

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2010-11

Questions taken on notice during the hearing

Question 1 (page 2)

CHAIR: ...Ms Mills, with regard to the Responsible Gaming Fund of which you are a trustee, do you find it strange that of all the trustees Mr Clifford Wong is the only member listed who is not part of the New South Wales public service or affiliated with a charity?

Ms MILLS: No. The membership is drawn from a range of places, with expertise to add value to the discussions of the matters at hand in the trust. A number of people have input into selection, including the chair of the existing trust and, of course, the Minister of the day.

CHAIR: Is Mr Wong a paid trustee of the fund and, if so, do you know what his remuneration is?

Ms MILLS: All trustees receive a small remuneration. I will have to take that on notice, but off the top of my head I think it is approximately \$5,000.

Answer:

All RGF Trustees other than the Chairperson are currently paid \$6,000 p.a.

Question 1A (page 2)

CHAIR: That is the situation now, Mr Wong has resigned?

Mr KEVIN GREENE: That is the advice that I have received.

CHAIR: Did he give reasons why he resigned?

Mr KEVIN GREENE: I am not aware of any reasons.

The Hon. DON HARWIN: On what date did he resign?

Mr KEVIN GREENE: I understand it was recently, but I cannot give you the exact date.

The Hon. DON HARWIN: Would you be able to take that question on notice for us and get back to the Committee?

Mr KEVIN GREENE: Certainly.

Answer:

A letter was received in my office on 17 September 2010 from Clifton Wong informing me of his decision to resign as a trustee of the Responsible Gambling Fund due to work commitments.

Question 2 (page 3)

The Hon. DON HARWIN: How many charities has the Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing

investigated over the past five years?

Mr KEVIN GREENE: I can give a very detailed answer to that. I understand that last year—so I cannot give you the last five years but for last year—the Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing undertook 96 inquiries into individuals and organisations that conduct fundraising activities to ensure compliance with charitable fundraising laws. That was in the last 12 months. Do you need greater detail than that?

The Hon. DON HARWIN: I would like, Minister, for you to take it on notice for the previous four years?

Mr KEVIN GREENE: Certainly.

Answer:

I am advised that during the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2009, the Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing received a total of 608 complaints about charities. All of these complaints were investigated.

Question 2A (page 3)

The Hon. DON HARWIN: I am happy with your answer in that respect. How many prosecutions has the Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing launched in the last five years?

Mr KEVIN GREENE: Again, I would have to take that on notice for the five-year detail.

Answer (re 2A and 2B)

I am advised that no prosecutions have proceeded during the five-year period, however, other actions have been taken (as detailed in the answer to question 3).

Over the five-year period, seven matters were referred to the police and two were referred to the Office of Fair Trading.

Question 2B (page 3)

The Hon. DON HARWIN: My question was specifically asking in relation to those that the office has launched, not the police?

Mr KEVIN GREENE: Yes, The Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing. Some of those ultimately may have been referred to the police or, indeed, the Department of Fair Trading. We will take that specifically, no worries.

The Hon. DON HARWIN: Are you saying, therefore, that there were none that you launched?

Mr KEVIN GREENE: No, I said we would have to take it on notice. To make sure I give a totally and completely accurate answer, I would want to be certain that we got the specific figure that you want just about the Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing direct prosecutions by the court. That is what you are asking for, is it not?

The Hon. DON HARWIN: Yes, that is absolutely what I am asking for. I am just surprised that you would not have that detail with you.

Mr KEVIN GREENE: This is also the point, that many are also referred to the Department of Justice and the Attorney General as that department administers and regulates one of the Acts which we looked at, the Charitable Fundraising Act.

CHAIR: I am happy for you to take this on notice, but if we could be made aware of exactly how many your department instigated, commenced, inquired into and how many continued to fruition, to finalisation, and how many were then referred on to the police and how many were referred on to the Department of Fair Trading?

Mr KEVIN GREENE: I am happy to take that on notice. Do you still want that for the five-year period?

Answer (re 2A and 2B)

I am advised that no prosecutions have proceeded during the five-year period, however, other actions have been taken (as detailed in the answer to question 3).

Over the five-year period, seven matters were referred to the police and two were referred to the Office of Fair Trading.

Question 3 (page 4)

The Hon. DON HARWIN: Yes, please. Minister or Ms Mills, are you able to provide the Committee with details of how many successful prosecutions there were in the last 12 months by the Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing?

Ms MILLS: I think perhaps the word "prosecution" is the challenge for us in terms of the legal meaning of that. We have a range of responsibilities that we can adjudicate on, prosecution being, in its legal sense, not necessarily within the bailiwick of what we primarily do. Because we regulate the charity we can provide advice to the police if we find information that gives cause for concern. We can also seek organisations to show cause why they should continue to be covered under the Charitables Fundraising Act and we can also remove their charitable fundraising status.

The Hon. DON HARWIN: And remove their charitable status?

Ms MILLS: For New South Wales.

The Hon. DON HARWIN: In terms of the sorts of legal initiatives that you can take, were any of those taken and successfully concluded in terms of the various categories that you outlined?

Ms MILLS: The precise details I would have to take on notice, but clearly there are individual examples that we could provide further detail on, if you had specific charities in mind.

Answer:

I am advised that:

- An administrator was appointed to manage the affairs of a charity which ultimately led to the organisation having its incorporated status cancelled by the Department of Services, Technology and Administration.
- Two letters were issued requiring organisations to show cause why their authority to fundraise should not be revoked.
- One charity had its authority to fundraise revoked.
- The Office also refused to approve 76 applications due to the failure of the applicants to provide further information as requested during processing.

Question 4 (page 4)

The Hon. DON HARWIN: In January 2009 the former Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing commissioner, Michael Foggo, stated he would launch an investigation into an organisation called Bush Haven, the school for incapacitated children with the view of—and he used this term—prosecuting them under the Charitable Funds Act. Was this organisation prosecuted?

Ms MILLS: I would have to take that on notice.

The Hon. DON HARWIN: So you have no details with you on any of the prosecutions?

Ms MILLS: Not that one, no.

The Hon. DON HARWIN: You are unable to help me with that. If you are taking that on notice, if you would be kind enough also to provide the Committee with details of whatever penalty was imposed, if there was a prosecution, or any other legal initiative against that organisation taken by the Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing?

The Hon. DON HARWIN: So you have no details with you on any of the prosecutions?

Ms MILLS: Not that one, no.

The Hon. DON HARWIN: You are unable to help me with that. If you are taking that on notice, if you would be kind enough also to provide the Committee with details of whatever penalty was imposed, if there was a prosecution, or any other legal initiative against that organisation taken by the Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing?

Ms MILLS: I will certainly do that, yes.

Answer:

No. The matter relating to Bush Haven School for Incapacitated Children is still under consideration.

Question 5 (page 6)

Dr JOHN KAYE: Have you had any communication with the Australian Hotels Association, or with any large or small hoteliers, about changing the situation with respect to multi-terminal gaming machines?

Mr KEVIN GREENE: Yes.

Dr JOHN KAYE: You have?

Mr KEVIN GREENE: They have made representations when the decision has been made that it would not be accepted.

Dr JOHN KAYE: Can you describe what those representations were? Did they meet with you, or did they meet with someone in your office, or did they meet with someone from your department?

Mr KEVIN GREENE: I cannot speak with regard to the department, but certainly they have raised the issue with me. One would appreciate that I have regular meetings with the Australian Hotels Association as part of the ongoing liaison, just as I have regular meetings with Clubs NSW and Racing NSW.

Dr JOHN KAYE: I am not implying that there is anything wrong with that. Was it the Australian Hotels Association that met with you to—?

Mr KEVIN GREENE: The Australian Hotels Association had raised that matter, yes.

Dr JOHN KAYE: Can you tell us when the association last raised that matter with you?

Mr KEVIN GREENE: I cannot think of it being raised certainly in the past six months, probably the past 12 months.

Dr JOHN KAYE: Could you take that question on notice? You have a diary, you probably would have—

Mr KEVIN GREENE: Yes, but, again I can tell you it was certainly not within the past six months. We probably had a monthly meeting with them.

Answer:

The Australian Hotels Association last raised the issue of multi-terminal gaming machines in January 2010. I also note the Coalition's plans to expand the use of multi-terminal gaming machines in clubs across New South Wales as committed to in a memorandum of understanding recently signed with Clubs NSW.

Question 6 (page 9)

Dr JOHN KAYE: Going to the issue of Trackside, referred to in your media release as a simulated racing game in TAB venues, my understanding of Trackside is that mathematically speaking, it is a random number generator that determines an outcome of a race and then there is a front end on it that makes it look as if it is a race. Is that correct?

Mr KEVIN GREENE: For the sake of discussion we will leave your explanation as being reasonable. Yes, go on.

Dr JOHN KAYE: I have run out of time. I will have to come back to that.

The Hon. LYNDA VOLTZ: The Government does not have any questions at this time, but reserves the right to ask questions at a later stage.

CHAIR: Thank you. I have just been advised that was only 10 minutes for the crossbenchers.

Mr KEVIN GREENE: Dr Kaye, do you want to finish your question? Would you like me to give a detailed description to clarify what you are saying?

Dr JOHN KAYE: No, I do not. I want to go somewhere else for a minute. I would appreciate that on notice.

Answer:

Trackside is a virtual racing product delivering thoroughbred, harness and greyhound racing and bet options in TAB outlets any time of the day or night, depending on trading hours of the venue. Trackside is run from a central host at Tabcorp's Melbourne head office with a random number generator used to determine the results. Vision of each race is sent via satellite from Sky Channel to each TAB outlet offering the product.

The product has been designed to closely resemble the normal TAB racing and wagering experience, with traditional TAB betting options Win, Place, Quinella and Trifecta being offered. Trackside is intended to operate as part of, or adjacent to, the TAB facilities in any wagering venue.

I am advised that Trackside operates in the following manner:

- A computer algorithm randomly produces each result and the races are then simulated to provide the outcome of the algorithm.
- There are 12 starters in each race.

Question 7 (page 11)

Dr JOHN KAYE: And how many races will be run between real horse races?

Mr KEVIN GREENE: I do not have that exact figure in front of me.

Dr JOHN KAYE: Is there likely to be a large number of Trackside races run between? Is there any regulatory limit on the number of races?

Mr KEVIN GREENE: We follow exactly the same principles as Victoria. I am not sure if you have seen the game in Victoria.

Dr JOHN KAYE: No, I have not. What are the principles in Victoria?

Mr KEVIN GREENE: As I say, they would be a certain amount. I have not got the exact number in front of me.

Dr JOHN KAYE: Can you get back to us on notice about the exact number?

Mr KEVIN GREENE: Sure.

Answer:

I am advised that the duration of a Trackside race varies based on the distance and type of event. Races are conducted every 3-5 minutes.

This product is subject to the approval of appropriate rules of betting and strict regulatory requirements.

Question 8 (page 20)

CHAIR: I am not going to go over again the fact that you do not want to produce the report and I am happy for you to take this on notice. Are you prepared to at least provide the Committee with a list of each and every event in the last 12 months?

Mr KEVIN GREENE: Absolutely.

Answer:

The following list of events occurred in 2009/10 and received funding from ENSW (in calendar order).

Event	Date held
FIH Women's Champions Trophy Hockey	Jul-09
Country Energy Australian Surf Festival Port Macquarie	Aug-09
Sydney Fashion Festival	Aug-09
Australian Tarmac Challenge	Sept-09
Helpmann Awards	Sept-09
Lismore Festival of Cricket	Sept-09
Sydney Children's Festival	Sept- 09
Repco World Rally Championships	Sept-09
Wicked Capitol Theatre	Sept-09
Art and About	Oct-09
Crave – Breakfast on the Bridge	Oct-09
Crave - Sydney Harbour Island Hopping	Oct-09
Crave - Sydney International Food Festival	Oct-09
7 Bridges Walk	Oct-09
Darling Harbour Fiesta	Oct-09
World's Funniest Island	Oct-09
Socceroos Friendly v Netherlands	Oct-09
ARIAS	Nov-09
NSW Open Golf-Men	Nov-09
NSW PGA Championship-Men	Nov-09
Australian Open Golf-Men	Dec-09

Danny Green v Roy Jones Fight	Dec-09
Jack Newton celebrity golf	Dec-09
NYE Broadcast	Dec-09
Olafur Eliasson exhibition - MCA	Dec-09
AR Rahman concert (Sydney Festival)	Jan-10
Australian Day	Jan-10
Medibank International Tennis	Jan-10
Sydney Festival First Night	Jan-10
Yabun Festival (Australia Day)	Jan-10
Bathurst Motor Festival	Feb-10
Chinese New Year Parade	Feb-10
Corowa Auto Fest	Feb-10
Surf Rowers Wollongong	Feb-10
Top Gear Live	Feb-10
Albury Gold Cup carnival	Mar-10
CMC Rocks the Snowys	Mar-10
Ironman Triathlon Port Macquarie	Mar-10
Mardi Gras	Mar-10
Surfest Newcastle	Mar-10
Sydney Autumn Carnival	Apr-10
Byron Bay Blues Festival	Apr-10
Inglis Easter Yearling Sale	Apr-10
Commonwealth Bank Beachley Classic	Apr-10
Triathlon World Championships	Apr-10
Dungog Film Festival	May-10
Jessica Watson's return	May-10
Rosemount Aust'n Fashion Week Spring/Summer Collections	May-10
Vivid - Sydney Opera House	Jun-10
Vivid - Creative Sydney	Jun-10
Vivid - SHFA Firewater	Jun-10
Vivid - Macquarie Visions	Jun-10
Vivid - Song Summit	Jun-10
X Media lab	Jun-10

Sydney Film Festival

Jun-10

Question 9 (page 20)

CHAIR: Can I ask you this sincere question—and I can assure you that I am not playing games—how does the taxpayer and we as a Committee ascertain that a certain event for which responsible was a huge success, if I can use that terminology, for different and varying reasons and one that should be repeated and encouraged and how do I know that something was a complete flop for many reasons that was being continued when it should not, if I cannot access the relevant papers that give me this information? That is my dilemma personally.

Mr KEVIN GREENE: Sure. I can give you that detail because whether it is Vivid with the over 300,000 people participating in the event or Crave through Breakfast on the bridge or the noodle markets in Hyde Park, you can see that obviously. But I can comprehensively tell you that for every \$1 million invested by Events NSW, on average there is a return of in excess of \$5.8 million. I can categorically state that.

CHAIR: I look forward to that answer on notice.

Answer:

In response to a series of questions related to the value for government money directly attributable to events funded the Minister agreed to provide as much information as possible.

The events held over the past twelve months that received funding from Events NSW are listed in the answer provided to Question No. 1 Without Notice.

For each event funded by Events NSW specific KPIs are negotiated and performance is measured against these benchmarks or agreed targets so that Events NSW has reliable data against which to assess the value of the event to the NSW economy. Events NSW conducts extensive research and evaluation on every event we invest in.

Events NSW is positioned as a leader in event evaluation and modelling and undertakes extensive research to evaluate the outcomes and impacts of the NSW Master Events Calendar. This research shows the ROI for the 2009 NSW Master Events Calendar of just over \$10 for every public dollar invested, including Business Events.

It should be noted of course that the value of events should not be confined exclusively to direct Ei as Events NSW criteria also extend to strategic, marketing and community benefits.

Specific details of the financial arrangements and assessment procedures are confidential. The majority of events receiving Government funding through Events NSW are delivered through a mix of government funding and corporate or other sponsorship arrangements and details of commercial negotiations and arrangements are not publicly released for the following reasons:

- Breach of confidentiality contract clauses;
- Effective commercial negotiations demand secrecy;
- Release of information would create a disadvantage in a major events bidding war if other cities knew how much money ENSW was prepared to spend; potentially creating an inflated marketplace which reduces the amount of events that ENSW could invest in, thus reducing the amount of economic, marketing and community benefits delivered to the State and increases the likelihood that event bids will be lost to other States or overseas; and
- Release of company intellectual property i.e. unique research methodology and revealing event funding details would amount to the corporation giving away trade secrets.

Question 10 (page 25)

Dr JOHN KAYE: Sorry, Minister, I am really confused. All I want is for each event the public money that went into it and the impact on gross State product—that is all I want—as a table.

Mr KEVIN GREENE: We will see what we can provide you with. I am happy to do that.

Dr JOHN KAYE: The question is will you provide that information?

Mr KEVIN GREENE: I will provide you with as much detail as I can. I am happy to do that. But what I can say is—

Dr JOHN KAYE: Minister, where you cannot provide that will you explain why you cannot provide it?

Mr KEVIN GREENE: Certainly.

Answer:

Refer answer to Question 9.

Question 11 (page 32)

The Hon. ROBERT BORSAK: The Commonwealth Games are about to start in India and our shooters are likely to do well. How much funding does Sport and Recreation provide to junior shooters in New South Wales through the various sporting academies or grants programs?

Mr KEVIN GREENE: I will provide the specific information on notice. Grants totalling \$750,000 were awarded for 62 projects across the State. Many were for construction and compliance.

The Hon. ROBERT BORSAK: Do you want to take the question on notice? I am particularly interested in that area.

Mr KEVIN GREENE: Yes.

ANSWER:

In 2009/10 the sport of shooting received the following grants, all of which would directly or indirectly benefit junior shooters:

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| • Safe Shooting Program | \$750,000 |
| • Sport Development Program | \$60,000 |
| • Facility Development Program | \$51,622 |
| • Sport and Athlete Development Program | \$15,000 |

Clay Target Shooting is a squad program offered through the Hunter Academy of Sport and other regional academies assist athletes involved in shooting sports as part of individual scholarship programs.

Question 12 (page 33)

The Hon. ROBERT BORSAK: My colleague the late Roy Smith wrote to the Government in April this year asking that consideration be given to the Government developing a centre capable of hosting all types of major shooting events, most likely in central New South Wales because of the amount of land required, along the lines of the Whittington Centre in the United States and the National Shooting Centre at Bisley in the United Kingdom. The response did not address the issue, and given that the economic benefits of such a venue in a country area would be enormous, I ask the Government will revisit the issue and seriously consider the needs of shooters in this State in regard to hosting major international shooting events?

Mr KEVIN GREENE: I will take that on notice.

ANSWER:

The Government provides annual funding assistance to the Sydney International Shooting Centre in Western Sydney which is a legacy venue from the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games. The Government also is seeking to develop the Southern Highlands Regional Shooting Complex at Hilltop.

The Government is open to further discussions for a suitable shooting facility in the Central West of NSW.

Question 13 (page 35)

Dr JOHN KAYE: Do you provide any funding to the Burn Rubber Burn Program which, I understand, is an exercise program for people with disabilities? I think it is run out of police citizens youth clubs?

Mr KEVIN GREENE: I would have to take that on notice.

Ms MILLS: However, we do provide funding directly to a number of police citizens youth clubs.

Dr JOHN KAYE: Sure, but I am specifically interested in the Burn Rubber Burn Program.

Mr KEVIN GREENE: We will find out.

ANSWER:

The Government, through NSW Sport and Recreation provided \$133,700 to the Burn Rubber Burn Program in 2007/08.

Incorporated, not-for-profit organisations are able to apply for a range of grants from NSW Sport and Recreation. No applications have been received for Burn Rubber Burn Programs in the last two years, including applications for Burn Rubber Burn under the auspice of Police Citizen Youth Clubs.