



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEE NO. 3

# **BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-2010**

## **QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3**

Rural Affairs

Friday 18 September 2009

Answers to be lodged by: Wednesday 14 October 2009

**Budget Estimates Secretariat**  
**Telephone 9230 3528**  
**Fax 9230 2981**  
**[budget.estimateds@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:budget.estimateds@parliament.nsw.gov.au)**

Hearing date	Portfolio	Answer to be lodged by
15 September 2009	Local Government	9 October 2009 [21 days]
15 September 2009	Mental Health	9 October 2009 [21 days]
15 September 2009	Attorney General, Industrial Relations	9 October 2009 [21 days]
15 September 2009	Corrective Services, Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State	9 October 2009 [21 days]
18 September 2009	Lands, Rural Affairs	14 October 2009 [21 days]
18 September 2009	Police	14 October 2009 [21 days]
18 September 2009	Gaming and Racing, Sport and Recreations	14 October 2009 [21 days]
18 September 2009	Juvenile Justice, Volunteering, Youth, Veterans' Affairs	14 October 2009 [21 days]

## Questions relating to the portfolio of Rural Affairs

### Questions from Mr Clarke

1. Has the Office of Rural Affairs (ORA) and/or NSW Government taken administrative or managerial fees from the \$85 million "Building the Country" Package (hereinafter referred to as the Package)?
2. If administrative/managerial fees have been deducted from the Package, please indicate these fees as a percentage of the Package and as a total monetary figure.
3. For each of the 7 programs under the Package:
  - Local Infrastructure Fund \$52 million
  - Community Broadband Development Program \$11.6 million
  - Community Libraries Fund \$9 million
  - Country Halls Renewal Package \$2.5 million
  - Water Adjustment Innovation Fund \$9 million
  - Small Communities Awareness Fund \$450,000
  - Small Chamber of Commerce Fund \$450,000
  - a. What is the full list of projects that were announced as successful under the program? This list should include a brief description of the project, the location and the total amount of funding awarded by the Government to the individual/organisation.
  - b. What electorate was the project located in?
4. Ultimately, who in the ORA makes the final decision about successful applicants under each of the 7 programs in the Package? Is it the Minister, the Director-General of the Department of Lands or the Manager of ORA Fran Schonberg?
5. Does the Minister for Rural Affairs have any say over the final list of applicants?
6. Has the Minister, the Director General of the Department of Lands and /or the Manager of ORA ever removed an organisation/intervened/added an organisation to the final list of applicants for each of the 7 programs?
7. Of the \$9 million that was set aside in the Mini-Budget for the 2008-2009 financial year:
  - a. What projects were announced as successful under the Package?
  - b. How much funding were they provided with?
  - c. What electorate was the project located in?
8. What has ORA done in order to reduce red tape?
9. What are the salaries for the Manager of ORA and the two full-time support staff?
10. What are the titles of the 2 full-time support staff?