

ANSWERS TO SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS

- 1. What role did you and ALP Head Office play in organising the phone banking in the NSW election campaign for the seat of Oatley by people from the group, Asian Women at Work? How many people were involved and for each of them, how many hours of phone banking did they complete?**

I was not involved in this campaign activity, and have no knowledge of this campaign activity, other than what has been reported in the media and presented as evidence during this inquiry.

- 2. What a special list of phone banking targets/recipients compiled for use by Asian women? What are the details?**

Refer to answer to question 1.

- 3. Who put you and the party office in contact with this group and said they were available for phone banking? When did this occur?**

Refer to answer to question 1.

- 4. What other ALP campaign assistance did the members of the Asian Women at Work (AWAW) group provide?**

Refer to answer to question 1.

- 5. What discussions did any members of the AWAW group have with you, or to your knowledge, other candidates and organisers of the ALP campaign, about their funding needs in providing their service? What are the details?**

I have not had any discussions with members of the AWAW group.

I am not aware of what, if any, discussions have taken place between the AWAW group and other NSW Labor candidates and campaign organisers.

- 6. What discussions did you have with the ALP candidate for Oatley or her campaign team about the funding needs of AWAW?**

None.

- 7. Did you suggest to the ALP candidate in Oatley that the AWAW could receive LSCA funding?**

No.

- 8. Normally when a party develops a new policy they launch it and seek maximum MSM and social media coverage. What did Labor do in this regard for the LSCA? What are the details?**

This was a matter for local candidates and their campaign teams, and as I understand, any local commitment announcement required approval from the Leader's Office. I was not involved in these processes.

- 9. So too, local ALP candidates would normally seek publicity in their electorates, announcing the program and seeking applications for grants through local and social media. Are you aware of any Labor candidate who did this in the lead up to the 2023 election? What are the details?**

Refer to answer to Question 8.

- 10. What instructions did a) Labor Head Office and b) the then Opposition frontbench give to Labor's 93 candidates regarding i) publicity for the new LSCA program, ii) inviting grant applications and iii) contacting possible funding recipients directly in their electorates?**

Information was distributed to candidates and campaigns on behalf of the Parliamentary Party via NSW Labor Campaign Bulletins. I understand that an online briefing was also provided for candidates/campaign teams by relevant members and/or staff of the Parliamentary Party.

- 11. The Member for Balmain gave evidence to the Committee that she only found out by accident the existence of the LSCA, that there had been no public promotion of it by the ALP? Why was Labor trying to hide the program from the media and broader public attention, instead of the usual practice of promoting the new policy initiatives of the parliamentary party?**

I, respectfully, do not accept the premise of this question and refer to the answer to Question 8 and to the evidence of the former Labor candidate for Balmain and her volunteer campaign manager.

- 12. Could you please provide a copy of the communications that went out to Labor candidates regarding the scheme now known as the Local Small Commitments Allocation?**

See attached.

- 13. Ms Boyd MLC asked you on four separate occasions to identify whether Labor head office has a copy of the list of commitments made under the scheme now known as the Local Small Commitments Allocation. Can you confirm that you do not, or any member of Labor head office does not, have a copy of the list of commitments?**

I confirm that I do not have a copy of the list of commitments, and I am not aware of any other staff member of the NSW Labor Party Office who has a copy of the list of commitments.

Regarding former employees, as was discussed in evidence (see page 6 of the transcript), I understand that NSW Labor Campaign Organisers were notified of approved commitments for their specific seats, but I am not aware of any Campaign Organiser who received a copy of the list of commitments for all 93 seats.

14. Can you confirm that Labor head office has never provided a copy of the list of final projects under the scheme now known as the Local Small Commitments allocation to Cherie Burton?

I confirm that I have never provided such a list to anyone in the government, and I refer to my opening statement to the inquiry: "I have never provided a list of these local commitments to anyone in the Government. I'm also very confident that no staff member of the party office has ever provided such a list, because any such communication, engagement or request would have had to be done through me, and that has never happened."

a. If not, why not?

The NSW Labor Party Office was not responsible for approving or tracking local commitments during the election campaign and has had no role in the implementation of these local commitments after the election campaign.

15. Were you briefed upon becoming General Secretary on the Local Small Commitments program?

No.

a. What form did the briefing /s take?

Refer to previous answer.

b. From whom did you receive the briefing/s?

Refer to previous answer.

16. Did you provide anything whatsoever to the Premier's Office or the Premier's Department regarding the program?

No.

a. Have they ever sought any information from you regarding the program?

No.

i. If so, what information were they seeking?

Refer to previous answer.