**Budget Estimates** 

#### Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Cate Faehrmann MLC asked:

#### 1. Wynyard bus interchange

- a. Given the Wynyard bus interchange is already at or near capacity, will the government release a report on progress in developing a transport plan for this area of the CBD, prior release of the Transport Masterplan?
- b. When can we expect further measures at Wynyard interchange?
- c. What community consultation processes have been included in the preparation of this plan?
- d. In 2008 a report commissioned by the previous government is reported to have put the cost of congestion at Wynyard to commuters and the state at \$13 million a year. Will the government please provide a copy of this report to the Committee?
- e. What research or new estimates are available regarding the congestion costs of the delays at Wynyard bus interchange?
- f. Will the government please provide copies to the Committee?
- g. What consideration has the government given to a 'set down island' on York Street to allow more space for drop offs at Wynyard bus interchange?
- h. What consideration has the government given to the use of the old tram tunnels to create more drop-off space?

#### Answer:

1 (a-h)

Transport for NSW is working to improve traffic flow in the Wynyard area. I am advised that a number of measures to improve traffic flow have recently been implemented and a package of short and medium term measures are currently being designed for consideration. A range of stakeholders are involved in developing these improvements including Transport for NSW, bus operators, Roads and Maritime Services and the City of Sydney.

With regards to a 'set down island' on York Street, I am advised a range of measures are being considered, taking into account functionality improvements for road vehicles including buses, cars, trucks and bikes as well as pedestrian safety and access.

I am advised a multi-disciplinary team within the Transport portfolio has examined in detail the feasibility of using the old tram tunnels to provide bus access between the Sydney Harbour Bridge and the Wynyard precinct. These investigations indicated that there would be limited scope to provide underground drop-off facilities and thus there would be a high impact on Wynyard Park to provide bus egress and ingress for the tunnels.

The 2008 report referenced by the Committee is provided as requested.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Cate Faehrmann MLC asked:

#### 2. Casino - Murwillumbah Rail Line

- a. What are the costs associated with running the buses that travel from and to the XPT rail services at Casino?
- b. Can you provide a breakdown of these costs?
- c. I understand an agreement with the Australian Rail Track Corporation for the maintenance of the line is changing over. Can you please provide details of the new agreement, including the successor, time-frame, extent and costs involved?
- d. The government has previously provided maintenance costs for the line to Questions on Notice from Geoff Provest, can you please provide a breakdown of these figures including:
  - i. mowing around stations
  - ii. upkeep of station buildings
  - iii. wages for Countrylink staff at the Murwillumbah, Byron and Lismore stations
  - iv. cost of installing signage at the bus stops in the area; and
  - v. repair/maintenance of road over rail bridges

#### Answer:

(a-d) I am advised the cost of operating coach services to and from Casino is approximately \$2.5 million per annum. The NSW Liberals and Nationals have committed to conducting a feasibility study on the restoration of the Casino to Murwillumbah rail line. The NSW Government has committed \$2 million in the 2011-12 State Budget for the feasibility study. The findings of this study will inform the regional transport planning process and help identify the best mix of services to meet future transport needs of the region. I am also advised John Holland Rail will take over the maintenance of the line on 15 January 2012, and the costs involved in managing non-operational rail lines varies each year dependant on the weather and other conditions.

Gladys Berejiklian Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Cate Faehrmann MLC asked:

BE 3. Cooma to Canberra Rail line

a. Rail services from Cooma to Canberra were in operation for over 100 years but the line is now closed. When will the government reopen this train line to provide rail services for those residents of Cooma who don't drive to access the services of a large regional centre?

#### Answer:

The Government does not currently have plans to operate passenger services on the Cooma to Canberra Rail Line. Proposals to reopen non-operational lines will be assessed by Transport for NSW.

Gladys Berejiklian Minister for Transport



# The Hon Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport

QUESTION:

**Budget Estimates** 

Question:

BE 4. Accessibility of rail stations (Easy Access program)

- a. Is Redfern Station scheduled for works under the Easy Access program to provide disabled access?
- b. When is this work likely to begin?
- c. When will it be completed?

#### Answer:

I am advised:

(a-c) The O'Farrell Government has committed an additional \$60 million over the next four years to boost the Easy Access Program, an increase of over 50 per cent on what was previously proposed to be spent over that period. This year alone the NSW Government has committed \$30 million for Easy Access upgrades.

The Government is in the process of determining where future upgrades to stations will take place.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

Question:

On 25 October, the Hon. Cate Faehrmann MLC asked:

#### 5. Disability standards

- a. When will the Government introduce a communication system on public transport, including boarding and departure provisions, that provide equal access to all commuters - including the hearing impaired?
- b. Has provision been made in the Budget for conducting an audit of all wheelchair accessible taxis in NSW to check compliance with the Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport 2002 (Cth)?
- c. Has provision been made in the Budget for financial compensation for taxi operators to assist in modifying their vehicles to make them compliant with the *Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport* 2002 (Cth)?

#### Answer:

#### I am advised:

- (a) The Accessible Transport Action Plan can be found at www.transport.nsw.gov.au/accessibility/transport-action-plan.
- (b) The checking of wheelchair accessible taxis to ensure that they meet the Commonwealth's Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport is an ongoing process. All new and replacement wheelchair accessible taxis are inspected at the time they are placed into service to ensure they comply with the Disability Standards. If any wheelchair accessible taxi is subsequently found not to meet the standards which applied at the time it was placed into service, it is immediately removed from operation.
- (c) Financial incentives are already provided to place wheelchair accessible taxis into operation and to comply with accessibility standards. These incentives include minimal licence fees of only \$1,000 per annum in metropolitan areas and for no cost in country areas. Interest free loans are also provided to taxi operators outside of Sydney for the purchase of wheelchair accessible taxis.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport

**Budget Estimates** 

#### Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Cate Faehrmann MLC asked:

#### 6. Community Transport NSW

- a. While the \$12m extra funding for community transport addresses long standing needs, why is only \$500,000 for the whole of NSW to be provided in 11/12?
- b. What funding has been allocated for accreditation for community transport drivers and when is this likely to begin?
- c. How many staff were employed to manage and regulate community transport in 2010-2011?
- d. How many are currently employed?
- e. Will the Minister give a commitment to ensure community transport services are appropriately funded to ensure each service has at least one vehicle that has wheelchair access, particularly if the service only has one vehicle, to ensure that disabled people are not discriminated against and do not become isolated due to lack of mobility.

#### Answer:

(a -b) The 2011-12 Budget confirms the Government's commitment to allocate an additional \$12 million over four years to the Community Transport Program. This increase will extend services to allow tens of thousands of transport-disadvantaged people to access these services. The Program has funding of \$4.6 million in 2011-12, which is the first allocation of growth funding since 1997-98.

The \$12 million boost is in line with our longstanding policy for Community Transport, which also included a commitment to establish a one-stop shop for Community Transport and also to establish an appropriate method of data collection to identify unmet community transport need. The Government also commits to establishing an appropriate driver authorisation framework, and that funding would be made available from the \$12 million.

I am advised Transport for NSW will soon be releasing a discussion paper on options for driver authorisation.

- (c) 26
- (d) 26
- (e)

The community transport guidelines state:

"It is not acceptable to refuse a client service based on the unavailability of an accessible vehicle. Efforts should be made to find an appropriate mode to transport people with a mobility disability, even if that means brokering the service to a taxi provider or other service provider at a higher cost. .... longer term planning should endeavour to find a way to provide service to this client and to similar clients".

Therefore if an eligible, mobility impaired client needs transport service the organisation is required to prioritise their needs and to find a way to offer the service whether they own a wheelchair accessible vehicle or not.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

Question:

On 25 October 2011, the Hon Cate Faehrmann MLC asked:

#### 7. Bicycle helmet laws

a. Has Transport NSW conducted a review or cost-benefit analysis of bicycle helmet laws, either independently or in conjunction with NSW Police? If so can the committee be provided with that information

#### Answer:

I am advised:

The NSW Centre for Road Safety provided funding to a study conducted by the University of New South Wales to assess the impact of compulsory cycle helmet legislation on cyclist head injuries in NSW.

The result of the study titled "The impact of compulsory cycle helmet legislation on cyclist head injuries in New South Wales, Australia" was published in 2011 in the *Accident Analysis and Prevention* Journal.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

#### Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Cate Faehrmann MLC asked:

BE 8. Greenway

- a. Which company was used by the operator of the Metro Light Rail to cost the Inner West Light Rail Extension and the Greenway?
- b. The Minister has said that the Greenway project would have delayed construction of the light rail extension due to engineering challenges. What were these challenges?
- c. Where and how exactly would it have complicated construction?
- d. Can the Minister tell us the cost of building the light rail extension without the Greenway?
- e. Can the Minister provide a cost breakdown for the cost to build the Greenway if it is built at the same time as the light rail extension and a cost for the Greenway and light rail extension as a package?
- f. Can the Minister provide a cost to build the Greenway if it is built after the light rail extension?

#### Answer:

- (a) As Mr Lock indicated during the Hearing, I am advised that information is commercial-in-confidence.
- (b-c) I am advised that the engineering work and the cost estimates were commissioned by a private sector company (Metro Transport Sydney). No detailed cost estimates or engineering work was undertaken prior to the former Government's announcement of the Greenway, and there were a number of unresolved design issues that were causing delays to the light rail project.
- (d-f) I am advised the light rail extension has been costed at \$176 million, and \$37 million for the Greenway, subject to further scoping and engineering analysis.

Gladys Berejiklian

Minister for Transport



## The Hon Gladys Berejiklian MP

Minister for Transport

QUESTION:

**Budget Estimates** 

Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Cate Faehrmann MLC asked:

BE 9. North West Rail Link

- a. What is the height of the tunnels that will be built for the NWRL?
- b. Is the kinematic envelope of these tunnels large enough for double decker trains in use in NSW to pass at an adequate speed to minimise time delays through the tunnels?
- c. Can the minister assure us that double deck trains in use today will be able to pass through these tunnels?
- d. Will the kinematic envelope of these tunnels be large enough to accommodate stock size double deck train carriages produced outside Australia?

#### Answer:

I am advised

(a - d) The North West Rail Link is currently in the scoping phase and these details have not yet been defined. However, North West Rail Link services will integrate with the CityRail Network.

Gladys Berejiklian Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

#### Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Cate Faehrmann MLC asked:

#### 10. Rail capacity at Sydney Harbour Bridge

- a. How many times in the last 5 years have rail services to and from the North Shore Line been impacted due to service disruption on the Harbour Bridge?
- b. What alternative arrangements would Rail Corp have in place to operate the North West Rail Link if any similar incident on the Harbour Bridge were to occur when the NWRL (would have only an underground connection at Epping linking to the North Shore Line, there being no network flexibility without a surface junction north of Epping allowing alternative services to run to and from the City via Strathfield?)

#### Answer:

#### I am advised:

- a. In the last five years, October 2006 October 2011, rail services on the North Shore Line have been significantly impacted eight times by service disruptions on the Harbour Bridge.
- b. The alternative Transport Plan put in place would depend on the nature of the incident, the time of day and anticipated demand as well as the expected time before full service operation could be recovered.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

#### Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Cate Faehrmann MLC asked:

#### 11. Seat belts on school buses

- a. How many buses used for students travelling to and from school are operating in New South Wales?
- b. How many of these are installed with seat belts?
- c. When will the School Bus Advisory Committee report back to the government?
- d. Will this report be made public?

#### Answer:

#### I am advised:

- a. Under the Rural and Regional Bus Contracts (Contract A and Contract B) approximately 3,105 buses are used for the transportation of school children.
- b. As at 31 July 2011, approximately 241 of these buses are equipped with seatbelts.
- c-d. The School Bus Community Advisory Committee is expected to provide a report to Government during the 2<sup>nd</sup> guarter of 2012.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

#### Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Cate Faehrmann MLC asked:

#### 12. Transport Advisory Board

- a. What is the current status of the Transport Advisory Board?
- b. How will members of the Board be selected?
- c. How will the selection a member of the board to represent the interests of the community be guided?

#### Answer:

I am advised:

12(a) - (c)

Legislation to amend the *Transport Administration Act 1988* and establish Transport for NSW was proclaimed on 1 November 2011.

The *Transport Administration Act 1988* provides for the establishment of a Transport Advisory Board and Transport for NSW will now undertake the necessary work to establish the Board.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Cate Faehrmann MLC asked:

13. RTA and greenhouse gases

- a. The RTA website states that two working parties have been established to address direct and indirect emissions of greenhouse gases by the RTA. Has the working party made recommendations to reduce emissions beyond those listed in the RTA 2009-10 Annual Report?
- b. If so will these be implemented as soon as possible to reduce emissions considering that the 2009-10 Annual Report shows that the RTAs greenhouse gas emissions continue to grow despite the implementation of various strategies?
- c. If not what action is the RTA taking to meet the NSW government sustainability policy which has set the target of all government departments being carbon neutral by 2020?

#### Answer:

This is a matter for the Minister for Roads and Ports.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

#### Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Cate Faehrmann MLC asked:

#### **14.** Taxis:

(a) As the subsidy provided by the NSW Taxi Transport Subsidy Scheme has not increased since 1998 while taxi fares have increased by more than 44% since then, could the Minister please explain if the NSW [sic] will increase the level of this subsidy given that wheelchair accessible taxis are often the only means of transport available to disabled people?

#### Answer:

I am advised:

(a) Transport for NSW is examining the range of subsidies and incentives the Government provides to support the provision of wheelchair accessible taxi services, including the Taxi Transport Subsidy Scheme, to consider how services for passengers can be improved.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



## The Hon Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport

PQ11/00329

QUESTION:

**Budget Estimates** 

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3

#### Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

**15.** What role will Nick Greiner and Infrastructure NSW play in the delivery of major rail infrastructure projects?

#### Answer:

Infrastructure NSW has a number of functions as outlined in the *Infrastructure NSW Act 2011*.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport

PQ11/00330

QUESTION:

**Budget Estimates** 

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3

#### Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

**16.** Of the 28 entities which lodged Expressions of Interest in providing franchised ferry services, how many have had experience in operating commuter ferry services?

#### Answer:

28 entities responded to the initial request for Registrations of Interest.

There were 5 consortia in the Expression of Interest process all of whom I am advised have experience in operating passenger ferry services.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport

PQ11/00331

QUESTION:

**Budget Estimates** 

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3

#### Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLCasked:

**17.** Of the 5 entities which have been shortlisted for the provision of franchised ferry services, how many have had experience in operating commuter ferry services?

#### Answer:

There were 5 consortia in the Expression of Interest process all of whom I am advised have experience in operating passenger ferry services.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

#### Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

BE 18. Dogs on leads onto Government buses, trains and ferries.

Will you allow passengers to take dogs on leads onto Government buses, trains and ferries, provided they are not allowed to sit on seats?

a. Will you investigate measures to facilitate this reform?

#### Answer:

The safety of our customers and staff is of the highest importance, and any carriage of pets on public transport requires that safety risks must be minimised.

Information on the carriage of animals on public transport is available on the websites:

- www.cityrail.info
- www.sydneybuses.info
- www.sydneyferries.info.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

19. Will the plastic used for Opal cards be biodegradable?

#### Answer:

I am advised:

The Opal cards will not be biodegradable as there are no suitable biodegradable plastics, currently available worldwide, that can be used for 'long life' cards such as credit cards and smartcards. Opal smartcard will use a durable plastic called polyvinyl chloride, or PVC. Smartcards are not solely made up of plastic as they have a metal chip and antenna sandwiched between two pieces of PVC.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

#### Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

**20.** Will Opal card readers be placed inside all doors of bendy or extended length buses in order to facilitate easier access and egress and reduce time at stops?

#### Answer:

I am advised that an appropriate number of readers will be installed on each bus, regardless of bus type.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

#### Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

21. Will there be an initial cost to purchase an Opal card? a. If so, what will it be?

#### Answer:

Whether there is an initial cost to purchase an Opal card is yet to be determined by the Government.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

#### Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

- 22. Given that Opal cards will be able to be registered to individual users, will their travel data be made available to any other government agencies?
  - a. If so, which agencies will be provided with this data and under what circumstances?

#### Answer:

I am advised:

The only circumstance in which an individual's travel data may be made available to other Government agencies is if Transport for NSW received:

- (a) a request from a law enforcement agency, which would be treated in accordance with NSW privacy legislation and other relevant legislation;
- (b) an order, subpoena or summons issued by a court.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

23. Given your commitment to upgrade a number of commuter ferry wharves, will you ensure that these upgraded wharves include facilities for the use of recreational fishers such as rubbish disposal, scaling and cleaning facilities in order to reduce potential conflicts between commuters and recreational fishers which in the past have resulted in recreational fishers from using these wharves?

#### Answer:

This is a matter for the Minister for Roads and Ports.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

BE 24 Treasury Modelling

BE 24. Will the Minister provide the Committee with the modelling referred to in the email dated 29 July from Rodney Forrest from Treasury to Peter Crimp?

#### Answer:

As I stated during the Budget Estimates hearing, I will not provide information that is not accurate and that has not been the subject of thorough research.

Gladys Berejiklian Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

BE 25 Long Term Transport Plan. How does the Government's "long term transport plan" referred to by the Minister different to the Transport Masterplan?

Answer:

They are the same thing.

Gladys Berejiklian Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

BE 26. Inquiry into the NSW Taxi industry. Can the Minister provide an update on what progress has been made on each of the 59 recommendations of the Legislative Council inquiry into the NSW Taxi industry? (Please list by recommendation.)

#### Answer:

I am advised:

The Legislative Council's Select Committee of Inquiry into the NSW Taxi Industry made 59 recommendations in its 2010 report and I am advised that substantial progress has been made in the implementation of many of these recommendations.

Through the creation of Transport for NSW, this Government is putting the customer at the centre of everything that we do in transport, including customers who rely on wheelchair accessible taxi services.

Gladys Berejiklian Minister for Transport

**Budget Estimates** 

#### Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

- 27. The Minister stated that she has asked the "department to undertake a comprehensive review" of the Easy Access Upgrade program for train stations?
- a. When will this comprehensive review commence?
- b. What will this comprehensive review involve?
- c. What is the timeframe for the completion of this comprehensive review?
- d. When will the public be advised of the stations that will receive upgrades?
- e. Given the Minister's statement that the program is (or will be) under review and the Government has stopped planned work on Easy Access Upgrades that were earmarked prior to the election, how does the Government expect to meet the requirements of the Disability Standards for Accessible Public transport to have 55 per cent of stations accessible by the end of 2012?
- f. Will the Minister commit to releasing the review to the public?

#### Answer:

#### I am advised:

- a. This review commenced in early September 2011.
- b. This review will consider how criteria and priorities for Easy Access upgrades are determined to ensure the appropriate alignment of work and associated funding.
- c. Anticipated completion is in the near future.
- d. The public will be informed upon completion of the review.
- e. The review seeks to address the requirements of the Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport.

f. The outcomes of the review will be made public when the review is completed.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

#### Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

28. What is the timeframe for the review of the commuter carpark program?

- a. When will the public be advised of the stations where commuter car parks will be built?
- b. Will the Minister commit to releasing this review to the public?

#### Answer:

The public will be advised once the Government has completed its review of the program.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3

Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

## 29. When will consultation begin as part of the "Transport Masterplan Process"?

- a. The Minister said that the Opposition would be included in the consultation process.
- i. When will this occur?
- ii. What will this involve?
- b. When is it anticipated that the Transport Masterplan will be finalised?
- c. When is it anticipated that the finalised Transport Masterplan will be made available to the public?
- d. Will the timeframe for the development of the Transport Masterplan align with the 5 year Infrastructure NSW plans?

#### Answer:

(a-d) I refer the Honourable Member to my answers on this matter given during the Estimates Hearing (refer pages 4 – 5 of the Estimates Transcript).

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

#### Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

**30.** In relation to seatbelts on school buses, has the Government undertaken research into the cost of fitting seatbelts to all buses that travel on Environment 3 bus routes?

- a. If so, will the Minister provide that data to the Committee?
- b. If not, why not?
- c. If such research has not yet been undertaken, will it be made available, if such research is undertaken?

#### Answer:

a. - c.

The School Bus Safety Community Advisory Committee commenced in July 2011 and will examine school bus safety in regional and rural NSW. The Committee includes road safety experts, transport operators, parents and school representatives. The Committee will closely examine all issues relating to the safe transportation of children to and from school. Ms Carolyn Walsh, a Commissioner of the Australian Transport Safety Bureau, has been appointed to chair the Committee. The School Bus Safety Community Advisory Committee will recommend the most effective ways to make school bus travel as safe as possible. More information can be found about the Committee on the Transport for NSW website at www.transport.nsw.gov.au/.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

#### Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

#### **Transport subsidies**

31. Can children attending early-intervention services at NSW government schools access transport subsidies including the School Student Transport Scheme, or Private Vehicle Conveyance scheme?

a. If not, why not?

#### Answer:

I am advised:

Students who are eligible for a Scheme benefit may travel to and from their nominated school on available transport services between the hours of 6.30am and 7pm. Each eligible student is permitted one forward and one return trip per school day. I refer you to the Transport for NSW website at www.transport.nsw.gov.au/content/ssts-guidelines-hours-travel for further information.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

#### Subsidies for children attending preschool

**32.** In light of the Federal Government's Universal Access to Early Childhood initiative, which aims to encourage children to attend preschool for 15 hours per week, will the NSW Government be providing transport subsidies for children attending preschool?

#### Answer:

I am advised:

The School Student Transport Scheme provides free travel to eligible school students between their home and school campus of enrolment on school days. Students must be older than 4 years and 6 months and meet distance or medical criteria as described at <a href="https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/content/about-school-student-transport-scheme">www.transport.nsw.gov.au/content/about-school-student-transport-scheme</a>.

As fares are not payable for any child under the age of 4, the potential for free travel is already available for many pre-school aged children.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



### The Hon Gladys Berejiklian MP

### Minister for Transport

PQ11/00344

QUESTION:

**Budget Estimates** 

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3

#### Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

#### 33. N10 NightRide

- a. Is the Minister aware that with the introduction of additional NightRide services on weekends on the N10 line, passengers travelling from the city to Riverwood now may face an additional wait of up to 45 minutes at Rockdale as they wait for a connecting service to Riverwood on the N20 service?
- b. Are transit officers deployed at the NightRide stop at Rockdale Station on weekends?
- c. If not, why not?
- d. What security measures are in place at Rockdale Station on weekend nights?
- e. Does the Government plan to introduce a direct NightRide service from Riverwood to the city?
- f. If not, why not?

#### Answer:

I am advised:

- a. The timetable for Routes N10 and N20 have not changed on weekends and there is no additional waiting time to that previously experienced by commuters. In fact, I am advised that the interchange time has improved for the N10 route late on Thursday nights and in the early hours of Friday mornings when it now operates more frequently.
- b-d. Rockdale Station has numerous security measures in place to provide customers with peace of mind when travelling. These include CCTV cameras, emergency help points, high visibility lighting and Transit Officer patrols. Guardian services also operate to Rockdale Station on Friday and Saturday nights.
- e-f. There are currently no plans to introduce a direct NightRide service from Riverwood to the City as service levels meet customer demand.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

#### Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

- **34.** In relation to the North West Rail Link information Centre, the Minister mentioned that the centre has received around 2000 contacts from the public.
- a. Can the Minister provide a breakdown of these contacts (number of emails received, visitors to the centre, phone calls received)?
- b. What was the cost of setting up the North West Rail Link information Centre?

#### Answer:

I am advised:

(a-b) A Community Information Centre in Castle Hill has been opened to provide a central point of contact for the people of the North West. Contact from the public about the North West Rail Link has been via email, telephone calls and visits to the Castle Hill information centre, as well as eight information sessions held at various locations along the alignment during July, August and September this year.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



## The Hon Gladys Berejiklian MP

## Minister for Transport

QUESTION:

**Budget Estimates** 

#### Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

**35.** In relation to the North West Rail Link information call centre, managed by Link:Q?

- a. How many calls have been received by Link: Q?
- b. Can the Minister provide the number of calls received by week?
- c. Of these calls, how many were referred to the North West Project team for follow-up?
- d. What was the cost of setting up the call centre?
- e. Given that calls will no longer be going through Link:Q in Victoria, can you detail the costs incurred to date in relation to the call centre and outline whether or not there are any financial penalties as a result of closing the call centre?

#### Answer:

I am advised:

(a-e) Calls to the Community Information Centre in Castle Hill during work hours are answered by permanent North West Rail Link staff who provide a central point of contact for the people of the North West. Link: Q – a call centre company used extensively by the previous Government – has been engaged to manage overflow and after hours calls.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3

#### Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

- **36.** Will the Minister provide the Committee with copies of the draft reports prepared by RailCorp for the Director General about the replacement of the XPTs?
- (a) If not, why not?

#### Answer:

(36-a) I am advised documents held by RailCorp on the replacement of the XPT fleet are classified as Commercial in Confidence.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

#### Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

37. In relation to the review that the Government is undertaking into how it can improve CountryLink services:

- a. When is the review being undertaken?
- b. What is the timeframe for the completion of the review?
- c. Will the public be able to provide input into that review?
- d. How will that consultation be managed?
- e. Will the Minister commit to publically release that review, once completed?

#### Answer:

37 (a-e)

This Government will be conducting its own review through the Transport Master Plan to ensure the long term viability of regional and rural transport in NSW.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

#### Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

BE 38. Inner west light rail extension. In relation to the inner west light rail extension –

a. When the Department of Transport sought a cost estimate from Metro Transit Sydney for developing the extension to the light rail, was the Greenway included in that costing?

b. Will the Minister make that advice available to the Committee?

#### Answer:

I am advised that the engineering work and the cost estimates were commissioned by a private sector company (Metro Transport Sydney). No detailed cost estimates or engineering work was undertaken prior to the former Government's announcement of the Greenway, and there were a number of unresolved design issues that were causing delays to the light rail project.

Gladys Berejiklian Minister for Transport



# The Hon Gladys Berejiklian MP

Minister for Transport

QUESTION:

**Budget Estimates** 

Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

BE 39. In relation to the GreenWay -

- a. Given the Minister's statement that this project has been deferred, where does funding for the Greenway appear in the forward estimates?
- b. How long would the light rail extension have been delayed if the Greenway was built?

#### Answer:

I am advised

The NSW Government has allocated \$103 million in the State Budget (a-b) for the year 2011-12 to continue work on the Inner West Light Rail Extension and to develop a Light Rail Strategic Plan which will examine the feasibility of extending light rail through the CBD, to the University of New South Wales and the University of Sydney.

Gladys Berejiklian Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

Question: 40

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

40. Does the Government have plans to replace any existing CountryLink services by coach services?

#### Answer:

The Government is currently developing a Transport Master Plan to address how transport services can be delivered to meet customer needs.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



QUESTION: Bud

**Budget Estimates** 

Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

BE 41. Travel on CountryLink services. Can the Minister provide a list of when and where she has travelled on CountryLink services since she became Minister?

Answer:

I refer the Honourable Member to Hansard.

Gladys Berejiklian Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

BE 42 Replacement of XPTs. Can you provide advice on the options for the replacement of XPTs. Please provide the timeframe for each option.

#### Answer:

I am advised:

Options for the replacement of XPTs are being considered by Transport for NSW.

Gladys Berejiklian Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

#### Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

**44.** Is the freight strategy going to be stand-alone, or part of the Transport Masterplan?

#### Answer:

The NSW Freight Strategy will be developed as a component of the Transport Masterplan.

The new Freight and Regional Development Division within Transport for NSW will lead the interaction with freight stakeholders that will inform the development of the NSW Freight Strategy.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

BE 43. Transport Masterplan. Is the Transport Masterplan being developed as stated by Mr Wielinga, or is the process for the Transport Masterplan being developed?

Answer:

Transport for NSW will develop a new Transport Masterplan to guide transport planning across the network. The Masterplan will look at ways of enhancing the transport network to respond to our growing population, as well as identifying key transport corridors that will need to be protected for future development.

Gladys Berejiklian Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3

#### Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

BE 45. Cost savings planned for by the ferries franchise arrangement. Will the Minister provide the Committee with detail of the cost savings planned for by the ferries franchise arrangement?

#### Answer:

I am advised that as the tender process is currently underway, this would potentially affect the value for money to be obtained by the franchising of Sydney Ferries.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

#### Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

46. What is the time frame is for people who travel on private buses to get access to real-time GPS data for timetabling?

a. Can the Minister provide a list of the areas and estimated times where real-time GPS data will be switched on in private buses?

#### Answer:

I am advised:

A real-time TXT BUS service is available via the Public Transport Information Priority System (PTIPS) and provides Sydney Buses customers with up-to-the-minute next bus service information.

Transport for NSW remains committed to working with third parties and providing data to developers. Data for bus, train and ferry timetables has been available to third parties through the NSW Public Transport Data Exchange (TDX) program since September 2009.

Transport for NSW will determine the strategy and timetable for real time information delivery.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

#### Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

47. Who operates the twitter accounts for @131500buses, trains and ferries? a. Where are they located?

#### Answer:

I am advised:

The Transport Management Centre located at Redfern manages the day to day operations of @131500buses, trains and ferries.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



## The Hon Gladys Berejiklian MP

### Minister for Transport

QUESTION:

**Budget Estimates** 

#### Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

48.

- (a) Since 26 March 2011, what has been the total cost of the North West Rail Link information centre at Castle Hill?
- (b) How many people are employed at the North West Rail Link information centre at Castle Hill?
- (c) How many employees are part-time?
- (d) How many employees are full-time?
- (e) How many people visit the information centre each day on average?
- (f) How many information sessions have been held outside the information centre in the community?
- (g) Where were they?
- (h) How much was spent on interactive equipment at the information centre?
- (i) How much was spent on the displays at the information centre?
- (j) How much has been spent on specially designed t-shirts for the North West Rail link?
- (k) How much was spent on the two handouts on the North West Rail link?
- (I) What was the unit cost per handout?
- (m) What was the cost of the forty-nine page high grade, glossy spiral bound publication for the North West Rail Link?
- (n) How much has been spent on the North West Rail Link website?
- (o) Where is the call centre located for the North West Rail Link infoline, 1800 019 989?
- (p) How many people are employed there?
- (q) Has the Government stopped or cancelled any renovations or expenditure related to the North West Rail Link and its information centre?

#### Answer:

(a) - (q)

The Community Information Centre in Castle Hill has been opened to provide a central point of contact for the people of the North West. Around 2000 people have contacted the North West Rail Link Project Team.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

BE 49. Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport. In relation to the Minister's comments that "the department is moving towards a broader definition of accessibility", will the broader definition water down the requirements of the Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport?

Answer:

No.

Gladys Berejiklian Minister for Transport



# The Hon Gladys Berejiklian MP

### Minister for Transport

QUESTION:

**Budget Estimates** 

#### Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

#### BE 50. Phones

- a. How many blackberries does DPC assign to your Ministerial staff and to whom have they been issued?
- b. How many iPads does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?
- c. How many iPads have you purchased for your office and to whom have they been issued?
- d. How many iPhones does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?
- e. How many iPhones have you purchased for your office and to whom have they been issued?
- f. For each phone or device, how much was each bill from April to October?
- g. How any have phones or devices have been lost in your office?
- h. What is the cost of replacing those phones or devices?

#### Answer:

#### I am advised:

- (a-e) For all Ministerial Offices, there is a total of:
  - i. Blackberries 151
  - ii. iPads 19
  - iii. iPhones 3
- (f) Ministerial Offices in the NSW Government from April 2011 to October 2011 spent a total of \$88,902. This compares with \$238,567 spent under the previous NSW Government from October 2010 to March 2011.
- (g-h) For all Ministerial Offices in the NSW Government, there has been one stolen phone, which cost \$577 (ex GST) to replace.

Gladys Berejiklian Minister for Transport



# The Hon Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport

QUESTION:

**Budget Estimates** 

Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

BE 51. Media and Public Relations

- a. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies?
- b. What is the forecast for 2011-12 for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost?
- c. How many media or public relations advisers are employed in your ministerial office?

#### Answer:

I am advised:

(a-b)

With Transport for New South Wales commencing 1 November, the consolidation of these functions has yet to be finalised

(c) Two.

Gladys Berejiklian Minister for Transport



# The Hon Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport

QUESTION:

**Budget Estimates** 

Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

BE 52. Overseas Trips

- a. Have any of your overseas trips in the past year been paid for in part or in full by using public money?
- b. If so, did any of your relatives or friends accompany you on these trips?

#### Answer:

(a - b) I am advised:

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

Gladys Berejiklian Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

#### Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

BE 53. Office Costs

- a. What is the annual remuneration package for your chief of staff?
- b. What is the annual remuneration package for your head media advisor?
- c. What is the annual remuneration package for each of your staff?
- d. What is the estimated expenditure for your office budget in 2011-12?
- e. Have any office renovations or fit outs been undertaken in your ministerial office since April?
- f. If so, could you give details of contracted costs?
- g. What is your office budget?
- h. How many political advisors are in your office?
- i. How many administration staff?
- j. How many Department Liaison officers are assigned to your office?
- k. How many staff in the Department are assigned to Ministerial support duties?

#### Answer:

I am advised:

- (a-c) Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet website.
- (d/g) Based on actual expenditure patterns, total forecast expenditures for all Ministerial offices are set out to be \$36,900,000 in 2011/12. This compares to \$47,046,453 spent by the former NSW Government from April 2010 to March 2011.
- (e-f) \$250 to have staff desks meet Occupational Health and Safety requirements.
- (h-i) Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet website.

- (j) Refer to the answer to the Question on Notice from the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Premier, and Minister for Western Sydney LC 0681—Premier—DEPARTMENTAL LIASION OFFICERS, that details this information as at 7 August 2011.
- (k) Each Minister is provided with a Ministerial driver.

Gladys Berejiklian Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

BE 54. Cabcharge

a. In terms of your ministerial office, how much did your office spend on taxi fares, including Cabcharge since April?

#### Answer:

#### I am advised:

(a) For all Ministerial offices, the cost of Cabcharge was \$38,806.38 over 6 months from April 2011 to September 2011.

This is compared with the cost of \$78,023.11 in the 6 months of the previous NSW Government from October 2010 to March 2011.

Gladys Berejiklian Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

BE 55. Restructure

- a. Are any of your portfolio agencies undergoing a restructure?
- b. How many jobs are expected to be cut as a result of that restructure?
- c. How many people are expected to have their wages cut as a result of that restructure?
- d. How many voluntary redundancies are expected to be offered as a result of that restructure?

#### Answer:

(a-d) I am pleased to remind the committee that in February 2008 the NSW Liberals & Nationals released our policy, 'Towards One Network- The Need for an Integrated Transport Authority in NSW'.

On 19 April 2011, the Minister for Roads and Ports and I announced the start of work to establish the integrated authority. On 15 July 2011, we announced that four agencies- the Roads and Traffic Authority, NSW Maritime, the Transport Construction Authority and the Country Rail Infrastructure Authority- would be abolished, and that the new agency would be called Transport for NSW.

On November 1, the legislation to enable Transport for NSW was proclaimed, and Transport for NSW came into effect.

Gladys Berejiklian Minister for Transport



## The Hon Gladys Berejiklian MP

## Minister for Transport

QUESTION:

**Budget Estimates** 

Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

56. Agency Costs:

- a. What is your agency's catering budget?
- b. Since April, has the agency changed its branding?
- c. How much was spent on rebranding the agency?
- d. How much has been spent on stationery?

#### Answer:

I am advised:

- (a) \$0. There is no catering budget.
- (b) No. On 1 November 2011, an updated logo was introduced to mark the formal establishment of Transport for NSW.
- (c) The updated logo was produced using existing internal resources only.
- (d) To coincide with the introduction of the updated logo, a message was sent to staff instructing them to use existing supplies of stationery and other printed materials, and that new materials should not be printed for the purposes of displaying the updated logo.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

#### 57. Correspondence

- a. How long is the average turnaround for responding to correspondence in your agency?
- b. How many pieces of correspondence have been outstanding for more than 60 days?

#### Answer:

I am advised:

(a-b) The agency is required to turn correspondence around in a timely manner.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

#### Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio asked:

#### 58. Paying bills on time

- a. Since April, on how many occasions has the agency not paid a supplier or contractor for more than 30 days?
- b. How many bills have been outstanding for longer than that period?

#### Answer:

a. - b.

Transport for NSW is amending its internal procedures to ensure it complies with the Small Business Payment Policy which requires small businesses to be paid within 30 days of receipt of a correctly rendered invoice unless required otherwise by contractual terms.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

#### Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

BE 59. Grants to non-government organisations

- a. Does your department provide recurrent grant funds to non-government organisations?
- b. If yes,
  - i. What are the names of all organisations in receipt of funding?
  - ii. What is the total amount of funding received by each organisation, including goods and services tax?
  - iii. On what date was the funding advanced?
  - iv. What was the purpose for each grant or funding advance?
  - v. Was any funding withheld or returned?
  - vii. If so, what were the reasons for withholding or requiring the funding to be returned?
  - viii. What is the indexation rate applied to non recurrent grant funds in 2011/2012?

#### Answer:

I am advised that information on funds granted to community organisations is published each year in respective agency Annual reports.

Gladys Berejiklian

Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

#### Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

BE 60. Feasibility studies, audits, taskforces or reviews

- a. Is your department currently undertaking any feasibility studies, audits, taskforces or reviews,
- b. If so;
- i. What are the terms of reference or details of each study, audit, taskforce or review?
- ii. Who is conducting the study, audit, taskforce or review?
- iii. Was each study, audit, taskforce or review was publically advertised seeking expression of interest or competitive tenders?
- iv. Is there a contract in place detailing terms of engagement for the study, audit, taskforce or review?
- v. What is the timeline of each study, audit, taskforce or review?
- vi. What are the details of any costs involved in each study, audit, taskforce or review?

#### Answer:

The O'Farrell Government established Transport for NSW as an integrated transport agency. Transport for NSW is responsible for the co-ordinated delivery of transport services across all modes and a renewed focus on the customer.

The composition and scope of feasibility studies, audits, taskforces established under the previous government will be reviewed throughout the transition process.

Gladys Berejiklian Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

#### Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC asked:

BE 61. Parliamentary Secretary

- a. Can you please list all travel related costs for your Parliamentary Secretary incurred in their capacity as Parliamentary Secretary since 1 July 2011:
- i. kilometres travelled ii. accommodation.
- iii. air fares
- iv. meals/entertaining?
- b. Can you please provide details of the following activities undertaken by your Parliamentary Secretary since 1 July 2011
- i. meetings attended in their capacity as Parliamentary Secretary?
- ii. functions attended in their capacity as Parliamentary Secretary?
- c. How often do you meet with your Parliamentary Secretary?
- i. Are these meetings documented?
- ii. Who attends these meetings?
- d. Who provides instructions and direction to your Parliamentary Secretary, you or your Chief of Staff?
- e. Has the Parliamentary Secretary been provided with Speech, Voice or Media Training since becoming Parliamentary Secretary?
- f. If so:
- i. Who conducted the training?
- ii. When was it conducted
- iii. Where was it conducted what were the costs of the training?
- iv. Who paid for the training?

#### Answer:

I am advised:

- (a) The travel costs for my Parliamentary Secretary were \$1228.43, and were incurred within the NSW Government Guidelines.
- (b-d) Parliamentary Secretaries provide assistance to the Premier and other Ministers, including signing correspondence; receiving deputations; officiating at functions; and assisting the Premier and Ministers in some of their duties. The duties to be performed are those allocated by the Minister, or which have the Minister's endorsement.

(e-f) No.

Gladys Berejiklian Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Penny Sharpe MLC asked:

- **62.** The Minister mentioned that the Department had carried out surveying and geotechnical investigations on the Inner West Light Rail extension:
- a. What did this work entail, when it was carried out, where was it carried out, and what technical information is now available that was not available previously because of this work?
- b. Can the Minister provide a cost breakdown of all new work?

#### Answer:

a.-b. I am advised following a full site survey of the rail corridor, geotechnical investigations were conducted to determine the characteristics of the soil profile. I understand these involved 10 boreholes and 4 test pits over an area of 1.5 kilometres. The additional information gained showed that substantial slope stabilisation and excavation to the rock faces will be required. The latest advice puts the costs at \$176 million for the inner west light rail extension, which was \$56 million more than the former Labor Government's estimate.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport



**Budget Estimates** 

#### Question:

On 25 October, the Hon Penny Sharpe MLC asked:

**63**. In relation to the Minister's statement that "based on this work the department has identified that without modification to the design construction could cost significantly more than previously estimated", what is the new cost estimate for the Greenway?.

#### Answer:

The most recent cost estimate was the one provided in my media release of 6 September 2011, that is \$37 million. Construction of the Greenway shared path has been deferred while it is reassessed as part of a broader active transport plan.

Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Transport