

ANSWERS TO SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS – INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS & WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY

Dust diseases and uninsured employers

(1) In February 2025 icare was successful in the Court of Appeal preventing a claim by Mr Sako on the Nominal Insurer under s 140 of the Workers Compensation Act 1987 for damages he incurred by contracting silicosis while working for a stonemason who was uninsured.

What steps, if any, have been taken in response to this decision to provide access to work injury damages for workers who have contracted a dust disease while working for an uninsured employer?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

The Court of Appeal decision confirmed section 140 of the *Workers Compensation Act 1987* does not permit claims for work injury damages to be made against the Uninsured Liability Scheme (operated by the Nominal Insurer), where the relevant injury is silicosis.

The decision of the Court of Appeal does not prevent a damages claim for silicosis being brought against employers with a valid policy of insurance at the time of employment.

Workers may also be eligible to receive statutory benefits and treatment and care through Dust Disease Care.

EML Survey

(2) When did icare or anyone in the NSW Government become aware that EML was conducting a survey of workers who had had a psychological whole person impairment claim of 21 per cent to 30 per cent and who had received a work injury damages claim?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

EML was not requested to conduct the survey, nor were they given any payment by icare or the NSW Government to conduct the survey.

(3) Was EML given any payment or other contribution towards the cost conducting this survey?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

As provided to the committee in supplementary QONs dated 26 August 2025.

icare has provided analysis and modelling on different scenarios being considered by the Government.

WPI Threshold Modelling

(4) Noting that “icare has provided analysis and modelling on different scenarios being considered by Government” on what date was icare first asked to do specific modelling on the impact of lifting any of the current whole persons thresholds to 31%?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

Treasury has provided relevant Workers’ Compensation modelling.

Presumptive cancers for firefighters

(5) Noting that icare has provided to the Public Accountability and Works Committee this advice on the likely cost of amending Schedule 4 of the Workers Compensation Act 1987 over the five years 2024-25 to 2028-29, “Prospectively for the paid firefighters, this is estimated to have a cost of \$12.2m p.a. and estimated total cost in the 5 years to FY28/29 of \$55.3m. If retrospectivity to 2018 and volunteer firefighters are also to be included, the estimated total costs in the 5 years to FY28/29 is \$211 million.”

(a) When were these costings first done?

(b) What component of the \$211 million is attributable to retrospectivity for paid firefighters?

(c) What component of the \$211 million is attributable to the inclusion of coverage for volunteer firefighters?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

I refer you to my answer provided to a Question on notice at

<https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/la/papers/pages/qanda-tracking-details.aspx?pk=103896>

Workers Compensation Legislation Amendment (Reform and Modernisation) Bill 2025

(6) If the Workers Compensation Legislation Amendment (Reform and Modernisation) Bill 2025 is enacted without amendment will a worker with a psychological injury caused by a workplace sexual assault which involved negligence by the employer be eligible to bring a work injury damages claim if her whole person impairment is assessed at between 15% and 30%?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

I refer you to page 42 of the transcript for the Treasurer’s Budget Estimates hearing on 22 August.

Digital work systems

(7) In the Legislative Council, on 26 June 2025 during the committee stage of the Industrial Relations and Other Legislation Amendment (Workplace Protections) Bill 2025, the Parliamentary Secretary for Work Health and Safety, in responding to a proposed amendment on duties relating to digital work systems said:

care should be exercised in responding to this issue with an additional, specific and complex new duty. It risks increasing complexity without adding benefit ... the Government thinks [we]

would be well served by more consultation before the introduction of a new duty. SafeWork NSW will work with stakeholders, including unions and businesses, to explore how such a duty could work.

What consultations with stakeholders took place between 26 June 2025 and 6 August 2025 before the inclusion of this provision creating such an “additional, specific and complex new duty” in the Workers Compensation Legislation Amendment (Reform and Modernisation) Bill 2025?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

My door is always open.

HSU Awards

(8) Under what specific provision of M2025-04 NSW Government Fair Pay and Bargaining Policy 2024-25 was the HSU offered 4% rather than just 3% wage increases for 2025-26 and 2026-27?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

Section 4 of the NSW Government Fair Pay and Bargaining Policy 2024-25 provides the governance framework for agencies in circumstances where enhancements to salaries and conditions are not contemplated by the baseline remuneration adjustment.

McDougall Review

(9) Of the 46 recommendations arising from the McDougall Review, which are your Government’s priorities this year?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

SafeWork NSW has completed 27 recommendations arising out of the Independent Review of SafeWork NSW conducted by the Hon Robert McDougall KC, with a strong focus on ensuring actions are properly embedded to achieve ongoing and sustainable change, and a stronger work health and safety regulator.

Work in response to the remaining 19 recommendations is a priority for SafeWork NSW.

(10) Since the McDougall Review, what has changed in triage and the Investigation Decision Making Panel?

(a) What performance metrics is the decision-making panel using and what is the current timeframe for time to first contact and time to decision?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

SafeWork NSW has completed actions arising out of recommendations regarding triage and the former Investigation Decision Making Panel.

Comprehensive review and uplift of triage processes was undertaken including the development and implementation of a refreshed triage model that embeds SafeWork NSW regulatory priorities. This also involved the development of formalised triage training, and user friendly triage documentation to support the implementation of the refreshed model and consistent triage decision making.

SafeWork NSW has also established the Escalated Compliance Decision Making Panel (ECDMP), which now replaces the former Investigation Decision Making Panel. The ECDMP is underpinned by a new framework that strengthens the strategic assessment of matters considered for escalated compliance and enforcement.

The ECDMP makes decision in adherence to its Terms of Reference, procedure document, and the National Compliance and Enforcement Policy.

Each matter considered by the ECDMP varies in complexity and requires consideration on a case-by-case basis

(11) The Review called for a follow-up review of SafeWork's complaints and grievance handling within 9–12 months. Has that occurred and what are the outcomes?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

It is anticipated that a review of the SafeWork NSW Complaints Management Protocol, which deals with internal complaints processes and escalation pathways, will also be completed by December 2025.

(12) Per recommendation 15 of the Review, how many inspectors now have specific psychosocial training, and what further training is scheduled this year?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

With respect to training in relation to psychosocial hazards more broadly, SafeWork NSW first introduced mandatory psychosocial training modules for Inspectors in 2021. An updated module aimed at providing psychosocial hazard response resources to Inspectors was introduced in November 2024 and has been completed by 355 Inspectors.

SafeWork NSW has seven dedicated psychosocial Inspectors. The Government's recent investment of \$127.7 million will strengthen the regulation of psychological health and safety by funding 20 new psychosocial-focused inspectors and five psychosocial investigators, as well as a dedicated Psychosocial Advisory Service comprised of seven appropriately qualified staff.

Psychosocial capability has also been strengthened through training and practical activities, including new inspector and continuing professional development programs, peer support sessions and regional training sessions, to equip inspectors with the resources and capability to respond effectively. This includes face-to-face training workshops delivered by specialist psychosocial Inspectors to more than 70 Inspectors in May and June 2025, ensuring a consistent and expert regulatory approach across regions and industries.

SafeWork NSW will continue to develop further resources and initiatives to provide ongoing support to its Inspectors and bolster the regulator's ability to respond effectively to psychosocial hazards.

(13) What changes, if any, are currently being considered to strengthen psychological safety and the management of traumatic workplace incidents?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

Following the 2025/26 budget uplift for SafeWork NSW, SafeWork NSW is strengthening its capability and capacity, particularly in preventing psychosocial harms in workplaces across NSW.

The funding will deliver an additional 20 psychosocial-focused inspectors, establish a Psychosocial Advisory Service and increase SafeWork NSW's capacity to investigate and prosecute breaches of work health and safety laws across all industries and harms.

SafeWork NSW

(14) What outcomes are SafeWork targeting in 2025-26 to judge its effectiveness as a standalone regulator?

(a) How will SafeWork measure against targets and has measurement begun since 1 July 2025? If yes:

- i. Since 1 July is there any early evidence that shows improved outcomes (e.g., faster first contact, more prosecutions, fewer repeat offenders, etc.)?
- ii. Since 1 July, are there any early changes that you have seen in median time to first contact and to resolution (vs 2023–24 baseline)?
- iii. Since 1 July, are there any early indicators that the proportion of matters escalated to enforcement has increased (improvement/prohibition notices, PINs, prosecutions)?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

Under its Business Accountability Framework, SafeWork NSW monitors its progress and outcomes so that there is a consistent, transparent, and efficient approach to reporting and monitoring to improve performance and decision-making.

The Business Accountability Framework governs the delivery of key success measures including:

- Strategic plan and Annual Regulatory Statement
- Review recommendations, which are well progressed with all Audit Office recommendations complete and 27 out of 46 McDougall recommendations complete.
- Business operations and governance.
- SafeWork NSW reform lead and lag indicators to monitor the success of initiatives linked to the budget uplift.

As SafeWork NSW was only established as a standalone regulator on 1 July 2025, clear and meaningful data to evaluate early regulatory success is not yet available.

(15) How much did it cost to set up SafeWork as a standalone regulator?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

Setting up SafeWork NSW was managed within SafeWork NSW's existing budget and resources.

(16) Were any consultants engaged?

(a) If so, how many engagements and what was the total spend?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

No consultants were used to set up SafeWork NSW as a standalone regulator.

(17) Are there any gaps in SafeWork NSW's regional inspector coverage? (a) If so, what are the 2025-26 targets to close those gaps?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

SafeWork NSW maintains a strong and consistent presence across regional NSW, with 16 regional offices and a network of 114 Inspectors working directly within local communities, including regional, rural, and remote areas.

(18) How many complaints have been made against SafeWork NSW regarding violence and aggression towards inspectors in the last two years, and how were they handled?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

SafeWork NSW responds to incidents of violence and aggression in accordance with internal protocol to ensure a consistent approach to prevention, response and management of such incidents.

SafeWork NSW also investigates all instances of alleged offences against its Inspectors to determine appropriate compliance action including, where warranted, prosecution. These complaints are referred to the SafeWork NSW Escalated Compliance Decision Making Panel for strategic assessment and decision as to whether escalated compliance action is appropriate.

Since 1 September 2023, SafeWork NSW has received nine complaints from Inspectors reporting incidents of violence and aggression in the course of their duties. Of the nine complaints, five were progressed for further investigation. One investigation has resulted in a successful prosecution, another is currently before the court, and three investigations remain ongoing.

(19) What independent oversight exists of SafeWork NSW, given the Resources Regulator routinely refers complaints back to SafeWork NSW itself?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

Pursuant to Schedule 2 of the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* (WHS Act), SafeWork NSW is accountable to the Minister for Work Health and Safety.

Following recent amendment to the WHS Act, the operation of the work health and safety scheme is also subject to supervision by Parliamentary Committee in accordance with section 276C.

(20) How can the Minister assure the community that SafeWork NSW is accountable when internal complaints are simply bounced around and left unresolved?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

The recent reforms to the WHS Act, brought into effect by the *Work Health and Safety Amendment (Standalone Regulator) Act 2025*, drive enhanced transparency in regulatory decision making and increase the accountability of the SafeWork NSW.

In addition to establishing SafeWork NSW as an independent executive agency led by the SafeWork Commissioner, these reforms also established the SafeWork Advisory Council.

Further, these reforms provide for increased accountability and transparency through the creation of additional public reporting requirements for SafeWork NSW about its achievements, challenges, program management and regulatory engagement governance as set down in Schedule 2 to the WHS Act.

With respect to the management of internal complaints, see response to question 11.

(21) What support is being provided to inspectors who have suffered serious mental health injuries in the line of duty?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

SafeWork NSW is committed to reducing the risk of work-related mental injury and providing support to those who experience injuries of this nature.

The regulator offers a range of programs and services to reduce risk and support staff including a bespoke psychological services program. This program is provided by an external provider and available to staff who may be exposed to high impact traumatic events or material during the course of their duties.

In addition, SafeWork NSW also offers Employee Assistance Program services which provides access to crisis support and confidential, free, short-term counselling services.

SafeWork NSW also provide support by way of a range of workplace adjustments, often guided by medical recommendations outlining support needs in individual circumstances.

Body-Worn Cameras Rollout

(22) How much has been spent on the initial rollout of body-worn cameras for SafeWork NSW inspectors before enabling legislation was in place?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

Please see page 44 of the transcript.

(23) What was the total additional cost of the re-rollout on 1 July, including software, batteries, and contractual amendments?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

The use of body worn cameras resumed on 29 May 2025 following commencement of the Surveillance Devices Amendment (Body-Worn Video) Regulation 2024 on 28 May 2025.

The original procurement contract provided for the supply of hardware and the management of the supplier's software for the duration of the three-year contract. The contract also included a 'battery refresh' provision, which was relied on to secure fresh batteries for the devices in 2025 at no additional cost.

(24) Did the rush to meet the 1 July stand-alone regulator deadline compromise staff safety?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

No.

Fireworks

(25) When did Safework NSW hold its most recent consultation with the fireworks display industry?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

SafeWork NSW conducts periodic consultation with the pyrotechnics industry. In the past 12 months, SafeWork NSW has undertaken consultation on three occasions.

All NSW licence holders were invited to attend these consultation sessions, with invitations issued by way of email. Each session was recorded and a resource pack, including the recording, was subsequently distributed to all licensed pyrotechnicians to ensure that the relevant information was accessible by all licence holders, irrespective of attendance at the live session.

(26) How often does Safework NSW consult with smaller, regional fireworks operators?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

See response to question 25.

(27) What are the current regulatory arrangements for regional operators for the transport and storage of small-scale fireworks – how do they differ from the major operators in Sydney, for example?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

All operators are bound by the same legislative frameworks, licensing and operational conditions as set down in *Explosives Act 2003*, WHS Act and associated regulations.

(28) How do you react to the small, regional operator's suggestion that if regulatory costs continue to rise, their expertise will be lost opening the door to "illegal product and untrained people" conducting displays?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

The regulatory framework established by the *Explosives Act 2003* and associated regulation ensuring the safety of workers and the community, and the cost of regulatory compliance.

A robust regulatory framework is central to deterring wrongdoing and provides the regulator with a mechanism for holding wrongdoers to account.

SafeWork NSW aims to ensure its regulatory approach promotes a competitive, confident and protected NSW.

(29) Has Safework NSW given any consideration to following the safe storage of firearms model to enable regional pyrotechnicians to safely store fireworks – (stored in a locked safe, the safe is fitted with an alarm of a type that is monitored remotely, and the storage location has a functional intruder alarm and duress facilities with offsite notifications)?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

To minimise the risk of fire and explosion and ensure the security of the pyrotechnics, pyrotechnics must be stored in accordance with *Australian Standard AS2187.1 – Explosives – Storage, Transport and Use*.

CFMEU meetings

(30) Since 28 March 2023, have you met with the Construction, Forestry and Maritime Employees Union (CFMEU) that was not disclosed in accordance with the Premier's Memorandum M2015-05 Publication of Ministerial Diaries and Release of Overseas Travel Information?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

In accordance with the Premier's Memorandum M2015-05 Publication of Ministerial Diaries and Release of Overseas Travel Information, all Ministers publish extracts from their diaries, summarising details of scheduled meetings held with stakeholders, external organisations, third-party lobbyists and individuals. Ministers are not required to disclose details of the following meetings:

- meetings involving Ministers, ministerial staff, parliamentarians or government officials (whether from NSW or other jurisdictions)
- meetings that are strictly personal, electorate or party political
- social or public functions or events
- meetings held overseas (which must be disclosed in accordance with regulation 6(1)(b) of the Government Information (Public Access) Regulation 2018 and Attachment B to the Premier's Memorandum), and
- matters for which there is an overriding public interest against disclosure.

Ministers' diary disclosures are published quarterly on The Cabinet Office's website (<https://www.nsw.gov.au/departments-and-agencies/cabinetoffice/access-to-information/ministers-diary-disclosures>)

ETU meetings

(31) Since 28 March 2023, have you met with the Electrical Trades Union (ETU) that was not disclosed in accordance with the Premier's Memorandum M2015-05 Publication of Ministerial Diaries and Release of Overseas Travel Information?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

In accordance with the Premier's Memorandum M2015-05 Publication of Ministerial Diaries and Release of Overseas Travel Information, all Ministers publish extracts from their diaries, summarising details of scheduled meetings held with stakeholders, external organisations, third-party lobbyists and individuals. Ministers are not required to disclose details of the following meetings:

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- meetings held overseas (which must be disclosed in accordance with regulation 6(1)(b) of the Government Information (Public Access) Regulation 2018 and Attachment B to the Premier's Memorandum), and
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Ministerial disclosures to The Cabinet Office

(32) On what date did you last update/make a ministerial disclosure to the Premier and the Secretary of The Cabinet Office?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

The Ministerial Code of Conduct (Ministerial Code) requires Ministers to make certain disclosures to the Premier and the Secretary of The Cabinet Office. I comply with my obligations under the Ministerial Code.

Department(s)/Agency(s) Employees

(33) In relation to redundancies, will this be made available in your respective Department(s)/Agency(s) Annual Reports?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

Information about any redundancies within agencies is published in the agency annual reports. Published annual reports can be accessed on agency websites.

Department(s)/Agency(s) Annual Reports

(34) Do you have plans to print the 2024-25 annual report(s) for each department / agency in your portfolio?

(a) If yes, what is the budgeted expenditure for printing for each department / agency?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

Annual reports should be prepared in accordance with the Treasury Policy and Guidelines – Framework for Financial and Annual Reporting (TPG25-10).

State Records Act

(35) Have you and your ministerial office had training and/or a briefing about the State Records Act from State Records NSW and/or The Cabinet Office and/or Premier's Department?

(a) If yes, when?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

The Ministers' Office Handbook provides guidance in relation to recordkeeping obligations under the State Records Act 1998. The Cabinet Office also provide guidance, advice, training and support on these obligations for Ministers' offices. Further information is available on State Records NSW's website (www.nsw.gov.au/departments-and-agencies/dciths/state-records-nsw). All Ministers' offices are expected to comply with their obligations under the State Records Act 1998.

Department(s)/Agency(s) Gifts and Hospitality Register

(36) Does your portfolio department(s)/agency(s) have a gifts and/or hospitality register?

(a) If yes, is it available online?

i. If yes, what is the website URL?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

The Premier's Department gifts and hospitality register is available at:
<https://www.nsw.gov.au/departments-and-agencies/premiersdepartment/access-to-information/gifts-and-hospitality-register>

All DCS staff (including SafeWork NSW staff) are required to comply with their obligations under the Gifts, Benefits and Bribes Policy, including declaring to a register. The Register is not publicly available online.

icare maintains a register of gifts and benefits. The Register is not publicly available online.

Ministerial staff disclosure of gifts and/or hospitality

(37) Does your ministerial office keep a register of gifts and/or hospitality for staff to make disclosures?

(a) If yes, what is the website URL?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

All Ministerial staff are required to comply with the Gifts, Hospitality and Benefits Policy for Office Holder Staff attached to the Ministers' Office Handbook and available on the NSW Government website.

(38) Have any staff members in your office been the recipient of any free hospitality?

(a) What was the total value of the hospitality received?

(b) Are these gifts of hospitality declared?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

All Ministerial staff are required to comply with their disclosure obligations under the Gifts, Hospitality and Benefits Policy for Office Holder Staff and I expect them to do so. A breach of the Policy may be a breach of the Office Holder's Staff Code of Conduct. The Policy includes disclosure obligations for Ministerial staff in respect of gifts, hospitality and benefits over \$150. If a Ministerial staff member is required by their role to accompany their Office Holder at an event that the Office Holder is attending as the State's representative, or where the Office Holder has asked the staff member to attend, then attendance at that event would not constitute a gift or benefit for the purposes of the Policy.

Ministerial Code of Conduct

(39) Since 28 March 2023, have you breached the Ministerial Code of Conduct?

(a) If yes, what was the breach?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

All Ministers are expected to comply with their obligations under the NSW Ministerial Code of Conduct (Ministerial Code) at all times. The Ministerial Code sets the ethical standards of behaviour required of Ministers and establishes practices and procedures to assist with compliance. Among other matters, the Ministerial Code requires Ministers to:

- disclose their pecuniary interests and those of their immediate family members to the Premier
- seek rulings from the Premier if they wish to hold shares, directorships, other business interests or engage in secondary employment (known as 'prohibited interests')
- identify, avoid, disclose and manage conflicts of interest
- disclose gifts and hospitality with a market value over \$500.

A substantial breach of the Ministerial Code (including a knowing breach of any provision of the Schedule) may constitute corrupt conduct for the purposes of the Independent Commission Against Corruption Act 1988.

Senior Executive Drivers

(40) As at 1 August 2025, how many senior executives in your portfolio department(s) / agency(s) have a driver?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

No Senior Executives employed in Departments within my portfolios have a driver.

GIPA Act - Disclosure Log & Ministerial Offices

(41) Does your Ministerial Office have a disclosure log in accordance with the Government Information (Public Access Act) 2009?

(a) If yes, what is the URL?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

An agency must keep a record called its disclosure log that records information about access applications made to the agency that the agency decides by deciding to provide access to some or all of the information applied for if the information is information that the agency considers may be of interest to other members of the public.

GIPA Act - Disclosure Log & Departments/Agencies

(42) What is the website URL for the Government Information (Public Access Act) 2009 disclosure log each of your portfolio department(s) / agency(s)?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

Treasury's disclosure log is publicly available at <https://www.nsw.gov.au/departments-and-agencies/nsw-treasury/about-us/right-to-information/open-access-information-proactive-release>

SafeWork NSW's log is publicly available at <https://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/about-us/right-to-information/disclosure-log>

icare's disclosure log is publicly available at <https://www.icare.nsw.gov.au/access-to-information>

TikTok

(43) Are you on TikTok?

(a) If yes, do you access TikTok from a NSW Government device?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

The Circular DCS-2025-01 Cyber Security NSW Directive - Restricted Applications List advises how NSW Government agencies are required to appropriately manage risks to NSW Government information on government-issued devices, or personal devices that are used for government business.

Signal

(44) Are you on Signal?

(a) If yes, do you access Signal from a NSW Government device?

(b) If yes, does Signal comply with the State Records Act?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

Like the former Coalition Government, the NSW Government uses a range of digital systems and communications that have been approved for use and may be utilised where there is a valid business requirement. This has been established practice under successive governments. State records are a vital public asset, and access to Government information

is essential to maintaining public trust in government. I comply with my obligations under the State Records Act 1998.

Training

(45) Since 28 March 2023, have you had training from an external stakeholder that included an invoice and payment paid for using your ministerial budget?

(a) If yes, what is the description of training?

(b) If yes, how much?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

Ministers have undertaken a program of Ministerial induction training. Ministers have undertaken training on the Respectful Workplace Policy. Members of Parliament are provided with a Skills Development Allowance that may be used in a manner consistent with the Parliamentary Remuneration Tribunal Annual Determination. Ministerial Office Budgets are managed in accordance with the Ministers' Office Handbook.

Parliamentary Secretary & Ministerial Vehicle

(46) Has your Parliamentary Secretary ever used a Ministerial driver from the pool?

(a) If yes, why?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

The Ministers' Office Handbook provides that the Premier's Department transport services may be used by Parliamentary Secretaries for official business trips in connection with their duties as Parliamentary Secretaries, with costs paid from the Ministers' office budget.

Media releases and statements

(47) Are all the ministerial media releases and statements issued by you publicly available at <https://www.nsw.gov.au/ministerial-releases>?

(a) If no, why?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

The Department of Customer Service is responsible for managing www.nsw.gov.au/media-releases and the publication of media releases.

Overseas Travel

(48) As Minister, do you approve overseas travel for public servants from your portfolio department(s)/agency(s)?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

The NSW Government Travel and Transport Policy provides a framework for NSW Government travelling employees and covers official air and land travel by public officials using public money. Section 2.1 of that Policy sets out approvals required in relation to overseas travel. Further information in relation to the Policy can be found here: <https://www.info.buy.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policies/travel-andtransport-policy> Treasury Policy and Guidelines – Framework for Financial and Annual Reporting (TPG25-10) requires agencies to include information on overseas visits by officers and employees in agency annual reports.

Data Breaches

(49) Does your portfolio department(s)/agency(s) keep a register of data breaches in accordance with the Privacy and Personal Information Protection (PPIP) Act?

(a) If yes, what is the website?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

Agencies are required by section 59ZD to prepare, publish and make publicly available a data breach policy. The PPIP Act does not provide for the internal register to be made public.

Under clause 17, of Schedule 1 to the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009*, it is conclusively presumed that there is an overriding public interest against disclosure of information contained in a document prepared for the assessment of an eligible data breach under the PPIP Act, Part 6A, if the information could worsen a public sector agency's cyber security or lead to further data breaches.

Discretionary Fund

(50) As Minister, so you have a discretionary fund?

(a) If yes, what department(s) / agency(s) administer it?

(b) If yes, what is the website URL detailing expenditure?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

Information about NSW Government grants can be found online.
<https://www.nsw.gov.au/grants-and-funding>

Airline Lounges

(51) Are you a member of the Qantas Chairmans Lounge?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

he Constitution (Disclosures by Members) Regulation 1983 (Regulation) sets out Members' obligations to disclose relevant pecuniary and other interests in periodic returns to Parliament. The Legislative Assembly Standing Committee on Parliamentary Privilege and Ethics Report on Review of the Code of Conduct, Aspects of Disclosure of Interests, and Related Issues (December 2010) notes that: "Advice has been received from the Crown Solicitor that use of the Chairman's Lounge by invitation is not a "gift" for the purposes of clause 10 of the Regulation, as it does not involve disposition of property. However, when the membership leads to an upgrade valued at more than \$250, it becomes disclosable as a contribution to travel, and should be reported under clause 11 of the Regulation." Clause 16 of the Regulation allows a Member to, at their discretion, disclose any direct or indirect benefit, advantage or liability, whether pecuniary or not. Relevant disclosures have been made to The Cabinet Office and to the NSW Parliament.

(52) Are you a member of the Virgin Beyond Lounge?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

The Constitution (Disclosures by Members) Regulation 1983 (Regulation) sets out Members' obligations to disclose relevant pecuniary and other interests in periodic returns to Parliament. The Legislative Assembly Standing Committee on Parliamentary Privilege and Ethics Report on Review of the Code of Conduct, Aspects of Disclosure of Interests, and Related Issues (December 2010) notes that: "Advice has been received from the Crown Solicitor that use of the Chairman's Lounge by invitation is not a "gift" for the purposes of clause 10 of the Regulation, as it does not involve disposition of property. However, when the membership leads to an upgrade valued at more than \$250, it becomes disclosable as a contribution to travel, and should be reported under clause 11 of the Regulation." Clause 16 of the Regulation allows a Member to, at their discretion, disclose any direct or indirect benefit, advantage or liability, whether pecuniary or not. Relevant disclosures have been made to The Cabinet Office and to the NSW Parliament.

Ministerial Overseas Travel

(53) Since 28 March 2023, have you formally applied to the Premier to travel overseas?

(a) If yes, was this application accepted?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

Ministerial overseas travel information is published online.
<https://www.nsw.gov.au/departments-and-agencies/premiersdepartment/access-to-information/ministerial-overseas-travel-information>

Private Jet Charter

(54) Have you travelled on a private jet charter in your Ministerial capacity?

(a) If yes, was this value for money for taxpayers?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

Premier and Ministers' domestic travel information is published on the Premier's Department's website at: <https://www.nsw.gov.au/departments-andagencies/premiers-department/access-to-information/premier-and-ministersdomestic-travel>

Ministerial Office renovations

(55) Since 28 March 2023, has your Ministerial Office at 52 Martin Place been renovated?

(a) If yes, how much was the expenditure?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

leasehold improvements for Ministerial Offices are reported within the Premier's Department annual reports

Conflict of Interest

(56) Since 28 March 2023, have you formally written to the Premier with a conflict of interest?

(a) If yes, why?

ANSWER:

I am advised;

All Ministers are expected to comply with their obligations under the NSW Ministerial Code of Conduct (Ministerial Code) at all times. The Ministerial Code sets the ethical standards of behaviour required of Ministers and establishes practices and procedures to assist with compliance. Among other matters, the Ministerial Code requires Ministers to:

- disclose their pecuniary interests and those of their immediate family members to the Premier
- seek rulings from the Premier if they wish to hold shares, directorships, other business interests or engage in secondary employment (known as 'prohibited interests')
- identify, avoid, disclose and manage conflicts of interest
- disclose gifts and hospitality with a market value over \$500.

A substantial breach of the Ministerial Code (including a knowing breach of any provision of the Schedule) may constitute corrupt conduct for the purposes of the Independent Commission Against Corruption Act 1988.