



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEES

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2015-2016 Supplementary Questions

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 5

Environment, Heritage

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Answers due by: Wednesday 30 September 2015

Budget Estimates Secretariat

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Questions from Hon David Shoebridge MLC

Heritage

Parramatta Female Factory

1. What steps have you taken to ensure protection of the crucial heritage site of the Parramatta Female Factory?
2. Why is there no Conservation Management Plan or Built Heritage Strategy for the site?
 - a) Has there been any budget allocated for conservation and if so, what buildings and structures are included?
3. What consideration has been given to Ted Higginbotham's 1992 Conservation Plan for the Cumberland Hospital Heritage Precinct?
4. As Minister for Heritage what representations have you made regarding the current proposal for rezoning and development of the Parramatta Female Factory site?
5. What is the heights, purpose and costs to build the following buildings proposed for the Parramatta Female Factory site:
 - a) The multi-storey buildings proposed in the Gipps Yard?
 - b) The multi-storey buildings proposed in the Airing Yard?
 - c) The multistorey buildings on the Northern curtilage?
6. What is the projected use and income for the following buildings proposed for the Parramatta Female Factory site:
 - a) The multi-storey buildings proposed in the Gipps Yard?
 - b) The multi-storey buildings proposed in the Airing Yard?
 - c) The multistorey buildings on the Northern curtilage?
7. What evidence supports approach that the Parramatta Female Factory needs to be self-funded?
8. Have there been any feasibility studies for projected use and income for a living museum and national resource centre?
9. Are there any other intended uses for the Parramatta Female Factory site?
 - a) If so what is the projected use and estimated income for these uses?

Public works Stonework

10. What assessment has been undertaken of the implications for the built heritage of NSW of the proposed closure of the specialist team in Public Works which employs stonemasons and

others with the rare and highly specialised (and non-market-based) traditional skills required for the conservation of Sydney's great heritage of public buildings?

11. What work has your office undertaken to ensure there is a stock of the yellow block sandstone and that there are the skills required to work it to maintain heritage public buildings in NSW?

Scenic Hills

12. Can the Minister advise how the proposed Varroville Cemetery at 166-176 St Andrews Rd, Varroville is consistent with the Heritage Act 1977?
13. Can the Minister advise why a decision was made on 1st October 2014 not to accept the advice of the NSW Heritage Council to make an Interim Heritage Order over the 280 acres of the Scenic Hills Environmental Protection land around the Varro Ville Homestead?
14. When the Interim Heritage Order was rejected was there a directive issued to the Heritage Council and its delegate the Heritage Division of the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEHL) to manage the heritage values of the landscape and outbuildings of Varro Ville Homestead as part of any future development, including the proposed cemetery?
15. What consultation has been undertaken to ensure that heritage and cultural concerns are of central significance to the assessment of the proposed Varroville Cemetery at 166-176 St Andrews Rd, Varroville

Aboriginal cultural heritage reform

16. How many staff will be employed by the Office of Environment and Heritage in 2015/16 to specifically undertake work in relation to Aboriginal culture and heritage?
17. How many Aboriginal staff will be employed by the Office of Environment and Heritage in 2015/16 to specifically undertake work in relation to Aboriginal culture and heritage?
18. What was the budget for litigation associated with Aboriginal sites and objects in 2013/14?
19. What is the budget for litigation associated with Aboriginal sites and objects in 2015/16?
20. What involvement does the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Office of Aboriginal Affairs have in the Aboriginal culture and heritage law reform process?
21. What budget has Aboriginal Affairs allocated to the Aboriginal culture and heritage reform process in 2015/16?

Aboriginal heritage legislation

22. Given that the current reform process has been going on for more than 5 years, and consultations on the NSW Governments' proposed model for Aboriginal culture and heritage laws occurred in late 2013 and early 2014:
 - a) When will the Minister release a response to the issues raised in submissions?
 - b) How has the government amended the model that was consulted on?

- c) When will the Minister announce the next stages of the reform process?
- 23. When will detailed proposals for new Aboriginal heritage laws in NSW be publicly released by the NSW Government?
- 24. Will an exposure draft of new legislation be made public? If so, when?
- 25. Has the NSW Government endorsed draft legislation on new Aboriginal heritage laws?
- 26. Will consultation take place with the Aboriginal community in relation to proposed new laws?
 - a) When and over what time period?
- 27. What is the forecast budget expenditure allocated to transferring to a new system/laws?
- 28. What is the timeline for implementing a new laws to protect Aboriginal heritage?
- 29. Will the OEH be responsible for implementing the new system?
- 30. What financial/economic modeling has the OEH undertaken on how much the NSW Government's proposed model will cost to implement and operate?
- 31. What was the OEH's forecast and actual expenditure on developing proposals for the new Aboriginal heritage legislation in 2014/15?
- 32. How much has OEH budgeted for the following in 2015/16:
 - a) Workshops / consultations on new Aboriginal heritage laws?
 - b) Staffing costs including travel associated with new Aboriginal heritage laws?
 - c) Research on best practice Aboriginal heritage legislation?
 - d) Economic modeling for new Aboriginal heritage laws?
- 33. What is the OEH's forecast expenditure on for new Aboriginal heritage legislation in 2015/16?
- 34. How is will this funding be distributed?
- 35. Has the OEH undertaken or commissioned any research or reports to be written in undertaken in relation to a cost benefit analysis on any new proposed Aboriginal heritage laws?
 - a) If so, will the Minister publicly release this information?
 - b) If not, why not?
- 36. Has the OEH undertaken or commissioned any research into whether or not current NSW laws would meet proposed Commonwealth accreditation standards in relation to the protection of Aboriginal culture and heritage? If so, can this research be made available to the public?

AHIPS

- 37. How many Aboriginal heritage impact permits (**AHIPS**) that have been issued in the last financial year?
- 38. How many Aboriginal heritage impact permits (**AHIPS**) that have been issued since the commencement of *National Parks and Wildlife Amendment Act 2010*?

39. Has the number of Aboriginal heritage impact permits (**AHIPs**) issued by the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage increased or decreased since the Aboriginal heritage amendments to the *National Parks and Wildlife Act* commenced in October 2010?
40. Can the OEH provide reasons for any increases or decreases?

Investigations and prosecutions

41. If suspected harm to Aboriginal heritage was not investigated, why not?
42. What is the OEH's budget for specifically enforcing the laws relating to Aboriginal 'objects' and 'places'?

Investigations and prosecutions

43. How many breaches related to Aboriginal heritage were reported to the OEH in 2014/15?
44. How many of these were investigated?
45. If suspected harm to Aboriginal heritage was not investigated, why not?
46. What is the OEH's budget for specifically enforcing the laws relating to Aboriginal 'objects' and 'places'?

Forestry

47. How many incidents/reports related to harming Aboriginal heritage has the Office of Environment and Heritage received in the 2014/15 financial year in relation to the forestry sector?
48. What examples of unauthorised destruction of Aboriginal heritage by the forestry industry is the Minister or the Department aware of?
49. How many alleged breaches have OEH, and its predecessor investigated in relation to Forests NSW in 2014 and 2015 in relation to Aboriginal cultural heritage?

Aboriginal heritage protected via the State Heritage Register and Aboriginal Places Program

50. What budget is set aside to increase the number of Aboriginal culture and heritage items listed on the State Heritage Register in 2015/16?
51. Is this more or less than previous years?
52. How many items listed on the State Heritage Register for their Aboriginal Heritage significance does the OEH expect to be listed in 2015/16?
53. Is this more or less than last year?
54. How many staff does the OEH employ to promote the inclusion of Aboriginal heritage items on the State Heritage Register?
 - a) What is the forecast budget for this role/these roles in the future?

Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System

55. How much money has been allocated in 2015/16 to improve the information contained in AHIMS reports? What specifically is this funding intended to be spent on?
56. What was the actual budget for managing and operating AHIMS in 2014/15?
57. What is the forecast expenditure for operating the AHIMS database in 2015/16?
58. How much revenue did the OEH receive from operating the AHIMS (eg. Conducting searches for external clients) in 2014/15?
59. What is the forecast revenue for operating AHIMS in 2015/16?
60. How much money is allocated in the 2015/16 budget for delivering AHIMS services and related Aboriginal heritage information to Aboriginal communities?
61. How many Aboriginal cultural, heritage or archeological sites did Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) identify in the following years?
 - a) 2011
 - b) 2012
 - c) 2013
 - d) 2014
 - e) 2015
62. How many of these identified sites resided on Travelling Stock Reserves (TSRs)?

Questions from Hon Robert Brown MLC

The Environment, Heritage

Supplementary Pest Control Program

63. What is the total cost of the Supplementary Pest Control Program:
- (a) For 2015 to date?
 - i. Budgeted for 2015?
 - (b) For 2014?
 - (c) For 2013?
64. What is the number of pest animals killed, by species, by ground-based shooters:
- (a) In 2015 to date?
 - (b) In 2014?
 - (c) In 2013?
65. How many ground-based shooters are currently accredited?
- (a) How many accredited ground-based shooters were there in:
 - i. 2015 to date?
 - ii. 2014?
 - iii. 2013?
 - (b) How many new individual ground-based shooters were accredited in:
 - i. 2015 to date?
 - ii. 2014?
 - iii. 2013?

NSW National Parks Visitors

66. How many annual visitors were there to NSW National Parks in:
- (a) 2015 to date?
 - (b) 2014?
 - (c) 2013?
 - (d) 2012?
 - (e) 2011?
67. How many annual visitors were there to individual NSW National Parks, by location, in:
- (a) 2015 to date?
 - (b) 2014?
 - (c) 2013?
 - (d) 2012?
 - (e) 2011?
68. Which NSW National Parks have the ability to actually measure visitor numbers?

- (a) How many entry points at each are able to measure visitor numbers?
69. How are state-wide National Park visitor numbers calculated based on an extrapolation of measured visitor numbers?
- (a) What are the assumptions used in making this extrapolation of visitor numbers?
 - (b) Is there a set formula for making this calculation, either for visitor numbers by individual National Park or state-wide?
 - i. If so, what is this formula?

Fox Control

70. What was the total cost of removing two foxes at North Head earlier this year?
- (a) How many personnel were involved on the ground?
 - (b) How many personnel hours were used in the removal of these two foxes?
 - i. How many of these personnel hours, by paid employees, contractors and volunteers, were devoted to baiting?
 - ii. How many of these personnel hours, by paid employees, contractors and volunteers, were devoted shooting these foxes?
71. Given the failure of the year round baiting program, and that the foxes at North Head were eventually shot, will the Government reconsider introducing a fox bounty in New South Wales?

Permits to Destroy Kangaroos

72. What are the requirements that need to be met for an individual to be issued with permits to destroy kangaroos on their land?
73. What are the steps involved with having an application to destroy kangaroos approved?
74. What is the usual turnaround time in processing a permit to destroy kangaroos with respect to:
- (a) Placement of wildlife recording cameras?
 - (b) Assessment of evidence from wildlife recording cameras by NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service staff?
 - (c) Final approval or rejection of the application, from the date the initial application was submitted?
75. Does the Minister have any plans to reduce or standardise waiting times for applications to destroy kangaroos on an individual's land?
- (a) Are any such plans currently in operation?
 - (b) If so, what are they?

76. Will the Department or the NSW Government compensate landowners for damage to their business, assets, crops or ability to generate an income from their land, due to delays associated with assessing permits to destroy kangaroos on their land?
- (a) If so, how will this be calculated and assessed?
 - (b) If not, why not?
77. Will permits to destroy kangaroos be issued to Mr Ron Snape of Central Tilba, New South Wales?
- (a) If so, when?
 - (b) If not, why not?
 - (c) What are the reason for the delays in his application being approved, given he applied in April 2015 and was advised that there would be two-month turnaround on his application?
78. Does the Minister have any plans to amend the 'shoot and let lie' policy for destroying kangaroos on an individual's land to enable the use of the fur and meat of shot kangaroos?
- (a) If so, what are they?
 - i. How will this operate and when?
 - (b) If not, why not?
79. How many permits were issued, by region, to destroy kangaroos in:
- (a) 2015 to date?
 - (b) 2014?
 - (c) 2013?
 - (d) 2012?
 - (e) 2011?
80. How many kangaroos were destroyed by permit holders, by region, in:
- (a) 2015 to date?
 - (b) 2014?
 - (c) 2013?
 - (d) 2012?
 - (e) 2011?
81. How many kangaroos were destroyed by permit holders, by region, as part of the 'shoot and let lie' program in:
- (a) 2015 to date?
 - (b) 2014?
 - (c) 2013?
 - (d) 2012?
 - (e) 2011?

Questions from Hon Shaoquett Moselmane MLC

Environment

Environment Protection Authority

(Budget Paper 3: 8 – 17)

82. The revenue from the Sales of goods and services is forecast to increase from \$356, 000 in 2014-15 to \$2, 472, 000 in 2015-16, why?

(Budget Paper 3: 8 – 18)

83. The value of Non Current Assets listed as Intangibles in is set to increase from \$3, 792, 00 in 2014-15 to \$6, 258, 000 in 2015-16, why?
84. Can the Department provide an itemised list of the Non Current Assets listed as Intangibles?
85. Can the Department release the assessments which have been used to revalue the Non Current Assets listed as Intangibles?

Policy and Science

(Budget Paper 3: 8 – 27)

86. The number of FTE employees is set to decrease from 310 in 2014-15 to 302 in 2015-16, why?
87. While the number of FTE is set to decrease the employee related expenses are forecast to increase from \$40, 680, 000 in 2014-15 to \$41, 344, 000 in 2015-16, why?

Efficiency Dividend and Department of Planning and Environment

88. 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?
89. 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?
90. What is the efficiency dividend in dollar value required to be achieved by each agency within your administration for this financial year?
91. What savings and revenue generating strategies are you implementing this financial year and what do you expect to achieve for each strategy?

Remediation Works Orica's Chlor Alkali Plant

92. Can you update me on the remediation works at Orica's Chlor Alkali Plant at Botany Bay?
93. Has Orica submitted a remediation plan for the site?

94. When does the EPA anticipate the Independent Review Panel process will be completed?
95. When does the EPA anticipate the remediation works will be completed by Orica at the Chlor Alkali plant?
96. What steps is the EPA taking to ensure this matter is dealt with expeditiously?
97. What steps is the EPA taking to ensure public safety is not compromised by the mercury impacted soil at the plant?

Koala Habitat

98. What funding has the Government allocated to the protection of Koala populations in Northern NSW?
99. What funding has the Government allocated to managing the impacts on Koala populations of the Pacific Highway Upgrade?
100. Has the Government reviewed previous Koala recovery plans?
101. Why has the Government allowed the previous Koala recovery plan to lapse?
102. Will the Government consider impacts on Koalas and other wildlife in its review of private native forestry as recommended in the review of biodiversity legislation?

Feral Horses

103. What is the current estimate of the size and extent of the feral horse population in the Australia Alps?
104. What plan is in place to lower the numbers of feral horses and reduce their impacts?
105. How much has the NPWS paid each financial year from 2004-5 to date to remove feral horse from Kosciuszko National Park?
106. How much has the NPWS paid each financial year from 2004-5 to date towards setting up horse camps, including access roads, infrastructure and maintenance, in Kosciuszko National Park?
107. What income is generated by horse-riding fees, from commercial operators and from any other contributions such as park entry fees?

Mangrove Mountain Landfill

108. Can the EPA outline what steps it has taken to monitor the volume and type of waste deposited at the Mangrove Mountain Landfill site?

109. Can the EPA provide any assessments that it has conducted at the Mangrove Mountain Landfill site?
110. Can the EPA outline any incidents which have breached the terms of the Mangrove Mountains environment protection licence (EPL 11395)?
111. What action did the EPA take in response to breaches of the environmental protection licence (EPL 11395)?
112. Can the Minister outline why the environmental protection licence (EPL 11395) has not been suspended?

Water Management Royal Australian Air Force base Williamtown NSW

113. Can the EPA list and date the correspondence between the Environmental Protection Authority and the Department of Defence regarding contaminate management at Williamtown RAAF Base?
114. Can the EPA release the draft report provided to it by the Department of Defence regarding the contamination of ground water at the site?
115. Can the EPA outline when the Commonwealth will provide a final report on off-site contamination at Williamtown RAAF Base?
116. Can the EPA outline what other sites have used perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)?
117. When did the Department of Defence begin to study the impact of PFOS and PFOA contamination at the Williamtown RAAF Base?
118. Can the EPA outline how many residents use bore water in area surrounding Williamtown RAAF Base?

Biodiversity Legislation Review

119. What is the total allocated cost for the review of the Biodiversity legislation review for 2015-16?
120. What resources have been allocated to Local Land Services to assist in the implementation of a new Biodiversity Conservation Act?
121. What resources have been allocated to local councils to assist in the implementation of a new Biodiversity Conservation Act?
122. What resources have been allocated to protecting native vegetation and fauna on private land in light of commitments to dissolve the Native Vegetation Act 2003?

NSW Marine Sanctuaries

123. Can the Department provide a list of the 10 beaches revoked from NSW Marine Sanctuaries?
124. Can the Department provide a list of the Marine Parks affected by this action?
125. Can the Department outline the rationale for revoking these areas from the NSW Marine Park Sanctuaries?
126. Can the Department outline any work that it has undertaken to assess the impact of revoking Marine Sanctuary status from these areas?
127. Can the Department outline the rationale for going against the recommendations of the Government's scientific audit of marine parks?

Ministerial Office Administration

128. 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?
129. 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?
130. 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?
131. 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?
132. Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in your office?
 - (a) What is the cost of this?
133. 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?
134. 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?

135. 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?
136. Do you purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for your office?
 - (a) What is the cost of this?
137. 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?
138. Details of the agreement between your office and any contractors/consultants engaged by your office?

Ministerial And Office Travel

139. 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?
140. 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?
141. What was the total bill for your office in 2014-15 for:
 - (a) Taxi hire
 - (b) Limousine hire
 - (c) Private hire care
 - (d) Hire car rental
142. Have you ever used Uber?
 - (a) If yes, were any of these occasions in an UberX vehicle?
143. Have you or anyone in your office used Uber services travelling to or from work-related events, meetings or functions?
 - (a) Were any of those services in an UberX vehicle?
144. Have you or anyone in your office sought reimbursement for using Uber services to travel to or from work-related events, meetings or functions?
 - (a) What is the value of those reimbursements?
145. Have you used Airbnb?
146. Have you or anyone in your office used Airbnb as an accommodation solution whilst travelling on official business?
147. Have any planes or helicopters been chartered by you or your office and paid for with public money?
 - (a) If yes, will you please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?
148. What non-standard features are fitted to your ministerial vehicle?
 - (a) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?

Labour Hire Firms

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

Media And Public Relations

150. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies?
151. 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?
152. What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities?
153. Have you had media training or speech training?
- (a) If yes, who paid for it?
 - (b) If paid by taxpayers, what was the amount?

Consultants, Lobbyists And Former Parliamentarians

154. 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?
155. 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?
156. 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?

157. 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?
158. 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?
159. 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?
160. 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?
161. 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?
162. 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?
163. 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?
164. 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?

Consulting

165. 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?
166. 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

Department/Agency Administration

167. How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-15?
 - (a) Of these redundancies, how many were:
 - i. Voluntary
 - ii. Forced
 - (b) What was the total cost of all redundancies?
168. 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?
169. Are any staff formerly employed by your ministerial office now employed by Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibility?
170. How many staff were dismissed from Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibilities in 2014-15?
 - (a) What were the reason/s for each dismissal?
171. How much was spent on corporate hospitality by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-2015?
172. How much was spent on indoor plant hire and maintenance by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-2015 year?
173. 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?
174. Were instances of internal fraud detected by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-2015?
 - (a) What was the sum total of any such fraud and what was the result of any investigations?

175. How large is the Department's vehicle fleet?
 - (a) What is the composition of this fleet in terms of engine size?
 - (b) How many of the fleet were involved in an accident during the year 2014-2015?
 - (c) What was the total cost of insurance claims and repairs?
176. How much did departments/agencies spend on newspaper and journal subscriptions during 2014-2015?
177. How many SES employees are employed within departments/agencies under your ministerial portfolio?
 - (a) What is their remuneration band?
 - (b) For each SES employee, how many have:
 - i. 0 staff reporting to them;
 - ii. less than 2 staff reporting to them; and
 - iii. less than 5 staff?
178. How many sick days, leave days or days attributable to workers compensation were lost for each department/agency within your portfolio responsibility during 2014-15 for:
 - (a) workplace bullying;
 - (b) stress leave; and
 - (c) sick leave?
179. 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?

Department/Agency Travel

180. 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
181. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have a policy on utilising Uber services for travel on official business?
182. 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?
183. Have staff in your Department/agencies either paid for with departmental funds or been recompensed for official travel using Airbnb services?
184. 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?

Departmental/Agency IT

185. 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?
186. 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?
187. 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?
188. 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?

The Department of Planning's draft swamp offsets policy (Policy Framework for Biodiversity Offsets for Upland Swamps and Associated Threatened Species)

189. Is the Government aware of the important water supply role played by the coastal upland swamps in the Special Areas of Greater Sydney's drinking water catchment, where the majority of these swamps are found?
190. Does the Government agree that the listing of the upland as Endangered Ecological Communities (EECs) under NSW and Commonwealth legislation and the listing of the coastal upland swamps on the IUCNs Red List has increased, rather than diminished, their environmental, social and economic importance?
191. Is the Government aware that in 2012 the OEH released guidelines for the assessment of upland swamps and that this work specifies identification criteria and protection from negative impacts for a sub-group of particular importance referred to as swamps of special significance?
192. Is the Government aware that the OEHs guidelines build on prior work of the PAC and the Southern Coalfield Inquiry in recognising the need to identify and protect natural features of special significance and that offsets are not an appropriate option for swamps identified as being of special significance?
193. Is the Government aware that Planning's draft offset policy treats all upland swamps equally and makes no mention of swamps of special significance?
194. Does the Government agree that Planning's swamp offsets policy effectively rejects the work of the OEH, PAC and Southern Coalfield Inquiry and returns the status of the upland swamps to that of 2008 or earlier?
195. Is the Government aware that Planning's draft swamp offsets policy allows the upland swamps, including those identified as being of special significance, to be pushed to the brink of being critically endangered before protection from further harm might be considered?
196. Does the Government agree that Planning's draft policy is inconsistent with ecologically sustainable development?
197. Does the Government agree that Planning's policy contradicts the recent commitment by the Government to restore balance to the assessment of coal mining in NSW?

198. Will the Government undertake, as a matter of importance, to adopt as policy the OEH's guidelines for swamps of special significance?

Greater Metropolitan Groundwater Sharing Plan

199. Is the Government aware that the list of high priority groundwater dependent ecosystems (GDEs) to be protected as part of the Greater Metropolitan Groundwater Sharing Plan includes Wingecarribgee Swamp, the Blue Mountains Sedge Swamps, Budderoo National Park and Barren Grounds Nature Reserve Health Swamps and Long Swamp, but does not include the coastal upland swamps?
200. Noting that the groundwater dependence of the coastal upland swamps is recognised in their State and Commonwealth EEC listings, does the Government agree that there is no technical reason for not immediately including the coastal upland swamps in the list of GDEs as a matter of importance?
201. Does the Government agree that delaying the addition of the coastal upland swamps to the list of GDEs until the mapping and characterisation of other Sydney basin communities is completed is unnecessary and continues to leave the swamps vulnerable to mining impacts?

Dendrobium Area 3B

202. On July 14 the NSW National Parks Association wrote to the Minister for Planning raising a number of concerns arising from the February 2013 approval of the mining currently underway in Area 3B of the Dendrobium mine. The letter included a number of consequential recommendations. What action has the Government taken in response to the letter and its recommendations?

Heritage

Regional Operations and Heritage

(Budget Paper 3: 8 – 17 See 8 – 26)

203. The number of FTE employees is set to decrease from 544 in 2014-15 to 529 in 2015-16, why?
204. While the number of FTE is set to decrease the employee related expenses are forecast to increase from \$82, 154, 000 in 2014-15 to \$82, 269, 000 in 2015-16, why?

Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust

(Budget Paper 3: 8 -39)

205. Why are there no figures for the number of FTE employees for the Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust in the Budget Papers?
- (8 – 40)
206. Why are there no employee related expenses listed for the Botanic Gardens and Parks in the Budget Papers?

Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust

(Budget Paper 3: 8 – 46)

207. The Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment is set to increase from \$116, 000 in 2014-15 to \$7, 000, 000 in 2015-16, why?
208. Can the Centennial Park and More Park Trusts' provide an itemised list of the property and plant equipment that is to be sold in 2015-16?

Western Sydney Parklands Trust

(Budget Paper 3: 8 – 60)

209. The value of Non Current Assets are forecast to increase from \$60, 157, 000 in 2014-15 to \$92, 854, 000 in 2015-16, why?

Ministerial Office Administration

210. 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?
211. 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?
212. 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?
213. 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?
214. Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in your office?
 - (a) What is the cost of this?
215. 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?
216. 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?
217. 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?
- 218. Do you purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for your office?
 - (a) What is the cost of this?
- 219. 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?
- 220. Details of the agreement between your office and any contractors/consultants engaged by your office?

Ministerial And Office Travel

- 221. 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?
- 222. 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?
- 223. What was the total bill for your office in 2014-15 for:
 - (a) Taxi hire
 - (b) Limousine hire
 - (c) Private hire care
 - (d) Hire car rental
- 224. Have you ever used Uber?
 - (a) If yes, were any of these occasions in an UberX vehicle?
- 225. Have you or anyone in your office used Uber services travelling to or from work-related events, meetings or functions?
 - (a) Were any of those services in an UberX vehicle?
- 226. Have you or anyone in your office sought reimbursement for using Uber services to travel to or from work-related events, meetings or functions?
 - (a) What is the value of those reimbursements?
- 227. Have you used Airbnb?
- 228. Have you or anyone in your office used Airbnb as an accommodation solution whilst travelling on official business?
- 229. Have any planes or helicopters been chartered by you or your office and paid for with public money?
 - (a) If yes, will you please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?
- 230. What non-standard features are fitted to your ministerial vehicle?
 - (a) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?

Labour Hire Firms

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

Media And Public Relations

232. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies?
233. 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?
234. What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities?
235. Have you had media training or speech training?
- (a) If yes, who paid for it?
 - (b) If paid by taxpayers, what was the amount?

Consultants, Lobbyists And Former Parliamentarians

236. 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?
237. 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?
238. 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?
239. 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?
240. 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?
241. 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?
242. 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?
243. 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?
244. 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?
245. 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?
246. 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?

Consulting

247. 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?
248. 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

Department/Agency Administration

249. How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-15?
- (a) Of these redundancies, how many were:
 - i. Voluntary
 - ii. Forced
 - (b) What was the total cost of all redundancies?
250. 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?
251. Are any staff formerly employed by your ministerial office now employed by Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibility?
252. How many staff were dismissed from Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibilities in 2014-15?
- (a) What were the reason/s for each dismissal?
253. How much was spent on corporate hospitality by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-2015?
254. How much was spent on indoor plant hire and maintenance by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-2015 year?
255. 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?
256. Were instances of internal fraud detected by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-2015?
- (a) What was the sum total of any such fraud and what was the result of any investigations?
257. How large is the Department's vehicle fleet?
- (a) What is the composition of this fleet in terms of engine size?
 - (b) How many of the fleet were involved in an accident during the year 2014-2015?

- (c) What was the total cost of insurance claims and repairs?
- 258. How much did departments/agencies spend on newspaper and journal subscriptions during 2014-2015?
- 259. How many SES employees are employed within departments/agencies under your ministerial portfolio?
 - (a) What is their remuneration band?
 - (b) For each SES employee, how many have:
 - i. 0 staff reporting to them;
 - ii. less than 2 staff reporting to them; and
 - iii. less than 5 staff?
- 260. How many sick days, leave days or days attributable to workers compensation were lost for each department/agency within your portfolio responsibility during 2014-15 for:
 - (a) workplace bullying;
 - (b) stress leave; and
 - (c) sick leave?
- 261. 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?

Department/Agency Travel

- 262. 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
- 263. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have a policy on utilising Uber services for travel on official business?
- 264. 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?
- 265. Have staff in your Department/agencies either paid for with departmental funds or been recompensed for official travel using Airbnb services?
- 266. 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?

Departmental/Agency IT

- 267. 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?

268. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an Android account?
- a) What was the total expenditure in 2014-15 on Android?
 - ii. What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through Android?
269. 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?
270. 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?
 - iii. What was the individual cost of each data charge over \$1000 for a single billing period?

Efficiency Dividend

271. What was the efficiency dividend required of the department in the 2014/15 financial year?
272. What is the efficiency dividend required of the department in the 2015/16 financial year?
273. What savings measures were implemented by the Department for:
- a) 2014/15 financial year
 - b) 2013/14 financial year
 - c) 2012/13 financial year?
274. What actual savings were achieved by each strategy in:
- a) 2014/15 financial year
 - b) 2013/14 financial year
 - c) 2012/13 financial year?
275. 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?
276. 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?

Questions from Dr Mehreen Faruqi MLC

Environment

Firefighting

277. How many frontline firefighting staff does the National Parks and Wildlife Service have as of September 2015?
- a) Where are these staff located?
278. How many frontline firefighting staff did the National Parks and Wildlife have in:
- (a) 2014/2015
- i. Where were these staff located?
- (b) 2013/2014
- i. Where were these staff located?
- (c) 2012/2013
- i. Where were these staff located?
- (d) 2011/2012
- i. Where were these staff located?

Aerial Kangaroo Shooting

279. Is the National Parks and Wildlife Service engaged in aerial shooting of kangaroos in any part of the state?
- a) If yes, under what conditions is this killing taking place?
- b) Please provide a list of each location and date of any shooting conducted since March 2015
- c) Are there any plans to conduct aerial shooting of kangaroos in the future?
- i. If yes, please provide a list of each proposed location and date?

Proposed Zoo in Western Sydney

280. What was the selection process through which the Sydney Zoo proposal was selected to occupy the tourism hub identified in the draft Master Plan for Bungarribee?
281. How much income will the Western Sydney Parklands receive from the development of the proposed zoo in Western Sydney?
282. What are the conditions of approval for the proposed new zoo in Sydney?
- a) Are there conservation requirements for the approval of a new zoo in Sydney?
- i. If yes, what are they?

Climate Change and Forestry

283. Is the NSW Government aware that several forested private properties in western NSW received money from the Emissions Reduction Fund (ERF) for not logging?

284. Does NSW Government intend on bidding in the next round of the Emissions Reduction Fund?
- (a) If yes, does this include exempting koala habitat in State Forests from logging?
285. Has any work been commissioned by OEHL around the Emissions Reduction Fund and any opportunities that might exist for ending or decreasing forest degrading logging practices as part of the ERF system?

Kangaroo Cull at Lithgow

286. Regarding the Kangaroo cull undertaken in Lithgow on September 3, 2015.
- (a) What was the reason for the cull?
- (b) What community consultation took place with regards to this cull?
- Were landholders the instigators of the cull?
- i. If landholders were the instigators of the cull, how many landholders complained about kangaroos?
- (c) Were the bodies of culled kangaroos left on the property with tags for inspection?
- i. If no, why not?
- (d) Was this cull undertaken by a commercial operator?
- (e) Were the kangaroos culled used for commercial purposes?
- (f) How many kangaroos were taken in this cull including how many joeys (in-pouch and at-foot) were killed and by what method was used?
- (g) What species was targeted?
- i. Were any others killed?
- (h) What qualifications did the shooters have?
- (i) Who undertook the pre-cull survey of the kangaroos?
- (j) How many kangaroos remain at Marangaroo after the cull and what are Lithgow Councils plans for them?
- (k) According to National Parks and Wildlife Service, all non-lethal methods of control of native animals should be investigated before a cull is considered. What non-lethal methods were considered, what was the process of consideration and what was the outcome of these investigations?

Indigenous Issues

287. What is the OEHL's total budget for joint management (activities specifically related to national parks and reserves that are/will be jointly managed under Part 4A of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*) in 2015/16?
- a) Of this, how much is spent on the following:
- i. Staff?
- ii. Rents?
- iii. Proposals to develop new jointly managed parks?
288. What is the OEHL's total budget for co-management activities related to increasing Aboriginal peoples participation and management in national parks and reserves?
289. Of the \$47 million to conserve, celebrate and enjoy NSW's unique Aboriginal and historic Heritage, how much is allocated specifically to protecting and promoting Aboriginal heritage?
290. Of the \$468.4 million allocated to the National Parks and Wildlife Service Group in the 2015-16 budget, how much is allocated to be spent on the following:
- a) Protecting Aboriginal heritage sites?

- b) Delivering programs to Aboriginal communities?
 - c) Delivering Aboriginal culture and heritage /sites training courses?
 - d) Staffing costs?
 - e) Promoting Aboriginal heritage?
 - f) Increasing the number of Aboriginal sites and areas protected?
 - g) 'Providing Aboriginal people with opportunities to protect their culture and heritage and access traditional lands by increasing the number of Aboriginal co-management arrangement over national parks and other conservation areas'(Goal 26, NSW 2021)?
291. Of the \$502.0 million allocated to the Regional Operations and Heritage Service Group in the 2015-16 budget, how much is allocated to be spent on the following:
- a) Developing new legislation to protect Aboriginal Culture and Heritage?
 - b) Protecting Aboriginal heritage sites?
 - c) Listing Aboriginal heritage sites on the State Heritage Register?
 - d) Listing Aboriginal heritage sites on the Aboriginal Place register?
 - e) Delivering programs to Aboriginal communities?
 - f) Delivering Aboriginal culture and heritage /sites training courses?
 - g) Staffing costs?
 - h) Promoting Aboriginal heritage?
 - i) Increasing the number of Aboriginal sites and areas protected?
 - j) 'Providing Aboriginal people with opportunities to protect their culture and heritage and access traditional lands by increasing the number of Aboriginal co-management arrangement over national parks and other conservation areas'(Goal 26, NSW 2021)?
 - k) Investigating incidents of alleged unauthorised harm to Aboriginal heritage?
292. How many staff will be employed by the Office of Environment and Heritage in 2015/16 to specifically undertake work in relation to Aboriginal culture and heritage?
293. How many Aboriginal staff will be employed by the Office of Environment and Heritage in 2015/16 to specifically undertake work in relation to Aboriginal culture and heritage?
294. What was the budget for litigation associated with Aboriginal sites and objects in 2013/14?
295. What is the budget for litigation associated with Aboriginal sites and objects in 2015/16?

Native Vegetation Regulations

296. In response to questions on notice provided by the Minister's office regarding the new native vegetation regulation recently, it was noted that there had been approximately 89 notifications for the clearing of almost 6,500 isolated paddock trees since November 2014 and that none of these notifications had been monitored for compliance. Instead it is stated that it will be monitored on an annual basis?
- a) If someone did misuse the regulation how likely is it that OEH would be able to detect it?
 - b) Will all notifications for individual paddock trees be monitored by satellite in a years' time?
 - i. If no, what proportion of notifications are expected to be monitored by satellite?
 - c) What evaluation is OEH undertaking of the impact of the native vegetation regulation and self-assessable codes, especially on biodiversity?

- d) Under the paddock tree self assessable code, there is a 'set aside' area that is required to cut down paddock trees. How does the Government monitor if the set aside area is in accordance with the code?

297. Does the NSW Government make the SPOT5 and Landsat pictures publically available?
- (a) If not, why not?
 - (b) If yes, where is it available?
298. Given the recommendations proposed by the Biodiversity Legislation Review Panel is to have clearing managed by local councils and the significant amount of work this would add to council workloads, how much extra funding and resources will the Government be putting into local councils for this proposed work?
299. Has the Minister engaged with the Local Government Association or any individual councils about the proposals in the Biodiversity Legislation Review Panel?
- (a) If yes, how, when and with which councils and what concerns were raised?
300. The self assessable code for paddock trees states that if the 'total set aside required is in place, prior to a notification, the above limit (the limit imposed on the landholder on the number of trees that can be cleared per 1000 ha per notification) does not apply'. If no one is required to approve or respond to a notification can the Minister explain how indiscriminate clearing will not occur over and above the tree per hectare limit, under this clause?

Offsets

301. Is there any central database of offset sites in NSW?
- (a) If no, how does the NSW Government know if the same site is being used twice as an offset?
 - (b) If yes, where is this database located?
 - (c) If yes is it publically available?
 - (d) If yes, why does 'double dipping' still occur?
302. Does the NSW Government monitor biodiversity offsite sites to ensure they are being preserved in perpetuity?
303. The Government has accepted the Biodiversity Legislation Review recommendation number 13 to expand the Biodiversity Offsets Policy for Major Projects. How can this be justified when that policy only commenced on 1 October, just two months before the recommendations were handed down in December?
- (a) How can you evaluate the effectiveness of a policy in two months?
 - a. How many projects were entered into under the Offsets policy between 1 October, when this policy commenced, and 18 December 2014?
 - b. Please provide a list of all projects entered into under the Biodiversity Offsets Policy for Major Projects between 1 October 2014 and 1 September 2015, including details of the project, offset and proponent.
304. What evidence is there that biodiversity offsetting works?

Native Vegetation Act

305. What is the projected total cost of administering the Native Vegetation Act for 2015/16?
306. How much was spent on administering the Native Vegetation Act 2003 in:
- (a) 2014/2015
 - (b) 2013/2014
 - (c) 2012/2013
 - (d) 2011/2012
307. What is the total budget dedicated to the enforcement of provisions in the Native Vegetation Act on land clearing for 2015/16, including a breakdown by staff and type.
308. What was the total budget dedicated to the enforcement of provisions in the Native Vegetation Act on land clearing, including a breakdown by staff and type in:
- (a) 2014/2015
 - (b) 2013/2014
 - (c) 2012/2013
 - (d) 2011/2012
309. What is the total number of staff FTEs working on enforcement of Native Vegetation Act provisions for 2015/16?
310. What was the total number of staff FTEs working on enforcement of Native Vegetation Act provisions in:
- (a) 2014/2015
 - (b) 2013/2014
 - (c) 2012/2013
 - (d) 2011/2012
311. What was the projected cost for satellite imagery to assist in land clearing data gathering for 2015/16? Please breakdown by source.
312. What was the projected cost for satellite imagery to assist in land clearing data gathering , broken down by source in:
- (a) 2014/2015
 - (b) 2013/2014
 - (c) 2012/2013
 - (d) 2011/2012
313. What was the total cost for the review of the Biodiversity legislation review for 2014/15 and how much is budgeted for the development of the proposed Biodiversity Conservation Act?
314. What is the timeline for the proposed new Biodiversity Conservation Act and what is the community consultation plan?

- 315. What resources have been allocated to Local Land Services to assist in the implementation of a new Biodiversity Conservation Act?
- 316. What resources have been allocated to local councils to assist in the implementation of a new Biodiversity Conservation Act?
- 317. What resources, if any, have been allocated for protecting native vegetation and the conservation of native animals on private land in light of government commitments to repeal the Native Vegetation Act 2003?

Climate Change

- 318. What recommendations did the Office of Environment Heritage make to the national post-2020 emissions goals?
- 319. Was a submission prepared by the Office of Environment and Heritage?
 - (a) If yes, why was it not submitted

Transport Emissions

- 320. Is a Environmental Pollution Licence required for motorway operators to operate a pollution stack?
 - (a) If yes, what are the conditions for this and where can existing licenses be found?
 - (b) If no, why not?
 - (c) If no, is there a specific exemption for motorway tunnel operators from having an environmental pollution licence?

Woodsmoke

- 321. Given that Chief Medical Officer, Dr Kerry Chant, has advocated the phase out of wood heaters in built up urban areas, why was this not provided as an option in the Proposed Wood Smoke Control Framework/Protection of the Environment Operations (Clean Air) Amendment (Heaters and Fireplaces) Regulation 2015?

Compliance Staff and Kangaroos

- 322. The 2013 NSW Commercial Kangaroo Harvest Annual Report detailed 234 inspections of commercial kangaroo harvesters, how many inspections have taken place in 2014 and 2015 and where were these inspections?
- 323. Responses to questions on notice dated 1 July note that “These compliance activities are part of the role of Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) Compliance Officers”.
 - (a) Does this mean that there are no compliance officers dedicated to monitoring license holders under the Commercial Kangaroo Harvest Program?
 - (b) Have their previously been compliance officers dedicated to monitoring license holders under the Commercial Kangaroo Harvest Program?

i. If yes, when did this change?

324. How many compliance staff have actually carried out inspections monitoring license holders under the Commercial Kangaroo Harvest Program in 2015?

Environmental Protection Agency

325. The United States EPA has a Scientific Integrity Policy which promotes a culture of scientific integrity for all employees and is intended to improve the internal management and operation of the Agency. Given the widespread concern and perception in the community of the EPA being too close to industry, will the NSW EPA commit to a similar 'Independence and Integrity Charter' to reassure the community of its independence?
326. The former Environment Minister Robin Parker removed community representatives from the board of the EPA in 2011. Through this inquiry it is clear that the removal of community representatives from the Board of the EPA has significantly damaged their ability to connect with the community. Will the Government make moves to return community representatives to the board?
- (a) If not, why not?
327. In September 2013, the United States EPA decided to regulate carbon as a pollutant through the Clean Air Act in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Will the NSW EPA do the same?
- (a) If not, why not?

State of the Environment Report

328. I understand the next State of the Environment Report is due this year and I understand there is a significant amount of scientific expertise required and years of work involved. During the inquiry into the EPA, we learnt that the EPA does not have an in-house scientific capacity and 'buys in' expertise. Who is providing the independent scientific expertise?
329. Has the EPA used consultants to complete the State of the Environment Report and if yes, what was the cost of this?
330. Who is providing the oversight for developing the State of the Environment Report?

Auditor General Report into the EPA Handling of Contaminated Sites

331. The NSW Auditor General in July last year found that the EPA has no systematic processes for prioritising contaminated sites and there was a backlog of around 800 sites awaiting assessment. What progress has been made in clearing this backlog?

Penalties

332. In October last year the Parliament passed the Protection of the Environment Legislation Amendment Bill 2014 which saw an increase in the maximum penalties for many environmental offences. Has the maximum penalty been applied to any cases?
- (a) Please provide a list on notice of how many times the maximum penalty has been issued, to whom and for what, to date.

Illegal Waste Bill

333. How many penalties have been issued under the provisions of the Protection of the Environment Operations Amendment (Illegal Waste Disposal) Bill 2013 including:
- (a) knowingly supplying false or misleading information about waste
- (b) Repeat waste offenders
334. How many motor vehicles or vessels have been seized by the EPA under provisions of the Protection of the Environment Operations Amendment (Illegal Waste Disposal) Bill 2013.

Minimum Set Back

335. Why does the Victorian EPA have minimum separation distances for mining, gas extraction and quarrying from houses and NSW does not? For example the Victorian EPA requires a 500 metre distance for a blasting quarry?
- (a) Will the Minister consider introducing minimum separation distances?

Mangrove Mountain

336. Regarding the Mangrove Mountain Tip, what environmental and controls are in place? Can the EPA detail inspections of the weighbridge, spot checks of the site and truck loads, responses to complaints and results of water testing to demonstrate that there is independent oversight of operations at the site since 2001?

National Parks and Protected Areas

337. We know that NSW has the second lowest percentage of land protected in the National Reserve System. We know the Aichi Biodiversity Target calls for at least 17% of terrestrial land to be protected by 2020. But NSW 2021 Performance Report 2014-2015 notes that the number of hectares of public land under permanent conservation has increased just 0.4% under this Government up to 2013/2014.

Does the NSW Government have targets for increasing land protected in the National Reserve System?

- (a) If yes, what are these targets
- (b) If no, why not?

338. Please provide a list on notice of all National Parks acquisitions for the 2013/2014 and 2014/2015 financial years?
339. Will the government fund the NPWS to conduct an economic assessment of the benefits to NSW of the national parks estate, including tourism, biodiversity, ecosystem services, health and intrinsic value?
- (a) If not, why not?
340. The Government has announced a cut of \$22 million to the NPWS' 2015/2016 budget. What area are these cuts in?
- Please advise what impact this will have on each of the following core functions of NPWS:
- (a) fire management
- (b) control of invasive animals and plants
- (c) conservation activities
341. Can the government confirm that it is still committed to building a Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative (CAR) reserve network in light of the cuts to the NPWS budget and the continued lack of progress on the Directions Statement, National Parks Establishment?
- (a) How will it achieve this without a timeline or targets?
342. What was the final expenditure for national park acquisition and expansion in 2014/2015 and how much is budgeted for 2015/2016?

Strategic Directions for Horse Riding in National Parks

343. Has any interim evaluations or findings been made on the policy to allow Horse Riding in National Parks?
- a) Is the evaluation going to consider the numbers of users and the resulting ecological impact or will there be an assessment of the total process with no regard to actual number of participants in the trial?
- b) Is there any requirement for registration for riders in the trial?
- i. If not, how does the Government know how many people are participating in the trial?
344. Have horse riding working groups specified 165 management actions to be undertaken in NSW national parks?
- a) Will the eight horse riding work plans and 165 management actions adversely impact on park heritage values?
- b) How will the NPWS fund the increased maintenance costs and establish capital works programs for the 165 management actions?
- c) How many horse yards are being built to accommodate recreational horses in the national parks under these horse riding work plans?

Gardens of Stone

345. In 2013, Robyn Parker MP stated in Budget Estimates that she had asked the National Parks and Wildlife Service to investigate the Gardens of Stone Stage 2 reserve proposal. Given the ongoing threats to the area from repeated mining expansion proposals, why has there still been no action on protecting this iconic area and is the reserve still being considered?

Riverina Grazing Trial

346. What is the status of the Riverina Grazing Trial and what evaluation or monitoring reports have been completed?
- (a) What resources has the Minister allocated to assess the environmental impacts of trial grazing in the River Red Gum National Parks and how much has been allocated to assessing social and economic impacts for 2015/16?

Invasive Species Control

347. How much was spent in 2014/2015 and planned for 2015/2016 on invasive species control? Please provide a list of how much is spent on the following measures:
- (a) Shooting
- (b) Baiting
- (c) Non-lethal measures

Supplementary Pest Control Program

348. How much was spent in 2014/2015 on this program and how many animals were removed under the program?
349. Was there any government funding going to the Sporting Shooters Association last financial year or is any money budgeted in the current or future financial years?
350. Has the budget from the SPCP been subject to any budget cuts within National Parks and Wildlife Service in line with other budget cuts to NPWS?

Wild Horse Management Review

351. The current Wild Horse Management Review in Kosciuszko National Park commenced in May 2014 with a public engagement process. What was the budget for this process?
- (a) Was a report produced and what were the main findings?
- (b) Why was it never made public?
- (c) Will the Government release the report?
- i. If not, why not?

Saving Our Species

352. The Government has announced that the Australian Wildlife Conservancy is to re-introduce species which are extinct in NSW into fenced areas within Pilliga Nature Reserve and Mallee Cliffs National Park. How much does the Government intend to spend on this project and will

funds come from the recurrent NPWS budget or from the \$100 million the Government announced before the last budget would be available for threatened species protection?

353. Can the government detail its long-term plan to reduce threats in the landscape outside of the recently announced fenced enclosures so that the investment in bringing back extinct species ensures a future for them across NSW and not simply a remote zoo with no visitors?
354. How will the Government manage the barriers that will stop natural migration of non-invasive species in and out of the proposed reserves?

OEH

355. How many staff did the Office of Environment and Heritage lose last financial year due to budget cuts and in what areas?
- (a) How many staff cuts are planned for the current financial year and in what areas?

Royal Botanical Gardens

356. Minister, whilst I understand there has been an increase in the capital expenditure of around 26% at the Royal Botanic Gardens there has been a decrease in recurrent funding and staff, including 7 roles in Science and Conservation.
- Why is the Government cutting science staff?

Animal Welfare and Logging

357. What provisions are in place to protect wildlife from injury or death during logging operations when those animals are not listed as threatened species?
- (a) Are any animal welfare protocols either (a) in place or (b) under consideration to protect wildlife injured or displaced during logging operations?
- (b) Are logging contractors required to take any precautions to protect active wombat burrows from bulldozers or other logging machinery during logging operations. In the event that a wombat is buried alive by a bulldozer or other logging machinery, is the contractor required to take any action to rescue the wombat?
358. Has the EPA done any post-logging monitoring or research to determine whether koalas identified prior to logging by Forestry Corp continue to be present, and in the same numbers, after logging?
- (a) If yes, please provide details including
- i. when it was carried out
 - ii. who undertook the research
 - iii. whether it is publically available
 - iv. what were the main findings and
 - v. has the research been provided to the expert panel currently reviewing the Integrated Forestry Operations Approvals?

359. Has the EPA done any post-logging monitoring or research to determine whether any of the following species identified prior to logging by the Forestry Corporation continue to be present, and in the same numbers, after logging, at any sites?
- (a) Yellow-bellied gliders?
 - (b) Glossy Black Cockatoos
 - (c) Tiger Quolls
 - (d) Masked Owls
360. Has the EPA done any post-logging monitoring or research to determine whether habitat trees identified prior to logging by Forestry Corp continue to be present, and in the same numbers, after logging?

Saving Our Species

361. Prior to the last election, the Government announced it would make available \$100 million to protect threatened species. Please advise how that money is intended to be spent
- (a) What funding commitment is the Government making to guarantee the koalas do not become extinct in NSW?

Koalas

362. The NSW koala conservation strategy has expired. Can the Government confirm when a new conservation plan will be completed and taking affect?

Croppa Creek

363. With regards to the \$27,000 grant to the Waggamba Landcare Group for koala conservation in the Croppa Creek district, what reporting data will be available, and over what timeframes, to measure baseline and changes in koala habitat coverage, and the status and health of the koala population in that district?
364. Is the Minister concerned about the significant clearing in the Croppa Creek district of koala habitat and what is the Government doing about it?

Wooli Beach Coastal Zone

365. Is the Minister aware that the Wooli Beach Coastal Zone Management Plan, as recommended by Clarence Valley Council, is proposing to reintroduce sand mining to our coastal national parks?
366. Is the Minister contemplating supporting such a proposal, given that it is contrary to the Coastal Policy, is not permissible under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 and, of course, is not consistent with the current plan of management for Yuraygir National Park?
367. Council has claimed that this Coastal Zone Management Plan and its recommended beach nourishment scheme was prepared with the full knowledge and support of the relevant specialists

in the Office of Environment and Heritage (namely the Water Floodplains and Coast Team). Is this true and if so, how could these OEH specialists allow a plan that is contrary to the Policy to be placed on exhibition or submitted for certification by the Minister for Planning?

368. Has OEH done any analysis of the costs to national park management if the sand extraction were to proceed?
369. Given the requirement that approval from NPWS, as the land manager, is necessary for adoption of the CZMP, and significant environmental, financial and resource costs have not been considered, what is the OEH position on the plan

Centennial Coal

370. What is the volume of mine effluent being emitted by Centennial Coal's mines into local waterways?
- (a) Will the Minister for the Environment ensure that the EPA requires adequate treatment of mine effluent being emitted by the three of Centennial Coal's mines that operate under the Newnes Plateau?
 - (b) Will the Minister for the Environment ensure that Centennial Coal ceases to pollute the Wollangambe River?

Nationally Endangered Swamps

371. Is it correct that Centennial Coal's Springvale mine successfully avoided undermining Sunnyside Swamp on Newnes Plateau?
- (a) If mining companies can avoid undermining nationally endangered swamps, should not mining companies be required to do so as to protect these nationally threatened ecological communities?
372. Will the Minister for the Environment ensure that the first principle of the 2014 biodiversity offset policy, that is that "Before offsets are considered, impacts must first be avoided and unavoidable impacts minimised through mitigation measures. Only then should offsets be considered for the remaining impacts" is not perverted to allow the destruction of nationally significant swamps where it can be avoided?
- (a) Will the Minister for the Environment commit to protecting nationally endangered swamps from being undermined, rather than allow damage to swamps to be offset under the NSW Biodiversity Offset Policy for Major Projects.

Coastal Reforms

373. What resources have been allocated by Government for implementing stage 2 of its coastal reforms?
374. What community consultation has been or will be undertaken in terms of stage 2 of the Government's coastal reforms?

375. How is the Government spending the \$3.2 million announced in November 2014, anticipated for new projects to manage, enhance and protect NSW coasts and estuaries?
376. To what extent has the Government considered the consequences of increasing ocean-acidification levels in the allocation of resources for its coastal reforms?

Sea Level Rise Policy

377. Regarding sea level rise, Is the Minister/Agency satisfied that all Local Government Area's have sought and adopted information that is "widely accepted by competent scientific opinion" in setting their own local sea level rise projections?
- (a) What action/s has the Minister/Agency taken in cases where LGA's have not adopted technically rigorous, scientifically based projections? What changes (if any) arose from such actions by the Minister/Agency?
 - (b) Is the Minister/Agency satisfied that LGAs have properly discharged their "good faith" obligations under section 733 of the Local Government Act in setting their own local sea level rise projections?
 - (c) Is the Minister/Agency aware that some LGA's have utilized and publicly referenced pseudo-scientific fossil fuel industry funded publications in their sea level rise projections? What is the Minister's/Agency's position regarding LGA reliance on such materials?
 - (d) Does the Minister/Agency agree that all sea level rise policies should be abandoned? Should this be a guiding principle for NSW coastal management?
 - (e) Can the Minister/Agency explain the difference between the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the Nongovernmental International Panel on Climate Change? What is the Minister's/Agency's position on LGAs using NIPCC materials as the basis for their sea level rise planning policies?
 - (f) What concrete steps will the upcoming Stage 2 Coastal Reforms take to rectify the problems created in the Stage 1 reforms?

Flying Foxes

378. How much has been spent to date, and what is the future projected spend (if any) to disperse the camp of grey headed flying foxes from Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney and the ongoing efforts to keep the flying-foxes from returning to the camp?

Spring Gully

379. Did the Minister receive representations from members of parliament concerning Sutherland Shire Council's resolution requesting the former Scout land at Spring Gully (60-70 Bournemouth St, Bundeena (Lot 3 of DP213924) be placed on the land reservation acquisition map and marked regional open space in the Local Environment Plan (LEP) and if he did, which members of parliament made representations?
- (a) Was the Minister contacted by the Department of Planning or the Minister for Planning regarding the request?
 - i. If yes, when and where?

- (b) Did the Minister consult with the Department of Planning or the Minister for Planning or provide advice regarding the request? If it did, what was the advice given?
- (c) Did the Department of Planning seek approval or support from the OEH for the land to be added to the land acquisition map in the LEP?
 - i. If not, why not?
- (d) Was the Minister advised of the submission made by the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) during public exhibition of the third draft of the LEP advising Council that it did not support zoning the land with eco-tourism facilities as an additional permissible use and questioned the compatibility of the land use with conserving the biodiversity value of the land considering the RFS requirements for bushfire protection under that land use?
- (e) Did the minister take the OEH submission into account in considering Council's request?
- (f) Was the unresolved issue contained in the OEH submission to the third draft LEP, requesting removal of eco-tourism facility as a permissible use, raised with the Minister or OEH by the Department of Planning or the Minister for Planning?
- (g) Did the Department of Planning or the Minister for Planning raise the RFS submission to the third draft LEP stating their concern over eco-tourism facility as a permissible use with the Minister or OEH?
- (h) Was the Minister made aware that Council received 947 submissions during exhibition of the three drafts of the Sutherland Shire Local Environment Plan (as documented in Council reports CCL004-14, CCL005-15 and DAP043-15) supporting environmental conservation of the land and its reservation for addition to the Royal National Park and did the minister take this public support into account in making a decision whether to support Council's request for the land to be placed on the land reservation acquisition map?

Bundeena

- 380. Can the Minister advise what action and progress has been made in having the legal status of the paper roads in Spring Gully, Bundeena, (residue of DP1782) resolved through application of the provisions in relevant statutes so that the land can be vested into the Royal National Park?
- 381. Can the Minister advise when he expects Lots 15-18, Section K, DP1782 will be gazetted into the Royal National Park as was intended by the recent gift of this land from Council to the NPWS?

Proposed Road in Royal National Park

- 382. Has the Minister or OEH received an application for road access via the Royal National Park to Lot 3 of DP213924 25?
 - (a) Is the Minister aware that Council refused development consent for a recreation camp proposal on the land in June 2015?
 - (b) Will the Minister take into account any legal concerns regarding ownership, bushfire risk management, degree of vegetation removal required and public access?

West Hornsby Sewage Plant

383. Is the West Hornsby Sewage Plant required by its Environmental Protection Licence to sample sewage effluent by any particular means?
- (a) If yes, what are those means?
 - (b) Is the West Hornsby Sewage Plant taking a sample over 24 hours and is the EPA concerned that this dilutes the sample?
384. Is the West Hornsby Sewage Plant required to chlorinate its discharge into Berowra Creek?
- (a) If yes, does it do so?
 - (b) Does the EPA consider UV sterilisation alone a sufficient measure?
385. Is the West Hornsby Sewage plant required to monitor for enterococci?
- (a) If yes, is the West Hornsby Sewage Plant meeting its requirements under its EPL?
 - (b) If no, why not?

Lord Howe Island

386. Can the Minister explain the current impacts of the black rat on the ecology of Lord Howe Island and how a rat eradication program has been determined as the only way to preserve the ecology moving forward? What studies were undertaken and by who?
387. The rat eradication program proposes the use of Brodifacoum, an anticoagulant pesticide, which will be deployed aerially. Can the minister explain why aerial deployment of brodifacoum was identified as the preferred option given the Department of Primary Industries has indicated in its 2013 report “Pesticides used in the Management of Vertebrate Pests in Australia: A Review” that it should not be used in open areas? How has the preferred option of ‘aerial deployment of brodifacoum’ been determined?
388. The Department of Primary Industries has indicated in its 2013 report “Pesticides used in the Management of Vertebrate Pests in Australia: A Review” that Brodifacoum is acutely toxic in the aquatic environment and extremely toxic to mammals and birds. Further because of its toxicity and persistence brodifacoum presents a major risk to non-target species and secondary poisoning. Minister, can you state why Brodifacoum will be used in an aerial deployment program?
- (a) Minister, please can you explain how the risks associated with non-targeted Brodifacoum use has been considered and how such risks will be managed? How is the minister sure that long term effects associated with secondary poisoning and persistence will not decimate the ecology (both terrestrial and aquatic) on World Heritage Listed Lord Howe Island?
389. Recent reports indicate the rabbit eradication program on Macquarie Island have been successful. But a report by Tasmanian National parks indicated the EIS did not adequately measure risk by anticipating poisoned rabbits dying in burrows or the carcasses would be retrieved to prevent poisoning. Neither of these events occurred as planned and as a result many listed bird species died as a result. Can the minister explain how the EIS process will adequately manage risk on Lord Howe Island?

390. How long does the Government intend to close Lord Howe Island for and what is the expected impact on tourism?
- (a) Does the Government intend to pay any compensation to tourism operators?
391. Is the NSW Government aware of any other permanently inhabited islands that have had eradication programs based on aerial baiting?

Wyangong Council

392. In a letter to Greg Simmonds of Save Wyong Trees on 17 August 2015 your Department advised Mr Simmonds to make contact with Wyong Council to obtain information regarding what species of trees could be cleared under Council policy and which trees were protected under State legislation.

Since Wyong Council's policy is to no longer require any approval to clear any tree on residential land of 1500m² or less and no longer provide advice to residents about which trees can be cleared, why was this misleading advice provided to residents of Wyong?

393. Is the Office of Environment and Heritage concerned about the changes made by Wyong council to not require approval to clear any tree on residential land of 1500m² or less and no longer provide advice to residents about which trees can be cleared?
- (a) If yes, what is the Office of Environment and Heritage doing in this regard?
394. Will the Office of Environment and Heritage provide direct support to residents of Wyong on identification of threatened species to prevent illegal clearing?
395. In correspondence to Ms Barbara Gorman, President of Trees of Bateau Bay on 10 July 2015, your Department advised her that the Wyong Trees policy (which allows complete clearing of all residential land of 1500m² or less) would be unlikely to allow more clearing that was permissible under the 10/50 Code? Does the Department still stand by that advice?

Ellerton Drive Extension

396. Given community concerns about the accuracy of the environmental consultants report, will the Minister instruct Queanbeyan City Council or the Office of Environment and Heritage to have a thorough survey undertaken of the entire woodland between Ellerton Drive and Old Cooma Road to ensure there are no endangered squirrel gliders or other endangered species, including nocturnal species, present and which were not previously detected by environmental studies undertaken as part of the project?
- (a) If no, why not?

- (b) If yes, will the Minister ensure that this assessment is undertaken before the Office of Environment and Heritage considers whether to give its concurrence to the Determination Report on the proposed Ellerton Drive Extension?

397. Will the Minister direct the Office of the Environment and Heritage to oversee a thorough assessment of the woodland along the entire route of the proposed Ellerton Drive Extension between Ellerton Drive and Old Cooma Rd to ensure that the vegetation is correctly classified and any environmental offsets are correctly and appropriately calculated, particularly those areas previously assessed as Box Gum Woodland by other environmental studies?

Proposed redevelopment of Sydney Harbour National Park at Watson's Bay

398. How much money will the NPWS receive from the proposal from the Dockside Group for the proposed redevelopment of the six buildings?
399. How many other tenders did the NPWS receive for use of the six buildings?
- (a) Why is the public not able to consider the competing tenders?
400. What due diligence have NPWS undertaken in selecting the winning bid?
- (a) Have they undertaken independent traffic, parking, acoustic, environmental impact or heritage reports?
 - (b) What consultation have they sought with other departments including Transport for NSW and Roads and Maritime Services?
401. What consultation did the NPWS have with the community before selecting tenders?
402. What alternatives did the NPWS consider for the properties?
403. Is the NPWS concerned about the loss of public access to spaces as a result of the proposal?

Biosecurity

404. Will the Minister for the Environment or the Office of Environment and Heritage have any role in the administration of the Biosecurity Bill 2015?
- (a) If yes, what will this role be?
 - (b) If no, why not?
 - i. Is the Minister concerned he has no role in the Biosecurity Bill 2015?

Asbestos and EPA

405. Has the Environmental Protection Authority issued approval to the WestConnex Delivery Authority (WDA) to remove asbestos from the former Dial a Dump site at Alexandria?
- (a) If yes, what are the conditions of this approval?
406. Was the EPA aware that the WestConnex Delivery Authority would conduct extensive clean-up and a demolition activity at the former Dial a Dump site at Alexandria before the Environmental Impact Statement for the 'New M5' project was released?
407. Is the establishment of a complaints line a requirement of WDA's environmental license at the former Dial a Dump site at Alexandria?

- (a) Did the WestConnex Delivery Authority establish a complaints line before commencing removal of asbestos from the site?
 - i. If yes, when was this line established?
 - ii. If no, is this a breach of their license and what penalties have the EPA issued?
- 408. Is the EPA aware of reports that major earthworks are being undertaken on the former Dial a Dump site at Alexandria that are remaining uncovered at the end of the day?
 - (a) What action has the EPA taken to investigate such reports and were the outcomes of these actions?
- 409. Is the Minister aware of reports that since July, the WDA has commenced extensive removals of contaminated materials from the former Dial a Dump site at Alexandria with approximately 30 to 40 truck movements per day and that there have been reports of inadequate safety precautions in place for removal of asbestos contaminated materials from this site and that the truck movements were through residential streets until residents complained?
 - (a) What has been the EPA's involvement in investigating these reports?
- 410. What waste disposal site or sites is the WestConnex Delivery Authority utilising to dispose of asbestos materials from the former Dial a Dump site at Alexandria and what type of materials are going to each site?
- 411. Is the EPA confident that asbestos being removed from the former Dial a Dump site at Alexandria is not being disposed of at the Transpacific General Solid Waste Landfill at Erskine Park, given that this landfill does not accept asbestos according to its website?
- 412. Is the EPA aware of reports that large piles of asbestos contaminated soils are being stored in residential areas in Granville next to the M4 road widening works?
 - (a) Has the EPA investigated these reports and if so, what was the result of these investigations?
 - (b) Can the Minister provide details about the safety measures in force at this site to protect residents and children at the local school from contaminated dust from these works?