

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2015

**ANSWERS TO SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS
GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEE 1
9am, Thursday 3 September 2015**

TREASURER, MINISTER FOR INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

Questions from Hon David Shoebridge MLC

GOVERNMENT SECTOR EMPLOYMENT ACT (FROM TARA MCCARTHY)

1. What is the current status of proposed amendments to the GSE Act?
2. What is the anticipated impact of these amendments?
3. What provision will any amendments make to provide for those who might have lost entitlements including continuation of service?

Answer 1 – 3: These questions would be more appropriately directed to the Public Service Commission.

PORTABLE LONG SERVICE LEAVE

4. Is the review of the proposal to extend long service leave to industries beyond contract cleaning publicly available?
5. What steps are currently proposed in relation to Portable Long Service in NSW?

Answer 4 – 5: See

http://www.industrialrelations.nsw.gov.au/biz_res/oirwww/pdfs/IRAC_Report_Final_June_2013.pdf

Questions from Hon Shaoquett Moselmane MLC

Treasury

NORTH WEST RAIL LINK

6. 2015-16 NSW Budget Paper No 1 (page 2-14) notes that “Other significant expense measures include additional funding for out of home care, increasing correctional centre capacity and the commencement of Sydney Metro Northwest operating expenses from 2018-19.”
 - a. How much expenditure in the 18/19 year will the North West Rail Link operations add to the budget?

Answer 6 (a): The cost to operate the Sydney Metro Northwest will become available in the year that operations commence.

- b. How much revenue will be earned?

Answer 6 (b): The calculation of estimated revenue requires knowledge of upcoming fare determinations, which is not possible at this stage.

- c. What will the annual maintenance costs of the tunnels be?

Answer 6 (c): This question should be referred to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure.

- d. What will the estimated net profit or loss be of the North West Rail Link in 18/19 and once it is up and running?

Answer 6 (d): The calculation of estimated net profit or loss requires knowledge of upcoming fare determinations, which is not possible at this stage. The project will obviously require Government subsidy to operate. It is not being built to make a profit.

PRIVATISATION OF ELECTRICITY NETWORKS

7. Will you agree to publish the memo “Medium-term Fiscal Impacts of the Government’s Proposed Asset Recycling Strategy” which was reported in the Australian Financial Review on 23 June 2015?
8. The memo states that the Government’s infrastructure investment program “will directly weaken the net operating result and the net lending balance” because of the declining interest earnings from the invested proceeds and the “additional operating costs associated with the new assets”. How will the Government be addressing this situation?
9. What will the impact of the Government’s asset recycling initiative be on its Moody credit rating?
10. If the Government were to apply the interest earned on the net electricity lease proceeds to retire or avoid gross debt, rather than to Restart NSW, what would the impact be on the Moody’s metric?
11. The memo states that by 2023-24 it is estimated that “the former network distributions would amount to \$1.1 billion and the additional recurrent expenses associated with the new infrastructure to around \$300 million. Together these will see the operating result worsen by around \$1.4 billion per annum by 2023-24, compared with ‘no policy change.’” How will the Government be addressing this \$1.4 billion shortfall?

12. The memo states that the “net operating result and net lending balance will weaken in the future” because of the electricity transactions. It states that “these will need to be managed through the identification of additional savings. This should be the ongoing task of the fiscal strategy.” Where will these additional savings be made?
13. If these savings are not made what will be the impact on the state’s credit rating?
14. The Australian Financial Review article says that “the memo suggests the Coalition kept voters in the dark ahead of the March 28 election.” Is the AFR correct?
15. The memo talks about an aim being that the energy networks are “successfully deconsolidated in accounting terms.” Can you explain what “successfully deconsolidated” means?
16. Has the Government resolved whether it can fully “deconsolidate” the energy networks and if so, when will this be achieved?
17. What will the implications be on the ratings metrics for S&P and Moody if deconsolidation does not occur?
18. Has the Government consulted with the ratings agencies about their attitude to deconsolidation, and if so, what was their response?

Answer 7 – 18: Please refer to my answers given at the Budget Estimates hearing.

19. When the WestConnex, stages 1-3 are sold, how will the proceeds be allocated?

Answer 19: The WestConnex reference case funding model relies on private sector funding being raised against tolling revenue in order to fund subsequent stages of the scheme.

20. The memo states that “the general government net operating balance is projected to move into deficit from 2019-20 while the net lending balance remains consistently in deficit, averaging \$2.7 billion per annum over the period from 2014-15 to 2023-24.” What is the Government’s plan to address this continuing debt and deficit?

Answer 20: Please refer to my answers given at the Budget Estimates hearing.

STAMP DUTIES

21. Can you please explain how stamp duties are to grow from \$9.8m in 2015-16 to \$10.6m in 2018-19?
 - a. Do you expect these forecasts to change significantly?

Answer 21 (a): Please refer to 2015-16 State Budget: Paper 1, Chapter 5.

TAHE

22. Can you please explain how the Transport Asset Holding Entity (TAHE) has added \$1.8b to the budget surplus amount? (From the \$713m budget surplus)
 - a. Can you please provide a breakdown of the line items that are affected in the 2014-15 budgeted forward estimates detailed report as a result of the TAHE changes?

Answer 22 (a): Please refer to 2015-16 State Budget: Paper 1, Box 1.1.

TREASURY AND FOREIGN INVESTMENT REVIEW BOARD (FIRB)

23. Has Treasury received advice from the Foreign Investment Review Board regarding the sale of Transgrid and the two distributors?
- And possibly any contact with national security agencies?
 - What advice has been received by Treasury from FIRB?
 - When was it received?
 - When was contact first made between FIRB and NSW regarding the sale of Transgrid and the two distributors?

Answer 23 (a) – (d): NSW Treasury has had discussions with a number of Government agencies including the Australian Tax Office, Australian Competition and Consumer Commission and the Foreign Investment Review Board.

The details of these discussions are commercial in confidence.

PORTS ISSUES

24. Has the NSW Government imposed any restrictions on the movement of containers through the Port of Newcastle?
25. Is there a cap on container movements at the Port of Newcastle?
- If so, what is it? Is it a charge per container?
 - If the cap is breached, is a fee, fine or charge imposed? Who pays it? Who do they pay the money to?
 - If the cap is breached, are any monies paid to the operators of Port Botany and/or Port Kembla? If so, how much is paid? Who pays it?
 - When were these arrangements agreed?

Answer 24-25: There is no legislated cap on the number of containers that can travel through the Port of Newcastle.

26. In the interest of transparency, will you release the Port Commitment Deeds that set out details of arrangements for containers?

Answer 26: The Port Commitment Deeds are commercial in confidence documents.

27. Now that the port transactions are concluded, will you release the scoping study that was undertaken ahead of the transaction for the three ports?

Answer 27: The Scoping Study documents remain Cabinet-in-confidence. The Government, and previous Governments, have not released Scoping Studies for previous transactions.

28. Minister Gay has said: “The only time an extension is allowed is when a specific number is reached and tripped in Port Botany and Port Kembla.” What is the number? For Port Kembla? For Port Botany?

Answer 28: See <http://freight.transport.nsw.gov.au/strategy/>

- How much money was raised by the sale/lease of Newcastle port?
- What was money spent on?

- c. How much has gone into consolidated revenue?
- d. How much has been allocated to, or spent in, the Newcastle electorate?

Answer 28 (a) – (d): For publicly available information, see <http://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/media-releases/transforming-newcastle-port-lease-secures-funds-revitalisation>

- 29. Has the NSW Government entered into any agreements that create a disincentive or obstacle to develop a container terminal at the Port of Newcastle?

Answer 29: I am advised that the lessee could develop a container terminal at the Port of Newcastle if it wished to do so.

- 30. Has the NSW Government entered into any agreements that create a disincentive or obstacle to increase the number of containers that pass through Newcastle?

Answer 30: Please refer to answer 24 – 25.

- 31. Has the NSW Government entered into any arrangement that create a financial penalty if the number of containers moved through the Port of Newcastle exceeds a set threshold?

- a. If so, what is the threshold?

Answer 31: Please refer to answer 24 – 25.

- 32. Is the leaseholder of Port Botany entitled to receive a payment should the number of containers moved through the Port of Newcastle exceed a set figure?

- 33. If so, what is the payment and who pays it?

Answer 32 – 33: Please refer to answer 24 – 25.

- 34. Do the Port Commitment Deeds establish any limitations or restrictions on the operation of Port Kembla or the Port of Newcastle?

Answer 34: Please refer to answer 24 – 25.

- 35. Will you release the Port Commitment Deeds for the port transactions?

Answer 35: Please refer to answer 24 – 25.

- 36. Will you release the scoping study for the port transactions?

Answer 36: Please refer to answer 27.

WICKHAM-NEWCASTLE RAIL TRUNCATION

- 37. What exactly has \$79m that has been spent on this project to date been spent on?
- 38. How much was spent on the tendering process?
- 39. How much was spent on consultants?

40. How much was spent on communication?
41. How much was spent on providing extra buses from Hamilton to Newcastle station?
42. How much of the current expenditure has been due to the earlier than recommended truncation of the rail service between Hamilton and Newcastle stations?
43. How much will be made redundant if the proposed Wickham interchange proceeds?
44. How much money will be used to replicate services that were moved to accommodate the current arrangements, but will need to be rebuilt to accommodate the proposed arrangements?
45. Where did these buses come from?
46. Were other Newcastle and Hunter bus routes impacted because of the need to provide this service?
47. How much was spent on extra drivers?
48. What is the business plan for this project?
49. What will be the direct and indirect economic improvement, if any, to Newcastle and the Hunter?
50. The government has made a commitment to improving the Newcastle-Sydney rail service with a target of a two hour service. What steps is the Government undertaking to make this improvement?

Answer 37 – 50: These questions would be more appropriately directed to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure.

OTHER NEWCASTLE QUESTIONS

51. How many jobs have been lost in the Hunter over the last financial year?

Answer 51: Please refer to Australian Bureau of Statistics labour force data, publicly available in publication number 6291.0.55.001.

52. What is the Government's new proposal for the Empire Hotel site in Hunter St Newcastle, which was due to be constructed and contain affordable housing?
53. What plans does the Government have for affordable housing in Newcastle?

Answer 52 – 53: These questions would be more appropriately directed to the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Social Housing

BROADMEADOW SPORTS PRECINCT MASTER PLAN

54. What is the status of this plan?

Answer 54: This question would be more appropriately referred to the Minister for Sport.

LMBR ISSUES

55. Are you able to provide the any additional funding amounts approved by Treasury for the Learning Management and Business Reform (LMBR) program in 2014-15 and 2015-16?

Answer 55: The Government has not approved any additional funding to the Department of Education for the LMBR program for 2014-15 or 2015-16.

56. Can you provide the expected total cost of the LMBR program and a breakdown of these costs?

Answer 56: The cost of the LMBR program is managed within the overall budget allocation of the Department of Education and this question should be referred to the Minister for Education.

MINISTERIAL OFFICE ADMINISTRATION

57. 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?

Answer 57: Minister' staff numbers and salary bands are available on the DPC website.

58. 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?

Answer 58: 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% 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.

59. 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?

Answer 59: 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 in claimed through the NSW Treasury Managed Fund.

60. 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?

Answer 60: 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% reducing on 2008/09 expenditure of \$578,691.

61. Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in your office?

- a. What is the cost of this?

Answer 61: No.

62. 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?

Answer 62: No.

63. 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?

Answer 63: The cost of subscriptions is managed within the office's budget.

64. 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?

Answer 64: No Ministerial funds have been expended on gifts and any relevant disclosures are made in accordance with regulations.

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

Answer 65: No.

66. 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?
67. Details of the agreement between your office and any contractors/consultants engaged by your office?

Answer 66 – 67: The Minister's office 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

68. 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?
69. 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?

Answer 68 – 69: Details of overseas travel including costs are published on agency websites.

70. What was the total bill for your office in 2014-15 for:
- Taxi hire
 - Limousine hire
 - Private hire care
 - Hire car rental

Answer 70: Expenditure on taxis across the Ministry in 2014/15 was \$84,257. This compares with 2009/10 expenditure of \$175,776.

71. Have you ever used Uber?
- If yes, were any of these occasions in an UberX vehicle?
72. Have you or anyone in your office used Uber services travelling to or from work-related events, meetings or functions?
- Were any of those services in an UberX vehicle?
73. Have you or anyone in your office sought reimbursement for using Uber services to travel to or from work-related events, meetings or functions?
- What is the value of those reimbursements?
74. Have you used Airbnb?
75. Have you or anyone in your office used Airbnb as an accommodation solution whilst travelling on official business?

Answer 71-75: All relevant travel is conducted in accordance with relevant guidelines.

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

Answer 76: No.

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

Answer 77: All vehicular features have been approved according to requirements.

LABOUR HIRE FIRMS

78. 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

Answer 78 (a) – (g): All government contracts are disclosed as per guidelines.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

79. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies?
80. 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?
81. What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities?

Answer 79 – 81: Information is disclosed according to requirements in Treasury’s Annual Reports.

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

Answer 82: No.

CONSULTANTS, LOBBYISTS AND FORMER PARLIAMENTARIANS

83. 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?
84. 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?
85. 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?
86. 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?
87. 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?

88. 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?
89. 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?
90. 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?
91. 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?
92. 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?
93. 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?

Answer 83 – 93: Information regarding scheduled meetings held with stakeholders, external organisations and individuals are published in accordance with Memorandum 2015-07 Publication of Ministerial Diaries.

94. 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?
95. 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

Answer 94 - 95: Financial statements, including legal fees expenditure and expenditure on consultants are disclosed according to requirements in Treasury's Annual Reports.

DEPARTMENT/AGENCY ADMINISTRATION

96. 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
97. What was the total cost of all redundancies? 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?
98. Are any staff formerly employed by your ministerial office now employed by Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibility?
99. How many staff were dismissed from Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibilities in 2014-15?
- c. What were the reason/s for each dismissal?

Answer 96-99: Voluntary redundancies are a component for agencies to achieve their efficiency dividends. The number of voluntary redundancies achieved by May 2015 was almost double the Government's original target of 5,000 positions by June 2015, as announced in the 2011/12 Budget. The Labour Expense Cap introduced in the 2012/13 Budget also continues to give Secretaries as much flexibility as possible to achieve these savings in the most appropriate ways to meet the service requirements of their agencies. Nurses, police officers and teachers in schools have been quarantined from this measure.

100. How much was spent on corporate hospitality by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-2015?

Answer 100: Relevant expenditure is disclosed according to requirements in Treasury's Annual Reports.

101. How much was spent on indoor plant hire and maintenance by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-2015 year?

Answer 101: Plant and equipment costs are disclosed according to requirements in Treasury's Annual Reports.

102. 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?

Answer 102: I am advised nil.

103. Were instances of internal fraud detected by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-2015?
- What was the sum total of any such fraud and what was the result of any investigations?

Answer 103: I am advised that the investigation processes regarding instances of internal fraud are adhered to according to requirements.

104. How large is the Department's vehicle fleet?

Answer 104: 3 cars.

- What is the composition of this fleet in terms of engine size?

Answer 104 (a): All have 2.5 litre engines.

- How many of the fleet were involved in an accident during the year 2014-2015?
- What was the total cost of insurance claims and repairs?

Answer 104 (b) – (c): No expenses were incurred in relation to accidents or repairs.

105. How much did departments/agencies spend on newspaper and journal subscriptions during 2014-2015?

Answer 105: I am advised \$96,442

106. How many SES employees are employed within departments/agencies under your ministerial portfolio?
- What is their remuneration band?
 - For each SES employee, how many have:
 - 0 staff reporting to them;
 - less than 2 staff reporting to them; and
 - less than 5 staff?

Answer 106: Information regarding SES is disclosed according to requirements in Treasury's Annual Reports.

107. 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:
- workplace bullying;

Answer 107 (a): I am advised nil.

- stress leave; and

Answer 107 (b): I am advised nil.

- sick leave?

Answer 107 (c): I am advised 30.

108. 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?

Answer 108: No.

DEPARTMENT/AGENCY TRAVEL

109. 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
110. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have a policy on utilising Uber services for travel on official business?
111. 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?
112. Have staff in your Department/agencies either paid for with departmental funds or been recompensed for official travel using Airbnb services?
113. 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?

Answer 109 - 113: Details are disclosed according to requirements in Treasury's Annual Reports.

DEPARTMENTAL/AGENCY IT

114. 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?

Answer 114: No.

115. 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?

Answer 115: No.

116. How many Department/agency mobile phones, tablets and laptops were replaced due to loss or damage during 2014-2015?

Answer 116: 5

- a. What was the total cost of replacing these items?

Answer 116 (a): The replacement of items is undertaken according to relevant guidelines.

117. 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?

Answer 117: No.

EFFICIENCY DIVIDEND

118. What was the efficiency dividend required of the department in the 2014/15 financial year?
119. What is the efficiency dividend required of the department in the 2015/16 financial year?
120. What savings measures were implemented by the Department for:
 - a. 2014/15 financial year
 - b. 2013/14 financial year
 - c. 2012/13 financial year?
121. What actual savings were achieved by each strategy in:
 - a. 2014/15 financial year
 - b. 2013/14 financial year
 - c. 2012/13 financial year?
122. 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?
123. 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?

Answer 118 – 123: In the 2015-16 Budget, the Government has committed to deliver savings by implementing further efficiency and savings measures as well as policies to eliminate duplication in Government operations and reduce procurement costs. Savings measures are detailed in the Budget Papers and were presented to the Parliamentary Budget Office prior to the election.

Voluntary redundancies are a component for agencies to achieve their efficiency dividends. The Labour Expense Cap introduced in the 2012/13 Budget also continues to give Secretaries as much flexibility as possible to achieve these savings in the most appropriate ways to meet the service requirements of their agencies. Nurses, police officers and teachers in schools have been quarantined from this measure.

Industrial Relations

124. What was the total expenditure for the Office of Industrial Relations in the 2014-2015 financial year?
125. What is the budget for the Office of Industrial Relations for the 2015-2016 financial year?
126. What was the number of FTE equivalent staff for OIR in 2014-2015?
127. How many staff were employed in OIR in 2014-2015 in numbers of actual employees?
128. What were the classifications for each position or group of positions in OIR in 2014-2015?
129. What is the number of FTE equivalent staff for OIR for the 2015-2016 financial year?
130. How many staff are to be employed in OIR in 2015-2016 in numbers of actual employees?
131. What are the classifications for each position or group of positions in OIR For 2015-2016?
132. What changes have been made to OIR since Budget Estimates hearings for the Industrial Relations portfolio in 2014?
133. What new functions have been taken on?
134. What functions have been discontinued?
135. What were the reasons for each function being taken on or discontinued?
136. What are the separate functions to be carried out by OIR in 2015-2016?
137. How many staff will support each function?
138. What is the budget for each function?
139. How many staff will work across more than one function?

Answer 124-139: Information about NSW Office of Industrial Relations is published in the NSW Treasury's Annual Report.

140. What is the work being done by OIR with vulnerable workers?

Answer 140: The Proactive Compliance Unit assists vulnerable workers, including young workers and people from culturally and linguistically diverse communities, to better understand their rights under the national system through improved access to the agency's resources and services.

141. Does OIR still provide advice to private sector employers? If yes, which industries has OIR provided advice to?

Answer 141: The NSW Office of Industrial Relations continues to provide advice to private sector employers and employees across a variety of industries.

142. How many workplace visits has OIR undertaken in the 2014-2015 year?

Answer 142: Routine workplace visits are undertaken in the building and construction industry (particularly public infrastructure), the taxi industry and the entertainment industry. Non-routine visits can arise from complaints about non-payment of entitlements such as long service leave across a range of industries in NSW.

143. How many workplace visits does OIR expect to conduct in the 2015-2016 year?

Answer 143: See response to Question 142.

144. How many actions to recover unpaid or underpaid remuneration did OIR undertake in the 2014-2015 year?

Answer 144: NSW IR finalised 183 investigations in 2014-2015. Settlements were achieved in 82 matters. 16 matters were within the jurisdiction of the Fair Work Ombudsman and individuals were referred to that organisation.

145. How many of these were undertaken through formal legal actions and how many were completed without?

Answer 145: It was not necessary to commence any formal legal actions in 2014-2015 to recover unpaid or underpaid remuneration.

146. How many legal actions to recover unpaid or underpaid remuneration proceeded to completion and how many were settled?

Answer 146: Two legal actions that commenced before 2014-2015 proceeded to completion. One matter was settled and remuneration plus interest recovered. The second matter was dismissed following a successful appeal to the Industrial Relations Commission that the Chief Industrial Magistrate had not provided adequate reasons for a decision.

147. Which NSW agencies, or other employers or engagers of labour did OIR take action against in the 2014-2015 year?

148. How much was recovered in unpaid or underpaid remuneration in the 2014-2015 year?

Answer 147 – 148: Information about NSW Office of Industrial Relations is published in the NSW Treasury's Annual Report.

149. I refer to Budget Paper No. 3, page 11-3 and the "2015-2016 Budget Highlights". Apart from dot points three and four, why are there no 2015-2016 Budget Highlights for the Industrial Relations portfolio?

Answer 149: Dot points 3 and 4 on page 11-3 of Budget Paper No 3 outline budget highlights in relation to the long service leave and payments schemes, administered by the Long Service Corporation.

150. What are the other Budget highlights for the Industrial Relations portfolio for 2015-2016?

Answer 150: Refer to answer 149.

151. Will further Commissioner appointments be made to the NSW Industrial Relations Commission in 2015?

Answer 151: The Government is considering the matter of further appointments to the IRC.

152. When will further Commissioner appointments be made to the NSW Industrial Relations Commission?

Answer 152: Refer to answer 151.

153. What is the present number of pending s 173 and s 181D Police Act 1990 matters before the IRC?

154. What is the present estimate as to the likely completion times for those matters, based on the present resources of the Commission?

155. Are there sufficient members of the Commission to constitute a Full Bench to hear appeals in such matters?

Answer 153 – 155: These questions should be directed to the Attorney-General.

NSW IRC

156. Since the most recent advertisements seeking expressions of interest from persons interested in appointment as a Commissioner of the NSW IRC:-
- a. How many persons submitted an expression of interest?
 - b. How many persons were selected for an interview?
 - c. When were interviews conducted?
 - d. Which persons comprised the interview panel?
 - e. Was the President of the IRC part of the interview panel? If not, why not?
 - f. How many candidates have been shortlisted for consideration for appointment?

Answer 156: Refer to the answer to Question 151 and note that matters related to appointment are confidential.

EFFICIENCY DIVIDEND

157. For each of the past three financial years, what was the efficiency dividend in dollar value to be met by each of the agencies within your administration?
158. What savings and revenue generating strategies did each agency implement to achieve the efficiency dividend and what was the amount of the savings or revenue actually achieved?
159. What is the efficiency dividend in dollar value required to be achieved by each agency within your administration for this financial year?
160. What savings and revenue generating strategies are you implementing this financial year and what do you expect to achieve for each strategy?
161. What was the efficiency dividend required of the department in the 2014/15 financial year?
162. What is the efficiency dividend required of the department in the 2015/16 financial year?
163. What savings measures were implemented by the Department for:
- a. 2014/15 financial year
 - b. 2013/14 financial year
 - c. 2012/13 financial year?
164. What actual savings were achieved by each strategy in:
- a. 2014/15 financial year
 - b. 2013/14 financial year
 - c. 2012/13 financial year?
165. 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?
166. 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?

Answer 157 – 166: See answer 118 – 123

MINISTERIAL OFFICE ADMINISTRATION

167. 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?
168. 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?
169. 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?
170. 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?
171. Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in your office?
 - a. What is the cost of this?
172. 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?
173. 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?
174. 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?
175. Do you purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for your office?
 - a. What is the cost of this?
176. 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?
177. Details of the agreement between your office and any contractors/consultants engaged by your office?

Answer 167 – 177: See answer 57 – 67.

MINISTERIAL AND OFFICE TRAVEL

178. Have any of your overseas trips in the past year been paid for in part or in full by using public money?
- If so, did any of your relatives or friends accompany you on these trips?
179. Have you undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded?
- What were the nature of these trips?
 - Who paid for these trips?
180. What was the total bill for your office in 2014-15 for:
- Taxi hire
 - Limousine hire
 - Private hire care
 - Hire car rental
181. Have you ever used Uber?
- If yes, were any of these occasions in an UberX vehicle?
182. Have you or anyone in your office used Uber services travelling to or from work-related events, meetings or functions?
- Were any of those services in an UberX vehicle?
183. Have you or anyone in your office sought reimbursement for using Uber services to travel to or from work-related events, meetings or functions?
- What is the value of those reimbursements?
184. Have you used Airbnb?
185. Have you or anyone in your office used Airbnb as an accommodation solution whilst travelling on official business?
186. Have any planes or helicopters been chartered by you or your office and paid for with public money?
- If yes, will you please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?
187. What non-standard features are fitted to your ministerial vehicle?
- What is the cost of each non-standard feature?

Answer 178 – 187: See answer 68 – 77.

LABOUR HIRE FIRMS

188. 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

Answer 188: See answer 78

MEDIA AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

189. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies?
190. 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?
191. What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities?
192. Have you had media training or speech training?
 - a. If yes, who paid for it?
 - b. If paid by taxpayers, what was the amount?

Answer 189 – 192: See answer 79 – 82.

CONSULTANTS, LOBBYISTS AND FORMER PARLIAMENTARIANS

193. 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?
 - c. Who attended those meetings?
 - d. What was the nature of those meetings?
 - e. What was discussed?
 - f. Were any records of those meetings kept?
194. 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?
195. 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?
196. 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?
197. 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?
198. 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?
199. 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?
200. 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?
201. 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?
202. 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?
203. 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?

Answer 193 – 203: See answer 83 – 93.

CONSULTING

204. 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?
205. 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
 - ii. And the cost of these services
 - c. Acting training
 - iii. And the cost of these services
 - d. Ergonomics
 - iv. And the cost of these services

Answer 204 – 205: See answer 94 – 95.

DEPARTMENT/AGENCY ADMINISTRATION

206. How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-15?
- Of these redundancies, how many were:
 - Voluntary
 - Forced
 - What was the total cost of all redundancies?
207. 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?
- What was the nature of these works/services?
 - What was the total cost of these works or services?
208. Are any staff formerly employed by your ministerial office now employed by Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibility?
209. How many staff were dismissed from Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibilities in 2014-15?
- What were the reason/s for each dismissal?
210. How much was spent on corporate hospitality by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-2015?
211. How much was spent on indoor plant hire and maintenance by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-2015 year?
212. How much did Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities spend on restaurant bills during the year 2014/2015?
- How much of these bills were alcohol?
213. Were instances of internal fraud detected by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-2015?
- What was the sum total of any such fraud and what was the result of any investigations?
214. How large is the Department's vehicle fleet?
- What is the composition of this fleet in terms of engine size?
 - How many of the fleet were involved in an accident during the year 2014-2015?
 - What was the total cost of insurance claims and repairs?
215. How much did departments/agencies spend on newspaper and journal subscriptions during 2014-2015?
216. How many SES employees are employed within departments/agencies under your ministerial portfolio?
- What is their remuneration band?
 - For each SES employee, how many have:
 - 0 staff reporting to them;
 - less than 2 staff reporting to them; and
 - less than 5 staff?
217. 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:
- workplace bullying;
 - stress leave; and
 - sick leave?
218. Do any of the departments/agencies under your portfolio area employ actors for staff training?
- 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?

Answer 206 – 218: See answer 96 – 108.

DEPARTMENT/AGENCY TRAVEL

- 219. 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
- 220. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have a policy on utilising Uber services for travel on official business?
- 221. 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?
- 222. Have staff in your Department/agencies either paid for with departmental funds or been recompensed for official travel using Airbnb services?
- 223. 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?

Answer 209 - 223: See answer 109 – 113.

DEPARTMENTAL/AGENCY IT

- 224. 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?
- 225. 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?
- 226. 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?
- 227. 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?

Answer 224 – 227: See answer 114 – 117.

Questions from Dr John Kaye MLC

Treasury

SPENDING ON ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE

228. What roads are being considered for clearways as part of the \$100 million allocated for the expanded clearways program?

Answer 228: Information on projects included the Sydney clearways strategy is available on the RMS website.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/key-build-program/sydney-clearways-strategy.html>

229. How much of the Federal Government's \$2 Billion concessional loan has been spent or allocated to specific contracts? What are those contracts?

Answer 229: This question would be more appropriately directed to the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight.

230. Has there been a process undertaken to thoroughly evaluate the companies that are receiving government contracts that have recently settled out of court for allegedly providing incorrect or incomplete traffic data? What is that process?

Answer 230: Companies that have received contracts are selected and evaluated in accordance with NSW procurement guidelines which can be found online.

https://www.procurepoint.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/procurement_policy_framework_-_july_2015.pdf

231. Has RMS or the WestConnex Delivery Authority projected a profit or a loss from the lease or sale of properties that have been acquired due to the WestConnex project, but are not being acquired permanently for the project?

Answer 231: This question would be more appropriately directed to the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight.

232. How much of a contribution will be made to Westconnex from the long term lease of the poles and wires?

Answer 232: The Government has reserved \$1.1 billion from the proceeds of the 'Poles and Wires' transaction in Rebuilding NSW for the WestConnex northern and southern extensions, and the Western Harbour Tunnel.

233. What projects are being referred to by 'Traffic Management Upgrade Works?' (Infrastructure Statement pages 2 – 2, 3 – 2, 3 – 5, 3 – 6)

Answer 233: This question would be more appropriately directed to the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight.

234. What projects are contained in Packages 1, 2 and 3 of the Easing Sydney's Congestion, Urban Roads Pinch Points Program? (Budget Paper page 10 - 5, Infrastructure Statement pages 2 – 4, 2 – 11, 4 – 6, 5 – 57)

Answer 233: Please refer to Section 3.5 of 2015-16 Budget Paper 2.