

12 JAN 2006

**Question:** 1  
**Notice Given:** 7 December 2005  
**Asked by:** The Hon M Gallacher MLC

**Question :**

Commissioner, yesterday it was announced that there would be six officers moving to Cronulla as a result of some decisions that have been made. Can you indicate to me where the six officers are coming from?

**Answer :**

NSW Police has advised me :

Four officers have been allocated from the recent Police Academy graduating class. Two additional officers have been appointed from other Local Area Commands following recruitment action.

per 

**The Hon Carl Scully MP  
Minister for Police**

**Question:** 2  
**Notice Given:** 7 December 2005  
**Asked by:** The Hon M Gallacher MLC

**Question :**

Given the sensitivity and most certainly the community interest in that matter, can you indicate to me why the deputy commissioner of operations was not involved in the announcement yesterday?

**Answer :**

NSW Police has advised me :

Due to its significance, Commissioner Moroney decided to be the NSW Police spokesperson.

*per*   
The Hon Carl Scully MP  
Minister for Police

**Question:** 3  
**Notice Given:** 7 December 2005  
**Asked by:** The Hon M Gallacher MLC

**Question :**

Commissioner, you indicated a few minutes ago the most up to date information you have (authorised and actual strength numbers at Miranda LAC as at 31 October 2005). Would you be prepared to table that information?

**Answer :**

NSW Police has advised me :

Authorised and actual strength figures for October and November 2005 are available on the NSW Police website, [www.police.nsw.gov.au](http://www.police.nsw.gov.au).

*per*   
The Hon Carl Scully MP  
Minister for Police

**Question:** 4  
**Notice Given:** 7 December 2005  
**Asked by:** The Hon M Gallacher MLC

**Question :**

- A : Could you indicate how many officers have left so far this financial year because of medically unfit reasons?
- B : Can you indicate how many police officers have notified NSW Police of their wish to be discharged as medically unfit, those who have not yet been discharged but are in the process?

**Answer :**

NSW Police has advised me :

- A : 175 officers were medically discharged between 1 July 2005 and 31 October 2005.
- B : There are currently 177 medical discharge applications pending.

*per*   
The Hon Carl Scully MP  
Minister for Police

**Question:** 5  
**Notice Given:** 7 December 2005  
**Asked by:** The Hon M Gallacher MLC

**Question :**

- A : How many officers are currently on permanent restricted duties?  
B : How many are on temporary restricted duties?  
C : How many are on long-term sick leave?

**Answer :**

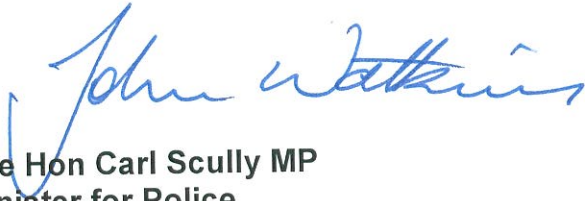
NSW Police has advised me :

- A : 263 officers are currently on permanent restricted duties.  
B : This is a matter for the Local Area Commander and centralised records are not maintained.  
C : The number of officers on long term sick leave can fluctuate greatly during the year, sometimes varying by around 100 over a six month period.

This Government has committed an additional \$2.45 million a year from 2005/06 to improve injury management within NSW Police. This money is funding key initiatives including :

- The creation of a specialist unit within NSW Police to oversight and improve the injury management process by working directly with Local Area Commands on how to better manage injured officers.
- The employment of an additional 8 return-to-work coordinators to assist injured officers return, wherever possible, to their pre-injury employment or other meaningful police work.
- The expansion to all high-risk specialist areas of the NSW Police 'Well-check' program. It will allow NSW Police to identify and assist early those officers that are in danger of psychological injury.

Together with the other reforms already undertaken to improve the management of long term sick leave, these initiatives are another example of how this Government is supporting the welfare of our police.



**The Hon Carl Scully MP**  
**Minister for Police**

**Question:** 6  
**Notice Given:** 7 December 2005  
**Asked by:** The Hon M Gallacher MLC

**Question :**

- A : Do you have an idea as to how many officers in the past financial year have been assisted by the RDCU?
- B : What is the budget for the RDCU?

**Answer :**

NSW Police has advised me :

- A : During the 2004-05 financial year 65 officers were placed in permanent restricted duties.
- B : The RDCU budget is an integral part of the overall Health Services allocation. Provision is made within the police salaries allocation for the appointment of one Inspector and two Sergeants within the RDCU.

*per*   
The Hon Carl Scully MP  
Minister for Police

**Question:** 7  
**Notice Given:** 7 December 2005  
**Asked by:** The Hon M Gallacher MLC

**Question :**

Could you give some specifics of cases you are aware of that the RDCU has done in delivering exactly what you expect them to do?

**Answer :**

NSW Police has advised me :

Example A : After an absence of 3 years on long term sick leave, the RDCU was instrumental in the return to work, retraining and subsequent placement of a Senior Constable in permanent restricted duties within the Communications Branch.

Example B : A Senior Constable who had suffered a significant workplace injury in a metropolitan Local Area Command undertook an extensive return to work program at a country Command. She did not wish to return to the metropolitan area and the RDCU successfully negotiated a placement at the Police Academy, Goulburn where the officer is now a highly regarded instructor.

*per*   
The Hon Carl Scully MP  
Minister for Police



**Question:** 8  
**Notice Given:** 7 December 2005  
**Asked by:** The Hon M Gallacher MLC

**Question :**

I can assume, therefore, that the vicious assault upon the lifesavers was not the catalyst for the six new personnel being shifted across to that command (Cronulla)?

**Answer :**

NSW Police has advised me :

The six officers in question have been allocated in the normal course of police operations.

*per*   
The Hon Carl Scully MP  
Minister for Police

**Question:** 9  
**Notice Given:** 7 December 2005  
**Asked by:** The Hon M Gallacher MLC

**Question :**

When will they (additional officers at Cronulla) start?

**Answer :**

NSW Police has advised me :

Four officers commenced duty on 16 December 2005. The other two officers will take up their positions in early 2006.

*per*   
The Hon Carl Scully MP  
Minister for Police

**Question:** 10  
**Notice Given:** 7 December 2005  
**Asked by:** The Hon M Gallacher MLC

**Question :**

- A : How many police officers currently within the New South Wales Police Force joined prior to 1988?
- B : How many of those officers are operational?

**Answer :**

NSW Police has advised me :

- A : As at 30 November 2005, there were 3658 officers who joined prior to 1988.
- B : All NSW Police officers are considered operational.

*per*   
The Hon Carl Scully MP  
Minister for Police

**Question:** 11  
**Notice Given:** 7 December 2005  
**Asked by:** The Hon M Gallacher MLC

**Question :**

Where would he (the Premier) get that sensitive information (number of bomb detection dogs)? If I am being told that sort of information is sensitive, where does the Premier get it?

**Answer :**

In accordance with well established law, practice and procedure, the Premier as the leader of the Government in the Westminster system receives briefings on a range of matters from all of his or her Ministers, as well as frequently from Department heads and other public servants.

*per*   
The Hon Carl Scully MP  
Minister for Police

**Question:** 12  
**Notice Given:** 7 December 2005  
**Asked by:** The Hon P Breen MLC

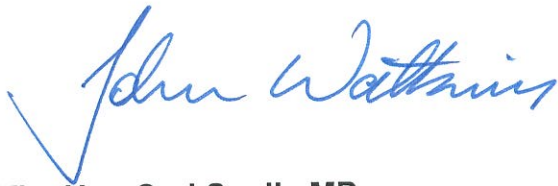
**Question :**

How many licences were granted for telecommunications interceptions in the period 2004-05?

**Answer :**

The NSW Crime Commission has advised me :

The number of telecommunication interception warrants (not licences) issued in the year ended 30 June 2005 is recorded at paragraph 2.60 of the annual report.



*per* **The Hon Carl Scully MP**  
**Minister for Police**

**Question:** 13  
**Notice Given:** 7 December 2005  
**Asked by:** The Hon C Lynn MLC


**Question :**

What is your training budget for each financial year from 1999-2000 to now? Can you give a breakdown of the training budget into recruit training, executive leadership training and operational training?

**Answer :**

NSW Police has advised me :

Training occurs across NSW Police and is not a separate line item in the financial reporting structure.

*per*   
The Hon Carl Scully MP  
Minister for Police



NEW SOUTH WALES

**Minister for Police**  
**Minister for Utilities**  
**Leader of the House**

The Director  
Budget Estimates  
Parliament of New South Wales  
Macquarie Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Director

I refer to questions taken on notice by Mr David Nemtzow of the Department of Energy, Utilities and Sustainability and Mr David Evans of Sydney Water when they appeared before the General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3 on 7 December 2005.

Attached are answers to the Utilities questions taken on notice.

Yours sincerely

**CARL SCULLY MP**  
**Minister for Utilities**

## QUESTION WITHOUT NOTICE

### ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

**2006/07 FINANCIAL YEAR FUNDING OF COUNTRY TOWNS WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE PROGRAM** – The Hon Greg Pearce MLC asked the Director General, Department of Energy, Utilities and Sustainability (DEUS), a Question Without Notice.

#### QUESTION:

**The Hon. GREG PEARCE:** Will the Country Towns Water Supply and Sewerage Program receive any funding from your department in the next financial year?

**Mr NEMTZOW:** Yes, absolutely.

**The Hon. GREG PEARCE:** How much?

**Mr NEMTZOW:** When you say next financial year do you mean 2006-07?

**The Hon. GREG PEARCE:** Yes.

**Mr NEMTZOW:** I think that is \$302 million [*sic*]. I am not sure of the exact figure, but I will get back to you.

**The Hon. GREG PEARCE:** Will you take that question on notice?

**Mr NEMTZOW:** I will take that question on notice. We have forward estimates and in our forward estimates from Treasury it will receive funding.

#### ANSWER:

The Country Towns Water Supply and Sewerage Program is a \$910 million program that provides technical, management and financial assistance to local water utilities (mainly local councils) in rural and regional areas of NSW towards the provision of water supply and sewerage infrastructure.

The funds available in 2006/07 will only be known after the State Budget is handed down in mid 2006.

**David Nemtzow**  
**Director General**  
**Department of Energy, Utilities and Sustainability**



**QUESTION WITHOUT NOTICE**

**ESTIMATES COMMITTEE**

**BROKEN HILL MOBILE DESALINATION PLANT** – The Hon Greg Pearce MLC asked the Director General, Department of Energy, Utilities and Sustainability, a Question Without Notice.

**QUESTION:**

**The Hon. GREG PEARCE:** Do you know whether the Country Towns Water Supply and Sewerage Program funded it?

**Mr NEMTZOW:** I am sorry; I do not the answer to that. I will take that question on notice.

**ANSWER:**

The desalination plant for Broken Hill was not funded by Country Towns Water Supply and Sewerage Program.

**David Nemptzow**  
**Director General**  
**Department of Energy, Utilities and Sustainability**

## **QUESTION WITHOUT NOTICE**

### **ESTIMATES COMMITTEE**

**CONSTRUCTION OF MUNMORAH POWER PLANT** – The Hon Greg Pearce MLC asked the Minister for Utilities, a Question Without Notice.

#### **QUESTION:**

**The Hon. GREG PEARCE:** What is the program for Munmorah?

**Mr NEMTZOW:** Munmorah is on a 2009 schedule, so that is a little more time, and that is fine.

**The Hon. GREG PEARCE:** So when does Delta actually start work? Does Delta have a DA for it?

**Mr NEMTZOW:** I think so. I am sorry, I am forgetting right now. Let me get back to you.

#### **ANSWER:**

The Development Application (DA) has been lodged with the Department of Planning and advertisements inviting public comment appeared in newspapers on 11 January 2006. If development consent is received by 30 June 2006, a contract for construction could be in place by September 2006 and the plant could be operational in 2009.

**David Nemptzow**  
**Director General**  
**Department of Energy, Utilities and Sustainability**

## QUESTION WITHOUT NOTICE

### ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

**FUNDING OF THE COUNTRY TOWNS WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE PROGRAM** – The Hon Greg Pearce MLC asked the Director General of the Department of Energy, Utilities and Sustainability, Mr David Nemztow, a Question Without Notice.

#### QUESTION:

**The Hon. GREG PEARCE:** Can you give me the actual amount that has been spent in the last 10 years on the program?

**Mr NEMTZOW:** I can.

**The Hon. GREG PEARCE:** We have been given different figures.

**Mr NEMTZOW:** I will get you the exact number. It is of the order of \$600 million. Do you require figures by government or in total?

**The Hon. GREG PEARCE:** Both.

**Mr NEMTZOW:** I will get you both numbers. We provide a subsidy, a formula and the local water utility provides the rest of the money.

**CHAIR:** Are you seeking that in a year-by-year breakdown or as a total for the 10 years?

**The Hon. GREG PEARCE:** I wanted the total, but if the witness takes the question notice it would be just as easy for him to give figures year by year.

**Mr NEMTZOW:** So year by year for government and non-government?

**The Hon. GREG PEARCE:** Yes.

#### ANSWER:

Details of yearly funding allocations to the Country Towns Water Supply and Sewerage Program are available in past Budget Papers. Total NSW Government funding for the Program will be \$910 million. The total allocation to the Program up until 30 June 2005 was \$679.6 million.

The level of subsidy for each project varies depending on a number of factors including the ratio of growth to backlog, whether the project is an approved Small Town Sewerage project, the annual turnover of the local water utility's water supply and sewerage business and the predicted typical residential

water or sewer bill. The level of subsidy for projects varies, with some Small Town Sewerage projects receiving more than 60%.

**David Nemptzow**  
**Director General**  
**Department of Energy, Utilities and Sustainability**

The Director  
Budget Estimates  
Parliament of New South Wales  
Macquarie Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

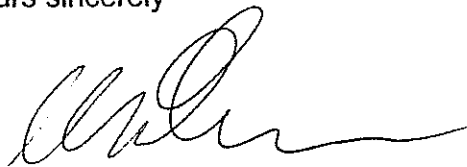
Dear Director

I refer to your letter of 8 December 2005 regarding questions I agreed to take on notice during my appearance before the General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3 on 7 December 2005.

Attached are answers to the five questions highlighted in the transcript.

If you have any further questions, please contact Sydney Water's A/Corporate Relations Manager, Andrew Dempster on (02) 9350 5010.

Yours sincerely



David Evans

11 JAN 2006

**Questions taken on notice during the supplementary hearing for budget estimates on 7 December 2005**

*Question 1*

**The Hon. PETER BREEN:** You were doing that back in 1999. You were conducting an experiment at Granville in treating sewage effluent and turning it into potable water. What happened to that?

**Mr EVANS:** I have been the organisation for only 20 months, I would have to take that on notice to give you that detail. I suppose the underlying point I make is that in order to achieve these things, the preparatory work needs to be done, the preparatory health-risk assessments, and then we have to be clear about our relative costs compared with other sources.

*Answer*

In 2000, Sydney Water decided not to proceed with a water reuse demonstration plant for at least five years following completion of its recycling strategy and revision of its demand management strategy. Then, as now, community acceptance of using treated wastewater as a drinking water supply was a significant barrier in the development of such a supply option.

*Question 2*

**The Hon. CHARLIE LYNN:** What was the total cost of the desalination feasibility study, both of Sydney Water and the fee paid to GHD and Fitzner?

**Mr EVANS:** I will have to take on notice a question of the fee paid to GHD and Fitzner, but the total cost of the study, I believe, was \$4 million. That was the initial feasibility study.

*Answer*

The total cost of the feasibility study to Sydney Water was \$3.5 million. The fee paid to GHD Fichtner for the feasibility study was \$1.9 million.

*Question 3*

**The Hon. GREG PEARCE:** There is going to be a separate inquiry into the desalination plant. I think, given what you have said to us, they are going to have quite a bit of fun with you on that. In relation to the metropolitan water plan and looking at options for the supply of water, how many households could be retrofitted with dual piping reticulation of recycled water for non-potable uses, like Rouse Hill, for say \$1.3 billion?

**Mr EVANS:** I would have to take that on notice as a specific question. But the distinction that is important to draw out here is that the retrofitting for what you have called non-potable reuse is far more expensive in built-up or existing suburbs than it is in new suburbs. So, just taking the forward-looking view, the opportunity to pursue more of the Rouse Hill-type outcomes, as per the basic requirements for new houses to be 40 per cent more water efficient, will roll out as new suburbs are developed.

In that situation, as I am sure you will appreciate, you would have to provide dual pipe systems for the system and for the householder as well. It is not just a matter of dropping it to their door; you have to bring it up through their yard and into their house. The financial costs of doing that retrospectively, together with the community dislocation and so on, are infinitely higher than doing it prospectively, and therefore the objective of basics, as I understand it, is to encourage people to do it prospectively. But I can do further analysis for you and get back to you on your query.

*Answer*

The installation of dual reticulation infrastructure in developed areas would have major community impacts including excavation and restoration of local roads, vegetation clearance and potential compulsory acquisition of community and private land.

The number of households that could be retrofitted with dual pipes for reticulated recycled water for a total cost of \$1.3 billion for outdoor and toilet use would depend on factors such as access to adequate supplies of disinfected tertiary-quality treated wastewater, the physical qualities of the locality to be retrofitted and the capacity of customers to connect. As a general rule, it is significantly less costly to install dual reticulation of recycled water in greenfield and new release areas.

In greenfield developments with dual reticulation, recycled water typically supplies around 35% of total water use (outdoor and toilet use). The installation of dual reticulation in developed areas, where around 65% of water is still required to be delivered for potable purposes, is generally not economically feasible.



*Question 4*

**Mr EVANS:** Yes. No single recycling initiative went backwards, as it were. It is largely reflective of the water conservation effort put into areas such as Rouse Hill and the like, where, even though people have effluent, we have encouraged them to use less. There was also, as I understand it—I will have to take confirmation of this—recycled water that was done as part of the Sydney Olympic Park Authority that was not included in the numbers you referred to.

**The Hon. GREG PEARCE:** In either year, or in the second year?

**Mr EVANS:** In the second year. That is my understanding, but I will confirm that. The third issue was that some of the recycled water we use is in our own sewerage treatment plants and the like. And we have worked very hard to minimise the amount of that water that is used, in part to, if you like, set the example for the community so you are not accused of overusing. So it is a combination of those three factors.

*Answer*

Recycling levels decreased during 2004-05 largely due to Sydney Water's own Sewage Treatment Plants and irrigation customers using less water overall, including recycled water, influenced by the current water restrictions and community impetus to save water. For example, even in areas with a recycled water system, such as Rouse Hill where restrictions do not apply, recycled water consumption has fallen as people are being more water conscious.

The recycled water figure reported in Sydney Water's Annual Report does not include the water recycled by Sydney Olympic Park Authority (SOPA). SOPA recycled approximately 1.2 billion litres in 2004/05.

It is anticipated that the daily amount of wastewater being recycled by 30 June 2006 will increase from an average of 37 ML/day (includes SOPA's 2 ML/day) in 2004-05 to around 60 ML/day.

An on-site recycled water plant was commissioned in September 2005 at North Head STP and will provide up to 1.5 ML of recycled water daily. Sydney Water will soon commission Australia's largest industrial recycling project – 20 million litres a day of recycled water will be supplied to BlueScope Steel in Wollongong. As well, Australia's largest residential recycled water scheme at Rouse Hill will continue to expand, reducing demand for drinking water by 35 per cent per household.

*Question 5*

**The Hon. PETER BREEN:** Could you indicate the connection between that cryptosporidium scare and the closing down of that project? It seems to me that if the project had continued, we would be much further advanced today on the various technologies of converting recycled water into potable water.

**Mr EVANS:** I will take that on notice.

*Answer*

In 2000, Sydney Water decided not to proceed with a water reuse demonstration plant for at least five years following completion of its recycling strategy and revision of its demand management strategy. Then, as now, community acceptance of using treated wastewater as a drinking water supply was a significant barrier in the development of such a supply option.