



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEE NO. 3

## **BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012-2013**

### **Supplementary Questions on Notice**

#### **General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3**

Transport

Tuesday 9 October 2012

Answers to be lodged by: Friday 2 November 2012

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## Question from Ms Sharpe

1. When will the first piece of track be laid on the Hills to Chatswood Shuttle (described your Government as the North West Rail Link)?
2. The draft long term masterplan at page 98 figure 4.25 indicates that the Hills to Chatswood shuttle (described your Government as the North West Rail Link) will commence in or around late 2017 – early 2018. There have also been a number of different dates given to when the first passengers will be on this service including 2017, 2018 and 2019. When will the people of NW Sydney be able to travel on a train to Chatswood via the Hills to Chatswood Shuttle (described your Government as the North West Rail Link)?
3. How will passenger growth across the CityRail network be accommodated without a city relief line and/or a second harbour crossing?
4. Is a review taking place into the school transport travel scheme?
  - a. If so what are the details – timeframe, cost criteria etc of this review?
  - b. If not is there a plan to review this program?
  - c. Can you guarantee that every student who is currently eligible for this scheme will continue to be eligible?
5. The etenders website indicates that TfNSW has paid \$5,137,686 for recruitment services contracts:
  - a. how many positions are recruited under these contracts?
  - b. how many people for these positions have been successfully recruited?
  - c. how many positions remain unfilled under these contracts?
  - d. Is the cost of advertising included in these contracts or is this a separate line item?
6. Minister can you please provide a list of positions in Transport for NSW that have been advertised in newspapers and through paid advertising online?
  - a. Can you please provide the figure for the total cost of this advertising?
  - b. Can you please indicate how many positions have been successfully filled as a result of these advertisements?
  - c. Can you please provide a list of the positions that have been advertised but are currently unfilled?
7. Third Horizon Consulting Partners have been contracted at a cost of \$5,341,520 for just under 12 months work to operate the Corporate and Shared Services Reform Program Management Office. Can you outline what these consultants actually do?
  - a. Can you please inform the committee how many positions this consultancy has dealt with?
  - b. Has this work been completed?
8. Third Horizon Consulting Partners has been contracted at a cost of \$500,000 to develop a performance based services contract between TfNSW and Railcorp. Why was this project required?
  - a. Is there not the inhouse expertise to develop such a contract?

- b. Has this project been completed?
  - c. What were the outcomes of this project?
9. INS Career Management has been contracted at a cost of \$1,259,897 for career development services from Oct 2011 – Nov 2012. Can you inform the committee how many public sector workers have accessed these services?
- a. The nature of these services? and
  - b. a breakdown of the numbers and level of service provided?
10. Can you confirm that between April 2011 and March 2012 Booz and Co has been contracted across 5 projects at a cost of \$10,898,351?
- a. Has all the work Booz and Co have been contracted for been completed?
  - b. Can you confirm that any reports or results of this work will not be released publically or to the parliament?
11. What are the days and hours of operation of the @131500 twitter accounts for:
- a. @131500trains?
  - b. @131500buses?
  - c. @131500ferries?
  - d. Who operates these accounts?
  - e. What is the cost of these services?
12. Can you provide a breakdown list to the committee of the total projected costs for each project under Transport Access Program by each financial year and including the commencement date and anticipated completion date for each aspect of this work?
13. Does the decision to make the Hills to Chatswood shuttle (described your Government as the North West Rail Link) a single deck service mean that this line will never be able to be fully integrated into the Cityrail network at Richmond or along the Richmond line?
14. Minister, how many transit officers are currently employed by Railcorp by region?
- a. How many transit officers have been made redundant?
  - b. How many, if any have been made transit officers have been made revenue protection officers?
  - c. Are transit officers operational on CountryLink services?
15. What probity and audit arrangements are in place to ensure that the up to \$10million bonus being offered to unsuccessful shortlisted tenderers for the Hills to Chatswood Shuttle (described your Government as the North West Rail Link) is not inflated by those making a bid?
16. How much funding to date has been expended on the now deferred Emu Plains stabling Facility?
17. In relation to the Transport Access Program:
- a. The Minister has previously stated that the outcomes of the review of the Easy Access Program would be made public when the review is completed. When will these outcomes be made public?

- b. How many stations are accessible?
- c. How many stations are anticipated to be accessible by 31 December 2012?

18. What is the budget for the North West Rail Link community information centre for the 2012-13 financial year?

### **Phones/iPads**

- 19. How many blackberries are assigned to your staff?
- 20. For each phone, how much was each bill in the 2011/12 financial year?
- 21. How many have phones have been lost in your office?
- 22. What is the cost of replacing those phones?
- 23. How many iPads does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?
- 24. How many iPads have you purchased for your office and to whom have they been issued?
- 25. How many iPhones does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?
- 26. How many iPhones have you purchased for your office and to whom have they been issued?
- 27. How many iPhones have been lost in your office?
- 28. How many iPads have been lost in your office?
- 29. What is the cost of replacing those phones or iPads?

### **Media/public relations**

- 30. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies?
- 31. What is the forecast for 2012-13 for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost?

### **Overseas trips**

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

### **Office costs**

34. What is the annual remuneration package for your chief of staff?
35. What is the annual remuneration package for your head media advisor?
36. What is the annual remuneration package for each of your staff?
37. What is the estimated expenditure for your office budget in 2012-13?
38. Have any office renovations or fit outs been undertaken in your ministerial office since April, 2011?
39. If so, could you give details of contracted costs?
40. What is your Ministerial office budget for 2012/13?
41. How many political advisors are in your office?
42. How many administration staff?
43. How many Department Liaison Officers are assigned to your office?
44. How many staff in the Department are assigned to Ministerial support duties?
45. Are any contractors or consultants working in your ministerial office?  
If so, in what capacities?
46. How much did your Ministerial office spend on contractors or consultants?

### **Cabcharge**

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

### **Restructure**

48. Are any of your portfolio agencies undergoing a restructure?
49. How many jobs are expected to be cut as a result of that restructure?
50. How many people are expected to have their wages cut as a result of that restructure?
51. How many voluntary redundancies were offered in your Departments since April 2011?

52. How many voluntary redundancies were accepted from employees in your Departments since April 2011?
53. How many voluntary redundancies are expected to be offered in 2012/13?

**Agency costs**

54. How much did your Department(s) spend on catering in 2011/12?
55. How much did your Department(s) spend on stationary in 2011/12?
56. What is your Department's catering budget?
57. What is your Department's stationary budget?
58. Since April 2011 have any of the agencies in your Department(s) changed their branding?
59. If so, how much was spent on rebranding the agency?

**Correspondence**

60. How long is the average turnaround for responding to correspondence in your Department(s)?
61. How many pieces of correspondence have been outstanding for more than 60 days?

**Paying bills on time**

62. In 2011/12 how many invoices has your Department(s) failed to pay a supplier or contractor for more than 30 days?
63. As a result of late payment, how much penalty interest has been paid to contractors since 1 January 2011?
64. How many invoices have been outstanding for longer than 60 days?

**Grants to non-government organisations**

65. 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?

### **Contractors**

66. How many contractors has your Department retained since 1 July 2012 and at what cost?

### **Aboriginal employment**

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

68. How has that changed since 1 July 2011?

### **Charter air flights**

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

### **Reviews and studies**

70. 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?

### **Consultants**

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

- a. If yes, which companies were engaged for consultancy services in the 2011/12 financial year?
- b. For what purpose has your Department engaged consultants?
- c. How much have your agencies spent on consultants in the 2011/12 financial year?
- d. What is your Department(s) budget for consultants in the 2012/13 financial year?

## **Sponsorships**

72. Have any agencies within your Departments sponsored any organisations or events in the 2011/12 financial year?
- If yes, which organisations and events were sponsored in the 2011/12 financial year?
  - How much did your agencies within your Departments spend on sponsoring organisations and events in the 2011/12 financial year?
  - What is your Department(s) budget for sponsorship in the 2012/13 financial year?

## **Media training**

73. Has the Minister been provided with Speech, Voice or Media Training since becoming Minister? If so, then;
- Who conducted the training?
  - When was it conducted?
  - Where was it conducted what were the costs of the training?
  - Who paid for the training?

## **Parliamentary Secretary**

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

**End of questions from Ms Sharpe.**



## Questions from Ms Faehrmann

### NSW Taxi Transport Subsidy Scheme (TTSS)

1. The maximum \$30 subsidy of the Taxi Transport Subsidy Scheme has been at this level since 1999.
  - a. Are concessions for fares across all levels of transport currently under review?
    - i. Is there any plan in place to increase the 50% subsidy beyond the current maximum rate of \$30 for taxi fares?
    - ii. If not, why not?

### Inner West Light Rail Extension

2.
  - a. What is the total amount for the contract that has been awarded to the successful tenderer, John Holland Pty Ltd?
  - b. Specifically what is the scope of works included in that contract?
  - c. Please provide a full cost breakdown for this contract.
  - d. What costs relating to the light rail extension are not covered by the above two contracts?
  - e. Provide details of who is carrying out the work, the costs and scope of works not covered by the above two contracts.

### Regional Rail

3.
  - a. What are the results of the feasibility study that was made into re-opening of Casino – Murwillumbah Rail line?
  - b. What are the plans to re-open this service particularly as a local shuttle service for commuting?
4. What guarantee can be given there are no plans to change the status quo regarding ownership of any non operational rail lines in NSW?
5. What actions will be taken to ensure that customers and employees at stations such as Thirroul on the south coast do not have to endure the diesel fumes that freight trains emit while waiting with their engines running?
6.
  - a. What are the plans to duplicate some or all of the south coast rail line so that passenger and freight trains are not obliged to wait while another train passes?
  - b. If so when can we expect to see such a plan implemented?

## Airport Line

7. How many passengers now alight each hour and separately board, on average at:
  - a. the Domestic Airport?
  - b. the International Airport station?
  - c. Green Square?
  - d. Mascot?
  
8. The Transport Master plan says that there is a plan to increase capacity of the airport line from 8 trains per hour to 16 trains per hour (p 149 ) but later the report says only if rolling stock is available.
  - a. What is the maximum capacity per hour for passengers on the airport line if the amount of rolling stock available was not an issue?
  - b. What arrangements have been made to provide adequate rolling stock to ensure that the capacity of the airport line can be increased?
  - c. Fare reduction on the airport line to increase use of public transport to access the airport terminals has been endorsed by a number of organisations. Additionally the Productivity Commission's report into the economic regulation of airports from 22 August 2011, says that this high fare is a policy failure and is one of the causes of congestion around the airport. Please provide the government's plans to increase use of the airport train given that there has now been more than a year to consider this report.
  
9. How much would it cost government per year to ensure that fares charged for passengers using the airport stations are commensurate with fares for passengers using Green Square and Mascot, given that the numbers of passengers using the airport line would increase?
  
10. The draft Transport Masterplan refers to the Precinct Action Plan for Sydney Airport and Port Botany areas – when will this be released?
  
11. Please confirm whether or not the Sydney Airport Rail Link project had a patronage guarantee under which the NSW government paid money to compensate for loss of income below expected levels? If there was a patronage guarantee exactly how much was paid?
  
12. Please confirm whether or not the government paid for the rail lines and signalling as well as tunnelling costs relating to the construction of that rail link?
  
13. Does the company which operates the stations at Green Square and Mascot own the developments at the stations?

## **Plans to improve freight on rail from Port Botany.**

In Senate Estimate questions on 30 May, 2012, Mr Fullerton CEO of ARTC, in response to questions about the transfer of freight from Port Botany to Enfield said:

*"We are currently finalising the take-up from NSW of the Metropolitan Freight Network that operates between Enfield and the port. We have already taken over the Port Botany Rail Terminal and we have taken over a section of track between Enfield West and Sefton Park. We are currently halfway through a \$176 million investment to upgrade the capacity of that corridor that will allow around 900,000 TEUs to be moved across the corridor into the port".*

14.

- a. Please outline government plans to meet the targets to increase container movements by rail from 14% to 28% from the port to the intermodal terminals in western Sydney?
- b. Please provide a detailed costing for this plan and by what date can we expect that the train line will be upgraded to enable the increase in freight on rail?

### **Carlingford line extension**

15. With the development of the North West Rail line it would be logical to extend the Carlingford line to Epping to provide a useful connection from Epping to Parramatta. Given that this link would result in increased economic activity in Parramatta and Epping along with possible increased development over Epping station to help pay for the extension, what reasons can you give for not completing this rail connection in the foreseeable future?

### **High speed rail**

16. What is the width of a corridor that must be protected for the exclusive use of high speed rail should such a rail line be built in the future

- a.
  - i. In country areas?
  - ii. What evidence is there to support this width?
- b. what would the width be in built up areas when a train would not travel at maximum speed?

17. In the governments transport planning for future rail projects in which estimates are used to guide expectations about the likelihood of future projects being undertaken how much money has it been estimated to cost to build a high speed rail between Sydney and

Melbourne?

18. According to Mr Mrdak of the Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure and Transport as at 30 May 2012, the discussions by the Commonwealth with the states on the alignment of the east coast high speed rail are reaching the final stages. Please outline the current state of play with those discussions and plans?

### **NSW travel concession policy for students**

19. NSW has a travel fare concession policy which includes not allowing full time students who are in paid employment to receive concession fares. Please provide a justification for this policy.

### **North West Rail Line**

20. How many passengers per train will be seated and how many will stand on each of the proposed single deck trains that are to be used on the NWRL?

21.

- a. How many passengers can be seated on a standard 8 carriage train set as used on the Eastern Suburbs rail line?
- b. How many passengers can be carried in total on a standard 8 carriage train set as used on the Eastern Suburbs rail line?

22. What is the maximum number of trains that can run city bound per hour on the Eastern Suburbs line?

23. What is the current maximum passenger throughput on the Eastern Suburbs rail line per hour in each direction during peak hour?

24. How much will each train set cost and how many train sets are proposed to be purchased for use on the NWRL?

25.

- a. How high are the tunnels used for heavy double deck trains on the Eastern Suburbs Line?
- b. How high are the tunnels needed to accommodate the proposed single deck trains that are to be used on the NWRL?
- c. Please provide cost estimates per kilometre for tunnels to be bored that would be suitable for single decker trains for the tunnels on the NWRL
- d. Please provide cost estimates per kilometre for tunnels to be bored that would be suitable for double decker trains per kilometre?

- e. If the cost estimates for tunnels for double deck trains are not available by what criteria was it determined that single deck trains were more effective in terms of passenger capacity than double deck trains given that both types can operate at 5 minute intervals.

26.

- a. What is the number of expected passengers per hour on weekdays and per hour on weekends of **each station** on the proposed NWRL?
- b. What are the passenger projections for the next 20 years for the NWRL?

27. Please provide the modelling which shows the passenger capacity of the NWRL per hour in the single deck format.

28. Please release the Cost Benefit Analysis conducted to determine whether the NWRL costs were justifiable.

**End of questions from Ms Faehrmann.**