

The Hon Brad Hazzard MP

Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
Minister Assisting Premier on Infrastructure NSW

The Hon Fred Nile MLC Chair GPSC 1 Parliament House Macquarie Street SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Chair,

I refer to the GPSC Budget Estimates inquiry into the portfolios of planning and infrastructure on 16 August 2013.

During that inquiry, the Government took questions on notice.

I attach a copy of the answers to those questions.

Yours sincerely,

Brad Hazzard MP

Minister

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013/14 – TRANSCRIPT (PAGE 22) QUESTION ON NOTICE NO. 4 – LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SUBJECT: NORTH WEST RAIL LINK CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW FLEET OF TRAINS

On 16 August, 2013, during the Budget Estimates Hearing, the Chair, the Reverend the Hon. Fred Nile MLC placed the following questions on notice.

Questions:

Q4. CHAIR: The same applies to the actual construction of the new fleet of trains. Has there been any attempt to involve Australian manufacturers in that? Mr BRAD HAZZARD: Again, I will take that—I probably should not but I will because you are obviously a valued colleague of both sides of politics—and we will see what we can find out. But I simply do not know the answer to that.

Answer:

This question should be referred to the Hon. Gladys Berejiklian MP, Minister for Transport.

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013/14 – TRANSCRIPT (PAGE 7) QUESTION ON NOTICE NO. 1 – LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SUBJECT: WHITE PAPER

On 16 August, 2013 during the Budget Estimates Hearing, the Mr David Shoebridge MLC placed the following questions on notice.

Questions:

Q1. Mr DAVID SHOEBRIDGE: I will ask you this question and perhaps you can take it on notice. Is there a contract with an entity to review the submissions, a term of which contract is that it is not required to actually read the submissions? Is that true?

Mr BRAD HAZZARD: That sounds like a very odd arrangement.

Mr DAVID SHOEBRIDGE: It does indeed. Perhaps you could answer it on notice.

Mr BRAD HAZZARD: All right. I do not know what you are talking about.

Answer:

The Department has not contracted the review of submissions on the White Paper to any particular entity or organisation.

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013/14 – TRANSCRIPT (PAGE 22) QUESTION ON NOTICE NO. 3 – LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SUBJECT: NORTH WEST RAIL LINK

On 16 August, 2013 during the Budget Estimates Hearing, the Chair, the Reverend the Hon. Fred Nile MLC placed the following questions on notice.

Questions:

Q3. CHAIR: One of the major infrastructure projects, as you know, is the **North West Rail link**. That is a priority for 2019. Apparently that rail link will use more steel than the Sydney Harbour Bridge. **Has there been any requirement to source Australian steel for that project?**

Mr BRAD HAZZARD: I have to say to you I do not know. That is not a planning issue; it would be something that the special team that has been established for the rail program would be doing. You would have to address that to, I think, Gladys Berejiklian or the Treasurer maybe.

CHAIR: Looking at it, it is an infrastructure issue, a major infrastructure project. **Mr BRAD HAZZARD:** In the sense that I am the infrastructure Minister broadly across the delivery of infrastructure to provide support for planning and for growth, yes, but I do not get into the—thank heavens— provision of who buys the steel and where they buy it from. That is something that somebody else looks after, not me. I have got enough issues to worry about. I am happy to take that on board for you and I will refer it to the transport Minister. I will see what I can do to find out.

Answer:

This question should be referred to the Hon. Gladys Berejiklian MP, Minister for Transport.

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013/14 – TRANSCRIPT (PAGE 22) QUESTION ON NOTICE NO. 5 – LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SUBJECT: WESTCONNEX MOTORWAY PROJECT

On 16 August, 2016 during the Budget Estimates Hearing, the Chair, the Reverend the Hon. Fred Nile MLC placed the following questions on notice.

Questions:

Q5. CHAIR: The other major project, as you know, is the WestConnex motorway project that is to complete the missing links in Sydney's road network. According to the proposal, the M4 will conclude at Taverners Hill in Petersham, as a lot of people expected it would somehow help get city workers to the city—they are going to get to Petersham and probably create another bottleneck. I know there is a diversion through the airport, St Peters and the M5 East, which is taking them away from the city. How are you planning to assist the people who work in the city to get there? Why did it not go right through to the city or link up with the city tunnel? Mr BRAD HAZZARD: There are a lot of things that the planning department would like to see happen that are not necessarily carried through because of a variety of reasons. I will take on board that question and refer it to the Minister for Roads and ask him to provide an answer to you.

Answer:

This question should be referred to the Hon. Duncan John Gay MP, Minister for Roads and Ports.

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013/14 – TRANSCRIPT (PAGE 9) QUESTION ON NOTICE NO. 2 – LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SUBJECT: CHALLONER HOUSE CONSERVING AS A HERITAGE BUILDING

Questions:

Q2. CHAIR: I refer to debate about conserving the Challoner Cottage as a heritage building. The Joint Regional Planning Panel voted to save Challoner Cottage and apparently it is now in your hands to restore that historical site. It is proposed that the Department of Community Services should help restore the cottage and then given the Renwick Association a Crown lease on the building to establish it as a museum. The association has the support of local members of Parliament. What assurance can you give the community that your support will be extended to preserve this historical site which may involve some funding?

Mr BRAD HAZZARD: I must say this is not one of the issues I am aware of. The fact that it went to the Joint Regional Planning Panel would indicate that it is an issue that is at that level, not at the Ministerial level.

Mr DAVID SHOEBRIDGE: It is Crown land so it will come up to you, Minister, the refusal.

Mr BRAD HAZZARD: I will take it on notice and I will report back to you.

Mr DAVID SHOEBRIDGE: In fact, the refusal has come up to you.

Mr BRAD HAZZARD: I have not seen it so I am happy to take that on notice. Clearly you are indicating there are some heritage issues around Challoner Cottage, is that right?

CHAIR: Yes. Will you give it approval when it comes up to you?

Mr BRAD HAZZARD: I will take it on notice and get back to you. I really do not know at this point. I have not seen it.

Answer:

I have agreed to defer my decision on the development application while UrbanGrowth NSW consults with Wingecarribee Council about the potential acquisition of Challoner House, and the Office of Environment and Heritage complete its current investigation into the heritage significance of the property.

I can assure you I will consider these matters carefully in due course when I make my decision on the JRPP's recommendation.

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013/14 – TRANSCRIPT (PAGE 22) QUESTION ON NOTICE NO. 6 – LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SUBJECT: WESTCONNEX - TUNNEL

On 16 August, 2013 during the Budget Estimates Hearing, the Chair, the Rev.the Hon. Fred Nile MLC placed the following questions on notice.

Questions:

Q6. CHAIR: You may not know the answer to this but the motorway will be 33 kilometres and a great deal of that will be, I understand, a tunnel—if not all of it? **Mr BRAD HAZZARD:** I do not think it is all of it, but there is a fair distance. I have just forgotten the distance.

CHAIR: They said it could be the longest tunnel in the world.

Mr BRAD HAZZARD: I do not know. Does anybody know? I am being told that it is the biggest in the Southern Hemisphere, but I can imagine there are some longer ones heading through the Alps of Europe. I have not had the chance to do that—I must find some of those. Again, I will ask the Minister for Roads, because it is not my expertise.

CHAIR: You would be well aware that the M5 has been a disaster as a reasonably short tunnel compared to the proposed new WestConnex. What plans are there to try to deal with the ventilation and other issues as well as the pollution stacks that will have to be built to remove pollution?

Mr BRAD HAZZARD: Can I ask—I am not familiar with this—has the Minister for Roads had an estimates committee yet?

CHAIR: He has.

Mr BRAD HAZZARD: Did you ask these questions or were these questions—

CHAIR: No, I was not on that inquiry.

Mr BRAD HAZZARD: I will take on board your question, but the questions are more properly directed to him and I will refer those questions to him.

Answer:

This question should be referred to the Hon. Duncan Gay MP, Minister for Roads and Ports.