

## QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

### WOMEN

#### BUDGET ESTIMATES 2010

13 SEPTEMBER 2010

**1. The Hon Melinda Pavey MLC asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP:**

Please provide the names and CVs for the people who are in the process of being appointed to the Expert Advisory Council as referred to by the Minister at the Budget Committee meeting of 13 September 2010.

**ANSWER:**

Members of the Premier's Expert Advisory Council on Women are:

- The Hon Jodi McKay MP, Minister for Women (Chair)
- Dr Rachel Cooper (Deputy Chair)
- Ms Ruta Asimus
- Dr Lyn Craig
- Ms Denele Crozier
- Ms Janet Loughman
- Ms Susan Price
- Ms Traci Williams
- Executive Director, Office for Women's Policy (ex-officio)

Their biographies are available on the Office for Women's Policy website [www.women.nsw.gov.au](http://www.women.nsw.gov.au).

**2. The Hon. MELINDA PAVEY asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP:**

Please provide the names and the relevant background/titles of the people who will be included on the domestic violence senior officers group.

**ANSWER:**

The Domestic and Family Violence Senior Officers Group (DVSOG) was established in 2009 and is currently being restructured to reflect the priorities and governance arrangements detailed in the NSW Domestic and Family Violence Action Plan: *Stop the Violence End the Silence*.

I am advised the following agencies have been invited to nominate a person at Senior Officer level or above to be represented on the DVSOG:

- NSW Health
- NSW Police Force
- Department of Justice and Attorney General
- Department of Education and Training
- Community Services
- Housing NSW
- Aboriginal Affairs NSW
- Corrective Services NSW
- Juvenile Justice
- Ageing, Disability and Home Care
- Department of Premier and Cabinet, Law Enforcement Unit
- Department of Premier and Cabinet, Regional Coordination Unit

- Department of Premier and Cabinet, Keep Them Safe Implementation Unit

The Office for Women's Policy will continue to Chair this Group.

**3. The Hon. MELINDA PAVEY asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP:**

Does the Office have membership of eleven committees (one of which it is chair) or thirteen committees, one of which it is chair? (the oral answer was unclear)?

**ANSWER:**

The Office for Women's Policy is a member of thirteen committees, one of which it is Chair. The Minister for Women is also Chair of two of the thirteen committees.

**4. The Hon Melinda Pavey MLC asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP:**

What interdepartmental or other committees external to the Office does the Office sit on which addresses pay equity policy? What committee does the Office sit on which addresses gender diversity in skills training policy?

**ANSWER:**

The Office for Women's Policy (OFWP) will be represented on a Steering Committee that will oversee the progress of the pay equity audit of the NSW public service.

OFWP was represented on two committees chaired by the Department of Education and Training (DET): the Girls' Choices Working Party and Director-General's Advisory Group for Gender Equity in Education. OFWP continues to liaise with DET on matters concerning gender diversity within education policy.

**5. The Hon Melinda Pavey MLC asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP:**

What is the nature of the Office's work in pay equity? Could any report or research paper written by the Office be made available? What is the present status of the Office's work? (Is it for the consideration of Cabinet, a working party or simply for the Minister's interest?)

**ANSWER:**

In relation to the issue of pay equity the Office for Women's Policy (OFWP) has:

- Provided analytical, research and policy support to the Premier's Council for Women, including analysing the data gathered for the survey project, *A conversation with NSW women about paid work*, and coordinated the preparation of the Council's survey report which led to the pay equity audit of the NSW public service.
- Provided background and research information to the Public Sector Workforce Branch within the Department of Premier of Cabinet to assist it in developing the terms of reference, governance and consultative arrangements for the pay equity audit. From October 2010, OFWP will be represented on a Steering Committee that will oversee the progress of the pay equity audit.
- Monitored the Australian Services Union (ASU) Equal Remuneration Test Case currently before Fair Work Australia (FWA) and provided policy advice to the Minister for Women on the potential impacts of the Test Case for women in NSW. OFWP also provided background and research information to NSW Industrial Relations to assist it in preparing the NSW Government submission to FWA on the ASU Equal Remuneration Test Case.

- Regularly monitored Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Average Weekly Earnings Data* (released quarterly), and provided gender disaggregated advice to the Minister for Women on the earnings of workers in NSW.
- Prepared a comprehensive submission to the Commonwealth House of Representatives Standing Committee on Employment and Workplace Relations inquiry into pay equity and associated issues related to increasing female participation in the workforce – the submission can be accessed at <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/ewr/payequity/subs.htm>.
- Prepared resources and speeches to promote public awareness about pay equity and the need to narrow the gender pay gap.

**6. The Hon Melinda Pavey MLC asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP:**

The website for the Office of Women lists a number of Women and Work initiatives but only one of these has occurred in the past twelve months. Does that list of initiatives comprise the full amount of work done by the Office in the Women and Work section?

**ANSWER:**

The Office for Women's Policy (OFWP) has undertaken the following initiatives related to women and work during the last 12 months:

- The provision of analytical, research and policy support to the Premier's Council for Women, including analysing the data gathered for its survey project, *A conversation with NSW women about paid work*, and coordinating the preparation of the Council's survey report which led to the pay equity audit of the NSW public service.
- Collaboration with the Public Sector Workforce (PSW) Branch within the Department of Premier of Cabinet to assist it with conducting the pay equity audit of the NSW public service, which is currently being undertaken.
- The provision of advice to PSW regarding data sources for women working in non-traditional areas, to assist with achieving the targets listed in the *Making the Public Sector Work Better for Women* strategy.
- Research for the development of best practice flexible work principles for NSW workers in the public and private sectors.
- Commissioning the Workplace Research Centre at the University of Sydney to develop a profile of women's employment in NSW and reviewing drafts of their report.
- Ongoing provision of administrative and secretariat support to the Lucy Mentoring Program (Lucy) Steering Committee, of which OFWP is a member, to assist with managing the overall strategic direction of the program. In July 2010, OFWP commissioned the University of New England to undertake a review of Lucy to establish whether the program is meeting its long term objectives and to identify where there is room for improvement.
- Membership of the Steering Committee for the Tasting Success – Women Chefs' Mentoring Program. The program aims to increase the likelihood that participants

will complete their apprenticeships and embark on a career that brings them to senior positions in the hospitality industry by establishing mentoring relationships between female apprentice chefs and industry-leading chefs. This program is led by TAFE NSW.

- Participation in the Commonwealth, State, Territory & New Zealand Ministers' Conference on the Status of Women (MINCO), Women's Advisors Working Group, on young women and unemployment led by Queensland, and social and community enterprise led by Tasmania. OFWP has supported Queensland and Tasmania in delivering these projects, through preparing background information documents to assist with project planning and design, and by commenting on project progress.
- Monitoring the Australian Services Union (ASU) Equal Remuneration Test Case currently before Fair Work Australia (FWA) and providing policy advice to the Minister for Women on the potential impacts of the Test Case for women in NSW. OFWP also provided background and research information to NSW Industrial Relations to assist it in preparing the NSW Government submission to FWA on the ASU Equal Remuneration Test Case.
- Regularly monitoring Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Average Weekly Earnings Data* (released quarterly), and providing gender disaggregated advice to the Minister for Women on the earnings of workers in NSW.

**7. The Hon Melinda Pavey MLC asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP:**

What were the amounts paid to Marian Baird, Sara Charlesworth and Leonie Wilson for the papers presented at the Part Time Work Round Table on February 9, 2009?

**ANSWER:**

I am advised Dr Marian Baird, Dr Sara Charlesworth and Ms Leonie Morgan were not paid to present papers at the Quality Part Time Work Roundtable on 19 February 2009.

Travel expenses (totalling approximately \$980 for airfares and taxis) were paid for Dr Charlesworth and Ms Morgan.

**8. The Hon Melinda Pavey MLC asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP:**

Have those papers been distributed to line agencies in the NSW Public Service and have the papers been reflected in any policy development work in this area in the NSW Public Service?

**ANSWER:**

Papers presented at the Quality Part Time Work Roundtable, along with a Summary Report, are available on the Office for Women's Policy's website ([www.women.nsw.gov.au](http://www.women.nsw.gov.au)). I am advised representatives from NSW Government agencies attended the event, and the Summary Report has also been distributed to agencies.

The papers have informed policy advice provided by the Office for Women's Policy on work and family issues. The papers have also influenced the Office for Women's Policy in commissioning a research profile on women and work issues in NSW.

**9. The Hon Melinda Pavey MLC asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP:**

What was the cost of the Equal Pay Day initiative in use of Office staff and resources?

**ANSWER:**

Equal Pay Day is a national initiative led by the Federal Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Agency.

The NSW Government, through the Office for Women's Policy, promoted awareness of Equal Pay Day and the need to reduce the gender pay gap by:

- promoting Equal Pay Day on the OFWP website; and
- preparing speeches which were delivered in Parliament.

There were no costs involved.

**10. The Hon Melinda Pavey MLC asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP:**

What work has been done by the six policy officers working in non domestic violence related policy over the past twelve months?

**ANSWER:**

The Office for Women's Policy's Women's Policy Development Unit has undertaken or is currently undertaking the following work:

- developing the NSW Women's Plan;
- developing initiatives to increase women's representation on Government boards and committees, including the consultation paper 'Strategies to increase the proportion of women on NSW Government boards and committees' and current consultations on this issue;
- providing secretariat support for the former Premier's Council for Women, including project support for its projects 'A Conversation with NSW Women About Paid Work' and 'What's Missing, or Mind the Gap';
- providing support for the *Lucy Mentoring Program*, a university-based program which aims to encourage the development of women who, given the right opportunities and support, will become our future leaders, and *Tasting Success – Women Chefs Mentoring Program*, which aims to increase the likelihood that participants will complete their apprenticeships and embark on a career that brings them to senior positions in the hospitality industry by establishing mentoring relationships between female apprentice chefs and industry-leading chefs;
- until October 2009, leading an inter-jurisdictional Commonwealth, State, Territory and New Zealand Ministers' Conference on the Status of Women (MINCO) Working Group to develop a preliminary set of gender equality indicators (due to the national focus of this project, this work is now led by the Commonwealth Government, however NSW continues to monitor progress on this project);
- representing NSW on other MINCO Working Groups, including the Young Women and Unemployment Working Group and a working group for the Social and Community Enterprise Working Group, and providing advice to the Minister for Women on other issues raised at MINCO;
- organising a range of activities to celebrate International Women's Day, including:
  - NSW Woman of the Year Awards and Premier's Reception;
  - Inaugural International Women's Day Public Lecture; and

- Local Council and Shires International Women's Day Grants Program;
- commissioning and overseeing a research profile on women and work in NSW;
- advising on and contributing input for international reporting processes, including coordinating NSW Government input on NSW's achievements in implementing the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms against Women and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;
- co-hosting (with the National Foundation for Australian Women and the University of Sydney's Women and Work Research Group) the 'Women, the Global Financial Crisis and Paths to Recovery' Seminar and Consultation Workshop, which was held at the University of Sydney;
- supporting the attendance of NSW delegates at the 2010 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Gathering;
- regularly meeting with key stakeholders, including coordinating meetings with the Peak Women's Network;
- ongoing liaison and collaboration with other agencies regarding issues affecting women in NSW;
- providing advice on Cabinet and other policy issues to the Premier, Minister for Women and Director General of the Department of Premier and Cabinet; and
- providing other ministerial support to the Minister for Women.

**11. The Hon Melinda Pavey MLC asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP:**

The former Premier's Council for Women has been the responsibility of the Office for Women. Did the Council perform tasks over the year 2009-10 and if so what was the estimated cost to the Office of supporting the Council and its work in both staff and other resources? This should include the Women and Work survey.

**ANSWER:**

In 2009-10, the former Premier's Council for Women completed its project 'What's Missing, or Mind the Gap' (commenced in 2008-09) about priorities for women in NSW. The Council also undertook its survey project 'A Conversation with NSW Women About Paid Work'.

Staff in the Women's Policy Development Unit of the Office for Women's Policy provided the following in-house project support to the former Premier's Council for Women in 2009-10:

- assistance with survey development and online hosting of the survey;
- analysis of survey/consultation data; and
- drafting of project reports.

The Office for Women's Policy also provided secretariat support to the former Premier's Council for Women, including organisation of meetings, provision of meeting space and basic catering, and minute-taking.

In 2009-10, a total of \$18,407 was spent on sitting fees and travel expenses for 13 Premier's Council for Women members.

**12. The Hon Melinda Pavey MLC asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP:**

What use is being made of the Women and Work survey results?

**ANSWER:**

The survey data and key themes and issues raised were used to compile a report.

Following the release of the report the NSW Government has commenced implementation of the following suggestions:

- The preparation of a best practice principles document that promotes good quality flexible work for NSW employees in public and private sector jobs.
- That NSW Industrial Relations or the NSW Public Sector Workforce conducts a pay equity audit report for the NSW public service.

In relation to the report's other suggestions, OFWP:

- will be considering any response made to the Commonwealth Government to the recommendations listed in its pay equity inquiry that are relevant to NSW; and
- has commissioned the University of New England to undertake a review of the Lucy Mentoring Program to establish whether the program is meeting its long term objectives and to identify where there is room for improvement.

The survey report is available on OFWP's website at [http://www.women.nsw.gov.au/women\\_and\\_work](http://www.women.nsw.gov.au/women_and_work). OFWP has also distributed the survey report to various stakeholders including:

- relevant State and Commonwealth Ministers; and
- the Workplace Research Centre at the University of Sydney, who are currently using the data to help inform a profile of women's employment in NSW, which has been commissioned by OFWP.

**13. a) The Hon. MELINDA PAVEY asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP:**

The NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics head Don Weatherburn says that while a survey has revealed at least six girls report being raped or sexually assaulted in NSW every day police and experts say the real figure was at least three times higher. With that in mind, while programmes such as White Ribbon Day are valuable as a short term reminder to the community and to raise the awareness of men about their importance in stopping violence, including sexual assault, against women, what other public reminders exist on the other 364 days of the year especially in areas such as Walgett ranked 4th in NSW for sexual offences?

(ref:[http://www.bocsar.nsw.gov.au/lawlink/bocsar/ll\\_bocsar.nsf/vwFiles/WebsiteALLLGAs\\_for\\_major\\_offences\\_incidents\\_rate\\_rank.xls/\\$file/WebsiteALLLGAs\\_for\\_major\\_offences\\_incidents\\_rate\\_rank.xls](http://www.bocsar.nsw.gov.au/lawlink/bocsar/ll_bocsar.nsf/vwFiles/WebsiteALLLGAs_for_major_offences_incidents_rate_rank.xls/$file/WebsiteALLLGAs_for_major_offences_incidents_rate_rank.xls))

Does the Department of Women participate in any awareness raising programmes, such as leaflet distribution to school children, on a regular basis?

**ANSWER:**

I am advised the NSW Government, through the Office for Women's Policy (OFWP), has, since 2007/08, funded the following awareness raising projects targeted at young people:

- *LOVE BITES*, administered by the National Association for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (NAPCAN): Funding was provided to roll out *LOVE BITES* program across the state, including Walgett. The *LOVE BITES* program aims to reduce sexual assault and domestic and family violence by educating and informing young people in schools about respectful relationships.
- *Y-ise Up About Relationships*, administered by YWCA NSW: Funding was provided to roll out a violence prevention education program for



high school girls and boys, in the Shoalhaven, Northern Rivers and Greater Metropolitan Sydney regions.

- *Women Educating Each Other – Women In Safe & Equal Relationships*, administered by Liverpool Women's Health Centre: Funding was provided to administer a young women's peer education domestic violence prevention program. The workshop was open to all girls in Year 9 in high schools in the Liverpool local government area.
- *You, Me and Us*, administered by Tamworth Youth Care: Funding was provided to roll out an educational program that provides violence prevention strategies to young women between the ages of 12 and 18.
- *RESPECT(ED) – A Whole of School Approach to the Prevention of Violence Against Women and Children*, administered by NAPCAN: Funding was provided to build upon the foundations of the *LOVE BiTES* program by developing and trialling a whole-of-school approach to the prevention of domestic violence.
- *Rosebank Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Project*, administered by Rosebank Child Sexual Abuse Service Inc: Funding was provided for a project to support and inform young women (aged 15 to 30 years) about respectful relationships, ideas of safety, connectedness, resilience and recovery.
- *LOVE BiTES*, administered by Inverell Refuge Centre: Funding was provided to roll out the *LOVE BiTES* program in high schools in the New England area.
- *LOVE BiTES facilitation for the Western Region*, administered by Bathurst Women and Children's Refuge: Funding was provided to roll out the *LOVE BiTES* program in high schools in Bathurst, Blayney, Lithgow, Portland, Cowra, Orange, Oberon and Mudgee.
- *LOVE BiTES*, administered by South East Women and Children's Services: Funding was provided to run the *LOVE BiTES* program in the Bega Valley Shire, including public and private secondary schools, youth centres, Illawarra Institute of Technology (TAFE), Wallaga Lake Aboriginal Community, early school leaver groups and disability groups.
- *LOVE BiTES*, administered by Tumut Regional Family Services Inc: Funding was provided to roll out the *LOVE BiTES* program in Gundagai, Tumut, Batlow and Tumbarumba.
- *Advanced LOVE BiTES Professional Development Workshops*, administered by the NAPCAN: Funding was provided to build on the *LOVE BiTES* Train the Trainer workshops and to provide workshops with a whole-of-school approach to respectful relationships and violence prevention.

Further questions on awareness raising in schools should be directed to the Minister for Education and Training, the Hon Verity Firth MP.

**13. b) The Hon. MELINDA PAVEY asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP:**

Given that Walgett ranks second in the state for incidents of domestic violence, how many refuges are there in the town?

**ANSWER:**

I am advised Barwon Cottage is a safe house for women and children in Walgett. In addition, Staying Home Leaving Violence is being established in Walgett.

Women in Walgett can also call the state-wide Domestic Violence Line for help on 1800 656 463 (TTY 1800 671 442). The Domestic Violence Line is a state-wide free-call number and is available 24 hours, seven days a week. The Domestic Violence Line makes referrals to women's refuges and explains what they are and what they do.

Further details for accommodation options for women escaping domestic violence in Walgett should be directed to the Hon Linda Burney MP, Minister for Community Services.

**14. The Hon. MELINDA PAVEY asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP:**

Did you receive any feedback from stakeholders, including those who may have subsequently been appointed to the Review Team, concerning the content of the Domestic Violence Death Review Team Bill and the representation of NGO members on the team?

**ANSWER:**

The Attorney General is responsible for the legislation for the Domestic Violence Death Review Team. Questions in relation to stakeholder feedback on the legislation should be directed to the Attorney General.

**The Hon. MELINDA PAVEY asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP:**

**15.** How many grants to women's organisations were awarded in the financial year 2009/10?

**ANSWER:**

The NSW Government, through the Office for Women's Policy (OFWP), provides grants under the Domestic and Family Violence Grants Program to non-Government organisations. In the 2009/10 financial year 43 organisations have been funded, 10 of which are delivering projects that specifically focus on initiatives in Aboriginal communities. Details of the funded organisations is available at [www.women.nsw.gov.au](http://www.women.nsw.gov.au)

In addition, 66 Local Domestic Violence Committees were provided with small grants of \$1,000 to assist them with their community awareness raising activities, including during the 16 Days of Activism to Stop Violence Against Women campaign. The full lists of successful organisations and committees are available on the OFWP website [www.women.nsw.gov.au](http://www.women.nsw.gov.au).

One-off funding was also provided to the following women's organisations:

- African Women's Group;
- Dress for Success Sydney;
- Clare Burton Memorial Lecture;
- White Ribbon Day;
- Alzheimer's Australia;
- Women's Health NSW;
- Rural Women's Gathering;
- Local Government Association; and
- Council to Homeless Persons.

127 Local Councils received grants of \$1000 to conduct activities related to International Women's Day.

**16. What was the average amount?**

**ANSWER:**

The amounts awarded under the 2009/10 Domestic and Family Violence Grants Program are available at [www.women.nsw.gov.au](http://www.women.nsw.gov.au). Discretionary grants ranged from \$500 to \$2,500.

**17. What evaluation of the grants has been carried out and can a full list be provided?**

**ANSWER:**

The Guidelines for the Domestic and Family Violence Grants require that each project has either been already positively evaluated or include an evaluation component. Small grants to the Local Domestic Violence Committees and small discretionary grants are not required to be evaluated.

**18. If the Office no longer manages grants, who does?**

**ANSWER:**

The Office for Women's Policy (OFWP) manages all grants for which funding from OFWP is awarded, including the Domestic and Family Violence Grants Program.

**19. What role does the Office play in the awarding of these grants?**

**ANSWER:**

The Office for Women's Policy (OFWP) provides the funding and manages all grants for which funding from OFWP is awarded, including the Domestic and Family Violence Grants Program. OFWP chairs the assessment panel. OFWP also notifies applicants of the outcomes of their application.

**20. The Hon Melinda Pavey MLC asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP:**

What research has the Office commissioned on the rise in the teenage pregnancy rate in NSW?

**ANSWER:**

The Office for Women's Policy has not commissioned research on the rise of the teenage pregnancy rate in NSW. Further details on teenage pregnancy should be directed to the Minister for Health, the Hon Carmel Tebbutt MP and the Minister for Community Services, the Hon Linda Burney MP.

**21. The Hon. TREVOR KHAN asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP:**

What funds have been expended in the Monaro electorate in the Government's domestic and family violence strategy in each year since 2007? What funds are planned to be expended in the Monaro electorate on this strategy on each of the next three years?

**ANSWER:**

I am advised in 2008-2009, the Snowy Mountains Neighbourhood Centre received a \$50,000 grant under the NSW Domestic and Family Violence Grants Program. The grant was for *The Snowy Mountains Domestic Violence Project*.

In addition, small grants of \$1000 are provided to local domestic violence committees, with recipients including the Queanbeyan Domestic Violence Interagency.

Funds and services are being provided to the Monaro electorate over the five-year lifespan of the *NSW Domestic and Family Violence Action Plan: Stop the Violence, End the Silence*. This includes the Rural Women's Outreach Program, which has been expanded to cover the southern region. This Program provides advice, community legal education and support to women in remote and rural locations who otherwise might not have access to these services and support. The Program will expand to Shoalcoast Community Legal Centre at Nowra and a full-time outreach solicitor will provide legal advice and legal education to women and staff of non-legal support services across the Far South Coast (from Nowra down to the Victorian border and inland to Queanbeyan).

Other domestic violence initiatives in the region include the South Eastern Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service (WDVCAS), which is available in both Queanbeyan and Cooma courts, funded by Legal Aid NSW. The WDVCAS assists women who are or have been experiencing domestic violence to obtain effective legal protection through applications for Apprehended Domestic Violence Orders, and to access other support services.

A Region Domestic Violence Coordinator within NSW Police Force also covers the Monaro electorate, and is responsible for ensuring regional criminal justice and human service responses are delivered in an integrated and coordinated manner.

**22. The Hon. TREVOR KHAN asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP:**

What funds have been expended in the Monaro electorate on developing further options for the management of court procedures with particular concern for victims of crime in each year since 2007? What funds are planned to be expended on developing these options in the Monaro electorate in the each of the next three years?

**ANSWER:**

Questions relating to management of court procedures should be directed to the Attorney General, the Hon John Hatzistergos MLC.

**23. The Hon. TREVOR KHAN asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP:**

What funds have been expended in the Monaro electorate in further developing appropriate court facilities for the victims of crime in each year since 2007? What funds are planned to be expended on developing these facilities in the Monaro electorate in each of the next three years?

**ANSWER:**

Questions relating to court facilities should be directed to the Attorney General, the Hon John Hatzistergos MLC.

**24. The Hon. TREVOR KHAN asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP:**

What funds have been expended in the Monaro electorate in providing services to assist vulnerable and at risk families, including those at risk of domestic and family violence, in the Monaro electorate in each year since 2007? What funds are planned to be expended providing these services in the Monaro electorate in each of the next three years?

**ANSWER:**

Refer to Question 21 response. Further information on vulnerable and at risk families should be directed to the Minister for Community Services, the Hon Linda Burney MP.

**25. The Hon. TREVOR KHAN asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP:**

What funds have been expended in the Monaro electorate in continuing the roll out of early intervention services for families at risk in each year since 2007? What funds are planned to be expended on rolling out these services in the Monaro electorate in each of the next three years?

**ANSWER:**

Questions relating to early intervention services for families at risk should be directed to the Minister for Community Services, the Hon Linda Burney MP.

**26. The Hon. TREVOR KHAN asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP:**

What funds have been expended in each year since 2007 on the new breast screening centres in Monaro? What funds are planned to be expended on upgrading equipment in Monaro in each of the next three years?

**ANSWER:**

Questions relating to breast screening centres should be referred to the Minister for Health, the Hon Carmel Tebbutt MP.

**27. The Hon. TREVOR KHAN asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP:**

Of the promised five year \$1.2 billion program of services and strategies aimed at preventing and responding to child abuse and neglect, supporting families, and preventing family breakdown, what funds were expended in the Monaro electorate in each year since 2007? What funds are planned to be expended on this program in the Monaro electorate in each of the next three years?

**ANSWER:**

Questions relating to child abuse and neglect and family support services should be directed to the Minister for Community Services, the Hon Linda Burney MP.

**28. The Hon. TREVOR KHAN asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP:**

Of the promised \$263.6 million to build strong families and communities, deliver supported accommodation for people in crisis and provide disaster response services, what funds were expended in the Monaro electorate in each year since 2007? What funds are planned to be expended on this program in the Monaro electorate in each of the next three years?

**ANSWER:**

Questions relating to supported accommodation and disaster response services should be referred to the Minister for Community Services, the Hon Linda Burney MP.

**29. The Hon. TREVOR KHAN asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP:**

Of the promised \$203.2 million for early intervention programs and childcare services, what funds were expended in the Monaro electorate in each year since 2007? What funds are planned to be expended in the Monaro electorate on this program in each of the next three years?

**ANSWER:**

Questions relating to early intervention and childcare services should be directed to the Minister for Community Services, the Hon Linda Burney MLC.

**30. The Hon. TREVOR KHAN asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP:**

What funds have been expended in the Port Macquarie electorate on the Government's domestic and family violence strategy in each year since 2007? What funds are planned to be expended in the Port Macquarie electorate on this strategy in each of the next three years?

**ANSWER:**

I am advised in 2008-9 Women's Legal Service received \$150,000 to provide outreach services for women in rural areas, including the Hastings LGA. The program, *Reaching out for Rights*, provided assistance to disadvantaged women in diverse communities by:

1. assisting women who have experienced domestic violence who may face barriers to accessing support; and
2. empowering, training, educating and supporting those working closely with disadvantaged women.

In addition, small grants of \$1000 are provided each year to Local Domestic Violence Committees, with recipients including the Port Macquarie Hastings Domestic Violence Committee.

Other domestic and family violence services in the Port Macquarie electorate include the Mid-North Coast Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service (WDVCAS) funded by Legal Aid NSW. The WDVCAS operates at Port Macquarie, Wauchope, Taree, Forster and Gloucester courts, and assists women and children who are or have been experiencing domestic violence to obtain effective legal protection through applications for Apprehended Domestic Violence Orders (ADVOs). WDVCAS also assist in accessing support services.

Under the five-year NSW Domestic and Family Violence Action Plan *Stop the Violence, End the Silence*, the Domestic Violence Practitioner Scheme (DVPS) has been expanded to cover Port Macquarie court.

The Northern Region Domestic Violence Coordinator within NSW Police Force also covers the Port Macquarie electorate, and is responsible for ensuring that criminal justice and human service responses are delivered in an integrated and coordinated manner.

**31. The Hon. TREVOR KHAN asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP:**

What funds have been expended in the Port Macquarie electorate on developing further options for the management of court procedures with particular concern for victims of crime in each year since 2007? What funds are planned to be expended on developing these options in the Port Macquarie electorate in each of the next three years?

**ANSWER:**

Questions relating to court procedures should be directed to the Attorney General, the Hon John Hatzistergos MLC.

**32. The Hon. TREVOR KHAN asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP:**

What funds have been expended in the Port Macquarie electorate in further developing appropriate court facilities for the victims of crime in each year since 2007? What funds are planned to be expended on developing these facilities in the Port Macquarie electorate in each of the next three years?

**ANSWER:**

Questions relating to court facilities should be directed to the Attorney General, the Hon John Hatzistergos MLC.

**33. The Hon. TREVOR KHAN asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP:**

What funds have been expended in the Port Macquarie electorate in providing services to assist vulnerable and at risk families, including those at risk of domestic and family violence, in the Port Macquarie electorate in each year since 2007? What funds are planned to be expended providing these services in the Port Macquarie electorate in each of the next three years?

**ANSWER:**

See response to Question 30. Further questions relating to services for vulnerable and at risk families should be directed to the Minister for Community Services, the Hon Linda Burney MP.

**34. The Hon. TREVOR KHAN asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP:**

What funds have been expended in the Port Macquarie electorate on continuing the roll out of early intervention services for families at risk in each year since 2007? What funds are planned to be expended on rolling out these services in the Port Macquarie electorate in each of the next three years?

**ANSWER:**

Questions relating to early intervention services for at risk families should be directed to the Minister for Community Services, the Hon Linda Burney MP.

**35. The Hon. TREVOR KHAN asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP:**

What funds have been expended in each year since 2007 on the new breast screening centres in Port Macquarie? What funds are planned to be expended on upgrading equipment in Port Macquarie in each of the next three years?

**ANSWER:**

Questions relating to breast Screening Centres should be directed to the Minister for Health, the Hon Carmel Tebbutt MP.



**36. The Hon. TREVOR KHAN asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP:**

Of the promised five year \$1.2 billion program of services and strategies aimed at preventing and responding to child abuse and neglect, supporting families, and preventing family breakdown, what funds were expended in the Port Macquarie electorate in each year since 2007? What funds are planned to be expended on this program in the Port Macquarie electorate in each of the next three years?

**ANSWER:**

Questions relating to child abuse and family support should be directed to the Minister for Community Services, the Hon Linda Burney MP.

**37. The Hon. TREVOR KHAN asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP:**

Of the promised \$263.6 million to build strong families and communities, deliver supported accommodation for people in crisis and provide disaster response services, what funds were expended in the Port Macquarie electorate in each year since 2007? What funds are planned to be expended on this program in the Port Macquarie electorate in each of the next three years?

**ANSWER:**

Questions relating to supported accommodation and disaster response services should be directed to the Minister for Community Services, the Hon Linda Burney MP.

**38. The Hon. TREVOR KHAN asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP:**

Of the promised \$203.2 million for early intervention programs and childcare services, what funds were expended in the Port Macquarie electorate in each year since 2007? What funds are planned to be expended in the Port Macquarie electorate on this program in each of the next three years?

**ANSWER:**

Questions relating to early intervention and childcare should be directed to the Minister for Community Services, the Hon Linda Burney MP.

**Questions taken on notice during the hearing**

**The Hon. DUNCAN GAY asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP (page 43):**

Turning to Domestic Violence, it is my understanding that there are no domestic violence proactive support services [DVPASS] offered west of Parramatta in the Sydney region. Is that so and, if it is, is that satisfactory?

**ANSWER:**

The NSW Government, through the Office for Women's Policy (OFWP) funded the expansion of the Domestic Violence Proactive Support Services under the Domestic and Family Violence Action Plan. This included funding to

maintain five existing DV PASS projects in Redfern, Marrickville, Sutherland, Wollongong and Canterbury.

Funding has also been provided to five new services in Armidale, Parramatta,, Rockdale, Eastlakes and Coffs Harbour.

There are many other DV PASS projects across the State, including a number in Western Sydney.

I am advised in Western NSW, integrated services similar to the DV PASS (but operating under different names) operate in:

- Broken Hill (Barrier LAC):
- Moree, Narrabri (Barwon LAC)
- Orange, Cowra (Canobolas LAC)
- Walgett, Lightning Ridge (Castlereagh LAC)
- Bathurst, Lithgow (Chifley LAC)
- Forbes and Parkes (Lachlan LAC)
- Mudgee LAC
- Dubbo (Orana LAC)
- Tamworth, Gunnedah (Oxley LAC)

**The Hon. MELINDA PAVEY asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP (page 44):**

Are you happy with the [Staying Home, Leaving Violence] program and do you think it is having some good outcomes on the basis of the research and the data?

**ANSWER:**

Staying Home Leaving Violence (SHLV) offers women escaping domestic violence an option of remaining safely in their home with support and forcing the offender to leave. It is one of a number of options funded by the NSW Government to support women leaving violent relationships. Other options include supported accommodation and the Start Safely private rental accommodation subsidy.

I am advised an evaluation of the pilot programs in Bega and East Sydney found that two thirds of victims were able to remain in their own home with the violent offender removed. In East Sydney, 91 per cent of women employed at the time of referral were also able to keep their jobs and 88 per cent of children remained at the same school or child care centre. The success of the Program has led to its expansion to an additional 10 locations during 2010–2011 bringing it to a total of 18 locations.

Further information on SHLV should be directed to the Minister for Community Services, the Hon Linda Burney MP.

**The Hon. IAN COHEN asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP (page 46):**

How many forums involving Aboriginal and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) and religious leaders have been held to date.

**ANSWER:**

The Domestic and Family Violence Action Plan was released on 8 June 2010. During the development of the Domestic and Family Violence Action Plan, there were over 30 consultations held across the State. Six of these were specifically focussed in Aboriginal communities, or on issues specifically affecting Aboriginal women. These were held in Redfern, Bourke, Moree, Broken Hill, Wilcannia and Dubbo.

Consultations in Fairfield and Coffs Harbour specifically considered issues facing women from CALD communities.

Elements of all consultations considered the impact of domestic violence on Aboriginal women and women from CALD communities.

As a result of the issues raised in the consultation and submission process, Action 8 of the Domestic and Family Violence Action Plan states that forums will be conducted with Aboriginal, CALD and religious leaders to enhance the capacity of communities to identify domestic violence and develop local solutions to address it. This is an immediate to short-term action which means it will be substantially started within 12 months to two years of the release of the Plan in June 2010.

The Office for Women's Policy, is currently identifying appropriate cultural and religious leaders to conduct and participate in the forums

**The Hon. IAN COHEN asked the Minister for Women, the HON JODI MCKAY MP (page 47):**

What Aboriginal-specific programs were supported in the last round of funding?

**ANSWER:**

The full list of successful Aboriginal-specific programs is available on the OFWP website [www.women.nsw.gov.au](http://www.women.nsw.gov.au).

  
**Jodi McKay MP**  
**Minister for Women**