



**The Hon. Pru Goward MP**  
Minister for Planning  
Minister for Women

The Hon Fred Nile MLC  
Chair GPSC1  
Parliament House  
Macquarie Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Chair,

Please find attached responses to the supplementary questions asked following the Budget Estimates Hearing on Thursday 21 August 2014 for the portfolios of Planning and Women.

Yours sincerely,

**Pru Goward MP**  
Minister for Planning  
Minister for Women

## **BUDGET ESTIMATES 2014-2015**

### **SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

#### **PLANNING, WOMEN**

**21 August 2014**

- 1. What steps is the Government taking to implement planning reforms in the absence of new planning legislation?**

I am advised:

The NSW Government is currently pursuing improvements to the NSW planning system including preparing the NSW Planning Policies, delivering regional growth plans which are linked to infrastructure requirements, reviewing concurrences and referrals, and making planning more accessible via online ePlanning.

- 2. What resources have been allocated to further the NSW Planning System Review in 2014/15?**

I am advised:

This work is being undertaken across the Department.

- 3. What public records does the Department of Planning provide of the outcomes of meetings with proponents?**

I am advised:

The Department has in place a policy which covers contact with proponents. Access to these documents is regulated by the relevant privacy and public access legislation.

- 4. What changes, if any, are proposed to the private certifier scheme as a result of the collapse of a building on Frazer Street in Collaroy on Tuesday 19 August 2014.**

I am advised:

WorkCover is currently investigating the incident.

- 5. What resources have been allocated to implement the 16 recommendations made by ICAC in its 2012 report *Anti-corruption safeguards and the NSW planning system*?**

I am advised:

The Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) 2012 report, '*Anti-Corruption Safeguards in the NSW Planning System*', was one of ICAC's three submissions to the review of the NSW planning system.

The Department of Planning and Environment worked closely with the ICAC during the 2 year review to develop the planning reforms.

Correspondence between the Department and ICAC about the new planning system sets out in detail the anti-corruption safeguards included in the 2013 planning legislation. This correspondence is available on the Department's website.

**6. What is the current status of the review of the pre-gateway process?**

I am advised:

The review of the pre-Gateway review process is in progress.

**7. Who is undertaking the review?**

I am advised:

The Department of Planning and Environment is undertaking the review.

**8. What is the anticipated timeline for the review?**

I am advised:

The review is expected to be completed this year.

**9. What are the Terms of Reference for the review?**

I am advised:

The review is investigating if the pre-Gateway review process is achieving the aims for which it was established.

**10. Are public submissions being solicited as part of the review process?**

(a) If so, where is this being publicised?

(b) If not, why not?

I am advised:

This is an internal review.

**11. When will the report from the review be released?**

I will consider the recommendations of the Department in any reform to the Pre-Gateway process.

**12. How much is the budget of the Gateway Panel?**

I am advised:

\$800,000

**13. How much is allocated to pay Gateway Panel members per year?**

I am advised:

Remuneration for Mining and Petroleum Gateway Panel members is set through the Public Service Commission's 'Classification and Remuneration Framework for NSW Government Boards and Committees'.

**14. How much were Terry Short (Chairman of the Panel) & Dr Russell Frith paid for approximately 100 hours of work undertaken whilst on the Panel?**

I am advised:

Remuneration for Mining and Petroleum Gateway Panel members is set through the Public Service Commission's 'Classification and Remuneration Framework for NSW Government Boards and Committees'.

**15. Why did the abovementioned members of the Panel resign in April?**

I am advised:

This question should be directed to Mr Short and Dr Frith respectively.

**16. How much is the annual budget of the Planning Assessment Commission?**

I am advised:

The PAC budget for 2013-14 was nearly \$3 million.

**17. How much is spent on engaging independent experts to examine socio-economic models and hydrogeological models in EIS's before the PAC?**

**(a) How is this budget allocation determined?**

I am advised:

Independent experts are engaged on a need base and expenses are included in the budget allocation.

**18. Was any independent assessment undertaken to assist the PAC understand the economics of the Cobbora Coal Project?**

I am advised:

The project underwent a comprehensive economic assessment as do all major mining projects.

- 19. Has consideration been given to creating PAC as an entirely independent body with its own legislation, directly reporting to the Parliament?**  
**(a) If so, what considerations?**

I am advised:

The matter was raised at various stages of the planning system review and was considered as part of that review.

- 20. Under what circumstances would a PAC member be considered inappropriate to sit on a particular PAC?**

I am advised:

A member will not sit on a matter if he/she has declared a conflict in accordance with the requirements of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* and the PAC Code of Conduct.

- 21. Are PAC members required to disclose any conflicts of interest before sitting on a review of hearing a matter?**  
**(a) If so, how is this done?**  
**(b) Have any PAC members determined not to sit by reason of a conflict of interest?**

I am advised:

PAC members are required to abide by the Commission's code of conduct and the provisions of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* to disclose and avoid any conflicts of interest.

Members who declare a particular interest on a project will not be selected as a Commission member on that project.

- 22. How is the NSW Government addressing the cumulative impacts of coal mining on water resources, air quality, biodiversity, cultural heritage, communities and other industries across NSW?**

I am advised:

The Government addresses cumulative impacts at the strategic level and at the project level.

- 23. Regarding the Maules Creek Coal Mine what consideration has been given to the approval of the amended Biodiversity Management Plan submitted by the proponent for the project?**

I am advised:

Revised Biodiversity Management Plan for the Maules Creek Coal Project was submitted to the Department of Planning & Environment on 27 August 2014.

The Secretary is currently considering the revised plan in deciding whether it should be approved.

**24. What is the Government's plan for reducing carbon emissions in the state of NSW?**

I am advised:

The Department supports the objectives of the NSW Energy Efficiency Action Plan through State Environmental Planning Policy and the Building Sustainability Index (BASIX) as mechanisms for reducing carbon emissions in NSW.

The Department's BASIX team works with homeowners, building professionals, certifiers and councils to help achieve a reduction of up to 40 per cent in greenhouse gas emissions.

**25. What resources, if any, have been allocated in Planning to reducing carbon emissions in NSW?**

See answer 24.

**26. What is the current estimated date of the commencement of construction of the Windsor Bridge replacement?**

I am advised:

This question should be directed to the Minister for Roads and Freight.

**27. What is the current budget for the Windsor Bridge Replacement Project?**

I am advised:

This question should be directed to the Minister for Roads and Freight.

**28. Has money been allocated in this year's budget for the Windsor Bridge Replacement Project?**

I am advised:

This question should be directed to the Minister for Roads and Freight.

**29. What consideration has the Government given to the conclusions in the Cambray Consulting report in to the Traffic Review that recommend broader studies and a staged approach to the Windsor Bridge Replacement Project?**

I am advised:

The independent traffic review undertaken by Cambray Consulting was considered in detail as part of the Department's assessment of the Windsor Bridge Replacement Project.

- 30. What consideration has been given to the Peter Stewart Consulting Report into the “Structural Condition of the existing Windsor Bridge” which identifies that the bridge could be made serviceable for 50 years or so for around \$14.5 million?**

I am advised:

The independent engineering review on the structural condition of the existing Windsor Bridge conducted by Peter Stewart Consulting was considered in detail during the Department’s assessment of the project.

- 31. Have any meetings been held between the Government and Hurstville City Council in regard to the future of the former Oatley Bowling Club site?**
- (a) If so, when and what was the result?**
  - (b) Does the Government have any plans for the site?**
  - (c) Are minutes of the meeting publicly available?**

I am advised:

No meeting has been held between the Department of Planning and Environment and Hurstville City Council specifically in regard to the future of the former Oatley Bowling Club site. The site was raised amongst a number of matters as part of a general quarterly meeting held between the Department and Council.

- 32. Has a developer approached the Government with a proposal for use of this site?**

See answer 31.

- 33. Has any undertaking been made or any understanding been given by the Department to Hurstville City Council or any private entity to expedite or facilitate or in any other way assist the processing of a lease or purchase of the former Oatley Bowling Club site?**

See answer 31.

- 34. Regarding the Northern Beaches Hospital:**
- (a) How many community consultations have occurred to date?**
  - (b) How many community consultations are yet to occur?**
  - (c) How is the Government alerting the community to these consultations?**
  - (d) What further information about the hospital project is the Department providing to the community?**
  - (e) How is the Government disseminating this information?**
  - (f) What is the cost of that information campaign?**
  - (g) Have members of the community made submissions or written correspondence to the Government regarding the private operation of this hospital?**
  - (h) How many submissions or pieces of correspondence have been received that are opposed to the project being privately-run?**

I am advised:

- a) The Department of Planning and Environment (Department) has held two community consultation workshops.
- b) The Department anticipates that a further three public exhibition processes will be required.
- c) The community will be notified of the public exhibitions through:
  - advertisements in the local and metropolitan papers;
  - letters to adjoining landowners;
  - on the Department's NBH webpage and the development application register;
  - media releases issued by the Department and relevant Ministers; and
  - the Department's social media pages.
- d) In addition to the public exhibition process, the Department maintains a NBH specific webpage within its development assessment register.
- e) See response to c.
- f) The dissemination of information and engagement with the community forms part of standard communication practices.
- g) Yes
- h) 215.

**35. Regarding the New Maitland Hospital:**

- (a) How many community consultations have occurred to date?
- (b) How many community consultations are yet to occur?
- (c) How is the Government alerting the community to these consultations?
- (d) What further information about the hospital project is the Department providing to the community?
- (e) How is the Government disseminating this information?
- (f) What is the cost of that information campaign?
- (g) Have members of the community made submissions or written correspondence to the Government regarding the private operation of this hospital?
- (h) How many submissions or pieces of correspondence have been received that are opposed to the project being privately-run?

I am advised:

No Planning Application has yet been submitted.

**36. The Affordable Housing Taskforce page on the NSW Planning and Environment website does not provide any information more recent than the Taskforce's 2012 interim report. Can the Minister advise as to the recent activity of, and future plans for, the NSW Government's Affordable Housing Taskforce?**

I am advised:



The work carried out by the Taskforce and its advice to the government is being given careful consideration in the development of the government's broader plans to deliver a wide range of housing across the State.

37. **In relation to the current planning for the redevelopment of the Central to Eveleigh Corridor:**
- (a) **Will all current public housing stock be retained?**
  - (b) **Are there going to be targets for key worker, affordable and social housing units in this development?**
    - i. **If so, what are these targets?**

I am advised:

Ensuring housing diversity in NSW is a critical issue and the NSW Government is committed to increasing housing choice in Sydney.

Questions regarding public housing should be referred to the Minister for Family and Community Services.

38. **Can the Minister give an undertaking that in respect of the Rozelle and Blackwattle Bays Maritime Precincts that the heritage items identified in the current Master Plan including the former Jones Brothers Coal Bins and associated structures will be conserved and/or adapted for re-use as a maritime related and/or commercial facility in a manner consistent with the 'Heritage Guidelines Blackwattle and Rozelle Bay Masterplan' prepared by Brian McDonald and Associates dated September 1998. If not, why not?**

I am advised:

The Department of Planning and Environment has issued Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements in respect of a pending development proposal known as "Blackwattle Bay Marina". Should an application be lodged, it will be subject to community consultation and a full merit assessment, including the careful consideration of heritage related matters.

39. **Given evidence at ICAC that Hunter Liberal Members of Parliament received cash from prohibited donors, can you guarantee that you did not receive an illegal donation at the last election?**

I can guarantee that I have never accepted an illegal donation.

40. **Last week the Premier put out a statement that said:**

*"I have always absolutely complied with the electoral funding laws and the records are there for all to see. Yes, I can guarantee that I have never accepted an illegal donation."*

**Will you make that same statement?**

Yes.

41. **Do you think the people of NSW have a right to know who is making donations to candidates during election campaigns?**

I am advised:

The Election Funding, Expenditure and Disclosures Act 1981 requires the disclosure of political donations received and/or made, and electoral expenditure incurred, by or on behalf of parties, elected members, groups, candidates and third party campaigners. It also requires the disclosure of political donations of \$1000 or more made by major political donors.

42. **Given that the Liberals channel all donations through a centralised accounting system which means most individual MPs do not disclose the people and organisations that personally donate to their campaigns, will you fully disclose the source of all donations you received at the 2011 election campaign?**

I am advised:

The Election Funding, Expenditure and Disclosures Act 1981 requires the disclosure of political donations received and/or made, and electoral expenditure incurred, by or on behalf of parties, elected members, groups, candidates and third party campaigners. It also requires the disclosure of political donations of \$1000 or more made by major political donors.

43. **Will you release the full list of donors who donated to your 2011 election campaign?**

I am advised:

The Election Funding, Expenditure and Disclosures Act 1981 requires the disclosure of political donations received and/or made, and electoral expenditure incurred, by or on behalf of parties, elected members, groups, candidates and third party campaigners. It also requires the disclosure of political donations of \$1000 or more made by major political donors.

44. **In the interest of transparency and accountability, will you commit to publicly release the source of donations for the 2015 election?**

I am advised:

The Election Funding, Expenditure and Disclosures Act 1981 requires the disclosure of political donations received and/or made, and electoral expenditure incurred, by or on behalf of parties, elected members, groups, candidates and third party campaigners. It also requires the disclosure of political donations of \$1000 or more made by major political donors.

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

I am advised:

Meetings with lobbyists are in accordance with the NSW Lobbyist Code of Conduct. Information regarding scheduled meetings held with stakeholders, external organisations and individuals will be published in accordance with Memorandum 2014-07 - Publication of Ministerial Diaries.

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

I am advised:

Meetings with lobbyists are in accordance with the NSW Lobbyist Code of Conduct. Information regarding scheduled meetings held with stakeholders, external organisations and individuals will be published in accordance with Memorandum 2014-07 - Publication of Ministerial Diaries.

**47. The Minister for Finance has banned lobbyists from meeting him and his office; will you make the same commitment? If not, why not?**

I am advised:

Meetings with lobbyists are in accordance with the NSW Lobbyist Code of Conduct.

Information regarding scheduled meetings held with stakeholders, external organisations and individuals will be published in accordance with Memorandum 2014-07 - Publication of Ministerial Diaries.

**48. How many times have you met with the Cross Border Commissioner:**  
**(a) In the last twelve months**  
**(b) Since the creation of the position.**

I am advised:

Information regarding scheduled meetings held with stakeholders, external organisations and individuals will be published in accordance with Memorandum 2014-07 - Publication of Ministerial Diaries.

**49. What issues or topics have you referred to the Cross Border Commissioner:**  
**(a) In the last twelve months**  
**(b) Since the creation of the position.**

I am advised:

Information regarding scheduled meetings held with stakeholders, external organisations and individuals will be published in accordance with Memorandum 2014-07 - Publication of Ministerial Diaries.

**50. Do any Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities utilise the services of Labour Hire Firms?**

If yes, please advise in table form:

- (a) The names of the firms utilised**
- (b) The total amount paid to each firm engaged**

- (c) The average tenure period for an employee provided by a labour hire company
- (d) The longest tenure for an employee provided by a labour hire company
- (e) The duties conducted by employees engaged through a labour hire company
- (f) The office locations of employees engaged through a labour hire company

I am advised:

Departmental staffing costs are available in Annual Reports.

51. Has the consultancy company Crosby Textor done any consultancy work for the Dept of Primary Industries? If so what projects was Crosby Textor consulted on?
- (a) What was the cost of the consultancy work for each project?
  - (b) Was there a tender process for these projects?

I am advised:

This question should be referred to the Minister for Primary Industries.

52. Does Crosby Textor currently have any contract work with the Department, if so, what is their role in the project?

I am advised:

This question should be referred to the Minister for Primary Industries.

53. Has the consultancy company Premier State done any consultancy work for the Dept of Primary Industries? If so what projects was Premier State consulted on?
- (a) What was the cost of the consultancy work for each project?
  - (b) Was there a tender process for these projects?

I am advised:

This question should be referred to the Minister for Primary Industries.

54. Does Premier State currently have any contract work with the Department, if so, what is their role in the project?

I am advised:

This question should be referred to the Minister for Primary Industries.

55. Has the Government Contracting company Serco or its affiliates done any consultancy work for the Dept of Primary Industries? If so what projects was Serco or its affiliates assisted with?
- (a) What was the cost of the consultancy work for each project?
  - (b) Was there a tender process for these projects?

I am advised:

This question should be referred to the Minister for Primary Industries.

56. Does Serco or any of its affiliates currently have any contract work with the Department, if so, what is their role in the project?

I am advised:

This question should be referred to the Minister for Primary Industries.

**57. How many blackberries/smart phones are assigned to your staff?**

I am advised:

204 phones have been issued to NSW Government Ministerial staff.

**58. For each phone, how much was each bill in the 2013/14 financial year?**

I am advised:

The 2013-14 total phone bill expenditure for NSW Government Ministerial offices is \$363,877 (63%) less than under the NSW Labor Government in 2008-09 of \$578,691 total expenditure.

**59. How many have phones have been lost in your office?**

I am advised:

9 phones were lost from the NSW Government Ministerial staff.

**60. What is the cost of replacing those phones?**

I am advised:

The cost is the normal contract price and this cost is claimed through the NSW Treasury Managed Fund.

**61. How many iPads does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?**

I am advised:

96 iPads have been issued for the NSW Government Ministerial staff.

**62. How many iPads have you purchased for your office and to whom have they been issued?**

I am advised:

iPads are supplied by DPC and have not been purchased by NSW Government Ministerial staff.

**63. How many iPhones does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?**

I am advised:

204 phones have been issued to the NSW Government Ministerial staff.

**64. How many iPhones have you purchased for your office and to whom have they been issued?**

I am advised:

iPhones or Smart Phones are supplied by DPC and have not been purchased by NSW Government Ministerial staff.

**65. How many iPhones have been lost in your office?**

I am advised:

9 phones were lost from the NSW Government Ministerial staff.

**66. How many iPads have been lost in your office?**

I am advised:

0 iPads were lost from the NSW Government Ministerial staff.

**67. What is the cost of replacing those phones or iPads?**

I am advised:

The cost is the normal contract price and this cost is claimed through the NSW Treasury Managed Fund.

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

I am advised:

Department of Planning & Environment's Public Affairs team includes one Director, three media officers and one support officer.

Hunter Development Corporation has one media officer.

Central Coast Region Development Corporation has one media officer.

Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority has no dedicated media staff.

UrbanGrowth NSW has one part-time media relations person engaged.

**69. What is the forecast for 2014/15 for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost?**

I am advised:

Numbers are forecast to remain the same in all agencies and cost is expected to remain unchanged.

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

I am advised:

Information regarding travel Information regarding Ministerial travel is available on the Minister's appropriate agency website, in accordance with Ministerial Memorandum M2009-10 "Release of Overseas Travel Information".

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

I am advised:

Information regarding travel Information regarding Ministerial travel is available on the Minister's appropriate agency website, in accordance with Ministerial Memorandum M2009-10 "Release of Overseas Travel Information".

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

I am advised:

Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the DPC website at:  
[http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers\\_and\\_ministers\\_staff\\_numbers](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers_and_ministers_staff_numbers).

**73. What is the annual remuneration package for your head media advisor?**

I am advised:

Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the DPC website at:  
[http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers\\_and\\_ministers\\_staff\\_numbers](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers_and_ministers_staff_numbers).

**74. What is the annual remuneration package for each of your staff?**

I am advised:

Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the DPC website at:  
[http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers\\_and\\_ministers\\_staff\\_numbers](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers_and_ministers_staff_numbers).

**75. What is the estimated expenditure for your office budget in 2014/15?**

I am advised:

The 2014-15 budget for NSW Government Ministerial offices is \$4,886,770 (10%) less than under the NSW Labor Government in 2009-10 of \$48,834,000.

**76. Have any office renovations or fit outs been undertaken in your ministerial office since April, 2011?**

I am advised:

Information in relation to repairs, maintenance and relocation for 2011-12 and 2012-13 is available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet Disclosure Log at:  
[http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0007/165616/Disclosure\\_Log\\_Information\\_-\\_Ministerial\\_Renovations.docx.pdf](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0007/165616/Disclosure_Log_Information_-_Ministerial_Renovations.docx.pdf).

**77. If so, could you give details of contracted costs?**

I am advised:

Information in relation to repairs, maintenance and relocation for 2011-12 and 2012-13 is available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet Disclosure Log at:

[http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0007/165616/Disclosure\\_Log\\_Information\\_-\\_Ministerial\\_Renovations.docx.pdf](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0007/165616/Disclosure_Log_Information_-_Ministerial_Renovations.docx.pdf).

**78. What is your Ministerial office budget for 2014/15?**

I am advised:

The 2014-15 budget for NSW Government Ministerial offices is \$4,886,770 (10%) less than under the NSW Labor Government in 2009-10 of \$48,834,000.

**79. How many political advisors are in your office?**

I am advised:

Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the DPC website at:  
[http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers\\_and\\_ministers\\_staff\\_numbers](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers_and_ministers_staff_numbers).

**80. How many administration staff?**

I am advised:

Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the DPC website at:  
[http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers\\_and\\_ministers\\_staff\\_numbers](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers_and_ministers_staff_numbers).

**81. How many Department Liaison Officers are assigned to your office?**

I am advised:

Number of Department Liaison Officers for NSW Government Ministerial offices at 30 June 2014 was 56.

**82. How many staff in the Department are assigned to Ministerial support duties?**

I am advised:

NSW Government Ministers and the Leader of the Opposition are provided with road transport services, with Ministerial Drivers assigned for this purpose.

**83. Are any contractors or consultants working in your ministerial office?**

I am advised:

Financial statements, including expenditure on consultants, are available in agency annual reports.

**84. If so, in what capacities?**

I am advised:

Financial statements, including expenditure on consultants, are available in agency annual reports.

**85. How much did your Ministerial office spend on contractors or consultants?**

I am advised:

Financial statements, including expenditure on consultants, are available in agency annual reports.



**86. How much did your Ministerial office spend on taxi fares, including Cabcharge in the 2013/14 financial year?**

I am advised:

The 2013-14 taxi expenditure for NSW Government Ministerial offices was \$117,783 (67%) less than under the NSW Labor Government in 2009-10 of \$175,776.

**87. Are any of your portfolio agencies undergoing a restructure?**

I am advised:

Agencies and departments undertake internal reviews of its structure to ensure that its functions and priorities align with the changing needs of Government. This work has involved reviewing structures in various parts of the agency to achieve greater alignment with the Government's reform agenda and recommendations of the Commission of Audit.

**88. How many jobs are expected to be cut as a result of that restructure?**

I am advised:

Agencies and departments undertake internal reviews of its structure to ensure that its functions and priorities align with the changing needs of Government. This work has involved reviewing structures in various parts of the agency to achieve greater alignment with the Government's reform agenda and recommendations of the Commission of Audit.

**89. How many people are expected to have their wages cut as a result of that restructure?**

I am advised:

Agencies and departments undertake internal reviews of its structure to ensure that its functions and priorities align with the changing needs of Government. This work has involved reviewing structures in various parts of the agency to achieve greater alignment with the Government's reform agenda and recommendations of the Commission of Audit.

**90. How many voluntary redundancies were offered in your Departments since April 2011?**

I am advised:

The Government's program of voluntary redundancies remains on track. The target of 5,000 positions by June 2015 (announced in the 2011/12 Budget) was already exceeded by a further 1,789 positions by December 2013. The Labour Expense Cap introduced in the 2012/13 Budget is also well on track with Secretaries given as much flexibility as possible to achieve these savings in the most appropriate way to meet the service requirements of their agencies. Nurses, police officers and teachers in schools have been quarantined from this measure.

**91. What has been the total cost of redundancies since April 2011?**

I am advised:

The Government's program of voluntary redundancies remains on track. The target of 5,000 positions by June 2015 (announced in the 2011/12 Budget) was already exceeded by a further 1,789 positions by December 2013. The Labour Expense Cap introduced in the 2012/13 Budget is also well on track with Secretaries given as much flexibility as possible to achieve these savings in

the most appropriate way to meet the service requirements of their agencies. Nurses, police officers and teachers in schools have been quarantined from this measure.

**92. How many voluntary redundancies were accepted from employees in your Departments since April 2011?**

I am advised:

The Government's program of voluntary redundancies remains on track. The target of 5,000 positions by June 2015 (announced in the 2011/12 Budget) was already exceeded by a further 1,789 positions by December 2013. The Labour Expense Cap introduced in the 2012/13 Budget is also well on track with Secretaries given as much flexibility as possible to achieve these savings in the most appropriate way to meet the service requirements of their agencies. Nurses, police officers and teachers in schools have been quarantined from this measure.

**93. How many voluntary redundancies are expected to be offered in 2014/15?**

I am advised:

The Government's program of voluntary redundancies remains on track. The target of 5,000 positions by June 2015 (announced in the 2011/12 Budget) was already exceeded by a further 1,789 positions by December 2013. The Labour Expense Cap introduced in the 2012/13 Budget is also well on track with Secretaries given as much flexibility as possible to achieve these savings in the most appropriate way to meet the service requirements of their agencies. Nurses, police officers and teachers in schools have been quarantined from this measure.

**94. How much did your Department(s) spend on catering in 2013/14?**

I am advised:

Expenditure on catering was in accordance with Government guidelines.

**95. How much did your Department(s) spend on stationary in 2013/14?**

I am advised:

Expenditure on stationary was in accordance with Government guidelines.

**96. What is your Department's catering budget?**

See answer 94.

**97. What is your Department's stationary budget?**

See answer 95.

**98. Since April 2011 have any of the agencies in your Department(s) changed their branding?**

I am advised:

The Department of Planning & Infrastructure became the Department of Planning & Environment in April 2014.

**99. If so, how much was spent on rebranding the agency?**

I am advised:

The total cost to Department of Planning & Environment was \$190.

**100. How long is the average turnaround for responding to correspondence in your Department(s)?**

I am advised:

The department's recommended time frame for completing responses to correspondence from Ministers, Members of Parliament and members of the public is 20 working days from the department's receipt of the correspondence.

However, it is not always possible to comply with this time frame for any number of reasons including: the nature and complexity of the matter; stakeholder consultation; or further information required from other departments and sources.

**101. How many pieces of correspondence have been outstanding for more than 60 days?**

I am advised:

The department's recommended time frame for completing responses to correspondence from Ministers, Members of Parliament and members of the public is 20 working days from the department's receipt of the correspondence.

However, it is not always possible to comply with this time frame for any number of reasons including: the nature and complexity of the matter; stakeholder consultation; or further information required from other departments and sources.

**102. In 2013/14 how many invoices has your Department(s) failed to pay a supplier or contractor for more than 30 days?**

I am advised:

Information regarding "30 days to pay" policy is available at <http://www.finance.nsw.gov.au/30days/how-government-will-report-policy>.

**103. As a result of late payment, how much penalty interest has been paid to contractors since 1 January 2011?**

I am advised:

Information regarding "30 days to pay" policy is available at <http://www.finance.nsw.gov.au/30days/how-government-will-report-policy>.

**104. How many invoices have been outstanding for longer than 60 days?**

I am advised:

Information regarding "30 days to pay" policy is available at <http://www.finance.nsw.gov.au/30days/how-government-will-report-policy>.

**105. 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 2013/14?
- (h) What are the details of any costs involved in each study, audit, taskforce or review?

I am advised:

In the 2013/14 financial year the Department did not provide any recurrent grant funds to non-government organisations.

**106. How many contractors has your Department(s) retained since 1 July 2014 and at what cost?**

I am advised:

Departmental staffing costs are available in Annual Reports.

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

I am advised:

The Public Service Commission collects workforce data from the NSW public sector, including information regarding levels of Aboriginal employment.

**108. How has that changed since 1 July 2013?**

I am advised:

The 30 June 2014 estimate of Aboriginal employment in the sector is 2.9%. This compares to the Workforce Profile 2013 report which estimated the level of Aboriginal employment in the sector at 2.7%.

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

I am advised:

Since 1 July 2011, the Department has not incurred any expenses on charter air flights.

**110. 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?**

I am advised:

As with previous NSW Governments, the Government undertakes feasibility studies, audits, taskforces and reviews to inform government decision making. A number of feasibility studies, audits, taskforces and reviews are currently being undertaken across the NSW Government.

**111. Can you please list all travel related costs for your Parliamentary Secretary incurred in their capacity as Parliamentary Secretary since 1 July 2013**

- (a) kilometres travelled**
- (b) accommodation,**
- (c) air fares**
- (d) meals/entertaining?**

I am advised:

Information on the total costs for NSW Government Parliamentary Secretaries in 2013/14 are:

- (a) Information not available.
- (b) \$1,338
- (c) \$8,773
- (d) Information not available. Expenses are included under (b).

**112. Can you please provide details of the following activities undertaken by your Parliamentary Secretary since 1 July 2013;**

- (a) meetings attended in their capacity as Parliamentary Secretary?**
- (b) functions attended in their capacity as Parliamentary Secretary?**

I am advised:

Parliamentary Secretaries provide assistance to the Premier/Minister including signing correspondence; receiving deputations; undertaking special tasks; officiating at functions; and relieving the Premier/Minister of some of their duties. The duties to be performed are those allocated by the Premier/Minister, or which have the Premier/Minister endorsement.

**113. How often do you meet with your Parliamentary Secretary?**

- (a) Are these meetings documented?**
- (b) Who attends these meetings?**

See answer to question 112.

**114. Who provides instructions and direction to your Parliamentary Secretary, you or your Chief of Staff?**

See answer to question 112.

**115. 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?**

I am advised:

No.

**116. 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?**

I am advised:

No.