in three DCJ Districts.</p> <p>The funded ACCOs and Districts are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New England - Armajun Health Service Aboriginal Corporation (Joint Working Arrangement (JWA) with Tamworth Aboriginal Medical Service Aboriginal Corporation and Pius X Aboriginal Corporation Moree) - Western Sydney – NSWALC Housing Ltd (trading as Birribee Housing) - Southern NSW <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Katungul Aboriginal Corporation Regional Health and Community Services o Murra Mia Aboriginal Corporation <p>Including the Armajun JWA a total of six new ACCO SHS received AHSGP funding.</p>
21	46	<p>The Hon. NATASHA MACLAREN-JONES: Was there a reason the interim report wasn't released publicly?</p> <p>ANNE CAMPBELL: I'd need to take that on notice.</p> <p>The Hon. NATASHA MACLAREN-JONES: And if you could also check—has it been provided to the sector or any other organisations?</p> <p>ANNE CAMPBELL: I don't think that's my understanding with an interim report.</p>	<p>I am advised: Ernst and Young were engaged by Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) to undertake an evaluation of the NSW Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS) program. The interim report was used for validation and clarification to inform the development of recommendations for the final report, to be publicly shared. Preliminary findings from the interim report were shared with various stakeholders including Service Provider Advisory Group (SHS providers across the State who nominated to participate), the Evaluation Working Group (including Homelessness Peaks and DCJ staff). Findings from the final SHS evaluation, along with several other evaluation reports, will help build a solid evidence base that will be used to inform the approach to recommissioning SHS and future shape of the homelessness service system.</p>
22	46	<p>The Hon. NATASHA MACLAREN-JONES: Could you provide an overview of how the CIMS database operates and what data is actually collected?</p> <p>ANNE CAMPBELL: I might have to take some of that on notice. It is a mandatory system—it's called the Client Information Management System—where SHS providers that we fund have to provide certain data in terms of number of people and outcomes. I know there have been some new measures added to that as well, but I'm happy to take the rest on notice.</p> <p>The Hon. NATASHA MACLAREN-JONES: Yes, if you can give an outline of what data is collected, particularly in relation to accessibility indicators. I understand that was a modification that was going to occur. I'm interested to know whether that modification has happened and, if not, what the time frame would be.</p> <p>ANNE CAMPBELL: Yes.</p>	<p>I am advised: The Client Information Management System (CIMS) is a software solution provided by DCJ for use by specialist homelessness services (SHS) as a case management tool and for meeting national reporting requirements. While the majority of SHS providers in NSW use CIMS, Mission Australia, St Vincent de Paul, Social Futures and Richmond PRA/Flourish Australia use their own in-house systems for capturing and reporting on SHS client information. The information collected in CIMS and other equivalent systems, about people who are referred to, or seek assistance from SHS agencies, contribute to the national homelessness minimum dataset, the Specialist Homelessness Services Collection (SHSC). The details of data collected in the SHSC is available in the SHS Collection Manual, available at: https://www.aihw.gov.au/getmedia/43f4e03d-d229-46ae-938a-b508aff89e26/shs-collection-manual-2023.pdf.aspx</p> <p>In addition to the SHSC data, SHS providers in NSW also collect client outcomes data through the Personal Wellbeing Index and Client Outcomes Survey tools.</p> <p>For providers using CIMS, there is the ability to capture and share initial assessment information via a Common Assessment Tool integrated in CIMS. The tool allows providers to identify client needs and the actions the provider, or a more appropriate service provider, can take to respond to those needs. This supports the No Wrong Door approach for SHS and allows sharing of relevant client information (with client consent) so that clients do not need to retell their story each time.</p> <p>The Vacancy Management System (VMS) is an additional module to CIMS where providers maintain and update vacancy information for their crisis accommodation, transitional accommodation and support services in the VMS. The VMS is designed to help Link2Home and SHS service providers find available accommodation and support services for clients.</p> <p>Accessibility indicators in the VMS: In response to recommendation 2a in the NSW Ombudsman's report, Specialist homelessness services: helping people with high or complex needs and in consultation with SHS sector representatives, DCJ has developed an SHS Accessibility Checklist that providers can use to audit their crisis accommodations for accessibility features. These responses can be uploaded to CIMS and the VMS is being updated to include an accessibility flag and filter to easily locate crisis accommodation facilities that are accessible to people with disabilities. The implementation of the checklist and VMS updates is planned for April - June 2024.</p>
23	47	<p>The Hon. NATASHA MACLAREN-JONES: You probably will need to take this on notice, but previously I asked about how SHSs were tracking. Could you give an update of how many have been accredited, if there are any outstanding and if they're on track to all be accredited by 30 June?</p> <p>ANNE CAMPBELL: I'm happy to take that on notice. I think I said last time it was about 60 per cent. I think that's gone up quite significantly, so I'll take that on notice.</p>	<p>I am advised: As at March 2024, 77 per cent of lead SHS are accredited. Outstanding providers have all confirmed they will be accredited by 30 June 2024.</p>
24	47	<p>The Hon. NATASHA MACLAREN-JONES: I understand the street count is occurring at the moment, so you won't have that data, but is it all being completed this month?</p> <p>ANNE CAMPBELL: Yes, it is.</p> <p>The Hon. NATASHA MACLAREN-JONES: Do you have the number of locations for this year compared to last year?</p> <p>ANNE CAMPBELL: I know this year. The street counts occurred between 1 February and 1 March 2024, in 77 LGAs. As at 20 February, 57 counts—that's the last data that I've had—have been counted. For last year, I'm pretty sure it was maybe one or two LGAs less, but I'm happy to take that on notice.</p>	<p>I am advised: In 2023 and 2024, street counts were done in 76 LGAs.</p>

25	47	<p>The Hon. NATASHA MACLAREN-JONES: The \$11 million that was announced for temporary accommodation in the budget—have all those funds been allocated?</p> <p>ANNE CAMPBELL: I might hand over to Ms Pinkstone.</p> <p>REBECCA PINKSTONE: They have been allocated and they're addressing the temporary accommodation assistance at the moment.</p> <p>The Hon. NATASHA MACLAREN-JONES: And where have the funds gone to?</p> <p>REBECCA PINKSTONE: We have a number of additional requirements around TA in terms of the accommodation offered and we also have supported accommodation providers that provide additional assistance to people that are in different temporary accommodation options.</p> <p>The Hon. NATASHA MACLAREN-JONES: How was the decision made as to where those funds would be allocated?</p> <p>REBECCA PINKSTONE: I can take that on notice for you and come back to you.</p>	<p>I am advised: Funds are allocated to districts based on forecast demand for temporary accommodation. (Source: Housing Services).</p>
26	47	<p>The Hon. NATASHA MACLAREN-JONES: Is the Housing and Mental Health Agreement still in operation between NSW Health and DCJ?</p> <p>ANNE CAMPBELL: It is indeed.</p> <p>The Hon. NATASHA MACLAREN-JONES: How often are reports provided on the progress of the agreement?</p> <p>ANNE CAMPBELL: I will take that one on notice, just to look at—I know we recently, last year, signed an updated agreement, so I just need to find out where we're up to in terms of reporting.</p>	<p>I am advised: Reporting requirements for the Housing and Mental Health Agreement 2022 (HMHA 22) are detailed in the HMHA 22 Monitoring and Reporting Framework which is available at https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/mentalhealth/Pages/housing-and-mental-health-agreement.aspx</p>
27	47	<p>The Hon. NATASHA MACLAREN-JONES: Okay. I might move to some mental health questions, following on from some that came out of this morning's session. In relation to the mental health complex at Westmead, the Minister said it would be complete by 2026. When will development commence?</p> <p>DEB WILLCOX: I will take that on notice and give you specific milestones. The preparatory work is underway for the site, but in terms of the actual construction steps, I'd have to take that on notice and come back to you.</p> <p>The Hon. NATASHA MACLAREN-JONES: Could you also provide the time frame—so when each stage commenced?</p> <p>DEB WILLCOX: Yes.</p>	<p>I'm advised: To further clarify information provided by Ms Deb Willcox at page 63 of the hearing transcript: Early works are under way and main works are out to tender for a contractor. Construction on the new building is expected to begin in late 2024. The project is due for completion in late 2026.</p>
28	48	<p>The Hon. NATASHA MACLAREN-JONES: I also wanted to ask about the PID and how that is managed, particularly in relation to Cumberland. Who is ultimately responsible for managing any of those complaints or dealing with whistleblowers?</p> <p>DEB WILLCOX: In general terms, complaints made by staff are dealt with under a policy, a NSW Health policy, which we are required to comply with, and there is, as you would expect, a detailed procedural fairness component to that and the gathering of evidence and how those decisions are made. I don't have particular details in relation to any protected disclosures, so I could take that question on notice, that component.</p>	<p>I'm advised: Under the Public Interest Disclosure (PID) Act 2022, disclosure officers are responsible for receiving voluntary PIDs on behalf of an agency. NSW Health disclosure officers are listed on the NSW Health website at www.health.nsw.gov.au/workforce/culture/Pages/disclosure-officers.aspx</p> <p>Following receipt of a PID report, or potential PID, a manager of a public official to whom the report is made must, as soon as reasonably practicable, communicate the disclosure to a disclosure officer of the relevant NSW Health organisation. PIDs, and potential PIDs, are managed in line with the PID Act and relevant policies.</p> <p>Western Sydney Local Health District has a comprehensive procedure to assess and manage PIDs. The Western Sydney Local Health District PCP203037 – 'Public Interest Disclosure (Internal Reporting) Procedure' supports requirements of the NSW Health Policy PD2023_026 'Public Interest Disclosures' and the PID Act 2022.</p> <p>Prior to the commencement of the PID Act 2022, the District maintained procedures that aligned with the previous NSW Health Policy PD2016_027 'Public Interest Disclosure Policy' and the Public Interest Disclosure Act 1994.</p>
29	48	<p>The Hon. NATASHA MACLAREN-JONES: Are you aware of any current investigations by SafeWork in relation to Cumberland Hospital?</p> <p>DEB WILLCOX: There were some initial matters brought to the district in around 2020 from SafeWork and some provisional improvement notices which came as part of—which led into the cultural review work, but I'm not aware of any that are current. But again, I can double-check that and come back to you before the end of the session.</p>	<p>I'm advised: Please refer to the response provided to supplementary question 164.</p>

30	48	<p>The Hon. NATASHA MACLAREN-JONES: That's fine. The Minister indicated that she provided a report last year in relation to Cumberland with a number of recommendations. Are you able to outline what those recommendations were, and have all those recommendations been implemented?</p> <p>DEB WILLCOX: Yes, certainly, and I might throw to Dr Wright because Dr Wright was one of the co-authors of the report. He undertook that with Dr Karin Lines. They were requested by the secretary to go and have a look. There'd been some previous culture work initiated in the local health district, particularly for the mental health service there, and the work that Dr Wright did was to look to see progress on those. The good news is that most of that work had been completed, but Dr Lines and Dr Wright committed to provide some additional recommendations to continue to reinforce that work. I might throw to Dr Wright, perhaps, to talk a little bit about the report, and then I can come back and tell you about the recommendations.</p>	<p>I'm advised:</p> <p>In 2021, Western Sydney Local Health District commissioned an external review into culture at Cumberland Hospital. There were 13 recommendations and a culture steering committee was established which created a culture review implementation plan.</p> <p>In 2023, the District conducted a post implementation report, led by Dr Karin Lines and the NSW Chief Psychiatrist Murray Wright. Recommendations were made to help drive the change already underway.</p> <p>The recommendations have been actioned and several are ongoing to embed the culture change.</p> <p>The 2023 review found substantial evidence that the District and Cumberland Hospital had implemented processes, policies, and education programs in line with recommendations from the 2021 review. Dr Lines and Dr Wright acknowledged the significant positive shift in the workplace culture generally and particularly in the nursing workforce.</p> <p>The review also found that the 2023 media reports were not reflective of the current wider culture at Cumberland Hospital, and that opinions and statements made in anonymous complaints were considered untrue by the majority of staff spoken to during the review.</p> <p>The review made a further 7 recommendations to help embed the change. These will be incorporated into the long-term Culture Improvement Strategy which will continue after the original 13 recommendations are finalised. This will align with the Mental Health Strategic Plan.</p> <p>The Culture Improvement Strategy will involve the plan for the Parramatta Light Rail start and the change plan to the new Integrated Mental Health Centre – including new models of care and work practices.</p>
31	49	<p>The CHAIR: I have some questions about the LGBTIQ+ health strategy, particularly relating to mental health. In the strategy document there's commentary about the relatively difficult access that people in those communities have accessing mental health services due to limited specific clinical mental health services. What work is being done to address that access?</p> <p>BRENDAN FLYNN: Thanks, Dr Cohn. The first thing I would say is, I agree that, historically—and this is something we hear from LGBTIQ+ consumers: They have had, at times, difficulty either accessing or feeling safe in those services. So we do want to make sure that we do two things. The first thing is to make sure that all of our services are welcoming and are conscious of the specific needs of individual cohorts of consumers, remembering that people can belong to, at the same time, different population groups that we specifically try to serve. The other thing that we do is engage in specific initiatives, and, in this case, for the LGBTIQ+ community, there are a couple of specific programs that we have underway. One of them is that we fund ACON for crisis support and counselling, and it's actually a fairly longstanding relationship. I heard ACON give evidence at the upper House inquiry—obviously, you would've heard that yourself as Chair. We are aware there are improvements that we could make. I think it's very powerful to hear from the community, around what works and what doesn't work. Part of what we need to do is to make sure that that information comes back into evaluation of those services. There is another package that's funded under the Towards Zero Suicides funds. That's a community response package that I probably need to take on notice to give you some more details around. If I could just step back with that first thing, about trying to make sure that our services are welcoming, a part of that is also just ensuring our staff are trained, and we also invest in community suicide prevention training, and Twenty10 is an organisation that specifically looks at suicide prevention training in that community.</p> <p>The CHAIR: You mentioned the funding for ACON for the community-based suicide prevention aftercare services?</p> <p>BRENDAN FLYNN: Yes.</p> <p>The CHAIR: It's my understanding that those services have been delivered in Sydney and Newcastle in person and that that service is then virtual for the rest of the State. What feedback have you received or what evaluation has been undertaken about how effective those virtual services have been in meeting those specific needs?</p> <p>BRENDAN FLYNN: I will take that on notice, and it's important information that we will need, as well.</p> <p>The CHAIR: I appreciate your comments about responsiveness as an individual clinician, but is there a process for that feedback on emerging issues to actually be formalised and input through into NSW Health? Are you just getting that feedback from ACON? I'm trying to unpick what the system is.</p> <p>BRENDAN FLYNN: I think I would say the strategy—I'd have to take the feedback pathways into the oversight of the strategy on notice because that's not something I have direct oversight over. But, to come to the first part of that question, I think it's really important that our staff are aware and our consumers are aware of what pathways there are. That includes surveying, listening to lived experience and listening to our staff and their concerns around whether our services need improvement.</p>	<p>I'm advised:</p> <p>LGBTIQ+ capacity building for services</p> <p>The NSW Government has funded Twenty10 (a LGBTIQ+ Community support and advocacy service) to provide face-to-face training across NSW to assist staff providing mental health care to young people to gain greater awareness and sensitivity to LGBTIQ+ issues to promote diversity inclusive personalised care.</p> <p>The Government has provided funds for local health districts to take up one year membership to ACON's Pride in Health and Wellbeing initiative. This initiative provides direct support, advice, and information resources to enable local mental health teams to create a welcoming environment of LGBTIQ+ acceptance. Since 2021, 15 teams across the state have taken up membership.</p> <p>As part of the transition to universal aftercare in NSW, funds are available to engage community-managed organisations to deliver aftercare service capacity building and enhancements for priority populations, including LGBTQIA+ people. This enhancement building activity will ensure mainstream aftercare services are safe, responsive, and accessible to priority population groups. Funding will be awarded through an open competitive tender process.</p> <p>Access to LGBTIQ+ specialist mental health services</p> <p>The Government funds ACON to deliver a statewide Trans and Gender Diverse Mental Health and Wellbeing service that provides a mixed specialist counselling and peer worker psychosocial support services. This service coordinates closely with ACON's -Government funded LGBTQA+ suicide support services to provide responsive support to changing requirements to while maintaining continuity of care. Twelve months into the service 139 clients have been supported across 12 local health districts.</p> <p>The Government funds Twenty10 to expand its capacity to work in the community to support gender diverse young people and their family and carers, developing stronger linkages with speciality services including the new NSW Gender Diversity Hubs</p> <p>The Agency for Clinical Innovation has received a NSW Health LGBTIQ+ Health Funding Pool grant to develop a LGBTIQ+ inclusive support guide for Child and adolescent mental health services.</p> <p>Evaluation of ACON's Crisis Support and Aftercare Service</p> <p>ACON's Crisis Support and Aftercare Service has not been evaluated yet. As part of the transition of the Service to Bilateral Schedule universal aftercare funding from 1 July 2024, the service will be evaluated as part of a broader evaluation of universal aftercare services in NSW. The evaluation will consider aspects of service delivery inclusive of face-to-face and telehealth modes of delivery, as well as service integration, clinical governance, consumer outcomes, and economic impact. Planning for the evaluation is currently underway.</p> <p>ACON's Community Response Package for people of diverse sexualities and/or genders</p> <p>ACON has been funded \$340,000 over 4 years to 24 to deliver the Community Response Package for people of diverse sexualities and/or genders. The package aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise community awareness and increase health literacy of suicide risk and elevated rates of mental health distress experienced by sexuality and gender diverse people. • Facilitate access to support and increase knowledge of inclusive service support options. • Increase understanding of Health professionals about the needs and experiences of sexuality and gender diverse people and their ability to respond inclusively. • Increase community access to current suicide and mental health research. <p>As part of this work ACON has delivered a suicide prevention and mental health online hub, HERE.org.au, including targeted resources and a directory for key support services across NSW.</p> <p>New enhanced funding for the initiative over 2024-28 will be awarded through an open competitive tender process and support greater reach of the packages across NSW, including an expanded scope of activity. Funding will also support an evaluation of the Community Response Packages initiative.</p>

32	50	<p>The CHAIR: You also mentioned the funding that went to Twenty10 for suicide prevention skills training. And I understand that Twenty10 reported it successfully reached its target training audience of gender diverse people, which is excellent, but also that 97 per cent of that training was delivered in major cities. Now that the COVID mental health recovery package funding is expiring, what's being considered for targeted suicide prevention training in the next phase? How will that training be delivered regionally?</p> <p>BRENDAN FLYNN: I would firstly mention that the training will sit—and, again, I'd need to take on notice the specifics around that package. But it wouldn't necessarily be under COVID time-limited funding. We do fund suicide prevention training under the Towards Zero Suicides initiative, but I accept that there were some aspects of that in the COVID package as well. I was not aware that 97 per cent was metropolitan. I would only state that we would feel that it's very important not just to make sure it wasn't metropolitan but that there was as much face to face, and then virtual, if required, to cover the State.</p>	<p>I'm advised:</p> <p>Current suicide prevention training, including for the LGBTQIA+ community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The \$10 million LivingWorks suicide prevention training package, funded through the COVID-19 Mental Health Recovery Package over 3 years to 30 June 2024. • LivingWorks are training people in suicide intervention skills training, targeting the NSW independent, Catholic, and public high school education sector, parents/carers, Aboriginal communities, and targeted community suicide first responders. This includes people who identify as LGBTQIA+ although this community is not a specific target of the initiative. • LivingWorks have codesigned suicide prevention skills training tailored to deliver inclusive content and create a safe space for LGBTQIA+ people and communities. LGBTQIA+ skills training workshops are delivered by LivingWorks Trainers who identify as part of the LGBTQIA+ community. • LivingWorks has trained more than 17,000 people including 12,000 school staff, parents/carers, and student peer leaders over the past 2 years. <p>The NSW Ministry of Health does not collect data from LivingWorks on the number of people trained who identify as LGBTQIA+. This is being considered for the next round of suicide prevention training in NSW.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LivingWorks training has been provided across the state with around 50% of training delivered in metropolitan areas and 50% in regional and rural areas. • The NSW Ministry of Health provides LivingWorks with a list of targeted areas for training based on modelling to prioritise delivery in areas of higher need. The modelling to determine areas of higher need is based on NSW Health data on emergency department presentations for self-harm or suicidal ideation in the younger age groups, as the key target audience for this training initiative is people who interact with and support young people. LivingWorks is required to report quarterly on training delivered per Local Health District and this is monitored closely by the NSW Ministry of Health. <p>Plans for future suicide prevention training, including for the LGBTQIA+ community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The next iteration of the suicide prevention training initiative in NSW will begin after the LivingWorks package ends in June 2024. • Planning for this is underway and is being informed by the independent evaluation of the previous suicide prevention training initiative, Community Gatekeeper Training, which ran 2019-23. • Planning is considering key target audiences for suicide prevention training, including the LGBTQIA+ community, and the best mode of delivery to ensure that all areas of NSW have access to training that meets their needs. <p>Previous suicide prevention training targeting the LGBTQIA+ community delivered by Twenty10:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twenty10 received \$120,000 (Ex GST) 2019-22 to provide suicide prevention training targeting the LGBTQIA+ community as part of the Community Gatekeeper Training initiative. Over the period of the contract Twenty10 trained 278 people. • The Community Gatekeeper training initiative has been independently evaluated, with the final report received in late 2023. Findings specific to Twenty10 included that they successfully reached their target audience of gender-diverse people at good value for money per participant, although training was predominantly delivered in major cities only (97%).
33	50	<p>The CHAIR: I look forward to that answer on notice. I understand there was a budget commitment of \$21 million over four years for 36 Aboriginal mental health worker positions. Could we get an update on those positions and whether they've been filled?</p> <p>BRENDAN FLYNN: Yes. I'm very happy to take that on notice. That's under the TZ money? That's the towards zero—yes.</p>	<p>I'm advised:</p> <p>Funding is provided to employ 18 full time equivalent (FTE) Aboriginal Mental Health Care Navigators and 18 FTE Aboriginal Mental Health & Wellbeing Peer Workers.</p> <p>11.5 Aboriginal Mental Health Care Navigator roles and 12.5 Aboriginal Mental Health & Wellbeing Peer Worker roles have been recruited.</p>
34	53	<p>The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: While you're here, Ms Williams, I'll ask a few questions with respect to self-assessments, and I'll ask those to you as well, Ms Pinkstone. Has the Aboriginal Housing Office made any self-assessments so far under the new provisions?</p> <p>FAMEY WILLIAMS: Yes. We've completed seven and there are five currently in progress.</p> <p>The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: There are five in progress and seven are completed.</p> <p>FAMEY WILLIAMS: Yes.</p> <p>The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Okay. With respect to the Homes NSW?</p> <p>REBECCA PINKSTONE: I'll take that on notice. I do have it in this book. I will have a look for you.</p> <p>The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Maybe after the break, if you've got the numbers. Otherwise, we're happy to take it on notice.</p>	<p>I am advised:</p> <p>FY 22/23 – 21 projects for 305 homes FY 23/24 – 24 projects for 252 homes (Source: Housing Portfolio)</p>

35	54	<p>The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Thank you very much. Has Homes NSW or any of its predecessors conducted modelling outlining the proportion of social housing tenants who will be ageing while living in social housing?</p> <p>REBECCA PINKSTONE: I'll take that on notice, that work, and if it's happening now.</p>	<p>I am advised: Homes NSW continues to review the waiting list tenant profile, including age, to ensure the social housing portfolio continues to meet the needs of residents and people on the waiting list.</p> <p>1) Regarding modelling on the ageing of tenants in social housing: Homes NSW is not currently conducting modelling on the ageing of tenants in social housing tenancies. The NSW Treasury in its Intergenerational Report 2021-22 notes that: "If the trends of the past four decades were to continue over the next four, the homeownership rate would decline from 66% today to 58% by 2060-61. Amongst those over 65 who have traditionally had very high home ownership rates, the home ownership rate would decline 10 percentage points to 70%. If those who retire without owning a home require social housing at a similar rate to today's retirees, this would increase demand for social housing by 68,000 households by 2060-61. Meeting this demand would cost an additional \$12.1 billion (real 2019-20 dollars) between 2020-21 and 2060-61 (Chart 3.12). There would also be consequences if this demand is not met, with those on the social housing waiting list typically experiencing acute housing stress." https://www.treasury.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2021-06/2021-22_nsw_intergenerational_report.pdf page 67</p> <p>2) Ages of people in NSW Social Housing tenancies At 30 June 2022, there were 96,559 social housing tenancy households managed by Homes NSW. 63,403 (66%) had at least one member of the household considered senior or elderly, including non-Aboriginal people aged 55 and over and Aboriginal people aged 45 and over.</p> <p>Attached is a breakdown of households by the oldest senior/elderly member of that household in Homes NSW tenancies as at 30 June 2022:</p> <p>3) Ages of People on the NSW Housing Register At 30 June 2022, there were 57,550 applicant households on the NSW Housing Register. 39,250 households (32%) had at least one member of the household considered senior or elderly, including non-Aboriginal people aged 55 and over, and Aboriginal people aged 45 and over.</p> <p>Attached is a breakdown of households by the oldest senior/elderly member of that household for the 57,550 households on the NSW Housing Register as at 30 June 2022:</p>
36	54	<p>The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Do you keep any data in terms of the age cohort of social housing tenants?</p> <p>REBECCA PINKSTONE: We do.</p> <p>The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: What is the data showing you at present?</p> <p>REBECCA PINKSTONE: It's showing us that our tenants are ageing over time in the properties. I can get you the exact percentage.</p> <p>The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: That would be great.</p> <p>REBECCA PINKSTONE: But it is growing, and it's a big focus for the agency in terms of accessible housing, obviously.</p>	<p>I am advised: Data on DCJ managed tenancies by the age of the household head, as at 30 June 2023 is available in the attachment.</p>
37	54	<p>The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Do you have data in terms of the waitlist as well and the age profiles on the waitlist?</p> <p>REBECCA PINKSTONE: Yes. We can get that data for you.</p>	<p>I am advised: Data on the NSW Housing Register by the age of the household head, as at 30 June 2023 is available in the attachment.</p>
38	55	<p>The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: How much will the maintenance hub cost to launch?</p> <p>REBECCA PINKSTONE: I'll take that on notice.</p>	<p>I am advised: \$8.6 million, noting there will be savings through reductions in costs for former maintenance contractors call centres (Source: Housing Portfolio)</p>
39	55	<p>The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: How many staff are there in existing call centres for social housing maintenance?</p> <p>REBECCA PINKSTONE: I'll take that on notice from the Housing Contact Centre</p> <p>The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: I have a range of other questions on this, but I think it's probably best to put them to you on notice as well.</p>	<p>I am advised: The maintenance call centres are managed externally under the current contract. Homes NSW does not hold this data. (This is the same answer provided for supplementary question 104). (Source: Housing Portfolio)</p>
40	56	<p>The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: I am interested in housing with mental health support. I think we had a brief discussion on that before, with the Haven indicated. When will that program be delivered, when it comes to the Haven?</p> <p>REBECCA PINKSTONE: We're aiming to have the contract with Haven signed by the end of this financial year. I can take that on notice as well and just get the overall time frames for delivery for you.</p> <p>The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: In terms of this program, what are the criteria and conditions for somebody to be eligible for this type of housing?</p> <p>REBECCA PINKSTONE: For the Haven program?</p> <p>The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Yes.</p> <p>REBECCA PINKSTONE: I can take that on notice for you.</p> <p>The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: I might put the rest of those on notice to you as well.</p>	<p>I am advised: The Haven Foundation supports people with stable housing. This means the housing becomes a person's long-term home, until they choose to move. To reside at the Haven Foundation, NSW social housing eligibility requirements will need to be met, along with a person having a psychosocial disability. (This is the same answer provided for supplementary question 112). (Source: Strategy and Policy)</p>

41	56	<p>The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: With respect to the expert housing panel, the tenure expired in December 2023. We had some discussion about this at the last budget estimates as well and it was indicated that the Minister was finalising her plans with respect to the expert housing panel within the Homes NSW environment. Has that panel now been renewed or is there something that is substituting this panel?</p> <p>REBECCA PINKSTONE: Work is underway to look at what the expert advisory panel will look like now that we have the whole agency established, including different components that have been brought over from other different agencies. That's underway at the moment.</p> <p>The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Is there a time line for that panel?</p> <p>REBECCA PINKSTONE: No, I don't have a time line for you at the moment. I'll take that on notice, if there has been something agreed.</p>	<p>I am advised: The term of the Expert Housing Advisory Panel expired in December 2023 and was not renewed. The Minister held a meeting with the panel members and wrote to them explaining her decision.</p>
42	56	<p>The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: In terms of Homes NSW, will it have a net zero target for its housing stock?</p> <p>REBECCA PINKSTONE: I'll take that on notice to see how it fits with our guidelines.</p> <p>The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: What's the number of new social housing dwellings constructed so far in this financial year?</p> <p>REBECCA PINKSTONE: We have an overall target of 750 and at the end of December, 180 have been completed.</p> <p>The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: I might ask the rest of these on notice, because I suspect you won't have the figures at hand.</p>	<p>I am advised: Homes NSW is committed to reducing carbon emissions by 50% by 2030 in accordance with the NSW Government's Net Zero Plan Stage 1:2020-2030.</p>
43	57	<p>The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Mr Cheroux, with respect to Sydney Water, again in terms of that housing piece, I've received quite a few concerns from hopeful residents of the Oxford Gardens development in Ingleburn specifically related to the approval process for a temporary pumping station and the issuance of a section 73 certificate by Sydney Water. They state that this has been going for four years, which has been delaying the development and impacting 80 families who've been associated with the development. Could you please provide any insights into the approval process at Sydney Water for the proposed temporary pumping station to support the Oxford Gardens development at Ingleburn?</p> <p>ROCH CHEROUX: I will take that on notice.</p>	<p>Please refer to answers to Supplementary Questions 61-64.</p>
44	57	<p>The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Can you take on notice as well when was the temporary pumping station proposal submitted by the developer, what has been the duration of Sydney Water's assessment and at which stage of the approval process does the proposal currently stand? Can you provide an estimated time line for the approval and the time line for the issuance of a section 73 certificate for that development as well?</p> <p>ROCH CHEROUX: I will take that on notice.</p>	<p>Please refer to answers to Supplementary Questions 61-64.</p>
45	57	<p>The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Ms Pinkstone, I might turn back to you with the minute we've got remaining. Did Homes NSW have any role—or its predecessors, I should say—in the identification of the TOD locations at all?</p> <p>REBECCA PINKSTONE: I'll take that on notice for you.</p>	<p>I am advised: Homes NSW had no role in the identification of the transport oriented development (TOD) locations.</p>
46	57	<p>The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: With respect to social housing tenants, on 31 December 2023 how many social housing tenants were there in New South Wales?</p> <p>REBECCA PINKSTONE: I have that for you.</p> <p>The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Or the closest figures you've got.</p> <p>REBECCA PINKSTONE: Let me come back to you in this session. I've got it here.</p> <p>The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Great, thank you.</p> <p>MICHAEL TIDBALL: I do have it.</p> <p>REBECCA PINKSTONE: You've got that?</p> <p>MICHAEL TIDBALL: Yes.</p> <p>The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Mr Tidball! There we are.</p> <p>MICHAEL TIDBALL: I've found my voice. I've had a very quiet day. I must say, it's been—</p> <p>The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Off the bench you come.</p> <p>The Hon. SARAH MITCHELL: We can fix that if you'd like; we're trying to share the love.</p> <p>MICHAEL TIDBALL: It's become quite stressful! I'm probably wrong, but my notes are 92,124.</p> <p>REBECCA PINKSTONE: Sounds good to me.</p>	<p>I am advised: This was answered within the session.</p>

47	60	<p>Ms CATE FAEHRMANN: Thank you. This morning the Minister indicated that 19 of the 20 water resource plans had been submitted to the MDBA. Is that correct?</p> <p>AMANDA JONES: That's correct. Eleven are accredited and nine are still in assessment. There is one to be—</p> <p>Ms CATE FAEHRMANN: Which is that one?</p> <p>AMANDA JONES: The one that is needing to be resubmitted is the Namoi surface water.</p> <p>Ms CATE FAEHRMANN: The Gwydir has gone in now—the Gwydir surface water?</p> <p>AMANDA JONES: The Gwydir alluvial.</p> <p>Ms CATE FAEHRMANN: That's part of the nine. When were they submitted? Are we expecting an outcome on them within the next few months in terms of that time line?</p> <p>AMANDA JONES: A number of the water resource plans have been with the MDBA for a period of time to be assessed. I can get you when everything went into the portal.</p> <p>Ms CATE FAEHRMANN: That would be very useful, thank you.</p> <p>AMANDA JONES: Yes, I can get you those dates and times, but it's not detail that I have here.</p>	<p>I am advised:</p> <p>There are currently eight WRPs with the Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) for assessment. This includes: the Gwydir Alluvium and Namoi Alluvium (submitted Dec 2022), Lachlan Surface Water, NSW Murray and Lower Darling Surface Water and NSW Border Rivers Surface Water (submitted Aug 2023), Macquarie-Castlereagh Surface Water (submitted Oct 2023), Barwon Darling Surface Water (submitted Dec 2023) and Gwydir Surface Water (submitted Feb 2024).</p> <p>The MDBA has previously advised that they anticipate the majority of these plans would progress to consideration of their Board by May 2024.</p> <p>Three plans – the Gwydir and Namoi Alluvium and Gwydir Surface Water plans are subject to ongoing discussion with the Australian Government in regard to the adequacy of the Part 14 Indigenous Values and Uses content. Ministerial conversations are currently progressing on the next steps for these plans.</p>
48	62	<p>The Hon. SARAH MITCHELL: Thank you, Chair. The first question is to Sydney Water. I wondered if there was an update on the WaterFix program that was doing the water efficiency audits and also discounted fittings and installations. Do you have any figures in terms of how many consumers took part in that and got that tangible water-saving hardware delivered?</p> <p>ROCH CHEROUX: Yes. I will find the numbers and get back to you.</p>	<p>I am advised:</p> <p>In 2022/23, 9515 customers made appointments for the WaterFix Residential program.</p>
49	62	<p>The Hon. SARAH MITCHELL: Both Hunter Water and Sydney Water piloted, over 2022 and 2023, some inefficient washing machine replacements for social housing tenants, a pool cover rebate and also a Hydraloop trial for re-using grey water. I'm wondering if there were any outcomes from those pilots that you could share with the Committee.</p> <p>ROCH CHEROUX: I was going to mention the Hydraloop. The Hydraloop trial is still continuing. We've got a number of devices that have been installed—in small developments usually—and the trial is continuing.</p> <p>The Hon. SARAH MITCHELL: Is there anything from Hunter Water on those?</p> <p>DARREN CLEARY: We're not participating in the Hydraloop. We are obviously closely watching the outcome from Sydney with the washing machine rebate. That program has been implemented. I can take the number of rebates provided and installed on notice.</p> <p>The Hon. SARAH MITCHELL: That would be great. The pool cover rebate—has anyone got any data on that? I'm happy for you to take it on notice.</p> <p>DARREN CLEARY: With Hunter Water, we didn't have a pool cover rebate. It was the washing machine rebate only.</p> <p>The Hon. SARAH MITCHELL: For Sydney Water?</p> <p>ROCH CHEROUX: Same.</p> <p>The Hon. SARAH MITCHELL: Same thing? On notice? Fantastic. I've only got 25 seconds. I will wait because I want to get on to regional water and it is going to take a bit longer than 20 seconds.</p>	<p>I am advised:</p> <p>Pool Cover Rebates: This service was discontinued in October 2022, and is no longer available for Sydney Water customers. 163 applicants received a rebate at a total cost of \$32,600 (\$200 per customer).</p> <p>Washing Machine Rebates: The residential washing machine replacement program was a partnership between the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE), NSW Treasury, Sydney Water Corporation, Hunter Water Corporation, Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) and the Aboriginal Housing Office (AHO) with support from community housing providers, community service providers and Councils. Participants in the trial were able to replace inefficient top loaders with energy and water efficient front loaders helping them save money on water, electricity and detergent. A total of 4,899 washing machines were replaced across the state between mid April to 1 August 2022. The program saved on average 6 – 25 kilolitres per year per machine for participants, equating to a potential water saving of 122 million litres/year</p> <p>The cost of the trial in Hunter Water's area of operations was \$320,000, with 500 households participating.</p> <p>The service offering delivery method has been assessed by Sydney Water and discussions with the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) are ongoing. DCCEEW is currently exploring funding options to extend the NSW Water Efficiency Program. If funding is approved, the washing machine replacement program is planned to be refined and implemented.</p>
50	64	<p>The Hon. SARAH MITCHELL: In terms of how long from that business case being finalised until a decision would be made on the various elements within that project, or within that scheme, I should say—any time frames on that, that the department would work towards?</p> <p>AMANDA JONES: We will make recommendations, and I think it's fair to say that it will depend on funding availability.</p> <p>The Hon. SARAH MITCHELL: Who is undertaking that business case work?</p> <p>AMANDA JONES: The department.</p> <p>The Hon. SARAH MITCHELL: So it's all internal; there are no external contractors working on those?</p> <p>AMANDA JONES: Well, I'm sure that we will need to employ consultants for particular facets of the work, but it will be led by the department.</p> <p>The Hon. SARAH MITCHELL: I'm happy for you to take it on notice at the moment, and obviously I appreciate that this has just been announced today, but are there currently any contractors working on the business cases, or not at this point in time?</p> <p>AMANDA JONES: I don't—</p> <p>The Hon. SARAH MITCHELL: I'm happy for you to take it on notice.</p> <p>AMANDA JONES: There were previous business cases that were started, but the projects were rescoped as there was more identified in the regional strategy work, and that's why there's new funding. We're looking at more options in these cases, yes.</p>	<p>I am advised:</p> <p>No contractors are currently engaged on the Belubula Water Security Project Final Business Case.</p>

51	65	<p>The Hon. SARAH MITCHELL: In terms of the outcomes from the October-November community consultation, is that something that gets released publicly by your agency?</p> <p>AMANDA JONES: Yes, there should be a "What we heard" report available. There would be a feedback report about that consultation.</p> <p>The Hon. SARAH MITCHELL: And that's publicly available?</p> <p>AMANDA JONES: I'll double-check but it should be on our website.</p>	<p>I am advised:</p> <p>In October and November 2023, the department undertook consultation with targeted stakeholders on baseline hydrological modelling and resulting proposed regional challenges that the NSW Murray and Murrumbidgee Regional Water Strategies will address.</p> <p>A community consultation outcomes report is being prepared. It is the department's intention to publish that report at the same time that community consultation begins on the draft actions in May 2024.</p>
52	71	<p>Ms CATE FAEHRMANN: Do you know how many contractors or staff are being employed from Arup and Aurecon?</p> <p>ROCH CHEROUX: I'll take that on notice. That's a difficult one because it varies, depending on the projects that we've got ongoing.</p>	<p>I am advised:</p> <p>The Strategic Planning Partner agreement with Aurecon and Arup commenced on 7 January 2019, for a period of up to 10 years. Sydney Water may terminate the contract or any part of the performance of the Planning Services for convenience or breach. Sydney Water does not employ any contractors/staff from Arup and Aurecon. Arup and Aurecon are currently contracted to provide 112 FTE to supplement Sydney Water's team, to plan its capital program over the next 10 years.</p>
53	73	<p>The Hon. SARAH MITCHELL: The Cold Water Pollution Strategy that's talked about, particularly with regards to the Better Bidgee program—are there any updates you could provide on the development? Have any funding or resources been allocated to help the development of that strategy?</p> <p>AMANDA JONES: No, I can't update that at the moment. Do you mean part of the SDLAM projects?</p> <p>The Hon. SARAH MITCHELL: Yes. My understanding is that there has been an indication that there will be some work done for cold water pollution, particularly in the Better Bidgee. I've seen it on the website, so I was just curious about that. I'm happy for you to take it on notice. It's quite specific.</p> <p>AMANDA JONES: Yes, I will.</p>	<p>I am advised:</p> <p>The Better Bidgee Program is currently unfunded. The NSW Government continues to discuss funding opportunities with the Australian Government to progress this important work. Concurrently, NSW Fisheries are progressing with the development of a state wide Coldwater Pollution Strategy. The detailed questions regarding this work should be directed to the responsible Minister, the Hon. Tanya Moriarty MLC.</p>
54	74	<p>The Hon. NATASHA MACLAREN-JONES: And then, in relation to the 187.5 that the Australian Government provided to States and Territories through national partnership payments for housing and essential services and remote housing programs, how much was set aside for New South Wales?</p> <p>ANNE CAMPBELL: I'd need to take that on notice. I don't think we get much on remote housing in New South Wales. There used to be what was called the NPARI many years ago, but about eight years ago or nine years ago New South Wales cashed out on that and that went into the Murdi Paaki agreement that was signed by the then Government.</p>	<p>I am advised:</p> <p>There is no Commonwealth funding for remote housing. The National Partnership on Remote Indigenous Housing (NPARIH) used to exist. When it ceased in 2018, NSW put the remaining \$15 million towards the binding undertaking (Murdi Paaki Local Decision Making Accord) for NSW. The Murdi Paaki Regional Assembly work together to improve outcomes for Aboriginal people in the Murdi Paaki Region and the Region established the Regional Aboriginal Housing Leadership Assembly.</p>
55	75	<p>The Hon. NATASHA MACLAREN-JONES: You mentioned you are talking with Healthscope about the additional funding, the \$4.5 million. Will there be broader consultation with the community and particularly with the local members of Parliament, State and Federal?</p> <p>DEB WILLCOX: The consultation at the moment is actually with the local health district, just to look at and work in, because they have the contract with Northern Beaches Hospital. There will be a joined-up discussion to see just what would be a helpful and useful use of those additional funds. In terms of consultation, there has been a fair amount of consultation with the community around the child and adolescent services. It's obviously a big issue for the community up there in the northern beaches. Certainly, if there is going to be further investment around the capital, we would be very happy to engage with the community and the youth up there who engage with the mental health service.</p> <p>The Hon. NATASHA MACLAREN-JONES: You said that there's been consultation—that it has occurred. Is that in the past 12 months, in relation to this recent decision?</p> <p>DEB WILLCOX: Yes. I haven't been directly involved in it, but the local health district has. I would have to take on notice, in terms of Minister Jackson has some engagement with members of Parliament and some families who had a direct interest.</p> <p>The Hon. NATASHA MACLAREN-JONES: If you can also take on notice who organised that consultation and why the State Liberal members were not consulted or invited to be part of that consultation process.</p> <p>DEB WILLCOX: I'm certainly happy to do that.</p>	<p>I am advised:</p> <p>A 2024 Northern Beaches Roundtable will be held to explore the mental health needs of young people living on the Northern Beaches.</p> <p>Northern Sydney Local Health District will lead the establishment of the Roundtable and will ensure key government and non-government partners and relevant stakeholders including Members of Parliament will be invited to participate.</p>
56	75	<p>The Hon. NATASHA MACLAREN-JONES: In relation to the Eurobodalla family practice, which is one of the specialist homelessness providers in the area, in response to a question that was given we were advised that their funding is until 30 June this year. What has been put in place to ensure that they have additional funding moving forward?</p> <p>ANNE CAMPBELL: I'll need to take that on notice.</p>	<p>I am advised:</p> <p>The Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS) contract for the service provider The Family Place Inc located in Moruya has been extended for an additional two years from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2026 as per the Minister's announcement in May 2023. DCJ are currently planning for new SHS five-year contracts to commence 1 July 2026.</p>

57	75	<p>The Hon. NATASHA MACLAREN-JONES: My final question is in relation to the Together Home program. This morning the Minister didn't commit to extending the funding. I'm just wondering what the process would be to engage with the sector moving forward, considering there is some concern that the program won't continue from 1 July.</p> <p>ANNE CAMPBELL: Look, we're actively engaging with the sector. Obviously, we are going through a budget process at the moment. We will want to be able to notify those services as soon as possible, as well as the people that are impacted by it. But I know the Minister is very keenly advocating for that program.</p> <p>The Hon. NATASHA MACLAREN-JONES: Is there a time frame of when the providers will know?</p> <p>ANNE CAMPBELL: Not at this stage, but happy to see if we can provide that on notice.</p>	<p>I am advised:</p> <p>Clients in the Together Home program are eligible for 2 years of support from the date of commencement. The most recent commencements into the Together Home program were in December 2023. Tranche 3 extension funding was paid to Community Housing Providers for additional lease and support funding to the end of the 2025-2026 Financial Year.</p> <p>Any future funding for the Together Home Program would be allocated as part of a budget process. Providers will be advised about the outcome of future Together Home Program funding decisions as soon as this information is available.</p>
58	76	<p>The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Does Homes NSW have first dibs, so to speak, in terms of any site identification?</p> <p>REBECCA PINKSTONE: We're certainly involved in the process and we are putting forward our views strongly around the suitability of those sites for social and affordable housing.</p> <p>The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Further to that, with respect to the transport oriented development sites, does Homes NSW, across those 31 precincts that are covered by the TOD SEPP, have any properties within those precincts?</p> <p>REBECCA PINKSTONE: I'll take that on notice for you.</p> <p>The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: And if you could also take on notice whether you've had any assessments as to what are potential plans for those properties within those 31 precincts, that would be appreciated. That's probably it from me. Sarah, have you got anything?</p>	<p>I am advised:</p> <p>Approx. 2,290 social homes are located in the 39 TOD program locations including the 31 transport hubs that are covered by the TOD SEPP.</p> <p>Homes NSW has mapped the proposed transport oriented development (TOD) program sites and has commenced a detailed analysis to understand the potential to provide additional housing.</p> <p>Homes NSW is working through the proposed planning changes envisaged in the TOD program and analysing the impact on assets. Homes NSW will continue to undertake testing of key sites to understand the potential uplift resulting from the program.</p> <p>Homes NSW will also look to use existing Homes NSW land to increase social housing in proposed TOD locations.</p>
59	76	<p>The Hon. NATASHA MACLAREN-JONES: I have a question. The Mental Health Consumer Subcommittee—is that still in operation?</p> <p>BRENDAN FLYNN: It is. But I should explain that there are numerous consumer committees that the branch works with. You may be referring—and I'm happy to be corrected—to a group that has not met for some time, that we are keen to refresh and have as an advisory group to the branch for all of our policy pieces. We do have separate consumer advisory groups for safeguards. We have got a younger persons advisory group. We've got multiple ones that are, if you like, program based. But we do want to renew and refresh the branch-based one that, as I understand, has not met for some time.</p> <p>The Hon. NATASHA MACLAREN-JONES: Can I get a list of all of the consumer subcommittees that you were referring to?</p> <p>BRENDAN FLYNN: Yes.</p>	<p>I'm advised:</p> <p>The NSW Ministry of Health works with the following consumer committees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental Health Consumer Subcommittee (currently under review) • Pathways to Community Living Steering Committee • Pathways to Community Living Peer Workers Network • Housing and Mental Health Agreement 2022 Lived Experience Committee • NSW Health – Mental Health Youth Advisory Group • NSW Consumer Peer Workforce Committee
60	77	<p>Ms CATE FAEHRMANN: Just with time, I will move on. Thanks for that response. Is there an update in relation to the potential Pooncarie Weir? I understand the community requires the security of that for town water when the next drought hits and certainly wants an update on that, as they don't want to run out of water again during the next drought. Ms Jones, have you got an update on that?</p> <p>AMANDA JONES: I don't have an update on that, but I'm happy to take that on notice.</p>	<p>I am advised:</p> <p>Investigations into upgrading the Pooncarie Weir were included as part of the Strategic Business Case for the Western Weirs project, which explored the feasibility of holistically managing and operating the 28 weirs along the Barwon-Darling and Lower Darling Rivers, including adjoining tributaries. The Western Weirs project is now part of the Better Baaka Program, which is currently unfunded. The NSW Government continues to discuss funding opportunities with the Australian Government to progress this important work.</p>
61	77	<p>Ms CATE FAEHRMANN: While we're talking about weirs, I understand the Government has received Commonwealth funding for consultation on a fish passage on the main weir at Menindee. Is that correct?</p> <p>AMANDA JONES: I'm not aware of a fish—we'd certainly welcome fishways in that section of the river. Yesterday it was announced that we have an additional \$112 million to continue with the SDLAM projects that we have, so that brings that total up to \$446 million for those works.</p> <p>Ms CATE FAEHRMANN: Okay. I'll get some clarity on that and put those on notice. I was under the assumption it was funding for consultation for that main weir, so I'll get back to you about that.</p>	<p>I am advised that the business case for the Menindee weir fish passage is being led by the Department of Primary Industries – Fisheries, which is a matter for the Minister for Agriculture.</p>

62	78	<p>Ms CATE FAEHRMANN: For companies such as Peabody to provide data around exactly what's happening with water in the catchment as a result of their activities, where does that sit?</p> <p>AMANDA JONES: If that was a requirement of a planning approval, then Planning would put that requirement onto the approval. But—</p> <p>Ms CATE FAEHRMANN: It's not a requirement. I think the question was whether that was happening as a result of those chief scientist recommendations quite some time ago now.</p> <p>AMANDA JONES: Are you aware, Andrew?</p> <p>ANDREW GEORGE: I don't have a specific update in front of me today.</p> <p>AMANDA JONES: We could take that on notice, Ms Faehrmann.</p>	<p>I am advised:</p> <p>Peabody's Metropolitan Coal underground coal mine operates under a State Significant Development Consent and Environmental Protection Licence which require them to monitor and report water data within the catchment of the mine. A catchment monitoring program has been prepared and is in operation by Metropolitan Coal in accordance with the conditions of approval.</p> <p>Metropolitan Coal is required to prepare and publish an annual review that reports on surface water flows, pool water levels, stream and groundwater quality, and deep and shallow groundwater levels. Water quality at key locations is also reported in real-time on their website.</p> <p>Metropolitan Coal holds water access licences in both surface and groundwater sources authorising access to water taken due to operations. A water balance and net take of water is measured daily and reported in the annual review.</p> <p>Peabody's water management and monitoring is set out in a water management plan which is published on its website.</p> <p>In addition, the NSW government undertakes monitoring in the Sydney drinking water catchment including from groundwater monitoring bores installed in 2019, two of which are adjacent to Woronora Dam.</p> <p>Progress on the actions implemented by the Independent Expert Panel for Mining in Catchment (IEPMC) is recorded at https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2023-03/mining-in-the-catchment-action-plan.pdf</p>
63	79	<p>Ms CATE FAEHRMANN: The Floodplain Harvesting Action Plan quarterly progress reports for Q3 and Q4 last year don't seem to be on the website—don't seem to be online. Is there a reason for that?</p> <p>AMANDA JONES: I'm not aware so I'll take that on notice.</p>	<p>I am advised:</p> <p>The department is currently finalising both the Q3 and Q4 reports for publishing. The department will review the process for updating these reports to facilitate timely publishing in the future.</p>
64	81	<p>AMANDA JONES: You asked about when we had submitted the water resource plans to the Murray-Darling Basin Authority. December 2022 was the Gwydir alluvial and Namoi alluvial groundwater plans. August 2023—</p> <p>Ms CATE FAEHRMANN: Ms Jones, I might just get you submit that on notice.</p> <p>AMANDA JONES: Okay.</p> <p>Ms CATE FAEHRMANN: If it's data like that, it is probably easier.</p> <p>AMANDA JONES: Absolutely. The other thing I wanted to come back to: You asked about the economic analysis for the value of floodplain harvested water. While we don't have enough data to really do market analysis, because not all licences are in place and there aren't trades that we can look at, but we did undertake an economic evaluation in October 2021, and it is on our website. It is called the NSW Floodplain harvesting economic analysis. It looked at the value of floodplain harvested water as a modelled value. The median value before reform—so the value of the water—was \$873 million. The reduction from making the reform—that is constraining take—is \$126 million, but that report is on the website. This is looking at a present value over 10 years. I also think I might have misspoke, if that is a correct terminology. With regard to the Namoi unreg floodplain harvesting, the model applies to the regulated river, but it's a methodology that's applied to the unreg. This is for the Namoi. The methodology is actually set out in clause 23D of the reg. It is basically that the unreg floodplain harvesting amount is calculated through a method using a specific crop area of the licensee and then the existing unreg and groundwater entitlements. So we take into account the existing groundwater entitlements as well as the unreg entitlements, and we take away the amount of crop area and the water take required to have a yield from that crop area. It is a reasonably conservative methodology, but that is how we identify the shares and take for the unreg.</p>	<p>I refer to the answer to Question 13.</p>

Question on Notice 8

JULY 2022 - JUNE 2023 Client Service Officer Entries and Exits (Head Count)				
	Q1 Monthly Avg	Q2 Monthly Avg	Q3 Monthly Avg	Q4 Monthly Avg
Entries	20	13	10	25
Exits	12	13	17	11

JULY 2022 - JUNE 2023 Client Service Officer Entries and Exits (Full Time Equivalent)				
	Q1 Monthly Avg	Q2 Monthly Avg	Q3 Monthly Avg	Q4 Monthly Avg
Entries	13.8	9.1	5.1	16.9
Exits	3.6	3.3	6.7	3.9

Source: ONE SAP

Question on Notice 38

Below is a breakdown of households by the oldest senior/elderly member of that household in Homes NSW tenancies as at 30 June 2022:

Age group	Number of households	Percentage of total
Aboriginal elderly - 55 and over	3,404	3.52%
Aboriginal seniors - 45 to 54	2,528	2.62%
No senior/elderly household members	33,196	34.36%
Non-Aboriginal elderly - 80 and over	9,434	9.77%
Non-Aboriginal seniors - 55 to 79	48,037	49.73%

Note: data capturing these figures at 30 June 2023 will be published in May 2024.

Below is a breakdown of households by the oldest senior/elderly member of that household for the 57,550 households on the NSW Housing Register as at 30 June 2022:

Age group	Number of households	Percentage of total
Aboriginal elderly - 55 and over	589	1.02%
Aboriginal seniors - 45 to 54	1038	1.80%
Non-Aboriginal elderly - 80 and over	1489	2.59%
Non-Aboriginal seniors - 55 to 79	15184	26.38%
No senior/elderly household members	39250	68.20%

Note: data capturing these figures at 30 June 2023 will be published in May 2024.

(Source: Strategy and Policy)

Question on Notice 39

DCJ managed tenancies by age of the household head

as at 30 June 23	Public Housing		AHO		TOTAL	
Age Group	#	%	#	%	#	%
Under 18 years	46	0.00%	4	0.10%	50	0.10%
18-24 years	1,556	1.70%	129	3.60%	1,685	1.80%
25-54 years	34,088	37.00%	2,208	61.30%	36,296	37.90%
55 years and over	56,433	61.30%	1,263	35.00%	57,696	60.30%
Age missing	1				1	
TOTAL	92,124		3,604		95,728	

Data Source: HOMES/EDW as at 30 June 2023.

Question on Notice 40

NSW Housing Register by age of the household head

as at 30 June 23	Priority		General		TOTAL	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Under 18 years	18	0.20%	130	0.30%	148	0.30%
18-24 years	463	6.10%	5,207	10.80%	5,670	10.10%
25-54 years	4,641	61.30%	29,093	60.20%	33,734	60.40%
55 years and over	2,451	32.40%	13,877	28.70%	16,328	29.20%
TOTAL	7,573		48,307		55,880	

Data Source: HOMES/EDW as at 30 June 2023.