



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013-2014

Supplementary Questions on Notice

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Ageing, Disability Services

Friday 23 August 2013

Answers to be returned by: Wednesday 18 September 2013.

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GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEE NO. 2

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Supplementary questions: Ageing, Disability Services

Answers are to be returned to the Committee secretariat by: Wednesday 18 September 2013.

1. What funds are allocated to informing the community of the opportunity to move to an individualised service package under Living Life My Way reforms?
 - a. What would be the time frame for the transfer?
 - b. What would be the time frame for someone expressing an interest and then moving to a new package offering individualised supports and direct funding?
 - c. Will all clients have the ability move to individualised supports, irrespective of the program they are currently funded for?
2. What funds are available to ensure checks and balances are in place to ensure that current service providers such as the Homecare Service of NSW, are suitably ready for the paradigm shift in service provision under Living Life My Way and Disability Care Australia, offering the flexibility of individualised funding?
3. What funding for training will be available for staff on frontline services to ensure they understand the rights of people with a disability receiving services with all the benefits of the current reforms?
4. What performance measurement will the NSW government be implementing to ensure organisations have received the right levels of education and training – especially frontline staff - to assist clients to maximise their choices through individualised funding?
5. In the 2013-14 NSW Budget the Ageing, Disability and Home Care announced \$208 million for community care services for home based assistance for people aged under 65. Can you outline the types and number of services this will cover?
 - a. How does this compare to the previous financial year?
 - b. How many new clients will be assisted for the current financial year?
6. Can you specify all the accommodation settings the \$16 million will be spent on under the Fire and Safety Program for this financial year?
 - a. Is this allocation (\$54 million over four years) part of the Ageing & Disability budget or does it come another portfolio?
7. Please provide information on how the \$25 million is being spent under the Industry Development Fund? Can you provide a breakdown of all the funding allocations under the Industry Development Fund?
8. The National Disability Services website provides only a small amount of information on the Industry Development Fund. Why is there not more coverage detailing the types of projects taking place under the Industry Development Fund?

9. Will those young people currently housed within residential aged care facilities be eligible for Disability Care Australia as it rolls out across the state?
 - a. How much is being spent on accommodation under the YPIRAC program for the current financial year?
10. There is currently a severe lack of suitable accommodation facilities to house young people with significant disabilities. Under the YPIRAC program, what funds for new accommodation facilities are to be built to support people with disabilities under the age of 65 moving out of residential aged care facilities and where will they be located?
11. During the 2012 Budget Estimates hearing we learnt that the distinction between the Attendant Care Program and High Needs Pool would disappear. Given the current differences between the two services, when is this likely to occur? Can you provide a time frame on this and what funding changes have occurred in relation to this change?
12. As of June 30, 2012 there were 429 applicants on the Service Needs Register within the Attendant Care and Physical Disability Unit. How long are they likely to wait for a personal care package?
13. With significant changes taking place across disability services that will offer the possibility of individualised funding, what work has been done to communicate the changes occurring to service users so that they can make an informed choice?
14. Can you provide information on how much money has been spent from the \$5 million Consumer Development Fund and the types of supports being provided under the program?
15. Can you explain the scope of My Choice Matters? What is the reach in terms of the numbers gaining access to training and information?
 - a. Will the new money coming in under Disability Care Australia go some way in meeting the needs of people in this area given the long waiting times?
16. Part of the training under My Choice Matters will include a leadership program. What will this involve?
17. What other programs are available for people to access under that Consumer Development Fund?
18. What funding is allocated for the 300 new places for 24/7 supported accommodation? There are 888 people registered on the Immediate Need register for 24/7 supported accommodation waiting an average of 848 days for a place. This is a significant period of time. Will the 300 new places for this financial year address this demand?
19. There has been a great deal of demand for places in supported accommodation for a number of years. What is being done to reduce the numbers on the waiting list?
 - a. Will the new money coming in under Disability Care Australia go some way in meeting the needs of people in this area given the long waiting times?
20. How many people moved directly from the family home into supported living for the current financial year?
21. Applications are being sought for the third and final round of the Supported Living Fund between Monday, June 24 and Friday, August 30, 2013. Can you please explain why this is the final round as

stated on the website? Does this have anything to do with the gradual rollout of Disability Care Australia?

a. How many new applications will be accepted in this round?

22. To date, how many individuals are receiving assistance through the Supported Living Fund and what is the budget allocation for this program?

23. The Westmead, Rydalmere and Riverside Centres are currently under redevelopment. Can you advise on the allocation of funds for these projects and provide an update on these facilities in terms of the progress of the redevelopment?

a. How will the nature of the accommodation change from the current model of a large residential centre?

24. The ADHC website states that the new model of accommodation will “provide a home like environment, with more privacy, flexibility in daily living and opportunities for increased participation in the local community.” Can you explain further on what this means for residents?

25. What does “flexibility in daily living” mean? How will this improve the quality of life for residents of this accommodation model?

26. What funds have been allocated to promote the Payroll Tax Rebate Scheme – Disability Employment?

27. This year the Legislative Council passed a motion calling on the Government to consider lowering the Seniors Card eligibility age to 45 years for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

a. Will the Minister outline whether the agency has commissioned a review of NCOSS figures which suggest such an eligibility change would cost approximately \$2 million per annum?

b. Has the agency undertaken a social or economic impact analysis of lowering the Seniors Card eligibility age for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People?

28. The Ageing Grants Program is being reformed under the Ageing Strategy.

a. Will the Minister indicate what the budget allocation for the Ageing Grants Program has been for the last financial three years and whether there has been any CPI indexed increase in Ageing Grants Program funding?

b. What is happening with this program?

c. Is money being allocated for programs in its absence?

29. Will the Minister advise of what consultation and involvement the agency has with the Department of Planning and Infrastructure on the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Housing for Seniors or People with a Disability) 2004*?

a. How many FTE positions are assigned to policy issues related to the SEPP?

30. As older single women are seen to be a growing group in the community at risk of homelessness, will the Minister indicate what targeted strategies the Government are developing to help this demographic more effectively access affordable housing?

31. Will the Minister advise what funding is available to support grandparents in the Grandparent Support Group Project which is a project aimed at strengthening and supporting grandparents who provide care?
 - a. Is funding available to print the newly created Grandparents Raising Grandchildren – A Networking Resource?
32. The NSW Elder Abuse Helpline is operated and managed by Catholic Community Services and is funded to support people aged over 65 experiencing abuse. According to Combined Pensioners and Superannuants Association (CPSA) Catholic Healthcare has over 7,000 clients across aged and community services settings.
 - a. What protocols are in place to deal with situations whereby the Elder Abuse Helpline receives complaints about Catholic Community Services?
 - b. How does ADHC ensure complaints are dealt with fairly?
 - c. Is data on complaints made to the Elder Abuse Helpline available to ADHC for review?
 - d. How many complaints has the Elder Abuse Helpline received to date?
 - e. What level of elder abuse was recorded in 2013 by category?
33. How many Life Choices and Active Ageing day program places have been allocated for 2012-13?
34. What funds are allocated to dementia programs for 2012-13?
35. What funds have been allocated for the program offering person centred packages for people with younger onset dementia?
36. What funds have been allocated to Aboriginal dementia care? And how many clients will this assist in what areas and what are the support services being offered?

Community Care Supports Program

37. How did the Government arrive at the figure of \$23 million by which to reduce funding for the Community Care Supports Program (CCSP)?
38. The Minister said that “further negotiations will be undertaken with the Commonwealth”. Will the Commonwealth expend an additional \$23 million on the Commonwealth HACC Program (the portion of the former joint HACC Program supporting non-Aboriginal people over 65 and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people over 50)?
39. How much was spent on non-recurrent projects funded by the CCSP in 2012-13?
40. Has ADHC taken unmet demand, and continued reports of younger people with disability being refused access to HACC-funded services, into account in calculating the reduction for CCSP in 2013-14?
41. Does the Minister concede that these reports would suggest that demand for supports has been under-reported?
42. How will ADHC meet unmet demand for basic community care support for people with disability as the CCSP is reduced?

43. How much money from Commonwealth has Home Care services of NSW received? Please provide split for aboriginal home service, health and transport.
44. Please provide information about the 1900 additional clients in the Community Supports program with a breakdown of their ages, by ADHC region, by provider and service type.
45. For 2010-11 provide information about how many clients receive funding through the Community Care program by age, region, provider and service type.
46. For 2011-12 provide information about how many clients receive funding through the Community Care program by age, region, provider and service type.
47. For 2012 to date provide information about how many clients receive funding through the Community Care program by age, region, provider and service type.
48. How many Ability Links NSW coordinators are currently operational?

INDIVIDUALISED FUNDING

49. The state plan says that people with disabilities must be “at the forefront of decision making about the services they need”. What consultation did you undertake with people with disabilities before making any changes to ST2 undertakings?
50. Where will you be reporting on actual numbers of people accessing individualised funding?

WEEMALAH

51. What is the vacancy rate for staffing at Weemalah ADHC facility?

ADHC SPENDING ON ABORIGINAL PEOPLE

52. What proportion of funding in the following programs is spent on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people:
 - Intensive in home support
 - Autism flexible funding
 - Skill development for children and young people
 - Building support networks
 - Early Start diagnosis support workers
 - Aboriginal and family intensive support
 - Flexible respite options
 - Transition to Work program
 - Community Participation Program
 - Transition support for secondary students
 - Community engagement for adults
 - Interagency planning
 - Community groups

- Leaving Care
- Community Justice Program
- Day Programs
- Supported accommodation
- Respite
- Community Care Supports Program
- Enhanced therapy and behaviour support services
- Attendant Care Program
- Early childhood intervention services
- Early childhood intervention services

53. What is the NSW Government contribution to the Aboriginal Home Care Service budget for 2013-14?

SUPPORTED ACCOMMODATION

54. Why are the numbers of FTE staff reducing when the number of people with disability in supported accommodation is projected to increase in the coming year? How can people with disability be appropriately supported with fewer staff to meet their person-centred needs & plans?

55. If Stronger Together 2 finishes on 2016 and the NDIS is not set to come in until 2019, what is the Government doing to meet the gap for unmet need for supported accommodation in NSW?

INDEPENDENT ADVOCACY

56. Will the NSW Government be maintaining and extending funding to independent advocacy and information providers to support people with disability and their families under NSW implementation of the National Disability Strategy and person centred approaches?

57. By how much?

TRANSITION TO WORK SCHEME

58. What is the target for this year for the number of employers who access the Tax Rebate for employees with disability from the Transition to Work Scheme?

59. Have the unspent allocations from previous years been rolled over for available rebates in future years?

EMPLOYMENT FOR PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY

60. Have you reached the State Plan target to increase the employment of people with a disability requiring a workplace adjustment to 1.5% by 2013 as well as an additional 120 permanent full time employees in 2010/11 and 2011/12?

61. How are you tracking on the State Plan Goal 14 specifies that the Government aims to increase participation of people with disabilities in employment or further employment and that 60% of transition to work participants move into employment or further education by 1 July 2014, as well

as close the gap in unemployment rate between people with a disability and the overall community by 50% by 2016?

SOCIAL BENEFIT BONDS

62. What is the \$5m for Social Benefit Bonds been allocated for?

CONSUMER DEVELOPMENT FUND

63. Given the importance of getting individualised funding right, why is the Consumer Development funding non recurrent?

NDIS IMPLEMENTATION

64. The Hunter Region has many people with disability residing in institutional forms of accommodation (Stockton, Kanangra, Riverview Hostels etc.).

- a. How will those residents benefit from direct/ self-managed funding arrangements and person-centred approaches to service planning and delivery in the NDIS?
- b. Will these residents be prioritised?
- c. Will these residents have access on an equal basis to the benefits of the NDIS system and how will they be supported to exercise these rights?

65. 25% of boarding houses residents live in the Hunter.

66. How does the Government envisage assisting people who live in licensed boarding houses to move across to the NDIS launch site and self-directed funding and supports?

General questions

1. What is your relationship to Michael Photios?
2. How often do you speak with him?
3. Have you met with clients of PremierState?
4. On how many occasions and what dates did you meet with Michael Photios or representatives of PremierState?
5. What was discussed at these meetings?
6. On how many occasions have you declined to meet with Michael Photios or a client of PremierState?
7. Did you attend his wedding?
8. Have you been invited to attend the christening of his new baby?
9. Did Michael Photios vote in your preselection?

10. Have you met with lobbyists other than PremierState?

Lobbyists

11. On how many occasions have you met with a lobbyist, and what were the dates of these meetings?

12. Which lobbyists have you met with, and what was discussed?

13. On how many occasions have you declined to meet with a lobbyist?

14. To deliver greater transparency and accountability, will you publish a monthly online diary of all meetings with lobbyists?

15. In order to deliver greater transparency and accountability, as promised by the Premier, will you commit to keeping a record of all lobbying activities and documentation and allow them to be subject to the Government Information (Public Access) Act?

Misusing travel entitlements

16. Since becoming a Minister, have you taken any interstate or intrastate trips involving overnight accommodation or flights?

17. Will you provide a list to the committee of the details of all travel?

18. Have you taken any trips intrastate or interstate to attend Liberal/National Party functions? What are the details of the trips including dates and costs?

19. Have you taken any trips intrastate or interstate to attend lobbyists' functions? What are the details of the trips including dates and costs?

20. Were these trips paid for by the taxpayer?

21. Were these trips booked through the government travel management system?

22. Since becoming a Minister, have you paid back money to the state because you booked unauthorised travel with the government travel management system? How much? When did you travel? When did you pay back the money? How many occasions has this happened?

23. Have you had meetings scheduled interstate or intrastate on Fridays or weekends which involved you staying overnight?

24. Did you take your spouse/partner on these trips?

Bullying

25. Have any members of your staff made complaints to or raised concerns with you, your Chief of Staff or the Department of Premier and Cabinet about bullying in your office?

26. If so, have any members of your staff resigned or been removed from their position after making such a complaint or raising such concerns?

Phones/iPads

27. How many blackberries or smart phones are assigned to your staff?

28. For each phone, how much was each bill in the 2012/13 financial year?

29. How many have phones have been lost in your office?

30. What is the cost of replacing those phones?

31. How many iPads or tablet computers does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?

32. How many iPads or tablet computers have you purchased for your office and to whom have they been issued?

33. How many iPhones or other smart phones does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?

34. How many iPhones or other smart phones have you purchased for your office and to whom have they been issued?

35. How many iPhones or other smart phones have been lost in your office?

36. How many iPads or tablet computers have been lost in your office?

37. What is the cost of replacing those phones or iPads or tablet computers?

Media/public relations

38. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies?

39. What is the forecast for 2013/14 for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost?

Overseas trips

40. Have any of your overseas trips in the past year been paid for in part or in full by using public money?

41. If so, did any of your relatives or friends accompany you on these trips?

Office costs

42. What is the annual remuneration package for your chief of staff?

43. What is the annual remuneration package for your head media advisor?
44. What is the annual remuneration package for each of your staff?
45. What is the estimated expenditure for your office budget in 2012-13?
46. Have any office renovations or fit outs been undertaken in your ministerial office since April, 2011?
47. If so, could you give details of contracted costs?
48. What is your Ministerial office budget for 2013/14?
49. How many political advisors are in your office?
50. How many administration staff?
51. How many Department Liaison Officers are assigned to your office?
52. How many staff in the Department are assigned to Ministerial support duties?
53. Are any contractors or consultants working in your ministerial office? If so, in what capacities?
54. How much did your Ministerial office spend on contractors or consultants?

Cabcharge

55. How much did your Ministerial office spend on taxi fares, including Cabcharge in the 2012/13 financial year?

Restructure

56. Are any of your portfolio agencies undergoing a restructure?
57. How many jobs are expected to be cut as a result of that restructure?
58. How many people are expected to have their wages cut as a result of that restructure?
59. How many voluntary redundancies were offered in your Departments since April 2011?
60. How many voluntary redundancies were accepted from employees in your Departments since April 2011?
61. How many voluntary redundancies are expected to be offered in 2013/14?

Agency costs

62. How much did your Department(s) spend on catering in 2012/13?

63. How much did your Department(s) spend on stationary in 2012/13?
64. What is your Department's catering budget?
65. What is your Department's stationary budget?
66. Since April 2011 have any of the agencies in your Department(s) changed their branding?
67. If so, how much was spent on rebranding the agency?

Correspondence

68. How long is the average turnaround for responding to correspondence in your Department(s)?
69. How many pieces of correspondence have been outstanding for more than 60 days?

Paying bills on time

70. In 2012/13 how many invoices has your Department(s) failed to pay a supplier or contractor for more than 30 days?
71. As a result of late payment, how much penalty interest has been paid to contractors since 1 January 2011?
72. How many invoices have been outstanding for longer than 60 days?

Grants to non-government organisations

73. Does your department provide recurrent grant funds to non-government organisations? 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 2013/2014?
 - h. What are the details of any costs involved in each study, audit, taskforce or review?
 - i. Have any provisions been included in grant agreements to prohibit these organisations from criticising the Government or any of its policies?

Contractors

74. How many contractors has your Department(s) retained since 1 July 2013 and at what cost?

Aboriginal employment

75. What is the current level of Aboriginal employment within your Department(s)?

76. How has that changed since 1 July 2012?

Charter air flights

77. Since 1 July 2011, how much has been spent on charter air flights by your Department(s)?

Reviews and studies

78. 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?