



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEE NO. 2

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2010-2011

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

Health

Monday 13 September 2010

Answers to be lodged by: Thursday 7 October 2010

Budget Estimates Secretariat
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Hearing date	Portfolio	Answer to be lodged by
13 September 2010	Health	7 October 2010 [21 days]
13 September 2010	Ageing	7 October 2010 [21 days]
13 September 2010	Disability Services	7 October 2010 [21 days]
13 September 2010	Volunteering	7 October 2010 [21 days]
13 September 2010	Youth	7 October 2010 [21 days]
15 September 2010	Education and Training	11 October 2010 [21 days]
15 September 2010	Community Services	11 October 2010 [21 days]
15 September 2010	State Plan	11 October 2010 [21 days]
13 September 2010	Health – Additional Questions on Notice (no.s 187-225) submitted 21 September 2010	12 October 2010 [21 days]

Questions relating to the portfolios of Health

13 September 2010, 9:15 am – 1:00 pm

Questions from Ms Ficarra

Multidisciplinary teams

1. On page 5-46 of the budget papers, it is stated that there has been a 12% increase in the number of multidisciplinary teams in NSW. How many teams does this comprise in absolute terms? How is a multidisciplinary team defined? What is the target?

Partnering with the private sector

2. On page 5-48 of the budget papers, it is stated that a key initiative of the CI is “increased partnering with the private sector to leverage their skills, report their outcomes and use their capacity to reduce health costs”. What does this mean and how much does it cost in 2010-2011?

CI assets

3. With reference to page 5-48 of the budget papers, the CI has \$1,540,000 listed as intangibles under non-current assets. Please provide further information on the nature of these intangibles and the determination of their value

Budget increases due to increased administrators

4. The recurrent Health Expense budget for 2004-5 was \$9 974 000 and in 2010-2011 is estimated at \$15 471 000. How much of this increase is due to increased numbers of administrators?

Health Efficiency Improvement Taskforce

5. As NSW Health is subject to ongoing review by the Health Efficiency Improvement Taskforce (HEIT), what has this Taskforce reported during 2010 as advice and recommendations? What has it recommended for productivity and efficiency strategies for clinical services? For regulation? For funding? For shared services? For workforce management? (as listed on page 4-14). As HEIT reports are material to the Budget Estimates, they need to be provided to GPSC2.

Expenditure Reviews

6. On page 4-14 of the budget papers, it is stated that expenditure reviews will have been conducted across agencies accounting for 95% of general government expenditure by December 2010. Please provide copies of the reviews

Additional appropriation from gaming taxes

7. Explanatory note shows an additional appropriation of \$264 000 000 to the Minister of Health, with this being part of the revenue raised from gaming machine taxes. What is this money to be spent on? Why is the NSW Government so dependent on gaming machine taxes to run health services?

Sexual Assault Clinics

8. What is the full cost of providing NSW sexual assault clinics? how many staff? How many clients? Have the clinics been evaluated? Where are they based?

Regional Sexual Assault Clinics

9. Why is there no forensic sexual assault unit at Dubbo? where do sexual assault victims go instead? Is there an estimated demand for sexual assault forensic and counselling services in the Dubbo region? Tamworth region? Port Macquarie region?

Hospital infections

10. Separated by hospital for all NSW hospitals, what was the Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) infection rate as at 30 June 2008, 30 June 2009 and 30 June 2010?

Budget responsibility

11. Who is responsible for the overall administration of the departmental budget?
12. What are their qualifications and background?

Access Block

13. At Westmead Hospital in the first three weeks of August, only 50% of patients found a bed in 8 hours compared to 57% which is published as the latest NSW Health data on your new website, and for the same three weeks at Nepean Hospital only 58% are admitted within 8 hours compared to 63% on your new website – is this being open and transparent with the clinicians and patients of Western Sydney?

Federal Health Agreement

14. Do you agree that the Federal Health Agreement is "the single largest reform of the health and hospital system since the introduction of Medicare"?

GST & Federal Health Agreement

15. As per the Commonwealth Government's 2011-12 Budget Papers, why is NSW giving up 30% of GST when South Australia is giving up 26%, Victoria is giving up 24%, Tasmania is giving up 20% and Western Australia is giving up 0%?

Productivity Commission & Federal Health Agreement

16. Given the Productivity Commission found that public hospitals were 10-20% inefficient, and with the new funding mechanism (e.g. Commonwealth funding 60% of the efficient cost) requiring NSW to pick up the inefficient portion what financial modelling have you done to calculate future estimated costs and when will you release the information, given your new open and transparent reporting?

Bed occupancy

17. What is the statewide bed occupancy rate for 2009/10?
18. Are cots, bassinets, dental chairs and other "virtual beds" still included as "available beds" in this calculation?

Bed occupancy above 85%

19. Which hospitals in NSW in the year ending 30 June 2010 recorded an average bed occupancy greater than 85%? What was the average for each of these hospitals?

Consultants

20. How much have you budgeted for external consultancy support for the implementation of Local Health Networks?

Take the Lead

21. What is the total budgeted cost for the take the lead program when it was first announced?
22. What is the total cost of the program as at 30 June 2010?
23. Broken down by year, how much has been budgeted for the next 4 financial years?

Between the flags

24. What is the total budgeted cost for the between the flags program when it was first announced?
25. What is the total cost of the program as at 30 June 2010?
26. Broken down by year, how much has been budgeted for the next 4 financial years?

After Hours GP Care

27. How many of the after hours GP care clinics promised by NSW Labor at the 2007 state election have been opened?
28. Are there new clinics at Blue Mountains, Blacktown, Broken Hill, Dubbo, Taree and Shoalhaven? If not, why not?
29. What is the average age of ambulance officers working in Wollongong?
30. Will the NSW Government contribute funding towards the planned medical precinct at the University of Wollongong? If so, how much funding and over what period of time?
31. How many patients in the South Eastern Sydney Illawarra Area Health Service have contracted Hepatitis C from the Area Health Service's medical facilities, broken down on an annual basis, from 2003-04 to present?
32. Has NSW Health made a submission to the Department of Planning in relation to the private hospital major project proposal at 360 Crown Street, Wollongong? If so, does NSW Health support the proposal?
33. What extra capacity is being planned at Blacktown and Hawkesbury Hospitals to cater for the increased population in the north-west growth centre?
34. How many additional beds, nurses and doctors will be delivered at Nepean Hospital in 2010-11?
35. When will the NSW Government honour its 2006 promise of delivering 12-15 mental health beds for Shoalhaven District Hospital?

In relation to Shoalhaven District Hospital's carpark:

36. Has NSW Health or South Eastern Sydney Illawarra Area Health Service received any requests to increase car parking capacity at Shoalhaven District Hospital?
37. How many additional car spaces are needed at Shoalhaven District Hospital?
38. Does NSW Health or South Eastern Sydney Illawarra Area Health Service have any plans to increase car parking at Shoalhaven District Hospital? If so, how many additional car spaces will be delivered, when and at what total cost?
39. Why did the NSW Government fail to take up Shoalhaven City Council's offer to seal much needed extra car-parking spaces at Shoalhaven District Hospital?
40. Does the Government consider it acceptable for Doctors, Nurses, staff and patients to walk long distances in order to find adequate car parking?

In relation to the Yaralla Estate in Concord:

41. Has NSW Health received a management plan from the Member for Drummoyne for the Yaralla Estate?
42. Has the Department produced, or is it in the process of producing a management plan for the Yaralla Estate?
43. When can the community expect a management plan for the Yaralla Estate to be put on public exhibition?

44. How does the Government plan to address the growing waiting list for orthopaedic services at Concord Hospital – which stood at a record 682 in March 2010, up from 506 in March 2009 and 494 in March 2008?

In relation to Sutherland Hospital Emergency Department:

45. Can you please detail the number of FTE doctors and nurses for each year from 2003-04 to 2010-11 working in Sutherland Hospital's Emergency Department?
46. Can you please detail the number of beds available as at 30 June for each year from 2003 to 2010 in Sutherland Hospital's Emergency Department?
47. What was the budget for Sutherland Hospital's Emergency Department, broken down on an annual basis from 2003-04 to 2010-11?

Questions from Ms Gardiner

Triage Benchmarks – Hospital Performance Figures

48. In light of the April-June 2010 statistics released by the NSW Bureau of Health Information showing that the regional hospitals' (triage) category 3 performance was the worst in the state, what specific measures are in place, or will be put in place, to improve the performance at each of the non-metropolitan District and Base Hospitals which failed to meet the triage benchmark? Please list by hospital.

Radiotherapy Services

In the NSW Health publication *Radiotherapy Services In NSW Strategic Plan to 2016* page 13, it is stated: "...(After) a 'settling in' period, the Lismore and Orange centres will account for over half the radiotherapy treatments delivered to their catchment populations".

49. At what Radiation Oncology Treatment Centres is it assumed that the remaining patients in those two catchment areas will receive cancer treatment?
50. Is there any timetable for a second linear accelerator to become operational at Orange Base Hospital? If so, what is that timetable?
51. In the June 2009 Audit Office report *Tackling Cancer with Radiotherapy* the NSW Auditor General recommends developing centralised booking systems by December 2009 for all radiotherapy treatment centres within a service network.
52. Has this recommendation been implemented? If not, why not?
53. If this recommendation has not been implemented are there any future plans to do so?
54. Does NSW Health or any of the 8 Area Health Services have up to date waiting list data for Radiation Oncology Treatment Centres?
55. If waiting list data for Radiation Oncology Treatment Centres is available, please provide for the committee for each of the following:
- Illawarra Cancer Care Centre, Wollongong Hospital, Wollongong
 - Nepean Cancer Care Centre, Penrith
 - Calvary Mater Newcastle, Department of Radiation Oncology, Newcastle
 - Prince of Wales, Institute of Oncology, Randwick
 - Northern Sydney Cancer Centre, Royal North Shore Hospital, St Leonards
 - Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Camperdown
 - South Western Sydney Cancer Service, Liverpool and Macarthur
 - St George Cancer Care Centre, St George Hospital, Kogarah
 - St Vincent's Radiation Oncology, St Vincent's Hospital, Darlinghurst
 - Westmead Hospital, Department of Radiation Oncology, Westmead
 - North Coast Cancer Institute, Port Macquarie and Coffs Harbour

56. How many patients had exceeded a period of 21 days while waiting for radiotherapy treatment as of 31 August 2010?
57. What was the total amount of people waiting for radiotherapy therapy as of 31 August 2010?

Isolated Patients Travel and Accommodation Assistance Scheme (IPTAAS)

58. What was the total expenditure incurred for IPTAAS claims in 2009/10 by patients from:
 - a) Greater Western Area Health Service
 - b) Greater Southern Area Health Service
 - c) North Coast Area Health Service
 - d) Hunter New England Area Health Service
59. What was the total number of IPTAAS claims processed in 2009/10 by:
 - a) Greater Western Area Health Service
 - b) Greater Southern Area Health Service
 - c) North Coast Area Health Service
 - d) Hunter New England Area Health Service
60. What is the total amount collected by NSW Health through the \$40 personal contribution and administration charge for all qualifying IPTAAS claims for the following years:
 - a) 2008/09
 - b) 2009/10
 - c) July 2010 to date
61. What is the budget estimate for Transport for Health program in 2010/11?

Gulgong Hospital

62. According to the GWAHS Risk Management Report on Gulgong Hospital produced as a result of a WorkCover inspection on 31/3/2010, there were a number of "serious breeches (sic) to the Legislation" at the hospital.
63. What was the date of the previous WorkCover inspection (prior to 31/3/2010) of the hospital, if any?
64. If there was a WorkCover inspection what improvement notices were issued as a result?
65. What action was taken to remedy any shortcomings identified by WorkCover?
66. Please outline the events and chain of command in the GWAHS and NSW Health that led to the:
67. Decision to close Gulgong Hospital, and;
68. The announcement that the hospital was to close

Risk Management Reports – Area Health Services

69. Please provide Risk Management Reports (Occupational Health and Safety Security Assessments) prepared for any NSW public hospital or health facility in each area health service in 2009/10 together with any associated remedial action plans for those hospitals and health facilities.

Lismore Positron Emission Tomography (PET) Scanner

70. What is the current start-up date for the PET scanner at Lismore Base Hospital?

Questions from Mr Khan

Tamworth Hospital

71. Has the Service Procurement Plan for the redevelopment of Tamworth Hospital been completed and endorsed yet?
72. Has the Project Development Plan for the redevelopment of Tamworth Hospital been completed and endorsed yet?
73. When are works for the redevelopment of Tamworth Hospital scheduled to begin?
74. Is there a completion date planned for the redevelopment of the Tamworth Hospital?

75. How much is it estimated the Tamworth Hospital redevelopment will cost?
76. Has any money been allocated in this budget for the redevelopment of Tamworth Hospital?
77. If any money has been allocated, how much money was allocated for the redevelopment of Tamworth Hospital?
78. When is the next Service Plan for the Tamworth Hospital to be released?
79. Is it still estimated that the Tamworth Hospital Stage 2 Maternity Refurbishment will be completed by June 2013?
80. Is it still estimated that the Tamworth Hospital Stage 2 Maternity Refurbishment will cost \$10,552,000?
81. How much of the cost for the development of the Tamworth Regional Cancer Centre has been provided by the State Government and how much has been contributed by the Federal Government?
82. Is it still estimated that the Tamworth Regional Cancer Centre will be completed by June 2013?
83. Is it still estimated that the Tamworth Regional Cancer Centre will cost \$41,691,000?
84. Is the Government still committed to the redevelopment of the Tamworth Hospital?
85. How much money has been expended to date on the planning for the redevelopment of Tamworth Hospital?
86. How much money has been expended and budgeted to be spent for the redevelopment of Tamworth Hospital?
87. What was the process of reaching the decision to refurbish the Tamworth Hospital Stage 2 Maternity ward?
88. Who was involved in the decision making to refurbish the Tamworth Hospital Stage 2 Maternity ward?

Dalwood

89. What was the budget, broken-down into programs, for children with reading difficulties in 2008-09
90. What was the budget, broken down into programs, for children with reading difficulties in 2009-10?
91. What is the budget, broken down into programs, for children with reading difficulties in 2010-11?
92. What is the budget, broken down into programs, for children with reading difficulties in 2011-12?
93. What was the budget for the Dalwood Assessment Centre in 2008-09
94. What was the budget for the Dalwood Assessment Centre in 2009-10
95. What was the budget for the Palm Avenue School in 2008-09
96. What was the budget for the Palm Avenue School in 2009-10
97. What was the budget for Royal Far West in 2009-10
98. How much does the department estimate that it cost per-child for one-month's residential care associated with the program at Palm Avenue school in 2008-09?
99. How much does the department estimate that it cost per-child for one-month's residential care associated with the program at Palm Avenue school in 2009-10?
100. How many children across NSW were eligible for assistance by Palm Avenue School based solely on their geographic location in 2009-10?
101. How many children attended assessment at Dalwood in 2008-09?
102. How many children attended assessment at Dalwood/ Westmead in 2009-10?
103. How many children attended the residential intervention at palm Avenue school in 2008-09?
104. How many children attended the residential intervention at palm Avenue school in 2009-10?
105. How many children are estimated will attend assessment at the Westmead facility in 2010-11?
106. How many children are estimated will attend assessment at the Westmead facility in 2011-12?
107. How many children are estimated will attend residential intervention at Palm Avenue school/ Royal far West in 2010-11?

108. How many children are estimated will attend residential intervention at Palm Avenue school/ Royal far West in 2011-12?
109. How much has been budgeted in 2010-11 for the Centre for Effective Reading under the announced new structure for children with learning difficulties?
110. How much has been budgeted in 2011-12 for the NSW Centre for Effective Reading under the announced new structure for children with learning difficulties?
111. How much has been budgeted for Royal Far West under the announced new structure for children with learning difficulties in 2010-11?
112. How much has been budgeted for the proposed regional assessment and intervention services at Site 1, (proposed Wagga Wagga) in 2010-11?
113. How much has been budgeted for the proposed regional assessment and intervention services at Site 2 (proposed Dubbo) in 2010-11?
114. How much has been budgeted for the announced Child Development Unit, The Children's Hospital at Westmead in 2010-11?
115. How much has been budgeted for Royal Far West under the announced new structure for children with learning difficulties in 2011-12?
116. How much has been budgeted for the proposed regional assessment and intervention services at Site 1 (proposed Wagga Wagga) in 2011-12?
117. How much has been budgeted for the proposed regional assessment and intervention services at Site 2 (proposed Dubbo) in 2011-12?
118. How much has been budgeted for the announced Child Development Unit, The Children's Hospital at Westmead in 2011-12?
119. How much has been budgeted for the delivery of the universal level of service of the announced programme for children with reading difficulties?
120. How much has been budgeted for the delivery of the targeted level of service of the announced programme for children with reading difficulties?
121. How much has been budgeted for the delivery of the intensive level of service of the announced programme for children with reading difficulties?
122. How much does the department estimate that it will cost per-child (including costs associated with parents) for one-week's residential care at Royal Far West?
123. How many children across NSW will be eligible under the announced scheme for reading difficulties based solely on their geographic location in 2010-11?
124. How many children across NSW will be eligible under the announced for reading difficulties based solely on their geographic location in 2011-12?
125. Has the Department entered into any agreements for the sale of the site occupied by the Dalwood Centre?
126. Has the Department entered into any negotiations for the sale of the site occupied by the Dalwood Centre?
127. Has the Department had the land valued of the site occupied by the Dalwood Centre?
128. If the land has been valued, what was the valuation of the land?
129. How many staff were made redundant at the Dalwood centre with its closing?
130. Were there any reasons associated with the building that housed the Dalwood centre that was a factor in the move away from using the facility?
131. If there were any problems associated with the building has any estimate been put on the cost to bring the facility up to a standard where full services could resume?
132. If an assessment was made on the cost to bring the facility up to a standard where services could resume, what was that estimate?
133. How much money was allocated to the meetings, investigation, assessment and report of the Expert Panel's report "Strengthening services to students with complex reading difficulties in rural and remote areas of NSW"?
134. What, if any, is the viable over-night accommodation capacity of Dalwood Centre?

135. What is the current viable over-night accommodation capacity at Royal Far West?

Dubbo Hospital Master plan

136. In relation to the Dubbo Base Hospital Master plan;
- Can you detail exactly what stage the master plan is up to?
 - What components/information is usually included in this type of document?
 - How important do you consider this document?
 - For what reasons was there a delay in getting the document developed?
 - Do you agree it has prevented Dubbo from securing vital services like radiotherapy?
 - When is the Master plan likely to be completed?
 - Is it likely to improve Dubbo's chances of securing the health services it deserves?

Dubbo Hospital Funding

137. In relation to the \$232,000 announced in this year's Budget for the Dubbo Hospital;
- Can you explain how this funding will be used?
 - Do you agree this is only a very small figure in respect to what the total cost of the project will be?
 - Are you 100% committed to redeveloping the Dubbo Hospital?
 - In what ways?
 - Do you agree that the lack of a Masterplan has contributed to the delay in the re-development of the Dubbo Hospital?
 - What is the annual salary of the top ten bureaucrats in Sydney?
 - How does the funding you have announced compare to these salaries?
 - What is your response to claims the \$232,000 announced for Dubbo Hospital is simply token funding?

Local Hospital Networks

138. In relation to the Federal Government's announcement of Local Health Networks (LHNs);
- Can you explain the reasons for grouping Dubbo with other major Hospitals like Bathurst & Orange?
 - Who/what groups in the Dubbo region were consulted in relation to this decision?
 - What is your reaction to strong criticism from health bodies/professionals across the Dubbo electorate?
 - Is there an opportunity to have this decision overturned?
 - Do you think Dubbo would be more suited to serving Western NSW instead of being grouped with Bathurst and Orange? Why, why not?
 - Do you think patients in Dubbo will travel to Orange or bypass Orange for Sydney?
 - What is your response to criticism that Hospitals like Orange and Bathurst will benefit over Dubbo Hospital now that they're grouped together?

Forbes Dialysis

139. In relation to the extension of the Forbes Dialysis Unit;
- Given you announced funding on 2nd February this year for the extension of the Forbes Dialysis unit, can you detail exactly how the funds will be used?
 - Given when I met with the Acting General Manager of Rural Clinical Services in February this year I was told the extension was likely to occur in the next three months, then I was later told it was more likely to be October, then most recently I was told by the end of the year- can you provide details as to when the people of the Forbes district can expect this vital project to be operational?
 - Do you think it's appropriate that several patients in the Forbes region are forced to travel hundreds over 700 kilometres each week to Orange to undergo vital dialysis treatment?

- d) Do you agree there is a distinct disparity between health services offered in metropolitan and regional areas?

Parkes / Forbes Hospital Funding

140. In regards to the \$150,000 announced in June this year for planning works for the Parkes and Forbes Hospitals;
- a) What was the process of reaching the decision to commit this funding?
 - b) Who was involved in the decision and what role did each party play?
 - c) On what date was it decided to announce this funding?
 - d) What was the funding figure left out of the Budget Papers?
 - e) What is your response to claims this funding announcement was a knee-jerk reaction?
 - f) What progress has been made on planning for these Hospitals?
 - g) Due to the fact the planning works are not due to be completed until 3 months after the State election, do you agree the money was a token announcement designed to make the communities believe you are committed to this project?
 - h) Are the planning works on track to be completed on time?
 - i) Who has been involved in this process?
 - j) Can you provide reasons as to why the re-development of these two hospitals remains outstanding, despite your Government offering a commitment back in 2004 to redevelop the hospitals?
 - k) Can you detail exactly what is meant by your statement that 'strategic planning will be undertaken to determine the most appropriate configuration of services at the two hospitals?'

Monaro

- 141. What funds have been expended in the Monaro electorate in health capital works in each year since 2007?
- 142. What funds are planned to be expended on health capital works in the Monaro electorate in each of the next three years?
- 143. What funds have been expended in each year since 2007 on the new breast screening centres Monaro?
- 144. What funds are planned to be expended on upgrading equipment in Monaro in each of the next three years?
- 145. During the course of 2009-10, how many patients were diverted from Queanbeyan Hospital to Canberra hospitals?
- 146. What were the reasons for each of these diversions?
- 147. What are the financial arrangements between the NSW and ACT governments which cover cross-border transfers?
- 148. What funds have been transferred to the ACT Government in each of the past four years under this agreement?
- 149. What funds are estimated to be transferred in the next three years?
- 150. What is the status of the Queanbeyan CT scanner?
- 151. What funds have been allocated to the CT scanner in each of the past four years?
- 152. What is the status of the Breast Cancer Screening - Digital in Queanbeyan?
- 153. What funds have been allocated to the facility in each of the past four years?
- 154. What was the total cost of the Queanbeyan Hospital redevelopment?
- 155. What funds were expended on this project in each of the past four years?
- 156. What funds are planned to be spent on capital enhancements to the Queanbeyan Hospital in each of the next three years?
- 157. What facilities are in place in Queanbeyan for public treatment of patients requiring dental care?

158. What funds - capital and recurrent - were expended on these facilities in each of the past four years?
159. What is the Government's position on community requests for a nurse for the self-dialysis unit at Cooma Hospital?

Port Macquarie

160. What funds have been expended in the Port Macquarie electorate in health capital works in each year since 2007?
161. What funds are planned to be expended on health capital works in the Port Macquarie electorate in each of the next three years?
162. What funds have been expended in each year since 2007 on the new breast screening centres Port Macquarie?
163. What funds are planned to be expended on upgrading equipment in Port Macquarie in each of the next three years?
164. Has a Clinical Services Plan for the redevelopment of Port Macquarie Hospital been completed and endorsed yet?
165. Has the Service Procurement Plan for the redevelopment of Port Macquarie Hospital been completed and endorsed yet?
166. Has the Project Development Plan for the redevelopment of Port Macquarie Hospital been completed and endorsed yet?
167. When are works for the redevelopment of Port Macquarie Hospital (Fourth Pod) scheduled to begin?
168. Is there a completion date planned for the redevelopment of the Port Macquarie Hospital (Fourth Pod)?
169. How much is it estimated the Port Macquarie Hospital (Fourth Pod) redevelopment will cost?
170. Has any money been allocated in this budget for the redevelopment of the Port Macquarie Hospital (Fourth Pod)?
171. If any money has been allocated, how much money was allocated for the redevelopment of the Port Macquarie Hospital (Fourth Pod)?
172. When is the next Service Plan for the Port Macquarie Hospital to be released?
173. How much money has been expended to date on the planning for the redevelopment of Port Macquarie Hospital (Fourth Pod)?

Bathurst Hospital

174. In relation to the Bathurst Hospital:
 - a) What building works have been carried out on the Chifley methadone clinic at Bathurst Hospital since the redevelopment of the hospital was completed?
 - b) Why were these remedial building works required?
 - c) What reports had staff at the Chifley methadone clinic made of safety deficiencies in the design of the clinic?
 - d) What reports had staff at the Chifley methadone clinic made of water leakage into the clinic?
 - e) What was the cost of these works, or will be the estimated cost of these works on completion?
 - f) What consultations were conducted with staff of the Chifley methadone clinic regarding the design of the clinic as part of the Bathurst Hospital redevelopment prior to these building works taking place?
 - g) When were/will these works be completed?
175. What is the currently implemented protocol for providing orientation programs/workplace training for overseas trained doctors working in NSW?

- a) What of this training is offered locally to overseas trained doctors working in the Bathurst Electorate?
176. How many beds are currently open to patients at Bathurst Hospital in light of Premier Kristina Keneally's announcement of funding for an additional five beds at the hospital?
- a) What moves have been undertaken by GWAHS to recruit additional frontline nursing staff to service patients in these additional beds?
- b) How many beds were open to patients at Bathurst Hospital prior to the redevelopment of the hospital?
177. What plans to accommodate palliative care facilities were included in the original redevelopment plans for the Bathurst Hospital?
- a) What palliative care facilities are currently included in the Bathurst Hospital?
- b) How many dedicated palliative care nurses are currently working at the Bathurst Hospital?
178. What expense was incurred by GWAHS over the 2009/2010 financial year in employing locums at Bathurst Hospital, including associated travel and living expenses costs?
- a) What type of medical professionals were employed by GWAHS at Bathurst Hospital, and what services did they provide?
- b) What would be the cost to GWAHS of employing these professionals locally to provide these services?
- c) What efforts has GWAHS made over the past year by way of recruitment to see such medical professional employed locally?
179. What is the current nurse to patient ratio at Bathurst Hospital?
- a) Under State Government guidelines, what is the recommended nurse to patient ratio within hospitals?

Kurri Kurri Hospital

180. In regards to Kurri Kurri Hospital:
- a) Are there any plans to close the Emergency Department?
- b) Has there been any withdrawal of services available at Kurri Kurri Hospital since 2007?
- c) Has the Hunter New England Area Health Service drafted any plans for the closure of the Emergency Department?
- d) What assurance can NSW Health give the community that Kurri Kurri Hospital Emergency Department will remain open?

Orange Health Services

181. In regards the Rescue Helicopter service based in Orange:
- a) What is the estimated cost of a 24-hour rescue helicopter service at the Central West base in Orange?
- b) Has the Government investigated the cost of providing an on-call service in an effort to reduce the cost of a full 24-hour service?
182. In regards the Orange Base Hospital
- a) What are the Government's current plans for the disposal of the present Orange Base Hospital site, including any other ancillary buildings within the precinct, such as breast screen and the nurse's quarters?
183. In regards the Gulgong Health Services
- a) What is the expected cost of the renovations to the building in the Gulgong Central Business District that will be utilised for emergency services until the planned HealthOne is completed?
- b) What is the weekly/monthly rental for these new premises?

Answers to Questions on Notice

184. Please indicate the name & position of all members of the Department involved in answering the Questions On Notice for the Health Budget Estimates session this year?
185. Was there any communication, written or verbal, between the Department and the Minister's office regarding the answering this year's Questions on Notice?
- a) If so, what was the name & position of the persons in the Minister's office involved?
 - b) What was their input / advice?
186. Was there any communication, written or verbal, between the Department and the Premier's office regarding the answering this year's Questions on Notice?
- a) If so, what was the name & position of the persons in the Premier's office involved?
 - b) What was their input / advice?

Questions from Ms Parker

Beds

187. Is a midnight bed census taken in each major hospital to determine how many beds are available to admit patients? Please provide that information for each of the 85 hospitals listed in your Emergency Performance data on the NSW Health website.
188. For each hospital type - Teaching, Children Specialty, Other Specialty, Major Metropolitan, Rural Base, Rural District, Other Rural, Community Acute and Multi-purpose Services – please advise the average daily cost of:
- a) an overnight acute care bed,
 - b) a sub-acute bed; and
 - c) a non-acute care bed

Staffing cuts

189. The revised budget result for 2009-10 is \$100 million less than the original budget, how much of these savings were due to staff reductions or redundancies?
- a) How much of the savings are for nurses?
 - b) How much of the savings are for doctors?
 - c) How much of the savings are for allied health staff?
 - d) How much of the savings are for administrative staff?

Ambulance retrievals

190. How many non-emergency patient transport journeys did emergency vehicles conduct in the years ending 30 June 2008, 30 June 2009 and 30 June 2010?

Separated for each NSW Ambulance station for the years ending 30 June 2009 and 30 June 2010:

191. How many emergency patient transports were conducted?
192. How many non-emergency patient transports were conducted?
193. What was the full-time equivalent staffing establishment? How many emergency vehicles were managed?
194. How many non-emergency vehicles were managed

Sale of Queen Victoria Memorial Home

Prior to your announcing in Parliament on September 8th that the Queen Victoria Memorial Home was to be sold to the Moran Group;

195. How many consultation meetings were held with the strong community group which has been a strong advocate of the facility for years
196. How many consultation meetings were held with staff about the changes and on what dates
197. When were staff advised of Moran Group taking over
198. What measures are in place to protect staff positions

Cultural change

On page 5-11 of the budget papers, the Budget allocates \$3.5 million additional for instilling cultural change throughout the NSW Health system to ensure patients remain at the centre of the health care delivery system.

199. How is this money being expended?
200. What is the primary outcome measure of cultural change?
201. How, when and by whom will it be reported?

Breast Cancer Screening

On page 5-19 of the budget papers, target participation rates in breast cancer screening and cervical cancer screening are 54.1% and 61.0% respectively.

202. How does this target compare with the target and achieved rates in other jurisdictions?
203. How many extra women will be screened through Breastscreen as a result of the additional funding stated on page 5-14?
204. What would the target have been without the additional funding?
205. What is the target mammographic screening rate that is specified in the performance contract of the CEO of the Cancer Institute?

Potentially Avoidable deaths

206. On page 5-15 of the budget papers, it is shown that the NSW target for the rate of potentially avoidable deaths for people under the age of 75 of 150 per 100 000 population has already been met for non-Aboriginal persons (namely 142 actual in 2008/9; two forecasts for 2009-10 of 140 and 136 respectively and a 2010 -2011 forecast of 131. By contrast, the rate for Aboriginal persons is at least double the stated target (344 forecast for 2010-11). What programs are being offered in partnership with the AHMRC to meet this target?

Fall related injuries

207. In relation to page 5-21 of the budget papers, what is the target rate of hospitalisation from fall-related injury for people aged 65 years and over?

Antenatal care – Aboriginal women

On page 5-17 of the budget papers, the NSW Government has settled for two different targets for antenatal care even though it must acknowledge that infant and maternal outcomes are highly dependent on access to antenatal care.

208. Why does the Budget paper settle for 87% of Aboriginal women attending antenatal care before 20 weeks gestation yet 94% for non-Aboriginal women?
209. Whose responsibility is it to ensure that 87% of Aboriginal women receive antenatal care before 20 weeks gestation?
210. Has this been negotiated through the MOU with the AHMRC?

Antenatal care charges

211. Do you believe it is appropriate that pregnant women being cared for in the public health system are being charged for antenatal care?
212. What do you intend doing to ensure women are not missing out on important antenatal care because they can't afford to attend classes?

Maternity Services

213. What are your plans for Mona Vale hospital maternity services? In the event that it becomes a midwife only maternity unit and a 'doctor free zone' as NSW Health press releases indicate, what happens in the event that labour is prolonged or medical intervention is deemed necessary?

Clinical trials

214. On page 5-30 of the budget papers, 300 clinical trials are forecast to be approved for conduct within the NSW public health system?
215. How are these trials identified and counted?

Variation from target

216. On page 5-17 of the budget papers, the average variation from target for all Area Health Services is <2%. What is the range of values of variation obtained for the eight area health services rather than the average?

Clinical staff ratios

217. On page 5-18 of the budget papers, it is stated that clinical staff are 74% of the total workforce. This means that one in four staff is non-clinical. What are the plans for reducing the number of unproductive administrative jobs?

Medical Assessment Units

218. How much does it cost to run each of the 29 Medical Assessment Units?
219. Are they cost-effective?
220. How does the Government know?

Severe Chronic Disease Management Program

221. When will the cost-effectiveness of the Severe Chronic Disease Management Program be determined and how?

Agency for Clinical Innovation (CI) and Bureau of Health Information

222. What are the budget appropriations for the Agency for Clinical Innovation and the Bureau of Health Information?
223. Why have these not been established as independent statutory authorities like the HCCC?

NHHNA implementation

224. How much does it cost to support the Steering Committee comprising the Department of Premier and Cabinet, NSW Health and Treasury that reports to the Minister of Health and manages the implementation of the National Health & Hospitals Network Agreement and associated reforms in NSW?
225. How often does this Steering Committee meet with front-line clinical staff to consult?