

**BUDGET ESTIMATES 2014-2015
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
TREASURY, INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
22 August 2014**

**Questions from David Shoebridge
INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS**

Question:

1. How many judges are currently appointed to the IRC?

Answer:

This information is provided on the IRC website..

Question:

2. How many appointments are anticipated in the next 12 months?

Answer:

This is a matter for Cabinet to determine.

Question:

3. How many cases has the IRC considered in the last 12 months?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 1.

Question:

4. What is the projected case load for the IRC in the next 12 months?

Answer:

For the calendar year 2014, the Industrial Relations Commission is predicting that less than a 1000 matters will be finalised.

Question:

5. Regarding the agencies that achieved "efficiencies" sufficient to justify wage increases over the 2.5% (now 2.27%) wages cap, what were the efficiencies in question?

Answer:

The Government's policy has lead to meaningful improvements in the work environment for many people providing services to the NSW Government. The improvements that have allowed the Government to provide increases in remuneration above the long term inflation rate while simultaneously improving the service provided by government to the people of NSW are many and varied. Most of these improvements in work practices were signed off by the Industrial Relations Commission and are a matter of public record.

The wages policy is often seen as a cost control measure, when in fact it is emerging as a critical incentive for improving and innovating on service delivery to the people of NSW. These innovations as a by-product may reduce costs, but more importantly are improving the quality of service and thereby satisfaction levels amongst customers

Question:

6. The Parliamentary inquiry into Bullying at WorkCover recommended a statewide workplace bullying law, what steps have you taken to implement this recommendation?

Answer:

This question should be re-directed to the Minister for Finance & Services.

Question:

7. What is the current estimated extent of workplace bullying in the NSW Public Service?

(a) How was this assessed?

(b) If there is no estimated extent, why not?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 6.

**Questions from Mr Jeremy Buckingham MLC
TREASURY**

Question:

1. Does the Treasury still support its estimate in the 2013-14 budget papers that the Cobbora Coal Project would run at a \$1.5 billion loss over the life of the project?

Answer:

This is outlined in the 2014-15 State Budget paper 2 at page 9-4. As outlined, "\$1.5 billion loss" is not relevant as coal supply contracts were terminated.

Question:

2. If so, does Treasury endorse the recent PAC approval of the project, based on the proponent's estimate of a \$2 billion net benefit?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 1.

Question:

3. Why does Treasury think that a private operator would buy or lease a project that Treasury says will lose money?

Answer:

Please refer to the answers to question 1.

Question:

4. Given Treasury's assessment that the project will lose money, does the \$76 million spent on the project's feasibility study, as reported in budget papers, and the millions of dollars that Cobbora Holding Company loses every year, according to the Auditor General seem like good investments of state funds?

Answer:

Please refer to the answers to questions 1 and 2.

Question:

5. How are the forward estimates for coal royalties calculated?

Answer:

The main factors driving coal royalties are the volume of coal production, coal prices in US dollars and the US/Australian dollar exchange rate.

Question:

6. How much in coal royalties was collected for the following regions in 2012/13:

(a) Gloucester

(b) Gunnedah

(c) Hunter

(d) Southern

(e) Western

Answer:

NSW Treasury does not hold this information.

Question:

7. How many coal mining lease holders are there in NSW?

Answer:

NSW Treasury does not hold this information.

Question:

8. How many coal mining leases are there in NSW?

Answer:

NSW Treasury does not hold this information.

Question:

9. How many coal mining leases are active and generate royalties for NSW?

Answer:

NSW Treasury does not hold this information.

Question:

10. What was the value of coal royalties received in the year 2003/04? What was the value of coal sold from NSW mines in 2003/04?

Answer:

Total revenue from mineral royalties in 2003-04 was \$233 million. NSW Treasury does not have a breakdown of this amount for coal and (non-coal) minerals.

NSW Treasury does not hold information on the value of coal sold from NSW mines in 2003-04.

Question:

11. What was the value of coal sold from NSW mines in the years 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14?

Answer:

NSW Treasury does not hold this information.

Question:

12. What is the estimated number of times that a load of coal is resold before its final use after leaving NSW?

Answer:

NSW Treasury does not hold this information.

Question:

13. What level of unconventional gas production in NSW is predicted over the forward estimates?

Answer:

NSW Treasury does not hold this information.

Question:

14. What are the predicted royalties from coal seam gas in NSW over the forward estimates?

Answer:

This would be more appropriately directed to the Minister for Resources and Energy, the Hon Anthony Roberts MP.

Question:

15. Are you confident in the budget predictions for coal royalties over the forward estimates given they have been inaccurate in the past four budget papers?

Answer:

The Budget predictions for coal royalties over the forward estimates were prepared on forecasts of coal prices (in USD), the AUD/USD exchange rate and coal volumes at the time. Changes to these variables will affect the royalties outcome.

Question:

16. Why do you think that the budget estimates for coal royalties have been consistently incorrect by as much as \$900 million over the past four budgets?

Answer:

See answer to question 15.

Question:

17. In light of the declining revenue from coal royalties, has any modelling been done on the impact of increasing the royalty rate on coal in order to increase government revenue?

Answer:

No.

Question:

18. Will the government investigate increasing the royalty rate on other minerals, such as gold, in order to increase government revenue?

Answer:

The Government seeks to implement a coherent, consistent, non-distorting tax base that is as efficient as possible to fund the services demanded by our community. This Government does not believe tax policy should be an instrument for social commentary. Nor should it be used by vested interests seeking to make a political point to punish industries labelled by the ill informed as morally inferior.

Question:

19. What is the total of fines for late or unpaid royalties that have been imposed on coal mining companies in 2013/14?

Answer:

The Department of Trade and Investment, Regional Infrastructure and Services was responsible for royalties collection in 2013/14.

Question:

20. What was the total value of deductions on royalty payments made by coal mining companies in 2013/14?

Answer:

See answer to question 19.

Question:

21. Is there a documented policy for audit staff rotation across mining lease holders?

Answer:

This is a matter for the Department of Trade and Investment, Regional Infrastructure and Services.

Question:

22. Has there been an assessment or reporting on the quality, findings and effectiveness of mining royalty audits since November 2010?

Answer:

See answer to question 21.

Question:

23. How much money was recovered in additional mining royalties due underpayments identified by audits in 2013-14?

Answer:

See answer to question 21.

Question:

24. How much money was identified as overpayments of mining royalties by audits in 2013-14?

Answer:

See answer to question 21.

Question:

25. How much money was collected in interest charged for late payments on coal royalties in 2013-14?

Answer:

See answer to question 21.

Question:

26. Which foreign currency conversion rates has the department specified that lease holders can use for export coal?

Answer:

The exchange rate as published daily by the Reserve Bank of Australia

Question:

27. How are coal loans, borrowing and swaps between lease holders accounted for in determining royalty payments in NSW?

Answer:

See answer to question 21.

Question:

28. How are coal sales to a related company determined for the purposes of calculating royalty payments in NSW?

Answer:

See answer to question 21.

Questions from Dr John Kaye MLC
TREASURY
Revenue

Question:

29. For the year 2013/4 what was the total revenue received by the state government from wagering on

- (a) thoroughbred racing?
- (b) greyhound racing?
- (c) horse racing?

Answer:

The total revenue for gambling is set out in Budget Paper 2. For a breakdown of revenue, this question should be re-directed to the Minister for Gaming and Racing.

Question:

30. What is the total revenue from mining royalties received by the NSW government for the year 2013/14 broken down by product type (e.g. coal, ferrous metals, non-ferrous metals)

Answer:

In 2013-14, NSW received \$1.2 billion in coal royalty revenue. NSW Treasury does not hold information on royalty revenue for individual mineral (non-coal) types and petroleum in 2013-14.

Question:

31. For each of Ausgrid, Essential Energy, Endeavour Energy and TransGrid and for each year in the forward estimates period, please provide details of the forecast revenue streams to government for each utility in each year, including:

- (a) Dividends
- (b) Tax equivalent payments
- (c) Interest equivalent payments
- (d) Other (please specify)

Answer:

Please refer to the 2014/2015 State Budget papers and/or the annual reports of these entities.

Question:

32. For each of Ausgrid, Essential Energy, Endeavour Energy and TransGrid and for each year in the previous three years, please provide details of the the revenue streams to government for each utility in each year, including:

- (a) Dividends
- (b) Tax equivalent payments
- (c) Interest equivalent payments
- (d) Other (please specify)

Answer:

Please refer to the 2014/2015 State Budget papers and/or the Annual Reports of these entities.

Cobbora Coal Project

Question:

33. How much funding has been allocated to adviser Goldman Sachs to manage the proposed sale of the Cobbora Coal Project?

Answer:

A \$0.5 million fixed fee has been agreed as fee for this project.

Question:

34. What is the status of the 46,000ha of land acquired by Cobbora Holding Company for the coal project and currently held in public hands?

Answer:

In accordance with the Planning Assessment Commission's project approval conditions, a land aggregation and licensing program is being implemented in order to maximise sustainable agricultural productivity of Cobbora land and to regenerate biodiversity areas.

Question:

35. Has the NSW government placed a timeframe on the expression of interest in the sale of the mine site?

(a) If so, when will this timeframe conclude in the case that no private buyers come forward?

Answer:

Yes. The transaction process is scheduled to conclude by the end of this calendar year.

Question:

36. In the event that a private developer for the mine site cannot be secured, does the NSW Government intend to offer the land acquired back to previous residents?

Answer:

No decision has yet been made on how the land will be dealt with in the event that a transaction is not concluded.

Question:

37. What is the current value of Cobbora Holding Company?

Answer:

The requested information is confidential and not publicly disclosed.

Question:

38. How many people are currently employed by Cobbora Holding Company? Please list their positions.

Answer:

As at 20 August 2014 Cobbora Holding Company had 11 employees. The positions are as follows:

1. CEO
2. Executive Assistant to CEO
3. Area Project Engineer
4. Health, Safety, Environment and Community Manager
5. Property Manager
6. Site Health, Safety, Environment and Community Representative
7. Landcare Specialist
8. Administrative and Procurement Manager
9. Financial Controller and Company Secretary
10. Assistant Accountant
11. ICT Services Manager

Northern Beaches Hospital**Question:**

39. Has the government purchased shares in Ramsay Health Care Limited or Healthscope Limited, or any of these company's subsidiaries, within the past four years?

(a) If so, what is the parcel size and current value of these purchases?

(b) If not, does the government intend to purchase stock in one or both of these companies or their subsidiaries?

(c) If the government has or intends to purchase shares, will the dividends and other earnings be specifically directed (hypothecated) or returned to general revenues?

Answer:

This Government believes that the job of Government is to provide services as efficiently and effectively as possible. It does not believe the role of government is to behave like a hedge fund.

This Government does not invest in private companies. It has not bought shares in Ramsay Health Care or Healthscope Limited.

There are a number of government related bodies that perform functions such as superannuation that may trade in listed entities and other assets. Those entities issue annual reports that detail their activities. This Government does not direct those entities in their trading activities.

Question:

40. What donations, either monetary or in kind, were received by the NSW Liberal and National parties by Healthscope Ltd or Ramsay Health Care Ltd since 2009? Please list donor, the date donation was received and the amount.

Answer:

All political donations to the Liberal Party are managed by the Liberal Party.

Question:

41. Has Treasury projected potential savings to future budgets from the private sector delivery of public hospital services at the Northern Beaches Hospital?
(a) If so please provide details.

Answer:

Of course the Government will only enter into a contract with a provider if it gives the people of the Northern Beaches a better service.

Question:

42. What are the risk assessment and management protocols being put in place to monitor and manage the impacts of market fluctuations and possible market failure on the financial viability and operations of the Northern Beaches Hospital?

Answer:

As the State will be making a capital contribution to repay the entire amount of debt at the end of the construction phase, this is a short term risk. Market failure and fluctuations are risks borne by the operator and mitigated as per their contractual arrangements with their funders and standard business practices.

Question:

43. What measures will be put in place to manage the cost of debt on the Northern Beaches Hospital?

Answer:

See answer to question 42.

NSW Government Resource Efficiency Policy**Question:**

44. What budget allocations have been made for the year 2014/15 and beyond to support the implementation of the NSW Government Resource Efficiency Policy?

Answer:

The Office of Environment and Heritage issued the NSW Government Resource Efficiency Policy.

Private sector provision of public sector

Question:

45. Where the provision of a public sector service or infrastructure project is placed for tender, does the Treasury require any declaration of campaign donations from potential bidders?

(a) If not, why is this a relevant matter for State Significant Development matters but not for services or infrastructure provision?

(b) What steps has the Treasurer taken to assess if there is public concern or reason for concern that campaign donors receiving contracts might create a perception of conflict of interest?

Answer:

Determining State Significant Development matters- Section 147 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* No 203 requires persons with financial interest in a planning application to disclose all political donations over \$1000 made in the preceding 12 months.

Bidders are not required to disclose campaign donations as the NSW Government conducts competitive tenders and awards contracts on a value for money basis. Cabinet approves a final preferred bidder.

The NSW Government has made significant reforms to the procurement process including the establishment of the Procurement Board, the engagement of Probity Advisors. Section 176 of the Procurement Act requires agencies to undertake procurement in accordance with the principles of probity and fairness and with the aim to obtain value for money.

Energy infrastructure and future investment

Question:

46. What steps have been taken to assess the impacts of projections of technological developments and uptake of roof top solar and other distributed technologies, including cost-effective demand side energy storage, on sale price for transmission and distribution assets?

(a) Please provide details of any such studies, including by whom they were conducted and what they found.

Answer:

Earlier this year, as part of its ownership role over the networks assets, Treasury commissioned Monash Private Capital advisors.

This report considered matters such as historical growth rates for electricity demand, future demand scenarios, factors behind the recent decline in electricity demand, regulatory issues and the risks/opportunities associated with structural change. The report notes that the scale of technological risk is unlikely to be of an extent necessary to warrant the Australian Energy Regulator (AER) adjusting the Regulated Asset Base of network assets over the current regulatory period (2014 to 2019). Andrew Reeves, the Chair of the AER, has recently publicly reaffirmed his confidence in the ability of the current regulatory framework to accommodate changes in technology and market developments, with ring-fencing provisions in place to protect competition in the sector.

The recently commenced scoping study into the proposed lease of 49% of the electricity networks will investigate the potential impact of these issues on the value of transmission and distribution assets in a transaction context.

Question:

47. Have there been any studies of the risk that the transmission and distribution assets could become stranded assets as technological change and the threat of future price rises drives higher rates of adoption of distributed generation?

(a) Will the sale contract ensure that all such risks are borne entirely by the purchasers?

Answer:

Awareness of this matter has been steadily increasing across the industry. A number of reports and studies on this topic are now publicly available.

The recently commenced scoping study into the proposed lease of 49% of the electricity networks will investigate the potential implications of technological change for the transaction. The long term lease will seek to transfer the economic benefit and risks of technological change to the future investors in the network businesses.

Question:

48. Have there been studies of the impact of private sector ownership on low Socio-Economic

Status households, renters and apartment dwellers that will have a reduced capacity, financial or physical, to invest in distributed technologies and will consequently be trapped on grid?

(a) If so, please provide estimates of any likely impacts on these households?

Answer:

There are a number of studies to prove that electricity utilities once freed from the heavy yoke of government ownership deliver lower priced electricity with greater reliability to all customers not just those in lower socio-economic groups.

The studies have generally concluded that government ownership is a perfect recipe for inefficient management most often resulting in union feather bedding. This has meant in NSW vast sums of money have been deployed on marginal improvements in network reliability. Workforce mismanagement has seen the development of conditions that include 26 per cent superannuation contributions, allowances not tied to any specific activity, and overtime provisions that are impossible to monitor.

The mismanagement of infrastructure spending and these union negotiated costs have hurt those consumers in low socio-economic status households and not once have they been criticised by those parties who claim to be concerned with their welfare.

This Government intends to make things better for the most vulnerable not protect union rorts.

Question:

49. What analysis has been conducted of the consequences of a scenario in which rising grid prices and changes in technology facilitate the disconnection of higher income households

leaving lower income households, renters and apartment dwellers to bear the full costs of the capital assets?

(a) If so, please provide details?

(b) Have any studies looked at the risk of a feedback loop developing with rising prices driven by falling demand?

Answer:

This question is inherently contradictory. Higher income households will typically be less price sensitive than lower income households. As such any increase in costs due to people leaving "the grid" are less likely to impact families in higher income households.

To the limited extent that this phenomena has been experienced thus far, and it is extremely limited, it has taken place in areas typically associated with average household incomes taking advantage of market distorting subsidies for solar power. However, the scenario as described above has not been the experienced either here in NSW or in other jurisdictions with very generous subsidies such as Germany.

Probity of gentrader transaction

Question:

50. Given that three previous Labor MPs involved in the Gentrader transaction have been named in ICAC or found to have acted corruptly in respect of other government decision making, has the Treasury investigated or caused to be investigated probity of Gentrader transaction?

- (a) If so please provide details including when and by who the investigation was conducted and what was found.
- (b) If not why not

Answer:

The Gentrader transactions were the subject of a "Special Commission of Inquiry into Electricity Transactions" in 2011. The Inquiry, which was headed by The Honourable Brian John Tamberlin QC, released its final report in October 2011. The report and its terms of reference are available from the Government publications website at

<http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications>. The terms of reference included inquiring into and reporting on "*compliance with applicable laws, policies and practices*".

Ports Transaction

Question:

51. Will Treasury please provide details on the circumstances surrounding the decision to include a clause in the lease of the port of Newcastle specifying that no new wind turbine could be constructed on the site?

- (a) Please list the individuals, companies and/or organisations outside of government that were consulted with on this particular provision
- (b) Was this provision in the lease requested by any individuals, companies and/or organisation in particular? If so please name.

Answer:

Clause 8.3 of the lease specifies that the Port Lessee must not use port land for certain landuses including hotels, residential, retail and wind farms, without approval from the Lessor. The existing wind turbine at the port is excepted from this obligation.

The lease does not therefore contain a prohibition on wind farms, hotels or retail development but Lessor approval would be required for any further such developments.

Question:

52. Will port services provided by public sector agencies be on a cost recovery basis?

- (a) If so please provide details

Answer:

The residual public sector port corporations, trading as the Port Authority of NSW, continue to provide some port-related services such as:

- Harbour Master and the Vessel Traffic Centre
- Pilots including the cutter crew and pilot transfer vessels
- Dangerous Goods approvals and Marine Pollution and Emergency Response functions (including Incident Control function)
- Administration of the existing Capacity Framework Arrangements for the Hunter Valley coal chain
- maintaining navigation buoys in Sydney
- the Port Jackson wharves and cruise shipping functions.
- the regional ports of Yamba and Eden.

The Port Authority of NSW aims to achieve a commercial return on its assets, with various revenue streams including statutory charges (eg pilotage and in the case of Sydney navigation services) and cost recovery arrangements that were put in place with the private sector lessees as part of the transactions.

Question:

53. Given that there has been significant allegations of at least influence peddling and political interference under Labor surrounding proposals to develop a container facility in Newcastle, will Treasury be reviewing that decision?

- (a) If so please provide details
- (b) If not why not

Answer:

Attempts by Government to dictate uneconomic enterprises contrary to market demand are examples of the kind of rent seeking activity likely to encourage influence peddling or corruption. As the container port did not proceed, there is no decision to review.

Cash and cash equivalent holdings in the general government sector**Question:**

54. What was the average level of cash and cash equivalents held by the general government sector in 2013-14?

Answer:

\$9.3 billion

Question:

55. What was the average interest rate earned on cash and cash equivalents held by the general government sector in 2013-14?

Answer:

A major portion of interest earnings relates to interest paid by Westpac under a confidential arrangement. Westpac interest rates are commercial in confidence.

Question:

56. What was the minimum level of cash and cash equivalents held by the general government sector in 2013-14?

Answer:

\$6.8 billion.

Question:

57. What was the minimum level of cash and cash equivalents held by the general government sector in 2013-14?

Answer:

See answer to question 56.

Question:

58. What is the average interest rate on borrowings in the general government sector in 2013-14?

Answer:

The average interest rate on borrowings for 2013-14 was 5.67%.

Question:

59. What is the forecast average level of cash and cash equivalents held by the general government sector in 2014-15?

Answer:

Treasury do not forecast monthly cash balances for the Budget.

Question:

60. What is the forecast average interest rate earned on cash and cash equivalents held by the general government sector in 2014-15?

Answer:

See answer to question 55.

Question:

61. What is the forecast minimum level of cash and cash equivalents held by the general government sector in 2014-15?

Answer:

See answer to question 59.

Question:

62. What is the forecast minimum level of cash and cash equivalents held by the general government sector in 2014-15?

Answer:

See answer to 59.

Question:

63. What is the forecast average interest rate on borrowings in the general government sector in 2014-15?

Answer:

The forecast average interest rate on borrowings for 2014-15 is 5.37%.

Questions from Hon Adam Searle MLC**TREASURY****Question:**

64. Did your 2011 campaign for the seat of Bega benefit in any way from any prohibited donation, whether any such donation was made to the Liberal Party, the Free Enterprise Foundation, the Millennium Forum, or any other body, organisation or entity?

Answer:

All donations are handled by the Liberal Party. To be the best of my knowledge, I did not in the 2011 campaign for the seat of Bega receive or benefit in any way from any prohibited donation. I have always complied and will continue to comply with the election funding laws of the day.

Question:

65. What are the originating sources of all donations that benefitted your 2011 campaign for the seat of Bega in any way?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 64.

Question:

66. Have the originating sources of all donations that benefitted your 2011 campaign for the seat of Bega in any way been disclosed? If so, when and to whom?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 64.

Question:

67. On how many occasions have you met with a lobbyist, and what were the dates of these meetings?

Answer:

I have not met with any lobbyists during my time as Treasurer and Minister for Industrial Relations with the exception of Unions NSW.

Question:

68. Which lobbyists have you met with, and what was discussed?

Answer:

See answer to question 67.

Question:

69. Following the respective leases of the three ports of Botany, Kembla and Newcastle, the Government made changes to the land uses in and around these ports by way of the making of and amendments to a SEPP.

(a) Did the government or any of its agents communicate in any way, to any of the prospective or actual bidders/tenderers in respect of any plans to change land uses, or the possibility of changing the land uses in or around any of the three ports prior to or during the bidding/ tender process?

(b) If so, what were the content of those communications?

(c) Who took part in the communications?

(d) What were the dates of any communications?

(e) Please provide copies of all documents in any form in relation to the communications.

Please note, this question is in addition to any question asked about this subject matter during the Estimates hearing.

Answer:

The Government's transaction team did communicate to bidders the content of each proposed new SEPP, as outlined in the response to the questions taken on notice at the hearing.

The communications were in the form of transaction memos provided to all bidders, essentially providing status updates on the process. Explanatory material was also provided including a summary of development permitted within the lease areas under the SEPP, and a summary of the approval pathway for various types of development.

The transaction memos and explanatory material was provided by the transaction team to all bidders via an online dataroom. Information was provided to bidders in the period during which they were conducting due diligence on the ports. Transaction memos and explanatory material about the planning regime were issued to Port Botany and Kembla bidders between December 2012 and March 2013, and to Port of Newcastle bidders in February – March 2014.

Question:

70. Please provide details of all payments from the Restart NSW fund in the 12/13, 13/14 and year to date including details of which projects or activities the amounts were applied to and the date of each payment from the Restart NSW Fund.

Answer:

This information is available in the 2014/2015 State Budget Papers.

Question:

71. How much has been spent on lawyers, consultants and third party advisors, in 13/14 and year to date, by each individual Budget sector agency?

Answer:

Updated figures are currently being finalised as part of year end, and will be made available in agency Annual Reports and the 2014-15 Report on State Finances. This report will be tabled in Parliament by 30 October 2014.

Question:

72. What was the cost of such advisors for each of the 3 port lease transactions?

Answer:

See answer to question 71.

Question:

73. What are the impacts of the 2014/15 Federal Budget on each individual Budget sector agency?

Answer:

This information can be found in Budget Paper 2, 2014-15 NSW Budget.

Question:

74. How much funding will be lost over the forward estimates, and how will you make up the shortfall?

Answer:

Information relating the amount of funding lost is available in Budget Paper 2, 2014-15 NSW Budget.

In several cases, New South Wales has absorbed the financial impact of adjustments, such as in the Health sector, where state funding has been used to replace Commonwealth funding. In other cases, such as concessions to pensioners, New South Wales has assumed the Commonwealth Government's responsibilities for 2014-15, and will negotiate with the Commonwealth over the forward year impacts.

Question:

75. What discussions have you had with the Federal Treasurer to get this funding restored to NSW?

Answer:

Negotiations between NSW and the Commonwealth are not helped by conducting them via the media or other public processes.

Question:

76. How many blackberries, iPhones or similar devices are assigned to your staff?

Answer:

204 phones have been issued to the NSW Government Ministerial staff.

Question:

77. For each such device, how much was each bill in the 2013/14 financial year and year to date?

Answer:

The 2013-14 total phone bill expenditure for NSW Government Ministerial offices is \$363,877 (63%) less than under the NSW Labor Government in 2008-09 of \$578,691 total expenditure.

Question:

78. How many phones or similar devices have been lost in your office?

Answer:

9 phones were lost from the NSW Government Ministerial staff.

Question:

79. What was the cost of replacing those devices?

Answer:

The cost is the normal contract price and this cost is claimed through the NSW Treasury Managed Fund.

Question:

80. How many iPads or similar devices has DPC issued to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?

Answer:

96 iPads have been issued for the NSW Government Ministerial staff.

Question:

81. How many iPads or similar devices have been purchased for use in your office and to whom have they been issued?

Answer:

iPads are supplied by DPC and have not been purchased by NSW Government Ministerial staff.

Question:

82. How many iPhones or similar devices has DPC issued to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 76.

Question:

83. How many iPhones or similar devices have been purchased for your office and to whom have they been issued?

Answer:

iPhones or Smart Phones are supplied by DPC and have not been purchased by NSW Government Ministerial staff.

Question:

84. How many iPads or similar devices assigned to your office have been lost?

Answer:

0 iPads were lost from the NSW Government Ministerial staff.

Question:

85. What has been the cost of replacing these iPads or similar devices?

Answer:

Please refer to question 84.

Question:

86. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies?

Answer:

Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the DPC website at:

Question:

87. What is the estimate for 2014/15 for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed by each of your portfolio agencies and their total cost?

Answer:

Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the DPC website at:

http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers_and_ministers_staff_numbers

Question:

88. Have any of your overseas trips in the past year been paid for in part or in full by using public money?

Answer:

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

Question:

89. If so, did any of your relatives or friends accompany you on these trips?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 88.

Question:

90. What is the annual remuneration package for your Chief of Staff?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 86.

Question:

91. What is the annual remuneration package for your Chief or principal Media Advisor?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 86.

Question:

92. What is the annual remuneration package for each of your staff?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 86.

Question:

93. What your Ministerial office budget for 2014/15?

Answer:

The 2014-15 budget for NSW Government Ministerial offices is \$4,886,770 (10%) less than under the NSW Labor Government in 2009-10 of \$48,834,000.

Question:

94. Have any office renovations or fit-outs been undertaken in your ministerial office since April, 2011?

Answer:

Information in relation to repairs, maintenance and relocation for 2011-12 and 2012-13 is available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet Disclosure Log at

Question:

95. If so, what were the costs of these activities?

Answer:

See answer to question 94.

Question:

96. How many policy advisors are in your office?

Answer:

See answer to question 86.

Question:

97. How many administration staff?

Answer:

See answer to question 86.

Question:

98. How many Department Liaison Officers are assigned to your office?

Answer:

Number of Department Liaison Officers for NSW Government Ministerial offices at 30 June 2014 was 56.

Question:

99. How many staff in the Department are assigned to Ministerial support duties?

Answer:

NSW Government Ministers and the Leader of the Opposition are provided with road transport services, with Ministerial Drivers assigned for this purpose.

Question:

100. Are any contractors or consultants working in your ministerial office? If so, in what capacities?

Answer:

Financial statements, including expenditure on consultants, are available in agency annual reports.

Question:

101. How much did your Ministerial office spend on contractors or consultants in the last 12 months?

Answer:

See answer to question 100

Question:

102. How much did your Ministerial office spend on taxi fares, including Cabcharge in the 2013/14 financial year?

Answer:

The 2013-14 taxi expenditure for NSW Government Ministerial offices was \$117,783 (33%) less than under the NSW Labor Government in 2009-10 of \$175,776.

Question:

103. Are any of your portfolio agencies undergoing a restructure?

Answer:

Agencies and departments undertake internal reviews of its structure to ensure that its functions and priorities align with the changing needs of Government. This work has involved reviewing structures in various parts of the agency to achieve greater alignment with the Government's reform agenda and recommendations of the Commission of Audit.

Question:

104. How many jobs are expected to be cut as a result of that restructure?

Answer:

See answer to question 103.

Question:

105. How many people are expected to have their wages cut as a result of that restructure?

Answer:

See answer to question 103.

Question:

106. How many voluntary redundancies were offered in your Departments since April 2011?

Answer:

The Government's program of voluntary redundancies remains on track. The target of 5,000 positions by June 2015 (announced in the 2011/12 Budget) was already exceeded by a further 1,789 positions by December 2013. The Labour Expense Cap introduced in the 2012/13 Budget is also well on track with Secretaries given as much flexibility as possible to achieve these savings in the most appropriate way to meet the service requirements of their agencies. Nurses, police officers and teachers in schools have been quarantined from this measure.

Question:

107. What has been the total cost of redundancies since April 2011?

Answer:

See answer to question 106.

Question:

108. How many voluntary redundancies were accepted from employees in your departments or agencies since April 2011?

Answer:

See answer to question 106.

Question:

109. How many voluntary redundancies are expected to be offered in 2014/15?

Answer:

See answer to question 106.

Question:

110. How much did your Department(s) spend on catering in 2013/14?

Answer:

Spend on catering in 2013/14 by the Department(s) are as follows:

Department	Spend in 2013-14 (000s)
------------	-------------------------

Treasury	34
NSW Industrial Relations	25
Long Service Corporation	0
Total	59

Expenditure on entertainment and catering is conducted in accordance with C2010-42 New South Wales Government Expenses Policy.

Question:

111. What is your Department's catering budget?

Answer:

The 2014/15 catering budget is as follows:

Department	2014-15 Budget (000s)
Treasury	44
NSW Industrial Relations	14
Long Service Corporation	0
Total	58

Question:

112. Since April 2011 have any of the agencies in your department(s) changed their branding or livery? If so, how much was spent on rebranding the agency?

Answer:

No.

Question:

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

Answer:

The department's recommended time frame for completing responses to correspondence from Ministers, Members of Parliament and members of the public is 20 working days from the department's receipt of the correspondence

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

Question:

114. How many items of correspondence have been outstanding for more than 60 days?

Answer:

The department's recommended time frame for completing responses to correspondence from Ministers, Members of Parliament and members of the public is 20 working days from the department's receipt of the correspondence

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

Question:

115. In 2013/14 how many invoices have your department(s) failed to pay a supplier or contractor for more than 30 days?

Answer:

Information regarding “30 days to pay” policy is available at <http://www.finance.nsw.gov.au/30days/how-government-will-report-policy>.

Question:

Please see answer to question 115.

Answer:

Since 1 January 2011 Treasury (including NSW Industrial Relations) has not paid any penalty interest.

Question:

Please see answer to question 115.

Answer:

Please see answer to question 115.

Question:

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

If yes,

- (a) What are the names of all organisations in receipt of funding?
- (b) What is the total amount of funding received by each organisation including goods and services tax?
- (c) On what date was the funding advanced?
- (d) What was the purpose for each grant or funding advance?
- (e) Was any funding withheld or returned?
- (f) If so, what were the reasons for withholding or requiring the funding to be returned?
- (g) What is the indexation rate applied to non-recurrent grant funds in 2013/14?
- (h) What are the details of any costs involved in each study, audit, taskforce or review?

Answer:

Treasury, NSW Industrial Relations and Long Service Corporation do not provide grants to non-government organisations.

Question:

119. How many contractors have your department(s) retained since 1 July 2014 and at what cost?

Answer:

Contractors retained by the Treasury since 1 July 2014 and the cost as at 31 August 2014 are as follows:

Department	Number	Cost (000s)
Treasury	63	\$1,817
NSW Industrial Relations	0	0
Long Service Corporation	1	\$0.008
Total	64	\$1,825

The bulk of the contractors are engaged to undertake the following four major projects:

- Continuation of the Financial Management Transformation project
- Electronic Records Document Management System to progressively move from hard copy records to electronic records
- EWorkplace, technology migrations (NW2W project)
- Relocation to 52 Martin Place

It is anticipated that 3 of the 4 major projects with the exception of the Financial Management Transformation will be tapering or completed in 2014-15. As a result the number of contractors will reduce.

NSW Industrial Relations have not engaged contractors since 1 July 2014.

Question:

120. What is the current level of Aboriginal employment within your Department(s)?

Answer:

The Public Service Commission collects workforce data from the NSW public sector, including information regarding levels of Aboriginal employment. The level of Aboriginal employment as at 30 June 2014 is estimated at 2.9%. This is still subject to final quality checks, prior to the November release of the Workforce Profile 2014.

Question:

121. How has that changed since 1 July 2013?

Answer:

See answer to question 120.

Question:

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

Answer:

Since July 2011, Treasury, NSW Industrial Relations and Long Service Corporation have not used charter air flights.

Question:

123. In relation to feasibility studies, audits, taskforces and reviews:

Is your department currently undertaking any feasibility studies, audits, taskforces or reviews? If so;

- (a) What are the terms of reference or details of each study, audit, taskforce or review?
- (b) Who is conducting the study, audit, taskforce or review?
- (c) Was each study, audit, taskforce or review publically advertised seeking expression of interest or competitive tenders?
- (d) Is there a contract in place detailing terms of engagement for the study, audit, taskforce or review? If so, please provide it.
- (e) What is the timeline of each study, audit, taskforce or review?
- (f) What are the details of any costs involved in each study, audit, taskforce or review?

Answer:

As with previous NSW Governments, the Government undertakes feasibility studies, audits, taskforces and reviews to inform government decision making. A number of feasibility studies, audits, taskforces and reviews are currently being undertaken across Government.

Question:

124. Can you please list all travel related costs for your Parliamentary Secretary incurred in their capacity as Parliamentary Secretary since 1 July 2013 including;

- (a) a. kilometres travelled
- (b) b. accommodation,
- (c) c. air fares
- (d) d. meals/entertainment

Answer:

Information on the total costs for NSW Government Parliamentary Secretaries in 2013/14 are:

- (a) Information not available.
- (b) \$1,338
- (c) \$8,773
- (d) Expenses are included under (b).

Question:

125. Can you please provide details of the following activities undertaken by your Parliamentary Secretary since 1 July 2013 including but not limited to;

- (a) a. meetings attended in their capacity as Parliamentary Secretary?
- (b) b. functions attended in their capacity as Parliamentary Secretary?

Answer:

Parliamentary Secretaries provide assistance to the Premier/Minister, including signing correspondence; receiving deputations; undertaking special tasks; officiating at functions; and relieving the Premier/Minister of some of their duties. The duties to be performed are those allocated by the Premier/Minister, or which have the Premier/Minister endorsement

Question:

126. Has the Minister been provided with Speech, Voice or Media Training since becoming Minister? If so,

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

Answer:

No.

Question:

127. Has the Parliamentary Secretary been provided with Speech, Voice or Media Training since becoming Parliamentary Secretary? If so:

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

Answer:

No.

Question:

128. What public sector job reductions have been identified in savings “roadmaps” prepared by agencies for the 2014-2015 financial year?

Answer:

Information held in the Fiscal Effectiveness Office’s savings database is Cabinet-in-Confidence and owned by the cluster / agency that prepared the savings “roadmaps”.

Question:

129. What public sector job reductions have been identified in savings “roadmaps” prepared by agencies for the 2013-2014 financial year?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 128.

Question:

130. What public sector job reductions have been identified in savings “roadmaps” prepared by agencies for the 2012-2013 financial year?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 128.

Question:

131. What public sector job reductions have been identified in savings “roadmaps” prepared by agencies for the 2011-2012 financial year?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 128.

Question:

132. What are the locations of those job reductions?

Answer:

See answer to question 128.

Question:

133. What are the locations of those job reductions in the savings “roadmaps” prepared by agencies for each of the above financial years?

Answer:

See answer to question 128.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

I refer to the findings of the recent Human Rights and Equal Opportunities Commission Report on “Supporting Working Parents: Pregnancy and Return to Work National Review”, and also the survey conducted by the Public Service Association of NSW of their members in December 2013 in connection with pregnancy discrimination.

Question:

134. What steps are you taking to address discrimination faced by pregnant women and mothers at work who are in the NSW industrial relations system?

Answer:

NSW Industrial Relations does not hold this information.

Question:

135. What steps are you taking to address discrimination faced by pregnant women and mothers at work who are employed by State Owned Corporations?

Answer:

See answer to question 134.

Question:

136. What advice has the Office of Industrial Relations provided on this issue since the HREOC Report was published?

Answer:

See answer to question 134.

Question:

137. What new steps are being taken since the publication of the HREOC Report to assist public sector managers to combat pregnancy discrimination in the NSW public sector?

Answer:

See answer to question 134.

Question:

138. During the Estimates hearing on 22 August 2014 you referred to “our participation as a partner in the Federal Fair Work regime” (transcript page 40). What is the nature and content of that participation for the 2013-2014 financial year, and proposed for the 2014-2015 financial year?

Answer:

Participation in the Federal Fair Work regime consists of the following components:

- Ministerial level consultation
- Officer level consultation
- Consultation regarding specific legislative amendments or Bills; and
- Submissions to Parliamentary Inquiries or tribunal processes.

Question:

139. During the Estimates hearing on 22 August 2014 you stated that since 1 July 2013 the Office of Industrial Relations Compliance Unit has finalised 203 investigations (transcript page 41). For each of those investigations can you provide the following details:

(a) What industry did the complaint arise in?

(b) What NSW agency was the employer?

(c) What was the nature of the complaint?

(d) What enforcement was action taken, if any?

(e) What was the outcome of the investigation (eg. The recovery of money, if so how much, or some other outcome)?

Answer:

(a) What industry did the complaint arise in?

Aged care	3	Hospitality	18
Agency	5	IT	14
Agriculture	5	Legal services	1
Animal services	3	Local Government	2
Automotive services	7	Manufacturing	24
Child care	7	Medical services	13
Crown employees*	6	Restaurants	10
Entertainment industry	4	Retail	22
Finance	8	Security	5
Fair Work Ombudsman	22	Taxi industry	2
General construction	6	Transport	8
Hair & Beauty	8	Total	203

Notes:

‘Agency’ includes recruitment and employment agencies.

'Automotive services' includes sales, repairs, detailing, parking stations and driving schools.

'Finance' includes accountants, advisors and financial planners.

'Hospitality' includes hotels, pubs, accommodation, travel and tourist information.

'Medical services' includes dental, medical centres/surgeries, physiotherapy, rehabilitation providers and funeral homes.

*Crown employees – complaints by Crown employees are referred directly to the relevant NSW department or agency.

(b) What NSW agency was the employer?

Office of Environment
Department of Education and Communities
South Western Sydney Health Service
North Sydney Local Health District
Grafton Base Hospital
WorkCover NSW

(c) What was the nature of the complaint?

Long service leave	176
FWO referral – wages, etc.	15
Taxi industry – annual leave	2
Entertainment industry – commission/Licence	4
Crown employees – wages/allowances	6
Total	203

(d) What enforcement was action taken, if any?

The 203 finalised matters do not include prosecutions. An investigation is considered finalised if prosecution is recommended and proceeds. Four matters proceeded to prosecution stage and are not included here.

(e) What was the outcome of the investigation (eg. The recovery of money, if so how much, or some other outcome)?

Compliance achieved with payment	71	\$395,635.47 was recovered on behalf of 71 employees.
Compliance achieved through settlement	13	Amount paid not disclosed. (Settlements are usually subject to confidentiality agreements.)
No breach identified	32	Investigation closed.
FWO - Outside jurisdiction	22	Referred to Fair Work Ombudsman's Office
Withdrawn	13	Investigation not proceeded with.
Referred elsewhere	9	Investigation more appropriately carried out by another agency.
Small Claim referral/advice	37	Complainants provided with advice on making a small claim where there is insufficient evidence for NSW IR to prosecute.
Crown employees	6	Referred to relevant NSW agency.

Question:

140. During the Estimates hearing on 22 August 2014 you indicated that there were 64 full-time equivalent positions in the Office of Industrial Relations (transcript page 40). How many actual persons are employed to work in the OIR? What is the breakdown of those employees or positions by function and by grade?

Answer:

NSW Industrial Relations establishment is 70 employees.
59 positions are filled.

The organisational structure and grading is as follows:

- 1 x Executive Director SES 4 NSW IR
- 1 x Director Band 1 Public Sector IR
- 1 x Legal Officer Grade 5
- 1 x Director Compliance SO Grade 2
- 1 x Director Policy SO Grade 1
- 3 x Associate Directors (Compliance, PSIR) SO Grade 1
- 8 x Grade 11/12 Principle Advisors
- 8 x Grade 9/10 Senior Advisors
- 21 x Grade 7/8 Advisors
- 16 x Grade 5/6 Assistant Advisors
- 8 x Grade 3/4 Business Support Officer/Assistant
- 1 x Graduate Grade 1/2

Question:

141. What is the time period between lodgement of a section 130 dispute notification and the first listing before a member of the Industrial Relations Commission (IRC) for the 2013-2014 financial year?

Answer:

The Industrial Relations Commission currently collates data on a calendar year basis. The following table shows the median time from lodgement of a dispute to the first listing for the past five calendar years:

Industrial Disputes	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Median Time in Days to First Listing	4	5.5	5	5	5

Question:

142. What is the time period between lodgement of applications and the date for conciliation in the IRC for the 2013-2014 financial year? (Please provide the information by type or category of application)

Answer:

The Commission currently only collects this data set in relation to Unfair Dismissals. The following table shows the median time from lodgement to first listing (conciliation) for the past five calendar years:

Unfair Dismissal Matters	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Median Time in Days to First Listing	21	21	21	23	24

Question:

143. What is the time period between lodgement of applications and the hearing of arbitrations and/or substantive hearings of matters in the IRC for the 2013-2014 financial year? (Please provide the information by type or category of application)

Answer:

The Commission does not currently collect this data.

Question:

144. What is the time period between substantive hearings of applications and the handing down of decisions in the IRC for the 2013-2014 financial year? (Please provide the information by type or category of application)

Answer:

The Commission does not collect this information. Relevant protocol was published on 20 September 2004.

Question:

145. In relation to questions 141 to 144 above, what is the information for the 2012-2013 financial year and for the 2011-2012 financial year?

See answers to questions 141 to 144.

Question:

146. In relation to those same questions, what are the estimated time periods for the 2014-2015 financial year?

Answer:

The Commission is predicting that the clearance rate of matters will fall from **102%** in 2013 to **79%** in 2014. This will see the pending caseload increase from **363** matters (2013) to a predicted **559** matters at the end of 2014.

Question:

147. I refer to your comment at page 44 of the transcript of the Estimates hearing for Industrial Relations held on 22 August 2014 and ask what is your ***“deep, philosophically held view on the Industrial Relations Commission”***?

Answer:

The NSW Government believes in the development of an industrial relations framework that encourages people to talk to each other. Ultimately the result we are looking for is one in which all people, wherever they may work, regardless of their roles, feel more engaged and worthwhile in their lives.

All of us will spend a substantial part of our lives in some form of work. To the extent that we can, and this Government understands its limitations to fix the world for everyone, we want a system that helps create much better companies, work places and jobs that help provide everyone in NSW the opportunity to live a full life.

You can call this whatever you like, to the extent that we have a label for it, it is called Interest Based Bargaining, and the Industrial Relations Commission must play a role in helping bring this about.

Question:

148. I refer to your comment at page 45 of the transcript of the Estimates hearing for Industrial Relations held on 22 August 2014 that *“I am going to make sure it [the IRC] is adequately resourced to perform its important duties and work...”* and ask how many additional appointments to the IRC will you recommend and when will you make those recommendations?

Answer:

This is a matter for Cabinet to determine.

Question:

149. What process will you follow in developing any recommendation(s) for appointment to the IRC?

Answer:

This Government is concerned that a perception had taken root in NSW that previous appointments to the Industrial Relations Commission have been done on the basis of what union affiliated hack needed a job next. This perception, no matter how based reality or not, damaged the credibility of the Commission. We have run a rigorous process previously to ensure that only the best and the brightest be considered for appointments to the Commission. It has been rigorous, open and transparent and will be so again in the future if the need to make more appointments arises.

Question:

150. You indicated at page 45 of the transcript of the Estimates hearing for Industrial Relations held on 22 August 2014 that there are *"about 35,000 employees who have received increases of more than 2.5 per cent, subject to achieving specific savings."* Please inform the Committee:

- (a) Which agencies employed those employees?
- (b) How many of those 35,000 employees were employed by each of those agencies?
- (c) What were the individual *'specified savings'* measures implemented by each agency? (Please express any answer in terms of the actions to achieve those savings.)
- (d) What were the *'specified savings'* implemented by each agency expressed as a dollar amount per year and also expressed as a percentage of wages per year?
- (e) Which awards, or other industrial instruments, were these *'specified savings'* contained in?
- (f) When were each of these *'specified savings'* measures implemented, by financial year?

Answer:

- (a) These employees are in a number of State Owned Corporations (Macquarie Generation, Eraring Energy, Ausgrid, Endeavour Energy, TransGrid, Sydney Water, and Hunter Water Corporation), and in NSW Police and State Transit Authority (Bus Drivers).

Donations**Question:**

151. Given evidence at ICAC that Hunter Liberal Members of Parliament received cash from prohibited donors, can you guarantee that you did not receive an illegal donation at the last election?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 64.

Question:

152. Last week the Premier put out a statement that said:

"I have always absolutely complied with the electoral funding laws and the records are there for all to see.

Yes, I can guarantee that I have never accepted an illegal donation."

Will you make that same statement?

Answer:

See answer to question 151.

Question:

153. Do you think the people of NSW have a right to know who is making donations to candidates during election campaigns?

Answer:

The Election Funding, Expenditure and Disclosures Act 1981 requires the disclosure of political donations received and/or made, and electoral expenditure incurred, by or on behalf of parties, elected members, groups, candidates and third party campaigners. It also

requires the disclosure of political donations of \$1000 or more made by major political donors.

Question:

154. Given that the Liberals channel all donations through a centralised accounting system which means most individual MPs do not disclose the people and organisations that personally donate to their campaigns, will you fully disclose the source of all donations you received at the 2011 election campaign?

Answer:

This question contains an imputation.

Question:

155. Will you release the full list of donors who donated to your 2011 election campaign?

Answer:

See answer to question 153.

Question:

156. In the interest of transparency and accountability, will you commit to publicly release the source of donations for the 2015 election?

Answer:

See answer to question 153.

Lobbyists

Question:

157. On how many occasions have you met with a lobbyist, and what were the dates of these meetings?

Answer:

See answer to question 67.

Question:

158. Which lobbyists have you met with, and what was discussed?

Answer:

See answer to question 68.

Question:

159. The Minister for Finance has banned lobbyists from meeting him and his office; will you make the same commitment? If not, why not?

Answer:

In August 2013, I was the Minister for Finance & Services banned lobbyists from meeting with me.

Cross Border Commissioner

Question:

160. How many times have you met with the Cross Border Commissioner:

- (a) In the last twelve months
- (b) Since the creation of the position.

Answer:

Information regarding scheduled meetings held with stakeholders, external organisations and individuals will be published in accordance with Memorandum 2014-07 - Publication of Ministerial Diaries.

Question:

161. What issues or topics have you referred to the Cross Border Commissioner:

- (a) In the last twelve months
- (b) Since the creation of the position.

Answer:

See answer to question 160.

Labour Hire Firms**Question:**

162. 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

Answer:

No

Consultancy Work**Question:**

163. Has the consultancy company Crosby Textor done any consultancy work for the Dept of Primary Industries? If so what projects was Crosby Textor consulted on?

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

Answer:

This question should be re-directed to the Minister for Primary Industries.

Question:

164. Does Crosby Textor currently have any contract work with the Department, if so, what is their role in the project?

Answer:

This question should be re-directed to the Minister for Primary Industries.

Question:

165. Has the consultancy company Premier State done any consultancy work for the Dept of Primary Industries? 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?

Answer:

This question should be redirected to the Minister for Primary Industries.

Question:

166. Does Premier State currently have any contract work with the Department, if so, what is their role in the project?

Answer:

On the basis "Department" refers to Treasury, the answer is no.

Question:

167. Has the Government Contracting company Serco or its affiliates done any consultancy work for the Dept of Primary Industries? If so what projects was Serco or its affiliates assisted with?

(a) What was the cost of the consultancy work for each project?

(b) Was there a tender process for these projects?

Answer:

On the basis "Department" refers to Treasury, the answer is no.

Question:

168. Does Serco or any of its affiliates currently have any contract work with the Department, if so, what is their role in the project?

Answer:

No.

Phones/iPads

Question:

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

Answer:

Please see answer to question 76.

Question:

170. For each phone, how much was each bill in the 2013/14 financial year?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 77.

Question:

171. How many have phones have been lost in your office?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 78.

Question:

172. What is the cost of replacing those phones?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 79.

Question:

173. How many iPads does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?

Answer:

See answer to question 80.

Question:

174. How many iPads have you purchased for your office and to whom have they been issued?

Answer:

See answer to question 81.

Question:

175. How many iPhones does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 82.

Question:

176. How many iPhones have you purchased for your office and to whom have they been issued?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 83.

Question:

177. How many iPhones have been lost in your office?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 78.

Question:

178. How many iPads have been lost in your office?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 84.

Question:

179. What is the cost of replacing those phones or iPads?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 85.

Media/public relations**Question:**

180. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 86.

Question:

181. What is the forecast for 2014/15 for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 86.

182. Overseas trips**Question:**

183. Have any of your overseas trips in the past year been paid for in part or in full by using public money?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 88.

Question:

184. If so, did any of your relatives or friends accompany you on these trips?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 88.

Office costs**Question:**

185. What is the annual remuneration package for your chief of staff?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 86.

Question:

186. What is the annual remuneration package for your head media advisor?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 86.

Question:

187. What is the annual remuneration package for each of your staff?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 86.

Question:

188. What is the estimated expenditure for your office budget in 2014/15?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 93.

Question:

189. Have any office renovations or fit outs been undertaken in your ministerial office since April, 2011?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 94.

Question:

190. If so, could you give details of contracted costs?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 94.

Question:

191. What is your Ministerial office budget for 2014/15?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 93.

Question:

192. How many political advisors are in your office?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 86.

Question:

193. How many administration staff?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 86.

Question:

194. How many Department Liaison Officers are assigned to your office?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 98.

Question:

195. How many staff in the Department are assigned to Ministerial support duties?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 99.

Question:

196. Are any contractors or consultants working in your ministerial office?

Answer:

See answer to question 100.

Question:

197. If so, in what capacities?

Answer:

See answer to question 100.

Question:

198. How much did your Ministerial office spend on contractors or consultants?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 101.

Cabcharge**Question:**

199. How much did your Ministerial office spend on taxi fares, including Cabcharge in the 2013/14 financial year?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 102.

Restructure (IR)**Question:**

200. Are any of your portfolio agencies undergoing a restructure?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 103.

Question:

201. How many jobs are expected to be cut as a result of that restructure?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 103.

Question:

202. How many people are expected to have their wages cut as a result of that restructure?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 103.

Question:

203. How many voluntary redundancies were offered in your Departments since April 2011?

Answer:

See answer to question 106.

Question:

204. What has been the total cost of redundancies since April 2011?

Answer:

Please see answer to 106.

Question:

205. How many voluntary redundancies were accepted from employees in your Departments since April 2011?

Answer:

See answer to question 106.

Question:

206. How many voluntary redundancies are expected to be offered in 2014/15?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 106.

Agency costs**Question:**

207. How much did your Department(s) spend on catering in 2013/14?

Answer:

Refer to question 110.

Question:

208. How much did your Department(s) spend on stationary in 2013/14?

Answer:

Spend on stationery in 2013/14 is as follows:

Department	Spend in 2013-14 (000s)
Treasury	140
NSW Industrial Relations	12
Long Service Corporation	14
Total	166

Question:

209. What is your Department's catering budget?

Answer:

Refer to question 111.

Question:

210. What is your Department's stationary budget?

Answer:

The 2014/15 stationery budget is as follows:

Department	2014-15 Budget (000s)
Treasury	220

NSW Industrial Relations	12
Long Service Corporation	14
Total	246

Question:

211. Since April 2011 have any of the agencies in your Department(s) changed their branding?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 112.

Question:

212. If so, how much was spent on rebranding the agency?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 112.

Correspondence

Question:

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

Answer:

Please see answer to question 113.

Question:

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

Answer

Please see answer to question 114.

Paying bills on time

Question:

215. In 2013/14 how many invoices has your Department(s) failed to pay a supplier or contractor for more than 30 days?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 115.

Question:

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

Answer:

Please see answer to question 115.

Question:

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

Answer:

Please see answer to question 115.

Grants to non-government organisations

Question:

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

If yes,

- (a) What are the names of all organisations in receipt of funding?
- (b) What is the total amount of funding received by each organisation including goods and services tax?
- (c) On what date was the funding advanced?
- (d) What was the purpose for each grant or funding advance?
- (e) Was any funding withheld or returned?
- (f) If so, what were the reasons for withholding or requiring the funding to be returned?
- (g) What is the indexation rate applied to non-recurrent grant funds in 2013/14?
- (h) What are the details of any costs involved in each study, audit, taskforce or review?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 118.

Contractors

Question:

219. How many contractors has your Department(s) retained since 1 July 2014 and at what cost?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 119.

Aboriginal employment

Question:

220. What is the current level of Aboriginal employment within your Department(s)?

Answer:

Refer to question 120.

Question:

221. How has that changed since 1 July 2013?

Answer:

Refer to question 120.

Charter air flights

Question:

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

Answer:

Refer to question 122.

Reviews and studies

Question:

223. In relation to feasibility studies, audits, taskforces and reviews:

Is your department currently undertaking any feasibility studies, audits, taskforces or reviews? If so; then;

- (a) What are the terms of reference or details of each study, audit, taskforce or review?
- (b) Who is conducting the study, audit, taskforce or review?
- (c) Was each study, audit, taskforce or review was publically advertised seeking expression of interest or competitive tenders?
- (d) Is there a contract in place detailing terms of engagement for the study, audit, taskforce or review?
- (e) What is the timeline of each study, audit, taskforce or review?
- (f) What are the details of any costs involved in each study, audit, taskforce or review?

Answer:

Refer to question 123.

Parliamentary Secretary**Question:**

224. Can you please list all travel related costs for your Parliamentary Secretary incurred in their capacity as Parliamentary Secretary since 1 July 2013

- (a) kilometres travelled
- (b) accommodation,
- (c) air fares
- (d) meals/entertaining?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 124.

Question:

225. Can you please provide details of the following activities undertaken by your Parliamentary Secretary since 1 July 2013;

- (a) meetings attended in their capacity as Parliamentary Secretary?
- (b) functions attended in their capacity as Parliamentary Secretary?

Answer:

Please see answer to question 125.

Question:

226. How often do you meet with your Parliamentary Secretary?

- (a) Are these meetings documented?
- (b) Who attends these meetings?

Answer:

Parliamentary Secretaries provide assistance to the Premier/Minister, including signing correspondence; receiving deputations; undertaking special tasks; officiating at functions; and relieving the Premier/Minister of some of their duties. The duties to be performed are those allocated by the Premier/Minister, or which have the Premier/Minister endorsement

Question:

227. Who provides instructions and direction to your Parliamentary Secretary, you or your Chief of Staff?

Answer:

See answer to question 226.

Media training**Question:**

228. Has the Minister been provided with Speech, Voice or Media Training since becoming Minister? If so, then;

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

Answer:

See answer to question 126.

Question:

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

- (a) Who conducted the training?

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

Answer:

See answer to question 127.