



**SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2003**  
**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**1. Ms Parker asked the Director General, Dept of Tourism, Sport & Recreation, Mr B Healey—**

Could you please outline the key recommendations you made to the Parry inquiry? (Hansard: page 5)

**Answer**

The Department of Tourism, Sport and Recreation did not make a submission to this Inquiry.

**2. Ms Cusack asked the Director General, Dept of Tourism, and Sport and Recreation, Mr B Healey—**

What are your objectives for public transport tourism in country New South Wales and what outcomes do you aim to achieve in your whole-of-government approach? (Hansard: page 6)

**Answer**

Tourism New South Wales' objectives for public transport tourism in country New South Wales are to provide for accessibility to tourism destinations and tourism experiences. While 86% of domestic holiday visitors to New South Wales use a car for overnight visits, Tourism New South Wales has partnered with public transport providers to market and package some tourism products which promote public transport as a cost effective and convenient form of travel to the states tourism regions. For example, the production of a "Backtracker New South Wales" guide to travelling in regional New South Wales on the CountryLink rail/coach network. This cooperative project with CountryLink supports the use of the Backtracker rail pass to encourage backpackers to explore suggested regional itineraries using the CountryLink network.

The New South Wales Tourism Masterplan, *Towards 2020* recognises that government, at Federal, State and local levels, controls a substantial amount of infrastructure, much of which is essential to the visitor experience – trains, buses, airports and signage. The planning and management of this infrastructure needs to understand the needs and wants of visitors. The Masterplan recognises that opportunities exist to enhance the benefits of both promotion initiatives and infrastructure services, such as public transport, through greater coordination and interagency cooperation. Strategies and actions under the Masterplan aim to maintain and develop cooperation and consultation between transportation groups and government on the requirements of the tourism industry eg. regional bus and coach services.

This whole of government approach aims to achieve an increase in visitors and visitor nights to country New South Wales and provide significant economic benefits for the States' regional economies.

**3. Ms Cusack asked the Acting Director General, Department for Women, Dr Coombs—**

- (a) What was the budget of the Women on Wheels reports for last year and this year?
- (b) What was the expenditure on each of the following components: travel, accommodation, publications and marketing?
- (c) How many department staff attended and what parts of the trip?
- (d) How many members of the Premier's Council on Women attended and which parts of the trip? (Hansard: page 8)

**Answer**

(a) **2002**

Publications

Write and Edit Report \$5,750.00

Design and Printing \$14,818.00

**2003**

**Publications**

Write and Edit Report not yet complete (Budget estimate: \$3,500.00)

Design and Printing not yet complete (Budget estimate: \$12,000.00)

(b) **2002**

**Expenditure:**

Travel:

Air Fares \$45,541.00

Car Hire \$8,889.32

Accommodation and Meals \$29,165.00

Marketing \$9,922.00

**2003**

**Expenditure:**

Travel:

Air Fares \$1,069.00

Car Hire \$2,486.00

Accommodation and Meals \$15,510.00

Marketing: \$1200.00.

(c)

**2002**

**Department for Women Staff**

Number of Officers who travelled for full 2 weeks: - **9**

Number of Officers who travelled the first week only (Sunday to Friday) - **6**

Number of Officers who travelled 2 to 3 days in first week only - **7**

Number of Officers who travelled the second week only (Sunday to Thursday) - **3**

**2003**

**Department for Women Staff**

Number of Officers who travelled for full 2 weeks: -**7**

Number of Officers who travelled the first week only (Sunday to Friday) - **4**

Number of Officers who travelled the second week only (Sunday to Thursday) - **3**

(d)

**2002**

***Premier's Council for Women***

8 PCW members travelled during the 2 weeks.

Number of members who travelled for full 2 weeks	<b>2</b>
Number of members who travelled during first week only (1 x Sunday to Wednesday; 4 x 2 days only)	<b>5</b>
Number of members who travelled during second week only (1 x Sunday to Wed)	<b>1</b>

**2003 Premier's Council for Women (PCW)**

3 PCW members travelled during the 2 weeks.

Number of members who travelled for full 2 weeks	<b>0</b>
Number of members who travelled during first week only	<b>1</b>
Number of members who travelled during second week only (1 x Sunday to Friday; 1 x Sunday to Wednesday)	<b>2</b>

**4 Ms Cusack asked the Acting Director General, Department for Women, Dr Coombs**

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- (a) What initiatives have been developed to increase the representation of women on boards and committees?
  - (b) If there is a written document setting out the initiatives, could a copy be provided to the Committee?
  - (c) What strategies are proposed, how are they progressing, and what funding has been allocated? (Hansard: page 10)

**Answer**

The Government has given a commitment to continue to work towards women occupying 50 percent of all new appointments on Government boards and committees.

In NSW there are more than 1,000 public sector boards and committees with around 5,000 members.

In July 1997, just 25.5% of public sector board members were women. Now 38% of appointments made to higher level public sector boards and committees are women.

**Boards and Committees – Private sector**

The Government has also committed to a strategy of encouraging bodies outside the government to increase the number of women nominated for publicly listed boards and committees.

*The 2003 Australian Census of Women in Leadership* indicates the number of women executive managers in Australia has increased to 8.8% (compared to 8.4% in 2002). The number of women board directors has increased by 0.2% to 8.4% (compared to 8.2% in 2002).

The *Women at Work Dinner - Increasing Diversity in Leadership*, held on 30 January 2003, was an innovative initiative aimed at advancing the Government's commitment to women's full participation in every facet of the community, including as Senior Executives in business.

The dinner was hosted by the Minister for Small Business, Tourism and Women, the Hon. Sandra Nori, MP, and attended by approximately 140 people, including Senior Executives and a young woman leaders from each organisation. Each table had a discussion leader and was asked to identify strategies to increase the representation of women on private sector boards.

A second function, held on 8 May 2003 and sponsored by IBM, featured keynote speaker Janet Perna, Worldwide General Manager, IBM Data Management Software, and IBM's most senior female employee. Approximately 200 guests attended and each guest was invited to bring with them 'an inspiring leader', either male or female.

IBM organised and funded the very successful event.

### ***Foundation for Diversity in Leadership***

The Government has made a commitment to establish a *Diversity Foundation* in partnership with the private sector, to develop new strategies to promote women into senior levels of management and onto corporate boards.

The Department for Women and the Premiers Council for Women have been canvassing interest and support for the Foundation with the private sector and a Steering Committee has been established to develop a model.

Objectives of the Foundation will include:

- The establishment of an incorporated body to develop, promote and implement strategies to increase the number of women in senior management and board positions in the private sector;
- The creation of a profile to motivate and generate interest in the area of diversity and leadership for research purposes; and
- An avenue to collect and disseminate strategies, research, debate, and ideas in a more targeted and coordinated approach.

### **5. Ms Cusack asked the Acting Director General, Department for Women, Dr Coombs**

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Could you make available to the committee the written criteria for evaluating which groups get the grants under the Women's Grants Program? (Hansard: page 11)

#### **Answer**

The Small and Large grant applications were assessed by an Independent Committee of four and their recommendations have been submitted to Minister Nori for consideration. An announcement is anticipated in early 2004.

Applicants were asked to address the following criteria:

- *Small grants (\$5,000 - \$30,000)* should focus on innovative local activities that contribute to building strong and diverse communities enable women to enjoy the benefits of participation and develop local solutions to locally identified needs.
- *Large grants (\$31,000 - \$100,000)* must address one of the four principles in the NSW Government's *Social Justice Statement* (Equity, Rights, Access and Participation) and use one of the following approaches: (a) work in partnership with other groups to achieve common and shared objectives; (b) apply innovative approaches to issues and emerging community needs; (c) work with existing community strategies to promote the well being of women.

Eligible organisations need to be either a “not for profit” community based organisation or a charity incorporated in NSW. Where groups are not incorporated they may ask an incorporated organisation, including a local government authority, to act as the auspice. Universities are eligible to apply for large grants only.

Detailed information about grants available through the department can be found on the department’s website.

**6. Ms Cusack asked the Acting Director General, Department for Women, Dr Coombs**

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Ms Coombs, would you give an undertaking to remove the Labor Party’s policy from the web site of the Department for Women? (Hansard: page 17)

**Answer**

The NSW Government’s Women’s Policy provides the context within which the NSW Department for Women, a government agency, works.

The Policy sits within the framework of CEDAW – the *United Nations Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women* – and the Beijing Platform for Action.

This framework is the basis for the NSW Action Plan for Women and also the work of the national Ministerial Council (MINCO).

The Department for Women audits the activities of government agencies against government commitments for women. A link was provided to the *Strength to Strength* document (along with links to the website of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights which hosts the articles from CEDAW and the Beijing Platform for Action) to assist agencies to complete the *Audit of Achievements for Women* which forms the basis of the NSW Action Plan For Women.

However, the Minister has requested the Department for Women staff remove the link as it was being subject to mis-representation.

Approved

**SANDRA NORI MP**  
**Minister for Tourism and Sport and Recreation**  
**Minister for Women**