



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEE NO. 2

# **BUDGET ESTIMATES 2008-2009**

## **QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2**

Women

Wednesday 15 October 2008

Answers to be lodged by: Monday 10 November 2008

**Budget Estimates Secretariat**  
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## Questions relating to the portfolio of Women

15 OCTOBER 2008, 2.00 pm – 2.45 pm

### Questions from Ms Parker

1. When was Dr. Alexandra Shehadie appointed to the position of manager, Violence Prevention Coordination Unit?
  - a. At what level is this appointment and at what salary level? Is this a contract position or a permanent appointment?
  - b. How many applicants were there for this position?
  - c. Other than her legal back ground, what experience does Dr. Shehadie have in the development and delivery of coordinated domestic violence services?
2. What is the overall Budget allocation for the Office for Women?
3. What is the Budget allocation for:
  - a. Staff
  - b. General administration
4. How much money is spent, either directly or indirectly on:
  - a. Publications
  - b. Public information
  - c. Promotional activity
  - d. Out of which budget allocation does this money derive?
5. How many staff are employed within the Office for Women?
  - a. At which levels?
6. How is staffing allocated between:
  - a. Programme administration
  - b. Public information and promotional activities
  - c. Policy coordination and advice
7. What proportion of the OFW Budget allocation is spent on administration costs?
8. What measures is the OFW implementing to ensure unnecessary administration costs are reduced?
9. What policy areas within the NSW Government has the OFW identified as key to promoting equality between men and women?
10. How does the OFW foresee the NSW Government implementing its recommendations?
11. Could the OFW provide the report outlining key areas to the Opposition and the public?
12. In what policy areas is the OFW a key stakeholder?
13. Does the OFW act as the spearhead for any high-level policy initiatives, if so which?

14. How many interdepartmental committees does OFW form part of and how many interdepartmental or high level policy committees and working groups does OFW chair?
  - a. Has this changed since last year?
15. According to the NSW Government Directory the Minister for Women is not responsible for the administration of any acts. Can the Minister please tell us exactly what she does?

**Questions from Ms Robertson**

16. Can the Minister detail recent initiatives aimed increasing the attractiveness of the NSW public sector as an employer for women?
17. Can the Minister detail progress on developing key indicators of the status of women in NSW?
18. Can the Minister provide information about the grants provided to community organisations under the first round of the Domestic and Family Violence Grants Program?
19. Can the Minister inform the Committee about its involvement in the Productivity Commission's Inquiry into Paid Maternity Leave?

**Questions from Ms Ficarra**

***Anti-Stalking***

20. Does the Government believe one off grants, such as the Anti Stalking Programme grant of \$118,000 to the Central West Women's Health Centre, significantly reduce domestic violence and stalking rates?
21. What documentation can the Minister provide to support any claims?
22. How successful has the Anti Stalking Programme been, and is there any commitment by the Government for a secured annual budget with a long-term strategy?

***Sexual Assault***

23. Does the Minister have statistics for the number of sexual assaults in NSW over the past 12 months?
24. If so, is the Minister able to provide details of the number of incidents in the past 12 months separated by police local area command?
25. If not by police local area command, how are the statistics across the state broken up?

***Sexual Assault Counselling***

26. Are sexual assault counsellors available and on call at all hospitals across NSW?
27. If so, are they available for the wider public? How do ordinary citizens get in touch with these counsellors?
28. Can you provide a list of all counselling services available across NSW hospitals?

***Supporting Sexual Assault Victims***

29. How does the Minister's department liaise with the NSW Police Force to ensure support is available for all victims of sexual assault?
  
30. What actions has the Minister taken to ensure such support remains available?