



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B1. MALABAR POLICE STATION

When will the Malabar Police Station be made fully operational in accordance with the Liberal Party's election promise to the people of the electorate of Maroubra?

ANSWER :

Prior to the last election, the Liberals and Nationals stood by the community of Malabar, in condemnation of the local Member and then Minister for Police, for refusing to reopen their police station.

I can inform the Committee that we have taken action – Malabar Police Station was officially reopened on Monday 28 March 2011. I am advised that the station is now open Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm and members of the public can walk in and speak directly with a police officer. Outside those hours there is an eaglephone which links the caller to Maroubra police station.

The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B2. POLICE RESTRAINT TECHNIQUE

In view of the recommendations of the NSW Deputy Coroner that NSW Health should abandon a controversial policy allowing hospitals to use a potentially deadly restraint technique (the "prone restraint" position, where patients are held face-down on the ground, often with heavy pressure from body weight on top of them) what changes have NSW Police made to procedures to stop police from using this technique?

ANSWER :

The NSW Police Force has advised me :

The NSW Police Force does not teach the technique referred to as the 'prone restraint position' as a restraint technique.



The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B3. SECURITY GUARD TRAINING

Given the recent recommendations from the Victorian state coroner on the overhaul of security guard training which stated that security guards should be given probationary licences before becoming fully qualified and be drug and alcohol tested if involved in violent incidents with patrons that result in injury or death, what action are NSW Police taking to review the operations of the security industry in NSW?

ANSWER :

The Government is currently considering proposed changes to the regulatory model for the security industry in NSW. However, I am advised that NSW already has a number of measures in place to address the issue examined by the Victorian State Coroner, including:

- A number of licence conditions are placed on new security guards in NSW, which include undertaking training, instruction and assessment as required by the Commissioner.
- Not meeting the licence conditions can result in a revocation of the licence.
- The penalty for contravening licence conditions is 200 penalty units in the case of a corporation and 100 penalty units in the case of an individual.
- Master licensees are required to implement a "fitness for work" policy that covers the use of alcohol and other drugs by persons employed or provided by the licensee to carry on security activities.
- The maximum penalty for breaching the "fitness for work" policy is 20 penalty units in the case of a corporation or 10 penalty units in the case of an individual.
- Master licensees are required to keep records including an incident register. One of the conditions of a master licence holder who employs security guards (class 1 licensees) is that an incident register must be kept with particulars of incidents that occur in relation to the licensee making forcible physical contact with or physically restraining a member of the public or if the licensee ejects a member of the public from the premises or site concerned.

The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B4. PARSONS REVIEW

In relation to the Parsons Review:

- a. Minister did your action in recruiting former Assistant Commissioner Peter Parsons to undertake a review of police indicate a lack of confidence in your current Deputy Commissioners?
- b. Commissioner can you confirm that the Parsons Review report has now been provided to the Minister's office. Will the full review be publicly released?

ANSWER :

- a. No.
- b. This question was answered in the hearing (see p7-8 of transcript).

The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B5. AUTHORISED STRENGTH

Do you agree with the general proposition that service provision from Governments should match population growth?

ANSWER :

The Liberals and Nationals Government has committed to increasing the authorised strength of the NSW Police Force by 550 positions by June 2014 – almost 53 per cent more than what was committed to by the previous Government in March 2011. The first 150 of these 550 positions come on line in January 2012, after the attestation in December.

The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B6. POLICE HOUSING

Minister, will you commit to ensuring that all rents paid by officers in the form of salary deductions are directed into the housing budget for maintenance of police housing?

Will you agree to set up a Police Housing working group be established consisting of Senior NSW Police Officers, Police Properties Group and the Police Association of NSW?

The Police Association has demanded an immediate \$100m commitment to fix the problem. What steps have you taken to secure the funding?

ANSWER :

On 20 March 2011, I replied to the Police Association of NSW, regarding a number of issues. My reply, in part, reads:

NSW Labor has failed to maintain police housing, choosing instead to sell-off a significant number of properties over the past 16 years before belatedly making a commitment to funding. The NSW Liberals & Nationals have previously committed to an audit of all police housing, with a view to developing a funded program to provide housing at an agreed standard. In Government, given police housing maintenance contracts are currently in place, we will look at the THA model prior to the renewal of any contract to determine if it presents opportunities for efficiencies or whether a similar model can be adopted by Police. As part of this process we will consider if dedication of rents into the police housing budget is possible and the financial impact of such a change.

The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B7. POLICE EQUIPMENT

Minister what is your view of the Police Association's request that Government fund the purchase of additional portable radios so that they become individually issued to all Officers and that each officer be issued with a portable computer?

ANSWER :

The 2011-12 State Budget included \$9.9 million for maintenance and upgrade to the radio network and communication infrastructure, to ensure police officer and community safety.

The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B8. RIGHT TO SILENCE

Minister do you believe the 'right to silence' is exploited by professional criminals and should it be modified?

ANSWER :

The issue of the right to silence has been raised by the Police Association. There are arguments for and against retaining it in its current form. The Attorney General advises that the issue will be considered as part of his Department's review of the pre-trial disclosure reforms introduced by the *Criminal Procedure Amendment (Case Management) Act 2009*.

The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC
Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011
PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B9. POLICE PAY AND CONDITIONS

a. Do you believe the current superannuation for police is adequate? What is your response to the police unions claim for an increase in superannuation to 15% and how would that fit with the Government's wages policy?

b. Do you agree with Police Association Of NSW President Scott Weber in his comment that the State Government has betrayed the people of NSW by keeping its hardline IR policies a secret until after the election?

ANSWER :

This question should be directed to the Premier and Minister for Western Sydney, the Honourable Barry O'Farrell MP.



The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B10. PUBLIC SERVICE REDUNDANCIES

Will you give a commitment that support staff within the police force will be quarantined from any of the Government's 5000 redundancies announced in this year's budget?

ANSWER :

This question should be directed to the Premier and Minister for Western Sydney, the Honourable Barry O'Farrell MP.

The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B11. POLICE CAPITAL WORKS

Minister do you share the concern of the police association about the cut of \$10m in funding for capital works for police this year?

ANSWER :

Capital works budgets will fluctuate year by year and spending will depend on the status of each individual project. A project in planning stages may not require as much funds allocated as a project where construction is underway or nearing completion.

The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B12. SOBERING UP CENTRES

You promised to establish special dry-out cells for drunks, yet the budget contains zero detail. When are these to be operational?

ANSWER :

I am advised these are matters for the Premier and Minister for Western Sydney, the Hon. Barry O'Farrell MP.

The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B13. THREE STRIKES POLICY

Did police provide advice to you regarding the 'three strikes ' policy as it relates to licensed premises? What was that advice?

ANSWER :

I am advised :

The NSW Police Force did provide advice on the 'three strikes' policy. This advice is Cabinet in Confidence.

The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B14. POLICE DEATH AND DISABILITY SCHEME

Policing can be very dangerous work, do you agree? On that basis, will police continue to have access to the current death and disability scheme?

ANSWER :

On 3 November 2011, I announced proposed reforms to the Police Force's death and disability scheme, including that the Government would invest the equivalent of an extra 1% of police salaries into the new scheme and a further \$15 million over three years for improved injury management. This legislation is currently under consideration by the Legislative Council.

The now Shadow Treasurer and former Minister for Police would be able to provide to the Member further information on the financial difficulties of the scheme under the former Government that were not addressed during their time in Government.

The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council

Minister for Police and Emergency Services

Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B15. OCCUPY SYDNEY PROTEST

- a. Commissioner was there an additional cost to police for the resources used to police the "Occupy Sydney" camp in Martin Place, what was the total cost for this policing and for the operation to remove the protesters?
- b. Will you be seeking budget supplementation for the cost or will it be absorbed by the Police force?
- c. Minister do you agree with the Commissioners position (will you commit to additional supplementary budget funding)?

ANSWER :

The NSW Police Force has advised me :

- a. Overtime, allowances, penalties and subsistence costs estimated at \$54,372 were incurred during the period 15 October 2011 to 2 November 2011 in relation to the Occupy Sydney protest. Of this amount, an estimated \$24,250 was incurred in removing the protesters from Martin Place on 22-23 October 2011.
- b. Supplementary funding for this amount will not be sought.
- c. See b. above.

The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B16. FIRE MITIGATION GRANTS

Similarly Commissioner can you tell us how much of the \$13.7m for fire mitigation grants is new money over and above the amount you expected to be allocated - has that additional money come from the tanker program?

ANSWER :

I am advised:

Final budget allocations are determined by Treasury in consultation with agencies. Funding for fire mitigation grants and funding for the tanker program are separate.



The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B17. BUDGET BIDS

- a. Commissioner can you describe the process of budget bids for this year? What role did the Director General of the Department of Attorney General and Justice play in your budget process? Where you in all meetings involving Senior Officers with Treasury, the Department of Attorney General and Justice and the cabinet budget committee?
- b. Commissioner what is the difference between the current structure of the Police and Emergency Services and the structure that was the subject of much protest in 2009?
- c. Commissioner do you consider that in budget matters the RFS remains a standalone agency? ("The Liberal and Nationals give a 100 per cent commitment, that under a Liberal and Nationals Government, the RFS will remain a standalone agency" (media release))

ANSWER :

These questions were answered at the hearing (see p29 of transcript).



The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B18. EMERGENCY SERVICES FUNDING SYSTEM

Minister, have you or anyone in the Government initiated a review of the funding system for the Emergency Services? What is your personal view on the funding model?

ANSWER :

This question was answered in the hearing (see p31 of transcript).

The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B19. STATE EMERGENCY SERVICES

- a. Commissioner with the Government proposing increased urban development in Western Sydney particularly around the Hawkesbury River, are you seeing increased demand on the SES to provide advice on flood planning for new and existing communities? Has the Government provided additional funding for flood modelling and planning to ensure new communities are not put in danger from flooding?
- b. Commissioner has the SES been asked by the Government to contribute in any way to a NSW response to the interim report into the Queensland floods?
- i. If no – Minister will the NSW Government be responding to relevant issues raised by the Queensland Royal Commission?
 - ii. If yes – Minister who is coordinating the response and when do you expect to release it?
- c. The budget papers indicate an increase in the average age of the Fire & Rescue NSW fleet of appliances, how many new appliances will be being provided this year compared to last year? What is the reason for the increase in average age?

ANSWER :

- a. This question was answered in the hearing (see p32 of transcript).
- b. This question was answered in the hearing (see p32 of transcript).
- c. Funding has been provided to acquire 15 new appliances plus other cyclical fleet replacements in the 2011-12 budget. In the previous financial year, funding was provided for 27 new appliances plus other cyclical fleet replacements.

As at 30 June 2010, the average age of the fleet was 8.4 years. As at 30 June 2011, this had reduced to 7.8 years. The average age of the fleet is managed within specific performance parameters to ensure operational functionality and average whole of life costs are planned and managed for the long term. Fleet replacement is managed based on capital funding allocation and maintaining an average age of the front line operational fleet at between 7 – 10 years.



The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B20. FIRE & RESCUE NSW WORKFORCE

Commissioner are you concerned that a cap of 2.5% for fire-fighters wages could make it more difficult to retain experienced fire-fighters?

ANSWER :

No.



The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council

Minister for Police and Emergency Services

Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B21. DISASTER RECOVERY PLAN

- a. Minister prior to its abolition by your Government Emergency Management NSW employed a number of staff who specialised in Disaster Recovery planning, how many people are now working on Disaster Recovery planning for NSW in the new Department and how does that compare to last year?
- b. Minister why has your Government rejected the clear aim of creating a State Emergency Recovery Controller – a measure you voted for when it was introduced – by removing the specialised position and instead handing the title on to an already busy Director General of the Super agency Police and Emergency Services?
- c. Minister when your Government abolished Emergency Management NSW how many positions were lost and what roles did those positions have?
- d. Previously Emergency Management NSW was funded via an allocation through the NSW RFS, how are those functions now funded?
- e. Minister do you acknowledge that your Government's removal of the people with the direct expertise in National disaster recovery arrangements was at least in part a contributing factor in the Government's very slow process of applying for Commonwealth funding for flood affected areas on the mid north coast earlier this year?

ANSWER :

- a. As at 1 November 2010, three positions were Recovery focused within Emergency Management NSW. As at 1 November 2011, the Recovery area has six positions (Director, Response and Recovery; Senior Manager, Response and Recovery; Senior Project Officer, Project Officer and two Assistant Project Officers).
- b. This question was answered in the hearing (see p39 of transcript).
- c. Three; the Chief Executive, the Director of the Office of the Chief Executive and a Project Director.
- d. The consolidated revenue funding that was previously paid to Emergency Management NSW through the Rural Fire Service is now paid to the Ministry for Police and Emergency Services through the Department of Attorney General and Justice.
- e. No.



The Hon Michael Gallacher

Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B22. HUNTER VALLEY

- a. Minister have any workers been laid off or given voluntary redundancies from Power Stations in the Hunter Valley?
- b. Is the government planning on selling off any power stations in the Hunter Valley?
- c. Did you lobby your Ministers to keep the controlling powers for Hunter Region Venues Sporting Authority in the Hunter? What will happen to the funding in the Budget (page 3-24) that has been allocated for this body?
- d. Will you seek to secure funding for Arts & Culture across the entire Hunter/Upper Hunter to support galleries in Singleton, Maitland, Cessnock and Newcastle?
- e. Are you aware that the Hunter Vineyards are lobbying to have a Convention Centre built to host events for up to 1500 people and what can you do in future budgets to support the Convention Centre concept for Hunter Wine Country?
- f. What is the timeline for planning, construction and operation of the proposed Glendale Police Station?
- g. How many of the additional Police in 2011/12 will be allocated to Commands in the Hunter?
- h. Does centralised Policing work in areas such as the Hunter where geography can be significant between towns, incidents and problems?
- i. What funding has been allocated in this year's budget for the operation and maintenance of Branxton Police Station?
- j. What funding has been allocated in this year's budget for the operation & maintenance of Lochinvar Police Station?
- k. Are you aware of critically low Police staffing numbers for Upper Hunter Commands?
- l. Apart from existing road projects, what road works do you see as being critical to "unlocking" the potential of the Hunter?
- m. Of the money allocated in this year's Budget to the Hunter Expressway, how much of that is State funding and how much of that is Federal funding?
- n. Are you aware of the Upper Hunter road feature called "the hole in the wall"? What do you consider to be a solution for this?



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC
Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

- o. How will the Coalition Governments "Royalties for Regions" work and when will it be implemented?
- p. When will the Glendale Interchange be completed?
- q. When will the Newcastle Justice precinct be completed?
- r. What size workforce will be required in the Upper Hunter mining expansion in the coming 5 years?
- s. Are there any plans or funding to renovate or expand any of the Hunters Power Stations?

ANSWER :

- a. I am advised aside from normal retirements and resignations, Macquarie Generation has no redundancy program in place, voluntary or otherwise. Six voluntary redundancies have taken place at Delta Electricity since March 2011 as part of a limited program. No employees at Eraring Energy have been laid off or given voluntary redundancies.
- b. I am advised the Premier has indicated the Government's response to the recommendations of the Special Commission of Inquiry into the Electricity Transactions which will be released in December this year.
- c. I am advised the implementation of Venues NSW will increase the alignment and integration of the venues with the strategic priorities and objectives of the Government by providing an opportunity to boost regional tourism, events, access and participation, including the Hunter region. I am advised that funding for the allocated body is a matter for the Minister for Sport and Recreation, and should be directed to the Hon. Graham Annesley MP for a response.
- d. I am advised these are matters for the Minister for Tourism, Major Events, Hospitality and Racing, and Minister for the Arts, the Hon. George Souris MP.
- e. I am advised these are matters for the Minister for Tourism, Major Events, Hospitality and Racing, and Minister for the Arts, the Hon. George Souris MP.
- f. I am advised that the plan to build a new police station at Glendale was first announced in the State Budget in 2008, however since that time the NSW Police Force has experienced great difficulty in identifying a suitable site in Glendale to build the station, with the NSW Police Force preferred site being rejected by Lake Macquarie Council due to zoning issues, and the Council's preferred site rejected by the NSW Police Force due to site restrictions like flooding, contamination and bushfire zoning. In that intervening period, the previous Government did nothing to help resolve the stalemate. I have asked the NSW Police Force to come back to me with a detailed plan to progress capital works in Lake Macquarie as a matter of urgency.
- g. The NSW Police Force has advised me that on 1 January 2012, Commands within the Hunter region will be allocated an additional three criminal investigator positions.



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC
Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

- h. These matters are under consideration as part of the Government's response to the audit of police numbers and resources.
- i-j. I am advised that budgets are not allocated to individual stations.
- k. Police numbers are publicly available on the NSW Police Force website, www.police.nsw.gov.au.
- l. I am advised the Hunter Expressway is the single most important road project to facilitate the economic development of the Hunter Region. The Expressway is currently under construction and is on schedule for completion by the end of 2013. The State Government is also funding the Shortland to Sandgate section of the Newcastle Inner City Bypass and upgrading of Main Road 82 between the F3 Freeway and inner Newcastle. Both of these projects are planned for completion by the end of 2013 and are complement projects to the Hunter Expressway. The State Government has also set aside \$350 million for the Hunter Infrastructure and Investment Fund in the current term of government. The fund will target infrastructure investments in the Hunter based on local priorities as determined by an independent board.
- m. I am advised the Hunter Expressway is estimated to cost \$1.7 billion. The federal government has committed \$1.5 billion and the State Government will be funding the balance, currently estimated to be \$200 million.

In 2011-12, \$570 million has been allocated to the Hunter Expressway project. The anticipated State expenditure towards the project in 2011-12 is \$86 million.
- n. I am advised yes, it is a narrow road underpass of the Great Northern Railway Line on the New England Highway at Singleton. The New England Highway is part of the National Land Transport Network funded by the federal government. Widening of the underpass was identified in the joint federal and State funded Lower Hunter Transport Needs Study. Widening of the underpass would appropriately be funded by the federal government.
- o. I am advised these are matters for the Premier and Minister for Western Sydney, the Hon. Barry O'Farrell MP.
- p. I am advised the NSW Government has committed \$1 million in the 2011-2012 State Budget as part of the NSW Government's \$15 million commitment towards the Pennant Street Bridge, Glendale. At present, no funding has been allocated by the Federal Government. However, Lake Macquarie City Council may submit an application for the second round of funding through the Federal Government's Regional Development Fund. Lake Macquarie City Council has advised RMS they have completed their concept design.

Council is proposing to engage a consultant to undertake detailed design in 2012.

Commencement and completion dates are dependent on availability of funds.
- q. I am advised these are matters for the Attorney General and Minister for Justice, the Hon. Greg Smith MP.
- r. I am advised mining activity in the Upper Hunter has grown significantly in recent years. The Upper Hunter Regional Economy & Industry Report prepared by Buchan Consulting and supported by NSW Trade & Investment estimates that coal mining employs around 11,000 direct jobs and 5,000 support jobs in the Upper Hunter area. No data is available on additional demand for employment in the sector for the coming 5 years.



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC
Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

However the Deloitte Access Economics Investment Monitor September 2011 shows that in the Hunter region, there are mining projects to the value of \$1.9 billion currently under construction, and projects to the value of \$1.25 billion currently under consideration. The Buchan Consulting Report also notes that mobile workers residing outside the Upper Hunter area are covering most of the rapid growth in employment in the mining sector. Mining will also impact employment in transport and other service sectors.

- s. I am advised funds are allocated annually to operate and maintain the Macquarie Generation power stations. No planning or funding is currently in place to increase plant generating capacity. Delta Electricity received approval for the rehabilitation of Munmorah Power Station in October 2010 to replace components with equipment that will improve reliability, efficiency and environmental performance of two generating units and return output to the original 350 MW capability for each unit. This decision has been appealed and is currently before the Land and Environment Court. Delta has no plans to action this development consent. Eraring Power Station is undergoing an upgrade at a cost of over \$600 million. This upgrade will generate an extra 240MW of electricity and includes the construction of a cooling water reservoir. More than 600 equivalent full time jobs have been created over a two year period in the Central Coast and Newcastle area during the construction phase of this upgrade.

The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B23. MINISTERIAL OFFICE PHONES

- a. How many blackberries does DPC assign to your Ministerial staff and to whom have they been issued?
- b. How many iPads does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?
- c. How many iPads have you purchased for your office and to whom have they been issued?
- d. How many iPhones does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?
- e. How many iPhones have you purchased for your office and to whom have they been issued?
- f. For each phone or device, how much was each bill from April to October?
- g. How many have phones or devices have been lost in your office?
- h. What is the cost of replacing those phones or devices?

ANSWER :

I am advised:

- a. to e. For all Ministerial Offices, there is a total of:
 - i. Blackberries – 151
 - ii. iPads – 19
 - iii iPhones - 3

f. Ministerial Offices in the NSW Government from April 2011 to October 2011 spent a total of \$88,902. This compares with \$238,567 spent under the previous NSW Government from October 2010 to March 2011.

g. to h. For all Ministerial Offices in the NSW Government, there has been one stolen phone, which cost \$577 (ex GST) to replace.

The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B24. MEDIA / PUBLIC RELATIONS

- a. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies?
 - b. What is the forecast for 2011-12 for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost?
 - c. How many media or public relations advisers are employed in your ministerial office?
-

ANSWER :

a. The NSW Police Force has advised me that there are currently 30 positions within the Public Affairs Branch related to the management of media or public affairs functions, or for media liaison roles. One position in the Public Affairs Branch is designated as a Media Adviser position. Two positions are designated as Public Relations Officers (not Advisers), as these fulfil a marketing function. The NSW Crime Commission has advised me it has no media / public relations positions.

The NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) has advised me that its media unit consists of five staff. Fire & Rescue NSW (FRNSW) advises it currently has four media related positions. The NSW State Emergency Service (SES) advises it has two media / public affairs positions in the Corporate Communications Section, overseen by the Manager Corporate Communications.

b. The NSW Police Force has advised me there is no forecast change to the above number of positions. The RFS, FRNSW and SES all advise there is no forecast change to their media related staffing levels.

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

The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B25. MINISTER'S OVERSEAS TRIPS

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

ANSWER :

I am advised:

a to b. Information regarding Ministerial travel is available on the relevant Minister's appropriate agency website, in accordance with Ministerial Memorandum M2009-10 'Release of Overseas Travel Information'.

The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council

Minister for Police and Emergency Services

Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B26. MINISTERIAL OFFICE COSTS

- a. What is the annual remuneration package for your chief of staff?
- b. What is the annual remuneration package for your head media advisor?
- c. What is the annual remuneration package for each of your staff?
- d. What is the estimated expenditure for your office budget in 2011-12?
- e. Have any office renovations or fit outs been undertaken in your ministerial office since April?
- f. If so, could you give details of contracted costs?
- g. What is your office budget?
- h. How many political advisors are in your office?
- i. How many administration staff?
- j. How many Department Liaison officers are assigned to your office?
- k. How many staff in the Department are assigned to Ministerial support duties?

ANSWER :

I am advised:

a to c. and h to i. Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet website.

d and g. Based on actual expenditure patterns, total forecast expenditures for all Ministerial offices are set out to be \$36,900,000 in 2011/12. This compares to \$47,046,453 spent by the former NSW Government from April 2010 to March 2011.

e and f. **Office Fitout / Renovations**

Minister	Total Cost (\$) ex GST
Minister Gallacher	1,140



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC
Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

Note: Information is sourced from contractor invoices. It does not include electronic items purchased / replaced, such as televisions, digital radios, small appliances, whitegoods and cleaning costs.

j. Refer to the answer to the Question on Notice from the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Premier, and Minister for Western Sydney – LC 0681—Premier—DEPARTMENTAL LIAISON OFFICERS, that details this information as at 7 August 2011.

k. Each Minister is provided with a Ministerial driver, with the Premier provided with three Ministerial drivers.

The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council

Minister for Police and Emergency Services

Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B27. MINISTERIAL OFFICE TAXI FARES

In terms of your ministerial office, how much did your office spend on taxi fares, including Cabcharge since April?

ANSWER :

I am advised:

For all Ministerial offices, the cost of Cabcharge was \$38,806.38 over 6 months from April 2011 to September 2011.

This is compared with the cost of \$78,023.11 in the 6 months of the previous NSW Government from October 2010 to March 2011.

The Hon Michael Gallacher

Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B28. PORTFOLIO AGENCY RESTRUCTURE

- a. Are any of your portfolio agencies undergoing a restructure?
 - b. How many jobs are expected to be cut as a result of that restructure?
 - c. How many people are expected to have their wages cut as a result of that restructure?
 - d. How many voluntary redundancies are expected to be offered as a result of that restructure?
-

ANSWER :

I am advised:

- a. No.
- b. N/A.
- c. See b.
- d. See b.

The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B29. PORTFOLIO AGENCY COSTS

- a. What is your agency's catering budget?
 - b. Since April, has the agency changed its branding?
 - c. How much was spent on rebranding the agency?
 - d. How much has been spent on stationery?
-

ANSWER :

a. Across the six Police and Emergency Services portfolio agencies, I am advised that in 2010-11, "catering" budgets totalled \$2.74 million. I am further advised that the bulk of this includes the cost of providing daily meals to students at the NSW Police Academy.

b to d. I am advised that no agencies have changed their branding since April.

The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B30. MINISTERIAL CORRESPONDENCE

- a. How long is the average turnaround for responding to correspondence in your agency?
 - b. How many pieces of correspondence have been outstanding for more than 60 days?
-

ANSWER :

I am advised:

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

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

The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B31. PAYING BILLS ON TIME

- a. Since April, on how many occasions has the agency not paid a supplier or contractor for more than 30 days?
 - b. How many bills have been outstanding for longer than that period?
-

ANSWER :

a and b. I am advised that these details can be found in each agency's Annual Report.

The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B32. GRANTS TO NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS

a. Does your department provide recurrent grant funds to non-government organisations?

If yes,

- i. What are the names of all organisations in receipt of funding?
- ii. What is the total amount of funding received by each organisation, including goods and services tax?
- iii. On what date was the funding advanced?
- iv. What was the purpose for each grant or funding advance?
- v. Was any funding withheld or returned?
- vi. If so, what were the reasons for withholding or requiring the funding to be returned?

b. What is the indexation rate applied to non recurrent grant funds in 2011/2012?

ANSWER :

a and b. Refer to the answer to the Question on Notice from the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Premier, and Minister for Western Sydney – LC 0447—Premier—GRANTS TO NON GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT BODIES.

The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B33. FEASIBILITY STUDIES, AUDITS, TASKFORCES AND REVIEWS

- a. Is your department currently undertaking any feasibility studies, audits, taskforces or reviews,
- b. If so;
 - i. What are the terms of reference or details of each study, audit, taskforce or review?
 - ii. Who is conducting the study, audit, taskforce or review?
 - iii. Was each study, audit, taskforce or review was publically advertised seeking expression of interest or competitive tenders?
 - iv. Is there a contract in place detailing terms of engagement for the study, audit, taskforce or review?
 - v. What is the timeline of each study, audit, taskforce or review?
 - vi. What are the details of any costs involved in each study, audit, taskforce or review?

ANSWER :

a and b. Refer to the answer to the Question on Notice from the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Premier, and Minister for Western Sydney – LC 0327—Premier—FEASIBILITY STUDIES, AUDITS, TASKFORCES AND REVIEWS.

The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council

Minister for Police and Emergency Services

Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B34 - 41. NSW POLICE FORCE PROPERTY PORTFOLIO STRATEGIC PLAN

34. When did you become aware of the United Group Services report NSW Police Force Property Portfolio Strategic Plan?

35. Why was this document not disseminated to the Police Force for more than 12 months after it was received?

36. Are you satisfied that you have responded to the Police Association's request on behalf of police stating: "All police want is a full investigation into how this occurred, why it occurred and a reassurance that something like this will never happen again"?

37. The PANSW has asked for a minimum of \$100 million to address this problem. Have these funds been committed already?

38. Of the 460 police properties effected how many have had work done so far to remove hazardous materials?

39. What is the timeframe for completion of the remaining properties?

40. How many families are living in housing which contains asbestos or lead as identified in this report?

41. How many police are working in stations which contain asbestos or lead as identified in this report?

ANSWER :

The NSW Police Force has advised me :

34-41. These matters are being reviewed by the NSW Ombudsman.

The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B42 - 43. POLICE WATER CANNON

42. What are the ongoing maintenance costs for the police water cannon?

43. What is the operating cost per hour for the police water cannon?

ANSWER :

The NSW Police Force has advised me :

42. The cost of basic mechanical servicing and servicing of water pumps and water nozzle is approximately \$3,000 per annum. Depreciation cost of the water cannon is set at 10% per annum.

43. The hourly operating costs of the water cannon are approximately \$102.92 per hour including fuel, operators and maintenance.



The Hon Michael Gallacher

Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B44 - 47. WATER POLICE PATROL VEHICLE NEMESIS

44. How much did the Water Police's patrol vehicle Nemesis Cost the Government (including both purchase and fit out)?

45. What are the ongoing maintenance costs for Nemesis?

46. What is the operating cost per hour for Nemesis?

47. How many occasions has the Nemesis been engaged on active duty in each of 2010 and 2011?

ANSWER :

The NSW Police Force has advised me :

44. \$10,834,750 (incl. GST).

45. \$236,096.76 per annum.

46. In 2009-10 the average hourly vessel cost was \$229. In 2010-11, this cost was \$230. The hourly cost does not include staffing or yearly maintenance costs.

47. In 2009-10 there were 26 deployments. In 2010-11 there were 22 deployments.

The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B48 - 49. POLICE MEDIA SPENDING

48. In response to my questions on notice of 16 September regarding Police Media Spending I was advised that data relating to this spending was "not readily available from police information systems and its extraction would represent an unreasonable diversion of resources from frontline policing". What data on media spending is collected?

49. My original questions included a question asking: "How much was spent on media and communication by the NSW Police Force" in the previous 3 financial years. Can you confirm that this information is not available?

ANSWER :

48-49. The NSW Police Force has advised me that its information systems are not configured in such a way as to enable the identification and extraction of the type of information sought by the Member.

The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council

Minister for Police and Emergency Services

Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B50 - 54. POLICE LEGAL COSTS

50. How much did the NSW Police Force spend as a result of complaints, court orders, compensation payouts or settlements relating to police making unlawful arrests [and/or unlawful detaining people] in:

- a. 2009-2010?
- b. 2010-2011?

51. Of this amount in (17) how much was:

- a. Legal Costs
- b. Payments to victims
- c. Cost of investigating complaints

52. How many of these payments related to unlawful arrests for breaches of bail?

53. How much of these payments were to young people under the age of 18?

54. How much did the NSW Police Force spend as a result of court orders or on settlements relating to police officers using unreasonable force and causing injury for 2009-2010?

- a. How many of these case involved minors?

ANSWER :

The NSW Police Force has advised me :

50. It should be noted that claims often involve multiple causes of action arising from a single incident. The majority of these claims are resolved prior to hearing and such resolutions do not generally divide a total settlement figure into amounts for a specific cause, or divide costs from damages.

a. In 2009-10 there were six matters concerning solely compensation for false imprisonment. The total spend inclusive of both parties' costs on these matters was \$410,171.92. A further six matters involved compensation for assault and false imprisonment. The total spend inclusive of both parties' costs on these matters was \$1,279,624.78. There were also two matters involving compensation for false imprisonment and malicious prosecution. The total spend inclusive of both parties' costs on these matters was \$364,783.40. A further eight matters involved compensation for assault, false imprisonment and malicious prosecution. The total spend inclusive of both parties' costs on these matters was \$2,032,185.69.



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council

Minister for Police and Emergency Services

Minister for the Hunter

b. In 2010-11 there were ten matters concerning solely compensation for false imprisonment. The total spend inclusive of both parties' costs on these matters was \$879,102.43. A further 13 matters involved compensation for assault and false imprisonment. The total spend inclusive of both parties' costs on these matters was \$1,499,063.69. There were also seven matters involving compensation for false imprisonment and malicious prosecution. The total spend inclusive of both parties' costs on these matters was \$1,376,009.39. A further four matters involved compensation for assault, false imprisonment and malicious prosecution. The total spend inclusive of both parties' costs on these matters was \$1,597,490.93.

51. As mentioned above, it is problematic to attempt to retrospectively separate costs and damages components in these types of settlements. Accurate figures cannot therefore be provided.

52. Of the 22 payments made in 2009-10, five related to unlawful arrests for breaches of bail. Of the 34 payments made in 2010-11, three related to unlawful arrests for breaches of bail.

53. Of the 22 payments made in 2009-10, five were made to persons who were under the age of 18 at the time of the incident in question. Of the 34 payments made in 2010-11, two were made to persons who were under the age of 18 at the time of the incident in question.

54. There were two claims in this period relating solely to a claim of assault. The total spend inclusive of both parties' costs on these matters was \$250,624.11. Six additional matters involved compensation for assault and false imprisonment. The total spend inclusive of both parties' costs on these matters was \$1,279,624.78. Finally, four matters involved compensation for assault, false imprisonment and malicious prosecution. The total spend inclusive of both parties' costs on these matters was \$1,597,490.93.

a. Three of these cases involved persons who were under the age of 18 at the time of the incident in question.

The Hon Michael Gallacher

Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B55 - 58. BAIL ASSISTANCE LINE

55. What numbers of children and young people are projected to be referred to the Bail Assistance Line annually?

56. How many young people were referred to the service by Police:

a. In 2009-2010

b. From 2010-2011

57. What, if any, barriers, exist to the use of the bail assistance line service by NSW Police?

58. The original recommendation envisaged state wide access to the bail assistance line service. Is the Government still committed to this and what timeframes are there for the expansion of this program state-wide?

ANSWER :

55-58. These are matters for the Attorney General.

The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B59. TASERS

59. Do the SOPs for TASER use specify that Tasers should not be aimed at the chest?
a. If not, why not?

ANSWER :

This question was answered in the hearing (see p25 of the transcript).

The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B60 - 62. POLICE POWERS

60. Were requests received in the last 12 months to increase police powers from the PANSW or the Commissioner?

61. What consultation was undertaken before moving for the expansion of these powers in NSW Parliament?

62. What consultation was undertaken with police regarding the removal of certain discretions when dealing with minor graffiti offences as proposed in the Graffiti Amendment Bill?

ANSWER :

I am advised :

60-61. As part of its pre-Election submission the NSW Police Association made proposals seeking increases to police powers relating to authorisation of crime and search warrants. In response to these proposals, among others, the Government established a high level Working Group including current and former senior operational Police Officers to review current police practices with the objective of reducing paperwork across the Police Force. The report of this Working Group is currently being finalised and will be submitted to me by the end of the year.

62. The NSW Police Force was consulted regarding the provisions in the draft Graffiti Amendment Bill prior to its submission to Parliament.

The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter

BUDGET ESTIMATES : 27 OCTOBER 2011 PART B - QUESTIONS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING HEARING

B63 - 71. POLICE RESPONSE TO PROTESTS

63. What are the current policies regarding police officers wearing identification badges, particularly at protests and rallies?

64. How many complaints were received in the last 12 months regarding police officers not wearing identification when at protests or rallies?

65. How was the number of police who attended a rally in Martin Place on October 22 this year determined?

66. What were the grounds for authorising the large numbers of riot and other special forces police, and police rescue vans, and ambulances to attend this rally?

67. Why did the Police authorise a pre-dawn operation in particular to remove people camping in Martin Place?

68. Why did the Police authorise the riot police and bomb disposal unit to carry out this operation?

69. What was the cost of this pre-dawn operation?

70. What consideration was there of alternative removal scenarios?

71. What investigations are current or planned to assess reports of police violence in this removal?

ANSWER :

The NSW Police Force has advised me :

63. Current NSW Police Force policy requires officers to wear nameplates. To reduce the risk of injury to police and the public which can arise from pin-type badges, the NSW Police Force issues badges with alternative methods of attachment, including Velcro and magnetic backs.

64. A search of complaints recorded for the period from 1 October 2010 to 31 October 2011 did not reveal any complaints regarding police not wearing their identification at protests or rallies being received during that timeframe.



The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC

**Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Hunter**

65. The number of police deployed to Martin Place on 22 October 2011 in response to the Occupy Sydney protest was based on an assessment of intelligence received and the level of perceived risk.

66. The deployment of specialist resources was deemed appropriate on the basis of previous experience of the NSW Police Force in dealing with protests and public order incidents.

67. The decision to conduct a pre-dawn removal of protestors was based on considerations of safety and the minimisation of disruption to the public.

68. See responses to questions 65 and 66 above.

69. See response to question 15a above.

70. From the beginning of the Martin Place occupation on 15 October 2011, police advised protestors that they were in contravention of a council ordinance prohibiting camping or staying overnight in the location. Throughout the occupation, police made numerous attempts to conduct meetings with protest organisers in an attempt to overcome the resistance of protestors to be removed, including requesting permission from the office of Ms Clover Moore MP to attend a meeting with protestors being held in her office on 19 October 2011. At this meeting police requested protestors to submit a Schedule 1 Notice of Intention to hold a public assembly. This was not received.

71. The NSW Police Force has not received any complaints regarding the unreasonable use of force in association with the removal of protestors from Martin Place on 23 October 2011. All complaints received by NSW Police Force are dealt with under complaint management processes in accordance with Part 8A of the *Police Act 1990*.

The Hon Michael Gallacher
Minister for Police and Emergency Services