



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEES

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2015-2016 Supplementary Questions

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3

Health

Tuesday 1 September 2015

Answers due by: Friday 25 September 2015

Budget Estimates Secretariat

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Questions from Hon Shaoquett Moselmane MLC

Departure of Ray Creen – Ambulance Service

1. What was the total amount of the final payment made to Mr Ray Creen – head of the Ambulance Service after his resignation in July?
2. What will be the total salary and remuneration package for his replacement?

Bed Numbers

3. How many hospital beds were there in NSW as of September 1, 2015?
4. How many hospital beds were there in NSW, as of April 1, 2011?
5. How many hospital beds were there in NSW, as of April 1, 2012? How many hospital beds were there in NSW, as of April 1, 2013?
6. How many hospital beds were there in NSW, as of April 1, 2014?
7. How many hospital beds were there in NSW, as of April 1, 2015?

Overseas Trips

8. How much was spent by the NSW Ministry of Health on employees travelling overseas on Ministry related activities in:
 - a) April 1, 2011 to December 31, 2011?
 - b) 2012?
 - c) 2103?
 - d) 2014?
 - e) 2015?
 - f) 2014-15 financial year?

Heart Bypasses

9. In 2014-15, what is the median waiting time for heart bypass surgery at:
 - a) Liverpool;
 - b) Royal Prince;
 - c) Prince of Wales;
 - d) St George; and
 - e) Royal North Shore.
10. In 2013-14, what is the median waiting time for heart bypass surgery at:
 - a) Liverpool;
 - b) Royal Prince
 - c) Prince of Wales;
 - d) St George; and
 - e) Royal North Shore.
11. In 2012-13, what is the median waiting time for heart bypass surgery at:
 - a) Liverpool;
 - b) Royal Prince
 - c) Prince of Wales;
 - d) St George; and
 - e) Royal North Shore.
12. In 2011-12, what is the median waiting time for heart bypass surgery at:

- a) Liverpool;
- b) Royal Prince
- c) Prince of Wales;
- d) St George; and
- e) Royal North Shore.

Cervical Cancer

13. Given that the North Coast and the Blue Mountains have the lowest per centage rate of young women getting vaccinated against HPV, what steps is the Government taking to address this?

Fluoride

14. Please list the communities which are waiting fluoride for their water supply
15. Please list the population of the communities which are waiting fluoride for their water supply
16. Please provide a timetable for their supply and expected completion dates

Longest ambulance waits

17. Please list the longest 50 recorded ambulance time waits by the incident; suburb and the timeframe from call to response for the Sydney region for:
- i. 2014-15; and
 - ii. the period January 1- September 1, 2015.

Melaleuca unit at Blacktown Hospital

18. How many patients have been treated at Melaleuca unit at Blacktown hospital since it was opened in July 2014 until December 31, 2014?
19. How many patients have been treated at Melaleuca unit at Blacktown hospital since it was opened in July 2014 until September 1, 2015?
20. How many periods were there no patients in Melaleuca unit?

Bulli Hospital

21. When will design plans be released to the community for the new Aged Care Facility at Bulli Hospital?
22. How many new full time positions will be created at the Bulli Hospital upon completion of the aged-care facility?
23. Please advise how many patients are presenting to the Urgent Primary Care facility each day in:
- a) 2011
 - b) 2012
 - c) 2013
 - d) 2014
 - e) 1 January 2015 until 30 June 2015;
 - f) 1 January 2015 until September 1, 2015.

Nepean Hospital

24. In 2014-15, how much will the Government provide to Nepean Hospital's emergency department?
25. When will construction for the Nepean hospital redevelopment announced during the election campaign commence?
26. When will the Nepean hospital redevelopment announced during the March 2015 election campaign be completed?

The Cosmetic Institute

27. Since 2013, how many letters or complaints has the Ministry for Health received in relation to The Cosmetic Institute, which operates in Parramatta and Bondi Junction?
28. Please detail the nature of those letters.
29. Were those letters or their concerns referred to the appropriate regulatory body?
 - a) If yes, which bodies and when?

Commitments

30. When will construction for the Tweed hospital upgrade announced during the election campaign commence?
31. When will the Tweed hospital upgrade announced during the election campaign be completed?
32. When will construction for the Westmead hospital upgrade announced during the election campaign commence?
33. When will the Westmead hospital upgrade announced during the election campaign be completed?
34. When will construction for the Westmead Children's hospital upgrade announced during the election campaign commence?
35. When will the Westmead Children's hospital upgrade announced during the election campaign be completed?
36. When will construction for the Prince of Wales hospital upgrade announced during the election campaign commence?
37. When will the Prince of Wales hospital upgrade announced during the election campaign be completed?
38. When will construction for stage two of the Blacktown Hospital Upgrade announced during the election campaign commence?

39. When will stage two of the Blacktown Hospital Upgrade announced during the election campaign be completed?
40. When will construction for the Armidale hospital redevelopment announced during the election campaign commence?
41. When will the Armidale hospital redevelopment announced during the election campaign be completed?
42. When will construction for the Bowral hospital redevelopment announced during the election campaign commence?
43. When will the Bowral hospital redevelopment announced during the election campaign be completed?
44. When will construction for the Bulli Hospital Aged-care facility announced during the election campaign commence?
45. When will the Bulli Hospital Aged-care facility announced during the election campaign be completed?
46. When will construction for the Broken Hill hospital upgrade announced during the election campaign commence?
47. When will the Broken Hill hospital upgrade announced during the election campaign be completed?
48. When will construction for the Cooma hospital redevelopment announced during the election campaign commence?
49. When will the Cooma hospital redevelopment announced during the election campaign be completed?
50. When will construction for the Concord hospital redevelopment announced during the election campaign commence?
51. When will the Concord hospital redevelopment announced during the election campaign be completed?
52. When will construction for the Gosford hospital redevelopment announced during the election campaign commence?
53. When will the Gosford hospital redevelopment announced during the election campaign be completed?

54. When will construction for stage two of the Hornsby Hospital redevelopment announced during the election campaign commence?
55. When will stage two of the Hornsby Hospital redevelopment announced during the election campaign be completed?
56. When will construction for the Inverell hospital upgrade announced during the election campaign commence?
57. When will the Inverell hospital upgrade announced during the election campaign be completed?
58. When will construction for the Macksville hospital upgrade announced during the election campaign commence?
59. When will the Macksville hospital upgrade announced during the election campaign be completed?
60. When will construction for the new Lower Hunter hospital announced during the election campaign commence?
61. When will the Lower Hunter hospital announced during the election campaign be completed?
62. When will construction for the Manning hospital redevelopment announced during the election campaign commence?
63. When will the Manning hospital redevelopment announced during the election campaign be completed?
64. When will construction for the Mudgee hospital upgrade announced during the election campaign commence?
65. When will the Mudgee hospital upgrade announced during the election campaign be completed?
66. When will construction for the Rouse Hill hospital announced during the election campaign commence?
67. When will the Rouse Hill hospital announced during the election campaign be completed?
68. When will construction for the St George hospital redevelopment announced during the election campaign commence?
69. When will the St George hospital redevelopment announced during the election campaign be completed?

70. When did construction for the Sutherland hospital emergency department upgrade announced during the election campaign commence?
71. When will the Sutherland hospital emergency department announced during the election campaign be completed?
72. When will construction for the Wyong hospital redevelopment announced during the election campaign commence?
73. When will the Wyong hospital redevelopment announced during the election campaign be completed?
74. When will construction for the Shellharbour hospital upgrade announced during the election campaign commence?
75. When will the Shellharbour hospital upgrade announced during the election campaign be completed?
76. When will construction for the Lismore hospital redevelopment stage 3B announced during the election campaign commence?
77. When will the Lismore hospital redevelopment stage 3B announced during the election campaign be completed?
78. When will construction for the Wagga hospital redevelopment Stage 3 announced during the election campaign commence?
79. When will the Wagga hospital redevelopment Stage 3 announced during the election campaign be completed?
80. When will construction for the Coffs Harbour hospital redevelopment announced during the election campaign commence?
81. When will the Coffs Harbour hospital redevelopment announced during the election campaign be completed?
82. When will construction for the Dubbo hospital redevelopment stage 3 and 4 announced during the election campaign commence?
83. When will the Dubbo hospital redevelopment stage 3 and 4 announced during the election campaign be completed?

84. When will construction for the Goulburn hospital upgrade announced during the election campaign commence?
85. When will the Goulburn hospital upgrade announced during the election campaign be completed?
86. When will construction for stages two and three of the neonatal intensive care unit at the John Hunter Hospital announced during the election campaign commence?
87. When will stages two and three of the neonatal intensive care unit at the John Hunter Hospital announced during the election campaign be completed?
88. When will Singleton hospital upgrades announced during the election campaign commence?
89. When will the Singleton hospital upgrades announced during the election campaign be completed?
90. When will construction on Grafton hospital's ambulatory care centre announced during the election campaign commence?
91. When will the Grafton hospital's ambulatory care centre announced during the election campaign be completed?
92. When will construction for the Ryde hospital upgrade announced during the election campaign commence?
93. When will the Ryde hospital upgrade announced during the election campaign be completed?
94. When will construction of the Renal Dialysis service at Blue Mountains Hospital announced during the election campaign commence?
95. When will the Renal Dialysis service at Blue Mountains Hospital announced during the election campaign be completed?
96. When will construction for the Shoalhaven Hospital carpark announced during the election campaign commence?
97. When will the Shoalhaven Hospital carpark announced during the election campaign be completed?
98. When will the Shoalhaven Hospital's second Linear accelerator announced during the election campaign be installed?

99. When will construction for the Pottsville Ambulance Station announced during the election campaign commence?
100. When will the Pottsville Ambulance Station announced during the election campaign be completed?
101. When will construction for the Kiama Ambulance Station announced during the election campaign commence?
102. When will the Kiama Ambulance Station announced during the election campaign be completed?
103. When will construction for the Maitland Ambulance Station announced during the election campaign commence?
104. When will the Maitland Ambulance Station announced during the election campaign be completed?
105. When will construction for the Molong Ambulance Station announced during the election campaign commence?
106. When will the Molong Ambulance Station announced during the election campaign be completed?
107. When will construction for the Wyong Ambulance Station announced during the election campaign commence?
108. When will the Wyong Ambulance Station announced during the election campaign be completed?
109. When will construction for the Wauchope Ambulance Station upgrade announced during the election campaign commence?
110. When will the Wauchope Ambulance Station upgrade announced during the election campaign be completed?
111. When will construction for the Bathurst Ambulance Station upgrade announced during the election campaign commence?
112. When will the Bathurst Ambulance Station upgrade announced during the election campaign be completed?

Blood Transfusions

113. Since 1 April 2011, how many people in New South Wales hospitals declined or refused blood transfusions on the grounds of religion such as being Jehovah's Witnesses?

a) Of these people how many were:

i. women?

ii. men?

iii. under the age of 18?

114. Between 1 January 2011 and 31 December 2011, how many people in New South Wales hospitals declined or refused blood transfusions on the grounds of religion such as being Jehovah's Witnesses?

a) Of these people how many were:

i. women?

ii. men?

iii. under the age of 18?

115. Between 1 January 2012 and 31 December 2012, how many people in New South Wales hospitals declined or refused blood transfusions on the grounds of religion such as being Jehovah's Witnesses?

a) Of these people how many were:

i. women?

ii. men?

iii. under the age of 18?

116. Between 1 January 2013 and 31 December 2013, how many people in New South Wales hospitals declined or refused blood transfusions on the grounds of religion such as being Jehovah's Witnesses?

a) Of these people how many were:

i. women?

ii. men?

iii. under the age of 18?

117. Between 1 January 2014 and 31 December 2014, how many people in New South Wales hospitals declined or refused blood transfusions on the grounds of religion such as being Jehovah's Witnesses?

a) Of these people how many were:

i. women?

- ii. men?
- iii. under the age of 18?

118. Between 1 January 2015 and 1 September 2015, how many people in New South Wales hospitals declined or refused blood transfusions on the grounds of religion such as being Jehovah's Witnesses?

- a) Of these people how many were:
 - i. women?
 - ii. men?
 - iii. under the age of 18?

Cyber attacks

119. Between 1 April 2011 and 31 August 2015, how many cyber-attacks or hacking attempts have been made against NSW Health's computer network?

120. Of those, how many resulted in breaches of security?

- a) When did those breaches occur?
- b) What divisions were infiltrated?

121. How many beds are in Parkes Ward 7 in Prince of Wales Hospital in Randwick?

122. How many of those beds had patients in them:

- a) As of 1 April 2011?
- b) As of 1 January 2012?
- c) As of 1 January 2013?
- d) As of 1 January 2014?
- e) As of 1 January 2015?
- f) As of 1 September 2015?

123. If there are no beds in Parkes Ward 7 in Prince of Wales Hospital in Randwick, is it being used for office space?

124. If it is being used for office space, how many desks are located there?

Aged Care Beds

125. How many elderly patients over the age of 70 are being accommodated in acute-care hospital beds in New South Wales hospitals while they wait for aged care beds/places?

- a) What was the number:

- b) As of 1 April 2011?
- c) As of 1 January 2012?
- d) As of 1 January 2013?
- e) As of 1 January 2014?
- f) As of 1 January 2015?
- g) As of 1 September 2015

126. What was the average wait for an aged care bed for an elderly patient seeking an aged care bed:
- a) in 2011?
 - b) in 2012?
 - c) in 2013?
 - d) in 2014?
 - e) Between January 1, 2015 and 1 September 2015

Stolen Prescription Pads

127. What advice does NSW Health provide to doctors who have had their prescription pads stolen?
128. What advices does NSW Health provide to New South Wales pharmacists who discover that they may have prescriptions written on stolen prescription pads?
129. In 2014, what were the top 25 suburbs for doctors losing their prescription pads?
130. In 2014, what were the top 10 drug items purchased via stolen prescription pads?
131. How much was spent via stolen prescription pads in New South Wales in:
- a) 2011?
 - b) 2012?
 - c) 2013?
 - d) 2014?
 - e) From 1 January 2015 to 1 September 2015?
132. How much did NSW Health spend on stolen prescription pad recovery within Pharmaceutical Services in New South Wales?
- a) 2011?
 - b) 2012?
 - c) 2013?
 - d) 2014?
 - e) From 1 January 2015 to 1 September 2015?
133. How many prescription pads were reported stolen to NSW Health in:

- a) 2011?
- b) 2012?
- c) 2013?
- d) 2014?
- e) From 1 January 2015 to 1 September 2015?

Day Beds

- 134. As of 1 January 2015, how many day beds were there in New South Wales public hospitals?
- 135. As of 1 January 2015, how many night beds were there in New South Wales public hospitals?
- 136. As of 1 January 2015, how many beds were there in New South Wales public hospitals?

Dental Treatment

- 137. How many people were provided with dental treatment by or through the Government in 2011-12?

- a) How many of those were children?
- b) How many were over 65?

- 138. How many people were provided with dental treatment by or through the Government in 2012-13?

- a) How many of those were children?
- b) How many were over 65?

- 139. How many people were provided with dental treatment by or through the Government in 2013-14?

- a) How many of those were children?
- b) How many were over 65?

- 140. How many people were provided with dental treatment by or through the Government in 2014-15?

- a) How many of those were children?
- b) How many were over 65?

- 141. How many people are on the dental waiting list in New South Wales as of 1 September 2015?

- a) What is the average wait for treatment in New South Wales?
- b) What is the average wait for treatment for a person under 18 in New South Wales?

Lost Infants

- 142. Are there protocols to deal with medical staff misplacing or losing babies in New South Wales hospitals?

- 143. What is the official definition of "lost" or misplaced?

- 144. How many babies have been lost in New South Wales hospitals in:

- a) 2011?

- b) 2012?
- c) 2013?
- d) 2014?
- e) From 1 January 2015 to 1 September 2015?

145. What is the longest period of time a baby has been lost or misplaced in a New South Wales hospital in:

- a) 2011?
- b) 2012?
- c) 2013?
- d) 2014?
- e) From 1 January 2015 to 1 September 2015?

146. Are there protocols or steps taken to ensure that babies are not inadvertently mixed up or switched at birthing unit or in the maternity wing? If so, what are the steps?

147. How many incidents of "baby switching" between parents have occurred in New South Wales hospitals in:

- a) 2011?
- b) 2012?
- c) 2013?
- d) 2014?
- e) From 1 January 2015 to 1 September 2015?

Staff members

148. As of 31 December 2013, how many staff were employed at the Miller Street, North Sydney health department?

149. What is the total number?

150. How many were Senior Executive Service positions?

151. How many were full-time employees as part of the total number?

152. How many were part-time employees as part of the total number?

153. As of 31 December 2014, how many staff were employed at the Miller Street, North Sydney health department?

154. What is the total number?

155. How many were Senior Executive Service positions?

156. How many were full-time employees as part of the total number?

157. How many were part-time employees as part of the total number?

158. As of 1 September 2015, how many staff were employed at the Miller Street, North Sydney health department?

159. What is the total number?

160. How many were Senior Executive Service positions?

161. How many were full-time employees as part of the total number?

162. How many were part-time employees as part of the total number?

Pay-outs for Patient errors

163. In 2013-14, how much was paid out to patients or their surviving family members by the Government due to hospital or medical errors?
164. How many patients were involved in these matters?
165. What were the top 10 hospitals?
166. In 2011-12, how much was paid out to patients or their surviving family members by the Government due to hospital or medical errors?
167. How many patients were involved in these matters?
168. What were the top 10 hospitals?

Ice Assaults

169. How many hospital staff reported that they were assaulted by people affected by ice in New South Wales hospitals in 2013-14?
170. How many were unable to return to work?
171. How many lost work days were there?
172. What are the top 10 hospitals for reported incidents?
173. How many hospital staff reported that they were assaulted by people affected by ice in New South Wales hospitals in 2012-13?
174. How many were unable to return to work?
175. How many lost work days were there?
176. What are the top 10 hospitals for reported incidents?

GP and Schedule 8

177. How many General Practitioners were authorised to prescribe Schedule 8 drugs in New South Wales in:
 - a) 2011?
 - b) 2012?
 - c) 2013?
 - d) 2014?
 - e) at 1 September 2015?
178. How many specialists were authorised to prescribe Schedule 8 drugs in New South Wales in:
 - a) 2011?
 - b) 2012?
 - c) 2013?
 - d) 2014?
 - e) at 1 September 2015?
179. How many medical doctors had their authorisation to prescribe Schedule 8 drugs revoked in New South Wales in:
 - a) 2011?
 - b) 2012?
 - c) 2013?

- d) 2014?
 - e) From 1 January 2015 to 1 September 2015?
180. How many medical doctors had their authorisation to prescribe Schedule 8 drugs revoked in New South Wales after providing patients with a Schedule 8 drug for off-label purposes in:
- f) 2011?
 - g) 2012?
 - h) 2013?
 - i) 2014?
 - j) From 1 January 2015 to 1 September 2015?

Pseudoephedrine Sales

181. When does the Government expect all pseudoephedrine sales in pharmacies to be recorded online?
182. What is currently budgeted for the implementation of the online recording of all pseudoephedrine sales in pharmacies?

Health Care Interpreting and Translating Services

183. What was the Budget for Health Care Interpreting and Translating Services in 2013-14?
184. What was the Budget for Health Care Interpreting and Translating Services in 2014-15?
185. What is the Budget for Health Care Interpreting and Translating Services in 2015-16?
186. How many people were employed in Health Care Interpreting and Translating Services in 2013-14?
187. How many people were employed in Health Care Interpreting and Translating Services in 2014-15?
188. How many people will be employed in Health Care Interpreting and Translating Services in 2015-16?
189. Are there any plans to privatise or outsource Health Care Interpreting and Translating Services?

Ministerial Office Administration

190. How many staff are in your ministerial office?
- a) What was the average salary for staff members in your office during 2014-15?
 - b) What is the average salary for a ministerial staffer in your office based on current appointments?
191. How many blackberries/smart phones are assigned to your staff?
- a) For each phone, how much was each bill in the past financial year?
 - b) How many phones have been lost or replaced due to damage in your office?

- c) What is the cost of replacing those phones?
- 192. How many iPads or tablets does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?
 - a) What is the cost of providing iPads or tablets to your Ministerial Office?
 - b) How many iPads or tablets have been replaced due to lost or damage?
 - c) What was the cost of replacing these devices?
- 193. Did any your or your ministerial staff incur data charges on a mobile phone or tablet device greater than \$1000 for a single billing period?
 - a) If so, how many times did this occur?
 - b) What was the individual cost of each data charge over \$1000 for a single billing period?
- 194. Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in your office?
 - a) What is the cost of this?
- 195. Have any floral displays or indoor plants been hired or leased for display in your ministerial office?
 - a) If so, what was the cost of these items?
- 196. What is the total cost of all subscriptions by you and your staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals?
 - a) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?
 - b) Who is the subscriber for each of these?
- 197. What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by you and your office?
 - a) What were the gifts purchased?
 - b) Who were they gifted to?
- 198. Do you purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for your office?
 - a) What is the cost of this?
- 199. Can you advise the names of all contractors/consultants employed and/or paid for by your office, under any agreement, contract or fee-for -service arrangement in 2014-15?
 - a) Do they have ABN's?
 - a) If so, please provide details?
 - b) Details of paid or unpaid invoices and amounts?
 - c) Details of services and fees provided by each contractor and or consultant?
- 200. Details of the agreement between your office and any contractors/consultants engaged by your office?

Ministerial And Office Travel

- 201. Have any of your overseas trips in the past year been paid for in part or in full by using public money?
 - a) If so, did any of your relatives or friends accompany you on these trips?
- 202. Have you undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded?
 - a) What were the nature of these trips?
 - b) Who paid for these trips?
- 203. What was the total bill for your office in 2014-15 for:
 - a) Taxi hire
 - b) Limousine hire

- c) Private hire care
 - d) Hire car rental
204. Have you ever used Uber?
- a) If yes, were any of these occasions in an UberX vehicle?
205. Have you or anyone in your office used Uber services travelling to or from work-related events, meetings or functions?
- a) Were any of those services in an UberX vehicle?
206. Have you or anyone in your office sought reimbursement for using Uber services to travel to or from work-related events, meetings or functions?
- a) What is the value of those reimbursements?
207. Have you used Airbnb?
208. Have you or anyone in your office used Airbnb as an accommodation solution whilst travelling on official business?
209. Have any planes or helicopters been chartered by you or your office and paid for with public money?
- a) If yes, will you please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?
210. What non-standard features are fitted to your ministerial vehicle?
- a) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?

Labour Hire Firms

211. Do any Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities utilise the services of Labour Hire Firms? If yes, please advise in table form:
- a) The names of the firms utilised
 - b) The total amount paid to each firm engaged
 - c) The average tenure period for an employee provided by a labour hire company
 - d) The longest tenure for an employee provided by a labour hire company
 - e) The duties conducted by employees engaged through a labour hire company
 - f) The office locations of employees engaged through a labour hire company
 - g) The highest hourly or daily rate paid to an employee provided by a labour hire company

Media And Public Relations

212. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies?
213. What is the forecast for the current financial year for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost?
214. What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities?
215. Have you had media training or speech training?
- a) If yes, who paid for it?
 - b) If paid by taxpayers, what was the amount?

Consultants, Lobbyists And Former Parliamentarians

216. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Chris Hartcher in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- Who attended those meetings?
 - What was the nature of those meetings?
 - What was discussed?
 - Were any records of those meetings kept?
217. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Andrew Stoner in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- Who attended those meetings?
 - What was the nature of those meetings?
 - What was discussed?
 - Were any records of those meetings kept?
218. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Tim Owen in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- Who attended those meetings?
 - What was the nature of those meetings?
 - What was discussed?
 - Were any records of those meetings kept?
219. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Craig Baumann in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- Who attended those meetings?
 - What was the nature of those meetings?
 - What was discussed?
 - Were any records of those meetings kept?
220. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Andrew Cornwell in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- Who attended those meetings?
 - What was the nature of those meetings?
 - What was discussed?
 - Were any records of those meetings kept?
221. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Chris Spence in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- Who attended those meetings?
 - What was the nature of those meetings?
 - What was discussed?
 - Were any records of those meetings kept?
222. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Darren Webber in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- Who attended those meetings?
 - What was the nature of those meetings?
 - What was discussed?
 - Were any records of those meetings kept?

223. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Garry Edwards in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- Who attended those meetings?
 - What was the nature of those meetings?
 - What was discussed?
 - Were any records of those meetings kept?
224. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Bart Bassett in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- Who attended those meetings?
 - What was the nature of those meetings?
 - What was discussed?
 - Were any records of those meetings kept?
225. Has the consultancy company Premier State done any consultancy work for the Department? If so what projects was Premier State consulted on?
- What was the cost of the consultancy work for each project?
 - Was there a tender process for these projects?
226. Does Premier State currently have any contract work with the Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibility?
- If yes, what is their role in the project?

Consulting

227. How much have the Department/agencies under your portfolio responsibility spent in legal costs?
- For what specific purposes or matters was legal advice sought?
228. Have Department/agencies under your portfolio engaged any consultants to provide the following services or advice:
- Social media
 - And the cost of these services
 - Photography
 - And the cost of these services
 - Acting training
 - And the cost of these services
 - Ergonomics
 - And the cost of these services

Department/Agency Administration

229. How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-15?
- Of these redundancies, how many were:
 - Voluntary
 - Forced

- b) What was the total cost of all redundancies?
230. Have any staff who received a redundancy in the last two years undertaken any paid work or provided any paid services for the agency with which they were formerly employed?
- a) What was the nature of these works/services?
 - b) What was the total cost of these works or services?
231. Are any staff formerly employed by your ministerial office now employed by Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibility?
232. How many staff were dismissed from Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibilities in 2014-15?
- a) What were the reason/s for each dismissal?
233. How much was spent on corporate hospitality by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-2015?
234. How much was spent on indoor plant hire and maintenance by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-2015 year?
235. How much did Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities spend on restaurant bills during the year 2014/2015?
- a) How much of these bills were alcohol?
236. Were instances of internal fraud detected by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-2015?
- a) What was the sum total of any such fraud and what was the result of any investigations?
237. How large is the Department's vehicle fleet?
- a) What is the composition of this fleet in terms of engine size?
 - b) How many of the fleet were involved in an accident during the year 2014-2015?
 - c) What was the total cost of insurance claims and repairs?
238. How much did departments/agencies spend on newspaper and journal subscriptions during 2014-2015?
239. How many SES employees are employed within departments/agencies under your ministerial portfolio?
- a) What is their remuneration band?
 - b) For each SES employee, how many have:
 - a) 0 staff reporting to them;
 - b) less than 2 staff reporting to them; and
 - c) less than 5 staff?
240. How many sick days, leave days or days attributable to workers compensation were lost for each department/agency within your portfolio responsibility during 2014-15 for:
- a) workplace bullying;
 - b) stress leave; and
 - c) sick leave?
241. Do any of the departments/agencies under your portfolio area employ actors for staff training?
- a) If so, what is:
 - a) the size of the contract for the provision of actors for staff training in your departments?
 - b) the term of the contracts for the provision of actors for staff training in your departments?

- c) the tender numbers for each of the contracts?

Department/Agency Travel

- 242. What was the total expenditure in 2014-15 by Departments/agencies within your portfolio on:
 - a) Taxi hire
 - b) Limousine/private car hire
 - c) Hire car rental
- 243. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have a policy on utilising Uber services for travel on official business?
- 244. Have staff in your Department/agencies either paid for with departmental funds or been recompensed for official travel using Uber services?
 - a) Were any of these payments for UberX services?
- 245. Have staff in your Department/agencies either paid for with departmental funds or been recompensed for official travel using Airbnb services?
- 246. Did any officers within departments/agencies under your ministerial portfolio use charter aircraft during the year 2014-2015?
 - a) If so what was the purpose and cost?

Departmental/Agency IT

- 247. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an iTunes account?
 - a) What was the total expenditure in 2014-15 on iTunes?
 - a) What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through iTunes?
- 248. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an Android account?
 - a) What was the total expenditure in 2014-15 on Android?
 - a) What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through Android?
- 249. How many Department/agency mobile phones, tablets and laptops were replaced due to loss or damage during 2014-2015?
 - a) What was the total cost of replacing these items?
- 250. Did any staff within departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities incur data charges on a mobile phone or tablet device greater than \$1000 for a single billing period?
 - a) If so, how many times did this occur?
 - a) What was the individual cost of each data charge over \$1000 for a single billing period?

Efficiency Dividend

- 251. What was the efficiency dividend required of the department in the 2014/15 financial year?
- 252. What is the efficiency dividend required of the department in the 2015/16 financial year?
- 253. What savings measures were implemented by the Department for:
 - a) 2014/15 financial year
 - b) 2013/14 financial year
 - c) 2012/13 financial year?
- 254. What actual savings were achieved by each strategy in:
 - a) 2014/15 financial year

- b) 2013/14 financial year
- c) 2012/13 financial year?

255. What reduction of staff occurred and at what cost as a result of each strategy in:

- a) 2014/15 financial year
- b) 2013/14 financial year
- c) 2012/13 financial year?

256. For the 2015/16 financial year:

- a) What savings measures will the Department save?
- b) What is the expected saving to be achieved for each measure?
- c) Will they require a reduction in staffing?
- d) How many positions within the Department remain unfilled due to the imposition of savings measures?

Questions from Hon Jeremy Buckingham MLC

E-cigarettes

257. If a business is retailing e-cigarettes in NSW does it have to be licensed?
- If yes, how many retailers are selling e-cigarettes?
 - If no, does the Government have any accurate way of knowing which retailers in New South Wales are selling e-cigarettes?
 - If yes, how many retailers are selling e-cigarettes?
 - If no, what is the Government's best estimate of the number of retailers engaged in selling e-cigarettes?
258. Has the Ministry of Health issued any approvals for the sale of liquid nicotine for use in e-cigarettes or e-cigarettes containing nicotine?
- If no, does the ministry of Health accept that liquid nicotine for use in e-cigarettes or e-cigarettes containing nicotine are currently being sold in many retail outlets in NSW?
 - If yes, has the Ministry of Health given any warning or commenced any prosecution action against retailers who are selling liquid nicotine for use in e-cigarettes or e-cigarettes containing nicotine?
 - If not, why not?
259. Does the NSW Government believe e-cigarettes fall outside the definition of products resembling tobacco products under section 21 of the Public Health (Tobacco) Act 2008 (NSW)?
- Has this ever been tested in court?
260. Does the Minister support the Tamworth Regional Council decision to broaden its smoke free policy to become the first Council in Australia to introduce a ban on e-cigarettes in public spaces?
- Given E-cigarettes are not currently covered by the Smoke Free Environment Act, can the Tamworth council decision be policed?
261. Can the NSW Health policy of treating e-cigarettes like normal cigarettes on NSW Health property be policed, given they are not currently covered by the Smoke Free Environment Act?

Tobacco Act

262. When will the Review of the Tobacco Act be concluded?
- Will the Minister or the department consult with tobacco companies as part of that review?
 - Will the Minister consider further changes to the regulation of e-cigarettes in that review?

Ambulances

263. Has the health department done any research or modelling on the economic and/or social costs or impact of outsourcing ambulance services to private providers?

a) If so, what does this research or modelling suggest?

264. Why are paramedics across NSW publically claiming that patients are at risk because of a critical shortage of beds in emergency departments in hospitals across the state?
265. What is the average time it takes an ambulance to reach a category 1A patient in NSW?
266. For each local health district in NSW, what is the average time it takes an ambulance to reach a category 1A patient?

Isolated Patients Travel and Accommodation Assistance Scheme

267. How many people travel on a weekly basis to Sydney to access healthcare and require subsidised overnight accommodation?
268. What modelling has been done about the future demand for accommodation needs in Sydney tertiary hospitals under the scheme?
269. How many people are on the waiting list for accommodation in Sydney to access healthcare services?
270. What is the average wait time for accommodation?
271. How many beds are currently available in Patient and Carer Accommodation Facilities owned in whole or in part by NSW Health?
272. How many Patient and Carer Accommodation Facilities owned in whole or in part by NSW Health have been closed since 2011?
- a) How many beds does this add up to?
273. How many Patient and Carer Accommodation Facilities owned in whole or in part by NSW Health have been opened since 2011?
- (b) How many beds does this add up to?
274. Does the Minister agree that all tertiary referral hospitals in New South Wales should provide onsite or nearby accommodation that is affordable (at the Isolated Patient Travel and Accommodation Assistance Scheme rebate rate), wheelchair accessible and includes facilities which allow people to cook meals?
- a) If yes, which tertiary referral hospitals do not currently meet this need?
275. How did the government determine the new accommodation reimbursement amounts which came into effect on 1 September 2015?

276. Will the increase of the per night rebate available for patients using for profit accommodation, but not for those using not-for-profit accommodation, under the Isolated Patients Travel and Accommodation Assistance Scheme put not-for-profit providers in regional areas out of business?
- a) Has the government done any modelling on the impact of this change on not for profit providers in regional areas?
277. Do you accept that this decision will cause the Our House accommodation, for cancer patients who have to travel to Lismore for treatment, to close as the Our House Chair Dr Chris Ingall has said?
278. How are you going to get around the issue that people will still be out of pocket for significant amounts of money initially because they have to wait 6 to 8 weeks for payment through the Accommodation Assistance Scheme and that this will mean many patients, especially pensioners, cannot afford to make the journey?
279. Was the decision to increase payments to for profit provider done because so many existing accommodation options have closed?
280. Are the moves to different rates available for not for profit and for profit providers and the reduction in the number of NSW Health owned accommodation facilities part of a deliberate move to ensure that in the future patient accommodation is only available in for profit facilities?

Blue Gum Lodge – Royal North Shore

281. Why were NSW Health not prepared with a replacement for Blue Gum Lodge, the 36 room patient accommodation facility at the Royal North Shore Hospital, when they had 8 years warning from Hammond Care that the facility was going to close in January 2014?
282. Why does the replacement have only 18 rooms instead of the original 36 rooms of Blue Gum Lodge?
283. How many people are on the waiting list for accommodation at Royal North Shore Hospital?
284. What is the average wait time for accommodation at Royal North Shore Hospital?

Federal Cuts

285. Are the assumptions for the health budget based on the proposed federal health cuts which have not yet been legislated occurring?
- a) If not, what further cuts will have to occur to health in NSW if these federal cuts are legislated?

286. Will the proposed Federal Government cuts to health care disproportionately affect rural and regional people in NSW who already have significantly worse health outcomes?

287. Will the proposed Federal Government cuts to health care disproportionately affect poorer people in NSW who already have significantly worse health outcomes?

Tamworth Nursing

288. Has the decision by Hunter New England Health to ignore the recommendation by the Industrial Relations Commission of NSW that it provide an additional 10 nursing hours on night shift in the emergency department of the Tamworth Hospital on a two-month trial been made because the health service does not have the funds to provide an adequate level of care?

289. Will the Minister step in to ensure the Industrial Relations Commission decision is upheld?

- a) Can the Minister guarantee that this decision will not affect the quality and availability of services to patients in that hospital?

290. Does NSW Health have a policy regarding compliance with decisions of the Industrial Relations Commission of NSW?

Climate Change

291. Has NSW Health done any modelling on the health impacts of heatwaves and bushfires in the Sydney Greater Metropolitan Region, under different climate change scenarios?

- a) If yes, how many increased deaths and hospitalisations as a result of increased heatwaves and bushfires are expected in 2050 and 2100 under the different climate change scenarios which have been modelled?

Wilcannia Weir

292. Does the Minister agree that it is a matter of deep shame for our entire community, state and nation that the life expectancy in Wilcannia for males is only 36.7 years and for women is 42.5 years?

- a) What is NSW Health doing to address this appalling statistic?

293. Does the Minister agree that the availability of good quality drinking water is vital to the health of a community like Wilcannia?

294. Does the Minister agree that the availability of community recreation facilities is critical for the mental health of people in an isolated community like Wilcannia?

295. Has NSW Health provided, or been asked to provide, any advice or information to the Minister for Water or his department on the health impacts of the construction of a weir for the people of Wilcannia?
- a) If not, will the Minister commit to investigate this issue?

Broken Hill

296. Has NSW Health investigated or provided any advice related to the health impacts of moving the city of Broken Hill onto bore water?

Preventative Health

297. How much is currently spent on preventative health programs in regional NSW?

Murwillumbah Birthing Unit

298. Does the decision to close the Murwillumbah Hospital birthing unit conflict with the Goal of the NSW Health Rural Health Plan to "Implement maternity models of care in rural LHDs that help provide services closer to home by using the expertise of all maternity care providers and enabling midwives to work to their full scope of practice?"
299. How many applications were received by the Tweed Byron Health Service Group from doctors for the role of specialised General Practitioner/Visiting Medical Officer Neonatal Roster at the Murwillumbah Hospital birthing unit before it was closed in May this year?
- a) Why was the community first told that the closure was due to an inability to identify suitable doctors for the position, that would be vacant after the current incumbent doctor retired?
- i. Has the Northern NSW Local Health District mislead the community about the reasons for the Birthing Unit's closure?
 - ii. Why is the community being told that the GP/VMO establishment is currently full with no capacity to recruit new doctors until the retirement of a GP/VMO?
 - iii. Why did recruitment not take place prior to the retirement of the existing GP/VMO taking effect?
 - iv. Has funding for this specialist position been guaranteed in the budget?
300. Will the State government request that the Federal Government release funds from the National Maternity Fund to support the Murwillumbah Birthing Centre?
301. When is the review of the Murwillumbah Hospital birthing unit by the Northern NSW Local Health District expected to be concluded?
- a) Will the Minister commit to reopening the service once the review has been concluded?

Hemp

302. What evidence does NSW Health have that the sale of Hemp food products would send a message to consumers that cannabis is safe?
303. Does NSW Health not agree that the Australian Competition and Consumer Act provides consumers with protection from false and misleading advertising and marketing of products and that if hemp foods were made legal it would still be unlawful to market industrial hemp seed products in any way which suggested a link to psychoactive products?
- a) Following this logic wouldn't the sale of poppy seeds send a message the opium is safe?
304. Why are NSW Health holding up the development of a multibillion dollar industry without any evidence that the sale of hemp seeds will send confusing messages on drugs?

Enable NSW Aids and Equipment Program

305. The NSW Aids and Equipment Program (AEP) and the Prosthetic Limb Service (PLS) are managed by NSW Health's EnableNSW, there is two separate co-payment policies which is inequitable as people on the PLS are given favourable conditions. I understand that EnableNSW has been reviewing inequitable co-payment policy so I request the Minister please explain where the review is at?
- a) When will the inequitable co-payment policy be addressed to ensure people on the AEP are not being charged more than those on the PLS?
306. Are there waiting times for eligible people to receive their requested assistive technology through the AEP?
- a) If yes, what are they?
307. What is the current cost of the assistive technology that participants are waiting to be provided that would be required to eliminate the waiting list?
308. What benefits are there for participants to be kept waiting to receive such essential and vital assistive technology, which is required to make people more independent and enhance social participation?

People who acquire a spinal cord injury over the age of 65

309. Why are patients over the age of 65 years (newly injured or people with an established injury but who have no care services), now ineligible to access HACC and Enable NSW services?
310. Why are these patients not eligible to apply to NDIS or to the NSW Government (FACS) Family and Community Services – Ageing, Disability and Home Care for disability funding?

311. Why are these patients required to apply for care and equipment through the Commonwealth funded My Aged Care Program with all referrals directed through their 1800 200 422 referral line?
312. Why does EnableNSW not provide equipment to patients over the age of 65 who are in receipt of a Home Care Package, even if the provider does not provide this equipment via the initial funding package?
313. Why are these patients unable to access personal care services and or equipment for discharge from the hospital to home if they access care via the My Aged Care Program?
314. Does the Minister acknowledge that by denying the ability of people with a spinal cord injury over the age of 65 to access specialised equipment, they risk increased readmissions to acute care facilities in the long term, at a cost to the health of the patient, and to the hospital budget, increasing difficulties in access to a hospital bed?
315. Why are patients, family and other responsible individuals unable to access all the information regarding support programs and services in order to make informed decisions?
 - a) Why has this information not been clearly defined?
316. Will the government investigate and consider amending the Specialised Equipment Essential for Discharge (SEED) program eligibility criteria to enable people over 65 years of age with a spinal cord injury to have access to it immediately?