



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEE NO. 2

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012-2013

Supplementary Questions on Notice

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

Health
Medical Research

Monday 8 October 2012

Answers to be lodged by: Thursday 1 November 2012

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Question from Dr Kaye

Health

1.
 - a. How many grants were funded under the Ministerial Health NGO Program 2011 – 2012 and what was the value of each grant?
 - b. How much money will be cut from existing grants under the Health NGO Program as part of the Government's program of efficiency savings?
 - c. What support will NSW Health give to funded NGO's to transition to the proposed new funding model under the Grants Management Improvement Program?
 - d. Can the minister quantify the level of funding cuts that the health NGO program has to take as part of overall budget savings measures in the health portfolio?

2.
 - a. Why does there continue to be no state wide policy or strategic framework for consumer and community engagement in the health system eighteen months since the Health Minister committed to put patients at the heart of the health system?
 - b. How will the NSW Government monitor and report on consumer and community engagement at the district and state wide level?

3.
 - a. What are the performance requirements for local health districts to reduce health inequalities?
 - b. How will health inequalities be measured and reported at the district and state wide levels?

4. Can the Minister please outline the measures that her department has undertaken to ensure that general practitioners and specialists with an awareness of the particular medical needs of transgender and gender diverse people exist and are easily accessible within rural and regional NSW?

5. Is the Minister aware that studies by the British Medical Association and the American Medical Association indicate that concussive and sub-concussive blows to the head can cause long-term brain injuries to boxers? If so, why is the centrepiece of the Pemulwuy project in Redfern a boxing gym?

6. In August 2011 Minister Skinner committed to reinstating the \$1.4 million in funding for the Northern Sydney Local Health District for a palliative care service, now owned and operated by Hammond Care. Is the \$5 million announced in this year's budget inclusive or in addition to that funding?

7.
 - a. With regard to Northern Beaches Hospital at Frenchs Forest, what are the estimated costs of the necessary upgrades to local roads (such as the Wakehurst Parkway and Warringah Road) and public transport services? Please provide a breakdown by costs for local roads and public transport.
 - b. What work has the government undertaken to specifically look at the impact of the hospital on commuting times to and from the northern beaches during the peak hour? What actions have been undertaken to overcome these traffic issues?
 - c. What results, if any, have been received from the government's environmental consultants concerning the endangered fauna and flora species present on the site?
8. Can the Minister please outline the way in which the Northern Beaches hospital has followed the planning guidelines for Health Infrastructure projects valued at over \$10 million called the Process of Facility Planning?
9. What steps has the Minister taken to ensure that the new Northern Beaches hospital complex does not duplicate the services provided by Royal North Shore hospital?
10. Can the Minister please elaborate on the type of services that will continue to be provided by Mona Vale hospital once the Northern Beaches hospital is complete?
11. What is the current predicted total NSW government funding that will go towards the Northern Beaches hospital complex?
12. What is the expected annual recurrent NSW government funding required to run the Northern Beaches hospital?
13.
 - a. Concerning EnableNSW and the co-payment system, in 2002 the NSW government implemented a "grandfathering policy" which meant that only new eligible clients applying for PADP from 2002 would be required to make the co-payment. Spinal Cord Injuries Australia (SCIA) has become aware that EnableNSW management is now requesting all PADP clients make the co-payment. Could the Minister please provide documentation as to when, or if, the "grandfathering policy" was abolished, and if not, could the Minister please ensure the grandfathering policy is implemented and portable clients are not being sent threatening letters?
 - b. There has been discussion and debate on scrapping the co-payment system. Is there currently a plan in place by EnableNSW to end the co-payment contribution? If not, why?

14.
 - a. Why has the Urgent Care Centre previously proposed for Bulli hospital been renamed the Emergency Primary Health Care Centre?
 - b. What services will the Emergency Primary Health Care Centre provide?
 - c. Why have nurses at Bulli Hospital been left out of the consultation process?
 - d. What role will nurses play at the new proposed centre?

15.
 - a. Given that there is currently no evidence from Australia to support widespread implementation of the Urgent Care Centre (UCC) Model, is the Government considering opening any further UCC's?
 - b. When can we expect a report outlining the efficacy of the five pilot program Urgent Care Centres that have been operating now since 2010?
 - c. What, if any, are the operational differences between the Urgent Care Centres and Bulli Hospital's Emergency Primary Health Care Centre?

16. What is the timetable for ending smoke free exemptions in pubs and clubs and bringing NSW into line with the best practice of the ACT, Tasmania and Queensland, where staffed public eating and drinking areas are smoke free?

17. Does the 'four hour rule' that is active in NSW Emergency Departments count patients who leave without having seen a doctor (Do Not Waits) as having been treated within the required time frame? If so, what is the percentage of Do Not Waits in the last 4 reporting periods. Can the Minister please explain how this is a fair and accurate reporting of hospital emergency room waiting times?

18. The Cumberland Hospital is a NSW Heritage listed building that under the Burra Charter requires state management and conservation. What are the specific maintenance and preservation measures that the government has undertaken with regard to the hospital?

19. The Forensic Hospital at Long Bay Jail treats patients who have been found not guilty of a crime due to mental illness, as well as inmates who have become unwell whilst incarcerated. Why are mentally ill patients being forced to pay for treatment out of their pensions? (For Medicare eligible patients the rate is \$713.30 a fortnight).

20. In correspondence sent to the Minister on 13th August 2012 I outlined the wide ranging stakeholder consultation that I have undertaken regarding the medicinal use of cannabis. Given that I have still not received a response to this letter and my request for a meeting, can the Minister please outline what the NSW government's response is to the issues outlined in the document that was provided to her?

21. What is the NSW Government's position on the plan to introduce national registration requirements for Paramedics, similar to that which operates for nurses and that will establish qualification criteria and further professional development?

- a. What steps has the government taken to progress the introduction of a national registration scheme for Paramedics?

End of questions from Dr Kaye.

Questions from Ms Westwood

1. What was the Commonwealth component of the 2011/12 Health budget?
2. What is the Commonwealth component of the 2012/13 Health budget?
3. With regards to the NSW Health capital Budget
 - a. What was the NSW Health capital budget for 2011/12?
 - b. What is the NSW Health capital budget for 2012/13?
 - c. What was the Commonwealth component of the 2011/12 Health capital budget?
 - d. What is the Commonwealth component of the 2012/13 Health capital budget?
4. Which of the Local Health Districts had expenditure greater than budget in 2011/12?
5. Which hospitals had expenditure greater than budget in 2011/12?
6. How much did NSW Health spend on consultants in 2011/12?
 - a. What is the breakdown of spending on consultants by NSW Health by contract in 2011/12?
7. How much has NSW Health budgeted for the spending on consultants in 2012/13?
8. What is the amount charged for an Ambulance as of July 1, 2012?
 - a. How much has this increased since July 1, 2011?
9. What was the Private Room rate as of July 1, 2012?
 - a. How much has this increased since July 1, 2011?
10. What was the budget for the Program of Appliances for Disabled People in 2011/12?
 - a. What is the budget for the Program of Appliances for Disabled People in 2012/13?
 - b. Under the Program of Appliances for Disabled People, what is the average waiting time for a:
 - i. Manual wheelchair?
 - ii. Motorised wheelchair?
 - iii. Electric scooter?
 - iv. Compression garment?
11. What is the average waiting time for a coroner's autopsy report in NSW as of August 20, 2012?
 - a. What is the longest outstanding report?
12. What advice were you given in regards Armidale Hospital's application to HHF Round 4 funding?
 - a. Was there a request from HNE LHD to NSW Health to apply to the HHF round four?
13. The recently released Infrastructure NSW report recommends the privatization of "support infrastructure". Does the Minister have any plans to privatize;

- a. Medical imaging and x-ray facilities in Public Hospitals?
 - b. Hospital Pharmacies?
 - c. Car parks at hospitals where these already exist in Public hands?
 - d. State owned and run nursing homes and aged care facilities?
14. What is the current status of the National Emergency Access Targets (NEAT) of a maximum 4 hour wait to treatment, which the previous government signed up to as part of the National Health Reforms?
- a. Could the Minister outline the details of the NSW targets and expected reward funds?
15. Given your answer to last year's budget estimates question on notice about planned enhancements to John Hunter Children's Hospital ICU that the Ministry of Health's Paediatric Intensive Care Plan would guide future investment (Q17, pg7);
- a. When was this plan completed?
 - i. If not completed, when will it be?
 - b. Will the details of this plan be made public?
 - i. If so, when?
 - c. What enhancements will John Hunter Children's Hospital have towards building a Paediatric Intensive Care Unit in 2012-13?
16. How much was spent on Medical staff locums in 2011-12?
- a. What is the expected reduction in these costs in 2012-13?
 - b. How many positions once filled by medical staff locums have been filled by permanent medical staff?
17. Now that the Governance Review of Health is completed (Q48-49, Estimates Questions on Notice 2011-12); how many full time equivalent media/public relations staff are employed by;
- a. Each local health district?
 - b. NSW Ministry of Health?
 - c. Health Minister's office?
18. What is the total cost of media/public relations and media staff for;
- a. Each local health district
 - b. NSW Ministry of Health
 - c. Health Minister's office
19. How much has your department spent on management or other consultants?
- a. What is the total cost on consultants for the Health Department since the 2011 election?
 - b. How much will be spent on consultants in the 2012-13?
20. What are the median wait times for cataract surgery –
- a. For category 1
 - b. Category 2
 - c. Category 3

21. Excluding the \$2 million in the 2011-12 budget how much of the \$30 million commitment for St George Hospital emergency department will be spent in 2012-13?
 - a. What permanent staffing enhancements will St George Hospital emergency department receive?
22. In accordance with the Governance Review 150 full time equivalent redundancies were expected in 2011-12 (Q111 Budget Estimates 2011-12, questions on notice) –
 - a. How many were voluntary?
 - b. How many were forced?
 - c. How many by natural attrition?
23. With regards to charging of staff for Hospital Car parking.
 - a. In which Hospitals where parking is currently free for staff, will this commence in 2013?
 - b. How is the rate calculated?
 - c. Is there are daily charge, or an annualised charge?
 - d. Can this charge be salary packaged?
 - e. What staff consultations were undertaken prior to the introduction of this decision?
 - f. How much does NSW Health plan to raise from staff car parking charges in 2011-12?
24. How many x-rays are waiting to be reviewed in
 - a. South Western Sydney Local Health District?
 - b. Central Coast Local Health District?
 - c. Western Sydney Local Health District?
25. What are the top ten hospitals in NSW with highest number of x-rays waiting to be reviewed?
26. In regards to your policy that nurses will be exempt from the "Labour Expense Cap", are nursing hours exempt from the cuts?
27. Will you guarantee that if a member of the nursing staff takes sick leave that they will be replaced with another nurse?
28. Of the \$2.2 billion 'efficiency savings' to be made across the state over 4 years, will any of those savings include employee related costs?
29. Of the \$2.2 billion 'efficiency savings', how much will be saved through employee related costs?
30. Of the \$2.2 billion 'efficiency savings', how much has each Local Health District been asked to save?
31. On page 6-4 in Budget Paper No. 3 of the 2012-13 NSW Budget Papers it says that \$5 million is going to be spent increasing the availability of palliative care services. How and where is the \$5 million going to be spent?

32. What are the recommendations that have been made by the Palliative Care Expert Advisory Group to the Minister for Health and Minister for Medical Research?
33. How many blackberries are assigned to your staff?
34. For each phone, how much was each bill in the 2011/12 financial year?
35. How many phones have been lost in your office?
36. What is the cost of replacing those phones?
37. How many iPads does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?
38. How many iPads have you purchased for your office and to whom have they been issued?
39. How many iPhones does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?
40. How many iPhones have you purchased for your office and to whom have they been issued?
41. How many iPhones have been lost in your office?
42. How many iPads have been lost in your office?
43. What is the cost of replacing those phones or iPads?
44. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies?
45. What is the forecast for 2012-13 for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost?
46. Have any of your overseas trips in the past year been paid for in part or in full by using public money?
47. If so, did any of your relatives or friends accompany you on these trips?
48. What is the annual remuneration package for your chief of staff?
49. What is the annual remuneration package for your head media advisor?
50. What is the annual remuneration package for each of your staff?
51. What is the estimated expenditure for your office budget in 2012-13?

52. Have any office renovations or fit outs been undertaken in your ministerial office since April, 2011?
53. If so, could you give details of contracted costs?
54. What is your Ministerial office budget for 2012/13?
55. How many political advisors are in your office?
56. How many administration staff?
57. How many Department Liaison Officers are assigned to your office?
58. How many staff in the Department are assigned to Ministerial support duties?
59. Are any contractors or consultants working in your ministerial office and if so, in what capacities?
60. How much did your Ministerial office spend on contractors or consultants?
61. How much did your Ministerial office spend on taxi fares, including Cabcharge in the 2011/12 financial year?
62. Are any of your portfolio agencies undergoing a restructure?
63. How many jobs are expected to be cut as a result of that restructure?
64. How many people are expected to have their wages cut as a result of that restructure?
65. How many voluntary redundancies were offered in your Departments since April 2011?
66. How many voluntary redundancies were accepted from employees in your Departments since April 2011?
67. How many voluntary redundancies are expected to be offered in 2012/13?
68. How much did your Department(s) spend on catering in 2011/12?
69. How much did your Department(s) spend on stationary in 2011/12?
70. What is your Department's catering budget?
71. What is your Department's stationary budget?
72. Since April 2011 have any of the agencies in your Department(s) changed their branding? If so, how much was spent on rebranding the agency?

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

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

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

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

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

78. 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?

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

80. What is the current level of Aboriginal employment within your Department(s)? How has that changed since 1 July 2011?

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

82. In relation to feasibility studies, audits, taskforces and review, is your department currently undertaking any feasibility studies, audits, taskforces or reviews? If so;

- 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?

83. Have any agencies within your Department(s) engaged consultants in the 2011/12 financial year? If yes, which companies were engaged for consultancy services in the 2011/12 financial year?
84. For what purpose has your Department engaged consultants
85. How much have your agencies spent on consultants in the 2011/12 financial year
86. What is your Department(s) budget for consultants in the 2012/13 financial year?
87. 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
88. How much did your agencies within your Departments spend on sponsoring organisations and events in the 2011/12 financial year
89. What is your Department(s) budget for sponsorship in the 2012/13 financial year?
90. 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?
91. 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?
92. 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?
93. How often do you meet with your Parliamentary Secretary?
- Are these meetings documented?
 - Who attends these meetings?
94. Who provides instructions and direction to your Parliamentary Secretary, you or your Chief of Staff?

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

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

96. Has the Minister, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministerial Staff, Director General or other senior Ministry of Health staff –

- a. Travelled overseas at taxpayers cost in 2011-12?
- b. What was the cost in each instance?
- c. What was the purpose of any visits?
- d. What are the transport and accommodation costs for the above for intrastate travel?

End of questions from Ms Westwood.

Questions from Mr Shoebridge

1. How many inmates test positive for Hepatitis C when they enter correctional facilities?
2. How many inmates test positive for Hepatitis C when they leave correctional facilities?
3. What steps, if any, are being taken to address Hepatitis C rates in correctional facilities?

End of questions from Mr Shoebridge.