

GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEE NO. 3

Friday 12 October 2012

Examination of proposed expenditure for the portfolio areas

TOURISM, MAJOR EVENTS, HOSPITALITY AND RACING, THE ARTS

**QUESTION – Page 4
Hospitality and Racing**

The Hon. STEVE WHAN: How many inspectors are there at the moment in the department? If you have not got that figure at hand, you can take the question on notice?

Ms TYDD: I do not have that figure on hand at the moment.

The Hon. STEVE WHAN: Could you take the question on notice?

Ms TYDD: Yes.

ANSWER

I am advised that the Office of Liquor Gaming and Racing has 62 appointed inspectors.

QUESTION - Page 8
Hospitality and Racing

The Hon. PAUL GREEN: Can you elucidate further on what programs these are and what data feedback you get in judging whether these responsible gambling methods are successful?

Mr GEORGE SOURIS: I have a feeling that this will end up being a commitment to provide a list. I am able to give you a general answer but if you require an itemised list of each item I will have to obviously—

The Hon. PAUL GREEN: You can take that question on notice.

Mr GEORGE SOURIS: I will have to do that. But let me at least give you the general answer that I can. Most people who gamble do so responsibly, but for some it can cause problems not only for them but also for their families and the community. There is sound evidence that early intervention initiatives can prevent people from becoming problem gamblers and the community support model is widely regarded as the best approach to address these problems. Early intervention encompasses prevention, community awareness, harm minimisation, and treatment strategies. I have already given this figure but I will give it again. The Responsible Gambling Fund is providing \$1.019 million for early intervention, prevention, and a community engagement strategy for problem gambling in New South Wales. This ongoing program supports self-help initiatives, develops social media, and targets community groups at risk for problem gambling. In 2010 the Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing launched Counsellor Sam's blog, which provides readers with more detailed responses to questions on problem gambling.

In 2011-12 this service attracted 10,925 unique visitors. In addition, the Responsible Gambling Fund funded services to deliver a range of early intervention initiatives, including working with schools and other education institutions, promoting responsible gambling through local media, and collaborating with health services and community groups to promote their services. The fund also provided \$475,200 to support a strategy for culturally and linguistically diverse communities. In addition to print and online materials and advertising, a DVD *What's Gambling Really Costing You?* has been produced in six community languages. Finally, in 2012 I launched the \$2.79 million Aboriginal awareness-raising program as part of the Gambling and Aboriginal People Strategy. This aims to engage Aboriginal communities on the issue of problem gambling and provide culturally appropriate resources. Tenders are being sought for delivery of the strategy, and the program will commence very early in the new year. In any case, you have asked for the list.

The Hon. PAUL GREEN: If you could put that on notice that would be fine.

Mr GEORGE SOURIS: It is a regular question that has to be provided every estimates committee hearings, so we will do the same again this year.

ANSWER

Responsible Gambling Fund Programs

In 2011/12 the Responsible Gambling Fund supported three main areas of activity:

1. Provision of counselling and support services: \$11.895 million
2. Delivery of education and community awareness-raising programs: \$1.019 million, and
3. Undertaking research to increase our understanding of problem gambling and the effectiveness of preventative measures: \$0.67 million.

1. Counselling and support services

The Responsible Gambling Fund supports a range of 'Gambling Help' programs:

- The 24-hour Gambling Helpline service (1800 858 858)
- The 24-hour national Gambling Help Online counselling service
- Six multi-region Gambling Help services offering specialist assistance for people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
- Two specialist support services that provide training programs for problem gambling counsellors and expert legal advice on gambling-related matters, and
- 38 Gambling Help face-to-face counselling services across the State's 11 regions.

2. Delivery of education and community awareness-raising programs

There are three main areas of communications activity:

- The Early Intervention, Prevention and Community Engagement Strategy that promotes responsible gambling across NSW through the 'Gambling Hangover' campaign and promotion of 'Gambling Help' services
- The Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Community Engagement Strategy to develop in-language resources, and
- The Aboriginal Problem Gambling Community Engagement project.

3. Research

The Responsible Gambling Fund supports Australia-wide research undertaken by Gambling Research Australia. The Fund also initiates research projects into NSW gambling-related issues.

Research completed in the 2011/12 financial year:

- Review of the NSW Responsible Conduct of Gambling Training Program
- The Prevalence of Gambling and Problem Gambling in NSW
- International Student Gambling (GRA)
- Gambling and Young People in Australia (GRA)
- Gamblers at Risk and their Help Seeking Behaviour (GRA)

The Needs Analysis of the NSW Problem Gambling Counselling and Support Services Program was completed in July 2012.

Research projects that are underway include:

- Gambling and Co-Morbid Disorders (GRA)
- Electronic Gaming Machine Jackpots (GRA)
- Responsible Gambling Environments (GRA)
- Interactive Gambling (GRA)

A breakdown of funded programs for the 2011/12 financial year is provided at the end of the briefing.

Responsible Gambling Fund Evaluation

The Responsible Gambling Fund recognises the importance of gathering data demonstrating the level of activity within its counselling and support service programs, and evaluating the effectiveness of all funded programs. Evaluation of programs is ongoing. For example,

- The Client Data Set is provided by counselling and support services and demonstrates the number of clients each service is seeing, the number of counselling sessions and demographic and gambling-related information about each client.
- Client Follow-Up Guidelines ensure that each counselling service reports client outcome data in their annual report.
- Services are regularly evaluated by independent consultants, including:
 - Problem Gambling Awareness Campaign: Quantitative Study, 2007
 - Gambling Helpline Evaluation, 2007
 - Problem Gambling Awareness Campaign: Quantitative Follow Up, 2008
 - Gambling Helpline Evaluation, 2008
 - Post Campaign Analysis 'Gambling Hangover 2010', 2010
 - Review of the NSW Problem Gambling Service Accreditation Program 2011
 - National Gambling Help Online Evaluation, 2011
 - Evaluation of RGF-funded Aboriginal Problem Gambling Projects, 2011
 - Early Intervention, Prevention and Community Engagement Strategy Evaluation, 2011
- Between 2006 and 2010, a Client Follow-Up project documented the progress of consenting callers to the Gambling Helpline and found that over 80% were better able to manage their gambling following counselling.
- In 2006/7, the University of Sydney analysed treatments provided by a sample of five Gambling Help services and found them to be effective.

Responsible Gambling Fund Grants as at 30 June 2012

Counselling Services

Agency	Purpose	Amount
Anglicare Canberra & Goulburn	To provide sessional counsellors for therapeutic counselling and support services to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$203,197
Anglicare Northern Inland	To provide therapeutic and financial counselling and support services to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$104,418
Arab Council Australia	To provide therapeutic and financial counselling and support services to problem gamblers from the Arabic speaking community and those close to them.	\$191,527
Auburn Asian Welfare Centre	To provide therapeutic counselling and support services to problem gamblers from the Chinese speaking community and those close to them.	\$286,369
CatholicCare Social Services	To provide therapeutic counselling and support services to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$92,495
Centacare New England / North West	To provide therapeutic counselling and support services to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$88,615
Co. As. It. Italian Association of Assistance	To provide therapeutic counselling and support services to problem gamblers from the Italian speaking community and those close to them.	\$87,647
Greek Welfare Centre	To provide therapeutic counselling and support services to problem gamblers from the Greek speaking community and those close to them.	\$101,122
Hopetstreet Urban Compassion	To provide therapeutic counselling and support services to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$182,564
Lifeline- Broken Hill	To provide therapeutic counselling and support services to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$106,574
Lifeline Central West	To provide therapeutic counselling and support services to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$374,863
Lifeline Harbour to Hawkesbury	To provide therapeutic and financial counselling and support services to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$38,057
Lifeline North Coast	To provide therapeutic and financial counselling and support services to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$166,830

Lifeline Western Sydney	To provide therapeutic and financial counselling and support services to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$203,878
Lifeline Western Sydney (Fairfield)	To provide therapeutic and support services to problem gamblers and those close to them in the Fairfield LGA.	\$87,717
Medibank Health Solutions Telehealth Pty Ltd	To provide a 24-hour telephone crisis counselling, information and referral service to problem gamblers, their families and others.	\$808,307
Mission Australia – City	To provide therapeutic and financial counselling to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$273,622
Mission Australia - Hunter	To provide therapeutic counselling and support services to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$309,971
Mission Australia - Illawarra	To provide therapeutic and financial counselling to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$548,562
Mission Australia - North Coast	To provide therapeutic counselling and support services to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$132,834
Mission Australia - Riverina	To provide therapeutic and financial counselling to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$238,611
Mission Australia – South West Sydney	To provide youth therapeutic and financial counselling to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$170,163
Northern Sydney Local Health Network	To provide therapeutic counselling and support services to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$323,500
Peninsula Community Centre	To provide therapeutic counselling and support services to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$179,044
South Western Sydney Local Health Network	To provide therapeutic counselling and support services to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$316,108
St David's Uniting Care, Albury	To provide therapeutic and financial counselling and support services to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$212,252
St Vincent's de Paul Society NSW	To provide therapeutic counselling and support services to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$150,238
St Vincent's Hospital	To provide therapeutic counselling and support services to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$446,123
Sydney Women's Counselling Centre	To provide therapeutic counselling and support services to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$115,720
The Buttery	To provide therapeutic counselling and support services to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$251,356

UnitingCare Unifam Counselling & Mediation Service	To provide therapeutic counselling and support services to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$101,398
The Samaritans Foundation	To provide therapeutic counselling and support services to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$36,226
University of Sydney – Camden	To provide therapeutic counselling and support services to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$294,515
University of Sydney – Darlington	To provide therapeutic counselling and support services to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$463,968
University of Sydney – Lidcombe	To provide therapeutic counselling and support services to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$289,808
Vietnamese Community in Australia - NSW Chapter	To provide therapeutic counselling and support services to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$142,868
Wagga Wagga Family Support Service	To provide therapeutic and financial counselling and support services to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$159,275
Wesley Mission - Central Coast	To provide therapeutic counselling and support services to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$135,052
Wesley Mission - Newcastle	To provide therapeutic counselling and support services to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$172,872
Wesley Mission – Penrith	To provide therapeutic financial counselling and support services to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$255,713
Wesley Mission - St George	To provide therapeutic and financial counselling and support services to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$173,294
Wesley Mission – Surry Hills	To provide therapeutic and financial counselling and support services to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$423,898
Western Sydney Local Health Network	To provide therapeutic counselling and support services to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$194,784
Western Sydney Local Health Network - Multicultural Problem Gambling Service	To provide state-wide therapeutic counselling and support services to problem gamblers from NSW CALD communities and those close to them.	\$573,826
Woodrising Neighbourhood Centre	To provide for therapeutic counselling and support services to problem gamblers and those close to them.	\$68,169

**QUESTION – Page 8,9 & 10
Hospitality and Racing**

Dr JOHN KAYE: Minister, last year you were asked about the appointment and subsequent resignation of Mr Brian Ross to what is now the Independent Liquor and Gaming Authority [ILGA]. As you will recall, at the time of appointment Mr Ross was a former chief executive of the Australian Hotels Association [AHA] and he resigned three days into his term. You had said that he had been recommended to you but you declined last year to tell the Committee who approached you to recommend Brian Ross as an appointment to ILGA. Can you now tell us who approached you to appoint Brian Ross to ILGA?

Mr GEORGE SOURIS: Mr Chair, during question time in the Legislative Assembly this issue received, I do not know how many, but many questions that were directed at both me and/or the Premier. There have been a number of answers of which I presently would no longer be familiar. I refer Dr Kaye to the *Hansard* for the Legislative Assembly in that time because all those questions received an answer at the time and undoubtedly would provide him with an answer to his present inquiry.

Dr JOHN KAYE: Thank you for that, except in none of the answers to those questions did you answer the question that I just posed to you. That question is the following: Who recommended Mr Ross to you? You might not recall which is fine, but to say that you have answered elsewhere is simply incorrect.

Mr GEORGE SOURIS: No, I did not say—

Dr JOHN KAYE: You are declining to tell us who recommended him?

The Hon. JOHN AJAKA: Point of order: I do not think it is appropriate for Dr John Kaye in effect to assume how the Minister will answer the question. He should allow the Minister to answer the question.

ACTING-CHAIR: Order! The Minister should be given ample time at least to begin to answer the question.

Dr JOHN KAYE: That would be good. Let us start again. Do you recall who approached you to recommend Brian Ross as an appointee to ILGA?

Mr GEORGE SOURIS: Mr Chair, I really am not sufficiently familiar with whatever answers may have been given and whether or not a particular question that is being posed now was the subject of Legislative Assembly proceedings more than a year ago. Really it is outside the period of reference for these current estimates. I am unable to recall and I am unfamiliar—

Dr JOHN KAYE: You cannot recall?

Mr GEORGE SOURIS: I certainly cannot recall.

Dr JOHN KAYE: Will you undertake to answer the question on notice if you cannot recall who approached you?

The Hon. SARAH MITCHELL: Point of order: The Minister has answered the question that has been asked by Dr John Kaye.

Dr JOHN KAYE: I am asking a separate question.

The Hon. LYNDA VOLTZ: To the point of order: The member is simply asking the Minister to take a question on notice because he is saying now that he cannot recall. That is perfectly within the purview of the Committee.

Dr JOHN KAYE: The Minister says he cannot recall which is surprising, given the significance of what happened subsequently. But let us let that ride. All I am asking is whether he will take that question on notice and get back to me after going through his records and finding out who recommended an appointment to the Independent Liquor and Gaming Authority—the most important independent regulator of the industry.

Mr GEORGE SOURIS: Mr Chairman, I do not know whether you would be willing to rule on the question of the current estimates?

ACTING-CHAIR: I am. The Minister is free to answer the question as he sees fit. If the Minister believes he has answered the question I imagine that that is his answer.

Dr JOHN KAYE: Minister, all I am really asking is whether you will go through your records and see if you can find who made the recommendation. You cannot remember now. I am taking it that you have forgotten for some reason. All I am asking is whether you will take that question on notice.

Mr GEORGE SOURIS: I would be prepared to collate for you the material that was gleaned through the Legislative Assembly and forward it to the Committee.

Dr JOHN KAYE: So the answer is no?

Mr GEORGE SOURIS: Mr Chairman, I really would rather my answer stand on its own merits. I do not need to be doubly interpreted every time.

ANSWER

The answer is on the record in the Legislative Assembly Hansard. See below:

1. http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/prod/PARLMENT/hansArt.nsf/V3Key/LA20110915017?open&refNavID=HA8_1
2. http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/prod/parlment/hansart.nsf/V3Key/LA20111011020?open&refNavID=HA8_1
3. http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/prod/parlment/hansart.nsf/V3Key/LA20111011022?open&refNavID=HA8_1

QUESTION – Page 12
Hospitality and Racing

The Hon. JOHN AJAKA: I take you to the area of alcohol. Will you inform the Committee of some of the Government's achievements in alcohol regulation?

Mr GEORGE SOURIS: The New South Wales Government has introduced a range of measures over the past 12 months which clearly demonstrate the serious approach we take to liquor compliance and regulation. We are committed to ensuring responsible service and consumption of alcohol in our State's licensed venues to reduce intoxication and associated community impacts...

The Hon. JOHN AJAKA: Would you take the rest of the question on notice and provide the answer for that?

Mr GEORGE SOURIS: Thank you, Mr Ajaka. I do have other remarks, which I will provide.

ANSWER

The NSW Government has introduced a range of measures over the past 12 months which clearly demonstrates the serious approach we take to liquor compliance and regulation.

We are committed to ensuring responsible service and consumption of alcohol in our State's licensed venues to reduce intoxication and the associated community impacts.

Sydney Liquor Freeze

In June, I announced an extension of the liquor Sydney liquor freeze for a further 6 months. A freeze has been in place in three areas of the city of Sydney since 25 June 2009. The goal of the freeze is to reduce alcohol related violence in areas within the Sydney local government area that takes in the precincts of Kings Cross; the Oxford Street, Darlinghurst, precinct; and the central business district south precinct.

Density report

One of the main reasons behind extending the freeze is to allow for the completion of research...currently underway...into the cumulative impact of liquor license density. Part one of the review of the freeze has been completed by the Allen Consulting Group. The review is the first stage of a larger piece of research into liquor license density in New South Wales.

The review has involved thorough consultation with residents; community based resident action groups as well as various other Government agencies including NSW Police, NSW Health, the Department of Planning and infrastructure, local council and businesses.

Further, the report confirmed that the Sydney local government area has the highest of liquor outlets in NSW and that assault rates are significantly higher in the three

precincts...I mentioned earlier...than in other parts of Sydney.

I will get back to density after I highlight a few other Government initiatives to demonstrate how all of the Government's initiatives will work together.

Kings Cross

Recently, the NSW Government announced a series of measures...in the cross-agency Kings Cross Plan of Management...to reduce alcohol-related violence and improve safety in Kings Cross. The Government has undertaken a whole of government approach to cleaning up 'The Cross'.

This plan is separate to the decision taken independently by the Director General of the Department of Trade and Investment...following an audit of all 54 licensed venues in the Kings Cross.

Following the audit, the Director General...announced he was proposing to impose conditions on these venues. I understand the Director General wrote to licensees advising them of the conditions and invited submissions from licensees if they wished to raise any concerns.

Further, the Kings Cross Plan of Management announced by the Premier involves further controls on the operation of licensed venues...including new security measures and enhanced responsible service of alcohol requirements.

Other measures announced in the plan include Operation Rushmore...involves high visibility policing in the precinct over summer targeting alcohol-related violence and anti-social behaviour.

In addition, drug detection dogs will be used in the Cross without police first having to obtain a warrant. This new police power will also be extended to all metropolitan and inner-city train lines. The expanded use of drug detection dogs will assist police to crackdown on the use and supply of illegal drugs.

Transport will also be improved...with extra bus services... meaning a bus to Central Station every eight minutes and Town Hall every 15 minutes between 1am and 5am/

More security guards will be deployed on taxi ranks and we will also be introducing a trial of pre-paid taxis. This will provide a safer and more efficient management of taxis to reduce waiting times and reduce anti-social behaviour.

Linked ID scanners will also be introduced to licensed premises in Kings Cross which means that if a person is ejected from one venue... he or she can be banned from other licensed venues in the precinct that night.

A sobering-up centre will be set up will be set up to service Kings Cross.

The Kings Cross Liquor Accord will be further expanded to take in about 100 extra licensed venues in Potts Point and Elizabeth Bay.

Separate to the Sydney Liquor Freeze...a freeze on new liquor outlets in the expanded Kings Cross precinct would be extended until 24 December 2015.

A new category of 'small bar' liquor licenses which will limit venues to 60 patrons or less and prohibit gaming machines. This will not apply to existing venues.

Three Strikes

A key part of the Government's plan to tackle alcohol-related violence has been the introduction of a Three Strikes disciplinary scheme for the State's licensed venues which commenced on 1 January 2012.

The scheme has been actively targeting offenders who repeatedly breach the most serious Liquor Act offences... including intoxication and underage drinking.

Venues that incur a first strike are effectively on a good behaviour bond for three years as any further convictions for key liquor offences in that period could lead to second and third strikes being incurred.

Remedial measures in the form of licence conditions can be imposed where venues incur a strike.

A third strike can result in licence suspension for up to 12 months... licence cancellation and a moratorium on a new liquor licence being granted at the venue for up to 12 months... or disqualification of a licensee for any period of time.

For registered clubs... a third strike can result in disqualification of a club secretary... dismissal of any or all of the club directors... or the appointment of an administrator to manage the club.

As at 8 October 2012, 20 venues have incurred strikes.

Penalty notices have been issued in respect of a further 27 offences that are pending, awaiting a result from either a court decision, payment of a penalty notice, or an enforcement order issued by the State Debt Recovery Office.

A register of strikes is available online.

The Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing works with licensed venues which incur strikes to assist the licensee to implement measures to reduce the risk of further liquor offences and strikes.

Density Research and Review of Schedule 4

The Government is committed to reducing the harm associated with irresponsible alcohol use through the development of strategic liquor policy informed by relevant evidence and research.

As I mentioned earlier, the density research currently underway is an important project that will assist in future decision making by the Office of Liquor, Gaming and

Racing in the areas of licensing and enforcement.

Another key piece of work that is currently being undertaken is the review of the violent venues scheme which has operated since 2008.

This project provides an opportunity to consider whether the types of conditions imposed on liquor licences are helping to drive down alcohol-related violence... or whether other measures are more appropriate.

Both projects... which will be concluded by the end of 2012 and early 2013 respectively... will provide robust evidence for future policy development.

Education initiative

One objective of the NSW Government is to reduce the culture of excessive drinking.

I was pleased to announce in August that the Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing is in the final stages of developing an internet-based alcohol education resource for secondary school students in partnership with the New South Wales Curriculum and Learning Innovation Centre in the Department of Education and Communities.

This resource supports the Government's focus on individual responsibility and will provide students with the information they need to make safe choices about alcohol consumption.

This valuable tool demonstrates the NSW Government's commitment to a broad strategy to change the drinking culture and educate young people about the dangers associated with excessive alcohol consumption.

It is anticipated that this resource will be rolled out in time for Term 1 next year to NSW Government high schools ... and to independent... Catholic and other schools following its launch.

Following further evaluation and refinement... the formal launch of the resource is planned to coincide with the beginning of the 2013 school year.

Online RSA Training

The Government is also trialling online responsible service of alcohol training for 12 months (from 1 July 2012)... thereby increasing accessibility to people... particularly in Regional NSW and helping reduce costs in the training sector.

The trial will help inform any decision to extend online availability to other mandatory training such as the responsible conduct of gambling course.

As these initiatives demonstrate, the NSW Government is committed to ensuring responsible service and consumption of alcohol.

Through research, education... and regulation we are working hard with the industry to ensure venues operate responsibly and safely, balanced with initiatives that raise

awareness among consumers to help them make safer choices when drinking alcohol.

QUESTION – Page 16

Arts

The Hon. LYNDA VOLTZ: Minister, 90 per cent of artworks held by the New South Wales Art Gallery are in storage. Should not some of these artworks be loaned out around regional galleries in New South Wales until they are needed for exhibition?

Mr GEORGE SOURIS: My instant answer is that I happen to be fully aware that they are indeed, but let me check if I have a more detailed answer.

The Hon. LYNDA VOLTZ: Maybe if there is a list it can be taken on notice and provided later?

Mr GEORGE SOURIS: I think I can provide quite a detailed answer, but the prima facie answer is, yes, indeed they are.

ANSWER

Over the past twelve months the Gallery loaned 134 works to 10 NSW Regional Galleries. Loans included:

- Hazelhurst Regional Gallery and Arts Centre (69 works)
- S H Ervin Gallery (6 works)
- Bathurst Regional Art Gallery (1 work)
- Campbelltown Arts Centre (1 work)
- Blue Mountains Cultural Centre (21 works)
- Tweed River Art Gallery (10 works)
- Manly Art Gallery and Museum (4 works)
- Maitland Regional Art Gallery (1 work)
- Tamworth Regional Gallery (1 work)
- Orange Regional Gallery (20 works)

The Art Gallery of NSW also toured the exhibition *Australian modern masterpieces* to Newcastle Region Art Gallery (10 December 2011 – 4 March 2012). This exhibition included 40 works from the Gallery's extensive 20th century collection.

The Art Gallery of NSW also toured the Archibald Prize to the Tweed Valley, Moree, Lake Macquarie, Orange and Taree from August 2011 to April 2012, and attracted over 104,000 visitors.

QUESTION Page 18
Arts

The Hon. LYNDA VOLTZ: The New South Wales Government, in partnership with local governments in western Sydney, jointly invested over \$55 million in western Sydney art facilities capital infrastructure between 2002 and 2010. Minister, how much has been invested since that time? Those figures were from your website.

Mr GEORGE SOURIS: We will have to take that question on notice and get an answer to you.

ANSWER

I refer you to the Arts NSW website
<http://www.arts.nsw.gov.au/index.php/category/funding-and-support/funding-recipients/> for details of funding recipients, including Capital Works projects.

Western Sydney is well served in relation to arts and cultural infrastructure. Examples include the Campbelltown Arts Centre, Penrith Regional Gallery and the Lewers Bequest, the Casula Powerhouse and the Riverside Theatres at Parramatta.

The Government strongly supports the arts in Western Sydney. In 2011/12 the Government provided \$8.4 million to Western Sydney. This includes funding to arts organisations, local councils and individual artists located in Western Sydney, as well as funding for Western Sydney public libraries.

QUESTION – Page 18

Arts

The Hon. LYNDA VOLTZ: I do like them. Why are organisations such as Screen NSW, which contributes a significant amount, receiving only modest amounts such as \$9.9 million? The real question is why is most of the bulk of the funding grouped around those organisations?

Mr GEORGE SOURIS: In the main funding has been maintained along the profile operated under by the previous Government. The five cultural institutions to which you refer are the premier cultural institutions of New South Wales. They are located historically within close proximity of the central district of the State's capital, that is true, but that is not to say that any of them neglect either the greater metropolitan area or the regional network. I would be able to provide you with a comprehensive answer to the way in which the whole of New South Wales benefits from the activities that are funded by the cultural institutions.

The Hon. LYNDA VOLTZ: You can take that question on notice.

ANSWER

The major cultural institutions - the Art Gallery of NSW, the Australian Museum, the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences (Powerhouse Museum), the State Library of NSW and the Sydney Opera House - play an important role in encouraging participation in the arts across the State, including significant efforts to engage students from regional and remote areas and all have extensive outreach programs. This engagement occurs through touring exhibitions, loaning objects, providing professional and community lectures and talks and a range of other programmes and events.

Highlights of the cultural institutions' regional services efforts during 2011/12 are outlined below.

The State Library of NSW toured exhibitions and displays across NSW including: *The Governor: Lachlan Macquarie 1810 to 1821*, *ONE hundred Carved Trees*, and *Beach Bush and Battlers: Photographs by Jeff Carter*. The Library also delivered 33 regional lectures in 2011/12 as well as provided over \$14.65 million in grants and subsidies to NSW regional and rural councils in support of their public libraries.

The Museum of Applied Arts and Science (Powerhouse Museum) presented seven off site exhibitions at NSW venues attracting over 285,000 visitors. Exhibitions went to Port Macquarie, Albury, Newcastle, Wagga Wagga, Broken Hill, Wollongong, Parramatta and Liverpool. A total of 150 Regional Services events included short term displays, talks, workshops, site visits, programs and consultations, engaged 52 organisations in 46 regional NSW locations. This included 14 visits to regional sites to provide advice on request. 19 Western Sydney organisations were engaged through Regional Services programs. There were three short term exhibitions from the model collection for heritage events in Taralga, Coleambally and Maitland. Regional Services activities engaged over 19,000 participants including over 4,000 in Western Sydney.

The Regional Internship Program had 17 volunteers and professional staff from regional and Western Sydney heritage organisations receiving skills training. Interns came from Alstonville, Albury, Huskisson, Goulburn, Kandos, Wingham, Gulgong, Broken Hill, Batemans Bay, Dubbo, Condobolin, Camden and Parramatta.

At the Powerhouse Discovery Centre in Castle Hill visitors have a unique opportunity to see some of the many objects rarely on display. Monthly Open Days are held on the second Saturday of the month from February to November. These offer themed programs including lectures, object talks, make-and-do activities and behind-the-scenes tours.

During school holidays the Discovery Centre presents entertaining and educational programs for children aged from 3 to 14 years, including performances, make-and-do activities, workshops and more. The Powerhouse Discovery Centre offers a range of guided, curriculum-linked educational visits for primary and secondary students. Supervised and themed tours are tailored to each group's needs to meet Key Learning Area requirements. Students and teachers both experience and work directly with objects from the Museum's collection with a focus on discovery and exploration.

The Art Gallery of NSW toured the Archibald Prize to the Tweed Valley, Moree, Lake Macquarie, Orange and Taree, and attracted over 104,000 visitors. A special professional development day was also held for educators and curators from regional galleries that hosted the touring exhibition. The Gallery loaned 20 works to Orange Regional Gallery for their exhibition *An expanded vision: Mary Turner Collection*.

A number of schools from regional areas participated in the Open Gallery Program which provides excursions for Year 7 visual arts students to spend a day at the Gallery. Two regional schools, Boggabilla Central School (New England Region) and Ungarie Central School (Riverina Region), participated in the *Artside In* program. During November last year the Gallery ran HSC Study Days for students and teachers from low socio economic status school communities. 406 students and 50 teachers participated in the program over three days, with schools coming from the Hunter/Central Coast and Illawarra/South East regions. The Australian Museum reports that a total of 73,500 students were involved in its outreach programs during 2011/12.

Museum in a Box continued to grow, and the Museum developed new ways of integrating it with its other programmes. A total of 583 Museums in a Box were booked during 2011/2012, reaching 65,500 students across NSW. The Museum's video conferencing services also expanded during the year, reaching 8,050 students: 4,833 students interacted with Australian Museum content, and 3,240 had sessions from external content providers hosted by the Australian Museum.

Held annually, "Evolution of Australian Biota" Study Days are for Year 11 Biology students and teachers. Biota events were held onsite at the Museum, as well as at Dubbo, Coffs Harbour, Mt Tomah and Mt Annan and involving more than 3000 students.

Science in the Suburbs/Bush programs reached senior high school students around NSW, and included a tailored program run with Jenolan Caves in the Blue Mountains. Science in the Bush went to the Central West and New England regions. Events were held at Charles Sturt University's Orange Campus and the Crossing Theatre, Narrabri, with a total of 1,400 students attending.

The Sydney Opera House continued its World Orchestra Education programme in 2011/12, featuring the world-renowned Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra. This program offered a group of students from regional NSW the opportunity to work with some of the Orchestra's musicians in master classes.

The Opera House also started its three year partnership with the Glasshouse Arts, Conference and Entertainment Centre in Port Macquarie, which saw:

- The streaming of Bell Shakespeare's Romeo & Juliet from the Sydney Opera House to more than 300 students at the Glasshouse; and
- an additional three productions and a selection of events from the Message Sticks Festival travel from the Opera House to the Glasshouse, reaching an audience of over 3,900 in Port Macquarie.

The Opera House's Digital Education Program also delivered 40 Digital Excursions (including tours and workshops) to 1,361 students in 36 schools across regional and remote NSW. As these examples demonstrate, the State's cultural institutions are working to provide many innovative programmes to students across NSW and are constantly looking to further enhance and develop their digital education programs.

QUESTION – Page 19

Arts

The Hon. PAUL GREEN: That is fine. Minister, can you update the Committee on any foreign artistic tours in New South Wales this year?

Mr GEORGE SOURIS: Do you mean like a Picasso exhibition?

The Hon. PAUL GREEN: International, yes, things like that. If you want to take the question on notice, that is fine.

Mr GEORGE SOURIS: I think there is a good answer but I cannot instantly gather the information.

The Hon. PAUL GREEN: That is fine, and if you want to get to me on that that would be great.

Mr GEORGE SOURIS: Yes.

ANSWER

A range of international exhibitions and artistic tours will be held in 2012/13 which are outlined below.

Australian Museum

The exhibition *Alexander the Great: 2000 Years of Treasures* from the State Hermitage, St Petersburg in Russia will run from 24 November 2012 to 28 April 2013 at the Australian Museum.

Powerhouse Museum

The UK-touring exhibition *Wallace and Gromit's World of Invention* will run from 15 December 2012 to 26 May 2013 at the Powerhouse Museum.

Art Gallery of New South Wales

Kamisaka Sekka: dawn of modern Japanese design ran from 22 June to 26 August 2012 and focused on the work of Kamisaka Sekka one of Japan's leading artists, designers and art instructors of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century.

Eugene Atget: old Paris from 24 August to 4 November 2012 is the first comprehensive exhibition in Australia of the work of French photographer Eugene Atget. The exhibition showcases more than 200 photographs and is mostly drawn from the collection of the Musee Carnavalet in Paris. The Gallery is the only Australian venue for the exhibition.

Francis Bacon: five decades from 17 November 2012 to 24 February 2013 is the first major exhibition in Australia to survey Francis Bacon's life and work. Works have been drawn from international institutions including the Museum of Modern Art and Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the Tate Britain in London, the Centre Pompidou in Paris, the Francis Bacon Estate as well as private collections and Australian institutions.

State Library of NSW

Magnum on Set will be on show as part of the Head On Festival of Photography running from **17 May to 23 June 2013**. The photographers associated with Magnum have worked with movie-makers since its creation in 1947. *Magnum on Set* will feature 116 on-set photographs and include intimate portraits of stars and film directors of twelve movies: *Limelight*, *The Seven Year Itch*, *Rebel without a Cause*, *Moby Dick*, *Suddenly Last Summer*, *The Alamo*, *The Misfits*, *Le Process*, *Planet of the Apes*, *Zabriskie Point*, *L'Importance c'est d'aimer* and *Death of a Salesman*.

Museum of Contemporary Art

The first major exhibition in Australia of Mumbai-born, London-based artist Anish Kapoor will run at the Museum of Contemporary Art from 20 December 2012 to 1 April 2013 as part of the Sydney International Art Series. The Sydney International Art Series is one of five signature events on the NSW Events Calendar which features a range of vibrant arts and cultural events exclusive to Sydney.

Biennale of Sydney

The 18th Biennale of Sydney ran from 27 June to 16 September 2012 and presented works by more than 100 artists from the Middle East, South Africa, Europe, the Americas, the AsiaPacific, New Zealand and Australia, attracting more than 665,000 visitors.

Some of the highlights in 2011/12 included:

- *Picasso: Masterpieces from the Musée National Picasso, Paris* at the Art Gallery of NSW, attracting more than 366,000 visitors;
- *The Mad Square: Modernity in German Art 1910-37* at the Art Gallery of NSW featured the work of Germany's leading generation of inter-war artists;
- *Harry Potter: the exhibition* at the Powerhouse Museum attracted more than 380,000 visitors, making it the most successful paid exhibition to be presented at the museum;
- an exhibition featuring photographs from the Xinhua Photographic Agency at the State Library of NSW celebrating 40 years of cultural tourism between China and Australia.

QUESTION – Page 23

Arts

The Hon. SARAH MITCHELL: Thank you for that very comprehensive answer, particularly in relation to the movie *The Sapphires*. I saw it last week when it came to Gunnedah. It is a wonderful movie. Can I now ask you to outline to the Committee some of the international achievements of New South Wales arts companies?

Mr GEORGE SOURIS: New South Wales is home to world-class arts and cultural organisations. Several New South Wales funded arts companies have been in the international spotlight in recent months...

The Hon. SARAH MITCHELL: Thank you, Minister. Would you like to provide the rest of that answer on notice to the Committee?

Mr GEORGE SOURIS: I will.

ANSWER

The rest of the answer follows:

Opening on 1 October 2012, the *Sydney Pavilion* will showcase new and commissioned works by six internationally recognised contemporary Australian artists with strong connections to Sydney.

4A is the only organisation representing Australia at the 2012 Shanghai Biennale.

And finally, Fling Physical Theatre company from Bega represented Australia, performing in Singapore's Youth Festival in July.

Fling performed a live dance work incorporating video technology before an audience of 3,000 including young people from seven countries.

The touring success of these and other NSW based arts companies on the international stage enhances the reputation of NSW as a creative centre and a destination for visitors, investment and opportunity.

This highlights Sydney's status as Australia's cultural capital, and confirms Sydney's position as Australia's only global city.

QUESTION – Page 30
Tourism and major Events

The Hon. PAUL GREEN: Obviously, Sydney is a popular venue, we have just heard, for international conferences and will be more so in the future. The Seventh World Congress of Families will be held in Sydney in May next year. What initiatives does the Government have to attract international conferences to other parts of the State outside Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong?

Mr GEORGE SOURIS: Business Events Sydney is charged with that in particular. I do not have sufficient answer to that question.

Ms CHIPCHASE: I am happy to answer that question. One of the areas nominated in the Economy Taskforce report is concentration on building conferencing for regional New South Wales. Currently, many regional tourism organisations work with Destination NSW on identifying potential pieces of business. Sporting events and conferences are a key driver. Unfortunately, with the global financial crisis, a lot of corporate conferencing business has either been put on hold or people are saving money and holding meetings within their own offices.

We are cognisant of the fact that for business events regional areas need the correct infrastructure because, ultimately, this is a business led by infrastructure—airports within driving distance of major hubs; accommodation; audiovisual support, particularly if they have a very complex meeting and might be having a lot of digital technology with which they need support; as well as whether partners are involved. Generally speaking we always promote regional New South Wales for pre and post conferencing for major conferences in places such as Newcastle, Wollongong and Sydney. In addition, regional areas such as Dubbo are getting an increased share for events such as the Local Government and Shires Association conferences and association business in particular of that nature.

The Hon. PAUL GREEN: You mentioned that since the global financial crisis [GFC] it has closed down. Have you got statistics of how much that corporate market has closed down?

Ms CHIPCHASE: Not with me.

The Hon. PAUL GREEN: Could you take that on notice?

Ms CHIPCHASE: Yes.

ANSWER

The International Visitor Survey shows that in 2011 there were 68,800 international business visitors to NSW who attended a business event, which could be a convention, conference, seminar, trade fair or an exhibition. The number increased by 14 per cent when compared with two years before (2009), but declined by 19 per cent when compared with 2010.

Industry feedback suggests that the Global Financial Crisis was responsible for this decline and was demonstrated through a decrease in business arrivals, reduced bookings, increased cancellations and smaller meetings.

Further information on business travel can be found on Destination NSW's website at www.destinationnsw.com.au.

QUESTION – Page 38
Tourism and Major Events

The Hon. STEVE WHAN: My point is that as shadow Minister, as you will appreciate as a long-term shadow Minister, I need to be able to see that that money has been spent appropriately. Along the same line, the performance criteria put in place says \$100,000 has gone to the Hydro Majestic Hotel for the new Omni Dome Theatre. As anyone who has driven past there recently would know, the major redevelopment is closed at the moment and looks to be sometime in the future. What time frame do you have on expenditure of this money for people to put in place these tourism enhancements?

Ms CHIPCHASE: In most cases works have to have been commenced during the financial year. In some cases they ask us can they move money between financial years.

The Hon. STEVE WHAN: Has there been a request in that case?

Ms CHIPCHASE: I am not aware that that has happened in that particular case.

The Hon. STEVE WHAN: Would you be able to take that on notice and find out?

Ms CHIPCHASE: Absolutely.

ANSWER

I am advised that recipients of funding under the Regional Tourism Development Program are required to submit quarterly reports which outline what has been achieved in the past three months, what is planned to be achieved in the upcoming three months (including target dates), and identifying any issues/challenges to completing the project. Any variances to what has been approved needs to be made in writing and approved by Destination NSW.

Stream One applicants submit quarterly reports to their Regional Tourism Organisation, who then prepare a consolidated report and forward it to Destination NSW for review. Stream Two applicants submit their quarterly reports directly to Destination NSW for review.

The Hydro Majestic Hotel had identified in its June quarterly report that it was no longer building its proposed "Omnidome" due to the wind speed being too great in the area to sustain that type of structure. Destination NSW advised the proponent that any changes to this project would require a project variation and would need to be submitted to Destination NSW. The Hydro Majestic Hotel submitted a proposed variation to its funding application to Destination NSW in October. Destination NSW is now reviewing the proposed variation.

Expenditure on projects funded through the Regional Tourism Product Development Program is to be undertaken in 2011-12 unless exceptional circumstances are identified and formal agreement to vary this criterion is received from Destination NSW.

QUESTION Page 39
Tourism and Major Events

The Hon. STEVE WHAN: Can you provide for stream 2 the details of the organisations, not just the names of the projects that have received the funding and their ABNs and relevant information so that we can identify them?

Ms CHIPCHASE: Sure. It depends on whether they are a statutory authority or an ABN.

The Hon. STEVE WHAN: If they are a local government organisation, if you can find that out, because it is not clear on a number of those areas—what the status is of the Cockatoo Institute (Film and Television), for example. I do not want to specifically name things because I am not trying to cast any aspersions on any of those organisations; it is simply that the accountability needs to be in place.

Ms CHIPCHASE: So I am clear: You are looking for the ABNs—

The Hon. STEVE WHAN: For the ABNs or other information on the details of the organisation that has received the funding.

Mr GEORGE SOURIS: For stream 2?

The Hon. STEVE WHAN: For stream 2.

Mr GEORGE SOURIS: That is good because stream 1 is—

The Hon. STEVE WHAN: From the RTOs.

Mr GEORGE SOURIS: I understand, it is just that stream 1 is a lot.

The Hon. STEVE WHAN: It is still all taxpayers' funds so it is quite important.

ANSWER

Stream Two – Regional Tourism Development Program 2011-12 – Funding recipients' ABNs.

Sea Eagle Estate Pty Limited	ABN 82001705513
Australia Walkabout Wildlife Park	ABN 25662583787
Surfaris Central Pty Ltd	ABN 33128303471
The Carrington Hotel	ABN 12064951748
Jenolan Caves Reserve Trust	ABN 53494853455
Hydro Majestic Hotel	ABN 77134292489
Devil Ark Inc	ABN 87003138047
Taronga Western Plains Zoo	ABN 41733619876
Boggy Creek Show Pty Ltd	ABN 47129815890
Dolphin Swim Australia	ABN 95706319134
Hunter Belle Cheese	ABN 50023008849
Gold Trail Committee	ABN 63673799602

Tweed Byron Transit Pty Ltd
Cockatoo Institute Limited
Pacific Coast Touring Route Inc
Pet Porpoise Pool Pty Ltd

ABN 99091282334
ABN 76155816194
ABN 82539307767
ABN 43000666188

QUESTION – Page 40
Tourism and Major Events

The Hon. LYNDA VOLTZ: Did you make an assessment of the visitor nights at the World Cup in Scotland and teams that attended because it was an event of that region—they would not attend other regions and are unlikely to attend an Australian regional event—and weigh that up in the assessment of the Touch Football World Cup package?

Ms CHIPCHASE: With any event that we have we look at intrastate, interstate and international visitation. In some cases it will be a day-tripper—a market—so obviously we are looking for the maximum overnight stays that are possible. It is also whether the event is unique to that particular region. Any event that has an international history, whether they have been in Europe or the United States or Asia, South Africa or South America, we look at what numbers that event achieved. We also look at where the teams are from. Some sports have a very large local market for a particular sport. Others are a much more international sport. In every case we try to get a history of the event, what numbers they produce, and in the case of events that have never been offshore before, that will have an impact on visitor night numbers. Some events will really drive international visitation. Some might have a bigger television audience. We are looking also at what those deals are. For touch football, I would have to look at the exact numbers. My recollection is that we have funded a number of regional events. I have an idea it may just be Sydney, but I can have a look at that and come back to you with specific information.

The Hon. LYNDA VOLTZ: And could you check to establish whether you have funded rugby sevens tournaments? Obviously we have a number of big international rugby sevens tournaments. If any of those have been funded—

Ms CHIPCHASE: Not in the past 12 months that I am aware of, but I will come back to you.

ANSWER

No. NSW secured the rights to host the 2015 Touch Football World Cup prior to the 2011 World Cup in Edinburgh, so it was not possible to undertake an assessment of visitor bed nights of that event in assessing the Touch Football World Cup package. Due diligence was undertaken by using indicative results from previous Touch World Cups

No rugby sevens' tournaments were funded in 2011-12.

QUESTION – Page 43
Tourism and Major Events

The Hon. JAN BARHAM: In relation to another point from the task force which has been about reducing the constraints of higher penalty rates on the accommodation sector, has the Minister made any representations in relation to this or established a position in response? Can I add a similar question that might be in the same area in your folder—

Mr GEORGE SOURIS: In looking at the information I have it does not directly relate to your question so I think you are probably on the right money to go to another point.

The Hon. JAN BARHAM: I will put that question on notice then.

ACTING-CHAIR: Can I just clarify whether the Minister will take that last question on notice?

The Hon. JAN BARHAM: I will put it in as a question, yes.

ANSWER

I have made no representations on this issue as a result of the Visitor Economy Taskforce Final Report.

A whole-of-Government response to the Final Report of the Visitor Economy Taskforce is currently being developed and is expected to be released by the end of 2012. Accordingly, this matter will be given due consideration in this process.

QUESTION - Page 45
Tourism and Major Events

The Hon. PAUL GREEN: How do you propose to lift tourism by 7 per cent by 2020?

Mr GEORGE SOURIS: It is an aspect that deserves some attention, for sure. We have our goal of doubling overnight visitor expenditure by 2020. By the way, it is also the goal of Tourism Australia to do exactly the same nationally. Is it a very strong, ambitious target? Yes, it is. We certainly did not want to have to increase it by 20 per cent and then run around boasting that we did that. I think it is utterly appropriate that the goal we have set is a very hard one indeed and we have to set about pursuing that. Yes, there have been a number of aspects that have had an effect. The Australian dollar is a very good example, and global financial crises. All have to be embraced to achieve our goal.

The present growth rate is 2.7 per cent and we need to reach 7 per cent. I have no doubt whatever that what you have said is a very accurate assessment. There is no one answer to that, whether it be the cocktail of major events or whether it be aspects to do with the Visitor Economy Taskforce report, in which it referred to investment in revitalising destinations, infrastructure and transportation. It comes down to simple things like signage. I take this opportunity to tell the Committee of my favourite sign in New South Wales. It is next to Parliament House. If you are northbound on the Eastern Distributor you are confronted with a choice of turning left to Sydney north or turning right to North Sydney. I cannot imagine how anyone who does not know the exact route and know exactly what to do would get to the right location.

ACTING-CHAIR: Unfortunately time has expired. Would you take the rest of that question on notice and provide the information?

Mr GEORGE SOURIS: Yes.

ANSWER

The Visitor Economy Industry Action Plan, which is the Government response to the Visitor Economy Taskforce, will provide a whole-of-government approach to achieving the 2020 target.

The NSW Government has committed AUD\$125 million a year to Destination NSW's activities for the next four years to help build the NSW economy by supporting tourism, business conferences and major events.

Destination NSW will focus on:

- Priority international markets such as China, India, South Korea, Singapore, Indonesia and Malaysia;
- Partnerships with airlines and the tourism industry;
- Developing individual sectors such as Youth, Food & Wine and Visiting Friends and Relatives;
- Destination management planning; and
- New and innovative digital marketing strategies.

Destination NSW will also focus on attracting major events to ensure that Sydney remains the primary gateway to Australia and remains number one when it comes to hosting major events in Australia. The Visitor Economy Taskforce's Final Report and the NSW Government's response to that Report will provide the focus for Destination NSW's activities to reach the 2020 goal.