



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEE NO. 3

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2011-2012

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3

Tourism, Major Events, Hospitality and Racing, Arts

Friday 28 October 2011

Answers to be lodged by: 23 November 2011

Budget Estimates Secretariat
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Hearing date	Portfolio	Answer to be lodged by
28 October 2011	Tourism, Major Events, Hospitality and Racing, Arts	23 November 2011 [21 days]

Questions relating to the portfolio of Tourism

28 OCTOBER 2011, 9.00 am – 10.00 am

Questions from the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC

1. In relation to Cruise Ship Statistics:
 - a. What was the Cruise sector's contribution to the State Economy in the 2010-2011 financial period?
 - i. Is it expected to increase in the current financial year 2011-2012? If not, why not?
 - ii. What is the expected increase for the next decade for the industry?
 - b. How many cruise vessels stopped in Sydney and other NSW Ports in the last financial year and how many will arrive this year?
 - i. How much did cruise ship passengers contribute to the NSW economy in the last financial year?
2. In relation to the Visitor Economy Taskforce:
 - a. Minister part of this documents strategy requires establishing a Visitor Economy Taskforce, and to execute the Taskforces strategy (which is to report early next year) requires a boost in funding of \$40 million dollars? Is this extra, or on top of what was already allocated under the previous administration through the recommendations of the O'Neil Report?
 - b. Do the Taskforce members Russell Balding, AO, the Hon. Bruce Baird, John King and Sandra Chipchase, receive any fee or salary?
 - i. If so, how much?
3. In relation to Tourism Statistics:
 - a. Minister why have the regional tourism statistics not been updated since March this year? I understand they were previously reported each quarter?
 - b. If they have, why aren't available on the Destination NSW Website?
4. In relation to Grants to Non-Government Organisations:
 - 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?
5. In relation to Jetset partnership:
 - a. Minister, I understand the Government has indicated that 2 million dollars will be provided for a partnership with Jetset to help encourage overseas visitors to NSW
 - b. How many of these or what percentage of programs by Jetset will be target at Regional NSW, Including the Hunter Valley, Capital Country, Central Coast and Western NSW?
 - c. What measures have been put in place to ensure this funding is well spent?
6. In relation to Chinese Visitors:
 - a. Is the government encouraging visitors to NSW from China, what initiatives is the Government using to assist Chinese visitors to accessing tourist visas to come to Australia?
7. In relation to Caravan Parks:
 - a. How many caravan parks does the State Government own?
 - b. In 2010 and 2011 how many visitor nights were spend in caravan parks?
 - c. How many in these years were spent in campervans or motor homes?

8. In relation to tourism employment numbers
 - a. How many people are estimated to be employed in the tourism industry across NSW?
 - b. What are the figures for:
 - i. Retail
 - ii. Accommodation
 - iii. Cafes and Restaurants
 - iv. Education
 - v. Air and Water Transport
 - vi. Travel Agencies and Tour Operator Services
 - c. When were these figures updated?

9. In relation to Domestic Visitors:
 - a. Has there been any increase in domestic visitors to Sydney in the second and third quarters this year compared to last year?
 - b. How many nights have visitors spent in regional NSW in each of the quarters this year?
 - c. For the 1st quarter of this year what was there and increase of domestic visitors to NSW as compared to the same time last year?
 - d. Has there been an increase in business visitors to Sydney for the last two financial quarters what are the figures for visitor nights?

10. Phones
 - a. How many blackberries does DPC assign to your Ministerial staff and to whom have they been issued?
 - b. How many iPads does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?
 - c. How many iPads have you purchased for your office and to whom have they been issued?
 - d. How many iPhones does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?
 - e. How many iPhones have you purchased for your office and to whom have they been issued?
 - f. For each phone or device, how much was each bill from April to October?
 - g. How many phones or devices have been lost in your office?
 - h. What is the cost of replacing those phones or devices?

11. Media and Public Relations
 - a. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies?
 - b. What is the forecast for 2011-12 for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost?
 - c. How many media or public relations advisers are employed in your ministerial office?

12. Overseas Trips
 - a. Have any of your overseas trips in the past year been paid for in part or in full by using public money?
 - b. If so, did any of your relatives or friends accompany you on these trips?

13. Office Costs
 - a. What is the annual remuneration package for your chief of staff?
 - b. What is the annual remuneration package for your head media advisor?
 - c. What is the annual remuneration package for each of your staff?
 - d. What is the estimated expenditure for your office budget in 2011-12?
 - e. Have any office renovations or fit outs been undertaken in your ministerial office since April?
 - f. If so, could you give details of contracted costs?
 - g. What is your office budget?
 - h. How many political advisors are in your office?
 - i. How many administration staff?
 - j. How many Department Liaison officers are assigned to your office?
 - k. How many staff in the Department are assigned to Ministerial support duties?

14. Cabcharge
 - a. In terms of your ministerial office, how much did your office spend on taxi fares, including Cabcharge since April?

15. Restructure
 - a. Are any of your portfolio agencies undergoing a restructure?
 - b. How many jobs are expected to be cut as a result of that restructure?
 - c. How many people are expected to have their wages cut as a result of that restructure?
 - d. How many voluntary redundancies are expected to be offered as a result of that restructure?

16. Agency Costs
 - a. What is your agency's catering budget?
 - b. Since April, has the agency changed its branding?
 - c. How much was spent on rebranding the agency?
 - d. How much has been spent on stationary?

17. Correspondence
 - a. How long is the average turnaround for responding to correspondence in your agency?
 - b. How many pieces of correspondence have been outstanding for more than 60 days?

18. Paying bills on time
 - a. Since April, on how many occasions has the agency not paid a supplier or contractor for more than 30 days?
 - b. How many bills have been outstanding for longer than that period?

19. Grants to non-government organisations
 - a. Does your department provide recurrent grant funds to non-government organisations?
 - b. If yes,
 - i. What are the names of all organisations in receipt of funding?
 - ii. What is the total amount of funding received by each organisation, including goods and services tax?
 - iii. On what date was the funding advanced?
 - iv. What was the purpose for each grant or funding advance?
 - v. Was any funding withheld or returned?
 - vii. If so, what were the reasons for withholding or requiring the funding to be returned?
 - viii. What is the indexation rate applied to non recurrent grant funds in 2011/2012?

20. Feasibility studies, audits, taskforces or reviews
 - a. Is your department currently undertaking any feasibility studies, audits, taskforces or reviews,
 - b. If so;
 - i. What are the terms of reference or details of each study, audit, taskforce or review?
 - ii. Who is conducting the study, audit, taskforce or review?
 - iii. Was each study, audit, taskforce or review publically advertised seeking expression of interest or competitive tenders?
 - iv. Is there a contract in place detailing terms of engagement for the study, audit, taskforce or review?
 - v. What is the timeline of each study, audit, taskforce or review?
 - vi. What are the details of any costs involved in each study, audit, taskforce or review?

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There were no additional questions on notice lodged by members relating to the portfolio of Tourism.

Questions relating to the portfolio of Arts

28 OCTOBER 2011, 10.00 am – 10.45 am

Questions from the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC

21. Minister, in a letter to you dated 3 May 2011 from Cr Win Gaffney, Mayor of Lane Cove he state that "My members believe that the State funding of public libraries needs to be addressed as a matter of priority" and in a press release by the LGSA, they indicated that an increase of \$5.2 million funding for public libraries each year for five years until 2016, would be appropriate.
22. What funding in this year's budget has the Government committed to public library funding?
 - a. And will it commit to the funding increases of the next four years of the forward estimates?

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There were no additional questions on notice lodged by members relating to the portfolio of Arts.

Questions relating to the portfolio of Major Events

28 OCTOBER 2011, 11.00 am – 12.00 pm

Questions from the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC

23. In relation to Project Size of the Convention & Exhibition Centre:
 - a. As stated in a answer to a question on notice I asked the Minister for Planning, the newly expanded project will comprise a 12 hectare site. In such a compressed area in the Darling Harbour South Precinct, where are you going to find 12 hectares for the project and do you expect the project to encroach on existing open space?
 - b. Will the new project require the acquisition of any properties not already owned by the NSW Government or Government agencies?
24. In relation to the Sydney Olympic Park alternative to the Exhibition Centre
 - a. What investigations were undertaken to determine whether current Sydney Olympic Park facilities would be suitable for either the maintenance or expansion of its convention centre facilities?
 - b. Do the current Sydney Olympic Park facilities meet the required future industry demand?
 - c. Minister I am sure you have seen plans for improvements to facilities at Sydney Olympic park, is the Government supporting those plans?
 - d. What would be the costs of upgrading currently facilities at the Sydney Olympic Park?
25. In relation to job creation and costs of the Exhibition Centre
 - a. Through the establishment of the Exhibition Centre, what is the expected total revenue for the financial year 2015/16 or even 2016/17?
 - b. Have you determined this information before announcing the project?

- c. Through demolishing the current facility what is the expected amount of jobs created during construction and after delivery?
 - d. If the current facility is refurbished what would be the expected amount of jobs created during construction and after delivery.
 - e. Why is the government commissioning a \$900 million development when the previous Victorian government an upgrade to the Melbourne exhibition space by 12,000 sqm facility at a cost of \$242 million. What challenges do the Government face that require a blow out the cost of this Sydney facility to \$900 million project?
 - f. What are the costs of the public side of the public/private partnership of this project?
 - g. What have been the administrative costs so far for the establishment of the tendering process and the Expression of Interest process?
26. In relation to Project Impact of the Exhibition Centre:
- a. Considering the impact of the expected 4 year construction of the project what process will the government undertake to mitigate impacts on traffic and pedestrian use of Darling Harbour. What impact do you expect the project's construction to have on the 26 million tourists who visit this area annually, have there been an assessment of the impact during construction on existing small business operators and have they been informed of the plans.
 - b. Given the \$6 billion Barangaroo Project is to be developed over nearly the same period, what alternative measures have or will be established to allow for commuters and visitors to the Darling Harbour area whilst the construction is taking place in the same 5 year period.

Questions from Dr John Kaye MLC

27. Is the Minister aware of the financial losses suffered by many businesses along the jetty strip in Coffs Harbour from the staging of the World Rally Championships (WRC) in September?
28. Is the Minister aware of the impact of the WRC on the local shearwater population?
29. How much did the state of NSW contribute to the staging of the Coffs WRC?
30. Does the Minister support the WRC's return to Coffs Harbour?
31. What was the cost to the NSW taxpayer of setting up and dismantling for the V8 Supercars race at Homebush in:
- a. 2009?
 - b. 2010?
32. What will be the cost to the NSW taxpayer of setting up and dismantling for the V8 Supercars race at Homebush in 2011?
33. What other costs to the NSW tax payer were incurred from the staging of the V8 Supercars race at Homebush in:
- a. 2009?
 - b. 2010?
34. What other costs to the NSW tax payer will be incurred from the staging of the V8 Supercars race at Homebush in 2011?
35. What compensation would have to be paid to the proponents if the V8 Supercars contract was to be cancelled before the end of its expiry?
36. In answers to questions on notice you stated that the review of the legislation that enabled the event to be staged at Homebush was conducted by a former director general of the Department of Tourism Sport and

Recreation who has previous responsibility for the Sydney Olympic Park Authority. Is the Minister concerned that there was a conflict of interest in that review?

37. Given that the Coalition when it was in Opposition was highly critical of the Homebush event, its handling or mishandling by the then Minister, why is the government accepting the review commissioned by the previous administration?
38. Will the government commission its own review of the V8 Supercars legislation?
 - a. If not, why not?
39. Does the Minister think it is appropriate for the sexist, passé` Chilletes promotion to be permitted at an event sponsored by the state of NSW?

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There were no additional questions on notice lodged by members relating to the portfolio of Major Events.

Questions relating to the portfolio of Hospitality and Racing

28 OCTOBER 2011, 12.00 pm – 1.00 pm

Questions from the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC

40. In relation to the Thoroughbred Racing Amendment Bill 2011:
 - a. If an applicant for board appointment falls within the 12 month period of membership to Racing NSW the selection panel will refer to a probity officer to determine the individual applicant's compliance. What probity measures and compliance measures will the probity officer use to determine the eligibility to for board membership?
41. In relation to Melbourne Cup on 1 November 2011:
 - a. Did you receive any complimentary hospitality on Melbourne Cup Day?
 - b. If so, from whom?
 - c. Were any people present lobbyists for racing and gaming interests?
 - d. If so who are they and who do they represent?
 - e. What is the estimated value of the free hospitality that you received?

Questions from Dr John Kaye MLC

42. How many poker machine entitlements are there currently in NSW?
 - a. What is the breakdown of those machines by registered clubs, hotels and casinos?
43. If it is, as you as Minister pointed out, during the Estimates hearing, “virtually impossible” to calculate the impact of the introduction of mandatory pre-commitment on licensed venues' revenue, on what basis does the NSW government continue to insist that clubs will be negatively affected by the legislation?
44. Will the Minister rule out allowing clubs to construct or hire ATMs such as those proposed in the Clubs Australia training documents?

45. Less than a week after becoming Minister you were quoted in the Daily Telegraph saying that you were very concerned with the rise of outdoor gambling advertising. What specific actions has the government taken to address the proliferation of gambling online and in other places and the proliferation of signage at venues other than licensed venues?
46. What is the funding in the 2011/12 Budget provided to the Alcohol Licensing Enforcement Command (ALEC)?
 - a. How does that compare to the previous budget?
47. How many compliance officers are currently employed by OLGR?
 - a. Is the Minister satisfied that there are enough licensing officers employed to enforce compliance by licensed venues of the Liquor Act?
 - b. Are there any plans to increase the number of compliance officers employed by OLGR?
48. Could the Minister please provide the current list of licensed venues that are on either Level 1 or 2 licensing conditions?
 - a. When does this list expire and a new one created?
49. As a possible solution to alcohol-related violence, would the Minister consider modification of licence fees to require each venue to bear a larger proportion of its attributable costs of the policing of RSA and for the impact of the venue and its patrons on the neighbourhood?
50. What role does the Minister believe the provision of more late night public transport services would have in reducing alcohol-related violence?
51. What upgrades in terms of betting facilities will be included in the redevelopment of the Randwick racecourse?

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There were no additional questions on notice lodged by members relating to the portfolio of Hospitality and Racing.