



The Hon Stuart Ayres MP

Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for Sport and Recreation
Minister Assisting the Premier on Western Sydney

The Hon Sarah Mitchell MLC
Chair
General Purpose Standing Committee 4
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Chair

Attached is a copy of answers to supplementary questions lodged following the GPSC4 Budget Estimates hearing into Police, Emergency Services, and Sport and Recreation on 20 August 2014.

Yours sincerely

Stuart Ayres MP
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for Sport and Recreation
Minister Assisting the Premier on Western Sydney

12 SEP 2014

**BUDGET ESTIMATES 2014-2015
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**POLICE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES,
SPORT AND RECREATION
20 August 2014**

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| Answers to be returned by: | Thursday 12 September 2014 |
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Questions from Hon Amanda Fazio MLC

SPORT AND RECREATION

Asian Cup Planning and Preparation

1. Please list the names of the persons on the Asian Cup Steering Committee?
 - (a) Were any Labor Councillors, Labor State or Federal Members invited to be on the Committee?
 - (b) If not, why not?

The purpose of the Asian Cup Steering Committee is to oversee planning, leveraging, and coordination associated with NSW Government's hosting obligations for the AFC Asian Cup 2015. Membership is based on representation from organisations that have a role in delivering the event, or maximising the benefits to NSW that can be derived from hosting it. These organisations include:

NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC)

AFC Asian Cup 2015 Local Organising Committee (LOC)

Destination NSW

NSW Office of Sport

NSW Community Relations Commission

NSW Trade and Investment

Sydney Business Chamber

Sydney Olympic Park Authority

Football NSW

City of Sydney

City of Newcastle

2. What provision is the government making to transport people from Sydney to Broadmeadow station?
 - (a) Will there be extra trains?

This is a matter for the Minister for Transport.

3. The walkway between Broadmeadow Station and Hunter Stadium needs work. Will the Government be providing funding for extra street lighting and footpath improvements to ensure safety and wheelchair accessibility?

Footpaths and lighting are local government responsibilities and the Local Organising Committee and Newcastle Council are working together to ensure the matches in Newcastle are a success.

Stadia Funding

4. Will the NSW Government continue to commit to funding regional suburban stadiums such as Parramatta, Brookvale and Wollongong Stadium for capital works?
 - (a) What is the current budget allocation for the 2014/15 financial period?

In November 2012 the Government released the NSW Stadia Strategy. The Strategy is available at:

http://www.communities.nsw.gov.au/assets/pubs/corporate/NSW_stadia_strategy_2012.pdf

5. How much has the Government allocated to maintenance and grounds upkeep in the (2014/15 budget) for Parramatta Stadium, Brookvale Oval, Wollongong Stadium, Leichardt Park, Kogarah Park and Campbelltown Stadium, Newcastle Stadium, Blue Tongue Stadium at Wyong, and Cronulla Stadium?

I am advised:

Pirtek Stadium in Parramatta, WIN Stadium in Wollongong and Hunter Stadium are NSW Government venues and are operated by Venues NSW which is a statutory authority. In 2014-15 maintenance and upkeep are funded from earned revenue.

The other stadia listed are local government venues with the exception of Remondis Stadium which is owned by the Cronulla Sutherland Leagues Club. The maintenance and upkeep of those venues is the responsibility of local government and the Leagues Club respectively.

6. What is the current budget allocation for Alliance Stadium at Moore Park?

- (a) Does this include capital works funding?
- (b) Does the State Government provide maintenance funding?

I am advised:

Allianz Stadium is operated by the Sydney Cricket and Sports Ground Trust. In 2014-15 maintenance and capital works are funded from earned revenue.

- 7. What is the Government doing to increase sport participation in light of recent reports that children in NSW are increasingly becoming obese?

Information on current initiatives by the Office of Sport to support participation is available on agency websites and in annual reports.

The Office of Sport is also working in partnership with key agencies in the prevention of obesity in NSW through projects identified in the Healthy Eating and Active Living (HEAL) Strategy 2013 – 2018.

- 8. What is the Government doing to ease the burden of increasing registration, uniform and equipment costs for parents and their children to participate in sport throughout NSW?

Information on current grant programs is available on the Sport and Recreation website.

- 9. Can the Minister list the programs the Government has implemented to promote sporting participation to multicultural communities throughout the state?

Information on current initiatives by the Office of Sport to support participation in multicultural communities is available on agency websites and in annual reports.

- 10. Can the Minister list any programs that the Government has implemented to further increase the participation of women in sport in NSW?

Information on current initiatives by the Office of Sport to support participation for women is available on agency websites and in annual reports.

- 11. Given the Government has spent \$2M on upgrade works at Lambert Park, why have you failed to commit similar funding to other state league grounds in Bossley Park, Edensor Park and Bonnyrigg Heights?

The funding for the upgrade of Lambert Park was a 2011 election commitment.

12. Given the plans for Sports House at 6A Figtree Drive, Sydney Olympic Park to be redeveloped, where will the tenant associations be relocated to once the redevelopment commences?
- (a) What associations are presently located within Sports House, Sydney Olympic Park?

I am advised:

The Office of Sport is currently working with Government Property NSW to secure office space for the sporting associations currently located in Sports House.

POLICE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Police

13. What plans does the Minister have to build a Police Station in the Wallsend electorate?
- (a) If there are none, why not?
- (b) How does the Minister plan to address poor response times from Newcastle Local Government Area to the western suburbs of Newcastle to suburbs such as Maryland.

I am advised:

While there are no plans to reopen stations closed by the previous Government, the residents of Wallsend electorate continue to be well served by police officers from Newcastle City and Lake Macquarie Local Area Commands.

14. Does the Minister plan to open Beresfield Police on a daily basis?
- (a) If not, why not?

I am advised:

The appropriate allocation and tasking of policing resources within a Command is achieved, on a daily basis, using the intelligence-based identification of crime trends.

Fire and Rescue NSW

15. Why are some services frontline and some not?

This question was answered in the Hearing by Commissioner Mullins and myself.

16. In the hearings the Commissioner said that fire stations are sometimes TOLed for planned leave, such as maternity and long service leave. You also close them for sick leave - so what are you doing for those areas that take less sick leave? It's my understanding that metro areas, for example, use less sick leave, and in some cases use less on average than the 87 hour target imposed in 2008. If sick leave has reduced by 15%, how much does it need to reduce further, and which zones or areas are already there?
17. Are you TOLing zones where sick leave is below 87 hours on average and if so where?

With regards to 16 and 17, I am advised:

Fire & Rescue NSW has been implementing a number of strategies designed to maximise the attendance of permanent firefighters at work, and therefore minimise firefighter shortages. Coupled with policies to reduce unplanned absences, Fire & Rescue NSW has also taken selected fire trucks and their crews temporarily offline since November 2012. This is an extension of a formal policy introduced under the previous Government in 2008.

Selected fire trucks and crews may be taken temporarily offline when there are insufficient personnel available to maintain a safe and effective crew. These decisions are made by experienced senior Fire and Rescue NSW commanders. Decisions as to whether a fire truck can be taken offline temporarily are only made after careful consideration of a range of risk factors facing the community at that time. Fire trucks are never taken offline on Total Fire Ban days, when major incidents are in progress, or for other operational reasons.

18. With reference to FRNSW being able to meet the labour expense cap cuts, and having in fact cut more than required- the cuts get progressively more steep, so how will you find the additional savings this year, and into the future?
 - (a) What are your plans to reduce your expenditure specifically?
 - (b) Has the Minister approved any specific measures?

Government savings targets are about ensuring agencies use allocations in the most effective and efficient manner.

If comparing the 2013-14 allocation to the 2014-15 allocation, Fire & Rescue NSW's total expenses budget has actually increased by almost 3 per cent.

19. The Commissioner mentioned that a number of areas in Sydney had fire stations built in the times of horse and cart- are you saying some areas of Sydney are over-serviced, and if so, where are they?
- (a) If they aren't over-serviced, then how can you remove firefighting resources?

Determining the adequacy and levels of service are operational matters for the Commissioner.

20. In answers to questions in the hearings the Commissioner has said that access to SAM was restricted as a result of bullying of senior staff and that he was considering reinstating access at the end of each shift. Isn't it the case that without access to SAM staff have no real-time access to information on TOLing?
- (a) Wouldn't it be better to deal with accusations of bullying through normal disciplinary procedures?

I am advised that staff have the access to SAM that they require to perform their duties.

(a) There are extensive processes in place to deal with allegations of bullying.

21. Minister do you accept responsibility for the losses experienced by business owners in the electorate you represent after the Kingswood factory fire due to your policy of keeping fire stations temporarily off-line?

Moving permanent firefighters and trucks around Sydney is a standard Fire & Rescue NSW practice that is governed by proven risk management principles. Operational decisions are made by experienced senior commanders on a day to day basis to ensure that appropriate response coverage for the community is always maintained.

Each fire truck and its crew is a mobile resource. Each truck is part of a large network of fire stations and trucks that are available to respond wherever they are needed. Decisions as to whether a fire truck can be taken offline temporarily are only made after careful consideration of a range of risk factors facing the community at that time.

22. Minister under your Government the TOLing policy now impacts major 10/14 stations. 10/14 stations are put in the community because the area is deemed to require 24 hour permanent protection, when you temporarily close one of these

stations is that an indication that you think that staffing level could afford to be downgraded?

Staffing levels at stations are an operational matter for the Commissioner.

23. Minister do you think it is acceptable that because of your labour expenses cap Lane Cove station has been closed 25 times between 1 March 2014 and 31 July 2014?

Firefighters and trucks are not always at their base station. Moving permanent firefighters and trucks around Sydney is a standard Fire and Rescue NSW practice that is governed by proven risk management principles.

24. Is it acceptable that Ingleburn Station has been closed 35 times or Macquarie Fields 20 times?

Firefighters and trucks are not always at their base station. Moving permanent firefighters and trucks around Sydney is a standard Fire and Rescue NSW practice that is governed by proven risk management principles.

Rural Fire Service

25. How many new or refurbished tankers will the RFS be supplying in 2014?
(a) What is the average age of the fleet now?

Allocations under the 2014 Rural Fire Fighting Fund will be determined later this year.

(a) The average age of the fire fighting fleet is currently 13 years.

26. Minister in a recent answer to a question on notice from me you indicated that a site had been selected for the new Chifley Zone fire control centre, when will it be built?

Bathurst Council is project-managing the construction, with completion expected late 2015.

27. In that same answer you indicated that the average age of the fleet in the Chifley Zone was 15 years old, why is it so much older than the State average?

Each Rural Fire District has a fleet replacement plan based on budget allocations and District priorities.

28. Commissioner what involvement will the RFS have with people who want to take advantage of the laws the Government recently introduced to allow more clearing near their homes?
- (a) Will you be providing advice and / or monitoring?
 - (b) If not who will be?

The NSW Rural Fire Service provides advice through its website, along with more tailored advice to landowners and councils via email and telephone in both headquarters and through district offices.

29. How many community fire units currently exist in NSW?
- (a) How many have been put in place over the past two years?
 - (b) Were there any community fire units in the areas in the Blue Mountains affected by last season's fires and were they effective?

I am advised:

597.

a) 6.

b) Yes. Research on community fire unit effectiveness has been undertaken and shows many homes were protected and further spread of the fire was halted by community fire unit members.

It should be noted that the CFU program is a Fire & Rescue NSW initiative. The NSW Rural Fire Service has been involved since 2010. To date the NSW Rural Fire Service has 108 Community Fire Units within NSW. Of these, 47 were put in place in the past two years.

30. How many RFS staff have been put on performance management in the last three years?
- (a) How many staff have been dismissed following performance management processes?
 - (b) How many have been moved after performance management processes?
 - (c) How does the RFS compare to other Government agencies in terms of the proportion of staff placed under performance management?

NSW RFS Policy on Employee Work and Professional Development Planning and Review requires all staff to have work plans and personal development plans in place. This framework is being reviewed in line with the new provisions of the

NSW Public Sector Performance Development and Capability Frameworks as set by the Public Service Commission.

In the last three years (August 2011 - August 2014) two staff have been dismissed from employment and one staff member (included in the earlier figure) was relocated to other duties during management of unsatisfactory performance.

Fire Services

31. On how many occasions in the last year was Newtown Fire Station not staffed as a result of the governments TOL Policy?

Firefighters and trucks are not always at their base station. Moving permanent firefighters and trucks around Sydney is a standard Fire and Rescue NSW practice that is governed by proven risk management principles.

32. On how many occasions in the last year was Redfern Fire Station not staffed as a result of the governments TOL Policy?

Firefighters and trucks are not always at their base station. Moving permanent firefighters and trucks around Sydney is a standard Fire and Rescue NSW practice that is governed by proven risk management principles.

33. On how many occasions in the last year was Glebe Fire Station not staffed as a result of the governments TOL Policy?

Firefighters and trucks are not always at their base station. Moving permanent firefighters and trucks around Sydney is a standard Fire and Rescue NSW practice that is governed by proven risk management principles.

34. On how many occasions in the last year was Marrickville Fire Station not staffed as a result of the governments TOL Policy?

Firefighters and trucks are not always at their base station. Moving permanent firefighters and trucks around Sydney is a standard Fire and Rescue NSW practice that is governed by proven risk management principles.

35. On how many occasions in the last year was Alexandria Fire Station not staffed as a result of the governments TOL Policy?

Firefighters and trucks are not always at their base station. Moving permanent firefighters and trucks around Sydney is a standard Fire and Rescue NSW practice that is governed by proven risk management principles.

36. On how many occasions in the last year was Leichhardt Fire Station not staffed as a result of the governments TOL Policy?

Firefighters and trucks are not always at their base station. Moving permanent firefighters and trucks around Sydney is a standard Fire and Rescue NSW practice that is governed by proven risk management principles.

Donations

37. Given evidence at ICAC that Hunter Liberal Members of Parliament received cash from prohibited donors, can you guarantee that you did not receive an illegal donation at the last election?

I can guarantee that I have never accepted an illegal donation.

38. Last week the Premier put out a statement that said:

"I have always absolutely complied with the electoral funding laws and the records are there for all to see. Yes, I can guarantee that I have never accepted an illegal donation."

Will you make that same statement?

Yes.

39. Do you think the people of NSW have a right to know who is making donations to candidates during election campaigns?

The Election Funding, Expenditure and Disclosures Act 1981 requires the disclosure of political donations received and/or made, and electoral expenditure incurred, by or on behalf of parties, elected members, groups, candidates and third party campaigners. It also requires the disclosure of political donations of \$1000 or more made by major political donors.

40. Given that the Liberals channel all donations through a centralised accounting system which means most individual MPs do not disclose the people and organisations that personally donate to their campaigns, will you fully disclose the source of all donations you received at the 2011 election campaign?

The Election Funding, Expenditure and Disclosures Act 1981 requires the disclosure of political donations received and/or made, and electoral expenditure incurred, by or on behalf of parties, elected members, groups, candidates and third

party campaigners. It also requires the disclosure of political donations of \$1000 or more made by major political donors.

41. Will you release the full list of donors who donated to your 2011 election campaign?

The Election Funding, Expenditure and Disclosures Act 1981 requires the disclosure of political donations received and/or made, and electoral expenditure incurred, by or on behalf of parties, elected members, groups, candidates and third party campaigners. It also requires the disclosure of political donations of \$1000 or more made by major political donors.

42. In the interest of transparency and accountability, will you commit to publicly release the source of donations for the 2015 election?

The Election Funding, Expenditure and Disclosures Act 1981 requires the disclosure of political donations received and/or made, and electoral expenditure incurred, by or on behalf of parties, elected members, groups, candidates and third party campaigners. It also requires the disclosure of political donations of \$1000 or more made by major political donors.

Lobbyists

43. On how many occasions have you met with a lobbyist, and what were the dates of these meetings?

Meetings with lobbyists are in accordance with the NSW Lobbyist Code of Conduct.

Information regarding scheduled meetings held with stakeholders, external organisations and individuals will be published in accordance with Memorandum 2014-07 - Publication of Ministerial Diaries.

44. Which lobbyists have you met with, and what was discussed?

Meetings with lobbyists are in accordance with the NSW Lobbyist Code of Conduct.

Information regarding scheduled meetings held with stakeholders, external organisations and individuals will be published in accordance with Memorandum 2014-07 - Publication of Ministerial Diaries.

45. The Minister for Finance has banned lobbyists from meeting him and his office; will you make the same commitment?
(a) If not, why not?

Meetings with lobbyists are in accordance with the NSW Lobbyist Code of Conduct.

Information regarding scheduled meetings held with stakeholders, external organisations and individuals will be published in accordance with Memorandum 2014-07 - Publication of Ministerial Diaries.

Cross Border Commissioner

46. How many times have you met with the Cross Border Commissioner:
(a) In the last twelve months
(b) Since the creation of the position.

Information regarding scheduled meetings held with stakeholders, external organisations and individuals will be published in accordance with Memorandum 2014-07 - Publication of Ministerial Diaries.

47. What issues or topics have you referred to the Cross Border Commissioner:
(a) In the last twelve months
(b) Since the creation of the position.

Information regarding scheduled meetings held with stakeholders, external organisations and individuals will be published in accordance with Memorandum 2014-07 - Publication of Ministerial Diaries.

Labour Hire Firms

48. 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

A number of agencies within my portfolios used the services of labour hire companies for a range of roles, at different locations on a needs basis.

Consultancy Work

49. Has the consultancy company Crosby Textor done any consultancy work for the Dept of Primary Industries?
- (a) If so what projects was Crosby Textor consulted on?
 - (b) What was the cost of the consultancy work for each project?
 - (c) Was there a tender process for these projects?

This question should be referred to the Minister for Primary Industries.

50. Does Crosby Textor currently have any contract work with the Department, if so, what is their role in the project?

This question should be referred to the Minister for Primary Industries.

51. Has the consultancy company Premier State done any consultancy work for the Dept of Primary Industries?
- (a) If so what projects was Premier State consulted on?
 - (b) What was the cost of the consultancy work for each project?
 - (c) Was there a tender process for these projects?

This question should be referred to the Minister for Primary Industries.

52. Does Premier State currently have any contract work with the Department, if so, what is their role in the project?

This question should be referred to the Minister for Primary Industries.

53. Has the Government Contracting company Serco or its affiliates done any consultancy work for the Dept of Primary Industries?
- (a) If so what projects was Serco or its affiliates assisted with?
 - (b) What was the cost of the consultancy work for each project?
 - (c) Was there a tender process for these projects?

This question should be referred to the Minister for Primary Industries.

54. Does Serco or any of its affiliates currently have any contract work with the Department, if so, what is their role in the project?

This question should be referred to the Minister for Primary Industries.

Phones/iPads

55. How many blackberries/smart phones are assigned to your staff?

204 phones have been issued to NSW Government Ministerial staff.

56. For each phone, how much was each bill in the 2013/14 financial year?

The 2013-14 total phone bill expenditure for NSW Government Ministerial offices is \$363,877 (63%) less than under the NSW Labor Government in 2008-09 of \$578,691 total expenditure.

57. How many have phones have been lost in your office?

9 phones were lost from the NSW Government Ministerial staff.

58. What is the cost of replacing those phones?

The cost is the normal contract price and this cost is claimed through the NSW Treasury Managed Fund.

59. How many iPads does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?

96 iPads have been issued for the NSW Government Ministerial staff.

60. How many iPads have you purchased for your office and to whom have they been issued?

iPads are supplied by DPC and have not been purchased by NSW Government Ministerial staff.

61. How many iPhones does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?

204 phones have been issued to the NSW Government Ministerial staff.

62. How many iPhones have you purchased for your office and to whom have they been issued?

iPhones or Smart Phones are supplied by DPC and have not been purchased by NSW Government Ministerial staff.

63. How many iPhones have been lost in your office?

9 phones were lost from the NSW Government Ministerial staff.

64. How many iPads have been lost in your office?

0 iPads were lost from the NSW Government Ministerial staff.

65. What is the cost of replacing those phones or iPads?

The cost is the normal contract price and this cost is claimed through the NSW Treasury Managed Fund.

Media/public relations

66. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies?

I am advised:

MPES: Nil.

NSWPF: Forty.

FRNSW: Four.

NSW RFS: Four.

NSW SES: Four.

NSWCC: Nil.

Office of Sport: One

Sydney Olympic Park Authority: 0.3

Sydney Cricket and Sports Ground Trust: One

All figures are FTE.

67. What is the forecast for 2014/15 for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost?

I am advised:

MPES and NSWCC remain at nil. NSWPF advises the forecast cost for 2014-15 is \$5,099,245. FRNSW advises the forecast cost for 2014-15 is \$462,541 for four advisers,

RFS also remains at four with forecast cost of \$387,590 based on the maximum salary for each position. SES advises that forecast cost for 2014-15 is \$260,478 for three advisers.

Entities under Sport and Recreation Portfolio advise that employee related expenses and operating costs for media or public relations advisers for 2014-15 is \$400,500.

Overseas trips

68. Have any of your overseas trips in the past year been paid for in part or in full by using public money?

Information regarding Ministerial travel is available on the Minister's appropriate agency website, in accordance with Ministerial Memorandum M2009-10 "Release of Overseas Travel Information".

69. If so, did any of your relatives or friends accompany you on these trips?

Information regarding Ministerial travel is available on the Minister's appropriate agency website, in accordance with Ministerial Memorandum M2009-10 "Release of Overseas Travel Information".

Office costs

70. What is the annual remuneration package for your chief of staff?

Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the DPC website at: [http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers and ministers staff numbers](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers_and_ministers_staff_numbers).

71. What is the annual remuneration package for your head media advisor?

Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the DPC website at:

[http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers and ministers staff numbers](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers_and_ministers_staff_numbers).

72. What is the annual remuneration package for each of your staff?

Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the DPC website at: [http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers and ministers staff numbers](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers_and_ministers_staff_numbers).

73. What is the estimated expenditure for your office budget in 2014/15?

The 2014-15 budget for NSW Government Ministerial offices is \$4,886,770 (10%) less than under the NSW Labor Government in 2009-10 of \$48,834,000.

74. Have any office renovations or fit outs been undertaken in your ministerial office since April, 2011?

(a) If so, could you give details of contracted costs?

Information in relation to repairs, maintenance and relocation for 2011-12 and 2012-13 is available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet Disclosure Log at [http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/ data/assets/pdf file/0007/165616/Disclosure Log Information - Ministerial Renovations.docx.pdf](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0007/165616/Disclosure_Log_Information_-_Ministerial_Renovations.docx.pdf)

75. What is your Ministerial office budget for 2014/15?

The 2014-15 budget for NSW Government Ministerial offices is \$4,886,770 (10%) less than under the NSW Labor Government in 2009-10 of \$48,834,000.

76. How many political advisors are in your office?

Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the DPC website at: [http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers and ministers staff numbers](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers_and_ministers_staff_numbers).

77. How many administration staff?

Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the DPC website at: [http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers and ministers staff numbers](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers_and_ministers_staff_numbers).

78. How many Department Liaison Officers are assigned to your office?

Number of Department Liaison Officers for NSW Government Ministerial offices at 30 June 2014 was 56.

79. How many staff in the Department are assigned to Ministerial support duties?

Agencies within the Police and Emergency Services and Sport and Recreation portfolios have staff who provide support in my statutory, Parliamentary, Cabinet and other portfolio responsibilities. Workforce data is reported in each agency's Annual Report.

80. Are any contractors or consultants working in your ministerial office?

(a) If so, in what capacities?

No.

81. How much did your Ministerial office spend on contractors or consultants?

Zero.

Cabcharge

82. How much did your Ministerial office spend on taxi fares, including Cabcharge in the 2013/14 financial year?

The 2013-14 tax expenditure for NSW Government Ministerial offices was \$117,783 (67%) less than under the NSW Labor Government in 2009-10 of \$175,776.

Restructure

83. Are any of your portfolio agencies undergoing a restructure?

Agencies and departments undertake internal reviews of its structure to ensure that its functions and priorities align with the changing needs of Government. This work has involved reviewing structures in various parts of the agency to achieve greater alignment with the Government's reform agenda and recommendations of the Commission of Audit.

84. How many jobs are expected to be cut as a result of that restructure?

Agencies and departments undertake internal reviews of its structure to ensure that its functions and priorities align with the changing needs of Government. This work has involved reviewing structures in various parts of the agency to achieve greater alignment with the Government's reform agenda and recommendations of the Commission of Audit.

85. How many people are expected to have their wages cut as a result of that restructure?

Agencies and departments undertake internal reviews of its structure to ensure that its functions and priorities align with the changing needs of Government. This work has involved reviewing structures in various parts of the agency to achieve greater alignment with the Government's reform agenda and recommendations of the Commission of Audit.

86. How many voluntary redundancies were offered in your Departments since April 2011?

The Government's program of voluntary redundancies remains on track. The target of 5,000 positions by June 2015 (announced in the 2011/12 Budget) was already exceeded by a further 1,789 positions by December 2013. The Labour Expense Cap introduced in the 2012/13 Budget is also well on track with Secretaries given as much flexibility as possible to achieve these savings in the most appropriate way to meet the service requirements of their agencies. Nurses, police officers and teachers in schools have been quarantined from this measure.

87. What has been the total cost of redundancies since April 2011?

The Government's program of voluntary redundancies remains on track. The target of 5,000 positions by June 2015 (announced in the 2011/12 Budget) was already exceeded by a further 1,789 positions by December 2013. The Labour Expense Cap introduced in the 2012/13 Budget is also well on track with Secretaries given as much flexibility as possible to achieve these savings in the most appropriate way to meet the service requirements of their agencies. Nurses, police officers and teachers in schools have been quarantined from this measure.

88. How many voluntary redundancies were accepted from employees in your Departments since April 2011?

The Government's program of voluntary redundancies remains on track. The target of 5,000 positions by June 2015 (announced in the 2011/12 Budget) was already exceeded by a further 1,789 positions by December 2013. The Labour Expense Cap introduced in the 2012/13 Budget is also well on track with Secretaries given as much flexibility as possible to achieve these savings in the most appropriate way to meet the service requirements of their agencies. Nurses, police officers and teachers in schools have been quarantined from this measure.

89. How many voluntary redundancies are expected to be offered in 2014/15?

The Government's program of voluntary redundancies remains on track. The target of 5,000 positions by June 2015 (announced in the 2011/12 Budget) was

already exceeded by a further 1,789 positions by December 2013. The Labour Expense Cap introduced in the 2012/13 Budget is also well on track with Secretaries given as much flexibility as possible to achieve these savings in the most appropriate way to meet the service requirements of their agencies. Nurses, police officers and teachers in schools have been quarantined from this measure.

Agency costs

90. How much did your Department(s) spend on catering in 2013/14?

All costs within the Sport and Recreation and Police and Emergency Services portfolios are carefully monitored and controlled. Where specifically allocated budgets exist for catering, costs remained within budget.

91. How much did your Department(s) spend on stationery in 2013/14?

All costs within the Sport and Recreation and Police and Emergency Services portfolios are carefully monitored and controlled. Not all agencies have designated budgets for stationery.

92. What is your Department's catering budget?

I am advised:

Catering and stationery costs are part of the operating expenses budgets for the divisions and entities within the Police and Emergency Services and Sport and Recreation Portfolio. These are published in annual reports.

93. What is your Department's stationery budget?

I am advised:

Catering and stationery costs are part of the operating expenses budgets for the divisions and entities within the Police and Emergency Services Portfolio and Sport and Recreation Portfolio. These are published in annual reports.

94. Since April 2011 have any of the agencies in your Department(s) changed their branding?

I am advised:

There have been no changes to the NSW Police Force and SES logo or branding in 2013-14. Please refer to previous responses to Budget Estimates questions regarding previous years.

In accordance with Government directives, the NSW Crime Commission adopted the NSW Government corporate logo in June 2014.

The Office of Sport was established on 1 July 2014 and a logo has been designed for the agency's branding within own resources.

Venues NSW and WIN Sport & Entertainment Centres are public trading enterprises, and have had new logos developed since 2011

95. If so, how much was spent on rebranding the agency?

I am advised:

NSWPF: Nil in 2013-14. Please refer to previous responses to Budget Estimates questions regarding previous years.

NSW SES: Nil in 2013-14. Please refer to previous responses to Budget Estimates questions regarding previous years.

NSWCC: The costs of rebranding to the Commission have been minimal.

The costs of logos for Venues NSW and WIN Sport & Entertainment Centres was \$6,480 (excl. GST) and funded from earned revenue. Other changes to logos and branding have been undertaken by own staff.

Correspondence

96. How long is the average turnaround for responding to correspondence in your Department(s)?

97. How many pieces of correspondence have been outstanding for more than 60 days?

I am advised with respect to 96 and 97:

All agencies in my portfolios have recommended timeframes for completing responses to correspondence from Ministers, Members of Parliament and members of the public. However, it is not always possible to comply with these timeframes for any number of reasons including the nature and complexity of the matter; stakeholder consultation; or further information required from other sources.

Paying bills on time

98. In 2013/14 how many invoices has your Department(s) failed to pay a supplier or contractor for more than 30 days?
99. As a result of late payment, how much penalty interest has been paid to contractors since 1 January 2011?
100. How many invoices have been outstanding for longer than 60 days?

With respect to 98 to 100, I am advised:

**Information regarding the “30 days to pay” policy is available at:
<http://www.finance.nsw.gov.au/30days/how-government-will-report-policy>.**

Grants to non-government organisations

101. Does your department provide recurrent grant funds to non-government organisations?
- If yes,
- (a) What are the names of all organisations in receipt of funding?
 - (b) What is the total amount of funding received by each organisation including goods and services tax?
 - (c) On what date was the funding advanced?
 - (d) What was the purpose for each grant or funding advance?
 - (e) Was any funding withheld or returned?
 - (f) If so, what were the reasons for withholding or requiring the funding to be returned?
 - (g) What is the indexation rate applied to non-recurrent grant funds in 2013/14?
 - (h) What are the details of any costs involved in each study, audit, taskforce or review?

I am advised:

These details can be found in each agency’s Annual Report.

Contractors

102. How many contractors has your Department(s) retained since 1 July 2014 and at what cost?

I am advised that agencies within the Police and Emergency Services Portfolio are required to report details of contractor costs as part of financial statements contained

in annual reports. Divisions and entities across the Sport and Recreation portfolio have not retained any contractors since 1 July 2014.

Aboriginal employment

103. What is the current level of Aboriginal employment within your Department(s)?

104. How has that changed since 1 July 2013?

I am advised:

The Public Service Commission collects workforce data from the NSW public sector, including regarding levels of Aboriginal employment. NSW Treasury Circular 11/03 outlines Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Disclosure Requirements, requiring that NSW public sector agencies include EEO data in their Annual Reports.

Charter air flights

105. Since 1 July 2011, how much has been spent on charter air flights by your Department(s)?

I am advised:

MPES: Nil.

NSWPF: The NSWPF spent \$19,480 on charter flights to move NSWPF personnel between 1 July 2013 and 18 August 2014. The Major Events and Incident Group has advised that the NSWPF spent \$1,332,383 on prisoner charter air flights in the 2013-14 financial year.

FRNSW: Nil.

NSW RFS: \$2,992 (excl. GST).

NSW SES: Nil. The NSW SES does engage the services of aircraft (fixed wing and helicopters) during flood events to provide operational responses such as evacuation, resupply and flood reconnaissance.

NSWCC: Nil.

Sport and Recreation divisions and entities: Details regarding travel costs are published in the Annual Report.

Reviews and studies

106. In relation to feasibility studies, audits, taskforces and reviews:

Is your department currently undertaking any feasibility studies, audits, taskforces or reviews? If so; then;

- (a) What are the terms of reference or details of each study, audit, taskforce or review?
- (b) Who is conducting the study, audit, taskforce or review?
- (c) Was each study, audit, taskforce or review was publically advertised seeking expression of interest or competitive tenders?
- (d) Is there a contract in place detailing terms of engagement for the study, audit, taskforce or review?
- (e) What is the timeline of each study, audit, taskforce or review?
- (f) What are the details of any costs involved in each study, audit, taskforce or review?

As with previous NSW Governments, the Government undertakes feasibility studies, audits, taskforces and reviews to inform government decision making. A number of feasibility studies, audits, taskforces and reviews are currently being undertaken across the NSW Government.

Parliamentary Secretary

107. Can you please list all travel related costs for your Parliamentary Secretary incurred in their capacity as Parliamentary Secretary since 1 July 2013

- (a) kilometres travelled
- (b) accommodation,
- (c) air fares
- (d) meals/entertaining?

Information on the total costs for NSW Government Parliamentary Secretaries in 2013/14 are:

- (a) Information not available.**
- (b) \$1,338**
- (c) \$8,773**
- (d) Information not available. Expenses are included under (b).**

108. Can you please provide details of the following activities undertaken by your Parliamentary Secretary since 1 July 2013;

- (a) meetings attended in their capacity as Parliamentary Secretary?
- (b) functions attended in their capacity as Parliamentary Secretary?

Parliamentary Secretaries provide assistance to the Minister, including signing correspondence; receiving deputations; undertaking special tasks; officiating at functions; and relieving the Minister of some of their duties. The duties to be performed are those allocated by the Minister, or which have the Premier/Minister endorsement.

109. How often do you meet with your Parliamentary Secretary?
- (a) Are these meetings documented?
 - (b) Who attends these meetings?

Parliamentary Secretaries provide assistance to the Minister, including signing correspondence; receiving deputations; undertaking special tasks; officiating at functions; and relieving the Minister of some of their duties. The duties to be performed are those allocated by the Minister, or which have the Minister endorsement.

110. Who provides instructions and direction to your Parliamentary Secretary, you or your Chief of Staff?

Parliamentary Secretaries provide assistance to the Minister, including signing correspondence; receiving deputations; undertaking special tasks; officiating at functions; and relieving the Minister of some of their duties. The duties to be performed are those allocated by the Minister, or which have the Minister endorsement.

Media training

111. Has the Minister been provided with Speech, Voice or Media Training since becoming Minister? If so, then;
- (a) Who conducted the training?
 - (b) When was it conducted?
 - (c) Where was it conducted what were the costs of the training?
 - (d) Who paid for the training?

No.

112. Has the Parliamentary Secretary been provided with Speech, Voice or Media Training since becoming Parliamentary Secretary? If so, then;
- (a) Who conducted the training?
 - (b) When was it conducted?
 - (c) Where was it conducted what were the costs of the training?
 - (d) Who paid for the training?

No.

Questions from Mr David Shoebridge MLC

POLICE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

113. What is the current number of police with criminal convictions?

As at 26 August 2014, 436 officers had criminal convictions.

114. Of the total number of police with criminal convictions, how many were pre-employment convictions and how many were post-employment convictions?

I am advised:

Pre-employment convictions : 294 as at 26 August 2014.

Post-employment convictions : 148 as at 26 August 2014.

The total of these two figures does not correspond to the answer given to Q.113 above, as an officer may have a conviction for both pre- and post-employment.

115. What is the total number of officers currently suspended from the NSW Police Force?

116. How much do these suspensions cost per week?

117. What entitlements are payable to suspended members?

118. How many suspended officers are currently receiving housing allowances or subsidised accommodation?

With respect to questions 115 to 118, I am advised:

Officers who are suspended are dealt with in accordance with clause 51 of the *Police Regulation 2008* and the Premier's Memorandum No 94-35.

86 police officers were suspended from the NSW Police Force as at 26 August 2014.

119. What consideration has been given in the last 12 months to changes to support and training related to police psychological injuries?

The NSW Government invested an additional \$15 million to improve welfare programs and the NSW Police Force is also investing its own resources recognising the importance of keeping officers healthy.

The NSW Police Force now has over 79 activities and initiatives in place to:

- **promote wellbeing and prevent injury**
- **improve injury management**
- **and rehabilitate and redeploy injured officers.**

In addition, the Self Harm Prevention working group has been established to further examine the issue.

120. Given the unreliability of drug dog indications as indicating the actual presence of drugs, what consideration has been given to winding back these programs entirely?

Law enforcement agencies, customs and immigration, and corrections facilities all around the world use detection dogs to locate illegal drugs. NSW Police Force's drug detection dog operations are intelligence-based and target locations where it is suspected illegal drugs may be found. Police deploy drug detection dogs to those locations to both locate and deter drug possession and distribution. The Government and the NSW Police Force believe that the dogs perform these functions exceptionally well and intend to continue to use them into the future.

121. Since 1 January 2012 have any drug detections stemming from drug detection dog indications been dismissed in the courts due to police being unable to prove sufficient information existed to '*suspect on reasonable grounds*'.

(a) If so, how many?

Court outcomes are a matter for the Attorney General.

122. What is the total annual budget for the police media unit?

I am advised:

The annual budget for the Police media Unit in 2014-15 is \$3,019,817.

123. Why is this information not included as a separate line item in the budget?

NSW Budget Papers are prepared in line with standard accounting and statistical standards. This is also consistent across Australia Government jurisdictions.

124. As at 1 July 2014 how many FTE staff were employed in the police media unit?

As at 1 July 2014, the Police Media Unit had 9.38 FTE sworn and 14 FTE unsworn staff.

125. As at 1 July 2013 how many FTE staff were employed in the police media unit?

As at 1 July 2013, the Police Media Unit had 10.38 FTE sworn and 15 FTE unsworn staff.

126. Will your office approve a review of the ex-gratia application by former police officer Berrick Boland?

(a) If not, why not?

Mr Boland had been advised that the previous Minister for Police and Emergency Services decided not to make an ex gratia payment in his favour. Mr Boland has also been advised that this decision will not be reviewed.

127. Inconsistent figures appear to have been provided regarding the number of searches in 2011 that resulted in finding an indictable quantity of drugs between QON 5774 and QON 5363 – what is the reason for this discrepancy?

The Computerised Operational Policing System (COPS) is an operational, not a statistical database and over time there have been a number of different ways to record an event. This can result in differing statistics, particularly for historical data.

128. What is the correct number of searches in 2011 following a positive indication by a dog that resulted in finding an indictable quantity of drugs?

452.

129. In the Ombudsman evaluation of the drug detection dogs program the proportion of searches following a drug dog indication that led to a successful prosecution for supply was identified as 0.19% (for the period February 2002-February 2004). In answers to QON 5774 the advice was that successful prosecution rate rose to 2.95% of searches in 2009 led to a successful prosecution for supply. What is the explanation for this 1585% increase?

Court outcomes are a matter for the Attorney General.

130. Following QON 5774 are there other kinds of locations other than the 3 identified in the answers?

(a) If so, where are they?

The NSW Police Force provided statistics for the location types requested in QON 5774. Approximately 80% of all drug detection dog searches are conducted in such locations. The full list of location types in which searches have been conducted over the past year is:

- **adult entertainment**
- **business / commercial**
- **carpark**
- **education**
- **health**
- **industrial**
- **law enforcement**
- **licensed premise**
- **marine transport**
- **outdoor / public place (incl. road / street / footpath)**
- **public transport**
- **recreation**
- **religious**
- **residential**
- **rural industry**
- **transport**
- **utilities**
- **vehicle**

131. What location type do outdoor music festivals fit within for the purposes of recording drug dog operations?

(a) Why is data no longer recorded for these separately (as it was at the time of the Ombudsman's report)?

There is no location type for "outdoor music festivals". In some cases, such as the annual Tamworth Country Music Festival, a NSW Police Force operation is created that may allow for separate recording in the system. It is not possible to create a location type for outdoor music festivals, as locations are also used for other events.

132. Excluding the Review of the Police Powers (Drug Detection Dogs) Act 2001 undertaken by the NSW Ombudsman, have NSW Police commissioned, conducted or participated in any evaluations of the use of drug detection dogs in general drug detection operations in NSW?
- (a) If so, what was the details, timing and frame of reference of each evaluation?

Drug detection dogs are a highly visible tool used by the NSW Police Force to successfully combat drug dealing and possession. Drug detection dogs are effectively used by police to indicate the presence of illicit drugs or recent contact/possession.

133. Has the use of drug detection dogs in general drug detection operations in NSW had an overall impact on the availability, price or purity of drugs?
- (a) What evidence is there of these impacts?

The NSW Police Force employs numerous strategies to detect, deter, and prevent drug related crime; of which drug detection dogs is but one. Given the range of factors that would impact on availability, price or purity of drugs, the impact of drug detection dogs alone on those factors would be difficult to measure.

The NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) provides statistics and analysis on a broad range of crime and policing matters. I note that BOCSAR recently released crime statistics that show in the 24 months to June 2014, amphetamine possession increased by 16.1%. This is likely due to increased detection by police.

Emergency Services

134. Why hasn't the PWC Investigation report into the sacking of Tara McCarthy been made public?
135. What steps have been taken to implement the PWC Investigation report into the sacking of Tara McCarthy?

This is a matter for the Public Service Commission.

136. What protective measures do the NSW SES, Minister for Police and Emergency Services and the NSW Public Service Commission have in place to protect whistleblowers?

Questions regarding the Public Service Commission should be directed to the Premier. However, public interest disclosures are managed in accordance with the *Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994*.

137. What is the current status of the Fleet Project?
(a) Is this project on schedule, if not why not?

The NSW SES Fleet Project is in year two of its five year transition, with over 60 percent of vehicles transitioned to NSW Government ownership. The project is on track to commence delivery of Light and Medium Storm Damage vehicles in financial year 2014-15.

138. What is the current status of the Unit Support Program?
(a) Is this project on schedule, if not why not?

The NSW SES Unit Support Program is being implemented as agreed and is on schedule.

139. What is the current status and usage of the “Corporate Management Reporting” system?

The NSW SES uses the Corporate Performance Management System (CPM) to track organisational performance across the Service.

140. What measures has the Commissioner and the Senior Executive Group taken to address bullying and harassment in the NSW SES?

The NSW SES has introduced a new Code of Conduct and Ethics (April 2014) including a Statement of Values.

The Statement of Values is the centrepiece of Service-wide training about to be delivered, which is a respectful workplace training program for every member, whether staff or volunteer. A new Bullying and Harassment Policy will be released later this year.

A conduct management system is in the process of being adopted. This system will assist in determining how each grievance/complaint will be addressed, either through local management action, grievance resolution or conduct investigation.

141. Since January 2011, has the NSW SES, or the State Government, been required to refund any commonwealth government grant money due to poor accounting, recordkeeping or reporting by the SES?

(a) If so when, and how much money?

I am advised that the NSW SES is not aware of any instances where the State Government has been required to refund any Commonwealth grant money due to poor accounting, recordkeeping or reporting by the NSW SES.