

Responses to Questions taken on Notice

Minister Chanthivong

Budget Estimates

Hearing Date – Monday 25 August 2025

Question from (page 4-5)

The Hon. MARK LATHAM: I wanted to take you to a series of questions about Ivan Milat, given he was a long-time inmate of the corrections system in New South Wales and died in Long Bay jail in 2019. For many months either side of 11 January 1965—the day of infamy at Wanda Beach—Milat was in the Penrith prison. I think it's now the Emu Plains Correctional Centre. It was depicted to the Premier, as he took amazing interest in this matter, that the centre at Penrith at that time was a holiday camp. Was that true?

Mr ANOULACK CHANTHIVONG: That also well precedes my time. I might have to ask the department to provide further information on the use of that facility but, at the moment, it is the Emu Plains Correctional Centre.

The Hon. MARK LATHAM: What was the status of this Penrith facility in 1965, given Milat was in there? The inference from Buckingham has been it was a holiday camp, a walk-in walk-out facility. Is that right?

GARY McCAHON: I'll have to take that on notice to look back in the facility and the operations of the facility back—

The Hon. MARK LATHAM: Generally, would you agree that in the 1960s internment and incarceration standards at these facilities were a fair bit tougher than they are today?

GARY McCAHON: I think the facilities have changed significantly since 1965, but I'm happy to take that on notice.

The Hon. MARK LATHAM: Minister, are you surprised the Premier entertained this stuff given that, obviously, once Milat was done for the Belanglo murders, the police professionals in New South Wales would've worked backwards in his chronology every single step of the way? You would have known Superintendent Clive Small, wouldn't you, from Campbelltown?

Mr ANOULACK CHANTHIVONG: I remember Superintendent Clive Small. Certainly, I think he was quite the commentator during that particular period. I think he might have been based around—I think he did a book as well.

The Hon. MARK LATHAM: He broke the case about Belanglo, and Clive Small enjoyed publicity as much as Gary Jubelin.

Mr ANOULACK CHANTHIVONG: I think he wrote a book as well. Is that right?

The Hon. MARK LATHAM: Yes. Very high profile. Do you think, if Clive Small had evidence that Milat was involved in the Wanda Beach murders, that he would've kept that secret?

Mr ANOULACK CHANTHIVONG: I have to take that on notice, Mr Latham. I'm not too well-versed in that particular—

Answer

I am advised:

Refer to answer to Question on Notice 4356.

It would be inappropriate for me to provide a personal opinion on Mr Small's conduct.

Question from (page 7)

The Hon. MARK LATHAM: Will you check the prison records at Penrith regarding his incarceration during the period of the Wanda Beach murders? Could you give us on notice a full list of all the incarcerations of Milat, which I'm sure will rule out a large number of these allegations that have been made by our answer to Patrick Bateman?

Mr ANOULACK CHANTHIVONG: I think all requests for departmental information will go through the proper processes.

Answer

I am advised:

Date imposed	Commence	Offences	Term	Expiry	Location/s
28/10/1964	25/7/1964	Break & enter a shop and steal x 2	18m	24/01/1966	State Penitentiary, Long Bay
28/10/1964	6/11/1965	Break & enter a shop & steal	2y	5/11/1967	15/1/1965 – Emu Plains 28/2/1966 – State Penitentiary Long Bay 18/3/1966 Glen Innes 14/9/1967 Bathurst
8/12/1967	13/10/1967	Accessory after fact larceny	3y	12/10/1970	Bathurst*
26/2/1998	22/05/1994	Murder x 7	Life	n/a	Multiple
26/02/1998	22/05/1994	Abduction Murder	NSW fixed sentence, 6 y	21/05/2000	Multiple

*historical records unable to be located within the timeframe to determine housing locations following Bathurst in 1967/70

Question from (page 13)

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: Minister, earlier this year Investment NSW hosted the trade and international directors from its global network for an intensive week-long program in Sydney. Did you attend?

Mr ANOULACK CHANTHIVONG: Yes. The Hon.

JACQUI MUNRO: How much did this cost per attendee?

Mr ANOULACK CHANTHIVONG: Per attendee, I don't know, but I understand that it's a great way to bring all our investment directors together, because some of these meetings you can't do online. It's important to share the ideas and share some of the challenges. In terms of the exact cost, I'll defer to the deputy secretary.

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: We'll just take that on notice or I can raise that later today, thank you. Can you or someone please tell me why this post from Investment NSW on LinkedIn was deleted? If I can ask the secretariat to share this. We don't have much time but I'll just let you know it's been deleted. Rebecca Ball is pictured in that post. What is her role at Investment NSW?

Mr ANOULACK CHANTHIVONG: All arrangements with employees regarding Investment NSW is a matter for the deputy secretary, so I might defer to the deputy secretary to make those comments.

Answer

I am advised:

Information on departmental travel is published in annual departmental reports.

Question from (page 13)

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: Minister, how many New South Wales trade commissioner positions remain vacant across the six priority markets?

Mr ANOULACK CHANTHIVONG: As I said, all employee arrangements for trade and investment commissioners are a matter for the deputy secretary. But I understand that it's only the South-East Asia one that's currently being recruited. Is that correct?

REBECCA McPHEE: No. We're currently recruiting for the Greater China and South-East Asia trade and investment commissioner roles.

Mr ANOULACK CHANTHIVONG: But somebody is in their role.

REBECCA McPHEE: We're also in the recruitment for an associate director for the London and Europe office.

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: How long have these been vacant?

REBECCA McPHEE: I'll have to take that question on notice, thank you. Sorry—the trade and investment commissioner roles have been vacant since April. I'll have to take on notice the other role.

Answer

I am advised:

The Associate Director, Trade and Investment, UK & Europe role has been filled.

Question from (page 19)

The Hon. AILEEN MacDONALD: Minister, can you confirm how many correctional centres across the State have had to implement full lockdowns in 2025 due to staff shortages?

Mr ANOULACK CHANTHIVONG: I'll have to take that question on notice. But certainly, from the department's point of view, we try to maximise out-of-cell time for inmates as appropriate.

Answer

I am advised:

19.

Question from (page 20)

The Hon. AILEEN MacDONALD: If he is unable to provide an answer, I will move on to the next one, to do with, again, in-centre lockdowns and partial lockdowns. In some of those centres or prisons, we have mental health units and support services. Minister, when the Mental Health Screening Unit and the step-down unit are locked down—these are essential services—psychiatric care, therapeutic intervention and assessments are cancelled. Do you know how many service hours have been lost this year due to lockdowns?

Mr ANOULACK CHANTHIVONG: That is a very specific question. I am happy to take that on notice, or I can ask the commissioner to further provide advice.

Answer

I am advised:

The data is not recorded or aggregated in the categories requested.

Question from (page 22)

The Hon. AILEEN MacDONALD: How long would you say is the median time that a person on remand is held in custody?

Mr ANOULACK CHANTHIVONG: I'd have to take that on notice. That is depending on the courts and when their trial can be actually set up.

Answer

I am advised:

Remand statistics are available via the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research website - <https://bocsar.nsw.gov.au/>.

Question from (page 23)

The Hon. AILEEN MacDONALD: I might ask in the afternoon, if that's okay. I now turn to the Junee Correctional Centre. Can you provide the current staff to inmate ratio at the Junee Correctional Centre?

Mr ANOULACK CHANTHIVONG: I'll take that on notice because it's a very specific number. All our frontline officers who were employed prior to coming into Corrections were offered positions. I understand that the vast majority have taken up that offer.

Answer

I am advised:

This question was answered at page 65 of the hearing transcript.

Question from (28)

The Hon. TANIA MIHAILUK: I'm just wanting to know, of the percentage of new dwellings that are entering—and it may be something you take on notice—what percentage of new dwellings are entering the rental market rather than owner occupation?

Mr ANOULACK CHANTHIVONG: I'll have to take that on notice. That's a very specific question.

Answer

I am advised: NSW Fair Trading does not currently hold this data.

Question from (38)

The Hon. ROD ROBERTS: Do you accept that your recent amendments or legislative changes, such as the Strata Schemes Legislation Amendment Bill 2024, impact strata managers and owners and put a financial cost on both? Have you modelled in any way what the increased cost will be as a result of these changes to both strata managers and owners?

Mr ANOULACK CHANTHIVONG: As I said, we'll continue to monitor the impact of the legislative reforms in strata. But, fundamentally, the Government wants to do reform in strata that is fit for purpose, given there are over 87,000 schemes, which you'd be well aware of, and over a million people—and more will be living in strata. I think front-footing reform is important. In terms of implementation, that is something the department, through the Strata and Property Services Commissioner, will be tasked with monitoring and whether any changes will be required if there are unintended consequences.

The Hon. ROD ROBERTS: Yes, all well and good. You've already introduced this legislation, though. Did you do any modelling before you introduced it?

Mr ANOULACK CHANTHIVONG: That would be part of the assessment and the consultation process.

The Hon. ROD ROBERTS: It won't be part of it. You've either done it before you've introduced it or you haven't. It's a very simple question, Minister. Did you do any modelling on the impact to strata managers and owners before you introduced the amendment bill in 2024? It is not about what

you're going to be doing ongoing. Sure, you'll be monitoring. I encourage you and implore you to continue to monitor. Did you do anything in relation to financial impact before you introduced it?

Mr ANOULACK CHANTHIVONG: In specific of the reforms in the owners corporation—

The Hon. ROD ROBERTS: Yes.

Mr ANOULACK CHANTHIVONG: I think that would certainly have been part of the analysis process. I'm happy to ask—

The Hon. ROD ROBERTS: Did you do it or not?

Mr ANOULACK CHANTHIVONG: As I said, I might defer to the—

The Hon. ROD ROBERTS: No, I don't want to listen to him. You're the Minister. Have you looked at the Westminster system? You're in charge. Everybody else is under you. Did you do any financial modelling on the impacts that this will have before you introduced it?

Mr ANOULACK CHANTHIVONG: As part of the legislation that the Government approves, the regulatory impact statement would have been analysed as part of the decision-making process. That includes the cost of regulation.

The Hon. ROD ROBERTS: So you did?

Mr ANOULACK CHANTHIVONG: I would have thought so, but I'm happy to take that on notice and get back to you if you like.

The Hon. ROD ROBERTS: What communication, then have you passed on to owners in strata complexes about the cost to them and why this cost will be incurred? Nobody says your legislation was bad. You've tightened some things up, but incoming with that is cost. Have you written to strata owners and said, "Listen, there is going to be some increase in your fees here that your strata managers are going to charge you because they've had to implement new processes"? Have you explained that to anybody anywhere?

Mr ANOULACK CHANTHIVONG: That's why we allocated \$8.4 million to the property and strata taskforce to implement the Government's reforms. This would include communication with the stakeholders that are involved in the Government's reforms.

The Hon. ROD ROBERTS: How about you take it on notice, then, and show me communication you've had with strata owners about the increasing cost.

Mr ANOULACK CHANTHIVONG: Sure. Happy to do that.

Answer

I am advised: NSW Fair Trading completed an assessment of the regulatory impacts (including costs and benefits) of the reforms in the *Strata Managing Agents Legislation Amendment Act 2024* prior to its introduction.

The Statement of Public Interest for the Amendment Act also provides information about the costs and benefits. It is available at <https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/lc/taledpapers/Pages/taled-paper-details.aspx?pk=189371&houseCode=lc>.

From 12 December 2024 to 25 August 2025, NSW Fair Trading sent seven direct emails to strata managing agents and strata committees through Strata Hub about strata reforms. In addition, since November 2024, more than 54,000 visitors have accessed NSW Fair Trading's strata reform webpages, there have been 30 social media posts on strata reforms, and two editions of the Property Matters newsletter in November 2024 and March 2025 detailing strata reforms. These communications detailed how the changes worked and how strata managing agents and strata

owners could prepare for the changes.

Question from (40)

The Hon. AILEEN MacDONALD: The MOU that you have with police—it lapsed in July 2024. So I'm wanting to know who is accountable for letting that lapse. Was it the commission, was it the department, or was it you as the Minister?

Mr ANOULACK CHANTHIVONG: Certainly I'm aware of the agreement you are referring to in terms of the background checks for those licensed—

The Hon. AILEEN MacDONALD: That's not the question, Minister. I asked who was accountable.

Mr ANOULACK CHANTHIVONG: I think in this situation it may have lapsed. It's not deliberate. But certainly once that was identified it was addressed appropriately.

The Hon. AILEEN MacDONALD: Are you aware, then, how many contractor licences have been issued without any direct police criminal check?

Mr ANOULACK CHANTHIVONG: I will have to take that on notice. That's a very specific question.

The Hon. AILEEN MacDONALD: Okay. If they can't have a police criminal check, what alternative probity checks were put in place in that period, and how many applicants were refused?

Mr ANOULACK CHANTHIVONG: As I said—

The Hon. AILEEN MacDONALD: On notice?

Mr ANOULACK CHANTHIVONG: I'm happy to take that on notice, because that's an assessment process by the department.

Answer

I am advised:

As part of the existing application process, all applicants are required to declare any criminal history. This declaration enables assessment of whether the application is a fit and proper person to hold a licence.

Building Commission NSW is currently updating its individual application form to make the submission of a NPC a mandatory requirement for all new applications for an authority under the *Home Building Act 1989*, similar to applications for registration under the *Design and Building Practitioners Act 2020*.

Question from (page 51)

The CHAIR: Maybe not in this package, but has there ever been funding or anything done to ensure that Aboriginal women who are survivors of domestic and family violence have access to culturally safe support and advocacy in custody and upon release?

LUKE GRANT: We have a range of programs for dealing with trauma and experiences of trauma for Aboriginal women and non-Aboriginal women, and those programs exist. We don't have a specific program for Aboriginal women that I'm aware of. There are some very specific programs for women.

The CHAIR: I'd be keen to hear what kind of culturally safe health services are available to Aboriginal women in custody in particular.

LUKE GRANT: Yes, I understand. I do have a list here of programs where we're working with other Aboriginal community organisations, for instance, Wirringa Baiya Aboriginal Women's Legal Centre. I'm sorry, I have to take that question on notice, unless I find it before I can come back to it.

The CHAIR: That's alright. We can come back to it.

Answer

I am advised:

This question should be referred to the Minister for Health.

Question from (page 52)

The CHAIR: How many women in custody right now are pregnant and how many of those pregnant women are Aboriginal?

LUKE GRANT: I don't know how many are Aboriginal, but I do have the number for the number of pregnant women in custody. As of last week, there were seven pregnant women in custody. I don't know how many of them were Aboriginal. I'll have to get back to you in relation to that.

Answer

I am advised:

As at 25 August 2025, four of the pregnant women in custody identify as Aboriginal.

Question from (page 53)

LUKE GRANT: There is a working group currently working called the Pregnant Women in Custody Working Group, which is a multidisciplinary team that involves the governors, Justice Health and service integration managers. They've been asked to develop and implement dignity-focused strategies which support and improve the custodial environment. I'd have to get an update from them on their progress, but it's something that we're interested in. Primarily, the health component is a Justice Health component, but we have shared responsibilities for the care of those people.

The CHAIR: As you mentioned, programs like the Antenatal Care in Prison projects are managed by Justice Health and delivered within NSW Corrective Services facilities. I'm just wondering if Corrective Services actually meets with Justice Health in relation to this program and have any sort of oversight or say or correspondence in relation to how that functions.

LUKE GRANT: In relation to Justice Health's functioning generally?

The CHAIR: No, in relation specifically to the Antenatal Care in Prison project that is run by Justice Health.

LUKE GRANT: I'd have to see whether they covered it, but I'd suspect that the Pregnant Women in Custody Working Group is the forum where that would occur. It involves both of our agencies meeting together.

The CHAIR: So it does involve—

LUKE GRANT: Justice Health and Corrective Services, and it also has the DCJ child protection people attending as well.

The CHAIR: The website states that it aims to deliver a model of care which is women centred and culturally appropriate. Given that you're working with them on this project, can you explain how this model of care is being implemented in correctional services that house women in New South Wales?

LUKE GRANT: Are you talking about a model of care for pregnant women?

The CHAIR: The ACIP website states that it aims to deliver a model of care which is women centred and culturally appropriate.

LUKE GRANT: I would have to get back to you with details about that. I don't have that.

Answer

I am advised:

This question was answered at page 57 of the hearing transcript.

Question from (page 55)

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: Let's come back to Tech Central then, or at least let's come back to the move later. The actual \$38.5 million and the Tech Central strategy—when is that Tech Central strategy going to be released? I understand that a consultation paper went out in June.

REBECCA McPHEE: Yes. We've done two rounds of consultation on that to date—one to inform the development of the strategy and then a subsequent round to kind of test some of the findings and the proposals coming forward. That is now being finalised, and it's obviously a matter for Government to decide when that will be launched.

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: How were the stakeholders chosen, in terms of the engagement?

REBECCA McPHEE: It was quite an extensive list of stakeholders that were engaged across the different parts of the ecosystem. Obviously we've got tech businesses, everything from startups right through to the big unicorns in the area—Atlassian, Canva et cetera—as well as the universities and research organisations. So we have consulted across that spectrum of businesses. The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: How many stakeholders were in that list?

REBECCA McPHEE: The discovery phase was 50 industry and government stakeholders across 16 interviews. That was in March and early April. The validation phase—I don't have a list of those spoken to directly but there was also an anonymous survey, to which we received 23 full responses, and that was open to many.

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: Were those 23 responses from the 50 stakeholders or was it wider than that?

REBECCA McPHEE: I think it was wider than that, but let me take that on notice to confirm

Answer

I am advised

The survey was sent more widely.

Question from (page 57-58)

The CHAIR: Do you have any data around the number of children that have been removed from Aboriginal women in custody in the last 12 months?

LUKE GRANT: No, I'd have to take that on notice.

The CHAIR: Can you find out if that's a statistics that is recorded and kept?

LUKE GRANT: Are you talking about women who are in custody who have had a child removed?

The CHAIR: Yes, Aboriginal women.

LUKE GRANT: Or women once they have been in custody?

The CHAIR: Aboriginal women in custody in the past 12 months—how many of them have had children removed? Is that statistic available and kept?

LUKE GRANT: That, I believe, would reside with my statutory responsibility. I am happy to take that on notice.

The CHAIR: I'm just wondering what additional psychological support is made available to women who may have had their children removed while incarcerated.

LUKE GRANT: I'm not sure if we count that sort of measure. We have quite a lot of psychological support provided to people who are in custody. I'm not sure if we actually would keep a record that I could pull that suggests there has been a certain number of hours on that process.

The CHAIR: So there is no specific psychological support for those women?

LUKE GRANT: There isn't any, no.

Answer

I am advised:

Questions relating to Out of Home Care should be directed to the Minister for Families and Communities.

Question from (page 59)

Ms SUE HIGGINSON: I asked the Minister earlier about when the contract for services providing telecommunications with ViaPath and Telstra will run out. Is that something you can inform the Committee about?

GARY McCAHON: Yes, we have had an update. I'll ask Deputy Commissioner Grant to come forward and give you that advice.

LUKE GRANT: The question is in relation to how long the current contract extends to?

Ms SUE HIGGINSON: Yes.

LUKE GRANT: It's until 30 September 2027.

Ms SUE HIGGINSON: At this point do you have any preliminary plans or intentions to renew those?

LUKE GRANT: We've got plans not to renew it all but to establish a proper procurement process.

The kick-off meeting was only in the last couple of weeks with a group of people—with our IDS colleagues, actually— to start that process. We will be going out to tender, or we're looking at what's on the market, going through all those processes. That project has just commenced.

Ms SUE HIGGINSON: Have you got a timeline for that procurement process?

LUKE GRANT: It's just started now. I'd have to get back to you on the time. There was a timeline for it. I just don't have it in my mind.

Ms SUE HIGGINSON: Is that something that can be provided to the Committee?

LUKE GRANT: Of course, yes. No problems.

Answer

I am advised:

Corrective Services NSW has commenced procurement activity to open the contract to tender.

Question from (page 59)

Ms SUE HIGGINSON: I thought we passed laws recently to say that you can detain somebody overnight or that little bit longer until they have reasonable and safe transport. Is that not the case? Is that not your understanding?

GARY McCAHON: Well, that may be the case. I'd need to take that on notice

Answer

I am advised:

This question was answered at page 59 of the transcript.

Question from (page 61)

Ms SUE HIGGINSON: Thank you. Have the computer tablets been given access to AustLII or the AEC websites?

LUKE GRANT: No, they haven't.

Ms SUE HIGGINSON: Is there any reason?

LUKE GRANT: I've got a 40-page document somewhere that explains the reasons why. But I think that there are problems with the website. One of the problems we've had consistently with accessing web-based services is it's quite hard to contain the capacity for people to use that to get out from that particular website to another one. And almost every application we've put in, including things you might think are quite benign, like the triple J website—people have found workarounds that enable them to use it as a communications tool and engaged in behaviours that, potentially, undermine the whole integrity of the system and could result in it being removed because people have tried to engage in criminal activities and so on through those.

In protecting against that we have had to be very cautious about whitelisted websites. I think there's some work underway, in terms of a legal information access portal, that actually is already done in conjunction with Legal Aid, that contains a lot of the information. But I'm happy to provide you with more information. It's something I didn't read up on. But there's an enormous amount of information

about why that's not available at this stage.

Answer

I am advised:

This question is answered on page 61 of the hearing transcript.

Question from (page 62)

The Hon. AILEEN MacDONALD: Would you be able to provide on notice, then, for each prison in, say, 2024 and up to date to 2025, the number of days they've had either full or partial lockdown—whether it be insufficient staff or training. If you could categorise that for each of the prisons, because I understand, as you said, it's not just Silverwater. Mid North Coast, from what I can gather, has had over 60 days this calendar year where they've had lockdowns. I don't know whether it's been because of staffing. But that's quite a significant amount, when you think about it. I'm thinking about the other implications, so if I could have that on notice.

GARY McCAHON: Certainly.

The Hon. AILEEN MacDONALD: On that, in terms of the unintended consequences or things that can happen, I believe, say, in Silverwater, in the 34-hour period between 17 and 19 August—actually, it might not be Silverwater; it might be overall—Corrective Services recorded 54 incidents of self-harm, 29 inmate-on-inmate assaults, four assaults on staff and 37 uses of force. Are you able to confirm whether that is the case—perhaps on notice as well?

GARY McCAHON: Yes, I'll take that on notice. Could I just confirm the Silverwater you're talking about? Is that MRRRC, you're talking about? Silverwater Women's? Which facility are you talking about?

The Hon. AILEEN MacDONALD: All of them.

GARY McCAHON: You're talking, across the complex?

The Hon. AILEEN MacDONALD: Yes.

GARY McCAHON: Okay. Thank you.

The Hon. AILEEN MacDONALD: Actually, it might be across New South Wales, all the prisons. I wouldn't think that there would be 54 self-harms in just one prison. It would be across the whole network of prisons.

GARY McCAHON: The State?

The Hon. AILEEN MacDONALD: Statewide. What oversight systems are in place to ensure that use of force does not escalate during times when staff are stretched thin?

GARY McCAHON: We'll provide that back as a part of one.

The Hon. AILEEN MacDONALD: The Minister did mention workers comp. I'm wondering how many workers compensation claims have been lodged by Corrective Services staff in, say, the past year, due to injuries sustained from inmate assaults but also psychological injury.

MICHAEL TIDBALL: Can I undertake to provide a response? I would like to give it now. I'm just looking through the figures. If I'm able, through the course of the afternoon, to provide that, I will. If I

can't, I'm happy to provide it on notice.

The Hon. AILEEN MacDONALD: Okay. In providing that information, if you could provide—you've got it?

Answer

I am advised:

Please see response to Supplementary Questions 91-126.

Use of force is managed in accordance with the publicly available Crimes (Administration of Sentences) Regulation 2014 and the Custodial Operations Policy and Procedures.

Data on assaults in custody is publicly available via the Report on Government Services.

As at 30 June 2025, there were 99 claims in the 2024/25 FY due to “being assaulted by a person or persons”. In total 508 psychological claims occurred in 2024/25 FY.

Question from (page 63)

The Hon. AILEEN MacDONALD: The retention rate for staff—how many staff are leaving Corrective Services, say, in the last financial year? I know you're doing recruiting as well, but is it the case that you're losing more staff than you're able to recruit?

MICHAEL TIDBALL: I could not confirm that, but I would prefer to take that on notice.

Answer

I am advised:

In 2024/25, 659 staff ceased employment with CSNSW.

Question from (page 64-65)

The Hon. AILEEN MacDONALD: With centres that are private, are you provided numbers with regards to their workers compensation claims or if they have lockdowns as well?

LEON TAYLOR: All of that data that relates to the normal measures around prisons, we certainly record like for like for a private centre and a public centre. With employee-related issues around workers compensation, we have less visibility and oversight. Our measure for them is if they have the staff complement to resource their centre. Misconduct is a little bit different. We take a greater interest in staff misconduct, and the contract enables us to have greater oversight of misconduct. Workers comp is a little less, given there's a different insurance arrangement.

The Hon. AILEEN MacDONALD: When I asked for those figures on notice, would you be able to provide for the private operators for lockdowns as well?

LEON TAYLOR: We can give you lockdown data.

The Hon. AILEEN MacDONALD: You also do Community Corrections, not just Corrective Services. With Community Corrections, I understand that a lot of staff would also be on workers comp. Do you have the number for Community Corrections staff on workers comp?

LEON TAYLOR: The secretary would.

MICHAEL TIDBALL: We would do. We could provide that on notice. I don't have it with me.

The Hon. AILEEN MacDONALD: If you can break it down too, because even though they're in the community, they would still have interactions with offenders that could lead to—

MICHAEL TIDBALL: Of course, yes.

Answer

I am advised:

Lockdown data – Private Centres

Please refer to my answer to the Question taken on Notice on page 62 of the transcript.

Workers Compensation – Private Centres

As at 30 June 2025, 41 workers compensation claims.

Workers Compensation - Community Corrections

As at 30 June 2025, 172 total open claims. Further detail on the categories of data sought is required to answer the remainder of the question.

Question from (page 65)

The CHAIR: Thank you. I would like to ask some questions about the Inspector of Custodial Services: Inspection Standards for Aboriginal People in Custody in New South Wales dated March 2025. Standard 2.2 states that, "Culturally appropriate criteria for leave to attend family funerals should be established and implemented for Aboriginal people." This includes a requirement that, "Correctional centres must give recognition to the kinship structures and family obligations of Aboriginal people which extend beyond the immediate family, and give favourable consideration to requests for permission to attend funeral services and burials and other occasions of family significance." There is also meant to be a presumption in favour of the approval. Can I get some information on how many Aboriginal adults in custody have applied for leave to attend family funerals and other occasions of family significance in 2024?

LUKE GRANT: Chair, can I just confirm: are you referring to the Inspector of Custodial Services for Aboriginal inmates? Just to be clear, I know at some point the inspector did prepare a standard. It wasn't a Corrections standard so it doesn't form part of our standards, if that's what you're referring to. But to your question around attending funerals, we can certainly answer on notice requests versus approvals.

LEON TAYLOR: Yes. It's our policy anyway.

LUKE GRANT: It is our policy, anyway, for a presumption in favour of. In a security sense, it's often particularly—funerals are very uncontrolled environments, so there are a number, from a security sense, that are ultimately not approved. Our presumption is to approve them but, ultimately, serious offenders, maximum security offenders in an uncontained funeral-type environment often has particular security concerns. It means that those external escorts are not approved. What we do have an increasing availability for is for video visits and funeral attendance, so that's certainly often an option as well. But we'll give the data that we can on notice.

The CHAIR: I have got a few questions around this that I will put to you and I'm assuming they will all be taken on notice. The first one is: How many have applied? How many applications have been

refused? Of those refused applications, a breakdown of the reasons why the applications were refused? And the same information for each year from 2020—the number of applications that were approved, refused and reasons given for refusal.

LEON TAYLOR: Yes, we can do that on notice. That includes the COVID period, but we'll probably point that out in the response.

Answer

I am advised:

The data cannot be aggregated in the manner requested.

Question from (page 66)

The CHAIR: Welcome back to budget estimates for the last session this afternoon. Continuing in regard to the applications around funerals, can I just get a better understanding of what the actual process is when somebody's making an application to attend a funeral?

LEON TAYLOR: I'm happy to give fuller details on notice, but there are a number of ways that we might be informed. It would be normally through an inmate application form, which is the process that inmates use to inform us around anything. We also have a number of ways our services and programs officers, who meet with staff, might become aware of an inmate's family member passing. They may be responsible for passing that information onto the inmate, so we become aware through the process of informing the inmate of a death in their family and then what flows from that are funeral arrangements that may be asked for. For our Aboriginal inmates, we have our regional Aboriginal programs officers, so for Aboriginal inmates, those staff, who are Aboriginal people, engage with those inmates and are particularly versed in cultural sensitivities around Aboriginal people that pass away in the community. What flows from that is also assisting with funeral arrangements, and where we're able to facilitate an inmate to attend a funeral, often that will come through and the RAPO will assist in that information ultimately coming to the governor of the correctional centre, who will make a determination around the attendance of that inmate at a funeral either in person or via video or other means.

The CHAIR: In regard to that, is there a form that they are required to fill in to apply for this?

LEON TAYLOR: Let me answer that on notice. I'm not aware of a specific form, but there's a good chance there is one. If it's okay, I will respond in detail on notice.

The CHAIR: If there is a form, assuming there is one, if you could also take it on notice about what measures are taken to ensure people always have access to either paperwork or the digital form and where needed are given assistance in actually completing and submitting that form.

LEON TAYLOR: There'll be part of our internal process which has a security element, which I probably won't provide, but the inmate-facing document I should be able to provide on notice if there's something more than just an application.

The CHAIR: I know you mentioned a couple of times about a video link to call in to some of these funerals. Could you also take on notice how many people were actually provided the video link participation for funerals in 2024?

Answer

I am advised:

Inmate funeral attendance is managed in accordance with 'Corrective Services NSW Custodial Operations Policy and Procedures 9.3 Application for compassionate leave', available at <https://correctiveservices.dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/copp/09-processing-inmate-requests-applications-and-complaints/09.03-application-for-compassionate-leave.pdf>.

Question from (page 67)

LEON TAYLOR: Sure. We'll do our best. Some of that we may not capture or be able to capture because a lot of funeral places now provide access to family to view online. So where we do that, we may gather inmates, allow them to sit in the visits or other area and set up a connection through a staff computer for a funeral to be viewed. There's probably some informality around that process, but whatever records we have, we will provide. I suspect there's also an element of access that we provide for funerals that may not necessarily be captured, but we'll provide what we can.

The CHAIR: Is there any cost involved to the adults in custody to have that live streamed to them that they have to cover?

LEON TAYLOR: I wouldn't think so. I think it's pretty routine for some funerals now to be live streamed by the funeral provider. We'll respond on notice, but I would think it remarkable if we're charging inmates to have access to a video thing. We don't go and send a video out to film a funeral. That's not something that we do. But where there's a publicly accessible video facility set up by the family that's available for people in the community to view, we'll make that available for inmates to view in custody where we're able to do so.

The CHAIR: If the family is unable to do that but the application has been refused for them to attend in person, is there anything else that's provided to provide support or some kind of access to ensure that those people in custody can somehow be involved?

LEON TAYLOR: That's really a case-by-case answer to that question. On notice, we can talk to particularly our Aboriginal directorate in terms of if there are particular interventions or access that we provide to family where the inmate, for whatever reason, we're not able to facilitate an escort to a funeral. There may be other culturally specific interventions or access that we provide. But rather than make it up, I'll answer on notice.

The CHAIR: I also have a couple of questions similarly around the sorry business ceremonies, and I'm just wondering what work is being undertaken by Corrective Services NSW in relation to organising and facilitating sorry business leave and access to adults in custody.

LEON TAYLOR: Is that in relation to staff or inmates?

The CHAIR: Access to adults in custody.

LEON TAYLOR: To attend sorry business?

The CHAIR: Yes.

LEON TAYLOR: We might need to take that on notice. I'm looking at Deputy Grant. Can we take that on notice, Chair?

The CHAIR: Yes, sure, and I have some other questions around that which may need to be taken on

notice then in that respect. I'm wondering how many times sorry business ceremonies have been facilitated in custodial facilities in New South Wales just in the past 12 months and if that is actually recorded; if it's not recorded or we don't have any data around that, why there's no data; and confirming that there's no time restrictions imposed on sorry business ceremonies. How many incarcerated Aboriginal persons have been involved in the review and development of policies and procedures that provide for leave to participate in important cultural practices such as sorry business? Is any of this work being undertaken in partnership with any external Aboriginal community organisations or representations?

LEON TAYLOR: We'll take it on notice, thank you.

The CHAIR: I have some questions about the Corrective Services NSW Women's Advisory Council that we spoke about at last estimates. Can I ask how many people are on the council and what kind of experience, qualifications and background the members on that council have?

LUKE GRANT: I'm very happy to provide the details of the membership and where they come from on notice, if that's okay.

The CHAIR: Yes, sure. I'd also be interested to know—and if it needs to be on notice or if you've got the information now, that'd be great—if any of those individuals has lived experience in corrections, such as a former inmate or even a staff member that are on that council. Are you aware?

LUKE GRANT: There has been in the past. I'd have to check if there are any current members.

GARY McCAHON: Chair, we'll take that on notice because all of that is incorporated into the women's strategy. That's in its final stages, as I reported before, for approval, and then we'll be able to have all of that information and we'll be able to provide that to you.

IR: Thank you so much for that. I'd also like to know as well how often the Women's Advisory Council meets and how often they are actually consulted with more broadly.

GARY McCAHON: Yes.

Answer

I am advised:

Sorry Business

Applications for funeral or sorry business attendance are assessed on a case-by-case basis at the Correctional centre and there is no cost to an inmate to attend a funeral via videolink.

Data on attendance at funerals and sorry business is not recorded or aggregated as requested.

In centre support mechanisms are available at an inmate's request, including support from the Aboriginal Strategy Directorate and Regional Aboriginal Pathways Officers (RAPOs) who support families during sorry business. Sorry Business support offered by RAPOs includes coordinating in-person visits at centres to deliver sensitive news, liaising with centre management in relation to consideration of transferring inmates to different centres and, where necessary, accommodating family requests for personal communication. Community Elders are also available through the Elders Mentorship program to provide emotional and social support.

Section 9.3 'Application for Compassionate Leave', of the Custodial Operations Policy and Procedures which provides for funeral attendance is not under review.

Corrective Services NSW Women's Advisory Council

The CSNSW Women's Advisory Council (WAC) currently has 19 members. Current members represent relevant government and non-government organisations including health, legal services,

housing and representatives from relevant Aboriginal and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse organisations.

Question from (page 68)

CHAIR: I know Ms MacDonald already asked some questions about lockdowns and lock-ins in correctional facilities. I have a few more specific questions around those. Do we know if any correctional facilities are using those much more frequently than others? Is that sort of data collected?

LEON TAYLOR: Chair, we do collect the data. We've committed to provide that detailed data on notice.

Answer

I am advised:

Data regarding lockdowns has been provided in response to the question on page 62 of the hearing transcript.

Question from (page 69)

The CHAIR: The NSW Inmate Census didn't include any information about mental health and disability of individuals in New South Wales prisons. Is that information collected elsewhere or is that something we are considering looking at further?

LUKE GRANT: Is it correct that you're asking about the prevalence of disability amongst the prison population primarily? The CHAIR: Yes. I noticed it wasn't part of the census. Is that data kept separately?

LUKE GRANT: We have a disabilities dataset that we collect, and we have that data available. I'm not sure if you want any of that information.

The CHAIR: No, I don't need any of that information, other than some more top-line aspects around it. I'm wondering if you know how many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander incarcerated individuals have a mental health diagnosis or disability and if that's data that you track specifically.

LUKE GRANT: We certainly have information on mental health and cognitive impairment and so on. It could be disaggregated for Aboriginal people. I don't have that information with me at the moment. I've got total numbers.

The CHAIR: How does Corrective Services define disability within the organisation? Is that documented in a policy, for example?

LUKE GRANT: We certainly collect information on a variety of categories of disability. I imagine we use national standards in terms of cognitive impairment and so on, but I'd have to get back to you about the standard that we use. I'm not sure how that's defined, but I'm very confident we would have that. We have a group of people who totally focus on the disabled cohort—providing support to, advocating for, and so on—and they produce the data that I rely upon. They disaggregate it and they provide information on acquired brain injury, autistic spectrum disorder—I've got the total number of people. Of the 2,171 inmates in custody with a disability, 1,270 of those identify as Aboriginal.

Answer

I am advised:

Inmates with a disability are managed in line with Section 6.9 of the

Custodial Operations Policy and Procedures. Disability is defined as a condition that:

- is attributable to an intellectual, psychiatric, sensory, physical or similar impairment or a combination of such impairments
- is permanent or likely to be permanent
- results in significantly reduced capacity in one or more major life activity such as communication, mobility, learning, decision making, self-care
- requires the need for support whether or not of an ongoing nature.

Data regarding the number of Aboriginal people in custody with a disability is provided on page 69 of the transcript.

Question from (70)

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: This may be a question for Fair Trading about how monitoring happens now that these most recent changes have taken place. What kind of monitoring occurs now?

TRINA JONES: I work within Fair Trading, so I can talk to that. We've developed some really sophisticated monitoring technology within Fair Trading. Essentially what we're able to do is take all of the bond data that tells us about what properties are held—most properties collect a bond—and then we also collect all of the listing data. We purchase that data. So we understand every single rental property that's available. We then sort of triangulate that with our re-letting/change of circumstance program, so you're aware that you can't re-let properties under certain circumstances. Taking those different data points—plus complaints data, of course—and any feedback that we get from tenants, agents and otherwise, we're actually able to identify what might be properties that are flagged and properties that need to be investigated. Since this has commenced, we've already been able to identify 2,000 properties that have been flagged and 21 that are under review for investigation. This enables us to closely monitor compliance with the reforms, but also to prevent and act on breaches of the law.

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: Are you also holding to account not just the re-letting aspect but—say a landlord has said, "I need to do this building work," and then it is just up to them to do the building work or not. Is there any mechanism to maintain a record of whether a property has got a DA associated with it, for example, that is related to the reason that a landlord gave for evicting a tenant?

TRINA JONES: As it relates to a DA or building compliance, that might be a matter for the local government or for the Building Commission. But if the tenant has been given a reason to end the tenancy because of significant renovations or repairs and say, for example, the landlord tries to re-let that property within a four-week period, we'll get a flag about that. We'll be asking questions about that straightaway. But also, say it's not re-let but it's re-let in five weeks' time, but the tenant says, "I've seen the property online, and it looks like nothing has happened," we would absolutely inquire and review that.

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: In that circumstance, it would require an individual to make that

approach to you to say, "This is something that's happened to me"?

TRINA JONES: Yes, because of the volume of tenancy turnover. You're talking about over 330,000-plus tenancies turning in the market. But we are very sophisticated in our ability to identify breaches of re-letting, which I think is a major factor. And obviously we strongly encourage renters to contact us if they've got concerns. As a consumer protection agency, we do rely on consumers letting us know if there's an issue too.

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: Do you keep a record of the reasons that landlords have given?

TRINA JONES: Yes. We've built into the bond system, for ease of use, a mandatory termination survey. Essentially the landlord has a mandatory requirement to tell us why the tenancy ended, or the agent on their behalf. The tenant then has a voluntary option to contribute. One of the things we do as part of that data analysis is we say, "Why did the landlord say the tenancy has ended? Has the tenant agreed?" And we'll start to see this data come through. We'll take a selection of those and say, "Well, why are these different? Is there anything that we need to be concerned about? Will we flag or will we contact?" We're using that to inform our work and make sure that we're putting our resources where they're absolutely going to be most effective and that we're not burdening compliant, law-abiding citizens.

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: How many people have come to you proactively with complaints, following this legislation?

TRINA JONES: Specifically on no grounds, I might have to take that on notice. We get about 300,000 customer contacts per year. Of those—most of them are dealt with by Service NSW and then furthermore we get some that come through to Fair Trading. Specifically on no grounds, I'll have to take that on notice.

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: That would be helpful, thank you. Just to clarify, have you briefed the Minister on all of the information that you've just given me?

TRINA JONES: Yes.

Answer

I am advised:

Between 19 May 2025 and 26 August 2025, there were 19 complaints to NSW Fair Trading relating to no grounds evictions.

Question from (page 71)

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: Going back to Ms McPhee and the Sydney Startup Hub/Tech Central situation—I'm not sure whether you've had time to look at the budget papers. Budget Paper No. 03 is where that \$5 million is found. It says that the Sydney Startup Hub transition to Sydney Tech Central will have a \$5-million cost associated with it that starts in 2025, completing in 2026. I want to understand what that \$5 million is for.

REBECCA MCPHEE: Yes, I did find that. That is the capital expenditure element; it's the capex only element. The \$38.5 million is the operating expenditure for the broader suite of Tech Central measures over the next four years. The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: What does the capex include?

REBECCA MCPHEE: It will include, for instance, the upgrade and fit-out of the new Tech Central innovation hub, which is currently a scale-up hub. That includes work that's already been

completed, which includes refitting a whole floor to be more suitable for smaller startup businesses and other upgrades that are ongoing at the moment. The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: How many desks do you anticipate will be available?

REBECCA McPHEE: For more detailed questions, if you don't mind, I might ask Ms Noonan, who is executive director of the innovation branch. While she comes up here, I can say I do know there are 100 new desks already available to the startups who are starting to transition from York Street. A number of those organisations have already booked into those desks. But in terms of total number, Ms Noonan?

LIZA NOONAN: There are at least 100 new desks.

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: And that's in addition to Stone & Chalk?

LIZA NOONAN: Correct. Level 13 has been completely refurbished. We believe there is vacancy. I would have to take on notice the exact amount of vacancy within the Stone & Chalk floors. I should say, we know it's not at full capacity.

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: My understanding is that Fishburners, for example, have remodelled their approach and they have started partnering with WeWork. Is that because they haven't been able to come to an agreement that allows them to move into Tech Central?

LIZA NOONAN: My understanding is that, first and foremost, we have been engaging closely with Fishburners throughout this entire process. My understanding with Fishburners is that they have had a fairly significant look at their business model, looking at the needs of startups that they serve. They have actually had feedback from residents that they prefer a more networked approach, including residency here in Sydney but also in locations around the world, which the partnership with WeWork will accommodate.

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: Were you offering them desks and space at the same price as Wynyard Sydney Startup Hub?

LIZA NOONAN: We are in negotiations currently with the anchor operator, which is currently the scaleup hub which is becoming the innovation hub. As you would expect, we are at a fairly active stage of negotiation. I wouldn't want any statement I make here to impact the outcome of those negotiations for both Fishburners, other operators in the ecosystem and obviously for startups themselves.

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: This announcement was made at the end of last year. It was originally said that Wynyard wouldn't be closing until 1 October. That has now changed to the end of this month.

LIZA NOONAN: I would have to take that on notice. I understood that it was communicated that it would be the end of August.

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: It was definitely communicated that it would be 1 October. It has been nine months or so. Why haven't these agreements been made already?

REBECCA McPHEE: To start—and then I'll let Liza answer the specific question—a space is available. If there are startup businesses that are currently operating on York Street who want to move to the new innovation hub in Tech Central, they can. There is space available and they can contact Stone & Chalk to do that.

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: And it's an equivalent price?

LIZA NOONAN: We have benchmarked the pricing and we believe it is equivalent and within the affordable range.

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: So it is equivalent?

LIZA NOONAN: Again, based on where we are with the negotiations, I wouldn't want to—

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: But that suggests that space isn't available yet if startups can't know what the rate is.

LIZA NOONAN: I'll take it on notice.

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: Can startups go in there now with a particular rate or not?

LIZA NOONAN: They can go in there now with a particular rate. We understand that at least 60 have already moved from the startup hub to what will be the future Tech Central innovation hub.

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: Just to confirm, you are going to take on notice whether they are leasing desks at the equivalent price that was available in Wynyard?

LIZA NOONAN: The leasing arrangement is between the operator and the resident themselves. That is commercial in confidence. In terms of the equivalency, I will take it on notice to see what we are able to share.

Answer

I am advised

This information is commercial in confidence.

Question from (page 73)

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: My understanding is that Wynyard had about 600 desks available and now there might be 250 desks available, approximately, in Tech Central.

LIZA NOONAN: Potentially, but I would also say that our evidence from numerous engagements over many months with the anchor operators of Wynyard is that we have been operating at something like 50 per cent occupancy at the startup hub. Levels 11, 9, 6 and half of 2 have been vacant for some time. We lost anchor tenants, corporate tenants like Optus and Caltex, a couple of years ago. We have been actively trying to fill that space and haven't had the market demand. I think we go back to the point—and the reason the decision was made—that the commercial models of the anchor operators in the Sydney Startup Hub was no longer viable, based on post-COVID working habits of startups and also the fact that there is a very competitive co-working market in the Sydney CBD, and the product that the Sydney Startup Hub was offering was no longer competitive.

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: Was there any cost associated with breaking the lease with the Wynyard property?

LIZA NOONAN: That is part of a tenancy agreement with the landlord, yes.

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: What was that cost?

LIZA NOONAN: I would have to take that on notice.

Answer

I am advised

This information is commercial in confidence.

Question from (77)

The Hon. AILEEN MacDONALD: I'd like to direct the questions to the Fair Trading Commission if I could. When I was asking the Minister with regard to funding for the Building Commission, he indicated \$145 million has been committed to the Building Commission. Has that impacted the Fair Trading budget? Has your budget allocation now been reduced?

NATASHA MANN: At the time the Building Commission was established, Fair Trading transferred a staffing component across to the Building Commission, with funding to fund those roles.

GRAEME HEAD: It's probably important to clarify there that those roles were transferred not out of Fair Trading but out of the Better Regulation Division of the department, I think, which included—Fair Trading and the Building Commission had always been together, even prior to the Better Regulation Division being set up. SafeWork was swept into that. It is correct, what Ms Mann said, but I think it's helpful to think of the most recent changes as changes from the Better Regulation Division. But what Ms Mann was technically accurate.

The Hon. AILEEN MacDONALD: Maybe I'll rephrase the question. With those roles that were transferred, how much funding was with those roles?

NATASHA MANN: That happened in December 2023, so I don't have those figures at hand, but we can probably review and provide them on notice.

Answer (BC)

I am advised:

\$145 million allocated in the NSW Budget 2025/26 was new funding towards the ongoing operation of the Building Commission NSW.

Question from (79)

The Hon. AILEEN MacDONALD: Last estimates, you said Property Matters updates would be issued every couple of months. I think there hasn't really been an issue since March. When will the next update be forthcoming?

NATASHA MANN: We issue those Property Matters newsletters four times a year.

The Hon. AILEEN MacDONALD: So it's a quarterly.

NATASHA MANN: There should've been one since March. I can check that. It's four times a year. We're also getting a lot more active on social media. We're trying to let consumers and industry know about our work via that channel as well.

Answer

I am advised:

The most recent edition was issued in September 2025.

Question from (80)

The Hon. AILEEN MacDONALD: This one might be to you, Mr Abadee. Again, on underquoting, is the taskforce developing proposals to strengthen the law or is it limited to just enforcement?

ANGUS ABADÉE: It's definitely both. We've provided advice to government based on the workings of the round table. That was built off iteratively, and the round table has been able to put some quite substantive reforms forward that we think will really improve the law. As Ms Mann said, it's not just enough to change the law; it's actually about getting out there and enforcing. The other side is education. That's a key part of any change process.

The Hon. AILEEN MacDONALD: With the round table, is that information publicly available?

ANGUS ABADÉE: No, it's not at the moment. It's not because of anything other than it has allowed really candid conversations with people around the table. As Ms Mann indicated, sector leaders have been willing to participate in that process and call out bad behaviour. It would be about striking that right balance. We're very comfortable sharing the action plan and the key takeaways that we will be focusing on.

The Hon. AILEEN MacDONALD: Are you able to provide that information on notice?

ANGUS ABADÉE: Yes.

Answer

I am advised:

Details of the underquoting roundtable are available on the NSW Fair Trading website at <https://www.fairtrading.nsw.gov.au/housing-and-property/property-professionals/working-as-a-property-agent/underquoting>

Question from (page 81)

The CHAIR: Do you have any statistics around how many Aboriginal adults are engaged in work while they're actually incarcerated?

ANNE-MARIE MARTIN: I can take that on notice.

The CHAIR: Just in regard to the number and the percentage of labourers. You've given me a little bit of an outline around some of the jobs. What are some of the sort of higher level jobs that people who are incarcerated can get involved with?

ANNE-MARIE MARTIN: I have to acknowledge that at our Metropolitan Remand and Reception facility we have trialled an initiative for people in long-term remand engaging in traineeships. When people can engage in traineeships, you then start to see skills along the electrician- and plumbing-type lines, and they do tend to earn the higher wages once they attain those sorts of qualifications in the system.

The CHAIR: How many of the Aboriginal persons that are involved in these programs are in vocational training based employment?

ANNE-MARIE MARTIN: Again, I'll take that one on notice

Answer

I am advised:

75.5% of eligible Aboriginal adults were engaged in work activity while incarcerated.

In the 2024/25 FY 1,498 Aboriginal inmates participated in vocational training while employed in

either a Corrective Services Industries Business Unit or Service Industry.

Question from (82)

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: I will pass that information on. Thank you. There was a question before about funding for new roles. I don't think we've got more detail on that, do we?

The Hon. AILEEN MacDONALD: No, was it just like with the Fair Trading—so the \$145 million that you say is new funding, how can you say it's new funding when Fair Trading has transferred roles to the Building Commission?

GRAEME HEAD: As Ms Mann said, there was a transfer to the Building Commission in late 2023. Is that right? I think the Building Commission started in 2023, and this year's budget provides additional new funding across the forwards for the Building Commission.

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: How much is that actually new? How much of that is not just transferred from an existing entity to undertake functions?

GRAEME HEAD: We'd probably need to break that down on notice, so I'm happy to come back to you on that.

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: That would be helpful.

Answer (BC)

I am advised:

The \$145 million over the forwards is all new funding for Building Commission NSW.