



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEES

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2015-2016 Supplementary Questions

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3

Early Childhood Education, Aboriginal Affairs

Monday 31 August 2015

Answers due by: Thursday 24 September 2015

Budget Estimates Secretariat

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Portfolio: Early Childhood Education

Questions from the Hon Shaoquett Moselmane MLC [on behalf of the NSW Labor Opposition]

Topic: Preschool Funding Model

1. What support has been offered to pre-school centres receiving transitional funding to ensure they remain viable once transitional funding arrangements expire?
2. How many pre-school centres, based on this year's funding arrangement, are likely to be worse off when transitional funding arrangement for preschools cease?
3. Of the National Partnership funding for 2015/16:
 - (a) What funds have already been received from the Federal Government?
 - (b) What funds from the Federal Government are currently outstanding?
 - (c) What timeframe has been arranged for the payment of the remaining Federal Government funds?
4. What is the average waiting time for a preschool placement in NSW?
5. Regarding the effectiveness of funding for Early Childhood Education:
 - (a) How does the Department measure the effectiveness of funds invested into Early Childhood Education?
 - (b) Over what time period is the effectiveness of this funding measured?
6. Why is it that, according to the Productivity Commission report *Inquiry into Childcare and Early Childhood Learning*, of estimated recurrent preschool funding in NSW in 2012-13
 - (a) the proportion of recurrent preschool funding that came from parent fees was higher in NSW than in any other state and territory; and
 - (b) the proportion that came from State Government funds was lower in NSW than any other State other than Queensland.
7. What is the last 5 year's budgeted and actual annual expenditure for early education, and what is the proportion of NSW and Commonwealth funding in each allocation? Will the full budgeted amount for this financial year will be spent?
8. Following media reports from Albury Preschool, can the Minister confirm if the Preschool Funding Formula creates a financial disincentive for centres enrolling 3 year olds in circumstance where a 4 year old only uses part of their 15 hours a week?
9. Can the Minister confirm that preschool participation is at 97% for children in their year before school?
 - (a) If so, why are preschools being penalised for enrolling younger children in vacant positions? What is the reasoning behind providing preschools with financial penalties for enrolling 3 year olds rather than leaving places vacant?

10. Could the Minister provide a list of all other services known to her or her Department, including the KU Children's Services mobile preschool services in Mount Ku-ring-gai, Brooklyn and Maitland, which are closing due to viability problems?
11. Could the Minister reveal how much funding has been allocated as Viability Funding (also known as 'thin market' funding) for services which received transitional funding which is due to be reduced by 50% in 2016, that will otherwise be unviable after January?
 - a. When will announcements be made as to:
 - i. how much funding is in this funding allocation?
 - ii. Which services will be eligible for funding under this allocation?
 - iii. The total amount of viability funding each of these services will receive?
 - b. Will this funding be in service's bank accounts before their funding is reduced under the Preschool Funding Model in January?
12. What discussions or correspondence has the Minister had with the Minister for Education to ensure that the fees charged by Out of School Hours Care services located on the grounds of public schools are not increased as a result of exorbitant rent increases charged by the schools?
13. What is the average cost to establish an Outside of School Hours Care (OSHC) centre at a NSW public school?

Ministerial Office Administration

14. How many staff are in your ministerial office?
 - (a) What was the average salary for staff members in your office during 2014-15?
 - (b) What is the average salary for a ministerial staffer in your office based on current appointments?
15. How many blackberries/smart phones are assigned to your staff?
 - (a) For each phone, how much was each bill in the past financial year?
 - (b) How many phones have been lost or replaced due to damage in your office?
 - i. What is the cost of replacing those phones?
16. How many iPads or tablets does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?
 - (a) What is the cost of providing iPads or tablets to your Ministerial Office?
 - (b) How many iPads or tablets have been replaced due to lost or damage?
 - i. What was the cost of replacing these devices?
17. Did any your or your ministerial staff incur data charges on a mobile phone or tablet device greater than \$1000 for a single billing period?
 - (a) If so, how many times did this occur?
 - i. What was the individual cost of each data charge over \$1000 for a single billing period?

18. Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in your office?
 - (a) What is the cost of this?
19. Have any floral displays or indoor plants been hired or leased for display in your ministerial office?
 - (a) If so, what was the cost of these items?
20. What is the total cost of all subscriptions by you and your staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals?
 - (a) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?
 - i. Who is the subscriber for each of these?
21. What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by you and your office?
 - (a) What were the gifts purchased?
 - i. Who were they gifted to?
22. Do you purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for your office?
 - (a) What is the cost of this?
23. Can you advise the names of all contractors/consultants employed and/or paid for by your office, under any agreement, contract or fee-for -service arrangement in 2014-15?
 - (a) Do they have ABN's?
 - i. If so, please provide details?
 - (b) Details of paid or unpaid invoices and amounts?
 - (c) Details of services and fees provided by each contractor and or consultant?
24. Details of the agreement between your office and any contractors/consultants engaged by your office?

Ministerial And Office Travel

25. Have any of your overseas trips in the past year been paid for in part or in full by using public money?
 - (a) If so, did any of your relatives or friends accompany you on these trips?
26. Have you undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded?
 - (a) What were the nature of these trips?
 - (b) Who paid for these trips?
27. What was the total bill for your office in 2014-15 for:
 - (a) Taxi hire
 - (b) Limousine hire
 - (c) Private hire care
 - (d) Hire car rental

28. Have you ever used Uber?
 - (a) If yes, were any of these occasions in an UberX vehicle?
29. Have you or anyone in your office used Uber services travelling to or from work-related events, meetings or functions?
 - (a) Were any of those services in an UberX vehicle?
30. Have you or anyone in your office sought reimbursement for using Uber services to travel to or from work-related events, meetings or functions?
 - (a) What is the value of those reimbursements?
31. Have you used Airbnb?
32. Have you or anyone in your office used Airbnb as an accommodation solution whilst travelling on official business?
33. Have any planes or helicopters been chartered by you or your office and paid for with public money?
 - (a) If yes, will you please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?
34. What non-standard features are fitted to your ministerial vehicle?
 - (a) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?

Labour Hire Firms

35. Do any Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities utilise the services of Labour Hire Firms? If yes, please advise in table form:
 - (a) The names of the firms utilised
 - (b) The total amount paid to each firm engaged
 - (c) The average tenure period for an employee provided by a labour hire company
 - (d) The longest tenure for an employee provided by a labour hire company
 - (e) The duties conducted by employees engaged through a labour hire company
 - (f) The office locations of employees engaged through a labour hire company
 - (g) The highest hourly or daily rate paid to an employee provided by a labour hire company

Media And Public Relations

36. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies?
37. What is the forecast for the current financial year for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost?
38. What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities?

39. Have you had media training or speech training?
- (a) If yes, who paid for it?
 - (b) If paid by taxpayers, what was the amount?

Consultants, Lobbyists And Former Parliamentarians

40. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Chris Hartcher in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- (a) Who attended those meetings?
 - (b) What was the nature of those meetings?
 - (c) What was discussed?
 - (d) Were any records of those meetings kept?
41. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Andrew Stoner in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- (a) Who attended those meetings?
 - (b) What was the nature of those meetings?
 - (c) What was discussed?
 - (d) Were any records of those meetings kept?
42. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Tim Owen in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- (a) Who attended those meetings?
 - (b) What was the nature of those meetings?
 - (c) What was discussed?
 - (d) Were any records of those meetings kept?
43. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Craig Baumann in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- (a) Who attended those meetings?
 - (b) What was the nature of those meetings?
 - (c) What was discussed?
 - (d) Were any records of those meetings kept?
44. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Andrew Cornwell in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- (a) Who attended those meetings?
 - (b) What was the nature of those meetings?
 - (c) What was discussed?
 - (d) Were any records of those meetings kept?
45. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Chris Spence in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- (a) Who attended those meetings?
 - (b) What was the nature of those meetings?

- (c) What was discussed?
 - (d) Were any records of those meetings kept?
46. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Darren Webber in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- (a) Who attended those meetings?
 - (b) What was the nature of those meetings?
 - (c) What was discussed?
 - (d) Were any records of those meetings kept?
47. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Garry Edwards in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- (a) Who attended those meetings?
 - (b) What was the nature of those meetings?
 - (c) What was discussed?
 - (d) Were any records of those meetings kept?
48. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Bart Bassett in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- (a) Who attended those meetings?
 - (b) What was the nature of those meetings?
 - (c) What was discussed?
 - (d) Were any records of those meetings kept?
49. Has the consultancy company Premier State done any consultancy work for the Department? If so what projects was Premier State consulted on?
- (a) What was the cost of the consultancy work for each project?
 - (b) Was there a tender process for these projects?
50. Does Premier State currently have any contract work with the Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibility?
- (a) If yes, what is their role in the project?

Consulting

51. How much have the Department/agencies under your portfolio responsibility spent in legal costs?
- (a) For what specific purposes or matters was legal advice sought?
52. Have Department/agencies under your portfolio engaged any consultants to provide the following services or advice:
- (a) Social media
 - i. And the cost of these services
 - (b) Photography
 - i. And the cost of these services

- (c) Acting training
 - i. And the cost of these services
- (d) Ergonomics
 - i. And the cost of these services

Department/Agency Administration

53. How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-15?
 - (a) Of these redundancies, how many were:
 - i. Voluntary
 - ii. Forced
 - (b) What was the total cost of all redundancies?
54. Have any staff who received a redundancy in the last two years undertaken any paid work or provided any paid services for the agency with which they were formerly employed?
 - (a) What was the nature of these works/services?
 - (b) What was the total cost of these works or services?
55. Are any staff formerly employed by your ministerial office now employed by Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibility?
56. How many staff were dismissed from Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibilities in 2014-15?
 - (a) What were the reason/s for each dismissal?
57. How much was spent on corporate hospitality by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-2015?
58. How much was spent on indoor plant hire and maintenance by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-2015 year?
59. How much did Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities spend on restaurant bills during the year 2014/2015?
 - (a) How much of these bills were alcohol?
60. Were instances of internal fraud detected by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-2015?
 - (a) What was the sum total of any such fraud and what was the result of any investigations?
61. How large is the Department's vehicle fleet?
 - (a) What is the composition of this fleet in terms of engine size?
 - (b) How many of the fleet were involved in an accident during the year 2014-2015?
 - (c) What was the total cost of insurance claims and repairs?

62. How much did departments/agencies spend on newspaper and journal subscriptions during 2014-2015?
63. How many SES employees are employed within departments/agencies under your ministerial portfolio?
 - (a) What is their remuneration band?
 - (b) For each SES employee, how many have:
 - i. 0 staff reporting to them;
 - ii. less than 2 staff reporting to them; and
 - iii. less than 5 staff?
64. How many sick days, leave days or days attributable to workers compensation were lost for each department/agency within your portfolio responsibility during 2014-15 for:
 - (a) workplace bullying;
 - (b) stress leave; and
 - (c) sick leave?
65. Do any of the departments/agencies under your portfolio area employ actors for staff training?
 - (a) If so, what is:
 - i. the size of the contract for the provision of actors for staff training in your departments?
 - ii. the term of the contracts for the provision of actors for staff training in your departments?
 - iii. the tender numbers for each of the contracts?

Department/Agency Travel

66. What was the total expenditure in 2014-15 by Departments/agencies within your portfolio on:
 - (a) Taxi hire
 - (b) Limousine/private car hire
 - (c) Hire car rental
67. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have a policy on utilising Uber services for travel on official business?
68. Have staff in your Department/agencies either paid for with departmental funds or been recompensed for official travel using Uber services?
 - (a) Were any of these payments for UberX services?
69. Have staff in your Department/agencies either paid for with departmental funds or been recompensed for official travel using Airbnb services?
70. Did any officers within departments/agencies under your ministerial portfolio use charter aircraft during the year 2014-2015?
 - (a) If so what was the purpose and cost?

Departmental/Agency IT

71. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an iTunes account?
 - (a) What was the total expenditure in 2014-15 on iTunes?
 - i. What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through iTunes?
72. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an Android account?
 - (a) What was the total expenditure in 2014-15 on Android?
 - i. What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through Android?
73. How many Department/agency mobile phones, tablets and laptops were replaced due to loss or damage during 2014-2015?
 - (a) What was the total cost of replacing these items?
74. Did any staff within departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities incur data charges on a mobile phone or tablet device greater than \$1000 for a single billing period?
 - (a) If so, how many times did this occur?
 - i. What was the individual cost of each data charge over \$1000 for a single billing period?

Efficiency Dividend

75. What was the efficiency dividend required of the department in the 2014/15 financial year?
76. What is the efficiency dividend required of the department in the 2015/16 financial year?
77. What savings measures were implemented by the Department for:
 - (a) 2014/15 financial year
 - (b) 2013/14 financial year
 - (c) 2012/13 financial year?
78. What actual savings were achieved by each strategy in:
 - (a) 2014/15 financial year
 - (b) 2013/14 financial year
 - (c) 2012/13 financial year?
79. What reduction of staff occurred and at what cost as a result of each strategy in:
 - (a) 2014/15 financial year
 - (b) 2013/14 financial year
 - (c) 2012/13 financial year?
80. For the 2015/16 financial year:
 - (a) What savings measures will the Department save?
 - (b) What is the expected saving to be achieved for each measure?
 - (c) Will they require a reduction in staffing?

- (d) How many positions within the Department remain unfilled due to the imposition of savings measures?

Questions from Dr John Kaye MLC

Participation rate of children in early education in NSW

81. The Deputy Secretary, External Affairs and Regulation, Department of Education and Communities Leslie Loble stated in Estimates that the overall participation rate of children in early education in the year before school in NSW was 96%. In the *Review of the National Partnership Agreement on Universal Access to Early Childhood Education* published this year Deloitte Access Economics¹ assessed the proportion of NSW children enrolled in a preschool program for at least 15 hours per week as 59% - the lowest of any state or territory in NSW. The Productivity Commission's 2015 Report on Government Services had the percentage of children in the year before school accessing a preschool program at 73% - again the lowest in Australia.²

Can the Minister explain the large discrepancy between the 96% her Department is claiming and the much lower figures that these two independent sources claim?

82. The Deputy Secretary, External Affairs and Regulation, Department of Education and Communities Leslie Loble stated in Estimates that 97% of Indigenous children accessed a preschool education in NSW in the year before school, yet the Productivity Commission's Report on Government Services 2015³ states that only 60.3% of Indigenous children in NSW access a preschool education in their year before school.

Can the Minister explain the large discrepancy between the figures her Department claimed and those of the Productivity Commission?

Mobile preschools funding

83. The Department of Education will be offering mobile preschools in NSW a three year contract from 2016 under the Preschool Funding Model with a loading in recognition of their additional costs.

Does the Minister acknowledge that for some mobile services the amount they could be eligible for under these contracts may be up to \$100,000 less than what they are currently receiving? Does the Minister know how much has been budgeted for services as 'transitional funding' under the new contracts and when will this transitional funding cease?⁴

¹http://www.scseec.edu.au/site/DefaultSite/filesystem/documents/Reports%20and%20publications/EC%20Publications/NP_UAECE%20Review-220415.pdf

² Productivity Commission's Report on Government Services 2015 (Table 3A.146). Data year 2013

³ Productivity Commission's Report on Government Services 2015 (Table 3A.19)

⁴ <http://www.dec.nsw.gov.au/what-we-offer/regulation-and-accreditation/early-childhood-education-care/funding/community-preschool-funding/mobile-preschools>

State government funding of preschools

84. When the Minister announced the changes to preschool funding in 2013 it was stated that “no preschool service will be worse off as a result of the new model in 2014 and 2015 - transition funding will be provided in the first two years so that no service receives less funding as a result of these policy changes”, what was the total expenditure on so-called transition funding for 2014 and 2015?

85. What modelling has the NSW government done to assess the impact of the withdrawal of the transition funding from 2016?

Portfolio: Aboriginal Affairs

Questions from the Hon Shaoquett Moselmane MLC [on behalf of the Labor Opposition]

Opportunity, Choice, Healing, Responsibility, Empowerment (OCHRE)

86. How much from the Aboriginal Affairs budget in 2015/16 is allocated to the OCHRE program?
- (a) Is any of this funding allocated for the Deputy Ombudsman for Aboriginal Programs?
 - i. How much?
 - ii. How many FTE staff are allocated to specifically support the Deputy Ombudsman for Aboriginal Programs?
 - (b) How much of this funding is allocated for Aboriginal Language and Culture Nests?
 - (c) How much of this funding is allocated for the negotiation and monitoring of Local Decision Making accords?
 - (d) How much of this funding is allocated for the Opportunity Hubs Program?
 - (e) How much of this funding is allocated to the following principles outlined in the OCHRE plan;
 - i. Connected communities?
 - ii. Strong accountability reforms?
 - iii. Language and cultural development?
 - iv. Local Decision making?
87. What is the total allocation for Aboriginal Language and Cultural Nests including contributions made by departments other than Education in 2015/16?
- (a) What is the total allocation for each of the following language nests;
 - i. North West Wiradjuri?
 - ii. Gumbaynggirr?
 - iii. Bundjalung?
 - iv. Paakantji/Baakanji?
 - v. Gamilaraay/Yuwaalaraay/Yuwaalayaay?
 - (b) As at 31/9/15 how many FTE Aboriginal language tutors have been engaged?
88. Has a Memorandum of Understanding with the Commonwealth Vocational Training and Employment Centre been signed as promised?
- (a) If not, when will it be finalised?
 - (b) If yes, where is it published?
89. What is the total FTE staffing allocation for the Opportunity Hubs program?
- (a) How many FTE staff are employed at each of the following Opportunity Hubs;
 - i. Upper Hunter?
 - ii. Dubbo?
 - iii. Campbelltown?
 - iv. Tamworth?

90. Has the NSW Aboriginal Economic Development Framework (AEDF) been completed?
- (a) If not, when is it expected to be completed?
 - (b) If yes, how many formal Industry Based Agreements (IBAs) were signed in 2014/15?
 - i. With whom were each of these agreements signed?
 - (c) How many IBAs are expected to be signed in 2015/16?
 - (d) Have plans to prioritise procurement from Aboriginal suppliers resulted in any formal directives or memorandums?
 - i. Is information about procurement from Aboriginal suppliers published publically?
 - (a) If yes, where?
91. How much funding is allocated for training and informing NSW public servants about the Local Decision Making accord process in 2015/16?
92. The OCHRE Plan indicates that the NSW Government will establish an independent Aboriginal Council, has this been completed?
- (a) When did the council last meet?
 - (b) Who are the council members?
 - (c) What are the functions of this council?
93. During 2014/15 did other state agencies allocate or transfer funding to the Office of Aboriginal Affairs to help achieve the OCHRE principles?
- (a) If yes, how much did the following agencies provide to OCHRE;
 - i. The NSW Ministry of Health?
 - ii. The Department of Education?
 - iii. The Department of Justice?
 - iv. Multicultural NSW?
 - v. The NSW Office of Support?
94. Will the government be pursuing the development of legislation for Local Decision making?
- (a) If so, when?
 - (b) What is the purpose of this legislation given the government's commitment to 'cut red tape'?
95. Has the department commenced a legislative review and consultation program to establish an independent Aboriginal Council and coordinator General position?
96. What indicators will the Cultural and Indigenous Research Centre (CIRCA) use to assess OCHRE during its five year Monitoring, Evaluation, reporting and Improvement (MERI) Framework?
- (a) Has Aboriginal Affairs allocated any funds to assist CIRCA in 2015/16
 - i. If so, are these funds drawn from the funding allocated for OCHRE in 2015/16?

Culture and Heritage Law Reform

97. Does the Government plan to introduce legislation dealing specifically with Aboriginal Heritage in 2015/15?
98. What involvement does the Minister and the Office of Aboriginal Affairs have in the Aboriginal culture and heritage law reform process?
99. Are any fund allocated for the process of Aboriginal culture and heritage reform in 2015/16
 - (a) How much is this allocation?

The Office of Aboriginal Affairs Staffing

100. How many Aboriginal staff are currently employed in the Office of Aboriginal Affairs?
 - (a) What proportion of these staff are senior executive staff?
 - (b) What is the average remuneration for non-Aboriginal staff?
 - (c) What is the average remuneration for Aboriginal staff?

Promised Aboriginal Centre of Excellence

101. Of the \$10 million allocated in 2015/16 for the Centre of excellence, how much will be spent on consultation?
 - (a) Will a private agency be contracted to run the initial “focus groups”?
 - (b) How many FTE staff will be allocated from the department specifically to run this project?
102. Before the announcement for this project was made during the election campaign what investigations were made into its total cost?
103. Before this project was announced during the election campaign what consultation was undertaken with the Aboriginal Community?
104. Can the Minister guarantee that funding for the centre once it is operational will not be drawn from the existing allocation for the Office of Aboriginal Affairs over the forward estimates?
105. What is the total remuneration package in 2015/16 for Aiden Ridgeway in his capacity leading the community consultations for this project?
106. If no determination has been made as to the actual functions or location of the Centre, on what basis is the costing of \$20 million made?

Federal Budget Impacts

107. What are the impacts of the 2015/16 federal budget on the Department of Aboriginal Affairs?
 - (a) How much funding will be lost over the forward estimates and how will the shortfall be filled?

108. Have you met with the Federal Minister for Indigenous Affairs to discuss the impact of federal cuts on the NSW Aboriginal community
- (a) How many times?
 - (b) When?
109. Have you made representations to the Federal Ministers for Indigenous Affairs, Health or Federal Attorney General raising concerns about budget cuts in their portfolios?
- (a) If yes, who?
 - i. When?
 - ii. Will their responses be made public?

Miscellaneous

110. Given the growth of Aboriginal communities in some areas across the state is now above 3.5% (eg Maitland) what programs does the Office of Aboriginal Affairs currently run to ensure Aboriginal people who relocate are able to access culturally specific services?
111. Does the Office of Aboriginal Affairs run any programs specifically targeted at enabling Aboriginal people to make connections with Aboriginal social support networks?
112. What is the government doing to ensure that Aboriginal people who move to new areas avoid social isolation?

Restructure

113. Are any of your portfolio agencies undergoing a restructure?
- (a) If yes,
 - i. how many FTE staffing positions are expected to be cut?
 - ii. How many people are expected to have their wages cut as a result of the restructure?
 - iii. How many voluntary redundancies were offered by the department to individuals employed in the Office of Aboriginal Affairs in 2014/15?
 - iv. How many voluntary redundancies are expected to be offered in 2015/16?

Correspondence

114. How long is the Office of Aboriginal Affairs' average turnaround time for responding to correspondence?
115. How many pieces of correspondence have been outstanding for more than 60 days as at 31/8/15?

Payment of Bills on time

116. In 2014/15 how many invoices did Aboriginal Affairs fail to pay a supplier or contractor for more than 30 days?

- (a) How many suppliers or contractors to NSW Aboriginal Affairs are considered Aboriginal organisations for reporting purposes?

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

118. How many invoices have been outstanding for longer than 60 days in the year to 1/09/15

Grants to Non-Government Organisations

119. Does the Office of Aboriginal Affairs allocate funding to provide recurrent grant funding to non-government organisations in 2015/16?

- (a) 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?
 - iii. On what date was the funding advanced for each organisation?
 - iv. What was the purpose for each grant or funding advance?
 - v. Was any funding withheld or returned?
 - vi. What is the indexation rate applied to grant to recurrent grant funds in 2015/16?

Reports, Studies, Audits, Taskforces and Reviews

120. How many reports, audits, reviews or studies were commissioned by the Office of Aboriginal Affairs in 2014/15

- (a) What was the total cost of these reports, audits and studies?

121. Are any reports, audits, reviews or studies planned for 2015/16?

- (a) How much has been allocated for the payment of private contractors to complete these initiatives in 2015/16?

Ministerial Office Administration

122. How many staff are in your ministerial office?

- (a) What was the average salary for staff members in your office during 2014-15?
- (b) What is the average salary for a ministerial staffer in your office based on current appointments?

123. How many blackberries/smart phones are assigned to your staff?

- (a) For each phone, how much was each bill in the past financial year?
- (b) How many phones have been lost or replaced due to damage in your office?
 - i. What is the cost of replacing those phones?

124. How many iPads or tablets does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?
- (a) What is the cost of providing iPads or tablets to your Ministerial Office?
 - (b) How many iPads or tablets have been replaced due to lost or damage?
 - i. What was the cost of replacing these devices?
125. Did any your or your ministerial staff incur data charges on a mobile phone or tablet device greater than \$1000 for a single billing period?
- (a) If so, how many times did this occur?
 - i. What was the individual cost of each data charge over \$1000 for a single billing period?
126. Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in your office?
- (a) What is the cost of this?
127. Have any floral displays or indoor plants been hired or leased for display in your ministerial office?
- (a) If so, what was the cost of these items?
128. What is the total cost of all subscriptions by you and your staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals?
- (a) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?
 - i. Who is the subscriber for each of these?
129. What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by you and your office?
- (a) What were the gifts purchased?
 - i. Who were they gifted to?
130. Do you purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for your office?
- (a) What is the cost of this?
131. Can you advise the names of all contractors/consultants employed and/or paid for by your office, under any agreement, contract or fee-for -service arrangement in 2014-15?
- (a) Do they have ABN's?
 - i. If so, please provide details?
 - (b) Details of paid or unpaid invoices and amounts?
 - (c) Details of services and fees provided by each contractor and or consultant?
132. Details of the agreement between your office and any contractors/consultants engaged by your office?

Ministerial And Office Travel

133. Have any of your overseas trips in the past year been paid for in part or in full by using public money?
- (a) If so, did any of your relatives or friends accompany you on these trips?
134. Have you undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded?
- (a) What were the nature of these trips?
- (b) Who paid for these trips?
135. What was the total bill for your office in 2014-15 for:
- (a) Taxi hire
- (b) Limousine hire
- (c) Private hire care
- (d) Hire car rental
136. Have you ever used Uber?
- (a) If yes, were any of these occasions in an UberX vehicle?
137. Have you or anyone in your office used Uber services travelling to or from work-related events, meetings or functions?
- (a) Were any of those services in an UberX vehicle?
138. Have you or anyone in your office sought reimbursement for using Uber services to travel to or from work-related events, meetings or functions?
- (a) What is the value of those reimbursements?
139. Have you used Airbnb?
140. Have you or anyone in your office used Airbnb as an accommodation solution whilst travelling on official business?
141. Have any planes or helicopters been chartered by you or your office and paid for with public money?
- (a) If yes, will you please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?
142. What non-standard features are fitted to your ministerial vehicle?
- (a) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?

Labour Hire Firms

143. Do any Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities utilise the services of Labour Hire Firms? If yes, please advise in table form:
- (a) The names of the firms utilised

- (b) The total amount paid to each firm engaged
- (c) The average tenure period for an employee provided by a labour hire company
- (d) The longest tenure for an employee provided by a labour hire company
- (e) The duties conducted by employees engaged through a labour hire company
- (f) The office locations of employees engaged through a labour hire company
- (g) The highest hourly or daily rate paid to an employee provided by a labour hire company

Media And Public Relations

144. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies?
145. What is the forecast for the current financial year for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost?
146. What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities?
147. Have you had media training or speech training?
- (a) If yes, who paid for it?
 - (b) If paid by taxpayers, what was the amount?

Consultants, Lobbyists And Former Parliamentarians

148. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Chris Hartcher in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- (a) Who attended those meetings?
 - (b) What was the nature of those meetings?
 - (c) What was discussed?
 - (d) Were any records of those meetings kept?
149. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Andrew Stoner in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- (a) Who attended those meetings?
 - (b) What was the nature of those meetings?
 - (c) What was discussed?
 - (d) Were any records of those meetings kept?
150. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Tim Owen in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- (a) Who attended those meetings?
 - (b) What was the nature of those meetings?
 - (c) What was discussed?
 - (d) Were any records of those meetings kept?

151. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Craig Baumann in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- (a) Who attended those meetings?
 - (b) What was the nature of those meetings?
 - (c) What was discussed?
 - (d) Were any records of those meetings kept?
152. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Andrew Cornwell in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- (a) Who attended those meetings?
 - (b) What was the nature of those meetings?
 - (c) What was discussed?
 - (d) Were any records of those meetings kept?
153. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Chris Spence in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- (a) Who attended those meetings?
 - (b) What was the nature of those meetings?
 - (c) What was discussed?
 - (d) Were any records of those meetings kept?
154. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Darren Webber in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- (a) Who attended those meetings?
 - (b) What was the nature of those meetings?
 - (c) What was discussed?
 - (d) Were any records of those meetings kept?
155. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Garry Edwards in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- (a) Who attended those meetings?
 - (b) What was the nature of those meetings?
 - (c) What was discussed?
 - (d) Were any records of those meetings kept?
156. Have you, your office or your Departmental Officers had any meetings with former MP Bart Bassett in the time since he has left the Parliament?
- (a) Who attended those meetings?
 - (b) What was the nature of those meetings?
 - (c) What was discussed?
 - (d) Were any records of those meetings kept?
157. Has the consultancy company Premier State done any consultancy work for the Department? If so what projects was Premier State consulted on?

- (a) What was the cost of the consultancy work for each project?
- (b) Was there a tender process for these projects?

158. Does Premier State currently have any contract work with the Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibility?
- (a) If yes, what is their role in the project?

Consulting

159. How much have the Department/agencies under your portfolio responsibility spent in legal costs?
- (a) For what specific purposes or matters was legal advice sought?
160. Have Department/agencies under your portfolio engaged any consultants to provide the following services or advice:
- (a) Social media
 - i. And the cost of these services
 - (b) Photography
 - i. And the cost of these services
 - (c) Acting training
 - i. And the cost of these services
 - (d) Ergonomics
 - i. And the cost of these services

Department/Agency Administration

161. How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-15?
- (a) Of these redundancies, how many were:
 - i. Voluntary
 - ii. Forced
 - (b) What was the total cost of all redundancies?
162. Have any staff who received a redundancy in the last two years undertaken any paid work or provided any paid services for the agency with which they were formerly employed?
- (a) What was the nature of these works/services?
 - (b) What was the total cost of these works or services?
163. Are any staff formerly employed by your ministerial office now employed by Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibility?
164. How many staff were dismissed from Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibilities in 2014-15?
- (a) What were the reason/s for each dismissal?

165. How much was spent on corporate hospitality by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-2015?
166. How much was spent on indoor plant hire and maintenance by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-2015 year?
167. How much did Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities spend on restaurant bills during the year 2014/2015?
- (a) How much of these bills were alcohol?
168. Were instances of internal fraud detected by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-2015?
- (a) What was the sum total of any such fraud and what was the result of any investigations?
169. How large is the Department's vehicle fleet?
- (a) What is the composition of this fleet in terms of engine size?
 - (b) How many of the fleet were involved in an accident during the year 2014-2015?
 - (c) What was the total cost of insurance claims and repairs?
170. How much did departments/agencies spend on newspaper and journal subscriptions during 2014-2015?
171. How many SES employees are employed within departments/agencies under your ministerial portfolio?
- (a) What is their remuneration band?
 - (b) For each SES employee, how many have:
 - i. 0 staff reporting to them;
 - ii. less than 2 staff reporting to them; and
 - iii. less than 5 staff?
172. How many sick days, leave days or days attributable to workers compensation were lost for each department/agency within your portfolio responsibility during 2014-15 for:
- (a) workplace bullying;
 - (b) stress leave; and
 - (c) sick leave?
173. Do any of the departments/agencies under your portfolio area employ actors for staff training?
- (a) If so, what is:
 - i. the size of the contract for the provision of actors for staff training in your departments?
 - ii. the term of the contracts for the provision of actors for staff training in your departments?
 - iii. the tender numbers for each of the contracts?

Department/Agency Travel

174. What was the total expenditure in 2014-15 by Departments/agencies within your portfolio on:
- (a) Taxi hire
 - (b) Limousine/private car hire
 - (c) Hire car rental
175. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have a policy on utilising Uber services for travel on official business?
176. Have staff in your Department/agencies either paid for with departmental funds or been recompensed for official travel using Uber services?
- (a) Were any of these payments for UberX services?
177. Have staff in your Department/agencies either paid for with departmental funds or been recompensed for official travel using Airbnb services?
178. Did any officers within departments/agencies under your ministerial portfolio use charter aircraft during the year 2014-2015?
- (a) If so what was the purpose and cost?

Departmental/Agency IT

179. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an iTunes account?
- (a) What was the total expenditure in 2014-15 on iTunes?
 - i. What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through iTunes?
180. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an Android account?
- (a) What was the total expenditure in 2014-15 on Android?
 - i. What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through Android?
181. How many Department/agency mobile phones, tablets and laptops were replaced due to loss or damage during 2014-2015?
- (a) What was the total cost of replacing these items?
182. Did any staff within departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities incur data charges on a mobile phone or tablet device greater than \$1000 for a single billing period?
- (a) If so, how many times did this occur?
 - i. What was the individual cost of each data charge over \$1000 for a single billing period?

Efficiency Dividend

183. What was the efficiency dividend required of the department in the 2014/15 financial year?

184. What is the efficiency dividend required of the department in the 2015/16 financial year?
185. What savings measures were implemented by the Department for:
- (a) 2014/15 financial year
 - (b) 2013/14 financial year
 - (c) 2012/13 financial year?
186. What actual savings were achieved by each strategy in:
- (a) 2014/15 financial year
 - (b) 2013/14 financial year
 - (c) 2012/13 financial year?
187. What reduction of staff occurred and at what cost as a result of each strategy in:
- (a) 2014/15 financial year
 - (b) 2013/14 financial year
 - (c) 2012/13 financial year?
188. For the 2015/16 financial year:
- (a) What savings measures will the Department save?
 - (b) What is the expected saving to be achieved for each measure?
 - (c) Will they require a reduction in staffing?
 - (d) How many positions within the Department remain unfilled due to the imposition of savings measures?

Questions from Ms Jan Barham MLC

189. How many Aboriginal senior executive staff are currently employed in Aboriginal Affairs (the department)?

Aboriginal Centre for Excellence

190. Is the department working with any other agencies to help with the consultation and delivery of the complex?

OCHRE

191. In the hearing it was indicated that of the \$3 million allocated for OCHRE, last year approximately \$750,000 was allocated to Local Decision Making and this year the corresponding amount is \$900,000. How much has been allocated to each of the other programs/initiatives, in particular:

- (a) Connected Communities
- (b) Aboriginal Language and Culture Nests
- (c) Opportunity Hubs
- (d) Language and Culture Development
- (e) Strong accountability reforms

192. During 2014-15 did other state agencies allocate funding to help achieve the OCHRE principles? If so, how much did the following agencies provide to OCHRE?

- (a) Health
- (b) Education and Communities
- (c) Justice
- (d) Multicultural NSW
- (e) Sport

193. During the current (2015-16) financial year how much funding has been allocated by the following state agencies to help achieve the OCHRE principles:

- (a) Health
- (b) Education and Communities
- (c) Justice
- (d) Multicultural NSW
- (e) Sport

194. Has Aboriginal Affairs commenced a legislative review and consultation program to establish an independent Aboriginal Council and Coordinator General position?

195. What indicators will the Cultural and Indigenous Research Centre (CIRCA) use to assess OCHRE during its five year monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement (MERI Framework)?
- (a) Has Aboriginal Affairs allocated any funds to assist CIRCA in the current financial year?
 - (b) If so, do these funds come out of the \$3 million OCHRE allocated funding or are they a separate funding allocation?

Aboriginal heritage legislation

196. What involvement does the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Office of Aboriginal Affairs have in the Aboriginal culture and heritage law reform process?
197. What budget has Aboriginal Affairs allocated to the Aboriginal culture and heritage reform process in 2015-16?

Child sexual assault in Aboriginal communities

198. Given that the Government has not provided any formal or public response to the Ombudsman's January 2013 report on *Responding to child sexual assault in Aboriginal communities*, can the Minister please provide an update on the Government's support for and implementation of the report's 93 recommendations?

Seniors Card

199. The Legislative Council passed a motion on 21 March 2013 calling on the Government to consider lowering the Seniors Card eligibility age to 45 years for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
- (a) What consideration has the Government given to this proposal?
 - (b) Noting that previous pre-Budget submissions by NCOSS have estimated the cost at \$2 million, has the Government carried out any analysis of the potential costs of this proposal?

Budget Papers

200. Noting that in the 2015-16 Budget Estimates the Aboriginal Affairs department isn't even listed in the table of contents and received only two dot points in the Department of Education's budget highlights, will future budgets give the Aboriginal Affairs portfolio the prominence it deserves given the crucial need to deliver support and services in collaboration with Aboriginal communities and organisations?

Questions from Mr David Shoebridge MLC

Juvenile detention

201. What consultation has been had with the Juvenile Justice Department, and Corrective Services NSW more broadly, regarding the overrepresentation of Aboriginal people in juvenile detention?

Consorting laws

202. What consultation has been had with the NSW Police Force about the use of the consorting laws against Aboriginal community members?

Aboriginal child removal rates

203. What consultation has been had with FACs regarding the five-fold increase in the number of Aboriginal children in out of home care since 2003?