



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEE NO. 1

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2008-2009

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 1

Roads – supplementary hearing

Monday 17 November 2008

Answers to be lodged by: Thursday 11 December 2008

Budget Estimates Secretariat
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Questions relating to the portfolio of Roads

17 NOVEMBER 2008, 2.00 pm – 3:45 pm

Questions from Mr Gay

1. The RTA issued a tender for a supplier to design RTA staff a \$1.35 million “fresh new look” uniform in July this year?
 - a. What was the concern with the old uniforms and was there any research done to qualify the need for spending \$1.35 million on a new wardrobe?
 - b. If so can you please detail what this research found?
 - c. Has the RTA chosen a successful supplier?
 - d. Will the uniform be Australian made and NSW made?
2. In light of the Spit Bridge incident in June this year, when thousands of commuters were stuck for hours, why weren't commuters alerted to the problem earlier by radio and what is the RTA's media strategy to ensure motorists are warned of traffic problems ahead of time?
 - a. What new plan has your department put in place to ensure technical staff can access the bridge immediately if there is a problem?
 - b. Has the RTA seen or is the RTA investigating a proposal for a short tunnel under the Spit Bridge?
3. Why did the RTA choose to build a duplicate Iron Cove Bridge on the Western side of the existing bridge and not the Eastern side, given that the RTA was initially interested in the Eastern side?
 - a. What figures were originally quoted when costing for building a bridge on the Eastern side?
 - b. What benefits will be achieved by building a duplicate bridge, and what benefits will be achieved by building it on the Western side?
4. The RTA made the decision to move over a thousand of its staff from Surry Hills to the old Optus offices in North Sydney by early next year.
 - a. Can you confirm that this move will cost \$50 million?
 - b. Who in the RTA was in charge of looking for a property?
 - c. When did the RTA first start looking for alternative properties?
 - d. What areas did the RTA investigate?

- e. Did the RTA investigate properties in areas like Macquarie Park and Parramatta?
- f. Can you detail the findings of this investigation?
- g. Will RTA staff be compensated in any way for their travel to the new North Sydney offices?
- h. Can you detail how much staff will be compensated or reimbursed for travel?