

GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEE NO. 3

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2010-2011 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3

Local Government, Juvenile Justice and Mental Health

Tuesday 14 September 2010

Answers to be lodged by: Friday 8 October 2010

Budget Estimates Secretariat
Telephone 9230 3528
Fax 9230 2981
budget.estimates@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Hearing date	Portfolio	Answer to be lodged by
14 September 2010	Local Government	8 October 2010 [21 days]
14 September 2010	Juvenile Justice	8 October 2010 [21 days]
14 September 2010	Mental Health	8 October 2010 [21 days]
14 September 2010	Attorney General	8 October 2010 [21 days]
14 September 2010	Regulatory Reform	8 October 2010 [21 days]
14 September 2010	Citizenship	8 October 2010 [21 days]
14 September 2010	The Legislature	8 October 2010 [21 days]
17 September 2010	Police	13 October 2010 [21 days]
17 September 2010	Finance	13 October 2010 [21 days]
17 September 2010	Gaming and Racing	13 October 2010 [21 days]
17 September 2010	Sport and Recreation	13 October 2010 [21 days]
17 September 2010	Major Events	13 October 2010 [21 days]

Questions relating to the portfolios of Local Government, and Mental Health

14 September 2010, 9:15 am – 1:00 pm

Questions from Ms Ficarra

In relation to Wollongong Council:

- 1. What reasons did Gabrielle Kibble give for resigning as Council Administrator?
- 2. How often are Council Administrators in Wollongong?
- 3. Has the Department or Minister received complaints from Wollongong residents about the need to travel to Sydney to meet with Wollongong Council administrators?
- 4. Has the Department or Minister received any correspondence from local residents or community organisations seeking early elections for Wollongong Council?
- 5. What criteria has the NSW Government set to assess and monitor the performance of Council administrators in Wollongong, Shellharbour and Port Macquarie-Hastings? Will reports be made public as to whether those criteria are being met?
- 6. Why have elections in Wollongong and Shellharbour Local Government Areas not yet been held?
- 7. What criteria and/or key performance indicators need to be satisfied before elections will be held in Wollongong and Shellharbour Local Government Areas?
- 8. When will elections in Wollongong and Shellharbour Local Government Areas be held?
- 9. In relation to the 'ward system' in Wollongong and Shellharbour Local Government Areas:
 - a) Will the Minister consider the abolition of the 'Ward System' in both Wollongong and Shellharbour Councils?
 - b) Has the Government requested comment from the respective administrators on the system for elections in Wollongong and Shellharbour?

2010-11 Special Rate Variations

- 10. Of the 20 special rate variation applications for 2010-2011, which were approved and the 6 applications, which were declined, how many were Section 508 A and how many were Section 508 (2) applications?
- 11. As a matter of protocol, why did the Division of Local Government advise the media of the results of the special rate variation applications before all the councils, whose applications were rejected, had received advice regarding the reason for the rejection of their applications to enable them to answer questions from the media about the rejection of their applications?
- 12. What level of support in the community in favour of approval of the special Section 508A variation does the minister regard as being acceptable?
- 13. In the case of Cootamundra Shire Council, why were the opinions of the community members, who attended meetings and answered surveys asking for various infrastructure projects prior to 2010 not considered relevant?
- 14. Why did the minister substantially reduce Blue Mountains City Council's special rate variation request when the council had detailed asset management plans covering all functions providing services?
- 15. Why wasn't Blue Mountains City Council initially given a complete explanation for the reduction in its requested special rate variation?
- 16. Why were the special rate variation applications rejected for Byron Shire Council, Eurobodalla Shire Council, Port Stephens Council and Woollahra Municipal Council?
- 17. As asked at last year's Estimates, will the minister ensure that future special rates variation application determinations are provided to councils before they commence their rate notice preparation cycle?
- 18. When will councils need to be ready to submit their special rate variation applications for 2011-2012 to IPART?

- 19. In the interests of "absolutely cracking down on councils that continue to waste money", why did the minister, in rejecting Hornsby Shire Council's special rate variation application to inter alia, redevelop the Hornsby Aquatic Centre, indicate that council should proceed to spend \$1.5 million to commence planning, designing and tender approval processes for this \$20 million facility, rather than waiting for certainty regarding funding?
- 20. Why did the government take from December, 2009 to September, 2010 to release the details of the final IPART Review of the Revenue Framework for Local Government?
- 21. How many new staff members have been added to IPART to handle its new local government responsibilities?
- 22. Why didn't the minister proceed with the complete rate setting Option A or any part of Option B in the IPART final report?
 - a) Who made this decision?
 - b) Why doesn't the Local Government Cost Index take cost shifting into consideration?

Forced Amalgamation of New England Councils

- 23. When the government has a stated policy of voluntary local government amalgamations, why did the minister's proposal to the Local Boundaries Commission recommend the forced amalgamation of the Armidale-Dumaresq, Guyra and Uralla councils?
- 24. Why was Walcha excluded from the amalgamation, when the reasons for its exclusion are also applicable to Uralla?

Pecuniary Interest and Disciplinary Tribunal

- 25. Why did the Division of Local Government post the determination by the Local Government Pecuniary Interest and Disciplinary Tribunal, regarding Cr Martin Ticehurst from Lithgow City Council, on its website on 18 August, 2010 in direct contravention of the orders in this matter, which stated that the tribunal's determination and order would be made publicly available at the expiry of 28 days form 12 August, 2010?
- 26. What was the cost to bring this matter before the tribunal and how much of this will be payable by Lithgow City Council and by the Division of Local Government?

Improved Governance Measures in Local Government

- 27. What amendments is the minister planning to the Model Code of Conduct in the light of recent research by the Independent Commission against Corruption, which revealed that local councils face a wider range of corruption risks than state agencies, but appear less likely to use the management controls important to sound corporate governance, making them more vulnerable to corruption?
- 28. As highlighted in Liverpool City Council episode with its mayor using profanities in telephone conversations regarding the Holsworthy/Wattle Grove Aquatic Centre, why hasn't the Division of Local Government Model Code of Conduct been amended to incorporate the prohibition on binding caucus votes regarding development applications as a "General Conduct Obligation" in the Model Code of Conduct itself rather than only included as a "Good Practice Suggestion" in the guidelines to the Model Code of Conduct, released in October 2008?
- 29. Given that last year Cr. Nick Lalich MP, Mayor of Fairfield City Council, was found by the Division of Local Government not to have breached the Code of Conduct, when he decided not to declare an interest in a development application relating to Fred's Fruit Market, which came before Fairfield Council after he had received a political donation from the proprietor of the business for his campaign for the state seat of Cabramatta, why hasn't the minister amended clause 7.23 of the Model Code of Conduct to ensure that it applies to state and federal election campaigns and not only local government election campaigns?

- 30. Why didn't the minister initiate a further Promoting Better Practice Review of the City of Canada Bay Council to review its planning function including its approval of a development in Marmion Lane, Abbotsford?
- 31. Will the minister initiate a further Promoting Better Practice Review of the City of Canada Bay Council to review its planning function now?
- 32. What action does the minister plan to take regarding the plight of a disabled Walton Crescent resident, who has been discriminated against by council's decision regarding Marmion Lane?
- 33. What action will the minister take in relation to the City of Canada Bay Council's plan to purchase 4 lots in the Strathfield Triangle for community parkland after 2 parks were sold to the developer?
- 34. When will the minister strengthen the Code of Conduct to prevent a repetition of the problems caused by the relationship between the former Labor Mayor of Cessnock City Council and the rogue construction group, Hightrade, which was also involved in the forced resignation of the former Labor MLC, Henry Tsang?
- 35. Given that allegations that members of the staff of Burwood Council helped with renovations to a block of flats, owned by Befaro Pty. Limited, whose partners are Burwood Council's former general manager, Pat Romano, the council's principal architect, Albert Becerra, and a Canada Bay councillor, Tony Fasanella have been the subject of an ICAC investigation, why wasn't Cr Tony Fasanella of Canada Bay Council forced to step down pending the outcome of an ICAC investigation when Burwood Council took this action in relation to its General Manager, Pat Romano?

Code of Conduct Investigations

- 36. The minister advised the Parliament on 24 June 2010 that the relevant standard of proof to be applied in the investigation of matters under a Council's Code of Conduct is the civil standard (ie, on the balance of probabilities), how many cases in New South Wales have occurred where the wrong standard of evidence has been applied and what is the minister and the Division of Local Government doing to redress any injustices in these cases?
- 37. How many complaints to date have the minister and/or the Division of Local Government received in relation to Code of Conduct investigations and processes of Code of Conduct Committees and which Councils did these complaints relate to?
- 38. Given that there was a recent case at Hurstville City Council where the Ombudsman had to intervene and found wrongdoing on the part of the Investigator and the Council, does the minister agree that the Code of Conduct system is being used as a political tool by some councillors against councillors in a minority situation on Councils and what does the minister intend to do to stop this?
- 39. Why have the minister and the Division of Local Government failed to issue comprehensive guidelines, similar to Premier and Cabinet's Personnel Handbook, Chapter 9 Management of Conduct and Performance regarding the disciplinary investigation process for public servants, to ensure procedural fairness, consistency and natural justice for councillors?

Local Government Elections

- 40. Given that in the Minister's answer to a Question on Notice regarding the potential for a less expensive alternative to local government by- elections on 15 April, 2010, the Minister indicated that:-
 - "Local government elections are currently the subject of an Inquiry by the NSW Parliament's Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters. It would be premature to consider any changes to current election practices until this Inquiry is finalised.", when will the Minister amend the Local Government Act to allow for a less expensive alternative to a by-election whenever a vacancy occurs on council before the first day in October last preceding the end of the term of a

- council, after the report of the Inquiry by the NSW Parliament's Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters was released in June this year?
- 41. When will the Minister amend the Local Government Act to allow for universal postal voting as per Recommendation 11 of the NSW Parliament's Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters?

Councils' Financial Positions

- 42. What will be the long term impact of the sale of WSN Environmental Solutions to the private sector on councils' waste collection and treatment costs?
- 43. What was the reason for each of the qualified financial statements received by 41 councils in 2008-09 and what investigations did the Division of Local Government undertake in relation to those councils, whose financial statements revealed that they were experiencing financial difficulties?
- 44. How did the Division of Local Government investigate those councils whose financial statements were qualified because of the valuation of their investments in Collateralised Debt Obligations?
- 45. Given that the latest annual report included on the City of Botany Bay Council's website relates to 2007 and provides minimal financial information and this question was asked during last year's Estimates Hearing when the minister stated that the annual report process comes out about October or November of each year, could the minister now advise what action she took to ensure that the City of Botany Bay Council provides its full statutory financial reports on its website and that they are up to date?
- 46. With its reported 2008/09 action to assist councils become and remain sustainable, why has the volume of the Division of Local Government's Promoting Better Practice Reviews diminished in recent years, during a period when councils are facing financial difficulty?
- 47. In its Promoting Better Practice Review Report on the City of Canada Bay Council, the Division of Local Government highlighted concerns that council had failed to maintain records of its land holdings and whether land sold in the Strathfield Triangle was held as "operational" or "community" land, why didn't council maintain the correct records regarding its land holdings?
- 48. What action did the minister take to assist those 41 councils, which were impacted by the Australian Energy Regulator's decision to allow Energy Australia to increase its local government street lighting pricing by an average of 50% from 1 July, 2010?
- 49. What action did the Division of Local Government take to ensure that councils submitted their Annual reports, State of the Environment reports and Financial reports by the due date to the Division of Local Government?
- 50. How many councils still haven't submitted their Annual reports, State of the Environment reports and Financial reports for the year ended June, 2009 to the Division of Local Government?
- 51. Which councils have not submitted their 2008-09 reports yet?
- 52. What assistance did the division provide to those 15 councils, whose ability to meet their short term obligations, as indicated by their 2009 Unrestricted Current Ratio, was unsatisfactory?
- 53. Why does the Unrestricted Current Ratio Summary detail councils within the less than 1 and the 1-2 current ratio ranges and not highlight those councils, which fall under the 1.5 satisfactory level?
- 54. Even though it is a coastal council, what assistance did the division provide to the council, whose 2009 debt service ratio exceeded 35%?
- 55. Why doesn't the Debt Service Ratio Summary highlight the number of councils in the over 20% category, which are of concern to the division?

Cost Shifting

56. Given that at last year's Estimates Hearing, the minister stated that "the parties that are part of that agreement (the National Intergovernmental Agreement Establishing Principles Guiding Inter-Governmental Relations on Local Government Matters - IGA) are the Australian Local Government Association, which represents all associations in each jurisdiction, the State and Federal Governments across all jurisdictions. New South Wales has signed the national IGA. In relation to that, it clearly stipulates that where functions are given to local government they will go with appropriate resourcing.", what action has the NSW Government taken to provide appropriate funding when functions have been transferred or given to local government?

Local Government Investments

In a keynote address to the Local Government Investment Conference, the author of the 2008 inquiry into council investments, Michael Cole, said although CDO investments were consistent with NSW legislation, councils should have exercised due diligence. He also said that rating agencies and financial advisors also share the blame for the local government CDO crisis.

At the same conference, the now Chief Executive, Local Government, Mr. Ross Woodward indicated that the new guidelines on council investments would clear up areas of financial management that have previously been "a bit blurred". He stated that part of the guidelines will clarify where accountability lies.

- 57. In view of these two somewhat contradictory statements, what responsibility does the NSW government accept for the investment losses incurred by NSW councils?
- 58. Considering that the role of the Division of Local Government includes the collection and evaluation of financial data, helping local councils strengthen their financial performance and monitoring local councils' financial reporting practices, what records does it maintain in relation to the realised and unrealised losses on structured investments, which have been made by individual councils?

Councils Under Administration

- 59. What is a reasonable time for council meetings when the council is under administration and should the meetings take place in the evening to enable working ratepayers to attend?
- 60. One of the recommendations from the Public Inquiry into Shellharbour City Council required the administrator to review council's performance, plans and forecasts in relation to Shell Cove and to ensure the adequacy of the ongoing supervisory and reporting arrangements.
- 61. When is the construction of the Shell Cove marina going to commence and how much will it cost?
- 62. Why hasn't council invoked the penalty clause contained in the management agreement in relation to the delays in the construction of the marina?
- 63. What is the current balance of funds in the Trust Account of the Shell Cove project?
- 64. How many stages are still to be subdivided and how many lots are there in each of these stages?
- 65. How many lots remain to be sold in the project and what is the net value of these lots?
- 66. When is the latest Australand feasibility handed to council in March, 2009 going to be made public?
- 67. Why is The Links Shell Cove Golf Course, which is a key element of Shell Cove, funded by council and ratepayers?
- 68. Is council's General Manager receiving income to oversee the project despite the fact that a director, together with support staff, operate the project for council?
- 69. If this is happening, does it represent a conflict of interest regarding the development applications submitted for the project to council?

Questions from Mr Shoebridge

- 70. Is the Minister aware of the NSW Liberal Party's practice of funnelling all donations to local government campaigns through the Liberal Party of Australia, NSW Division head office?
 - a) If so, does this allow elected Liberal councillors to debate and vote on matters submitted to councils by significant donors to their campaigns, and if so, under what regulation of Act of Parliament is this allowed?
- 71. In a recent complaint about a Liberal councillor voting on two development applications submitted by a major donor to his 2008 campaign, the Department of Local Government ruled that the councillor did not breach the council's code of conduct since the money went to his Liberal Party Local Government Conference. How is this so?
- 72. The Sydney City councillor provided a bank statement to the Department of Local Government indicating that the deposit of \$10,000 (the amount of a donation on that date by the applicant who submitted the developments applications to the Liberal Party of Australia, NSW Division) was made into an account in the name of 'Liberal Party of Australia NSW Division City of Sydney Local Govt Conf. Therefore, the councillor did not directly receive the funds and did not breach Sydney Council's Code of Conduct. What actions, if any, are being prepared to prevent the Liberal Party continuing with this practice?
 - a) If no actions are being planned will it ever be possible to stop Liberal councillors voting on matters submitted to their councils by significant donors to their campaigns?
- 73. What were the top five most complained about councils in NSW over the last 12 months?
 - a) What were the top five type of complaints about these councils?
- 74. What was the most complained about Council in the Hunter region in the last year?
 - a) What was the most complained about Council in the previous year?
 - b) What was the most complained about Council in the Hunter in the year before that?
- 75. How has Cessnock Council improved its performance since 2008?

The removal of Cessnock Councils Planning powers and the need for the Minister for Local Government to give concurrence to this action.

In the week of 3rd to7th May DLG Officers conducted interviews at Cessnock Council to assess its progress for the past 12 months since the DLGs s.430 Report. The s.430 Report was critical of the previous (prior to 2008) Council's lack of governance standards. In the same week the Planning Minster wrote to Cessnock Council asking it to show cause why it shouldn't have its planning powers removed. DLG officers were in communication with Department of Planning officials on Monday 3 May and it was agreed (Gary Freeland email 3/5/10) that the approach of both Departments be 'consistent'.

- 76. What was meant by the word consistent as it related to the way in which DLG and DoP related with Cessnock Council?
- 77. Council Staff have been told by DLG staff to expect the DLG report by the end of August. The Planning Minister removed Councils Planning powers on 16th August. Has the draft DLG report been written?
 - a) If so, why has it yet to be forwarded to Council?
- 78. Has the Minister ordered the draft DLG report to be delayed to avoid embarrassment or altered to support the view of the Planning Minister?

- 79. If not why won't the Minister for Local Government release the draft report on Cessnock Council now?
- 80. Did you refer to the Draft report before giving concurrence to the Minister for Planning? If not why not?
 - a) If so what conclusions did it draw?

Questions from Mr Khan

Cessnock

- 81. How many complaints against Cessnock City Council have been received by:
 - a) The Department of Planning
 - b) The Department of Local Government
 - c) in relation to planning decisions in 2009-10?
- 82. Please provide a list of all Local Governments Councils, ranked in order, with the amount of complaints received by:
 - a) The Department of Planning
 - b) The Department of Local Government
 - c) in relation to planning decisions in 2009-10.
- 83. What was the average elapsed time between lodgement and a planning outcome for Development Applications lodged with Cessnock City Council?
- 84. Please provide a list of all Local Governments, ranked in order, with the average elapsed time between lodgement and a planning outcome for Development Applications lodged with the respective Local Government Councils.
- 85. How much has been budgeted for the operation of the Independent Expert Panel of three members to undertake Cessnock City Council's planning functions over the forward estimates?
- 86. Please rank in order the amount of staff employed in all Local Government Councils as at August 2010.

Questions relating to the portfolio of Juvenile Justice

14 September 2010, 9:15 am - 1:00 pm

Questions from Mr Ajaka

Rape incidents involving juveniles in custody:

- 1. Has the Minister followed up on the wellbeing of the then-16 year old victim of the alleged rape in Frank Baxter Detention Centre in March 2009?
- 2. What kinds of services/support/resources were provided to the victim?
- 3. Is this support ongoing?
- 4. Was the violent offender, who committed the alleged rape, charged for this offence?
 - a) If yes to (4), what are these charges? What was the sentence?
 - b) If no to (4), why not?
- 5. Has an apology from the NSW Government been given to the rape victim?
 - a) If no to (5), why not?
- 6. Have any other juveniles in NSW Juvenile Justice centres been the victims of sexual assaults since March 2009?
- 7. What action has been taken to ensure the safety of juvenile inmates in NSW detention centres?

Consequences of the Closure of Keelong Detention Centre:

8. Since the closure of Keelong Detention Centre, what has it cost your Department in additional transportation costs for detainees to be taken to other centres, particularly offenders from the Illawarra area?

Questions from Mr Khan

Monaro

- 9. Of the promised interim and final Youth Conduct Orders, how many have been made in the Monaro electorate in each year since 2007?
- 10. Of the promised Supervision Program which was designed to closely track young offenders and make parents accountable for their child's behaviour, what funds have been expended in the Monaro electorate in each year since 2007? How many people have been involved in this program? What have been the outcomes of the program in the Monaro electorate?
- 11. What funds have been expended extending Young Adult Conferencing in the Monaro electorate in each year since 2007? What funds are planned to be expended on this program in each of the next three years?

Port Macquarie

- 12. Of the promised interim and final Youth Conduct Orders, how many have been made in the Port Macquarie electorate in each year since 2007?
- 13. Of the promised Supervision Program which was designed to closely track young offenders and make parents accountable for their child's behaviour, what funds have been expended in the Port Macquarie electorate in each year since 2007? How many people have been involved in this program? What have been the outcomes of the program in the Port Macquarie electorate?
- 14. What funds have been expended extending Young Adult Conferencing in the Port Macquarie electorate in each year since 2007? What funds are planned to be expended on this program in each of the next three years?

Questions relating to the portfolio of Mental Health

14 September 2010, 9:15 am – 1:00 pm

Questions from Ms Ficarra

- 1. Have there been any internal documents developed by the NSW Government specifically to canvas options regarding the future of drug, alcohol and mental health services under the new National Health and Hospitals Network Agreements?
- 2. If so, to what extent have mental health consumers, carers and the general community been consulted and involved in the process.
 - a) Given they weren't consulted, how do recommendations made reflect their views and preferences?
- 3. In his Special Commission of Inquiry Report (page 103), Garling said "adult psychiatric facilities are a totally inappropriate place to admit an adolescent patient who requires acute treatment."
 - Do you think it's appropriate that Traeman Eggleton was housed in an adult mental health facility minister? Yes or no?
- 4. Garling noted that "each Area Health Service should be spending 15 per cent of its mental health budget on child and adolescent mental health, however, at best, it receives only 4 per cent (page 102)."
 - Why is this Minister and why aren't funds quarantined for child and adolescent mental health given that a floury of mental health experts including Professor Patrick McGorry and Professor Ian Hickie have spoken out on the need to focus on prevention and early intervention?
- 5. In your capacity as Minister are you aware of quarantined funds for mental health having been pulled into the greater health system or for other uses other than mental health?
- 6. In your capacity as Minister are you aware of community public mental health positions that have not been filled because of budgetary constraints?
- 7. A reply to Question on Notice 7963 dated 24 September 2009 states "the Northern Beaches Extended Hours Team has received enhancement funding to recruit a further 4.2 full-time staff. These positions are currently being advertised."

 Have these positions been filled? If not, why not?
- 8. Why is it that your Government won't commit to funding much needed suicide prevention infrastructure at suicide hotspots such as the Gap in Sydney? Minister, do you not think that saving lives is a priority for the people of NSW?

- 9. The NSW Mental Health Sentinel Events Review Committee, Fourth Tracking Tragedy Report, March 2008 identified a number of environmental and systemic issues in NSW Health that contributed to some of the suicides including:
 - preventable hanging points in inpatient units
 - lack of secure perimeter and observed entry/exit of clients
 - variable procedure for the authorisation of leave
 - poor communication with families
 - poor quality of clinical documentation

In light of this, does the Minister think her Government is doing a good job in preventing suicides in NSW? Yes or no?

- 10. If yes The Garling report, page 805 section 22.70, found that the "inpatient psychiatric ward at Westmead Hospital is not on the ground floor (but on the fourth floor) and not suitable for mental health patients. There are many hanging points, doors open the wrong way, the wrong type of glass has been used, and an unsuitable mix of patients is housed together." What improvements have been made if any, and I ask again, does the Minister think her Government is doing a good job in preventing suicides in NSW?
- 11. Why is your Government seeking to sell part of the Chatswood Community Health site (Westview) when in a meeting late last year, Sue Capel said the site would not be sold off?
- 12. Regarding Assertive Outreach Mental Health teams, what is the average ratio of clinicians to patients where applicable per Area Health Service.

 The Garling report, page 805 section 22.70, found that the "Mental Health Intensive Care Unit in Cumberland Hospital was housed in an old geriatric unit. This represented safety problems, and required a higher staff ratio to ensure patient safety." What has been done if anything to rectify this? <Cumberland Hospital is in Westmead, not on the same campus, but under the same umbrella as Westmead Hospital>
- 13. The Garling report, page 805 section 22.70, also found that "the building in James Fletcher Hospital in Newcastle is extremely old. The general wards are of poor standard and not well laid out. Boronia House for elderly patients, is so old that it has become below standard." Have there been any improvements on this front since the Garling report?
- 14. The Garling report, page 802 section 22.56 stated "NSW Health will employ an additional 65 mental health staff by the end of 2008 and that figure will be doubled in 2009-2010 to provide out-of-hours emergency and acute community response across NSW." Were an additional 65 mental health staff employed by the end of 2008 and did this figure double in 2009-2010?
- 15. In regards to a lack of inpatient beds for the mentally health, The Garling report, page 804 section 22.67, found that "staff at Prince of Wales Hospital have resorted to requesting a patient be scheduled in order to obtain a bed, even though the patient is, in fact, voluntary." Is this still the case, and if not, how has it been addressed?

Questions from Mr Khan

- 16. In relation to the Government's NSW: A New Direction for Mental Health policy document, please outline the outcomes for the Monaro electorate in each year since 2007. What outcomes are planned for the Monaro electorate in each of the next three years?
- 17. In relation to the Government's NSW: A New Direction for Mental Health policy document, please outline the outcomes for the Port Macquarie electorate in each year since 2007. What outcomes are planned for the Port Macquarie electorate in each of the next three years?