



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEE NO. 3

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2011-2012

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3

Roads and Ports

Friday 28 October 2011

Answers to be lodged by: 23 November 2011

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Hearing date	Portfolio	Answer to be lodged by
28 October 2011	Roads and Ports	23 November 2011 [21 days]

Questions relating to the portfolio of Roads

28 OCTOBER 2011, 2.00 pm – 4.00 pm

Questions from the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC

1. Could the minister please confirm that KPMG has been engaged as an independent consultant to assess the commercial terms of the M5 West widening project between the Roads Traffic Authority and Interlink Roads ?
 - a. Could the minister please confirm the fees paid KPMG to provide this advice ?
 - b. Could the minister please confirm when the KPMG report will be made public and where it will be published?
 - c. Could the minister please confirm what final advice was provided by KPMG in relation to the M5 Widening?
2. What did the modelling conducted as part of the M5 widening environmental assessment conclude in relation to the impact of traffic movements on the M5 and surrounding roads? What did the modelling find in relation to the percentage increase in vehicles expected on the following roads: Canterbury Road, King Georges Road, Forest Road, Stoney Creek Road, Punchbowl Road, Moorefields Road, Kingsgrove Road, Belmore Road and Fairford Road?
3. What is the amount of money that has been spent on getting advice and using consultants on the M5 widening since March 2011?
4. Could the minister confirm when the final M5 widening project costs will be made public?
5. Could the minister confirm the start date for the M5 widening project?
 - a. Could the minister confirm the completion date for the M5 widening project?
6. How many mobile speed cameras are currently operating?
 - a. How many mobile speed cameras were operating in February 2011?
7. How many hours are mobile speed cameras contracted to operate at this time?
 - a. How many hours were mobile speed cameras contracted to operate in February 2011?
8. What is the number and value of infringements issued by mobile speed cameras in 2011 compared to 2010?
9. How many extra mobile speed cameras will be rolled out over the next 5 years?
10. What is the extra number of contracted hours mobile speed cameras are planned for the next 5 years?
11. How many mobile speed cameras currently operate in the school safety zones?
12. How many contracted hours for mobile cameras are currently spent in school safety zones?
 - a. How many contracted hours for mobile cameras were spent in school safety zones in February 2011?
13. Given the findings of the Audit Office Performance Report into speed cameras in July 2011 could you explain the Government position on fixed speed cameras?
14. How many fixed speed cameras have been shut down or removed since April 2011?
 - a. Were any of these cameras in school safety zones?

- b. At these sites where fixed speed cameras have been removed or shut down, what is the subsequent data in regards to (a) accident rate, (b) injury and (c) fatality rate in each of those locations, before the cameras were installed and after the cameras were installed?
 - c. At each of the sites where fixed cameras were shut down or removed, what was the value of infringements issued for speeding before the cameras were installed and the fines issued at each of those sites since they were removed?
 - d. At each of the sites where you have shut down or removed the cameras, what alternative safety measures have been installed?
 - e. If alternative safety measures have not been installed when will they be?
15. Will the impact of the removal of the cameras be assessed?
- a. When will the impact of the removal of the cameras be assessed?
16. At each of the sites where fixed cameras have been shut down or removed, what is the rate of (a) accidents (b) injury and (c) fatalities since the cameras were removed/shut down?
- a. If the rate of (a) accidents (b) injury and (c) fatalities increase at the sites where cameras have been removed, will the cameras be reinstalled?
17. Has an assessment been undertaken of the crash impact of existing fixed speed cameras for a minimum of 5 years post installation?
- a. What were the findings of the assessment?
 - b. If the assessment has not yet been done when will it be done?
 - c. Will the assessment be made public and when?
 - d. If not why not?
18. How many safety cameras are currently in operation?
19. How many safety cameras were operating in February 2011?
20. At the sites where safety cameras have been installed, what does the data show in relation to (a) crashes, (b) injuries and (c) fatalities before and after the cameras were installed?
21. How many safety cameras will be installed over the next 5 years?
22. What is the funding allocation provided to the installation and operation of safety cameras in the 2011-2012 financial year?
23. What was the funding allocation provided for the installation and operation of the safety cameras in 2010-2011?
24. What funding allocation is being provided for the installation and operation of safety cameras over the next five years?
25. What is the cost of engaging consultants to develop the road maintenance contestability strategy and modelling?
26. What are the terms of engagement for the consultants conducting and developing the strategy and modelling for road maintenance contestability?
27. Given that the Government expects road maintenance contestability will cut road maintenance costs by 5 – 20 per cent, what is the expected impact overall on jobs?
- a. How many of the job losses will impact on (a) the RTA (b) rural and regional roads (c) Sydney metropolitan Council jobs (d) Hunter Council jobs and (e) Illawarra Council jobs?

28. What guarantees will be provided if the modelling demonstrates job losses as a result of road maintenance contestability?
29. What does the research and data available to the Centre for Road Safety indicate in relation to the effectiveness of fixed speed cameras in reducing accidents, injuries and fatalities?
30. What does the research and data available to the Centre for Road Safety indicate in relation to the effectiveness of reducing speed and increasing safety in school zones?
31. Does the Centre for Road Safety have research or data in relation to speed limits and its effectiveness on road safety?
32. What does the research/data indicate about the contribution of speed to accidents, injuries and fatalities and what is the effectiveness of reducing speed and a road safety tool?
33. Is there research or data on the impact of increasing the speed limit from 100km/hr to 110km/hr? What does the research/data say?
34. Based on the best available research and evidence, what more could be done to improve road safety – should we be using more fixed, mobile or safety cameras? Should we be reducing speed across the network?
35. Is there research, data or any evidence that shows 70km/hr & 90km/hr speed zones have a negative impact on road safety?
36. What precedent is there in Australia or overseas for increasing speed limits? What was the impact on road safety?
37. On what basis – research, accident data, advice from the Centre for Road Safety – was the decision to increase the speed limit on the Newell Highway made?
38. Between December 2009 and February 2011, what road upgrades and/or safety works have been done on the Newell Highway?
39. What was the cost of that work?
40. Since April 2011 what road upgrade and/or safety work has been done on the Newell Highway?
41. What funding has been allocated to the Newell Highway in the 2011-2012 financial year?
42. How much funding has been allocated in 2011-2012 to the Newell Highway south of Jerilderie to bring it up to standard to increase the speed limit?
43. When will the impact of increasing the speed limit on the Newell Highway be assessed? When will it be assessed?
44. Will the speed limit be reduced if there is an increase in accidents, injuries or fatalities?
45. Is the Government planning to increase any more 100km/hr speed zones to 110km/hr and if so where and when?
46. On what research and or advice did the Government make the decision to "restrict" 70km/hr and 90km/hr speed zones?

47. Where have 70km/hr & 90km/hr speed zones been altered?
48. At these locations have you increased or decreased the speed limits and what is the new speed limit at each of these locations?
49. Will the impact of removing the 70km/hr & 90km/hr speed zones be assessed?
50. When will the assessment be undertaken?
51. If the assessment finds any increases in crashes, injuries or fatalities will you reinstate the 70km/hr and 90km/hr speed zones?
52. Why has Macarthur been removed from the Western Sydney roads budget?
53. When will work on the Victoria Bridge in Penrith start? When is the project expected to be complete?
54. What the funding allocation provided to Western Sydney roads in 2011-2012?
55. What specific Western Sydney roads projects does the 2011-2012 allocation cover?
56. How many of these Western Sydney roads project were started in the 2010-2011 financial year – either planning, design or construction was started in 2010-2011?
57. When will each these Western Sydney projects be completed?
58. How much funding was allocated to Western Sydney roads in 2010-2011?
59. How much funding has been allocated to Western Sydney roads across the forward estimate period?
60. What funding has been provided to fix black spots in 2011-2012 towards fixing black spots?
61. What funding was allocated in 2010-2011?
62. Where and to what projects has the black spot funding been provided?
63. When will work on these projects begin?
64. What funding has been provided to black spots in 2012-2012, 2013-14 and 2014-2015?
65. By what percent has the cost of road construction, materials and maintenance increased since 2010-2011?
66. What is the average annual increase – as a percentage – in road construction, material and maintenance – over the last 10 years?
67. What funding has been provided in 2011-2012 towards upgrading Wiseman's Ferry Road? What funding has been provided in 2012-2013?
68. What funding has been provided in 2011-2012 towards upgrading Deadmans Creek Bridge on Heathcote Road? What funding has been provided in 2012-2013?
69. What funding has been provided in 2011-2012 towards the construction of median barriers at Picton Road between Wilton & Cordeaux Colliery? What funding has been provided in 2012-2013?

70. What funding has been provided in 2011-2012 towards the construction of a turning lane on the Golden Highway at Ballimore? What funding has been provided in 2012-2013?
71. What funding has been provided in 2011-2012 towards the construction of turning lanes on the Newell Highway at Forbes? What funding has been provided in 2012-2013?
72. How many RTA and Maritime staff have been offered redundancies since March 2011 to date?
 - a. If redundancies have not been offered, when will they be offered?
73. Are any RTA and Maritime offices expected to close as a result of the restructure and creation of Transport for NSW?
 - a. If so how many?
74. How many of the office closures will be regional offices?
75. Have briefings with RTA and Maritime staff been arranged to inform staff of the impact of proposed changes;
 - a. When have the briefings been arranged for?
 - b. If briefings have not yet been arranged when are briefings proposed?
76. To date have staff been provided with any information on the proposed staff cuts and what form has this information been provided?
77. Has a meeting or a briefing been arranged with unions to provide information on the impact of the changes on RTA and Maritime staff?
78. How many SES positions will be cut as a result of the creation of Transport for NSW?
79. How many non-SES positions will be cut as a result of the creation of Transport for NSW?
80. What is the administrative cost to the RTA and Maritime of the restructure and creation of Transport for NSW which includes such things as changes to letterheads, envelopes, office fit-outs, office relocations, signage, etc?
81. In regard to the property owned by the RTA at 89 Liverpool Road Ashfield, can the minister advise:
 - a. Given that the RTA was aware that some squatters were living in the apartments above the boarded up shops and were causing no harm, why were the squatters evicted?
 - b. Is it correct that only one complaint was made about the squatters? If so, by whom? If not, how many complaints were received?
 - c. What was the cost of evicting the squatters?
 - d. What was the cost of having 24 hour a day, seven day a week security guards protect the premises from the time of eviction to the time the building was demolished?
 - e. What was the cost of demolishing the building?
 - f. What was the cost of clearing the site?
 - g. What was the cost of landscaping and fencing the site?
 - h. What are the plans for the future use of the site?
82. 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 have phones or devices have been lost in your office?
 - h. What is the cost of replacing those phones or devices?
83. 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?
84. 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?
85. 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?
86. Cabcharge
- a. In terms of your ministerial office, how much did your office spend on taxi fares, including Cabcharge since April?
87. 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?
88. 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?
89. 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?

90. 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?
91. 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?
92. 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 was 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?
93. Parliamentary Secretary
- a. Can you please list all travel related costs for your Parliamentary Secretary incurred in their capacity as Parliamentary Secretary since 1 July 2011:
 - i. kilometres travelled
 - ii. accommodation,
 - iii. air fares
 - iv. meals/entertaining?
 - b. Can you please provide details of the following activities undertaken by your Parliamentary Secretary since 1 July 2011
 - i. meetings attended in their capacity as Parliamentary Secretary?
 - ii. functions attended in their capacity as Parliamentary Secretary?
 - c. How often do you meet with your Parliamentary Secretary?
 - i. Are these meetings documented?
 - ii. Who attends these meetings?
 - d. Who provides instructions and direction to your Parliamentary Secretary, you or your Chief of Staff?
 - e. Has the Parliamentary Secretary been provided with Speech, Voice or Media Training since becoming Parliamentary Secretary?
 - f. If so:
 - i. Who conducted the training?
 - ii. When was it conducted
 - iii. Where was it conducted what were the costs of the training?

- iv. Who paid for the training?

Questions from the Hon Cate Faehrmann MLC

94. The Minister has explained to us that they have no plans for extension of the M4 at the moment, can the Minister please provide us with information about various issues concerning the M4 motorway that may be made available to us.
- patronage data for the past 10 years for the M4
 - information on any modelling for projections for expected patronage of the M4 as it now exists
 - information on any modelling that has been done on projections for expected patronage if the M4 has increased capacity due to additions to it from Concord Rd into the city
 - information on any modelling of increases in pollution due to increased patronage if the extension from Concord Rd into the city goes ahead
 - any estimated costs for that extension
95. The Minister provided details relating to expansion of the M5 west. These questions relate to the M5 East motorway ie east of King Georges Rd
- patronage data for the M5 east of King Georges Rd for the last 10 years
 - information on any modelling for projections for expected future patronage of the M5 East as is now exists
 - information on any modelling for projections for expected patronage if the M5 East has its capacity increased due to additional lanes being provided for that section
 - details of any alternative scenarios for enabling transport of people by other means rather than increasing the capacity of the M5 East, in other words information about what other projects could be built to enable people to move around rather than having to travel by car along the M5 east.
96. Cycleways
- The Minister indicated it would be possible for us to be provided with a full briefing on cycle usage rates on routes leading into the city and in the CBD itself.
 - can the Minister please provide as full information as possible about cycle usage rates over the last 5 years
 - can the Minister please provide data relating to the number of cyclists using the College Street cycle way and also numbers who ride in traffic lanes in College Street rather than the cycle way?
97. For contracts relating to the M2 motorway the Minister provided information relating to the Material Adverse Contract Clauses for public transport activities and said that these were now removed.
- Can the Minister provide information on which motorway contracts now contain Material Adverse Contract Clauses for public transport activities?
 - Can the Minister assure us that such Material Adverse Effect clauses relating to public transport provision will not be included in any future motorway contracts?
98. Road Safety
- The Road Freight Advisory Council has as one of its objectives to assist in identifying and delivering freight solutions that will meet the needs of NSW and the Australian community.
 - It has come to my attention that very large trucks, over 19m, have again been allowed to pass through residential areas of Matraville, not far from the Port Botany container terminal. The announcement by the Minister that the previous ban on trucks over 12.5 m had been lifted was a shock to the local community as there had not been any community consultation relating to this issue.
 - Can the Minister explain why the previous ban on these port activity related freight trucks travelling on local roads has been lifted?
 - Can the Minister outline what processes were followed that allowed this change regarding which roads that port freight trucks could travel on?
99. Road Safety and B-Triples

- a. Can the minister provide assurances that the introduction of B triples onto the state's highways will not compromise safety bearing in mind that despite a B triple being able to haul more freight than a B double we can expect greater volumes of freight being transported through the state, for example, it has been predicted that freight volumes imported via Port Botany are expected to double in the next 10-15 years?

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

Questions relating to the portfolio of Ports

28 OCTOBER 2011, 4.15 pm – 5.15 pm

Questions from the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC

100. Could the Minister please define the difference between "flogging", leasing, selling and privatising the Port Botany facility?
101. What is the lease period for which the Government will sell Port Botany to a private operator?
102. What is the proposed timeline for the sale of Port Botany?
103. Can you please confirm that over the past 5 years \$1.2 billion dollars has been invested in the Port Botany facility & its supporting infrastructure ?
104. Given the \$1.2 billion worth of investment into Port Botany, can you confirm that there will be a minimum bid price that ensures NSW taxpayers get a good return for their investment in the asset?
105. Could you confirm what the past 5 years of dividends have been for Port Botany and the expectation for the dividend payment for 2011-2012 and across the forward estimates period?
106. Will the current operators at Port Botany be allowed to make a bid for the sale?
107. What sale price does the Government expect?
108. When the Government sells the lease of Port Botany, will it ask the lessee for the cost of the 99 year lease up-front or annually or some other regular instalments?
109. Will the private lessee be responsible for the ongoing maintenance of Port Botany?
110. What framework will the Government establish regulate port charges under a private operator?
111. What is the lifespan of the current capital investment in Port Botany?
112. Will the Port Botany lease contract include mandatory and on-going capital investment in the Port Botany facility?
113. How many operators have the financial ability and technical experience to bid for the Port?

114. Have any current operators expressed any concerns about the proposed sale of Port Botany? If so what are the concerns?
115. Could the Minister confirm that a cost-benefit analysis was conducted to show that selling Port Botany is the best way to fund the Pacific Highway co-contribution?
- If a cost-benefit analysis has not been done why is this the case?
 - If a cost-benefit analysis has not been when will it be conducted and when will it be released publicly?
116. Could you confirm what the past 5 years of dividends have been for Port Botany, Port Kembla and Port of Newcastle and the expectation for the dividend payments for 2011-2012 and across the forward estimates period?
117. Could the Minister please confirm that there are no plans in place to privatise or lease Port Kembla and or the Port of Newcastle?

Questions from the Hon Cate Faehrmann MLC

118. Port Botany
- Mr Weilinga indicated that the Australian Rail Track Corporation would carry out the duplication of the Port Botany – Mascot freight rail line as has been planned in the Port Freight Logistics Plan in 2008 (developed as a condition of consent for the expansion of Port Botany) and as the Transport Masterplan is now working on.
 - Can the Minister give us a time line for when we can expect this work to be carried out considering it has been estimated that freight throughput for the Port Botany container terminal is expected to double in the next 10-15 years?
 - Can the Minister give us an estimate of the costs of congestion which will arise from the explosion of truck traffic carrying TEUs in and out of the port if the track duplication does not go ahead in a timely fashion?
 - Can the Minister inform us about how this congestion is assessed?
119. Port Newcastle
- Can the Minister give us an update on the status of the Draft Strategic Development Plan for the Newcastle port?
 - Can the update include:
 - progress of the integrated Port Planning strategy
 - progress on the construction of the portside rail line from Sandgate junction before any proposed redevelopment occurs.
120. Port Activity Noise Levels
- Residents in the suburbs around Port Botany and as far away as Kyeemagh can hear “beeper” alarms for construction equipment and for forklift trucks operating as a result of port activity. Is the Minister aware of how annoying for residents these beeper alarms are, particularly at night?
 - Is the Minister aware that a report was submitted to DECCW in May 2009 outlining alternatives to beeper alarms for construction equipment and for forklift trucks and that some of the alternatives provided provide reasonable solutions to the problems these beepers were intended to solve?
 - Can the Minister provide assurances that he will change the regulations to allow suitable alternatives and that a program to require a transition to the new regulations is implemented as soon as possible thus resulting in a reduction in the noise pollution arising from these beepers.?

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