



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEES

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2015-2016 Supplementary Questions

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 6

Corrections, Emergency Services, Veterans Affairs

Friday 4 September 2015

Answers due by: Wednesday 30 September 2015

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Questions from Shaoquett Moselmane [on behalf of the NSW Labor Opposition]

GPSC No : 6

Corrections

4 September

Goulburn Maximum Security Prison

1. On average, how many Correctional Services Officers are present to supervise inmates while they are in various workshops throughout the prison?

I am advised.

On average, there is one correctional officer supervising 10 inmates while in workshops.

Smoking Ban in NSW Prisons

2. How much has been spent on nicotine patches for inmates in NSW Prisons?

a) How long is this scheme expected to operate for?

The Justice Health & Forensic Mental Health Network is responsible for providing inmates with Nicotine Replacement Therapy. The question should be directed to the Minister for Health.

3. What is the anticipated annual expenditure for nicotine patches for inmates in NSW Prisons?

See above answer

4. How much has been spent on the promotional material to inform prisoners how to beat the cravings?

a) What were the creative costs for designing this material?

b) What were the distribution costs for this material?

See above answer

Prison Population

5. What was the cost to hold prisoners in segregated custody for the years:

a) 2011-2012?

b) 2012-2013?

c) 2013-2014?

d) 2014-2015?

I am advised:

This data is not currently held by CSNSW

Inmates and Correctional Services Officers

6. Have any inmates been incorrectly released from NSW correctional facilities since 2011?

a) If so, how many have been incorrectly released?

I am advised:

Yes - 2 inmates in each of the years 2011/2012; 2012/2013; 2013/2014; 2014/2015

7. How many deaths have occurred in correctional facilities in 2014-15?

I am advised:

21. 19 were from natural causes.

8. How many inmates have been hospitalised as a result of injury sustained while in custody in 2014-15?

I am advised:

This data is not currently held by CSNSW. Health care is provided to inmates regardless of the origin of the condition.

9. How many Correctional Services Officers have been hospitalised as a result of an injury sustained in the workplace in 2014-15?

I am advised:

61 custodial officers were taken to hospital immediately following a workplace incident during this period.

10. How many Correctional Services Officers have been disciplined for their conduct during their employment since 2011?

- a) For what reasons were they disciplined and what was their punishment?

Corrective Services employees are required to follow the “Guide to Conduct and Ethics”. This Guide provides standards of conduct and ethical behaviour that are expected from all CSNSW employees to ensure they carry out their work professionally and meet the expectations of the public. An employee who commits misconduct may be subject to disciplinary or other remedial action. This can result in a fine, demotion, or even dismissal.

216 Corrective Services NSW staff have been disciplined for misconduct between 1 January 2011 and 15 September 2015 for various reasons that were in contravention of standards and ethics that are expected.

11. How many inmates are receiving treatment for an addiction to:

- a) Heroin?
b) Alcohol?
c) Ice?

The Justice Health & Forensic Mental Health Network is responsible for providing health services to inmates. The question should be directed to the Minister for Health.

12. How many inmates are receiving methadone?

See response above

13. How many complaints have been received by Correctional Services Officers with regards to their working conditions in 2014-15?

I am advised:

There are numerous internal and external avenues available for Correctional Services staff to lodge complaints about working conditions. Corrective Services NSW does not keep statistical data in relation to the number of complaints about working conditions.

Corrective Services Investigation Unit

14. What is the budget for the Corrective Services Investigation Unit?

In 2014/15 \$1,104,357

15. How many reports were made to the Corrective Services Investigation Unit last year?
**I am advised:
396 matters were referred to Corrective Services Investigation Unit for the year ending 31 December 2014**

Kirkconnell Correctional Centre

16. How much did it cost to close Kirkconnell Correctional Centre?
\$88,372
17. What was the cost to guard Kirkconnell Correctional Centre during its closure?
Security services cost \$345,855 in 2013/14 and \$258,360 in 2014/15.
18. How much did it cost to bring Kirkconnell Correctional Centre up to operational standard?
\$4.35 million

Contraband

19. Has contraband ever been seized and then returned to an inmate?
Items of contraband that are seized are not returned to inmates. Contraband is disposed of in accordance with Corrective Services NSW policy, or, depending on the offence, it may be retained for use as evidence in charges for breaches of custodial discipline, or criminal offences. However, during the amnesty period for the recent implementation of the Smoke-Free policy in NSW correctional centres, some tobacco or tobacco related items were returned to inmates. These were isolated incidents that occurred as a result of misinterpretation of instructions and a misunderstanding of the amnesty period by some correctional centre staff.

Ministerial Office Administration

20. How many staff are in your ministerial office?
a) What was the average salary for staff members in your office during 2014-15?
b) What is the average salary for a ministerial staffer in your office based on current appointments?

Ministers' staff numbers and salary bands are available on the DPC website.

21. How many blackberries/smart phones are assigned to your staff?
a) For each phone, how much was each bill in the past financial year?
b) How many phones have been lost or replaced due to damage in your office?
i. What is the cost of replacing those phones?

There were 227 phones in use across all Ministers' offices in 2014/15. The total usage cost of these smart phones and other mobile devices was \$354,992, a 37 per cent reduction on 2008/09 expenditure of \$578,691. There were 10 lost devices (phones and iPads) across the Ministry in 2014/15. The cost of replacing any lost or stolen devices is claimed through the NSW Treasury Managed Fund.

22. How many iPads or tablets does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?

- a) What is the cost of providing iPads or tablets to your Ministerial Office?
- b) How many iPads or tablets have been replaced due to lost or damage?
 - i. What was the cost of replacing these devices?

There were 130 iPads in use across all Ministers' offices in 2014/15. There were 10 lost devices (phones and iPads) across the Ministry in 2014/15. The cost of replacing any lost or stolen devices is claimed through the NSW Treasury Managed Fund.

23. Did any you or your ministerial staff incur data charges on a mobile phone or tablet device greater than \$1000 for a single billing period?
- a) If so, how many times did this occur?
 - i. What was the individual cost of each data charge over \$1000 for a single billing period?

The total usage cost of mobile devices such as smart phones and iPads across all Ministers' offices including data charges was \$354,992 in 2014/15, a 37 per cent reduction on 2008/09 expenditure of \$578,691.

24. Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in your office?
- a) What is the cost of this?

Any artwork purchased by the Ministry is managed within the office's budget.

25. Have any floral displays or indoor plants been hired or leased for display in your ministerial office?
- a) If so, what was the cost of these items?

Floral arrangements purchased by the Ministry are managed within the office's budget.

26. What is the total cost of all subscriptions by you and your staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals?
- a) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?
 - i. Who is the subscriber for each of these?

The Minister for Emergency Services, Corrections and Veterans Affairs' office subscribes to a modest number of publications, the cost of which is managed within the office's budget.

27. What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by you and your office?
- a) What were the gifts purchased?
 - i. Who were they gifted to?

No gifts were purchased.

28. Do you purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for your office?
- a) What is the cost of this?

No.

29. Can you advise the names of all contractors/consultants employed and/or paid for by your office, under any agreement, contract or fee-for-service arrangement in 2014-15?

- a) Do they have ABN's?
 - i. If so, please provide details?
 - b) Details of paid or unpaid invoices and amounts?
 - c) Details of services and fees provided by each contractor and or consultant?
30. Details of the agreement between your office and any contractors/consultants engaged by your office?

29-30 The Ministry did not engage any consultants during 2014/15. Information regarding the use of contractors was recently disclosed in response to a GIPA application and was published on the Department of Premier and Cabinet's disclosure log.

Ministerial And Office Travel

31. Have any of your overseas trips in the past year been paid for in part or in full by using public money?
- a) If so, did any of your relatives or friends accompany you on these trips?
- No.**

32. Have you undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded?
- a) What were the nature of these trips?
 - b) Who paid for these trips?
- No.**

33. What was the total bill for your office in 2014-15 for:
- a) Taxi hire
 - b) Limousine hire
 - c) Private hire care
 - d) Hire car rental

Expenditure on taxis across the Ministry in 2014/15 was \$84,257. This compares with 2009/10 expenditure of \$175,776.

34. Have you ever used Uber?
- a) If yes, were any of these occasions in an UberX vehicle?
- No.**

35. Have you or anyone in your office used Uber services travelling to or from work-related events, meetings or functions?
- a) Were any of those services in an UberX vehicle?
- No.**

36. Have you or anyone in your office sought reimbursement for using Uber services to travel to or from work-related events, meetings or functions?
- a) What is the value of those reimbursements?
- No.**

37. Have you used Airbnb?

No.

38. Have you or anyone in your office used Airbnb as an accommodation solution whilst travelling on official business?

No.

39. Have any planes or helicopters been chartered by you or your office and paid for with public money?

a) If yes, will you please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?

No.

40. What non-standard features are fitted to your ministerial vehicle?

a) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?

The Minister has not added any non-standard features.

Labour Hire Firms

41. 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

g) The highest hourly or daily rate paid to an employee provided by a labour hire company

This is administered by the Department of Justice which is led by the Deputy Premier.

Media And Public Relations

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

43. What is the forecast for the current financial year for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost?

44. What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities?

42-44 - This is administered by the Department of Justice which is led by the Deputy Premier.

45. Have you had media training or speech training?

a) If yes, who paid for it?

b) If paid by taxpayers, what was the amount?

No.

Consultants, Lobbyists And Former Parliamentarians

46. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Chris Hartcher in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- Who attended those meetings?
 - What was the nature of those meetings?
 - What was discussed?
 - Were any records of those meetings kept?
47. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Andrew Stoner in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- Who attended those meetings?
 - What was the nature of those meetings?
 - What was discussed?
 - Were any records of those meetings kept?
48. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Tim Owen in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- Who attended those meetings?
 - What was the nature of those meetings?
 - What was discussed?
 - Were any records of those meetings kept?
49. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Craig Baumann in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- Who attended those meetings?
 - What was the nature of those meetings?
 - What was discussed?
 - Were any records of those meetings kept?
50. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Andrew Cornwell in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- Who attended those meetings?
 - What was the nature of those meetings?
 - What was discussed?
 - Were any records of those meetings kept?
51. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Chris Spence in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- Who attended those meetings?
 - What was the nature of those meetings?
 - What was discussed?
 - Were any records of those meetings kept?
52. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Darren Webber in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- Who attended those meetings?
 - What was the nature of those meetings?

- c) What was discussed?
- d) Were any records of those meetings kept?

53. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Garry Edwards in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- a) Who attended those meetings?
 - b) What was the nature of those meetings?
 - c) What was discussed?
 - d) Were any records of those meetings kept?
54. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Bart Bassett in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- a) Who attended those meetings?
 - b) What was the nature of those meetings?
 - c) What was discussed?
 - d) Were any records of those meetings kept?
55. Has the consultancy company Premier State done any consultancy work for the Department? 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?
56. Does Premier State currently have any contract work with the Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibility?
- a) If yes, what is their role in the project?

46-54. Information regarding scheduled meetings held with stakeholders, external organisations and individuals are published in accordance with Memorandum 2015-07 Publication of Ministerial Diaries.

The Government has disclosed 3,934 meetings since the policy commenced in July 2014.

55-56 – This is administered by the Department of Justice which is led by the Deputy Premier.

Consulting

57. How much have the Department/agencies under your portfolio responsibility spent in legal costs?
- a) For what specific purposes or matters was legal advice sought?
58. Have Department/agencies under your portfolio engaged any consultants to provide the following services or advice:
- a) Social media
 - i. And the cost of these services
 - b) Photography
 - i. And the cost of these services
 - c) Acting training
 - i. And the cost of these services
 - d) Ergonomics

- i. And the cost of these services

57-58. This is administered by the Department of Justice which is led by the Deputy Premier.

Department/Agency Administration

59. How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-15?
 - a) Of these redundancies, how many were:
 - i. Voluntary
 - ii. Forced
 - b) What was the total cost of all redundancies?
60. Have any staff who received a redundancy in the last two years undertaken any paid work or provided any paid services for the agency with which they were formerly employed?
 - a) What was the nature of these works/services?
 - b) What was the total cost of these works or services?
61. Are any staff formerly employed by your ministerial office now employed by Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibility?
62. How many staff were dismissed from Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibilities in 2014-15?
 - a) What were the reason/s for each dismissal?
63. How much was spent on corporate hospitality by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-2015?
64. How much was spent on indoor plant hire and maintenance by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-2015 year?
65. How much did Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities spend on restaurant bills during the year 2014/2015?
 - a) How much of these bills were alcohol?
66. Were instances of internal fraud detected by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-2015?
 - a) What was the sum total of any such fraud and what was the result of any investigations?
67. How large is the Department's vehicle fleet?
 - a) What is the composition of this fleet in terms of engine size?
 - b) How many of the fleet were involved in an accident during the year 2014-2015?
 - c) What was the total cost of insurance claims and repairs?
68. How much did departments/agencies spend on newspaper and journal subscriptions during 2014-2015?

69. How many SES employees are employed within departments/agencies under your ministerial portfolio?
- a) What is their remuneration band?
 - b) For each SES employee, how many have:
 - i. 0 staff reporting to them;
 - ii. less than 2 staff reporting to them; and
 - iii. less than 5 staff?
70. How many sick days, leave days or days attributable to workers compensation were lost for each department/agency within your portfolio responsibility during 2014-15 for:
- a) workplace bullying;
 - b) stress leave; and
 - c) sick leave?
71. Do any of the departments/agencies under your portfolio area employ actors for staff training?
- a) If so, what is:
 - i. the size of the contract for the provision of actors for staff training in your departments?
 - ii. the term of the contracts for the provision of actors for staff training in your departments?
 - iii. the tender numbers for each of the contracts?

59-71 This is administered by the Department of Justice which is led by the Deputy Premier.

Department/Agency Travel

72. What was the total expenditure in 2014-15 by Departments/agencies within your portfolio on:
- a) Taxi hire
 - b) Limousine/private car hire
 - c) Hire car rental
73. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have a policy on utilising Uber services for travel on official business?
74. Have staff in your Department/agencies either paid for with departmental funds or been recompensed for official travel using Uber services?
- a) Were any of these payments for UberX services?
75. Have staff in your Department/agencies either paid for with departmental funds or been recompensed for official travel using Airbnb services?
76. Did any officers within departments/agencies under your ministerial portfolio use charter aircraft during the year 2014-2015?
- a) If so what was the purpose and cost?

72-76 – This is administered by the Department of Justice which is led by the Deputy Premier.

Departmental/Agency IT

- 77. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an iTunes account?
 - a) What was the total expenditure in 2014-15 on iTunes?
 - i. What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through iTunes?
- 78. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an Android account?
 - a) What was the total expenditure in 2014-15 on Android?
 - i. What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through Android?
- 79. How many Department/agency mobile phones, tablets and laptops were replaced due to loss or damage during 2014-2015?
 - a) What was the total cost of replacing these items?
- 80. Did any staff within departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities incur data charges on a mobile phone or tablet device greater than \$1000 for a single billing period?
 - a) If so, how many times did this occur?
 - i. What was the individual cost of each data charge over \$1000 for a single billing period?

77-80 – This is administered by the Department of Justice which is led by the Deputy Premier.

Efficiency Dividend

- 81. What was the efficiency dividend required of the department in the 2014/15 financial year?
- 82. What is the efficiency dividend required of the department in the 2015/16 financial year?
- 83. What savings measures were implemented by the Department for:
 - a) 2014/15 financial year
 - b) 2013/14 financial year
 - c) 2012/13 financial year?
- 84. What actual savings were achieved by each strategy in:
 - a) 2014/15 financial year
 - b) 2013/14 financial year
 - c) 2012/13 financial year?
- 85. What reduction of staff occurred and at what cost as a result of each strategy in:
 - a) 2014/15 financial year
 - b) 2013/14 financial year
 - c) 2012/13 financial year?
- 86. For the 2015/16 financial year:

- a) What savings measures will the Department save?
- b) What is the expected saving to be achieved for each measure?
- c) Will they require a reduction in staffing?
- d) How many positions within the Department remain unfilled due to the imposition of savings measures?

81-86 - This is administered by the Department of Justice which is led by the Deputy Premier.

Questions from David Shoebridge

GPSC No : 6

Corrections

4 September 2015

Prison population

87. Of the total current prison population, how many inmates are on remand?

I am advised:

As at 6 September 2015 - 3690

88. What are the current predictions for changes to the remand population size over the next 12 months?

I am advised:

As a proportion of the total inmate population it has remained relatively consistent over the last three years.

89. How many facilities are currently over capacity?

I am advised:

None

90. Within the Metropolitan Special Programs Centre how many areas are currently housing more inmates than were intended when they were constructed?

I am advised:

The capacity at the Metropolitan Special Programs Centre is sufficient for the number of inmates. Intended capacity at the time of construction is not relevant to current occupancy as the purpose of correctional facilities changes over time. More or fewer areas and buildings may be proclaimed to be part of a facility; accommodation wings or industries buildings may be added or decommissioned; or the purpose of a part or all of a facility may change.

91. Within the Metropolitan Remand and Reception Centre how many areas are currently housing more inmates than were intended when they were constructed?

I am advised:

The capacity at the Metropolitan Remand and Reception Centre is sufficient for the number of inmates.

92. Within the High Risk Management Correctional Centre how many areas are currently housing more inmates than were intended when they were constructed?

I am advised:

The capacity at the High Risk Management Correctional Centre is sufficient for the number of inmates.

93. How many facilities are anticipated to be over capacity within the next:

- a) 1 year ?
- b) 5 years?
- c) 10 years?

I am advised:

None

94. What is the cost per day per juvenile inmate?
**I am advised:
The age of inmates is not taken into account in calculating the cost per prisoner per day.**
95. What is the cost per inmate per adult male inmate?
**I am advised:
See above. The gender of inmates is not taken into account in calculating the cost per prisoner per day. In 2013/14 the cost per prisoner per day (all prisons) in NSW was \$181.**
96. What is the cost per day per adult female inmate?
See above
97. What is the explanation for the drop in the cost per day per day per inmate in the last financial year?
**I am advised:
Corrective Services NSW continues to implement workplace reforms designed to improve efficiency without compromising the safety and security of correctional environments.**

Juvenile Detention

98. What was the total number of young people held on remand at any time during the following financial years:

I am advised the average daily number was:
a) 2011-12 was 188
b) 2012-13 was 158
c) 2013-14 was 159
d) 2014-15 was 137.
99. How many young people held on remand at any time in the 2014/15 financial year were found not guilty for the matter on which they were being held?
Refer to NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research, Children's Court Data.
100. How many young people held on remand at any time in the 2014/15 financial year were found guilty and did not receive a custodial sentence for the matter on which they were being held?
I am advised that 2014/15 are not available at this stage. However: In 2013-14 the proportion of young people with a remand admission who did not have a subsequent control admission within 12 months was 81.7%.

101. How many young people held on remand at any time in the 2014/15 financial year received a custodial sentence for the matter on which they were being held?

I am advised that 2014/15 are not available at this stage. However:

In 2013-14 the proportion of young people with a remand admission who did have a subsequent control admission within 12 months was 18.3%.

102. What was the average length of the custodial sentence given to young people held on remand at any time during the following financial years:

I am advised:

a) 2011-12 was 14.6

b) 2012-13 was 14.1

c) 2013-14 was 16.5

d) 2014-15 was 17.8.

103. How many juveniles were remanded in custody because they could not meet one or more bail conditions in the following financial years:

I am advised:

e) 2011-12 was 53

f) 2012-13 was 52

g) 2013-14 was 52

h) 2014-15 was 52.

104. What was as the average number of days juveniles spent in custody because they could not meet one or more bail conditions in the following financial years:

I am advised:

2011-12 was 2.2 days

2012-13 was 2.8 days

2013-14 was 2.6 days

2014-15 was 3.3 days

Thefts of prisoner belongings

105. How many property related complaints were received in correctional facilities in the last financial year?

I am advised:

As statistics on property related complaints are not held in all correctional centres it is not possible to provide this figure. Statistics compiled by the Executive Services Branch of Corrective Services NSW showed in 2014/15 a total of 655 property related complaints were received via the Corrective Services Support Line, the Executive Services Unit, and Official Visitors.

106. What steps are being taken to protect prisoners' right to personal possession, in all facets of handling, storing and transferring prisoner property within correctional facilities?

I am advised:

Inmates may have a quantity of personal property in accordance with Corrective Services NSW policy, which is subject to amendment from time to time. Inmates are

responsible for ensuring they do not accumulate property in excess of limits as restrictions apply on the amount of property that can be transported when an inmate is moved between correctional centres.

Needle and syringe program

107. What are the future plans, if any, to introduce needle & syringe programs within correctional facilities, given these are the most effective means of preventing hepatitis C transmission?
Health Survival Tips is part of the Corrective Services NSW strategy to prevent the spread of communicable diseases especially Blood Borne Viruses such as Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C and HIV. All inmates must attend a facilitated Health Survival Tips within the first two weeks after reception to custody. Corrective Services also provides condoms, latex dams and disinfectants to reduce the risk of transmission of blood borne and sexually transmitted infections such as HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis C and Hepatitis B in correctional facilities.

Budget paper combination of Custody Management, Supervision of Offenders in the Community and Offenders Program Services

108. Why have the three service areas of Custody Management, Supervision of Offenders in the Community and Offender Programs been combined in the last budget?
**I am advised:
The 2015/16 budget papers amalgamate these service groups to better reflect the activities of the Department of Justice.**
109. What is the breakdown of expected expenses in these three areas?
**I am advised:
In line with the answer to 108 above, this information is no longer provided for these service groups.**

Offenders Programs

110. What is the rationale for bundling together the Addiction programs and Aggression and Violence programs into the Targeted Offender Programs?
**I am advised:
There is a limit on the number of Service Measures that can be shown in the Budget Estimates papers, therefore all programs were shown as one 'Service Measure'.**
111. Why has the budget allocated funding for only 8, 250 inmates in the Targeted Offender Programs?
**I am advised:
The figure of 8,250 is based on the number of inmates identified as being eligible for programs at that time.**
112. Why were over 2 000 inmates denied access to critical programs aimed at reducing recidivism and increasing public safety?
**I am advised:
All sentenced inmates are assessed to determine their eligibility to participate in programs aimed at reducing re-offending. Programs are targeted toward inmates assessed as being medium to high risk of re-offending. Participation in a program takes into account the time left to serve, with priority given to inmates with the earliest release date. Other factors affecting offers of a place in a program include the mental health of the inmate at the time.**

113. Why, despite the increase in numbers of inmates with election promises aimed at tackling the problems of violence and drug usage in the community, has the Government allocated fewer places in programs that are specifically targeted to these areas?
I am advised:
Corrective Services NSW aims to target offenders most at risk of re-offending, Corrective Services NSW has introduced a new suite of programs, EQUIPS (Explore, Question, Understand, Investigate Practice & Succeed) and no longer delivers low intensity programs for lower risk offenders.
114. Is the drop in percentage of inmates participating in education in prisons simply a reflection of the rise in inmate numbers without a corresponding rise in education staff?
I am advised:
No. At 30 June 2015 there were 7.7 FTE more Education Officer/Teacher roles than at 30 June 2014.
115. What consideration has been given to extending education programs to inmates on remand?
I am advised:
A needs-based education model for inmates with sentences of less than six months and inmates on remand is being implemented. The focus of these programs will be basic adult education including literacy and numeracy, information technology and courses in English.
116. Do inmates on remand generally have access to libraries within correctional facilities?
I am advised:
Yes. Some correctional centres also have mobile library services or satellite facilities with reading materials and a Legal Resource Kit. Inmates may also be able to order books and other reference materials through education staff.
117. Some two or three years ago, \$20 million was allocated specifically to education. Of that, some \$3.5 million has been spent on the ILCs. What has happened to the remainder of the money?
I am advised:
Over \$8M has been spent on staffing and infrastructure for Intensive Learning Centres. Funds have also been allocated to increase the provision of vocational education and training; licence costs for driver/fork lift/mobile plant certification; upgrade to inmate computers and software.

Education in correctional facilities

118. How many correctional facilities currently have teaching vacancies?
 a) How many are front line teaching staff?
 b) How many of these vacancies are Aboriginal teaching staff?

I am advised:

15 correctional facilities currently have teaching vacancies.

- a) 23.4 FTE
 b) 3.4 FTE

119. What steps are being taken to ensure that all Aboriginal prisoners in correctional facilities have access to education courses specialising in Aboriginal history and culture, as recommended by Royal Commission's report into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody?

I am advised:

Aboriginal inmates are provided with an Aboriginal Culture course.

120. What steps are being taken to reclassify prisoners as a 'disadvantaged group' for TAFE fee and pricing purposes?

The Department of Justice is communicating with the Department of Education and communities on a classification under the smart & skilled vocation training scheme.

121. Has any progress been made on consideration of having computers in cells for inmates to further their education and facilitate contact with families?

A pilot program to provide in-cell laptop computers for inmates at South Coast Correctional Centre who are participating in educational programs commenced on 24 September 2015.

Questions from Shaoquett Moselmane [on behalf of the NSW Labor Opposition]

GPSC No : 6

Emergency Services

4 September

Rural Fire Services

122. Have any sites been identified as suitable locations to build a new Rural Fire Services Headquarters?

The NSW Rural Fire Service has advised me: No

123. What assessments have the Rural Fire Service undertaken to determine whether or not large water bombing aircrafts are suitable for Australian conditions?

a) Is there an increased risk to those on the ground, particularly in eucalypts forests, from the weight of the liquid being released?

I am advised:

The NSW RFS in consultation with the National Aerial Firefighting Centre (NAFC) has been monitoring emerging capabilities of large fixed wing air tankers in the international and Australian context. As part of a national approach the NSW RFS is undertaking a comprehensive trial of Large and Very Large Air Tankers during the upcoming bush fire season. This trial will assess the suitability of these aircraft for conditions within NSW.

a) **Particular emphasis is placed on fire ground personnel safety to ensure that any potential impact caused by the use of these aircraft is minimal. There are specific procedures and notification criteria that have been developed in relation to the deployment of the Large and Very Large Air Tankers to ensure ground crews are aware of a drop and are not within a drop zone. A small lead aircraft accompanies the tankers to survey the intended drop zone while maintaining radio contact with ground crews to ensure their safety.**

The Large and Very Large Air Tankers can also vary the drop pattern and intensity to account for variations in structures, vegetation and topography. This will provide the most effective water/suppressant coverage in support of the on-ground strategies in consultation with the Incident Controller and ground crews and minimise the likelihood of damage.

Ministerial Office Administration

124. How many staff are in your ministerial office?

a) What was the average salary for staff members in your office during 2014-15?

b) What is the average salary for a ministerial staffer in your office based on current appointments?

Please see question 20

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

a) For each phone, how much was each bill in the past financial year?

b) How many phones have been lost or replaced due to damage in your office?

i. What is the cost of replacing those phones?

Please see question 21

126. How many iPads or tablets does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?
- a) What is the cost of providing iPads or tablets to your Ministerial Office?
 - b) How many iPads or tablets have been replaced due to lost or damage?
 - i. What was the cost of replacing these devices?

Please see question 22

127. Did any your or your ministerial staff incur data charges on a mobile phone or tablet device greater than \$1000 for a single billing period?
- a) If so, how many times did this occur?
 - i. What was the individual cost of each data charge over \$1000 for a single billing period?

Please see question 23

128. Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in your office?
- a) What is the cost of this?

Please see question 24

129. Have any floral displays or indoor plants been hired or leased for display in your ministerial office?
- a) If so, what was the cost of these items?

Please see question 25

130. What is the total cost of all subscriptions by you and your staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals?
- a) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?
 - i. Who is the subscriber for each of these?

Please see question 26

131. What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by you and your office?
- a) What were the gifts purchased?
 - i. Who were they gifted to?

Please see question 27

132. Do you purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for your office?
- a) What is the cost of this?

Please see question 28

133. Can you advise the names of all contractors/consultants employed and/or paid for by your office, under any agreement, contract or fee-for -service arrangement in 2014-15?
- a) Do they have ABN's?
 - i. If so, please provide details?
 - b) Details of paid or unpaid invoices and amounts?
 - c) Details of services and fees provided by each contractor and or consultant?

Please see question 29

134. Details of the agreement between your office and any contractors/consultants engaged by your office?

Please see question 30

Ministerial And Office Travel

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

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

Please see question 31

136. Have you undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded?

a) What were the nature of these trips?

b) Who paid for these trips?

Please see question 32

137. What was the total bill for your office in 2014-15 for:

a) Taxi hire

b) Limousine hire

c) Private hire care

d) Hire car rental

Please see question 33

138. Have you ever used Uber?

a) If yes, were any of these occasions in an UberX vehicle?

Please see question 34

139. Have you or anyone in your office used Uber services travelling to or from work-related events, meetings or functions?

a) Were any of those services in an UberX vehicle?

Please see question 35

140. Have you or anyone in your office sought reimbursement for using Uber services to travel to or from work-related events, meetings or functions?

a) What is the value of those reimbursements?

Please see question 36

141. Have you used Airbnb?

Please see question 37

142. Have you or anyone in your office used Airbnb as an accommodation solution whilst travelling on official business?

Please see question 38

143. Have any planes or helicopters been chartered by you or your office and paid for with public money?

a) If yes, will you please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?

Please see question 39

144. What non-standard features are fitted to your ministerial vehicle?
a) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?

Please see question 40

Labour Hire Firms

145. Do any Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities utilise the services of Labour Hire Firms? If yes, please advise in table form:
- The names of the firms utilised
 - The total amount paid to each firm engaged
 - The average tenure period for an employee provided by a labour hire company
 - The longest tenure for an employee provided by a labour hire company
 - The duties conducted by employees engaged through a labour hire company
 - The office locations of employees engaged through a labour hire company
 - The highest hourly or daily rate paid to an employee provided by a labour hire company

This is administered by the Department of Justice which is led by the Deputy Premier.

Media And Public Relations

146. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies?
147. What is the forecast for the current financial year for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost?
148. What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities?
149. Have you had media training or speech training?
a) If yes, who paid for it?
b) If paid by taxpayers, what was the amount?

146-149 – This is administered by the Department of Justice which is led by the Deputy Premier.

Consultants, Lobbyists And Former Parliamentarians

150. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Chris Hartcher in the time since he has left the Parliament?
a) Who attended those meetings?
b) What was the nature of those meetings?
c) What was discussed?
d) Were any records of those meetings kept?
151. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Andrew Stoner in the time since he has left the Parliament?
a) Who attended those meetings?

- b) What was the nature of those meetings?
 - c) What was discussed?
 - d) Were any records of those meetings kept?
152. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Tim Owen in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- a) Who attended those meetings?
 - b) What was the nature of those meetings?
 - c) What was discussed?
 - d) Were any records of those meetings kept?
153. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Craig Baumann in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- a) Who attended those meetings?
 - b) What was the nature of those meetings?
 - c) What was discussed?
 - d) Were any records of those meetings kept?
154. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Andrew Cornwell in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- a) Who attended those meetings?
 - b) What was the nature of those meetings?
 - c) What was discussed?
 - d) Were any records of those meetings kept?
155. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Chris Spence in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- a) Who attended those meetings?
 - b) What was the nature of those meetings?
 - c) What was discussed?
 - d) Were any records of those meetings kept?
156. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Darren Webber in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- a) Who attended those meetings?
 - b) What was the nature of those meetings?
 - c) What was discussed?
 - d) Were any records of those meetings kept?
157. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Garry Edwards in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- a) Who attended those meetings?
 - b) What was the nature of those meetings?
 - c) What was discussed?
 - d) Were any records of those meetings kept?

158. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Bart Bassett in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- a) Who attended those meetings?
 - b) What was the nature of those meetings?
 - c) What was discussed?
 - d) Were any records of those meetings kept?
159. Has the consultancy company Premier State done any consultancy work for the Department? 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?
160. Does Premier State currently have any contract work with the Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibility?
- a) If yes, what is their role in the project?

150-160 – This is administered by the Department of Justice which is led by the Deputy Premier.

Consulting

161. How much have the Department/agencies under your portfolio responsibility spent in legal costs?
- a) For what specific purposes or matters was legal advice sought?
162. Have Department/agencies under your portfolio engaged any consultants to provide the following services or advice:
- a) Social media
 - i. And the cost of these services
 - b) Photography
 - i. And the cost of these services
 - c) Acting training
 - i. And the cost of these services
 - d) Ergonomics
 - i. And the cost of these services

161-162 - This is administered by the Department of Justice which is led by the Deputy Premier.

Department/Agency Administration

163. How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-15?
- a) Of these redundancies, how many were:
 - i. Voluntary
 - ii. Forced
 - b) What was the total cost of all redundancies?

164. Have any staff who received a redundancy in the last two years undertaken any paid work or provided any paid services for the agency with which they were formerly employed?
- a) What was the nature of these works/services?
 - b) What was the total cost of these works or services?
165. Are any staff formerly employed by your ministerial office now employed by Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibility?
166. How many staff were dismissed from Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibilities in 2014-15?
- a) What were the reason/s for each dismissal?
167. How much was spent on corporate hospitality by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-2015?
168. How much was spent on indoor plant hire and maintenance by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-2015 year?
169. How much did Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities spend on restaurant bills during the year 2014/2015?
- a) How much of these bills were alcohol?
170. Were instances of internal fraud detected by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-2015?
- a) What was the sum total of any such fraud and what was the result of any investigations?
171. How large is the Department's vehicle fleet?
- a) What is the composition of this fleet in terms of engine size?
 - b) How many of the fleet were involved in an accident during the year 2014-2015?
 - c) What was the total cost of insurance claims and repairs?
172. How much did departments/agencies spend on newspaper and journal subscriptions during 2014-2015?
173. How many SES employees are employed within departments/agencies under your ministerial portfolio?
- a) What is their remuneration band?
 - b) For each SES employee, how many have:
 - i. 0 staff reporting to them;
 - ii. less than 2 staff reporting to them; and
 - iii. less than 5 staff?
174. How many sick days, leave days or days attributable to workers compensation were lost for each department/agency within your portfolio responsibility during 2014-15 for:
- a) workplace bullying;
 - b) stress leave; and
 - c) sick leave?
175. Do any of the departments/agencies under your portfolio area employ actors for staff training?

- a) If so, what is:
 - i. the size of the contract for the provision of actors for staff training in your departments?
 - ii. the term of the contracts for the provision of actors for staff training in your departments?
 - iii. the tender numbers for each of the contracts?

163-175 - This is administered by the Department of Justice which is led by the Deputy Premier.

Department/Agency Travel

- 176. What was the total expenditure in 2014-15 by Departments/agencies within your portfolio on:
 - a) Taxi hire
 - b) Limousine/private car hire
 - c) Hire car rental
- 177. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have a policy on utilising Uber services for travel on official business?
- 178. Have staff in your Department/agencies either paid for with departmental funds or been recompensed for official travel using Uber services?
 - a) Were any of these payments for UberX services?
- 179. Have staff in your Department/agencies either paid for with departmental funds or been recompensed for official travel using Airbnb services?
- 180. Did any officers within departments/agencies under your ministerial portfolio use charter aircraft during the year 2014-2015?
 - a) If so what was the purpose and cost?

176-180 - This is administered by the Department of Justice which is led by the Deputy Premier.

Departmental/Agency IT

- 181. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an iTunes account?
 - a) What was the total expenditure in 2014-15 on iTunes?
 - i. What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through iTunes?
- 182. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an Android account?
 - a) What was the total expenditure in 2014-15 on Android?
 - i. What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through Android?
- 183. How many Department/agency mobile phones, tablets and laptops were replaced due to loss or damage during 2014-2015?
 - a) What was the total cost of replacing these items?

184. Did any staff within departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities incur data charges on a mobile phone or tablet device greater than \$1000 for a single billing period?
- a) If so, how many times did this occur?
 - i. What was the individual cost of each data charge over \$1000 for a single billing period?

181-184 - This is administered by the Department of Justice which is led by the Deputy Premier.

Efficiency Dividend

185. What was the efficiency dividend required of the department in the 2014/15 financial year?
186. What is the efficiency dividend required of the department in the 2015/16 financial year?
187. What savings measures were implemented by the Department for:
- a) 2014/15 financial year
 - b) 2013/14 financial year
 - c) 2012/13 financial year?
188. What actual savings were achieved by each strategy in:
- a) 2014/15 financial year
 - b) 2013/14 financial year
 - c) 2012/13 financial year?
189. What reduction of staff occurred and at what cost as a result of each strategy in:
- a) 2014/15 financial year
 - b) 2013/14 financial year
 - c) 2012/13 financial year?
190. For the 2015/16 financial year:
- a) What savings measures will the Department save?
 - b) What is the expected saving to be achieved for each measure?
 - c) Will they require a reduction in staffing?
 - d) How many positions within the Department remain unfilled due to the imposition of savings measures?

185-190 - This is administered by the Department of Justice which is led by the Deputy Premier.

Questions from David Shoebridge

GPSC No : 6

Emergency Services

4 September 2015

10 50 Clearing Code of Practice

191. What is the progress on updating the 10/50 online tool for exclusions recently announced to the code?

I am advised:

The majority of exclusion data layers have been incorporated into the 10/50 online tool and the NSW RFS will incorporate the remaining maps as soon as they are received from the responsible agencies.

192. Why has the code not been suspended while the exclusions are appropriately implemented?

I am advised

The majority of the exclusion data layers were incorporated for the commencement of the amended Code.

Suspension of the Code would have denied landowners the capacity to manage vegetation under the Code.

193. What resources have been allocated to enforce and monitor the changes made to the 10/50 code by the recent legislation and proposed regulation changes?

I am advised:

The effect of the Code is to exempt landowners from requiring approval. Failure to operate in accordance with the Code may breach other legislative instruments that may have penalties attached and enforced.

194. What strategies are in place to identify and penalise breaches of the code?

I am advised:

The effect of the Code is to exempt landowners from requiring approval. Failure to operate in accordance with the Code may breach other legislative instruments that may have penalties attached and enforced.

195. Given no data is currently collected on tree clearing under the code, how is it possible for the government to assess its effectiveness?

I am advised:

The effectiveness of vegetation management surrounding homes is well understood as a key factor in reducing risk from a bush fire. The Code provides a means for landowners to undertake this vegetation management, if they choose to use it.

196. How does restricting clearing within 100 metres of coastline and mapped estuaries stop the clearing for views from hilltops and other areas?

I am advised:

The exclusion of land parcels which are wholly or partially within 100 metres of the coastline and estuaries minimises the number of properties that are most likely to be cleared for views.

197. How many representations have been received from Councils and the public about the operation of the 10/50 code?

I am advised:

At the close of public consultation on 14 November 2014, 3579 submissions had been received. Many of these were letters, however around 1,000 were detailed submissions. Thirty six councils provided submissions to the review.

198. What compliance activities has the RFS undertaken to monitor activities under the code?

I am advised:

The effect of the Code is to exempt landowners from requiring approval. Failure to operate in accordance with the Code may breach other legislative instruments that may have penalties attached and enforced.

199. Did the RFS Commissioner, the Deputy Commissioner or the Chairman of the State Emergency Management Committee receive a copy of the 2009 RFS report on the Victorian 10/30 code between 29th October 2013 and the introduction of the 10/50 Code in 2014?

I am advised:

The NSW RFS Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner were aware of the NSW RFS commentary on the Victorian 10/30 Rule.

200. Did the Minister receive a copy of the 2009 RFS report on the Victorian 10/30 code between 29th October 2013 and the introduction of the 10/50 Code in 2014?

I was not the Minister for Emergency Services between 29 October 2013 and the introduction of the Code in 2014.

201. Given the RFS report into the Victorian code advised the scheme "in fact may result in some people being more vulnerable", it "has the potential to cause risk to life and property" and could "result in a greater bush fire hazard", why did the Government implement the code?

I am advised:

The NSW RFS 10/50 Code has been structured differently to the Victorian 10/30 scheme and provides environmental constraints and supported by the online tool. The online tool search results guide landowners to a range of fact sheets that provide focused advice.

Workplace bullying in emergency services

202. What measures has the Commissioner and the Senior Executive Group taken to address bullying and harassment in each of the Emergency Services agencies?

I am advised:

Fire & Rescue NSW has implemented extensive measures to address bullying and harassment. Measures include:

- **Revision of policies and procedures for the management of bullying and harassment and complaints about bullying and harassment.**
- **Respectful Workplace Training.**
- **Straight Talk conflict resolution.**
- **Establishment of the Workplace Standards Branch with specialist investigative staff.**
- **A 24 hour complaints hotline.**
- **Building a Better Brigade document.**
- **Implementation of a Case Management System.**

- Reinforcing values at all levels of the organisation, for example through strategic and business plans, leadership and capability initiatives, and communication channels such as the intranet and other marketing material.
- Facilitated Conferencing to manage more complex fire station-wide conflicts.
- Be Heard - Embedding Respectful Workplaces Strategy 2014-2017.

NSW Rural Fire Service:

The Policy - Bullying has been replaced by the Service Standard - Respectful Workplace and Inclusive Workplace (which applies to volunteers and staff) after a three month consultation process.

- Respectful workplace has been discussed in staff meetings.
- Code of Conduct & Ethics training delivered to all staff.
- Development of a Code of Conduct & Ethics Training Strategy for volunteer membership base.
- Implementation of the revised Code of Conduct & Ethics training in accordance with the Public Service Commissioner's direction to all government agencies.
- The Commissioner has met with the Public Service Association of NSW.

NSW State Emergency Service:

- NSW SES Bullying and Harassment Policy – Implemented
- NSW SES Code of Conduct and Ethics Policy – Revised
- Introduction of Organisation Values
- Commenced 'TARPS Uncovered' (TARPS – Trust, Accountability, Respect for People, Professionalism and Integrity, Safety and Service)
- Encouraged reporting by victims and undertaking both internal/external investigations equating to an improvement in behaviour and cultural change.
- Appointment of Manager Professional Standards

Corrective Services NSW

The Guide to Conduct and Ethics provides staff with rules for acceptable workplace behaviour. All employees must acknowledge their understanding of these guidelines as part of the induction process. Grievance Resolution Policy and Guidelines provide a means of dealing with unacceptable workplace behaviour.

203. What is the average timeframe the following agencies take to respond to workplace harassment and bullying complaints:
- a) Rural Fire Service NSW?
 - b) State Emergency Services?
 - c) Fire & Rescue NSW?
 - d) Corrective Services

I am advised:

Fire & Rescue NSW: 1.5 days.

NSW Rural Fire Service: 1.5 days.

NSW State Emergency Service: Time varies depending on the situation, however triage of complaints occurs in a timely manner involving an assessment and allocation of investigators if deemed appropriate.

Corrective Services: Under the Grievance Resolution Policy and Guidelines, it is anticipated the grievance will be examined and an intervention strategy formulated within four weeks of the grievance being lodged.

Storm tree clearing

204. In the wake of the heavy storms in April this year, on what basis did the Minister call for legal changes to remove trees that are a risk to houses and electricity supplies?

The April 2015 East Coast Low caused significant damage in highly populated areas along the NSW coast including the Sydney metropolitan area, Hunter and Central Coast Regions. Throughout the regions there were widespread instances of fallen trees and associated debris impacting on private property. Given the potential impacts to public safety the proposal was considered.

205. Is the Minister aware that authorities, emergency services and local residents can already remove any vegetation which poses an immediate risk?

Yes.

Rural Fire Services Commissioner

206. What is the Commissioner's annual salary, including superannuation and other employee related benefits?

This information is available in the agency annual report.

207. What employee related benefits does the Commissioner receive over and above salary and superannuation?

Nil.

208. How many days did the Commissioner spend outside the jurisdiction of NSW in the 2013-14 financial year and for what purposes?

I am advised:

The Commissioner spent 10 days outside of the jurisdiction for work purposes.

209. How many days did the Commissioner spend outside the jurisdiction of NSW in the 2014-15 financial year and for what purposes?

I am advised:

The Commissioner spent 22 days outside of the jurisdiction for work purposes.

State Emergency Services Commissioner

210. What is the Commissioner's annual salary, including superannuation and other employee related benefits?

This information is available in the agency annual report.

211. What employee related benefits does the Commissioner receive over and above salary and superannuation?

I am advised:

Nil.

212. How many days did the Commissioner spend outside the jurisdiction of NSW in the 2013-14 financial year and for what purposes?

I am advised

The Commissioner spent 13 days outside of the jurisdiction for work purposes.

213. How many days did the Commissioner spend outside the jurisdiction of NSW in the 2014-15 financial year and for what purposes?

I am advised:

The Commissioner spent 23 days outside of the jurisdiction for work purposes.

Fire and Rescue Commissioner

214. What is the Commissioner's annual salary, including superannuation and other employee related benefits?

This information is available in the agency annual report.

215. What employee related benefits does the Commissioner receive over and above salary and superannuation?

I am advised:

Nil.

216. How many days did the Commissioner spend outside the jurisdiction of NSW in the 2013-14 financial year and for what purposes?

I am advised:

The Commissioner spent 15 days outside of the jurisdiction for work purposes

217. How many days did the Commissioner spend outside the jurisdiction of NSW in the 2014-15 financial year and for what purposes?

I am advised:

The Commissioner spent 44 days outside of the jurisdiction for work purposes

Corrective Services Commissioner

218. What is the Commissioner's annual salary, including superannuation and other employee related benefits?

Information about employees' salaries is available in the annual report.

219. What employee related benefits does the Commissioner receive over and above salary and superannuation?

I am advised:

Nil.

220. How many days did the Commissioner spend outside the jurisdiction of NSW in the 2013-14 financial year and for what purposes?

I am advised:

The Commissioner spent 19 days outside of the jurisdiction for work purposes

221. How many days did the Commissioner spend outside the jurisdiction of NSW in the 2014-15 financial year and for what purposes?

I am advised:

The Commissioner spent 16.5 days outside of the jurisdiction for work purposes

Questions from Robert BROWN

GPSC No. : 6

Corrections, Emergency Services, Veterans Affairs

4 September 2015

Rural Fire Service (RFS)

222. Regarding the Rural Fire Service (RFS):

- a) who pays for the fuel in RFS departmental cars when RFS staff attend Rural Fire Service Association (RFSA) meetings throughout the state?
- b) Who pays for phone calls made by RFS staff on RFS departmental phones when dealing with RFSA matters between RFSA members?
- c) Does the RFS pay any allowances to RFS staff that attend RFSA organised meetings, conferences or overseas travel?
- d) Do RFS staff declare any gifts and benefits they receive from the RFSA based on the fact that some RFS staff may be required to represent the views of the RFSA at RFS meetings?

I am advised:

- a) **NSW RFS.**
- b) **The RFSA provides mobile phones and pay for costs associated with RFSA Council/Board members for RFSA related activities.**
- c) **The RFSA principally covers costs associated with RFSA related activities.**
- d) **Staff members must comply with all relevant policies relating to gifts and benefits**

223. How many Hazard Reductions are actually checked that they have been done versus the figures that shown are on Bushfire Risk Information Management System (BRIMS)?

- a) Why aren't these hazard reductions mitigating risk to extreme areas of the state
- b) Why are we still losing homes in areas like the Blue Mountains after 15 years of risk planning and hazard reductions?

I am advised:

The hazard reduction program is coordinated through local Bush Fire Management Committees (BFMC). Each agency provides a program to the BFMC annually and reports on progress throughout the year. As the BFMC is made up of local representatives, they are aware of what works are being done around their area and provide a check on completed and proposed works programs.

Hazard reduction works are designed to reduce, not eliminate the risk of bush fire. There is more than 22,000,000 hectares of bush fire prone vegetation in NSW, so it is impossible to eliminate the risk completely. The NSW RFS and its partner agencies aim to reduce the risk to highest threat areas throughout the state over a number of years.

The property losses in the Blue Mountains in 2013 could have been significantly higher if it were not for the work of NSW RFS volunteers, Fire and Rescue NSW, National Parks and Wildlife Service and other supporting agencies. This work includes carrying out hazard reduction ahead of the bush fire season plus

responding to fires and saving dozens of properties. While 210 homes lost is devastating for the people who owned those homes and the community, it is important to note not one life was lost.

224. Why does the RFS continue to pay for industrial relations advocacy/advice through “friends of RFS staff” at approximately \$100k per year?

I am advised:

The RFS has no specialised industrial relations staff and retains an external provider of advocacy services and specialist advice. This engagement is in accordance with all necessary procurement requirements and policies.

225. How many second hand Fire Tankers are there sitting around not yet allocated to a brigade, and why are they not allocated promptly?

I am advised:

Currently a small number of second hand tankers are the subject of inspections, reallocations or awaiting commercial disposal.

226. How does the RFS meet its legislative responsibility under section 62a (part 4) of the Rural fires Act?

a) Why was there no audit results in the last 3 annual reports?

b) Isn't it a legislative requirement that the Commissioner has to provide that information in the annual report?

I am advised:

The provisions in section 62A of Rural Fires Act 1997 states the Commissioner may conduct audits of the implementation of bush fire risk management plans.

Six audits have been undertaken in the 2014/15 year and are currently in the final stages of completion and will be reported in the annual report of the year in which these are finalised.

227. Who paid the legal fees for all the different solicitors at the recent ICAC investigation into allegations of RFS fraud, where many staff were individually represented by different legal counsel?

I am advised:

Staff were represented by the Legal Representation Office as per the Premier's Memorandum M1999-11 - Guidelines for the Provision of ex Gratia Legal Assistance for Ministers, Public Officials and Crown Employees.

228. Considering the RFS Commissioner signed a statement “Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2014” which included the following words at section (b) The financial statements exhibit a true and fair view of the financial position & financial performance of the service for the year ended 30 June 2014: & (c) at the date of this statement there are no circumstances which would render any particulars included in the financial statement to be misleading or inaccurate.

a) How is it that there was such a level of fraudulent activity taking place at this time and no one knew?

I am advised:

Under clause 11(b) of the Public Finance and Audit Regulation 2010 the Commissioner certifies the Annual Financial Statements by stating that he "...is aware, as at the date on which the Department Head signs the statement, of any circumstances that would render any particulars included in the financial report misleading or inaccurate."

As the fraud was unknown at the date of signing the Statements it was appropriate to sign the Commissioner's Statement under section 45F of the Public Finance and Audit Act 1983.

229. How do we know that the issues of fraud within the procurement section isn't wide spread as no one really knows what, where and when items are ordered, delivered and distributed? (i.e. RFS Aviation Unit, RFS Membership Services and Operations)
- a) Are all invoices checked for actual allocation and use of helicopters;
 - b) Are job numbers specific for a task or are they 'open ended' for the duration of the event;
 - c) Are Helicopters used for joy flights or chauffeuring around staff between Fire Control Centres at the beck and call of Incident Controllers and Air Base Managers under the guise of firefighting operations;
 - d) How much money has been spent on SAP (whole of government software package) and has this money delivered value for money for the NSW government;
 - e) Has there been any waste or program errors that have cost the government money;
 - f) Is it true the introduction of SAP created new jobs, more temporary staff and ongoing process of change that has not produce rewards for the government;
 - g) Apart from aviation in Operations, what value for money has the State Mitigation program provided the government; and
 - h) Is there any indication after 4-5 years that this program has reduced or mitigated fire in the community.

I am advised:

- a) **Yes.**
- b) **Aircraft are given a specific dispatch number that remains current for a specific incident. A new tasking number is allocated once the aircraft is re-tasked to a new incident.**
- c) **No.**
- d) **SAP is a joint emergency services efficiency initiative. The cost to the NSW RFS for 2015 was approximately \$1 million.**
- e) **The NSW RFS implementation has been in line with the business case and project implementation plan.**
- f) **There has been a reallocation of some resources within the labour expense cap.**
- g) **As detailed in the NSW RFS Annual Report, hazard reduction works form part of the Bush Fire Community Protection reporting. This report provides details of proportion of completed vs. Planned works, the number of properties covered by the completed works and the value of the properties covered.**
- h) **Hazard reduction works are designed to reduce, not eliminate, damage to the community from bush fires.**

Despite adverse weather conditions over the last four years, the NSW RFS has increased the five year average in both categories from 136,063 properties (2011/12) to 144,232 properties (2014/15) and 135,688 hectares (2011/12) to 169,343 hectares (2014/15).

NSW State Emergency Service (SES) TARPS Values Program

230. What was the cost of implementing the NSW State Emergency Service “TARPS” values program?

The invoiced expenditure associated with the provision of services associated with TARPS was \$344,982.

231. What was the cost of delivering the “TARPS UnCovered” program and “STRAIGHT TALK” seminars or webinars to staff and volunteers?

- a) What companies were contracted to implement and deliver this program to staff and volunteers?
 - i. Are there any NSW State Emergency Service members working in these companies?
 - ii. If so, how many are volunteers and how many are paid employees of the NSW State Emergency Service?
 - iii. Can the Minister guarantee that this did not influence the decision to contract the services of these companies?
- b) Was there a tender process for this program?
- c) If so:
 - i. How many participating organisations were invited to the tender process?
 - ii. How was the tender process advertised?
 - iii. On what basis were competing tender applications excluded?
- d) Has the “STRAIGHT TALK” program been implemented by other emergency services?
 - i. If so, which emergency services?
 - ii. Was this part of a combined tender process for delivery across several services?

I am advised:

\$331,607.70.

a) Proactive Resolutions Incorporated.

i. There were no NSW SES members working for Proactive Resolutions at the time of engagement. An employee of Proactive Resolutions joined the NSW SES as a volunteer during the delivery of services.

ii. One volunteer.

iii. The NSW SES confirms that there was no influence as a result of volunteer membership after the fact.

b) Yes.

c) i. Two

ii. Etender via NSW Procurement.

iii. Lack of experience with other Government Department/Agencies and less deliverables. This was assessed with a panel consisting of both staff and volunteers.

d) Yes.

i. Fire & Rescue NSW and Ambulance Service of NSW.

ii No.

Questions from Shaoquett Moselmane [on behalf of the NSW Labor Opposition]

GPSC No : 6

Veteran Affairs

4 September

Ministerial Office Administration

232. How many staff are in your ministerial office?
- c) What was the average salary for staff members in your office during 2014-15?
 - d) What is the average salary for a ministerial staffer in your office based on current appointments?

Please see question 20

233. How many blackberries/smart phones are assigned to your staff?
- c) For each phone, how much was each bill in the past financial year?
 - d) How many phones have been lost or replaced due to damage in your office?
 - ii. What is the cost of replacing those phones?

Please see question 21

234. How many iPads or tablets does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?
- c) What is the cost of providing iPads or tablets to your Ministerial Office?
 - d) How many iPads or tablets have been replaced due to lost or damage?
 - ii. What was the cost of replacing these devices?

Please see question 22

235. Did any your or your ministerial staff incur data charges on a mobile phone or tablet device greater than \$1000 for a single billing period?
- b) If so, how many times did this occur?
 - ii. What was the individual cost of each data charge over \$1000 for a single billing period?

Please see question 23

236. Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in your office?
- b) What is the cost of this?

Please see question 24

237. Have any floral displays or indoor plants been hired or leased for display in your ministerial office?
- b) If so, what was the cost of these items?

Please see question 25

238. What is the total cost of all subscriptions by you and your staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals?
- b) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?
 - ii. Who is the subscriber for each of these?

Please see question 26

239. What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by you and your office?
b) What were the gifts purchased?
ii. Who were they gifted to?

Please see question 27

240. Do you purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for your office?
b) What is the cost of this?

Please see question 28

241. Can you advise the names of all contractors/consultants employed and/or paid for by your office, under any agreement, contract or fee-for-service arrangement in 2014-15?
d) Do they have ABN's?
ii. If so, please provide details?
e) Details of paid or unpaid invoices and amounts?
f) Details of services and fees provided by each contractor and or consultant?

Please see question 29

242. Details of the agreement between your office and any contractors/consultants engaged by your office?

Please see question 30

Ministerial And Office Travel

243. 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?

Please see question 31

244. Have you undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded?
c) What were the nature of these trips?
d) Who paid for these trips?

Please see question 32

245. What was the total bill for your office in 2014-15 for:
e) Taxi hire
f) Limousine hire
g) Private hire care
h) Hire car rental

Please see question 33

246. Have you ever used Uber?
b) If yes, were any of these occasions in an UberX vehicle?

Please see question 34

247. Have you or anyone in your office used Uber services travelling to or from work-related events, meetings or functions?
b) Were any of those services in an UberX vehicle?

Please see question 35

248. Have you or anyone in your office sought reimbursement for using Uber services to travel to or from work-related events, meetings or functions?
b) What is the value of those reimbursements?

Please see question 36

249. Have you used Airbnb?

Please see question 37

250. Have you or anyone in your office used Airbnb as an accommodation solution whilst travelling on official business?

Please see question 38

251. Have any planes or helicopters been chartered by you or your office and paid for with public money?
b) If yes, will you please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?

Please see question 39

252. What non-standard features are fitted to your ministerial vehicle?
b) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?

Please see question 40

Labour Hire Firms

253. Do any Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities utilise the services of Labour Hire Firms? If yes, please advise in table form:
- The names of the firms utilised
 - The total amount paid to each firm engaged
 - The average tenure period for an employee provided by a labour hire company
 - The longest tenure for an employee provided by a labour hire company
 - The duties conducted by employees engaged through a labour hire company
 - The office locations of employees engaged through a labour hire company
 - The highest hourly or daily rate paid to an employee provided by a labour hire company

Veterans Affairs falls under Department of Premier and Cabinet.

Media And Public Relations

254. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies?
255. What is the forecast for the current financial year for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost?
256. What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities?

254-256 - Veterans Affairs falls under Department of Premier and Cabinet.

257. Have you had media training or speech training?
a) If yes, who paid for it?
b) If paid by taxpayers, what was the amount?

See question 45.

Consultants, Lobbyists And Former Parliamentarians

258. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Chris Hartcher in the time since he has left the Parliament?
a) Who attended those meetings?
b) What was the nature of those meetings?
c) What was discussed?
d) Were any records of those meetings kept?
259. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Andrew Stoner in the time since he has left the Parliament?
a) Who attended those meetings?
b) What was the nature of those meetings?
c) What was discussed?
d) Were any records of those meetings kept?
260. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Tim Owen in the time since he has left the Parliament?
a) Who attended those meetings?
b) What was the nature of those meetings?
c) What was discussed?
d) Were any records of those meetings kept?
261. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Craig Baumann in the time since he has left the Parliament?
a) Who attended those meetings?
b) What was the nature of those meetings?
c) What was discussed?
d) Were any records of those meetings kept?
262. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Andrew Cornwell in the time since he has left the Parliament?
a) Who attended those meetings?
b) What was the nature of those meetings?
c) What was discussed?
d) Were any records of those meetings kept?
263. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Chris Spence in the time since he has left the Parliament?

- a) Who attended those meetings?
 - b) What was the nature of those meetings?
 - c) What was discussed?
 - d) Were any records of those meetings kept?
264. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Darren Webber in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- a) Who attended those meetings?
 - b) What was the nature of those meetings?
 - c) What was discussed?
 - d) Were any records of those meetings kept?
265. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Garry Edwards in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- a) Who attended those meetings?
 - b) What was the nature of those meetings?
 - c) What was discussed?
 - d) Were any records of those meetings kept?
266. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Bart Bassett in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- a) Who attended those meetings?
 - b) What was the nature of those meetings?
 - c) What was discussed?
 - d) Were any records of those meetings kept?

258-266. Veterans Affairs falls under Department of Premier and Cabinet.

267. Has the consultancy company Premier State done any consultancy work for the Department? 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?
268. Does Premier State currently have any contract work with the Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibility?
- a) If yes, what is their role in the project?

267-268 – Veterans Affairs falls under Department of Premier and Cabinet.

Consulting

269. How much have the Department/agencies under your portfolio responsibility spent in legal costs?
- a) For what specific purposes or matters was legal advice sought?
270. Have Department/agencies under your portfolio engaged any consultants to provide the following services or advice:
- a) Social media
 - i. And the cost of these services
 - b) Photography

- i. And the cost of these services
- c) Acting training
 - i. And the cost of these services
- d) Ergonomics
 - i. And the cost of these services

269-270 - Veterans Affairs falls under Department of Premier and Cabinet.

Department/Agency Administration

271. How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-15?
- a) Of these redundancies, how many were:
 - i. Voluntary
 - ii. Forced
 - b) What was the total cost of all redundancies?
272. Have any staff who received a redundancy in the last two years undertaken any paid work or provided any paid services for the agency with which they were formerly employed?
- a) What was the nature of these works/services?
 - b) What was the total cost of these works or services?
273. Are any staff formerly employed by your ministerial office now employed by Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibility?
274. How many staff were dismissed from Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibilities in 2014-15?
- a) What were the reason/s for each dismissal?
275. How much was spent on corporate hospitality by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-2015?
276. How much was spent on indoor plant hire and maintenance by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-2015 year?
277. How much did Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities spend on restaurant bills during the year 2014/2015?
- a) How much of these bills were alcohol?
278. Were instances of internal fraud detected by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-2015?
- a) What was the sum total of any such fraud and what was the result of any investigations?
279. How large is the Department's vehicle fleet?
- a) What is the composition of this fleet in terms of engine size?
 - b) How many of the fleet were involved in an accident during the year 2014-2015?
 - c) What was the total cost of insurance claims and repairs?

280. How much did departments/agencies spend on newspaper and journal subscriptions during 2014-2015?
281. How many SES employees are employed within departments/agencies under your ministerial portfolio?
- a) What is their remuneration band?
 - b) For each SES employee, how many have:
 - i. 0 staff reporting to them;
 - ii. less than 2 staff reporting to them; and
 - iii. less than 5 staff?
282. How many sick days, leave days or days attributable to workers compensation were lost for each department/agency within your portfolio responsibility during 2014-15 for:
- a) workplace bullying;
 - b) stress leave; and
 - c) sick leave?
283. Do any of the departments/agencies under your portfolio area employ actors for staff training?
- a) If so, what is:
 - i. the size of the contract for the provision of actors for staff training in your departments?
 - ii. the term of the contracts for the provision of actors for staff training in your departments?
 - iii. the tender numbers for each of the contracts?

271-283 Veterans Affairs falls under Department of Premier and Cabinet.

Department/Agency Travel

284. What was the total expenditure in 2014-15 by Departments/agencies within your portfolio on:
- a) Taxi hire
 - b) Limousine/private car hire
 - c) Hire car rental
285. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have a policy on utilising Uber services for travel on official business?
286. Have staff in your Department/agencies either paid for with departmental funds or been recompensed for official travel using Uber services?
- a) Were any of these payments for UberX services?
287. Have staff in your Department/agencies either paid for with departmental funds or been recompensed for official travel using Airbnb services?
288. Did any officers within departments/agencies under your ministerial portfolio use charter aircraft during the year 2014-2015?
- a) If so what was the purpose and cost?

284-288 Veterans Affairs falls under Department of Premier and Cabinet.

Departmental/Agency IT

289. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an iTunes account?
- a) What was the total expenditure in 2014-15 on iTunes?
 - i. What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through iTunes?
290. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an Android account?
- a) What was the total expenditure in 2014-15 on Android?
291. What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through Android?
292. How many Department/agency mobile phones, tablets and laptops were replaced due to loss or damage during 2014-2015?
- a) What was the total cost of replacing these items?
293. Did any staff within departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities incur data charges on a mobile phone or tablet device greater than \$1000 for a single billing period?
- a) If so, how many times did this occur?
 - i. What was the individual cost of each data charge over \$1000 for a single billing period?

289-293 - Veterans Affairs falls under Department of Premier and Cabinet.

Efficiency Dividend

294. What was the efficiency dividend required of the department in the 2014/15 financial year?
295. What is the efficiency dividend required of the department in the 2015/16 financial year?
296. What savings measures were implemented by the Department for:
- a) 2014/15 financial year
 - b) 2013/14 financial year
 - c) 2012/13 financial year?
297. What actual savings were achieved by each strategy in:
- a) 2014/15 financial year
 - b) 2013/14 financial year
 - c) 2012/13 financial year?
298. What reduction of staff occurred and at what cost as a result of each strategy in:
- a) 2014/15 financial year
 - b) 2013/14 financial year
 - c) 2012/13 financial year?
299. For the 2015/16 financial year:
- a) What savings measures will the Department save?
 - b) What is the expected saving to be achieved for each measure?
 - c) Will they require a reduction in staffing?

- d) How many positions within the Department remain unfilled due to the imposition of savings measures?

294-299 Veterans Affairs falls under Department of Premier and Cabinet.