



*Minister for Roads*

**Question on Notice**

Question taken on Notice from Mr Duncan Gay during the Estimates Committee Hearing on 13 October 2008.

**The Hon. DUNCAN GAY:** How many staff do you have in your ministerial office?

**Mr MICHAEL DALEY:** About 10.

**The Hon. DUNCAN GAY:** Can you find out, please?

**Mr MICHAEL DALEY:** I can, if you want to give me a minute. I will take that question on notice.

**ANSWER:**

**I am advised:**

I am advised:

All Ministerial staff are employed by the Premier's Department under the *Public Sector Employment and Management Act 2002*.

Staffing of Ministers' offices follow a two-tier model of 8 and 12 staff. My office complies with the model.

**MICHAEL DALEY MP  
MINISTER FOR ROADS**



*Minister for Roads*

**Question on Notice**

Question taken on Notice from Mr Duncan Gay during the Estimates Committee Hearing on 13 October 2008.

**The Hon. DUNCAN GAY:** How many car parks does your office have, your ministerial office?

**Mr MICHAEL DALEY:** In which building?

**The Hon. DUNCAN GAY:** Where your ministerial office is.

**Mr MICHAEL DALEY:** One, I believe.

**The Hon. DUNCAN GAY:** Will you take that on notice and find out for us?

**Mr MICHAEL DALEY:** I am happy to do that, but I think it is one.

**ANSWER:**

**I am advised:**

Car parking within GMT is provided within the terms of the lease. Parking spaces for Ministers and Staff are allocated by the Premier's Department model.

Two of my staff have parking at GMT in accordance with the model.

**MICHAEL DALEY MP  
MINISTER FOR ROADS**



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**The Hon. DUNCAN GAY:** How many e-tags does your ministerial office have?

**Mr MICHAEL DALEY:** I will take that on notice, but I believe it is one.

**ANSWER:**

**I am advised:**

As per standard practice, my vehicle is fitted with an e-tag.

**MICHAEL DALEY MP  
MINISTER FOR ROADS**



*Minister for Roads*  
**Questions on Notice**

Questions taken on Notice from the Hon Marie Ficarra MLC and the Hon Duncan Gay MLC during the Estimates Committee hearing on 13 October 2008.

**The Hon MARIE FICARRA:** How many staff and how many car parks do you have in your Department?

**Mr WIELINGA:** I will have to take that question on notice and give you that detail.

**The Hon MARIE FICARRA:** Can you also supply us with the number of e-tags?

**Mr WIELINGA:** I am happy to take that on notice and provide you with the information.

**The Hon. DUNCAN GAY:** And who pays for them, whether it is part of a package or where it comes from?

**Mr WIELINGA:** Sure.

**ANSWER:**

**I am advised:**

As at 30 September 2008, the RTA employed 6,773 equivalent full time staff members on a casual, temporary and permanent basis.

The RTA has approximately 695 car park spaces attached to its offices, including office accommodation at Centennial Plaza Surry Hills, Centurion Building and Octagon Building, Parramatta and its Regional Offices at Newcastle, Wollongong, Grafton, Parkes and Wagga. This figure excludes motor registries, vehicle regulation sites, District Works Office and Site Office and Depots.

Excluding trucks and plant, the RTA has 1,698 passenger vehicles including general pool vehicles available for use by all staff and 198 vehicles which have been salary packaged by individual staff under various industrial agreements and which are also available for business use by other staff.

Of the 198 RTA salary packaged vehicles, 172 have e-tags. All toll costs associated with private use of e-tags are required to be met by the officer. Where an officer is carrying out official business and incurs work related travel costs, whether a toll, rail costs or air travel, the costs of that official travel are met by the RTA.

**MICHAEL DALEY MP**  
**MINISTER FOR ROADS**



## *Minister for Roads*

### **Questions on Notice**

Questions taken on Notice from Ms Lee Rhiannon during the Estimates Committee hearing on 13 October 2008.

**Ms LEE RHIANNON:** What about the Pacific Highway, specifically the Sapphire to Woolgoolga upgrade? I would have thought that would be a possible spot for coastal inundation.

**Mr WIELINGA:** It is a question of the stage for that particular project. That is a little later in its life cycle. We have already had environmental documents on public display for Sapphire to Woolgoolga. If we need to do some additional work on climate change there, we are very happy to do that.

**Ms LEE RHIANNON:** You say you would be happy to do it. Are you actually working on that now? Are you kick-starting the process, or are you waiting to be pushed on it?

**Mr WIELINGA:** No. We started the process for Gerringong to Bomaderry of our own volition. I know that for a fact, because I have looked at that work being done there. I know for a fact of the other work we are doing for climate change. I will need to come back to you to confirm the situation for Sapphire to Woolgoolga.

**Ms LEE RHIANNON:** And also Hearns Lake to Hexham. They are the two areas that we thought were vulnerable on the North Coast. If you could take that on notice?

**Mr. WIELINGA:** I am very happy to do that.

### **ANSWER:**

#### **I am advised:**

The RTA is not only planning for the upgrading of the Pacific Highway now, but it is also taking proactive steps to address emerging planning issues. This includes the consideration of issues relating to climate change.

It is also worth noting that the RTA has a Climate Change Adaption Steering Group which is examining the issue of climate change and its impacts on upgrading projects.

The Pacific Highway Upgrade Program has been in place since 1996. As a result, climate change has not been included in the development of some older projects or for previously upgraded sections of the highway. However, the issue is being investigated in relation to newer upgrading projects, including for the highway near Hearns Lake

Hearns Lake falls within the Sapphire to Woolgoolga project, north of Coffs Harbour.

The effects of climate change have been considered and documented in the environmental assessment and the recently completed submissions report for the Sapphire to Woolgoolga upgrade. Further details can be found on the project website at [www.rta.nsw.gov.au/pacific](http://www.rta.nsw.gov.au/pacific) (click on Sapphire to Woolgoolga).

This work has included an assessment of greenhouse gas emissions both during construction and operation of the proposed upgrade. Changes to weather patterns, storm severity and flooding have also been considered.

Climate change will also be considered in the development of other Pacific Highway projects where appropriate, including the F3 Freeway to Raymond Terrace project near Hexham.

Due to the uncertainty in expected impacts resulting from climate change, the RTA has advised that an adaptive management approach to mitigation is considered appropriate for the management of those impacts.

For example, on the Sapphire to Woolgoolga project, this approach would include but would not be limited to:

- designing and constructing the upgrade in terms of a 1 in 100 year flood event;
- monitoring the performance of the installed drainage structures; and
- undertaking periodic reviews of published rainfall and ocean level data and advice / guidelines issued by appropriate organisations, such as the Department of Environment and Climate Change, the CSIRO and the Institution of Engineers, Australia.

**MICHAEL DALEY MP  
MINISTER FOR ROADS**



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**Question on Notice**

Question taken on Notice from the Hon Duncan Gay during the Estimates Committee Hearing on 13 October 2008.

**The Hon. DUNCAN GAY:** Minister, I am sure you are aware of the Premier banging on about open and accountable government all the time. Are you aware that the current State budget figures show a composite figure for spending, most of which includes both State and federal spending? Can you give the Committee a breakdown of the exact amount that the State Labor Government committed to the Pacific Highway this year and how much the Federal Government committed? I am sure you are aware of the Government's policy commitment to match Federal Government contributions. Was it in fact an equal contribution?

**Mr MICHAEL DALEY:** I will have to take that question on notice. I do not have those figures in front of me.

**ANSWER:**

**I am advised:**

The NSW Government's commitment to the Pacific Highway is to match the Federal Government contribution over the three year period to the end of the current AusLink agreement. The agreement does not require equal contributions each year.

The breakdown of the 2008 State Budget funding commitment for the Pacific Highway is as follows:

	<b>Federal Allocation 2008-09</b>	<b>State Allocation 2008-09</b>	<b>Total Allocation 2008-09</b>
	<b>\$M</b>	<b>\$M</b>	<b>\$M</b>
<b>Major Capital Works</b>			
Karuah - Bulahdelah Sections 2 and 3			80
Bulahdelah Bypass	15	10	25
Failford Road to Tritton Road (Planning)		3	3
Cooperook to Moorland	60.19	14.81	75
Moorland to Herons Creek	132.07	42.93	175
Herons Creek to Stills Road (Planning)		2	2
Oxley Highway to Kempsey (Planning)		1	1
Kempsey to Eungai (Planning)	10.5		10.5
Warrell Creek to Urunga (Planning)		3	3
Bonville Bypass		30	30
Coffs Harbour Bypass		6	6
Coffs Harbour (Sapphire) to Woolgoolga (Planning)	0.18	14.82	15
Wells Crossing to Iluka Road (Planning)		2.5	2.5
Iluka Road to Woodburn (Planning)		0.5	0.5
Woodburn to Ballina (Planning)		4	4
Ballina Bypass	100.01	9.99	110
Tintenbar to Ewingsdale (Planning)		6	6
Banora Point (Planning)		5	5
<b>Minor Works</b>		2.85	2.85
<b>subtotal</b>	<b>317.95</b>	<b>240.4</b>	<b>558.35</b>
<b>Maintenance</b>		47	
<b>Road Safety</b>	3.5	1.2	4.7
<b>Traffic facilities works</b>		2.7	2.7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>321.45</b>	<b>291.3</b>	<b>612.75</b>

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**The Hon DUNCAN GAY:** Minister are you aware that all other States split up State and Federal funding in their budget papers? Given the Premier's commitment to open and accountable government, will you give a guarantee that in future all your infrastructure statements will contain the actual amount contributed by both State and Federal governments?

**Mr MICHAEL DALEY:** You have just asked me if I will provide that detail, and I have said that I am happy to take the question on notice, and provide the information in due course. I am happy to provide it now and there would be no reason that I would not provide it in the future.

**ANSWER:**

**I am advised:**

The 2008/09 budget papers infrastructure statement indicates which projects are federally funded or jointly state and federally funded.

The NSW Treasury is responsible for the format of the budget papers in NSW and the RTA complies with that format.

**MICHAEL DALEY MP  
MINISTER FOR ROADS**



*Minister for Roads*

**Question on Notice**

Question taken on Notice from Ms Lee Rhiannon during the Estimates Committee Hearing on 13 October 2008.

**Ms LEE RHIANNON:** Mr Wielinga, some M5 East questions. What is the estimated cost of the filtration project at Bexley North?

**Mr WIELINGA:** \$65 million.

**Ms LEE RHIANNON:** Has that increased since it was first announced?

**Mr WIELINGA:** Yes. The early strategic estimate was around \$50 million.

**Ms LEE RHIANNON:** Why did it increase so much?

**Mr WIELINGA:** Just reflecting current prices on the market. It has all been tendered out and it reflects current prices on the market.

**Ms LEE RHIANNON:** What cost benefit analysis has been done on the various details of the project to ensure that it provides value for money?

**Mr WIELINGA:** I will need to take that question on notice and come back to you.

**ANSWER:**

**I am advised:**

It is not feasible to carry out a detailed cost benefit analysis on this trial Project.

The objective of the filtration trial is to assess the effectiveness of filtration systems to remove pollutants from tunnel air and to reduce visible haze in tunnels and quantify the whole of life costs of the systems.

The information gained from the trial will assist the NSW Government in making decisions on the use of filtration systems in future road tunnels.

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**Ms LEE RHIANNON:** When you get down to working on your first budget, you might want to work on this. On page 20-2 of the budget papers, under results and services, pedestrians and bikes do not rate a mention. It might be worth giving that attention.

**Mr MICHAEL DALEY:** I will take that on notice, but I did mention them ad nauseam—

**ANSWER:**

**I am advised:**

The Roads and Traffic Authority's program encompasses all road users including cyclists, pedestrians and motorists.

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**Ms LEE RHIANNON:** It is not restructuring on a whim and it would be a way of cleaning up some of the damage that one of your former colleagues, Mr Costa, inflicted in this area. That position was removed. Could you give us a response about what you will do about increasing the bike budget and restoring acquisition?

**Mr MICHAEL DALEY:** I will talk to Mr Wielinga about that.

**Ms LEE RHIANNON:** Would you take it on notice?

**Mr MICHAEL DALEY:** Yes, certainly.

**ANSWER:**

**I am advised:**

The RTA continues to invest in facilities for cyclists through a number of infrastructure programs, including the \$6.7 million allocated in the 2008-09 budget specifically for cycling infrastructure, education and promotion.

In addition, the RTA is investing a further \$40.7 million for cycling and walking facilities as part of major road construction projects including the Great Western, Hume and Pacific Highway upgrades.

As most cycling takes place on local roads, the RTA has been working with NSW Councils to improve local cycling networks. During 2008-09, the RTA will jointly fund 91 local bicycle network projects, with a total cost of over \$8 million.

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**Ms LEE RHIANNON:** What is the percentage of hybrids in the car fleet for your department?

**Mr MICHAEL DALEY:** I will take that on notice.

**ANSWER:**

**I am advised:**

The percentage of hybrid vehicles in the RTA passenger car fleet is approximately 2.2%. This compares to the government target of 1% for agencies with 100 or more vehicles. The RTA also has 113 liquified petroleum gas powered passenger cars.

**MICHAEL DALEY MP  
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