



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEE NO. 1

## **BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012-2013**

### **Supplementary Questions on Notice**

#### **General Purpose Standing Committee No. 1**

Planning and Infrastructure

Monday 8 October 2012

Answers to be lodged by: Thursday 1 November 2012

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## **Questions relating to the portfolios of Planning and Infrastructure**

**Monday 8 October 2012, 3.45 pm – 6.00 pm**

### **Questions from The Hon. P. Primrose**

1. Before the removal of the moratorium on fracking, why was there:
  - a) no methodology developed for measuring the cumulative impact of mining activities on local communities?
  - b) no regional plans prepared addressing the potential impacts of coal seam gas mining, including fracking, on local water catchments, especially in areas that feed our drinking water supply?
2. Why has the Aquifer Interference Regulation been downgraded to a policy and not enshrined in regulation?
3. Has the Premier ever had any meetings, conversations or correspondence with the Minister or his staff in relation to the redevelopment of the former Balmain Leagues Club site?
4. Is it true that under the system of standard templates proposed in the Planning Green Paper, there will be nothing to prevent the construction of cemeteries or crematoriums in rural lands like Horsley Park?
5. What date did you receive a recommendation for a decision on the Tralee development near Queanbeyan?
  - a) Why haven't you announced a decision?
  - b) Is it the case that the Department of Planning and Infrastructure has recommended that the development be approved?
  - c) Since March 2011 have you attended any Community Meetings in Queanbeyan or Jerrabomberra regarding the Tralee Development?
6. How many times have you, your staff or officers of the Department of Planning met with representatives from Canberra Airport since March 2011?
  - a) If so, when?
7. I understand that the Sydney Canberra Strategy is being revised.
  - a) Please advise the status of this revision.
8. What is the status of Government negotiations in relation to leasing office space in "The Landing" development in Gosford including expected costs and a current timeline?
9. How many blackberries are assigned to your staff?
10. For each phone, how much was each bill in the 2011/12 financial year?

11. How many have phones have been lost in your office?
12. What is the cost of replacing those phones?
13. How many iPads does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?
14. How many iPads have you purchased for your office and to whom have they been issued?
15. How many iPhones does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?
16. How many iPhones have you purchased for your office and to whom have they been issued?
17. How many iPhones have been lost in your office?
18. How many iPads have been lost in your office?
19. What is the cost of replacing those phones or iPads?
20. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies?
21. What is the forecast for 2012-13 for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost?
22. Have any of your overseas trips in the past year been paid for in part or in full by using public money?
23. If so, did any of your relatives or friends accompany you on these trips?
24. What is the annual remuneration package for your chief of staff?
25. What is the annual remuneration package for your head media advisor?
26. What is the annual remuneration package for each of your staff?
27. What is the estimated expenditure for your office budget in 2012-13?
28. Have any office renovations or fit outs been undertaken in your ministerial office since April, 2011?
29. If so, could you give details of contracted costs?
30. What is your Ministerial office budget for 2012/13?
31. How many political advisors are in your office?

32. How many administration staff?
33. How many Department Liaison Officers are assigned to your office?
34. How many staff in the Department are assigned to Ministerial support duties
35. Are any contractors or consultants working in your ministerial office?
36. If so, in what capacities?
37. How much did your Ministerial office spend on contractors or consultants?
38. How much did your Ministerial office spend on taxi fares, including Cabcharge in the 2011/12 financial year?
39. Are any of your portfolio agencies undergoing a restructure?
40. How many jobs are expected to be cut as a result of that restructure?
41. How many people are expected to have their wages cut as a result of that restructure?
42. How many voluntary redundancies were offered in your Departments since April 2011?
43. How many voluntary redundancies were accepted from employees in your Departments since April 2011?
44. How many voluntary redundancies are expected to be offered in 2012/13?
45. How much did your Department(s) spend on catering in 2011/12?
46. How much did your Department(s) spend on stationary in 2011/12?
47. What is your Department's catering budget?
48. What is your Department's stationery budget?
49. Since April 2011 have any of the agencies in your Department(s) changed their branding?
50. If so, how much was spent on rebranding the agency?
51. How long is the average turnaround for responding to correspondence in your Department(s)?
52. How many pieces of correspondence have been outstanding for more than 60 days?

53. In 2011/12 how many invoices has your Department(s) failed to pay a supplier or contractor for more than 30 days?
54. As a result of late payment, how much penalty interest has been paid to contractors since 1 January 2011?
55. How many invoices have been outstanding for longer than 60 days?
56. Does your department provide recurrent grant funds to non-government organisations?
57. If yes,
- a) What are the names of all organisations in receipt of funding?
  - b) What is the total amount of funding received by each organisation including goods and services tax?
  - c) On what date was the funding advanced?
  - d) What was the purpose for each grant or funding advance?
  - e) Was any funding withheld or returned?
  - f) If so, what were the reasons for withholding or requiring the funding to be returned?
  - g) What is the indexation rate applied to non-recurrent grant funds in 2011/2012?
  - h) What are the details of any costs involved in each study, audit, taskforce or review?
58. How many contractors has your Department(s) retained since 1 July 2012 and at what cost?
59. What is the current level of Aboriginal employment within your Department(s)?
60. How has that changed since 1 July 2011?
61. Since 1 July 2011, how much has been spent on charter air flights by your Department(s)?
62. In relation to feasibility studies, audits, taskforces and reviews: Is your department currently undertaking any feasibility studies, audits, taskforces or reviews? If so; then:
- a) What are the terms of reference or details of each study, audit, taskforce or review?
  - b) Who is conducting the study, audit, taskforce or review?
  - c) Was each study, audit, taskforce or review was publically advertised seeking expression of interest or competitive tenders?
  - d) Is there a contract in place detailing terms of engagement for the study, audit, taskforce or review?
  - e) What is the timeline of each study, audit, taskforce or review?
  - f) What are the details of any costs involved in each study, audit, taskforce or review?
63. Have any agencies within your Department(s) engaged consultants in the 2011/12 financial year?
64. If yes, which companies were engaged for consultancy services in the 2011/12 financial year
65. For what purpose has your Department engaged consultants
66. How much have your agencies spent on consultants in the 2011/12 financial year

67. What is your Department(s) budget for consultants in the 2012/13 financial year?
68. Have any agencies within your Departments sponsored any organisations or events in the 2011/12 financial year
69. If yes, which organisations and events were sponsored in the 2011/12 financial year
70. How much did your agencies within your Departments spend on sponsoring organisations and events in the 2011/12 financial year
71. What is your Department(s) budget for sponsorship in the 2012/13 financial year?
72. Has the Minister been provided with Speech, Voice or Media Training since becoming Minister? If so, then;
- a) Who conducted the training?
  - b) When was it conducted?
  - c) Where was it conducted what were the costs of the training?
  - d) Who paid for the training?
73. Can you please list all travel related costs for your Parliamentary Secretary incurred in their capacity as Parliamentary Secretary since 1 July 2011
- a) kilometres travelled
  - b) accommodation,
  - c) air fares
  - d) meals/entertaining
74. Can you please provide details of the following activities undertaken by your Parliamentary Secretary since 1 July 2011;
- a) meetings attended in their capacity as Parliamentary Secretary?
  - b) functions attended in their capacity as Parliamentary Secretary?
75. How often do you meet with your Parliamentary Secretary?
- a) Are these meetings documented?
  - b) Who attends these meetings?
76. Who provides instructions and direction to your Parliamentary Secretary, you or your Chief of Staff?
77. Has the Parliamentary Secretary been provided with Speech, Voice or Media Training since becoming Parliamentary Secretary? If so, then;
- a) Who conducted the training?
  - b) When was it conducted?
  - c) Where was it conducted what were the costs of the training?
  - d) Who paid for the training?

## Questions from Mr D. Shoebridge

1. What plans are there to make changes to current laws on Compulsory acquisition?
2. Is the Government undertaking any consultation regarding changing compulsory acquisition laws to allow the Government to acquire private properties for the purpose of on-selling them to developers for profit?
3. Does the Government support the Hands off Our Homes campaign run by liberals in 2010?
4. How does the Government estimate vacancy rates?
5. Given that vacancy rates in NSW are estimated to represent at least 127,000 empty dwellings, how are vacancy rates considered in population planning and projections for housing stock?
6. What percentage vacancy rate is assumed in new developments?
7. What steps is the Government taking to encourage owners of vacant buildings to ensure that these are occupied by suitable tenants?
8. Will Strategic, Regional and Local Plans under the Government's new planning system, retain related development controls that currently exist in Regional Strategies, Regional Conservation Plans, Catchment Action Plans, Local Environment Plans and Ministerial Directives?
9. What will be the legislative framework for making planning instruments and policies?
10. Will Strategic Plans be consistent with existing environmental policies such as Regional Conservation Plans, Catchment Action Plans etc and related legislation such as the Water Act 1912 and the Coastal Protection Act 1979?
11. Will all persons preparing environmental studies for a purpose under the planning act be accredited?
12. Why weren't each of the following recommendations of the independent report not addressed fully in the Green Paper:
  - a) Ecologically Sustainable Development as an overarching objective
  - b) Decision making by Councils and a review of the role of Regional Panels
  - c) The creation of a Concurrence Co-ordination Unit
  - d) The need for a strong response to Climate Change
  - e) Time limited consents for 90 years for areas affected by sea level rise
  - f) Ways to ensure that cumulative impacts are adequately considered
  - g) Amending the Commonwealth Copyright Act 1968 as it relates to DA exhibition
  - h) The creation of a statutorily independent State Planning Commission?
13. What will be included in a planning authority's the "Public Participation Charter", what will be its guiding principles and who will be responsible for its creation?
14. What compliance mechanisms will be put in place including what sanctions for non-compliance regarding any Public Participation Charter?
15. What revenue source and resources available to Local Government be used to enable meaningful consultation under a Public Participation Charter?

16. Will the Government commit to retaining the environmental and social protections be contained in the following under any new planning regime:
  - a) SEPP (Building Sustainability Index: Basix) 2004
  - b) SEPP (Housing for Seniors or People with a Disability) 2004
  - c) SEPP 71 – Coastal Protection
  - d) SEPP 65 – Design Quality of Residential Flat Development
  - e) SEPP 70 – Affordable Housing (Revised Schemes)
  - f) SEPP 62 – Sustainable Aquaculture
  - g) SEPP 55 – Remediation of Land
  - h) SEPP 58 – Protecting Sydney's Water Supply
  - i) SEPP 26 – Littoral Rainforests
  - j) SEPP 10 – Retention of Low-Cost Rental Accommodation
  - k) SEPP 44 – Protection of Koala Habitat?
17. For 16a-k if not, why not?
18. Why do the Government propose that Regional Planning Boards offer statutory representation for the development industry and only discretionary engagement with environmental and community groups?
19. Will the Government's proposed Subregional Delivery Plans reflect the work done to date on local Council's new LEPs and DCPs which were developed in consultation with local communities?
20. How will "local character" be preserved in new zones such as Enterprise Zones?
21. What input will be available for local residents before their locality is rezoned as an Enterprise Zone?
22. What are the proposed criteria for deciding what suburbs will be zoned Suburban Character Zones?
23. What environmental studies, consultation and appeal rights will be given to the community when rezoning proposals are being considered?
24. Why were the Planning Review Panels recommendations in regard to Councils and Councillors involvement in development assessments not adopted in the Green Paper?
25. Why does the Green Paper support the continued use of privately chosen certifiers rather than the random allocation of certifiers from a list of appropriately qualified certifiers maintained by the department or the Building Professionals Board?
26. Why does the Green Paper exclude the ability of councils to levy developers to provide for open green space?
27. Why hasn't the Chief Executive of the Office of Environment and Heritage been included in Chief Executive Officer's Group?
28. Why doesn't the Green Paper consider strategies to deliver greater levels of affordable housing in NSW and adopt clear affordable housing targets?
29. What are the current estimated costs payable by the NSW Government for:



- a) The Barangaroo Pedestrian Link, originally estimated at \$100 million;
- b) The relocation of the cruise ship terminal, including the transport and roads infrastructure to and from the White Bay terminal, originally estimated at \$46 million;
- c) The Headland Park, originally estimated at \$177 million;
- d) Site remediation, originally estimated at \$112 million;
- e) Operating and finance costs, originally estimated at \$228 million; and
- f) Other projected expenditure, originally estimated at \$271 million?

30. What funding options are available if the currently estimated costs significantly exceed the payments anticipated to be made by Lend Lease?

31. Having regard to the stated objective of the previous Government to break even in respect of government costs for the Barangaroo public domain and infrastructure, and the improbability now of such an outcome, has consideration been given to renegotiating the agreement with Lend Lease?

- a) If not, what other steps are available to preclude the resultant deficit from being a further drain on the State budget?

32. What steps has the Government taken to manage the risks specified in the June 2011 Auditor-General's performance audit, including:

- a) Developer contributions to government being less than forecast;
- b) The public domain cost to Government being greater than estimated;
- c) Timely commencement of transport solutions necessitated by the increased commuter numbers?

33. What transport solutions are currently being considered for the site and what is the estimated cost of each solution?

34. Has the Government investigated whether Wynyard Station can be satisfactorily upgraded to cater for the anticipated additional commuter traffic, and if so, what is the estimated cost of such an upgrade?

35. When will the financial details of the grant of the 99 years lease of Barangaroo South to Lend Lease be publicly available?

36. What are the current reasons for not disclosing financial details of the lease?

37. In negotiating the Project Development Agreement with Lend Lease, did the BDA consider what was a fair market value of Barangaroo South as a private development site?

- a) If so, did the BDA consider, as a comparable value, the terms pursuant to which Lend Lease was to receive a 99 years lease of Darling Quarter?
- b) If so, why did Lend Lease receive a 99 years lease of Barangaroo South on terms that were far less financially beneficial to NSW than the terms pursuant to which Lend Lease acquired Darling Quarter?

38. What is the estimated impact on the NSW budget of the lease of this site not reflecting fair market value as a private development site?

39. What is the current status of the application by South East Fibre Exports Pty Ltd for a wood fired power station at the Eden woodchip mill?

40. What funds are currently allocated within Government for the development of a whole-of-government mapping / GIS system? Will Aboriginal heritage be included in this mapping system?
41. Can the Minister provide details on why heritage issues generally were not specifically included in the NSW Planning System Green Paper?
42. Can the Minister provide an update on the development of the proposed 'Public Participation Charter', and specifically whether this will be incorporated into a new planning Act?
43. How many comprehensive Standard Instrument LEPs in NSW have been developed in NSW that have included specific Aboriginal heritage studies?
44. Has the Local Planning Panel addressed or made recommendations / resolutions issues in respect to Aboriginal heritage in NSW?
45. What is the timeframe for the development of strategic regional land use plans for all areas in NSW?
46. What consultation specifically occurred with Aboriginal organisations in the development of the draft strategic regional land use plans, specifically in reference to the Aboriginal heritage sections of the plans?
47. Will strategic regional land use plans be a legislated instrument? How will they be enforced?
48. When will strategic regional land use plans be reviewed?
49. How will current and proposed strategic regional land use plans interact with the proposed new planning system?
50. What mapping exercises/projects will take place in the development and implementation of strategic regional land use plans? What methodology will be used in the mapping exercise? Who will undertake the mapping projects? How will Aboriginal communities be involved?
51. To date, what mapping exercises have occurred in respect to Aboriginal heritage? What consultation with local Aboriginal communities has taken place in relation to any such exercises? Will areas of land with high Aboriginal significance be set aside as part of the strategic regional land use plans?
52. What is the status of the proposed '*Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment guidelines for state significant projects*' as identified in action 10.1 of the Draft Strategic Regional Land Use Plans.
53. Draft Strategic Regional Land Use Plans released earlier this year identify that the Department of Planning and Infrastructure is completing a regional offsets database to identify Aboriginal heritage offsets associated with major projects, state significant development and state significant infrastructure approvals (see page 86, Draft SRLUP New England North West). Can the Minister provide an update on these initiatives and advise whether any Aboriginal organizations were consulted in the development of this database?
54. When is the Government going to release a discussion paper into the Lower Hunter Regional Strategy?

55. What is the expected population growth for the Hunter Region over the next:

- a) 5 years?
- b) 10 years?
- c) 20 years?
- d) 50 years?

56. What is the current status of plans for the Newcastle Inner City Rail-line?

57. How does the government propose to meet the public transport needs of the Hunter?

58. What compensation, if any, did Rozelle Village p/l receive for the cancellation of the Sydney Metro?

59. Since 1 April 2011 how many development applications for mining projects (including extensions of existing mines and coal seam gas projects) has the PAC approved?

60. Since 1 April 2011 how many development applications for mining projects (including extensions of existing mines and coal seam gas projects) has the PAC refused?