



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 1

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013-2014

Supplementary Questions on Notice

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 1

Planning and Infrastructure

Friday 16 August 2013

Answers to be returned by: Wednesday 11 September 2013.

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GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEE NO. 1

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Supplementary questions: Planning and Infrastructure

Answers are to be returned to the Committee secretariat by: Wednesday 11 September 2013.

1. What methodology is being used in analysing the submissions on the white paper?
2. How was this methodology chosen?
3. What scope was there to make changes from the white paper and draft bill to the final version?
4. How will the \$3 million allocated for improving community engagement in the NSW planning system be allocated?
5. What proportion of this \$3 million will be allocated to the Department of Planning and Infrastructure?
6. What proportion of this \$3 million will be allocated to councils to develop community engagement plans?
7. What proportion of this \$3 million will be directly allocated to the community for participation in strategic planning?
8. How much of the \$21 million allocated to fund the new planning system will be allocated to developing a robust and reliable data set, including mapping?
9. How much of the \$21 million allocated to fund the new planning system will be allocated to councils to assist in developing new local plans?
10. How much money has been allocated to the Department of Planning and Infrastructure for compliance and enforcement of development consents and approvals?
11. 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?
12. What is your Department's plan for reducing carbon emissions in the state of NSW?
13. What resources, if any, has your department allocated to reducing carbon emissions in NSW?
14. What policy measures, if any, does your department intend to introduce to reduce carbon emissions in NSW?
15. How many development approvals last financial year contained a biodiversity offset?
 - a. Which ones were they?

16. How much was spent by developers the last financial year on biodiversity offsets as part of development approvals?
17. What was the reason for refusing Council's request for an increase to the section 94 cap for the Cumbalum Urban Release Area?
18. Given this refusal will leave a shortfall of approximately \$7.4 million dollars or \$9000 per lot, what impact is this anticipated to have on the price of housing in this area and the council?
19. If council had not approved the rezoning was there a plan to send the rezoning to the JRPP for approval?
20. If so, would this have meant that council would have lost their section 94 contributions?
21. Are there any plans for State Government assistance to make up the significant cost burden this development will place on the rate-payers of Ballina Shire Council?
22. Will the Minister take action to prevent further re-zonings in NSW where there is additional infrastructure costs placed on local councils not re-couped by section 94 payments?
23. If not, why not?
24. Is the Hunter Development Corporation the agency tasked with the detailed planning for the heavy rail terminus, light rail replacement & new interchange?
25. What is the role of the 'project coordination and delivery group' in terms of planning the heavy rail terminus, light rail replacement & new 'interchange'?
26. Who are the members of the NURS 'project coordination and delivery group' (including ex officio members) and their names, positions and qualifications?
27. What criteria were applied to selection of the 'community representatives'?
28. Which members, if any, have qualifications in planning and costing public transport infrastructure and services?
29. How often have the 'project coordination and delivery group' met and on what dates?
30. How many consultants have been engaged by the coordination and delivery group?
31. Are there any consultancies that are still out to tender?
32. If yes how many and covering what subject matter?
33. Who advised the Minister that as of 18th May 2013, there had been over \$150 million worth of commitment to new development as a result of the announcement that Newcastle Rail Line would be terminated at Wickham?

34. How was this advice received?
35. What developments comprise the \$150 million in commitments?
36. Who advised the Minister that as of 18th June 2013, there had been over \$300 million worth of commitment to new development as a result of the announcement that Newcastle Rail Line would be terminated at Wickham?
37. How was this advice received?
38. What were the extra \$150 million worth of commitments between 18th May 2013 and 18th June 2013?
39. How are the completed lobbyist register meeting forms kept in your office?
40. How many such forms would be filled in in an average week?
41. What is the point of these forms?
42. Why are these forms not publicly available and online?
43. Is the Minister planning to release a final version of the Wind Planning Guidelines before the end of the year?
 - a. If so, when?
44. Can the Minister please provide an update on the status of the assessment of Transgrid's application to construct a 330kV transmission line between Dumaresq substation near Bonshaw and Lismore substation within the Department of Planning and Infrastructure?
45. Is the NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure currently in discussions with the federal Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities or the Federal Environment Minister concerning the provision of offsets for Endangered Ecological Communities as part of Transgrid's Far North NSW - Dumaresq to Lismore transmission line application?
 - a. If so, what is the status of these discussions?
46. Is the Minister aware that Transgrid's website states in reference to Far North NSW - Dumaresq to Lismore transmission line that "the latest forecast data indicates the project may not be required until sometime in the 2020s"?
 - a. If so, has this been taken into account in assessing the need for the project?
47. When does the Minister expect that a final decision will be handed down in respect of the Far North NSW - Dumaresq to Lismore transmission line?
48. What is the status of the audit into wind farms at Capital, Cullerin Range and Woodlawn, in southern NSW that was announced in February 2012 following resident complaints about noise issues?

- a. Is it the Ministers intention to make the results of these audits public?
 - i. If not, why not?
 - ii. If so, when will this occur?
49. How often in the last financial year have you met formally with the Minister for Heritage to discuss heritage matters?
50. Have you received any representations in the last financial year from the Minister for Environment and Heritage about the implications for her portfolio from the review of the planning system? If so, when and please provide copies of these representations?
51. When considering developments that have been declared State Significant Infrastructure or State Significant Development what protocols or procedures do you have in place to ensure that the heritage implications of such developments are given due consideration? If you do have such protocols and procedures, please provide copies of these? If not, why not?
52. Have you received any representations in the last financial year from the Minister for Environment and Heritage about the Thompson Square Windsor Bridge project? If so, please provide copies?
53. What evidence does your Department have to support the assertion in the Planning White Paper that the Heritage Council takes too long to assess State important heritage developments?

General

1. On how many occasions have you met with a lobbyist, and what were the dates of these meetings?
2. Which lobbyists have you met with, and what was discussed?
3. On how many occasions have you declined to meet with a lobbyist?
4. To deliver greater transparency and accountability, will you publish a monthly online diary of all meetings with lobbyists?
5. 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?
6. Since becoming a Minister, have you taken any interstate or intrastate trips involving overnight accommodation or flights?
7. Will you provide a list to the committee of the details of all travel?
8. 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?
9. Have you taken any trips intrastate or interstate to attend lobbyists' functions? What are the details of the trips including dates and costs?

10. Were these trips paid for by the taxpayer?
11. Were these trips booked through the government travel management system?
12. 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?
13. Have you had meetings scheduled interstate or intrastate on Fridays or weekends which involved you staying overnight?
14. Did you take your spouse/partner on these trips?
15. 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?
16. If so, have any members of your staff resigned or been removed from their position after making such a complaint or raising such concerns?
17. How many blackberries or smart phones are assigned to your staff?
18. For each phone, how much was each bill in the 2012/13 financial year?
19. How many have phones have been lost in your office?
20. What is the cost of replacing those phones?
21. How many iPads or tablet computers does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?
22. How many iPads or tablet computers have you purchased for your office and to whom have they been issued?
23. How many iPhones or other smart phones does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?
24. How many iPhones or other smart phones have you purchased for your office and to whom have they been issued?
25. How many iPhones or other smart phones have been lost in your office?
26. How many iPads or tablet computers have been lost in your office?
27. What is the cost of replacing those phones or iPads or tablet computers?
28. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies?

29. What is the forecast for 2013/14 for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost?
30. Have any of your overseas trips in the past year been paid for in part or in full by using public money?
31. If so, did any of your relatives or friends accompany you on these trips?
32. What is the annual remuneration package for your chief of staff
33. What is the annual remuneration package for your head media advisor?
34. What is the annual remuneration package for each of your staff?
35. What is the estimated expenditure for your office budget in 2012-13?
36. Have any office renovations or fit outs been undertaken in your ministerial office since April, 2011?
37. If so, could you give details of contracted costs?
38. What is your Ministerial office budget for 2013/14?
39. How many political advisors are in your office?
40. How many administration staff?
41. How many Department Liaison Officers are assigned to your office?
42. How many staff in the Department are assigned to Ministerial support duties
43. Are any contractors or consultants working in your ministerial office?
44. If so, in what capacities?
45. How much did your Ministerial office spend on contractors or consultants?
46. How much did your Ministerial office spend on taxi fares, including Cabcharge in the 2012/13 financial year?
47. Are any of your portfolio agencies undergoing a restructure?
48. How many jobs are expected to be cut as a result of that restructure?
49. How many people are expected to have their wages cut as a result of that restructure?
50. How many voluntary redundancies were offered in your Departments since April 2011?

51. How many voluntary redundancies were accepted from employees in your Departments since April 2011?
52. How many voluntary redundancies are expected to be offered in 2013/14?
53. How much did your Department(s) spend on catering in 2012/13?
54. How much did your Department(s) spend on stationary in 2012/13?
55. What is your Department's catering budget?
56. What is your Department's stationary budget?
57. Since April 2011 have any of the agencies in your Department(s) changed their branding?
58. If so, how much was spent on rebranding the agency?
59. How long is the average turnaround for responding to correspondence in your Department(s)?
60. How many pieces of correspondence have been outstanding for more than 60 days?
61. In 2012/13 how many invoices has your Department(s) failed to pay a supplier or contractor for more than 30 days?
62. As a result of late payment, how much penalty interest has been paid to contractors since 1 January 2011?
63. How many invoices have been outstanding for longer than 60 days?
64. 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 2013/2013?
 - 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?
65. How many contractors has your Department(s) retained since 1 July 2013 and at what cost?
66. What is the current level of Aboriginal employment within your Department(s)?
67. How has that changed since 1 July 2012?

68. Since 1 July 2011, how much has been spent on charter air flights by your Department(s)?
69. 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?
70. Have you been provided with Speech, Voice or Media Training since becoming a 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?