

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012-2013

RESPONSES TO SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS

Questions from the Hon Cate. Faehrmann MLC

Auditor General's report on humanitarian entrants

1. With regards to the review being conducted by the NSW Immigration Settlement Planning Committee after the release of the Auditor-General's Report 'Settling humanitarian entrants in NSW':

a) When will the review and its recommendations be made public?

Answer

. The review and its recommendations will be made public early 2013.

b) Has the department made any changes to services for humanitarian entrants since the release of the Auditor General's report?

Answer

The NSW Government has not made any changes to services for humanitarian entrants since the release of the Auditor General's Report. The NSW Government continues to provide services to all new settlers in NSW which includes humanitarian entrants.

2. What is the number, destination and background of humanitarian entrants who came to reside in NSW during the 2011/12 financial year?

Response

In the 2011-12 financial year, a total of 3,445 humanitarian entrants arrived in NSW. The number of arrivals by local government area of residence and background are as follows:

Country of Birth (Settlement)	#	Country of Birth (Settlement)	#
Iraq	1104	Liberia	16
Iran	745	Turkey	15
Afghanistan	396	Democratic Republic Of The Congo	14
Burma	204	Sierra Leone	14
Pakistan	142	Burundi	13
Sri Lanka	106	Thailand	11
Egypt, Arab Rep Of	73	Libya	9
Bhutan	68	Zimbabwe	9
Kuwait	59	Jordan	8
China, Peoples Rep	50	Kenya	8
Eritrea	46	Ivory Coast	7
Nepal	41	Rwanda	7
Syria	39	Malawi	7

Australia	31	India	6
Ethiopia	30	Zambia	5
Sudan	23	Bangladesh	4
Guinea	19	Congo Republic	4
Malaysia	19	United Arab Emirates	4
Fiji	17	Palestinian Authority	4

Lebanon	4	Vietnam	1
Indonesia	4	Tunisia	1
Bahrain	4	Tonga	1
Yemen	3	Sth Africa Rep	1
Tibet (So Stated)	3	Saudi Arabia	1
Tanzania	3	Japan	1
Korea Rep Of	3	Malta	1
Cuba	3	Netherlands	1
Gaza Strip	3	Mongolia	1
Cyprus	3	Hungary	1
Togo	2		
Ghana	2		
Georgia	2		
	1		
		Total Arrivals	3427
		Total Other Arrivals	0
		Total Invalid/Unknown	18
		Total Arrivals for Report Period	3445
		Total Arrivals	3427
		Total Other Arrivals	0

LGA of residence (Name) C= City, A=Area	#	LGA of residence (Name) C= City, A=Area	#
Fairfield (C)	670	Maitland (C)	18
Blacktown (C)	416	Hurstville (C)	15
Auburn (A)	373	Queanbeyan (C)	10
Liverpool (C)	369	Marrickville (A)	9
Parramatta (C)	296	Ku-ring-gai (A)	8
Canterbury (C)	184	Randwick (C)	8
Holroyd (C)	170	Canada Bay (A)	6
Newcastle (C)	110	Warringah (A)	6
Coffs Harbour (C)	107	Waverley (A)	5
Wollongong (C)	82	Burwood (A)	4
Campbelltown (C)	70	Bogan (A)	3
Bankstown (C)	66	Inverell (A)	3
Albury (C)	58	North Sydney (A)	3
Wagga Wagga (C)	55	Willoughby (C)	3
Penrith (C)	48	Bathurst Regional (A)	2
Baulkham Hills (A)	47	Lane Cove (A)	2
Ryde (C)	36	Clarence Valley (A)	2
Hornsby (A)	25	Blue Mountains (C)	2
Sydney (C)	25	Ashfield (A)	1
Rockdale (C)	22	Lake Macquarie (C)	1

Strathfield (A)	21	Gosford (C)	1
Shellharbour (C)	20	Kogarah (A)	1
Griffith (C)	18		
		Total Arrivals	3416
		Total Other Arrivals	0
		Total Invalid/Unknown	29
		Total Arrivals for Report Period	3445

- 3. Does the department have figures on the number of humanitarian entrants who have been turned away from state funded services because of lack of resources or funding?**

Answer

All humanitarian entrants who are permanent residents have equal access to state funded services.

- 4. Does the department have figures on the number of humanitarian entrants who have been turned away from state funded services because of lack of resources or funding? If so please provide them.**

Answer

See response to Question 3.

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012-2013

RESPONSES TO SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS

Questions from the Hon. Shaoquett Moselmane MLC

- 1. How regularly do you consult with Stepan Kerkyasharian, head of the Community Relations Commission?**

Answer

The Minister for Citizenship and Communities and the Chair of the Community Relations Commission hold a regular weekly meeting at the Minister's Office.

- 2. Did the Government consult with Mr Kerkyasharian in the wake of last month's riots involving some members of the Muslim community? If not, why not?**

Answer

Yes.

- 3. Federal Liberal leader Tony Abbott wants to wind back the Racial Discrimination Act – the provisions which make it unlawful to offend, insult, humiliate or intimidate another person or group of people on the grounds of race? Does the State Government support or oppose this proposal?**

Answer

NSW has strong Anti -Discrimination laws which have the full support of the NSW Government.

- 4. So what should someone do if on the receiving end of intimidation because of their race? You say that under a Liberal Government that should be acceptable?**

Answer

The NSW Government supports the Anti-Discrimination Board which is the appropriate place for complaints to be lodged.

- 5. Why has the government cut funding to Islamic schools, Greek Orthodox schools and Jewish day schools in NSW?**

Answer

This question should be directed to the Minister for Education the Hon Adrian Piccoli.

- 6. Do you think that cutting \$1.7 billion from the education budget is the right message to be sending about this?**

Answer

This question should be directed to the Minister for Education the Hon Adrian Piccoli.

7. What did you do personally to stop these cuts happening?

Answer

Not applicable

8. Why didn't you move to quarantine multicultural/religious schools from these cuts?

Answer

This question should be directed to the Minister for Education the Hon Adrian Piccoli.

9. Do you regret the impact of these cuts on religious schools? Have you communicated with principals since the decision?

Answer

This question should be directed to the Minister for Education the Hon Adrian Piccoli.

10. Do you agree that many migrant parents place a special value on education? That one of the main reasons people come to Australia is because of the quality of our schools?

Answer

Not applicable

11. What would you say to parents, say, in the Indian community or the Chinese community, sending their children to schools whose funding has been cut?

Answer

This question should be directed to the Minister for Education the Hon Adrian Piccoli.

12. Do you accept that TAFE is critically important to new arrivals in Australia needing to tailor their skills to the local job market?

Answer

This question should be directed to the Minister for Education the Hon Adrian Piccoli.

13. Why has the Government lifted TAFE fees by 9.5%? Won't that price many people out of TAFE who desperately need it?

Answer

This question should be directed to the Minister for Education the Hon Adrian Piccoli.

14. Why did the Government cut the Community Building Partnership scheme?

Answer

The NSW Government supports the continuation of the Community Building Partnership. This is demonstrated by making it a recurrent program by committing \$90 million over four years to the program.

15. What impact will this cut have on community organisations? Won't the fact there is a smaller funding pot make it harder to source funds for capital upgrades?

Answer

The participation of each Local Member in the merit based assessment process will ensure that competing local needs are accorded appropriate priority.

16. What are the full list of names of the Ministerial Consultative Committee?

Answer

There are 15 Ministerial Consultative Committees. These are as follows; Chinese, Egyptian, Filipino, Greek, Indian, Italian, Jewish, Korean, Lebanese, Macedonian, Maori and Pacific Island Communities, Russian, Sri Lankan, Vietnamese and Croatian.

17. Which communities currently have awards?

Answer

Many community organisations host community awards for esteemed members of their community.

18. What is the cost of the awards?

Answer

Not applicable

19. Are there plans to change or expand the community awards? If so how?

Answer

The NSW Premier's Awards and Medal program was announced at the Premier's Harmony Dinner. The Awards and Medal program is inclusive of all communities and has been established to honour the work of the individuals, organisations and business in promoting and contributing to community service and harmony, cultural exchange and economic relations between New South Wales and multicultural communities.

20. When was the review into the community awards completed?

Answer

The Community Relations Commission advised the Minister that the Premier's ethno-specific awards be reviewed. Following advice from the Community Relations Commission the review was finalised in July 2012.

(a) Who did the review?

EJD Consulting and Associates.

(b) (If the review was conducted by an external consultant) How much did it cost to engage the consultant to undertake the review?

This information is available in the Community Relations Commission Annual Report.

(c) Who was consulted?

Consultations were conducted with the Community Relations Commissioners and a representative cross-section of ethnic community leaders and other stakeholders which included the Ethnic Community Council. Written submissions from stakeholders were also reviewed.

d) What was the finding of the review?

The overarching recommendation was that the NSW Government continue to acknowledge and celebrate the achievements of members of NSW's culturally diverse community through the issuing of awards and hosting of awards events.

The review identified reforms based on the goal of aligning all awards programs with the Principles of Multiculturalism. This included:

- The cessation of awards specifically targeting single ethno-specific groups.
- The introduction of the new and expanded awards program that recognises organisational, and group achievements where appropriate, as well as individual and volunteer efforts.
- Raising the profile of the awards programs and increasing participation of ethnic communities in mainstream awards.

21. What was advice from the Community Relations Commissioner about the future of the awards?

Answer

The Community Relations Commission advised the Minister that the Premier's ethno-specific awards be reviewed.

Following the review, the Commission advised that a new Premier's awards and medal program be incorporated into the development of the Multicultural Advantage Action Plan 2012 – 2015.

22. In addition to the Sri Lankan and the Filipino Ministerial Consultative Committee what are the other multicultural communities that have a Ministerial Consultative Committee?

Answer

See answer to Question 16.

23. Given that there are some 200 different multicultural communities in NSW why have you only chosen 15 to be represented by a Ministerial Consultative Committee?

Answer

The Government launched an initial tranche of fifteen MCCs, which have been warmly welcomed by communities. Upon communities' request, additional MCCs will be considered.

24 Via what process were the members of the Consultative Committees chosen – why was there not an open EOI process like for the CRC Commissioners?

Answer

Via consultation with the CRC and community leaders which included key representative bodies, cultural and religious groups, and businesses. The MCCs include more than 300 people giving of their personal time for the benefit of NSW. Further participants will be added over time in consultation with communities.

25. Currently, how many Community Relations Commissioners are there?

Answer

One full-time and 14 part-time Commissioners.

26. What is the cost of providing administrative and secretariat services to Community Relations Commissioners?

Answer

\$85,000 per annum. Representing the salary of a full-time Clerk Grade 6 officer and a proportion of salary of regional staff. This also includes support for the ten Regional Advisory Councils chaired by the Commissioners.

(a) From which program area does that funding come from?

Answer

Program 1: Community Support Services

27. What is the funding allocation for the 15 Ministerial Consultative Committees for 2012-13?

Answer

Funding for the 15 MCCs will be met within existing resources.

28. How does the role and function of the Ministerial Consultative Committees differ from the role and function of the Community Relations Commissioner?

Answer

The Ministerial Consultative Committees are representative of the local community. Members include community leaders, key representative bodies, cultural and religious groups, and multicultural business leaders.

29. Did you seek any independent advice before establishing the Ministerial Consultative Committees? What was the advice?

Answer

Refer to Q 24.

30. Did you seek the advice of the Chair of the CRC before the establishment of the Ministerial Consultative Committees? If not why not? If yes, what was his advice?

Answer

Yes

31. Do you have any plans to reduce the number of Community Relations Commissioners in the future?

Answer

No

32. Do you have any plans to get rid of the Community Relations Commissioners?

Answer

No

33. What is the funding allocation for the Ministerial Roundtable on Workplace Diversity doe 2012-13?

Answer

The Ministerial Roundtable on Workplace Diversity is funded from the Community Relations Commission general budget.

34. From what program do the funds for the Roundtable come from?

Answer

Program 1: Community Support Services

35. What is the funding allocation for the Multicultural Business Advisory Panel (MBAP) for 2012-13? What was the funding allocation for 2011-12?

Answer

The Community Relations Commission provided the Department of Trade and Investment, Regional Infrastructure and Services with \$10,000 in 2011/12 as a contribution to supporting the operation of the MBAP. Funding support from the CRC for MBAP for 2012/13 will be met within existing resources.

36. What activities did the MBAP undertake in 2011-12? What activities is the MBAP planning for 2012-13?

Answer

In 2011-2012 MBAP has provided high level strategic advice to the Deputy Premier and Minister for Trade and Investment Andrew Stoner and Minister for Citizenship and Communities Victor Dominello on measures to strengthen trade and investment between NSW and key priority markets. MBAP will continue this role in 2012-2013.

37. From what program does the funding for MBAP come from?

Answer

Program 1: Community Support Services

38. In addition the 15 Ministerial Consultative Committees, the Multicultural Advisory Panel and the Ministerial Roundtable on Workplace Diversity, are there any plans to establish any additional committees or consultative groups in the future.

Answer

Upon communities' request, additional MCCs will be considered.

39. What was the cost of the inaugural Premier's Harmony Dinner?

Answer

The Premier's Harmony Dinner was attended by 644 people. The total cost for the Premier's Harmony Dinner was \$75,138.38. This cost was offset by ticket sales of \$32,522.50, leaving a Net Cost, of \$42,615.88.

40. From what program area did the funds come from?

Answer

Program 1: Community Support Services

41. Where will the dinner be held in 2013?

Answer

The venue for the 2013 dinner has not yet been confirmed.

42. Will it be the same format as the 2012?**Answer**

The Premier's Harmony Dinner 2013 is being developed under the guidance of a sub-committee of the Multicultural March Advisory Committee, who will provide direction for the event.

43. What is the budget allocation for the 2012 dinner?**Answer**

Refer to question 39.

44. From what program area will the funds for the dinner come from?**Answer**

Program 1: Community Support Services

45. When was the NSW Multicultural Summit held?**Answer**

5th October 2011

46. Who attended the summit?**Answer**

The summit comprised of two consecutive events. The first being a breakfast event attended by the Consuls General of twenty countries representing our state's top trading partners and largest ethnic communities. Also in attendance were senior representatives from the Commonwealth Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and Austrade. At the conclusion of the breakfast many of the Consuls remained for a Summit which included some of the brightest business minds in Australia, academics, cultural diversity advocates, innovators, entrepreneurs and government officials, from diverse cultural backgrounds. Approximately 145 people attended throughout the day.

47. What was the cost of the summit?**Answer**

Total cost of catering for both events (breakfast and summit) was \$17,904.

48. What were the outcomes of the summit?

Answer

The Summit was attended by Consuls General and some of the brightest business minds in Australia, academics, cultural diversity advocates, innovators, entrepreneurs and government officials, from diverse cultural backgrounds. Approximately 145 people attended throughout the day.

The primary purpose of the Multicultural NSW Business Summit was to introduce the members of the Multicultural Business Advisory Panel (MBAP), and some members of the NSW Export and Investment Advisory Board, to prominent thinkers in the fields of business and multiculturalism, with a view to developing a strategic direction for the MBAP. Many of the ideas raised at the Summit have influenced the MBAP in its endeavours to attract new business to NSW and build closer trading and investment relationships in key global regions.

The Ministerial Roundtable on Workplace Diversity, which met for the first time on 22nd August 2012 and will meet quarterly in the future, also leverages off some of the themes of the Summit. Specifically, the Roundtable brings together prominent leaders in the private and non-government sectors to identify opportunities for leveraging cultural diversity for stronger business outcomes.

49. From what program area did the funding for the summit come from?

Answer

Program 1: Community Support Services

50. Is another Summit being planned?

Answer

No.

51. What were the main findings and recommendations of the EJD Consulting review?

Answer

Refer to Question 20 part d.

52. Which recommendations have been implemented and which have not?

Answer

All recommendations have either been implemented or are in the process of being implemented.

53. What changes have been made to make the applications process more accessible for multicultural communities?

Answer

An invitation to apply for the three new categories of the Multicultural Advantage Grants Program was published in non-English, regional and mainstream newspapers, on the Community Relations Commission and NSW Government websites and emailed directly to ethnic community groups.

Guidelines and application forms were made available on the websites. Application forms were revised and were received by email, fax, post and by hand.

54. How many blackberries are assigned to your staff?

Answer

In 2011/12, 179 phones were assigned to the Premier's and Ministers' offices.

55. For each phone, how much was each bill in the 2011/12 financial year?

Answer

The total expenditure on mobile phones by the Premier's office and Ministers' offices as represented in the Department's financial system is set out in the table below. Please note that this expenditure may include mobile phone purchase costs as the financial system does not separate the purchase costs and mobile usage charges.

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Premier's Office	\$103,152	\$76,457	\$68,475	\$27,570
Ministers' Offices	\$475,539	\$358,396	\$120,285	\$169,655
TOTAL	\$578,691	\$434,854	\$188,761	\$197,226

Note. 2010-11 figures are a combination of 9 months of Keneally Government and 3 months of O'Farrell Government.

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

Answer

For Premier's office and Ministers' offices, the number of phones lost was:

	2011/12
<i>Premier</i>	1
<i>Ministers</i>	5
Total	6

57. What is the cost of replacing those phones?

Answer

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

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

Answer

For Premier's office and Ministers' offices the number of iPads issued was as follows.

	2011/12
Premier	10
Ministers	43
Total	53

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

Answer

iPads are supplied by the Department of Premier and Cabinet and have not been purchased by Ministers' offices.

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

Answer

In 2011/12, 179 phones were assigned to the Premier's and Ministers' offices.

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

Answer

Nil

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

Answer

See Question 56

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

Answer

For Premier's office and Ministers' offices, the number of iPads lost or stolen was as follows.

	2011/12
Premier	1
Ministers	0
Total	1

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

Answer

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

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

Answer

There is one person employed in the citizenship and communities services group.

66. What is the forecast for 2012-13 for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost?

Answer

There is no anticipated change in the number of staff employed to provide public information in the citizenship and communities services group during 2012-13.

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

Answer

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".

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

Answer

See above

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

Answer

Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet website at http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers_and_ministers_staff_numbers

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

Answer

Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet website at http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers_and_ministers_staff_numbers

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

Answer

Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet website at http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers_and_ministers_staff_numbers

72. What is the estimated expenditure for your office budget in 2012-13?

Answer

The total budget allocation for the Premier's and Ministers' offices in 2012-13 is \$40,103,650, with \$5,744,883 allocated to the Premier's office and \$34,358,767 to the Ministers' offices.

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

Answer

Information on the assets balances for leasehold improvements are available in the Department of Premier and Cabinet Annual Report.

74. If so, could you give details of contracted costs?

Answer

See above

75. What is your Ministerial office budget for 2012/13?

Answer

The budget allocations for the Premier's office and Ministers' offices are as follows.

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Premier	\$7,002,312	\$8,500,000	\$9,075,038	\$5,309,465	\$5,744,83
Ministers	\$39,673,567	\$40,334,000	\$40,978,962	\$31,516,017	\$34,358,767
TOTAL	\$46,675,879	\$48,834,000	\$50,054,000	\$36,825,482	\$40,103,605

Note. 2010-11 figures are a combination of 9 months of Keneally Government and 3 months of O'Farrell Government

76. How many political advisors are in your office?

Answer

Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet website at

http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers_and_ministers_staff_numbers

77. How many administration staff?

Answer

Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet website at

http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers_and_ministers_staff_numbers

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

Answer:

Number of Department Liaison Officers (DLOs)

	Number of DLOs as at 5/09/2012
Premier	1
Ministers	57
TOTAL	58

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

Answer

Nil.

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

No

81. If so, in what capacities?

Answer

Not applicable

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

Answer

Not applicable

83. How much did your Ministerial office spend on taxi fares, including Cabcharge in the 2011/12 financial year?

Answer

Taxi expenditure by the Premier's office and Ministers' offices as represented in the Department's financial system is represented in the table below.

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Premier	\$26,418	\$32,525	\$27,600	\$15,485
Ministers	\$133,697	\$143,251	\$32,678	\$80,609
TOTAL	\$160,155	\$175,776	\$60,277	\$96,094

Note. 2010-11 figures are a combination of 9 months of Keneally Government and 3 months of O'Farrell Government.

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

Answer

The Commission for Children and Young People will be restructured to deliver the new Working With Children Check.

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

Answer

A reduction in the number of positions is not expected.

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

Response

Wage cuts are not expected.

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

As outlined in the 2012/13 budget, the Government's 2011-12 program of voluntary redundancies remains on track to reach its target of 5,000 positions.

A labour expense cap has also been introduced as a new savings measure across the public sector with the target of a 1.2 per cent per annum reduction in labour costs growth.

Directors General will be given as much flexibility as possible to achieve the savings in the most appropriate way to meet the service requirements of their agencies. If it was solely achieved through headcount this would equate to up to 10,000 jobs over four years.

Nurses, police officers and teachers in schools have been quarantined from this measure.

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

As outlined in the 2012/13 budget, the Government's 2011-12 program of voluntary redundancies remains on track to reach its target of 5,000 positions.

A labour expense cap has also been introduced as a new savings measure across the public sector with the target of a 1.2 per cent per annum reduction in labour costs growth.

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89. How many voluntary redundancies are expected to be offered in 2012/13?

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A labour expense cap has also been introduced as a new savings measure across the public sector with the target of a 1.2 per cent per annum reduction in labour costs growth.

Directors General will be given as much flexibility as possible to achieve the savings in the most appropriate way to meet the service requirements of their agencies. If it was solely achieved through headcount this would equate to up to 10,000 jobs over four years.

Nurses, police officers and teachers in schools have been quarantined from this measure.

90: How much did your Department(s) spend on catering in 2011/12?

The citizenship and communities services group does not have a specific catering budget allocation. Catering costs are part of the other operating expenses budget and such expenditure is governed by rigorous policies.

Catering expenditure for the CRC is contained within the broader line item of Hospitality in the Commissions accounts. This line item includes payments for the National Multicultural Marketing Awards, the Premier's Annual Harmony Dinner and the annual symposia and is offset by revenue generated through sponsorship and sale of tickets.

These financial transactions are governed by rigorous policies and subject to stringent audit.

91. How much did your Department(s) spend on stationary in 2011/12?

Answer

The citizenship and communities services group does not have a specific stationery budget allocation. Electronic stationery templates have been created and are available for staff to print on demand. All stocks of existing letterhead stationery continue to be used and are only replaced when stocks have been exhausted.

The CRC spent \$9,234.

92. What is your Department(s) catering budget?

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These financial transactions are governed by rigorous policies and subject to stringent audit.

93. What is your Department(s) stationery budget?

The citizenship and communities services group does not have a specific stationery budget allocation. The CRC's budget is \$12,000 in 2012/13.

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

Answer

No

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

Answer

Not applicable.

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

Answer

The Department's recommended time frame for completing responses to correspondence from Ministers, Members of Parliament and members of the public is 20 working days from the Department's receipt of the correspondence.

However, it is not always possible to comply with this time frame for any number of reasons including: the nature and complexity of the matter; stakeholder consultation; or further information required from other Departments and sources.

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

Answer

The Department's recommended time frame for completing responses to correspondence from Ministers, Members of Parliament and members of the public is 20 working days from the Department's receipt of the correspondence.

However, it is not always possible to comply with this time frame for any number of reasons including: the nature and complexity of the matter; stakeholder consultation; or further information required from other Departments and sources.

98. In 2011/12 how many invoices has your Department(s) failed to pay a supplier or contractor for more than 30 days?

Answer

As the Premier stated in Parliament on 23 August 2012, the 30 day bill payment policy formally commenced on 1 January 2012. The first quarterly performance report is currently being finalised for release. In the first quarter almost 92 per cent of invoices were paid within 30 days, consistent with our policy and initiative. 31 small businesses have already been eligible to receive automatic interest charges on overdue accounts

99. As a result of late payment, how much penalty interest has been paid to contractors since 1 January 2011?

Answer

As the Premier stated in Parliament on 23 August 2012, the 30 day bill payment policy formally commenced on 1 January 2012. The first quarterly performance report is currently being finalised for release. In the first quarter almost 92 per cent of invoices were paid within 30 days, consistent with our policy and initiative. 31 small businesses have already been eligible to receive automatic interest charges on overdue accounts.

100. How many invoices have been outstanding for longer than 60 days?

As the Premier stated in Parliament on 23 August 2012, the 30 day bill payment policy formally commenced on 1 January 2012. The first quarterly performance report is currently being finalised for release. In the first quarter almost 92 per cent of invoices were paid within 30 days, consistent with our policy and initiative. 31 small businesses have already been eligible to receive automatic interest charges on overdue accounts

101. Does your department provide recurrent grant funds to non-government organisations? If yes:

- a) What are the names of all organisations in receipt of funding?
- b) What is the total amount of funding received by each organisation including goods and services tax?
- c) On what date was the funding advanced?
- d) What was the purpose for each grant or funding advance?
- e) Was any funding withheld or returned?
- f) If so, what were the reasons for withholding or requiring the funding to be returned?
- g) What is the indexation rate applied to non-recurrent grant funds in 2011/2012?
- h) What are the details of any costs involved in each study, audit, taskforce or review?

Answer

a) to d) Yes. Information on 2011/12 grants from the Citizenship and Communities portfolio and the Aboriginal Affairs portfolio is reported in the Annual Reports of the Department of Education and Communities and the Community Relations Commission. e) I am advised no funding was withheld or returned. f) Not applicable. g) Non recurrent grant funds are not indexed. h) I am advised grant funding has not been spent on these activities.

102. How many contractors has your Department(s) retained since 1 July 2012 and at what cost?

Answer

Financial statements, including expenditure on consultants, are available in agency annual reports.

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

Answer

2009, 2010 and 2011 data can be found as published in the annual Workforce Profile Snapshot Reports.

2012 data is due to be released when the State of the Public Sector Report is released, late 2012.

These reports can be found on the PSC website:

<http://www.psc.nsw.gov.au/pscinternet/informaiton.page?>

Additionally, NSW Treasury Circular 11/03 prescribes the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Disclosure Requirements, requiring that NSW public sector agencies include EEO data in their annual reports.

104. How has that changed since 1 July 2011?

Answer

2009, 2010 and 2011 data can be found as published in the annual Workforce Profile Snapshot Reports.

2012 data is due to be released when the State of the Public Sector Report is released, late 2012.

These reports can be found on the PSC website:

<http://www.psc.nsw.gov.au/pscinternet/informaiton.page?>

Additionally, NSW Treasury Circular 11/03 prescribes the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Disclosure Requirements, requiring that NSW public sector agencies include EEO data in their annual reports.

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

Answer

All official travel within Australia and overseas is in accordance with M2009-04 "Official Travel within Australia and Overseas" available at www.dpc.nsw.gov.au. Details regarding travel costs are published in the Department's Annual Report.

106. In relation to feasibility studies, audits, taskforces and reviews: Is your department currently undertaking any feasibility studies, audits, taskforces or reviews? If so; then;

a. What are the terms of reference or details of each study, audit, taskforce or review?

b. Who is conducting the study, audit, taskforce or review?

c. Was each study, audit, taskforce or review was publically advertised seeking expression of interest or competitive tenders?

d. Is there a contract in place detailing terms of engagement for the study, audit, taskforce or review?

e. What is the timeline of each study, audit, taskforce or review?

f. What are the details of any costs involved in each study, audit, taskforce or review?

Answer

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

107. Have any agencies within your Department(s) engaged consultants in the 2011/12 financial year?

Answer

Financial statements, including expenditure on consultants, are available in agency annual reports.

108. If yes, which companies were engaged for consultancy services in the 2011/12 financial year?

Answer

Financial statements, including expenditure on consultants, are available in agency annual reports.

109. For what purpose has your Department engaged consultants?

Answer

Financial statements, including expenditure on consultants, are available in agency annual reports.

110. How much have your agencies spent on consultants in the 2011/12 financial year?

Answer

Financial statements, including expenditure on consultants, are available in agency annual reports

111. What is your Department(s) budget for consultants in the 2012/13 financial year?

Answer

Financial statements, including expenditure on consultants, are available in agency annual reports.

112. Have any agencies within your Departments sponsored any organisations or events in the 2011/12 financial year?

Answer

Yes

113. If yes, which organisations and events were sponsored in the 2011/12 financial year?

Answer

- Planning Institute Australia Awards for planning for Children and Young People
- Australian Sports Commission - Contribution to 'Play by the Rules'
- NSW Police Legacy Child Safety Handbook
- Aboriginal Child, Family & Community Care State Secretariat(AbSec)(Conference Sponsorship)
- Dept Education and Communities - Annual Contribution for Operation Art
- ACWA for 2012 Conference
- Windale Interagency and Community Alliance

Organisation	The purpose of the grants towards
AFL (NSW/ACT) Commission Ltd	2012 AFL/Cricket Multicultural Carnival
Ashfield Municipal Council	Ashfield Carnival of Cultures.
Auburn Diversity Services Inc	Refugee Youth Summit held on 14 June 2012 at Auburn.
Bayram Turkish Cultural Association	Anatolian Turkish Festival held on 27 May 2012.
Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan Australia	Gandhi Symposium 2012
Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan Australia	Holi Mahotsav Festival 2012.
Boambee East Community Centre Inc	Multicultural Harmony Festival 2012.
Bulldog Theatre Company Inc	A stage play titled 'Better Man' held in May - June 2012.
Central Coast Ugnay Kabayan (People's Link)	The purchase of props for the Family Day and Community Fiesta 2012.
Chand Raat Eid Festival Inc	The Chand Raat Eid Festival held on 18 August 2012.
Children's Festival Organisation Inc	Canterbury Children`s Festival 2011 held in November 2011.
Children's Festival Organisation Inc	The Children's Festival to be held on 27 October 2012 in Campsie.
Coalfields Diakonia Grainery Care Incorp	The Integration Seminars
Eastwood Tamil Study Centre Inc	2012 Kalai Vizha - Annual Tamil School Cultural and Art Festival
Equal Housing Partnerships	Songs of Friendship and Hamony: A Concert held on 25 August 2012.
Ethiopian Community Association in NSW	The Ethio-Australian 2011 Annual Sport and Cultural Festival

India Club Inc	The India Club Diwali Festival 2011 held in October 2011.
Information and Cultural Exchange Inc	2012 Arab Film Festival and Cultural Forum held in July 2012.
Italian Social Welfare Organisation of Wollongong	The activities titled 'Sunday of Friendship with the Chilean Community'
Japan Club of Sydney Inc	2011 Matsuri in Sydney held on 29 October 2011
Jewish Arts Incorporated	The Australian Jewish Choral Festival (AJCF)
Kiwi Waka Inc	Kiwi Waka Festival held in February 2012.
Lao Community Advancement (NSW) Co-op Ltd	Gala evening performance to celebrate the Lao culture and traditions
Lebanese Film Festival Association Inc	The Lebanese film festival held from 22 August to 2 September 2012.
Liverpool Migrant Resource Centre Inc	The African Cultural and Dinner Nite held on 4 August 2012
Maltese Community Council of NSW (Inc)	The Australia Day Celebration to be held on 23 January 2013 in Parramatta.
Mandaeen Women's Union in Australia	The Madaean Refugees Project.
Manly Vale-Calabria Bowling Sports and Social Club Ltd	The Sydney Multicultural Festival in the Northern Beaches
Menai Community Services Incorporated	The Menai Multicultural Womens' Group.
Moving Forward Together Association Inc	The Harmony Day Poster Competition and Song Writing Competition
Nepalese Indigenous Nationalities Forum, Australia	The World Indigenous Day held on 11 August 2012.
Newtown Entertainment Precinct Association	The Sydney Fringe Festival held in October 2011.
NSW Federation of Community Language Schools	The Short Film Competition Awards Presentation Dinner held on 16 June 2012.
NSW Spanish and Latin American Association for Social Assistance Inc (NSW SLASA)	The Fairfield Multicultural Festival held in September 2011.
Parkes & Districts Landcare Inc	The Lantern Parade: Kalari-Lachlan River Arts Festival held on 4 September 2011.
Scouts Australia	The Ethnic-Based Scouting in the Australian Context conference.
Sinhalese Cultural Forum of NSW Inc	The 'Bak Maha Rangana' cultural show

Sydney Chinese Dance and Song Inc	The Chinese Cultural, Traditional and Folk Dance performances.
Sydney Latin American Film Festival Inc	The Cultura Viva event held in September 2012.
Vedic Festival Inc	The promotion Indian Culture and Arts.

114. How much did your agencies within your Departments spend on sponsoring organisations and events in the 2011/12 financial year?

Answer

The citizenship and communities services group spent \$41,209 on sponsorship in 2011/12. The Community Relations Commission spent \$67,600.

115. What is your Department(s) budget for sponsorship in the 2012/13 financial year?

Answer

The Community Relations Commission budget is \$70,000. The citizenship and communities services group 2012/13 budget includes \$12,000 for sponsorship.

116. Has the Minister been provided with Speech, Voice or Media Training since becoming Minister? If so, then;

- a) Who conducted the training?
- b) When was it conducted?
- c) Where was it conducted what were the costs of the training?
- d) Who paid for the training?

Answer

The Department of Premier and Cabinet's financial system does not show any record of speech, voice or media training for the Premier or any other Minister or Parliamentary Secretary.

117. Can you please list all travel related costs for your Parliamentary Secretary incurred in their capacity as Parliamentary Secretary since 1 July 2011

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

Answer

Travel related costs* for the Premier's and Ministers' Parliamentary Secretaries was as follows.

	2011-12
Premier's Parliamentary Secretaries	0
Ministers' Parliamentary Secretaries	\$19,609
TOTAL	\$19,609

*Flights, accommodation and hire car expenses as detailed in travel contractor report.

- a. Information not available
- b. The total cost of accommodation for travel by Ministers' Parliamentary Secretaries during 2011/12 was \$1,925.
- c. The total cost of flights for Ministers' Parliamentary Secretaries during 2011/12 was \$17,477.
- d. Information not available

118. Can you please provide details of the following activities undertaken by your Parliamentary Secretary since 1 July 2011;

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

Answer

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

119. How often do you meet with your Parliamentary Secretary?

- a) Are these meetings documented?
- b) Who attends these meetings?

Answer

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

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

Answer

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

121. Has the Parliamentary Secretary been provided with Speech, Voice or Media Training since becoming Parliamentary Secretary? If so, then;

- a) Who conducted the training?**
- b) When was it conducted?**
- c) Where was it conducted what were the costs of the training?**
- d) Who paid for the training?**

Answer

The Department of Premier and Cabinet's financial system does not show any record of speech, voice or media training for the Premier or any other Minister or Parliamentary Secretary.

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012-2013

RESPONSES TO SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS

Questions from the Hon J. Barham MLC

Communities

1. Is the Minister aware of the steep decline in Indonesian language teaching in Australian schools and in NSW it has been 52% between 2001 and 2010, compared with 37% nationally. What action is the minister taking to address this situation?

Answer

The Community Relations Commission has maintained a keen interest in the study of languages, particularly community languages, in NSW for many years. This continues to be an agenda item at Commission meetings, and a source of frequent correspondence between the Commission, the Minister's Office and the Department of Education.

There are several factors that influence trends in the studying of languages, including the availability of qualified teachers, the commitment to funding of community language schools, the age profile and stability of the community, and the perceived 'pay-off' for students in terms of HSC scaling. The NSW Government needs to continue working with both education authorities and communities to promote the value of language study.

There is often fluctuation in the numbers of candidates at HSC level, and the Minister maintains contact with the Board of Studies, federal authorities and communities themselves when numbers are dwindling and threaten the availability of a particular language to interested students.

2. What funds have been allocated to community groups and or councils for Harmony Day or multicultural events?

Answer

A new grants program offering an unprecedented \$1.4 million in funding became operational in August 2012 as the Multicultural Advantage Grants Program. The new Multicultural Advantage Grants Program better aligns the Grants Program with the Community Relations Commission and Principles of Multiculturalism Act (2000) and emphasises community building through partnership with not-for-profit organisations, State and Commonwealth government agencies, and private sector organisations or industry groups. The new Multicultural Advantage Grants Program has three categories of grants; Multicultural Partnership Grants, Sponsorship Grants and Community Inclusion Grants.

Citizenship

3. Can the Minister advise if a Safe Procedure Handbook has been developed and distributed to all community transport driver volunteers?

Answer

Yes. Transport Guidelines, including safety management systems, have been developed by Transport for NSW.

4. Has the Minister set up an indemnity fund to enable small community organisations to offer financial relief to volunteers who find find (sic) themselves defending a stricted (sic) limited list of criminal charges?

Answer

The NSW Government is consulting on improving the rights of volunteers. This meets a commitment of the first NSW Volunteering Strategy which I released in May 2012. I will receive recommendations from this consultation on International Volunteer Day, 5 December 2012.

5. Has NSW legislation been amended to clearly define who is not a volunteer in respect to Centrelink Mutual Obligation clients who receive remuneration such as petrol allowances and does this extend to civil liability insurance to cover defined volunteers?

Answer

This would require a change in Federal legislation, not NSW legislation. This issue should be directed to the Federal Government.

6. Has the Minister taken steps to ensure that the new Commonwealth national not-for-profit regulator offers formal legal assistance to non profit organisations to help protect volunteers in the workplace?

Answer

This issue should be directed to the Federal Government. However, the NSW Government is consulting on improving the rights of volunteers. This meets a commitment of the first NSW Volunteering Strategy which I released in May 2012. I will receive recommendations from this consultation on International Volunteer Day, 5 December 2012.

Aboriginal Affairs NSW

7. The Aboriginal Affairs recurrent budget in 2011/12 was \$21.9 million. The 2012/13 budget is \$20.6 million. What areas within the Aboriginal Affairs portfolio received cuts in the 2011/12 budget?

Answer

In 2011/12, there were no cuts to services that were not the result of the cessation of temporary programs or one off funding.

8. What areas within the Aboriginal Affairs portfolio received cuts in the 2012/13 budget?

Answer

Please refer to the response on Aboriginal Affairs budget made during the Budget Estimates hearing.

9. Why has the Minister pursued the development of alternative governance structures within some Aboriginal communities through Community Working Parties when there are existing and functioning representative governance structures already within these communities through Local Aboriginal Land Councils?

Answer

The Two Ways Together Partnership Community Program was established in 2008 by the previous Government.

10. How many Aboriginal communities has the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs visited in 2011/12?

Answer

The Minister for Aboriginal Affairs visited approximately 35 communities within 2011/12. The Minister for Aboriginal Affairs met with numerous Aboriginal organisations within the 35 community visits.

11. How many Local Aboriginal Land Councils has the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs visited in 2011/12?

During 2011/12, the Minister has visited approximately 17 Local Aboriginal Land Councils.

12. What new and additional funding has been allocated to the Ministerial Taskforce on Aboriginal Affairs to develop the new 10 year strategy for Aboriginal affairs, outside of the recurrent Aboriginal Affairs budget?

Answer

The Ministerial Taskforce on Aboriginal Affairs is yet to make its recommendations to government.

13. What is the forecast budget expenditure allocated to transferring from Two Ways Together and other related programs to the new 10 year Aboriginal affairs strategy?

Answer

Two Ways Together ceased in 2010/11.

The Ministerial Taskforce on Aboriginal Affairs is yet to make its recommendations to government.

14. What is the ongoing forecast budget expenditure of the new 10 year strategy?

Answer

The Ministerial Taskforce on Aboriginal Affairs is yet to make its recommendations to government.

15. What role does Coalition of Aboriginal Peak Organisations (CAPO) have in the new 10 year strategy?

Answer

CAPO is a formal alliance of peak Aboriginal community-controlled organisations in NSW. The organisations that are members of CAPO are:

- Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Centre for NSW
- Link Up NSW
- Aboriginal Child Family and Community Care State Secretariat NSW
- NSW Aboriginal Education Consultative Group (AECG)
- NSW Aboriginal Land Council
- Aboriginal Legal Service.

Mr Stephen Ryan, as the Chairperson of CAPO is a member of the Ministerial Taskforce on Aboriginal Affairs. The NSW Government believes in genuine partnership with Aboriginal communities and will continue work with CAPO in the development and implementation of the Aboriginal affairs strategy to be released later this year.

16. When will legislation to underpin the new 10 year strategy for Aboriginal affairs be developed?

Answer

The Ministerial Taskforce on Aboriginal Affairs is yet to make its recommendations to Government.

17. Given that the NSW Ombudsman's report *Addressing Aboriginal Disadvantage: the need to do differently* recommended that an independent agency should be tasked with ensuring that any Aboriginal affairs strategy is accountable, under the

new 10 year strategy, will a government agency, such as the Office of Aboriginal Affairs, be responsible for accountability and review functions?

Answer

The Ombudsman's report *Addressing Aboriginal Disadvantage* and the Auditor-General report *Two Ways Together, NSW Aboriginal Affairs Plan Performance Audit* highlighted the need to strengthen accountability. As such, the Ministerial Taskforce on Aboriginal Affairs included accountability within their terms of reference.

However, this important issue is currently being considered by the Ministerial Taskforce on Aboriginal Affairs which is yet to make its recommendations to government.

18. What funds are allocated to training, capacity development and employment for Aboriginal people as part of the delivery of any new Aboriginal affairs plan?

Answer

This important issue is currently being considered by the Ministerial Taskforce on Aboriginal Affairs which is yet to make its recommendations to Government.

19. How will the new 10 years strategy substantively recognise the role of existing Aboriginal community controlled organisations, such as Aboriginal Land Councils, Aboriginal Education Consultative Groups, Aboriginal Legal Services and Aboriginal Medical Services within local communities?

Answer

Mr Stephen Ryan, as the Chairperson of CAPO is a member of the Ministerial Taskforce on Aboriginal Affairs. The NSW Government believes in genuine partnership with Aboriginal communities and will continue work with CAPO in the development and implementation of the Aboriginal affairs strategy to be released later this year.

This important issue is currently being considered by the Ministerial Taskforce on Aboriginal Affairs which is yet to make its recommendations to Government.

20. Will additional funding be provided to currently functioning Aboriginal community controlled organisations under the new 10 year strategy?

Answer

The Ministerial Taskforce on Aboriginal Affairs is yet to make its recommendations to government.

21. How will the new 10 year strategy avoid duplication of existing institutional arrangements and representative structures?

Answer

As above.

22. Will an independent body (such as the NSW Ombudsman) be tasked with monitoring and evaluating the new 10 year strategy and what has or has not been

achieved through such strategy? Could you please confirm that the OAA will not have any role in monitoring or evaluating the progress of the strategy?

Answer

As above.

23. Will there be public consultations on the new 10 year strategy and could the program be outlined and when will it be released and when is planned for implementation?

Answer

Two rounds of public consultation have been undertaken since the inception of the Ministerial Taskforce on Aboriginal Affairs. The first round comprised of 14 community consultations across NSW, with over 1700 participants in total. The second round comprised of nine community consultations across NSW, with over 900 participants in total.

In addition, a survey of more than 400 participants who took part in wide ranging consultations among Aboriginal communities was conducted and has confirmed community backing for reforms proposed by the Taskforce.

24. How will any new 10 year strategy work with new policies such as the Education Ministers Connected Communities?

Answer

The Ministerial Taskforce on Aboriginal Affairs terms of reference includes concrete reforms on education to improve educational outcomes for Aboriginal people in NSW.

Minister Piccoli is a member of the Taskforce and the AECG participate on the Taskforce through their involvement in CAPO.

However, the Ministerial Taskforce on Aboriginal Affairs is yet to make its recommendations to government.

25. What mechanisms will be put in place within the new strategy that support the delivery of services to Aboriginal communities by Aboriginal community controlled service providers as priority service providers above other non government organisations and government agencies?

Answer

The Ministerial Taskforce on Aboriginal Affairs is yet to make its recommendations to government.

26. Has the Coalition of Aboriginal Peak Organisations been supportive of the new Aboriginal Affairs 10 year strategy?

Answer

The Coalition of Aboriginal Peak Organisations (CAPO) is represented on the Taskforce and CAPO has also jointly hosted, with the Taskforce, two rounds of community consultations to inform the development of Taskforce recommendations to government.

26i. Have any CAPO members expressed any concerns regarding the new strategy and if so, what were these concerns?

Answer

The Ministerial Taskforce on Aboriginal Affairs is yet to make its recommendations to government.

27. Will all administrative functions related to the new 10 year strategy be managed by the Office of Aboriginal Affairs?

Answer

As above.

28. The NSW Ombudsman's report *Addressing Aboriginal Disadvantage: the need to do things differently* recommended that at a local level, individual communities need to have a clear sense of plans for, and active involvement in, building the capacity of Aboriginal services in their community. How does the new 10 year strategy address this recommendation?

Answer

The NSW Government believes in local decision making and genuine partnership with Aboriginal communities.

This important issue is currently being considered by the Ministerial Taskforce on Aboriginal Affairs which is yet to make its recommendations to Government.

29. What mechanisms has the Government put in place to ensure that the overall development of initiatives and programs under the new 10 year strategy are coordinated rather than opportunistic (as was outlined in the Allen Consulting Group report)?

Answer

The Auditor-General and the Ombudsman identified a lack of coordination between agencies under the previous governments *Two Ways Together NSW Aboriginal Affairs Plan*.

This important issue is currently being considered by the Ministerial Taskforce on Aboriginal Affairs which is yet to make its recommendations to Government.

30. Will the Government establish a body with overall responsibility for improving Aboriginal employment outcomes and enhancing Aboriginal economic capacity?

Answer

This important issue is currently being considered by the Ministerial Taskforce on Aboriginal Affairs which is yet to make its recommendations to Government.

31. What is the total amount that has been spent on the Partnership Community Program to date? How much of this has been spent on staff (wages) and consultants to the Office of Aboriginal Affairs?

Answer

From 2008/09 to 2011/12, \$9.8 million has been spent on the Partnership Community Program. \$7.05 million of this has been spent on wages, and there has been no expenditure on consultants.

32. How much has been spent on training, capacity development and employment for Aboriginal people as part of the delivery of the PCP?

Answer

Funding of \$80,000 has been provided to TAFE NSW to deliver training for the development of Community Working Party members in Partnership communities.

33. Can the Minister advise on the progress of the Centre for Aboriginal Languages Coordination Development (CALCD) and what funds have been expended?

Answer

In 2011, the NSW Aboriginal Education Consultative Group Incorporated (AECG) was selected after competitive tendering to host the NSW Centre for Aboriginal Languages Coordination and Development (the CALCD).

The Centre is funded for a three year project to facilitate and co-ordinate community led Aboriginal language revitalisation and to share knowledge and advocate on behalf of Aboriginal languages in NSW. The funding includes support for community based language initiatives.

The CALCD is led by a Board comprised of Aboriginal members who represent eight operating regions for Aboriginal languages across NSW.

The funding agreement with AECG established the CALCD Project in May 2011. The total amount under agreement for the project is \$1.33m (GST inclusive).

34. What funds have been allocated to community based language initiatives and what organisations have been the recipients and what funds were allocated?

Answer

As above.

35. What is the period of funding for these organisations?

Answer

The CALCD Project funding agreement commenced in May 2011 and provides annual funding allocations for three financial years (2011/12-2013/2014).