



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEES

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2015-2016 Supplementary Questions

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 5

Primary Industries, Lands and Water

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Answers due by: Wednesday 30 September 2015

Budget Estimates Secretariat

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Primary Industries

Questions from Hon Robert Brown MLC

1. With respect to the Commercial Fisheries Business Adjustment Program,
 - (a) How has the NSW government addressed concerns raised by the Commercial Fisheries sector regarding shareholders who would end up receiving less than their current activity levels under the proposed scheme;
 - (b) What modelling has been done by the NSW government to ensure equitability and fairness of the Program; and
 - (c) Will the government be abandoning the Program if it fails to achieve equitability and fairness?
2. What consultation did the NSW government have with recreational fishers regarding the changes to recreational fishing rules in November 2014?
3. What consultation has the NSW government had with recreational fishing organisations and clubs about the recreational fishing trust?

Questions from Hon David Shoebridge MLC

Wood supply agreements

4. Since 2003 how much has been paid to timber companies in north-east NSW for failure to supply timber committed in Wood Supply Agreements?
5. Can the Government guarantee that current Wood Supply Agreements will be able to be fully met and that no further compensation or buyouts will be required? If not, what is the anticipated liability?
6. Have any Wood Supply Agreements been renegotiated or renewed between 2010 and 2015? If so, please provide details.
7. Does the Forestry Corporation intend to renew any Wood Supply Agreements before the current Regional Forest Agreements expire?

Boral Forestry Contracts buyout

Regarding the 50,000m³ buyout from Boral:

8. Was an extension of Boral's contract for 5 years part of this buyout?
9. Was this extension publicly announced? Was Parliament informed of this extension?
10. Where did funding to pay for the Boral buyout come from?
11. What annual volumes of the following were bought back as part of this buyout:
 - a) Large High Quality Sawlogs?
 - b) Small High Quality Sawlogs?
 - c) Blackbutt?
12. For hardwoods, what are the current commitments for north East NSW (UNE and LNE) in wood supply agreements:
 - a) Large High Quality Sawlogs?
 - b) Small High Quality Sawlogs?
13. For each of the last 5 financial years, what were the volumes of the following were harvested from North East NSW:
 - a) Large High Quality Sawlogs?
 - b) Small High Quality Sawlogs?
14. For each of the last 5 financial years, what volumes of the following were harvested from hardwood plantations in North East NSW:
 - a) Large High Quality Sawlogs?
 - b) Small High Quality Sawlogs?

15. If current commitments for Large High Quality Sawlogs from north east NSW (UNE and LNE) are fully utilised until 2023, what annual volumes of Large High Quality Sawlogs are expected to be able to be supplied over the next 80 years (i.e. from 2024-2103)?
- a) What percentage of this will come from plantations?

Nullica Logging

16. Regarding logging in Nullica State Forest currently underway, what protections are in place in this forest as a result of the spotted tail quoll record in the forest?
17. What is the net area of forest set aside to protect this endangered species (in addition to any exclusion zone already set aside for other purposes or to protect any of the other 11 threatened species) in this logging operation?
18. What protection is provided in the RFA for the EPBC listed quoll?

Forest logging jobs

19. What is the estimated number of jobs dependent on the native forest logging industry in NSW?
20. Of the estimated jobs in native forestry, how many are in:
- a) logging crews
 - b) haulage
 - c) sawmilling
 - d) woodchipping
 - e) other (please list)
21. How many staff are employed in managing the native forest logging sector in NSW in:
- a) Forestry Corporation?
 - i. What proportion of the total employees is this?
 - b) Department of Primary Industries?
 - ii. What proportion of the total employees is this?

Forestry Corporation

22. How many Full Time Equivalent staff positions are there in each office of the NSW Forestry Corporation?
23. How many full time equivalent staff are employed in each State Forest region in the logging and processing of native State Forests as:
- a) Forestry Corporation personnel directly engaged in planning, supervision, support and monitoring?
 - b) Fellers?
 - c) Truckers?
 - d) Saw Mills workers?
 - e) Chip Mills workers?
24. How many full time equivalent staff are employed in each State Forest region in the logging and processing of State Forests Hardwood and Softwood Plantations as:

- a) Forestry Corporation personnel directly engaged in planning, supervision, support and monitoring?
 - b) Fellers?
 - c) Truckers?
 - d) Saw Mills workers?
 - e) Chip Mills workers?
25. How many full time equivalent staff are employed by Forestry Corporation for native State Forests operations as:
- a) Forest ecologists?
 - b) Botanists?
 - c) Biologists?
 - d) Soil scientists?
 - e) Hydrologists?
26. What profit/loss has the Forestry Corporation made on its native forests logging operations for each of the last five years?
27. For each of those years how much were the Forestry Corporation paid for their Community Service Obligations?
28. Did the Forestry Corporation receive any other Government funding in any of these years, if so how much and for what purpose?

Wildlife protections in Forestry

29. Since 2014, on how many occasions have wildlife such as wombats been mentioned in Harvest Plans? Please provide details?
30. What provisions are in place to protect wildlife during logging operations from death or cruelty when those creatures are not listed as threatened species?
31. Are any animal welfare protocols either (a) in place or (b) under consideration to protect wildlife injured or displaced during logging operations?
32. Are logging contractors required to take any precautions to protect active wombat burrows from bulldozers or other logging machinery during logging operations. In the event that a wombat is buried alive by a bulldozer or other logging machine, is the contractor required to take any action to rescue the wombat?
33. Will the Commonwealth Government be consulted about the new Integrated Forestry Operations Approvals (IFOAs) to determine whether they provide equivalent protection to that available to threatened species under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act.

Royalty payments

34. What was the total of royalty payments (for hardwood and softwood separately) made by South East Fibre Exports to the NSW Forestry Corporation (and its predecessors) in:

- a) 2012
- b) 2013
- c) 2014
- d) 2015 to date?

35. Has the NSW Forestry Corporation estimated how much it saves by non-payment of local government rates to councils? If so, provide details for each LGA.

Regional Forestry Agreements (From Cerin Loane)

36. Regarding the end of the Regional Forest Agreements:

- a) What cost benefit analysis has the Government undertaken in preparation for this?
- b) What findings are there regarding the costs and benefits of native forest logging, including expenditure on threatened species programs on species threatened by logging, financial assistance given to Forestry Corporation, dividends to the state from forest products, ecosystem services and the market transition to plantation forestry?
- c) Does the government intend to factor greenhouse gas emissions into its calculations when considering the future use of native forests when the regional forest agreements expire?

37. What financial assistance does the NSW treasury give to Forestry Corporation for land management practices, including access roads and trail maintenance, fire management and pest and weed control?

Bell miner associated dieback

38. How many hectares of State forests are affected by Bell Miner Associated Dieback?

39. What action is the Forestry Corporation taking to:

- a) Map the extent of Bell Miner Associated Dieback?
- b) Stop the spread of lantana and Bell Miner Associated Dieback?
- c) Restore the health of Bell Miner Associated Dieback affected forests?

40. What is the estimated cost per hectare to restore the health of Bell Miner Associated dieback affected forests?

41. Has the government assessed the cost of mitigating bell-miner associated dieback associated with native forest logging and compared this cost to the dividend from native forest logging?

42. What does the government intend to do to address the threats to World Heritage areas of NSW as a consequence of bell-miner associated dieback as detailed in a Caring for our Country grant report?

Joint Venture Plantations

43. How many joint venture hardwood plantation agreements has the Forestry Corporation cancelled?

44. How many joint venture hardwood plantation agreements is Forestry Corporation currently proposing to cancel?

45. How many hectares of joint venture plantation are there in NSW?
46. What was the cost to the Forestry Corporation and/or taxpayers of establishing and maintaining these plantations?
47. What are the estimated values of these plantations at the time they were cancelled, and at maturity?
48. How much has the Forestry Corporation paid to landholders as compensation for cancelling joint venture hardwood plantation agreements?

Road transport subsidies

49. What road transport subsidies, or other freight costs, were paid to logging, milling and or transport companies for the haulage of logs obtained from publicly owned native forests to timber mills for each of the last five financial years?
50. For what volume of logs hauled were road transport subsidies or freight costs paid, for each of the last five financial years?
51. Over what distances were logs hauled, for each of the last five financial years

Legal costs of court proceedings

52. What were the total costs incurred by the Forestry Commission / Corporation in the legal proceedings *Department of Environment Climate Change and Water (DECCW) v Forestry Commission of NSW* [2011] NSWLEC 102 (Nullica SF) for each of the last five financial years?
Of the above, how much was for:
 - a) Preparing its defence
 - b) Legal fees
 - c) Court costs
 - d) Fines
 - e) Restoration works
 - f) Other costs?

Compliance costs: Penalty Infringement Notices (PINs)

53. How many Penalty Infringement Notices (PINs) have been issued to Forestry Commission / Corporation for non-compliance with environmental protection licence requirements for each of the last five financial years by the following authorities:
 - a) NSW Environment Protection Authority?
 - b) NSW Fisheries?
 - c) Any other authority?
54. What was the total of the fines imposed on Forestry Commission/Corporation for Penalty Infringement Notices (PINs) issued for non-compliance with environmental protection licence requirements?
55. How much has been paid by Forestry Commission / Corporation for Penalty Infringement Notices (PINs) issued for non-compliance with environmental protection licence requirements?

56. Have any legal costs been incurred by Forestry Commission / Corporation relating to any of these PINs?
- a) If so, in relation to which Penalty Infringement Notice(s)?
 - b) And if so, what legal costs have been incurred?

Costs of proposed Integrated Forestry Operations Approval (IFOA) re-make

57. What costs have been incurred for the remake of the new IFOAs in the last three financial years?
58. What costs have been incurred in the last three financial years for the trials associated with the new IFOAs in publicly owned native forests in the state's Eastern Division?

Costs of EIA of forestry operations and associated roadworks

59. Has the Forestry Commission / Corporation undertaken any assessment of the environmental impacts of the new logging regimes proposed in the new IFOAs, under the s 69B *Forestry Act 2012*?
- a) If so, what was the result of this assessment?
 - b) If not, why not?
60. Has any environmental impact assessment been undertaken in association with the NSW EPA under the *Forestry Act 2012* for the proposal to hold trials of the IFOA?
61. If so, what have been the costs to NSW Forestry Commission / Corporation for these EIA processes, for each of the last three financial years?

Compliance with principles of ecologically sustainable development

62. From 1 January 2013 (when the Forestry Act 2012 commenced) to 28 February 2013 (when IFOAs were authorised) what work did Forestry Corporation/Forestry Commission undertaken to ensure that the IFOA regime would be compliant with ESD requirements under the Act?
- a) What was the cost of any such work done?
63. What work was undertaken to ensure the IFOA trials would be compliant with the principles of Ecologically Sustainable Development before the Amendment to the Integrated Forestry Operations Approval for the Lower North East region in May 2015?
64. What additional costs, if any, are estimated to have been incurred ensuring that operations are in compliance with s 10(1)(c) *Forestry Act 2012* in each of the last 3 financial years?

Scenic Hills

65. Can the Minister outline the reasons for supporting for supporting the Catholic Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust's proposal to rezone Environmental Protection land in Campbelltown's Scenic Hills for a 136,000 grave cemetery (Varroville Cemetery), as per a letter dated 9 December 2014?
66. Is it appropriate for this statement of support to have been before the proposal had been assessed by the relevant planning authorities?
67. Will the Minister withdraw their support for this proposal pending its assessment by the planning authorities, and request that the letter dated letter dated 9 December 2014 be deleted from assessment reports and from the Supporting Notes on the NSW Department of Planning's Local Plan Making Tracking System?

Cable Logging

68. When will the government proceed with the cable logging trial?
69. What compartments have been selected for the trial?
70. What is the area of each compartment selected?
71. What forests products will be taken from each compartment by weight, volume, and species?
72. What compartments have been identified in each of the following State Forest regions for cable logging:
 - a) Central Region?
 - b) Hume Region?
 - c) Macquarie Region?
 - d) Monaro Region?
 - e) North East Region?
 - f) Northern Region?
 - g) Southern Region?
 - h) Western Region?
73. What is the total area of those compartments in each region?
74. Has Forestry Corporation or the Department prepared cost estimates and revenue estimates for the cable logging trial, including any necessary road construction or upgrades?
 - a) If so, what are those estimates and when were they made?
75. Has Forestry Corporation or the Department sought or obtained estimates or quotations for the purchase or hire of equipment required or the services of a contractor with the appropriate specialised equipment for the cable logging trial?
 - a) If so, what are those quotations or estimates and when were they sought or received?
76. Has Forestry Corporation or the Department contracted to purchase or hire equipment or engage a contractor for the cable logging trial?
 - a) If so, what are the details of those contracts?

Biomass

77. Has Forestry Corporation or the Department identified possible sources from native State Forests or privately owned Private Native Forests, licensed by the EPA, for supply of forest biomass for either domestic power station consumption or export as chips, pellets or logs for biomass power stations or domestic heating?
78. If the answer to 66 is yes, what are those sources identified in the following State Forest Regions for biomass supply, by weight, volume, and species:
 - a) Central Region?
 - b) Hume Region?
 - c) Macquarie Region?
 - d) Monaro Region?
 - e) North East Region?
 - f) Northern Region?
 - g) Southern Region?
79. Is Forestry Corporation already supplying native forest biomass to power stations in Australia from native State Forests or Private Native Forests?

- a) If so, what are the details of those arrangements or contracts?
80. Has Forestry Corporation offered to or sought expressions of interest from potential customers for native forest biomass supply?
- a) If so when were those offered or sought and what are the locations, weight, volume and species?

Firewood

81. What is the volume of logs extracted for firewood supply under approved Harvest Plans from native State Forests for the following financial years:
- a) 2012-13?
 - b) 2013-14?
 - c) 2014-15?
82. Can you provide a breakdown by State Forest region of the volume firewood extraction under approved Harvest Plans and the respective weight, volume and main species for the following financial years:
- a) 2012-13?
 - b) 2013-14?
 - c) 2014-15?

Forestry Corporation customers

83. What are the numbers of sawmills and chip mills supplied by Forestry Corporation for the logging and processing of native State Forests in each of the following State Forest regions:
- a) Central Region?
 - b) Hume Region?
 - c) Macquarie Region?
 - d) Monaro Region?
 - e) North East Region?
 - f) Northern Region?
 - g) Southern Region?
84. What are the contract supply details to each sawmill and chipmill as:
- a) high quality logs,
 - b) low quality logs,
 - c) chiplogs
- by weight, volume and main species for the following financial years:
- d) 2012-13?
 - e) 2013-14?
 - f) 2014-15?
85. What are the numbers of sawmills and chip mills supplied by Forestry Corporation for the logging and processing of State Forests Plantations in each of the following State Forest regions:
- a) Central Region?
 - b) Hume Region?
 - c) Macquarie Region?

- d) Monaro Region?
- e) North East Region?
- f) Northern Region?
- g) Southern Region?

86. What are the contract supply details to each sawmill and chipmill as:

- a) high quality logs,
- b) low quality logs,
- c) chiplogs

by weight, volume and main species for the following financial years:

- d) 2012-13?
- e) 2013-14?
- a) 2014-15?

Questions from Hon Shaoquett Moselmane MLC

Biodiversity Legislation Review

90. What is the total allocated cost for the review of the Biodiversity legislation review for 2015-16?
91. What resources have been allocated to Local Land Services to assist in the implementation of a new Biodiversity Conservation Act?
92. What resources have been allocated to local councils to assist in the implementation of a new Biodiversity Conservation Act?
93. What resources have been allocated to protecting native vegetation and fauna on private land in light of commitments to dissolve the Native Vegetation Act 2003?

Shark Meshing Program Review

94. At last year's Budget Estimates hearing the Minister said the five-year review of the Shark Meshing Program commenced on 14 August 2014:
 - (a) Has the Minister received a draft or any version of the review?
 - (b) When will the review be released publically

Hunter Category C Funding

95. After this year's Super Storm in the Hunter, how did the LLS and the Department of Primary Industries liaise with farmers regarding Hay Drops and emergency funding?
96. When was Category C funding available to be applied for, and when was the funding actually granted and delivered to successful applicants?
97. How did the Government notify farmers that Category C funding was available?
98. How did the Government identify farmers in the community?

DPI Operations

99. How much funding is there currently in the Pest Insect Destruction fund and who holds it?
100. Can the Minister provide an update on the trial programme to control feral pigs in Western NSW by using 1080 meat baits at selected demonstration sites?
101. What was the total cost of developing the Agriculture Industry Action Plan, including consultation, printing and distribution?
102. What was the profit and loss for each of the 27 Soil Conservation Services depots across the state in 2014-15?

Local Land Services (LLS)

103. How many extension officers or agronomists are employed within the following Local Land Services regions:
 - (a) Murray,
 - (b) Riverina,
 - (c) Western,

- (d) North West
 - (e) Northern Tablelands
 - (f) North Coast
 - (g) g) Hunter
 - (h) Greater Sydney
 - (i) Central Tablelands
 - (j) Central West
 - (k) South East
104. What was the total revenue raised from ratepayers in each LLS in 2014-15?
 - (a) Please list by the amount per LLS region.
 105. How many staff work in each LLS region as at 30 June 2015?
 - (a) How many of these are administrative staff?
 - (b) How many are front line staff?
 - (c) How many of these staff are responsible for media and communications?
 - (d) How many of these staff have management roles?
 106. What is the value of land sold by each LLS region in 2014-15?
 - (a) Please list each sale.
 107. What is the value of buildings sold by each LLS region in 2014-15?
 - (a) Please list each sale.
 108. Has there been any review of the LLS website?
 - (a) If so, when did this occur?
 - (b) If not, when will this occur?
 109. Who is undertaking the search for the replacement Chair of Chairs of Local Land Services?
 - (a) How much will the recruitment process cost?
 - (b) What is the timeframe for completion of the recruitment process?
 - (c) Where will the new Chair of Chairs be located?
 - (d) What will be the contract for the new Chair of Chairs?
 110. During the last election campaign the Government promised \$1 million per annum in extra funding for Local Land Services (LLS) extension services:
 - (a) Is it correct that this funding must be met from the existing Department of Primary Industries budget?
 - (b) If so, how is this requirement being achieved?
 111. What is the Minister doing to address circumstances where farmers continue to experience a deficit in extension services some 18 months after the creation of the Local Land Services model?
 112. How much funding from the overall LLS budget is dedicated to pest animal control measures?
 - (a) Further, what is the specific amount of funding allocated to wild dog control?
 113. What was the cost of payroll expenses to LLS in 2014-15?
 114. What was the cost of education and marketing materials for LLS as a whole and per LLS region in 2014-15?
 115. What charges are paid by each LLS region back to the Department of Industry for the administration of corporate services, particularly the use of its SAP cloud based centralised accounting system?
 - (a) Please list the type and amount of charges per each LLS region.
 116. Has Local Land Services (LLS) taken on any extra staff or consultants to assist with the Pilot Management Review of TSRs?

117. In 2014-15 period did the LLS divest any TSR management back to the Crown Lands Division?
118. Has the LLS undertaken any ecological sustainability reviews of TSRs?
119. Does the LLS work with any NGOs such as Landcare groups to help manage TSRs and if so which TSRs?
120. Does the LLS work with any Local Aboriginal Councils or groups to identify Aboriginal cultural, heritage or archeological sites on TSRs?
121. In the financial year 2014-15 how much did the LLS spend on Biosecurity and noxious weeds management on TSRs?
122. How much money has been budgeted in 2015-16 by the Local Land Services to promote projects that work in partnership with Aboriginal communities in NSW?
123. Has LLS implemented any initiatives to improve the working relationship and consultation between Local Land Services and local Aboriginal communities?
Has LLS allocated any funds to contribute to the Governments Opportunity, Choice, Healing, Responsibility, Empowerment (OCHRE) programs/initiatives?
(a) If so how much and for what initiatives?

Drought support

124. How many applicants applied for water infrastructure grants in 2014-15?
(a) How many grants are approved?
125. What was the total amount of funding allocated in the 2015-16 budget for the water infrastructure grants?
126. How many applicants were there for drought support in 2014-15?
(a) Please list in table form, broken down by LLS District and Local Government Area.
127. The budget estimates show that the NSW Rural Assistance Authority has granted an almost 40% increase in funding for the 2015-16 budget, however the estimates also say that it is still expected to employ the same number of staff:
(a) What is the new money being spent on?
(b) Can the Minister provide a full break down of the budget for the NSW Rural Assistance Authority?
128. What is the cost to the NSW Rural Assistance Authority of administering the Commonwealth Drought Concessional Loans and Commonwealth Drought Recovery Loans?
(a) What is the breakdown in administrative cost for these loans between the state and federal governments?
129. What was the total amount of available funding for drought-related loans for farmers in the last financial year?
(a) How much of that was distributed to farmers?
(b) How much was the total amount of claims made?
130. What action has the Minister taken to ensure weather data more accurately depicts the areas that are in drought and eligible for assistance NSW?
131. What representations has the Minister made to his federal ministerial counterpart over his Government's delay in renewing Rural Financial Counselling Service contracts?

Fisheries and Marine

132. How many marine scientists are currently working on marine research in NSW within the fisheries division NSW DPI?
 - (a) Where are they located?
 - (b) How much funding was allocated in 2014-15 to fisheries research projects?
 - (c) How much funding was budget for 2015-16 to fisheries research projects?
133. How many DPI staff are currently employed to manage and maintain each of the States Marine Parks?

Raw milk

134. What action has the Minister taken to combat the dangers associated with the sale and consumption of raw, unpasteurised milk in NSW?

Forestry

135. What were the dates and venues of meetings of the Forestry Advisory Group in 2014-15 and from 1 July 2015 to date?
136. How many forestry jobs are there in the NSW native forestry sector?
 - (a) What percentage of all forestry jobs are within the softwood sector?
137. What percentage of wood harvested in NSW comes from the softwood sector?
138. Does the Forestry Corporation of NSW propose to include the forests around Coffs Harbour, Bellingen and Kempsey in the intensive logging regime of 50 hectare clearfells, currently being negotiated in the new Integrated Forestry Operations Approvals?

Aboriginal fishing

139. Will the Aboriginal Fishing Advisory Council (AFAC) continue to be convened in 2015?
140. What is the role of the Ministerial Fishing Advisory Council in the development of Aboriginal cultural fishing regulations?
141. Given that legislation in relation to Aboriginal cultural fishing was passed by Parliament in 2009 but has not yet been commenced what is the timeframe for commencing section 21AA of the *Fisheries Management Act 1994*?
 - (a) What is the timeframe for the development of regulations that recognise Aboriginal cultural fishing rights? When will regulations be in effect?
142. How many Aboriginal people have been fined, cautioned or prosecuted for fishing in:
 - (a) 2013-14?
 - (b) 2014-15?
143. In what areas were penalties issued?

Commissioners

144. How many items or issues have you referred to the Land and Water Commissioner since you have been the Minister?
 - (a) If so, what were the details of each item or issue?

- (b) What were the dates and venues of meetings between you and the Land and Water Commissioner?
- 145. How many items or issues have you referred to the Cross-Border Commissioner since you have been the Minister?
 - (a) If so, what were the details of each item or issue?
 - (b) What were the dates and venues of meetings between you and the Cross-Border Commissioner?
- 146. How many times has the Minister met with the Land and Water Commissioner since becoming a minister?
- 147. How many times has the Minister met with the Cross-Border Commissioner since becoming a minister?

Beach Observation Towers

- 148. For each of the following financial years, what were the locations of any new beach observation towers constructed, when were they constructed, and what was the cost of each tower:
 - (a) 2011-12?
 - (b) 2012-13?
 - (c) 2013-14?
 - (d) 2014-15?

Ministerial Office Administration

- 149. 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?
- 150. 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?
- 151. 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?
 - ii. What was the cost of replacing these devices?
- 152. 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?
 - iii. What was the individual cost of each data charge over \$1000 for a single billing period?
- 153. Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in your office?
 - a) What is the cost of this?
- 154. Have any floral displays or indoor plants been hired or leased for display in your ministerial office?

- b) If so, what was the cost of these items?
- 155. 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?
- 156. 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?
- 157. Do you purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for your office?
 - (a) What is the cost of this?
- 158. 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?
- 159. Details of the agreement between your office and any contractors/consultants engaged by your office?

Ministerial And Office Travel

- 160. 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?
- 161. Have you undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded?
 - b) What were the nature of these trips?
 - c) Who paid for these trips?
- 162. 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
- 163. Have you ever used Uber?
 - (a) If yes, were any of these occasions in an UberX vehicle?
- 164. 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?
- 165. 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?
- 166. Have you used Airbnb?
- 167. Have you or anyone in your office used Airbnb as an accommodation solution whilst travelling on official business?
- 168. 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?
- 169. What non-standard features are fitted to your ministerial vehicle?
 - (a) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?

Labour Hire Firms

- 170. 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

- 171. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies?
- 172. 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?
- 173. What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities?
- 174. 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

- 175. 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?
- 176. 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?
- 177. 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?
178. 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?
179. 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?
180. 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?
181. 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?
182. 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?
183. 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?
184. 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?
185. 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

186. 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?
187. 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
 - ii. And the cost of these services
 - c) Acting training
 - iii. And the cost of these services
 - d) Ergonomics
 - iv. And the cost of these services

Department/Agency Administration

188. 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?
189. 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?
190. Are any staff formerly employed by your ministerial office now employed by Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibility?
191. How many staff were dismissed from Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibilities in 2014-15?
- a) What were the reason/s for each dismissal?
192. How much was spent on corporate hospitality by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-2015?
193. How much was spent on indoor plant hire and maintenance by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-2015 year?
194. 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?
195. 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?
196. 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?
- 197. How much did departments/agencies spend on newspaper and journal subscriptions during 2014-2015?
- 198. 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?
- 199. 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?
- 200. Do any of the departments/agencies under your portfolio area employ actors for staff training?
 - d) If so, what is:
 - iv. the size of the contract for the provision of actors for staff training in your departments?
 - v. the term of the contracts for the provision of actors for staff training in your departments?
 - vi. the tender numbers for each of the contracts?

Department/Agency Travel

- 201. 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
- 202. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have a policy on utilising Uber services for travel on official business?
- 203. 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?
- 204. Have staff in your Department/agencies either paid for with departmental funds or been recompensed for official travel using Airbnb services?
- 205. 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

- 206. 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?

207. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an Android account?
- a) What was the total expenditure in 2014-15 on Android?
 - ii. What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through Android?
208. 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?
209. 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?
 - iii. What was the individual cost of each data charge over \$1000 for a single billing period?

Efficiency Dividend

210. What was the efficiency dividend required of the department in the 2014/15 financial year?
211. What is the efficiency dividend required of the department in the 2015/16 financial year?
212. What savings measures were implemented by the Department for:
- a) 2014/15 financial year
 - b) 2013/14 financial year
 - c) 2012/13 financial year?
213. What actual savings were achieved by each strategy in:
- a) 2014/15 financial year
 - b) 2013/14 financial year
 - c) 2012/13 financial year?
214. 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?
215. 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 Mehreen Faruqi MLC

Farm Trespass Policy

216. What is the Government doing to prevent illegal pig hunters under this policy and their biosecurity impacts, whom Associate Professor Elaine Barclay University of New England has shown are significant perpetrators of rural crime towards the everyday farmer?
217. What is the criteria for determining what constitutes a 'high risk farm'?
- a) Please provide a list of all farms that are considered high risk.
218. How much has the Department of Primary Industries expended in implementing the Farm Trespass Policy?
219. Has the NSW Government provided any equipment to any farms as part of the Farm Trespass Policy?
- a) If yes, please provide a list of such equipment, the recipient and the financial value?
220. Who did the NSW Government consult with in developing the Farm Trespass Policy?
- a) Please provide a list of all consultations made in relation to the development of the Farm Trespass Policy.

Biosecurity

221. Is the Minister or the Department of Primary Industries aware of any biosecurity issues that have been caused by animal welfare investigators in NSW?
- a) Please provide a list of these biosecurity issues and their locations?

Wonga Piggery

222. Did the Department of Primary Industries conduct an investigation into the outbreak of Golden Staph amongst workers at the Wonga Piggery near Young this year?
- a) If yes, what was the result of that investigation?
- b) If no, why not?

Antibiotics in Farming

223. The overuse and misuse of antibiotics is of extreme concern, especially in light of the current campaign to raise awareness about increasing resistance in Australia. What is the NSW Government doing in relation to the high usage of and reliance on antibiotics in factory farming?

Voluntary Standards

224. The Memorandum of Understanding that Troy Grant MP signed with NSW Farmers Federation on March 26 2015, states that the NSW Liberals and Nationals "reaffirm our commitment to non-mandatory standards and guidelines for animal welfare".
225. Why does the Government think animal welfare standards and guidelines should be non-mandatory?

Model Codes of Practice

226. When will each of the Model Codes of Practice for the Welfare of Animals be converted into Standards and Guidelines?
- a) What is the reason for the delay in this process thus far?
 - b) When and to what extent will the NSW Government adopt the provisions of each of these Standards and Guidelines into relevant legislation?

Animal Cruelty

227. What amendments have been made to the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979 since 1979?
228. How many animal cruelty matters is the Department of Primary Industries aware of that have been prosecuted by enforcement agencies under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979 since March 2011?
- a) What were the charges and what were the outcomes of the prosecution?
 - b) How many involved intensive farming practices?
229. Would the Government support an expansion of organisations able to have the same powers as Animal Welfare League and RSPCA?
230. How will the NSW Government ensure that RSPCA NSW can independently and objectively enforce the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979, including against the stated interests of the current NSW Government, such as intensive farming, when the NSW Government itself grants RSPCA NSW power of enforcement of the Act?
231. Will the NSW Government consider establishing a specialised police task force for animal welfare?

RSPCA

232. Since March 2011, how many complaints has the Department of Primary Industries received against the NSW RSPCA and what was the nature of these complaints?
233. What role does the Department of Primary Industries have in ensuring complaints against the RSPCA NSW are properly, thoroughly and transparently investigated?
234. What steps has the Minister taken to ensure that RSPCA NSW avoids conflicts of interest in investigating RSPCA NSW affiliated entities, such as contracted pounds, in line with its responsibilities under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979

Animal Welfare Grants

235. The current animal welfare grant program to assist organisations to detect animal cruelty and to provide services including shelters is around half a million dollars. Currently almost 80% of funding goes to just one organisation, the RSPCA NSW.
236. Will the NSW Government follow the Victorian model and have an expanded and competitive grants process?
- a) If not, why not?

Independent Office of Animal Welfare

237. Will the NSW Government support the establishment of an Independent Office of Animal Welfare?
- a) If not, why not?

Labelling

238. To what extent will the Department of Primary Industries work with NSW Fair Trading in the development of the National Standard on egg-labelling?
- a) What is the current status and expected deadline for the draft National Standard?
- b) The National Standard will depend on the Model Code for Welfare of Animals: Poultry, which is intended to be replaced by Standards and Guidelines. Considering the lack of consensus on definitions and that the regulations are in transition, what provisions will the National Standard use to develop a definition of free range, barn laid, aviary and cage egg production?
- c) Will the National Standard be open to public consultation, including consultation from consumer and animal protection groups?
- d) Will there eventually be an expansion of consumer labelling to other areas concerning animal welfare?

Game Reserves

239. Does the NSW Government have any plans or intentions to support the introduction of private game reserves that are currently illegal in NSW?

Factory Farming

240. Will the NSW Government enact a legislative prohibition on the use of sow stalls in pig production, in light of the peak industry body's voluntary phase out?
241. What will the NSW Government do to increase consumer confidence and transparency in factory farming establishments?

Puppy Farms

242. How much money has been spent on the Companion Animal Breeding Practice Inquiry?
243. In the Budget Estimates transcript (page 34) , the Minister stated that "It has been highlighted through that process that the New South Wales Government has given in-principle support to the establishment of a breeder licensing scheme".

What actions is the NSW Government taking to implement a breeder licensing system?

Pounds

244. Are the RSPCA NSW, Animal Welfare League NSW or the Police compelled to notify the Department of Primary Industries when there is any incident or instance involving breaches of Acts or complaints concerning a council pound?
- a) If not, why not?
 - b) If yes, which council pounds have enforcement agencies investigated or worked with following complaints?
 - c) How many complaints regarding animal cruelty have been received and which council pounds are involved?
245. What reporting measures are in place when a complaint, is lodged with the Department of Primary Industries in respect to how a council operates and manages its impounding facility?

Abattoirs

246. Which abattoirs in NSW have CCTV monitoring their internal operations?
- a) Who monitors such CCTV?
 - b) Does the Department of Primary Industries have access to CCTV footage for monitoring and auditing purposes?
 - i. If no, why are regulatory agencies not provided access to such monitoring?

Data Deficient Shark Species

247. Recently the smooth hammerhead shark, nominated for listing as a threatened species, was knocked back by the Fisheries Scientific Committee due to a lack of data. What measures does the Department propose to gather further data on marine species which are likely to be threatened and yet are data deficient?

Non-Lethal Shark Deterrent Trials

248. How will the \$100 000, promised by the Premier prior to the 2015 election to be used on a trial of non-lethal alternatives to the Shark Control Program, be allocated and used?

Shark Control (Bather Protection) Program (SCP)

249. When will the next five-year review of the Shark Control (Bather Protection) Program report be completed and released?
250. What does the Department of Primary Industries rely on when setting trigger points for the entanglement of threatened species in the SCP, considering 6 critically endangered Grey Nurse Sharks were killed in the 2012/2013 season and no review was triggered yet one humpback whale was killed in 2014 and a review was triggered?
- a) Has the trigger point been reviewed in light of new listings of hammerhead sharks in NSW?
251. Has there been any research conducted by the Department into how the Shark Control Program may affect recently listed threatened species in NSW?

252. What is the scientific evidence that placement of shark nets off beaches break up the swimming patterns of sharks?
253. What scientific evidence is there that sharks targeted in the SCP, for example large migratory sharks such as great whites, tiger sharks and bull sharks set up and aggressively defend their territories?
254. Has there been any research conducted by the Department into how the SCP may affect recently listed threatened species in NSW?

Grey Nurse Sharks

255. What is the NSW Government doing to protect grey nurse sharks and their habitat in NSW? Will the Government reinstate protections on the state's mid north coast for the critically endangered Grey Nurse Shark?

Shark surveillance flights

256. For the 2013/14 and 2014/15 years and in regards to aircraft surveillance undertaken in regards to shark monitoring (scientific or beach safety) activities, for each flight undertaken, please provide:
 - a) Date of air charter and type of aircraft
 - b) Primary purpose of the charter (data gathering for scientific purposes or bather safety)
 - c) Total cost and length (hours) of charter
 - d) Location of departure/return and furthest distance flown both north and south of the airfield
 - e) Beach overflowed and number of times each beach overflowed
 - f) List the number of sharks seen, species and location
 - g) Actions taken in responses to sharks sighted (eg. Data recorded, bathers warned, calls made to local authorities / lifeguards.)

Australian National Baboon Colony

257. How many primates is the New South Wales Government aware of being held in the Australian National Baboon Colony (ANBC), in Wallacia, New South Wales?
 - a) For the ANBC, please provide current information for each species (baboons, and others), including: numbers; ages; sexes; state of health.
 - b) What are the costs to the State of New South Wales relating to the ANBC?
 - c) Please provide the history of births and deaths in the ANBC in New South Wales including, but not restricted to (please date all information) number of births per species and by sex.
 - d) Number of deaths per species and by sex; For each death please provide: species, date, age, sex, attributed cause of death and please provide the documentation associated with the death
 - e) What is the range of causes of death of primates in the colony?
 - f) How many of the primates in the colony are used for research or any related purposes?
 - g) What is the number of research protocols each animal has been subjected to?
 - h) Please provide an outline of the current housing, operations and management of the ANBC.

- i) How many of the deaths are as a result (direct or indirectly) of research procedures?

For each death please state:

- i. the history of procedures that the animal underwent
- ii. species; age; sex; date of death; attributed cause of death

258. Are any primates being used under licence (or any other method) for research (or any other purpose) by bodies other than New South Wales Government agencies, authorities, companies, or departments?

- a) What are the names of those bodies and their locations?
- b) How many primates are held by each body and at which location?
- c) Please provide the history of births and deaths while at these facilities including, but not restricted to (please date all information): number of births per species and by sex; number of deaths per species and by sex; for each death please provide: species, date, age, sex, attributed cause of death.
- d) How often is the breeding stock of the colony replenished for each of these bodies?
- e) Have primates been imported from overseas to replenish the stock and if so, from what countries did they originate from and when?
- f) What is the name (or names) of the body, agency, authority, company, and/or department responsible for overseeing the management, operations, and housing of the ANBC?

Dolphin Marine Magic

259. Is the Minister satisfied that Dolphin Marine Magic complies with Clause 29 of the General Standards for Exhibiting Animals in NSW, specifically "Visitors who are in contact with animals must be encouraged not to kiss the animals"?

- a) If so, is the ability for Dolphin Marine Magic to offer 'dolphin kisses' as a result of a special variation or exception from those standards?
- b) Is the Minister satisfied that Dolphin Marine Magic complies with Clause 55 of the General Standards for Exhibiting Animals in NSW, which calls for training regimes to be modified to take into account for older animals, such as 'Bucky', the 45 year old male dolphin? If yes, how?
- c) Is the Department of Primary Industries satisfied that Dolphin Marine Magic complies with NSW Dolphin Standards Section 2.1.3, specifically that the dolphins have access to a shaded area in the primary pool?
- d) How many animals has Pet Porpoise Pool rehabilitated under its license for fauna rehabilitation each year over the last ten years?
- e) Please provide a list of rehabilitated animals under this license over the last five financial years?

Marine Protection

- 260. What is the Government's plan to restore protection to the remaining 10 marine sanctuaries in keeping with best-practice scientific opinion?
- 261. If public submissions to the Hawkesbury Shelf Marine Bioregional Assessment call for increased protection in the form of a marine park, will the Government commit to introducing a comprehensive, adequate and representative marine park for the region?

Lord Howe Island

- 262. Is the Department of Primary Industries involved with the proposed plan for aerial baiting at Lord Howe Island?
 - a) If yes, what is the nature of this involvement?
- 263. Is the Department of Primary Industries concerned about the proposed aerial baiting of Brodifacoum at Lord Howe Island?
 - a) If yes, how?
 - b) If no, why not?

Aboriginal Cultural Rights to Fishing

- 264. Will the Aboriginal Fishing Advisory Council (AFAC) continue to be convened in 2015?
- 265. What is the role of the Ministerial Fishing Advisory Council in the development of Aboriginal cultural fishing regulations?
- 266. Given that legislation in relation to Aboriginal cultural fishing was passed by Parliament in 2009 but has not yet been commenced what is the timeframe for commencing section 21AA of the Fisheries Management Act 1994?
- 267. What is the timeframe for the development of regulations that recognise Aboriginal cultural fishing rights? When will regulations be in effect?
- 268. How many Aboriginal people have been fined, cautioned or prosecuted for fishing in:
 - a) 2013-14?
 - b) 2014-15
 - c) In what areas were penalties issued?

Questions from The Hon Mark Pearson MLC

RSPCA NSW's withdrawal of charges against Walley's Piggery

269. Question One

- (a) Will the Minister table a copy of the legal advice received from Legal Counsel to the RSPCA NSW that led to RSPCA NSW withdrawing all animal cruelty and related charges against Valent and Stephanie Perenc and WLS Investments Ltd, trading as Wally's Piggery?

(b)

If the Minister is unable to table a copy of the legal advice received from Legal Counsel to the RSPCA NSW that led to RSPCA NSW withdrawing all animal cruelty and related charges against Valent and Stephanie Perenc and WLS Investments Ltd, trading as Wally's Piggery, will the Minister provide a summary of the legal advice and detail the facts that were relied upon in the provision of the advice?

Questions from Hon Jeremy Buckingham MLC

Coal and CSG projects visited

- 270. Given your Ministerial diaries are only available up until 30 June 2015 and only set out meetings with external persons who seek to influence government policy or decisions but do not specifically list where you have been, have you visited the site of the proposed Shenhua Watermark coal mine on an occasion not recorded in your publically available ministerial diaries?
- 271. Given your Ministerial diaries are only available up until 30 June 2015 and only set out meetings with external persons who seek to influence government policy or decisions but do not specifically list where you have been, have you visited a coal seam gas field since becoming Minister on an occasion not recorded in your publically available ministerial diaries?
- 272. Given your Ministerial diaries are only available up until 30 June 2015 and only set out meetings with external persons who seek to influence government policy or decisions but do not specifically list where you have been, have you visited the site of the proposed Bylong coal project since becoming Minister on an occasion not recorded in your publically available ministerial diaries?

Hume Coal Project

- 273. Given your conflict of interest, who will represent the interests of agriculture at a Ministerial level in meetings and discussions in regards to the proposed Hume coal project?

Landcare

- 274. Why has the \$15 million you have announced for Landcare been backended so that only \$4.1 million, or less than one third of the money, is available before 2017?

High risk incursion fund

- 275. Has any money been allocated for the establishment of a high risk incursion fund for biosecurity outbreaks as recommended by the Natural Resources Commission?
- 276. If not, why not? Is the barrier the availability of the funding or some specific concern with the model?

Deer

- 277. When was the last state-wide census of deer numbers conducted?
- 278. How many feral deer are there currently in NSW?
- 279. What are the main impacts of deer on agricultural production in NSW?
- 280. Why are feral deer not declared a pest species in NSW?

Impact of El Nino on farm productivity

- 281. In the Treasury's 2015-16 Budget Economic Update prepared as part of the budget, they state that the onset of the El Nino cycle may lead to further downward revisions of agricultural output forecasts.

- a) Have there been any further downward revisions by your department since the budget was released?
- b) What do you expect the impact to be as a percentage of agricultural output if we do face an El Nino?

Climate change research

- 282. Are droughts are expected to be more frequent and intense in NSW in the future due to climate change?
- 283. What research is the DPI currently conducting into the impacts and responses to climate change for agriculture?
- 284. How much money is the DPI currently spending on research into the impacts and responses to climate change for agriculture?
- 285. Is the LLS the main agency responsible for assisting farmers in adapting to climate change?

Agriculture Industry Action Plan

- 286. How much did it cost to produce and distribute NSW Agriculture Industry Action Plan?

Young farmer loans

- 287. Will the Minister commit to establishing a finance scheme for young farmers similar to those that exist in Queensland and Victoria, and as promised by the former Minister for Primary Industries in 2012?
 - a) If so, what timeline will you commit to?

Hemp

- 288. How much would a hemp food industry be worth to farmers in NSW?
- 289. Are people purchasing and consuming hemp food products in NSW?
- 290. Are you aware of any cases of someone recording a positive test for cannabis from a breathalyser that has been attributable to the consumption of hemp food products?

Hemp Act Review

- 291. Under Section 50 of the Hemp Industry Act 2008, a review of the Act was to have been conducted as soon as possible after the 1 July 2013 and tabled in Parliament. Has such a review commenced and will the Minister commit to such a review before the end of 2015?
- 292. Will the Minister commit to making the review open for public submissions and stakeholder input?

Property Identification Codes

- 293. Is the Government considering the expansion of the requirement to obtain a property identification code [PIC] to include nurseries and orchards? Are you actively considering that?

Lands and Water

Questions from Hon Robert Brown MLC

294. What flood mitigation and irrigation schemes are currently under consideration by the NSW government regarding water security and its long-term sustainability in this State?

Questions from Hon Paul Green MLC

Minister for Water

295. Minister, The Murray system presently has nearly 7,000,000 megalitres of water I storage and is experiencing very good inflows. Why are general security irrigators in the Murray Valley being denied any allocation of water?
296. Minister, When are you going to halt the blight on this States credibility and stop the immoral, unjust and usurious practise of charging farmers for water the State cannot or will not deliver?

Questions from Dr Mehreen Faruqi MLC

Former Crowdy Head Primary School Site

297. Is the former Crowdy Head Primary School Site now classified as Crown Lands?

- a) If yes
 - i. What is the future plan for the site and how can the community have input into this plan?
 - ii. Have any buildings been removed since it was declared Crown Lands? If yes, what are the details of the removal and the reason?
 - iii. How is the site being maintained?
- b) If no:
 - i. When is it anticipated to becoming Crown Land?

Port Macquarie Plaza Car Park

298. Is the Minister satisfied that the sale of the Port Macquarie Plaza Car Park would be in the public interest?

- a) If yes, how?

299. Did the Minister determine that the land assessment should not apply because he was satisfied that it was in the public interest to not have a land assessment?

- a) If yes, how did the Minister determine that that a land assessment was not required?
- b) How was it in the public interest to not have a land assessment?

Questions from Hon Shaoquett Moselmane MLC

Biodiversity Legislation Review

- 300. What is the total allocated cost for the review of the Biodiversity legislation review for 2015-16?
- 301. What resources have been allocated to Local Land Services to assist in the implementation of a new Biodiversity Conservation Act?
- 302. What resources have been allocated to local councils to assist in the implementation of a new Biodiversity Conservation Act?
- 303. What resources have been allocated to protecting native vegetation and fauna on private land in light of commitments to dissolve the Native Vegetation Act 2003?

Efficiency Dividend and Department of Primary Industries, Lands and Water

- 304. For each of the past three financial years what was the efficiency dividend in dollar value to be met by each of the agencies within your administration?
- 305. What savings and revenue generating strategies did each agency implement to achieve the efficiency dividend and what was the amount of the savings or revenue actually achieved?
- 306. What is the efficiency dividend in dollar value required to be achieved by each agency within your administration for this financial year?
- 307. What savings and revenue generating strategies are you implementing this financial year and what do you expect to achieve for each strategy?

NSW Marine Sanctuaries

- 308. Can the Department provide a list of the 10 beaches revoked from NSW Marine Sanctuaries?
- 309. Can the Department provide a list of the Marine Parks affected by this action?
- 310. Can the Department outline the rationale for revoking these areas from the NSW Marine Park Sanctuaries?
- 311. Can the Department outline any work that it has undertaken to assess the impact of revoking Marine Sanctuary status from these areas?
- 312. Can the Department outline the rationale for going against the recommendations of the Government's scientific audit of marine parks?

Crown Lands Review and Management

- 313. Will there be an exposure draft of the new Crown lands legislation?
 - (a) Will it be made public?
 - (b) If so, when?
- 314. What is the status of proposals relating to local land divestment to local councils?
- 315. Will the Government primarily be pursuing the transfer of title to local councils as a part of local land divestment processes?

316. How will Aboriginal peoples interests in Crown land be included in any criteria regarding 'state' and 'local' land?
317. Has a working group, or another form of group, been set up to determine or discuss proposals for the divestment of local land? If so what organisations/government departments are represented on this working group?
318. Will the divestment of local land be only to local councils or will other local bodies be divested land? If so, what bodies?
319. How will the Government support the transfer of Crown land (that meets the criteria set out in s.36 of the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act*) to Aboriginal Land Councils in the future as Crown land is proposed to be divested to local government, disposed of, or divested to other Government Departments, agencies or Ministers?
320. Will the powers to lease and dispose of land be retained in the Crown Lands Act, or will these powers be under Local Government legislation?
321. How does the Government plan to meet the objectives of proposed new Crown lands legislation, when it is proposed that the majority of Crown land will be managed under the *Local Government Act*?
322. Will the Government be pursuing retrospective authorizing of Crown land where landowners have not applied for licences? When will this process commence?
323. Will the Government maintain ownership of Crown land and asset portfolio, or will the proposed Public Trading Enterprise? Will Crown land be vested in the Public Trading Enterprise?
324. How will the commercial focus of the proposed Public Trading Enterprise (which will have revenue targets and will need to raise the majority of income from user charges) support the remedial and compensatory objects of the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act*?
325. How does the Government propose to meet the proposed objective 'to preserve cultural heritage (Aboriginal and non Aboriginal) on Crown land'? How will the Government specifically support this objective in relation to the protection of Aboriginal culture and heritage?
326. What is the Government's definition of co-management in the context of the proposed new Crown lands object - 'to encourage Aboriginal use and where appropriate co-management of Crown land'? Why has the Government not prioritized the transfer of Crown land to Aboriginal Land Councils instead of co-management?
327. What was the total revenue derived from Crown Land asset disposal in 2014-15?
328. Has the strategic plan for coastal and inland water holiday parks be completed?

- (a) If so, when was it completed and when will it be released publically?
329. What were the dates and venues of meetings of the NSW Crown Holiday Parks Trust in the 2014-15 financial year and from 1 July 2015 to date?
330. At the current date, what funds are currently available in the Public Reserves Management Fund [PRMF]?
331. What is the total value of outstanding loans provided under the Public Reserves Management Fund (PRMF)?
- (a) How many loans were extended in 2014-15?
 - (b) Are any loans outstanding beyond the original terms?
 - i. If yes, please list.
332. What was the total revenue raised through waterfront rents in NSW for the financial year 2014-15?
333. How much did the Department of Lands expend on beach rehabilitation projects in 2014-15?
334. What was the cost of managing invasive native species on Crown Land in:
- (a) 2011-12?
 - (b) 2012-13?
 - (c) 2013-14?
 - (d) 2014-15?
335. What as the value each year of unpaid Crown land lease fees for the years:
- (a) 2012-13?
 - (b) 2013-14?
 - (c) 2014-15?
336. What is the value of unpaid Crown land lease fees that are:
- (a) More than 6 months overdue?
 - (b) More than 12 months overdue?
337. What was the total value of Crown land lease fees in NSW in 2014-15?

Crown lands legal cases

338. What is the status of the legal action regarding Tallis Reserve?
- (a) What is the total cost of legal fees to date to the Government for that particular action?
339. What is the total cost of legal fees to date to the Government for legal action in relation to the Kind Edward headland?

340. How many legal cases have been commenced, finalised, or were active in any way against the NSW Government in relation to crown reserves and their related plans of management in the last financial year?
341. How many legal cases have been commenced, finalised, or were active in any way and initiated by the NSW Government in relation to crown reserves and their related plans of management in the last financial year?

Crown roads

342. How many times have complaints been received or concerns raised in the last financial year about Crown roads and public roads after they have been closed to the public or sold?
- (a) If so, in relation to which crown roads and public roads?
343. What was the quantum of Crown road and public road disposal in 2014-15?
- (a) What was the total revenue from these disposals?
344. What is the forecast revenue from Crown road and public road disposal in 2015-16?

Hastings Regional Crown Reserve

345. Regarding the Hastings Regional Crown Reserve – Precinct A Plan of Management in Port Macquarie, why was a section titled ‘Communication and Community Involvement’ removed from previous versions of the Draft Plan of Management?
346. Who was engaged to revise the Draft Plan of Management that was then adopted by the NSW Government?
347. What was the cost of the consultants engaged to revise the Draft Plan of Management that was then adopted by the NSW Government?
348. What was the full cost of the entire process of developing the Hastings Regional Crown Reserve – Precinct A Plan of Management?

Aboriginal Land Claims and Land Agreements

349. What resources have been expended on the survey of Aboriginal Land Claims in the 2014-15 financial year (including amounts expended and/or staff resources used)?
350. How many Aboriginal Land Claims were surveyed in the 2014-15 financial year?
351. How many parcels of land previously reserved for travelling stock purposes have been disposed of or reserved for other purposes in the 2014-15 financial year?
352. How much money has been budgeted to process Aboriginal land claims in 2015-16?

353. How many outstanding Land Claims that the Department of Crown Lands is currently dealing with?
354. How many claims were approved in the following months?
- (a) July 2015
 - (b) August 2014
 - (c) September 2014
 - (d) October 2014
 - (e) November 2014
 - (f) December 2014
 - (g) January 2015
 - (h) February 2015
 - (i) March 2015
 - (j) April 2015
 - (k) May 2015
 - (l) June 2015
 - (m) July 2015
355. How many claims were rejected in the following months?
- (a) July 2015
 - (b) August 2014
 - (c) September 2014
 - (d) October 2014
 - (e) November 2014
 - (f) December 2014
 - (g) January 2015
 - (h) February 2015
 - (i) March 2015
 - (j) April 2015
 - (k) May 2015
 - (l) June 2015
 - (m) July 2015
356. As of 1 July 2015, how many Aboriginal Land Agreements have been established with Local Aboriginal Land Councils in NSW?
357. Do these Aboriginal Land Agreements currently have Land Claims over the parcels of land considered?

Water

358. What was Sydney Water's net debt for the year 2014-15?
359. Please provide a table of the Summary Balance Sheet for the year 2014-15.

360. On page 91 of the Auditor General's Report Volume Five 2014 focusing on Electricity and Water, the report finds that for Sydney Water, the water main breaks and leaks per 100 kilometres, and the sewer main breaks and chokes per 100 km both increased from 2012-13 to 2013-14. It also found that the average frequency of unplanned water interruptions per 1,000 properties increased.
- (a) What were the reasons for these increases?
 - (b) What are the figures for these measures for 2014-15?
361. On page 91 of the Auditor General's Report Volume Five 2014 focusing on Electricity and Water, the report finds that for Hunter Water, the sewer main breaks and chokes per 100 km and the average frequency of unplanned water interruptions per 1,000 properties both increased from 2012-13 to 2013-14.
- (a) What were the reasons for these increases?
 - (b) What are the figures for these measures for 2014-15?
362. On page 91 of the Auditor General's Report Volume Five 2014 focusing on Electricity and Water, the report finds that 'water quality complaints increased for Hunter Water Corporation in 2013-14 due to operational issues which resulted in dirty water, 'white' water and taste and odour issues.'
- (a) What are the specific operational issues referred to in this statement?
363. How many complaints were received by Sydney Water in 2014-15?
- (a) How many of these related to billing and account complaints related to meter reading issues?
364. How many complaints were received by Hunter Water in 2014-15?
- (a) How many of these related to billing and account complaints related to meter reading issues?
365. How many properties serviced by Sydney Water experienced low water pressure of less than 15 metres head in 2014-15?
366. How many properties serviced by Hunter Water experienced low water pressure of less than 15 metres head in 2014-15?
367. On average, how many litres of water does Sydney Water lose through leakages each day?
- (a) What was Sydney Water's Infrastructure Leakage Index (ILI) for 2014-15?
368. On average, how many litres of water does Hunter Water lose through leakages each day?
- (a) What was Hunter Water's Infrastructure Leakage Index (ILI) for 2014-15?
369. In response to supplementary question 16 in last year's Budget Estimates inquiry, the then-Minister advised that: "Sydney Water is undertaking planning studies to investigate options for addressing the directed overflow on the North Georges River Submain that discharges to Lime

Kiln Bay Wetland and overflows across the natural stormwater drainage catchment of Prospect Creek. The planning studies are scheduled to be finished by September 2014 for Lime Kiln Bay Wetland and December 2015 for Prospect Creek. These studies will identify the scope, cost and timing of any necessary improvement works.”

(a) What is the status of these planning studies?

370. What projects under Sydney Water, Hunter Water, Water NSW and including the Country Town Water Supply and Sewerage Scheme currently have funding allocated to them, how much is allocated and what are the key commencement and completion dates for each?

371. What revenue was raised each year for the previous three financial years from transferring disused water races to adjoining landholders?

372. In answer to supplementary questions 136 and 137 at last year’s Budget Estimates, the then-Minister stated that:

“Sydney Water has been consulting with the EPA over the past year about a change to the licence conditions in regard to sewage overflow targets. Sydney Water is looking to propose to the EPA an alternative regulatory measure that supports an effects-based assessment (EBA) approach to overflows”; and

“Sydney Water is undertaking a planning study to investigate options for managing the wet weather flows that originate from private property across the natural stormwater catchment of Wolli Creek. Subject to the successful completion of this project, work could be expanded to other areas.”

(a) What is the status of the discussions between Sydney Water and the EPA?

(b) When will the EBA approach be implemented?

(c) What is the status of the planning study?

(d) What was the total cost of the planning study?

(e) Was the study completed by an external or contracted consultant?

i. If so, who was engaged to undertake the planning study?

373. What funding has been allocated in 2015-16 to the:

(a) Belubula Dam?

(b) Wilcannia weir?

(c) Walgett weir?

(d) Bourke weir?

374. Where in the 2015-16 Budget is expenditure on the sewage pump out subsidy for Blue Mountains residents represented?

(a) What is the specific allocation for the pump out subsidy?

(b) What is the amount of money per household?

(c) What is the volume/frequency of pump out this covers?

375. Has the overall Budget for Sydney Water grown by the amount for the allocation for the pump out subsidy or has this money been recovered from savings elsewhere in operations?

(a) If new funding, will it recur each year?

- (b) If savings, what has been cut to fund it?
- 376. How much funding did the NSW Government contribute to the Water for Rivers project for each financial year that a contribution was made?
- 377. How much was spent by the NSW Government on the 'Capping and Piping the Bores' program in 2014-15?
 - (a) How much has been budgeted for this program in 2015-16?
- 378. How much funding was expended exploring the feasibility of the Needles Gap dam?
 - (a) Which consultants, if any, were engaged?
 - (b) What was the cost of engaging the consultants?
- 379. How much funding was expended exploring the feasibility of the Cranky Rock dam?
 - (a) Which consultants, if any, were engaged?
 - (b) What was the cost of engaging the consultants?
- 380. How many recreational facilities or publicly accessible parks are located at or next to dam sites in NSW?
 - (a) Please list them.
- 381. What are the details of each Sydney Water main break, listing the date and site of each incident, including the estimated cost of repairing each breakage, including all repair works and customer rebates for outages as a result of the breakages, in:
 - (a) 2014-15;
 - (b) from 1 July 2015 to date.
- 382. Has the Minister taken any action to require Sydney Water to report on the adaptive capacity of the network to cope with climate impacts including sea level rise, population growth and changes in industry over a 50 year planning horizon?
- 383. Has Sydney Water detected any illegal or unauthorised rainwater tanks connected to the water system over the past three financial years?
 - (a) If yes, please provide the amount per financial year.
- 384. Has Hunter Water detected any illegal or unauthorised rainwater tanks connected to the water system over the past three financial years?
 - (a) If yes, please provide the amount per financial year.
- 385. What does Sydney Water do to assist people wishing to install a rainwater tank?
- 386. How many illegal or unauthorised services were detected by Sydney Water in each of the financial years:
 - (a) 2012-13?
 - (b) 2013-14?

(c) 2014-15?

387. How many illegal or unauthorised services were detected by Hunter Water in each of the financial years:

(a) 2012-13?

(b) 2013-14?

(c) 2014-15?

388. How much did Sydney Water spend on detecting illegal or unauthorised services in each of the financial years:

(a) 2012-13?

(b) 2013-14?

(c) 2014-15?

389. How much did Hunter Water spend on detecting illegal or unauthorised services in each of the financial years:

(a) 2012-13?

(b) 2013-14?

(c) 2014-15?

390. What is the estimated total cost impact to Sydney Water of illegal or unauthorised services in each of the financial years:

(a) 2012-13?

(b) 2013-14?

(c) 2014-15?

391. What is the estimated total cost impact to Hunter Water of illegal or unauthorised services in each of the financial years:

(a) 2012-13?

(b) 2013-14?

(c) 2014-15?

392. What is the total cost to Sydney Water of blockages caused by wet wipe products in each of the financial years:

(a) 2012-13?

(b) 2013-14?

(c) 2014-15?

393. Are there any areas in particular that are most affected by wet wipe products in terms of water blockages?

394. Will the Minister consider legislation to prevent the use of non-biodegradable wet wipe products at some time in the future?

(a) Has the Minister already sought or received advice about such a move?

395. Regarding Sydney Water, how many instances of illegal or unauthorised trade wastewater discharges occurred in each of the financial years:
- (a) 2012-13?
 - (b) 2013-14?
 - (c) 2014-15?
396. How much did Sydney Water spend on detecting illegal or unauthorised trade wastewater discharges in each of the financial years:
- (a) 2012-13?
 - (b) 2013-14?
 - (c) 2014-15?
397. What were the dates and locations of each instance of raw or diluted sewage overflow or any external flows from Sydney Water wastewater pumping stations and wastewater treatment plants in each of the financial years:
- (a) 2012-13?
 - (b) 2013-14?
 - (c) 2014-15?
398. Regarding Sydney Water, how many properties had their water service restricted in each of the financial years:
- (a) 2012-13?
 - (b) 2013-14?
 - (c) 2014-15?
399. Regarding Hunter Water, how many properties had their water service restricted in each of the financial years:
- (a) 2012-13?
 - (b) 2013-14?
 - (c) 2014-15?
400. Regarding Sydney Water, how many properties had their water service disconnected in each of the financial years:
- (a) 2012-13?
 - (b) 2013-14?
 - (c) 2014-15?
401. Regarding Hunter Water, how many properties had their water service disconnected in each of the financial years:
- (a) 2012-13?
 - (b) 2013-14?
 - (c) 2014-15?

Ministerial Office Administration

402. 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?
403. 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?
404. 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?
405. 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?
406. Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in your office?
- (a) What is the cost of this?
407. 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?
408. 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?
409. 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?
410. Do you purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for your office?
- (a) What is the cost of this?
411. 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?
412. Details of the agreement between your office and any contractors/consultants engaged by your office?

Ministerial And Office Travel

413. 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?
414. 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?
415. 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
416. Have you ever used Uber?
- (a) If yes, were any of these occasions in an UberX vehicle?
417. 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?
418. 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?
419. Have you used Airbnb?
420. Have you or anyone in your office used Airbnb as an accommodation solution whilst travelling on official business?
421. 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?
422. What non-standard features are fitted to your ministerial vehicle?
- (a) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?

Labour Hire Firms

423. 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

- 424. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies?
- 425. 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?
- 426. What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities?
- 427. 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

- 428. 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?
- 429. 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?
- 430. 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?
- 431. 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?
- 432. 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?
- 433. 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?
434. 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?
435. 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?
436. 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?
437. 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?
438. 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

439. 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?
440. Have Department/agencies under your portfolio engaged any consultants to provide the following services or advice:
- a) Social media
 - v. And the cost of these services
 - b) Photography
 - vi. And the cost of these services
 - c) Acting training
 - vii. And the cost of these services
 - d) Ergonomics
 - viii. And the cost of these services

Department/Agency Administration

433. How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-15?
- a) Of these redundancies, how many were:
 - vii. Voluntary
 - viii. Forced
 - b) What was the total cost of all redundancies?
434. 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?
435. Are any staff formerly employed by your ministerial office now employed by Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibility?
436. How many staff were dismissed from Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibilities in 2014-15?
- a) What were the reason/s for each dismissal?
437. How much was spent on corporate hospitality by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-2015?
438. How much was spent on indoor plant hire and maintenance by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2014-2015 year?
439. 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?
440. 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?
441. 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?
442. How much did departments/agencies spend on newspaper and journal subscriptions during 2014-2015?
443. 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:
 - ix. 0 staff reporting to them;
 - x. less than 2 staff reporting to them; and
 - xi. less than 5 staff?
444. 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?
- 445. Do any of the departments/agencies under your portfolio area employ actors for staff training?
 - a) If so, what is:
 - xii. the size of the contract for the provision of actors for staff training in your departments?
 - xiii. the term of the contracts for the provision of actors for staff training in your departments?
 - xiv. the tender numbers for each of the contracts?

Department/Agency Travel

- 446. 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
- 447. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have a policy on utilising Uber services for travel on official business?
- 448. 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?
- 449. Have staff in your Department/agencies either paid for with departmental funds or been recompensed for official travel using Airbnb services?
- 450. Did any officers within departments/agencies under your ministerial portfolio use charter aircraft during the year 2014-2015?
 - b) If so what was the purpose and cost?

Departmental/Agency IT

- 451. 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?
- 452. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an Android account?
 - a) What was the total expenditure in 2014-15 on Android?
 - ii. What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through Android?
- 453. 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?
- 454. 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?
 - iii. What was the individual cost of each data charge over \$1000 for a single billing period?

Questions from Hon Jeremy Buckingham MLC

Wilcannia Weir

- 455. In early November last year the government announced a \$200,000 feasibility study for Wilcannia weir. How is this study progressing?
- 456. How long is the feasibility study expected to take?
- 457. What is the estimated cost of building the Wilcannia weir?
- 458. When will the Wilcannia Weir be built?

Darling River

- 459. Are upstream irrigators, particularly in Queensland are taking too much water out of the Darling River?
- 460. Should Cubbie Station have been bought up by the government when it was available to ensure the massive amount of water it can take from the Darling system does not kill the river?

Broken Hill Water Supply

- 461. Where has the \$400 million in funding for the Menindee Lakes upgrade gone that was allocated by the Federal Government back from 2007 and after?
- 462. Why is the NSW Government spending \$122.8 million on Bore Water infrastructure for Broken Hill/Menindee water supply, when an alternate new emergency surface water pipeline could have been constructed along the Pooncarie Road or the current Anabranche Easement, which could have possibly been operational by now, giving good clean water as an emergency alternative to Bore Water?

Aquifer interference policy

- 463. Can you detail the compliance and monitoring work, if any, that is undertaken by DPI Water to uphold the provisions of the Aquifer Interference Policy?
- 464. I refer to the advice of the previous Minister as part of the aquifer interference policy on the Carroona Coal Project where he said: "There is not sufficient information to allow for a proper assessment of the impacts of the proposal on water resources." Are you satisfied with the Aquifer Interference Policy when this is the complete extent of its application for this project?
- 465. Why has the Carroona Coal Project been allowed to pass to the next stage in the planning process following the gateway without a proper assessment of the impact on water resources?

Western Lands Commission

- 466. Do you support the Western Lands Commission remaining and being well-resourced to ensure that there is effective oversight of leases over the fragile western half of our state?

Flood plain rules change

- 467. Under the definition of flood plains under the Water Act, does the proposed Shenhua Watermark mine cover any areas that would be considered a flood plain?

468. Did the Department of Resources and Energy consult with the Office of Water, or the Department of Primary Industries before make a decision about the definition of a floodplain in relation to Shenhua's Watermark coal mine?
469. If not, are you concerned that the Department of Resources and Energy chose to make up their own definition of a floodplain to benefit Shenhua instead of consulting with your department?