

**PREMIER
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012-2013
Questions on Notice**

Questions from Mr Secord

Premier

QUESTION

1. Does the NSW Public Service Commission have an Aboriginal Employment Policy and target employment levels?

ANSWER: The PSC manages the existing policy *Making It Our Business: The NSW Aboriginal Employment Action Plan 2009-2012* (MIOB) which outlines strategies for strengthening Aboriginal employment and career development in the NSW public sector. MIOB sets a range of specific targets, time frames and accountabilities. As part of the COAG agreement, the NSW Government made a commitment to meet a target of 2.6% Aboriginal employment within the public sector by 2015. As at 30 June 2012, NSW Public Sector had achieved 2.7%, exceeding the COAG target. In addition to this, the NSW public sector was committed to employ additional 2,229 Aboriginal employees over the four year period to 2012/13. As at 30 June 2012, the total number of new appointments of Aboriginal people under this initiative was 2088.

2. What is the current level of employment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders in the NSW Public Service by agency/department and what were the figures for each of these agencies/departments for the last 3 financial years?

ANSWER: 2009, 2010 and 2011 data can be found as published in the annual Workforce Profile Snapshot Reports.

2012 data is due to be released when the State of the Public Sector Report is released, late 2012.

These reports can be found on the PSC website:

<http://www.psc.nsw.gov.au/pscinternet/information.page?>

Additionally, NSW Treasury Circular 11/03 prescribes the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Disclosure Requirements, requiring that NSW public sector agencies include EEO data in their annual reports.

3. Does the NSW Public Service Commission have a Disability Employment Policy and target employment levels?

ANSWER: Yes. *Employability*, the strategy to increase employment for people with a disability in the NSW public sector, contains target employment levels for people with a disability requiring a workplace adjustment. *Employability* is publically available at www.eeo.nsw.gov.au.

4. What is the current level of employment of people with disabilities in the NSW Public Service by agency/department and what were the figures for each of these agencies/departments for the last 3 financial years?

ANSWER: 2009, 2010 and 2011 data can be found as published in the annual Workforce Profile Snapshot Reports.

2012 data is due to be released when the State of the Public Sector Report is released, late 2012.

These reports can be found on the PSC website:

<http://www.psc.nsw.gov.au/pscinternet/information.page?>

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5. How many placements have been made available under the Kickstart program for the employment of young people in the 2012-2013 financial year?

ANSWER: Apart from the first JumpSTART program in 2009-10, the number of places has not been specified annually – takeup is a decision for individual agencies. Recruitment numbers for the current financial year are not available.

6. How many places were made available for each of the past two financial years?

ANSWER: Approximately 235 JumpSTART cadets were recruited during this period.

7. How many of these places were for young people in rural and regional areas, for young people from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander backgrounds and for young people with disabilities (for the current and last two years)?

ANSWER: The program is open to all these groups. Specific data is not available - only total program numbers are collected on an ad hoc basis.

8. How many phones are assigned to your staff?

ANSWER In 2011/12, 179 phones were assigned to the Premier's and Ministers' offices.

9. For each phone, how much was each bill in the 2011/12 financial year?

ANSWER: The total expenditure on mobile phones by the Premier's office and Ministers' offices as represented in the Department's financial system is set out in the table below. Please note that this expenditure may include mobile phone purchase costs as the financial system does not separate the purchase costs and mobile usage charges.

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Premier's Office	\$103,152	\$76,457	\$68,475	\$27,570
Ministers' Offices	\$475,539	\$358,396	\$120,285	\$169,655
TOTAL	\$578,691	\$434,854	\$188,761	\$197,226

Note. 2010-11 figures are a combination of 9 months of Keneally Government and 3 months of O'Farrell Government.

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

ANSWER: For Premier's office and Ministers' offices, the number of phones lost was:

	2011/12
Premier	1
Ministers	5
Total	6

11. What is the cost of replacing those phones?

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

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

ANSWER: For Premier's office and Ministers' offices the number of iPads issued was as follows.

	2011/12
Premier	10
Ministers	43
Total	53

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

ANSWER: iPads are supplied by the Department of Premier and Cabinet and have not been purchased by Ministers' offices.

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

ANSWER: For Premier's office and Ministers' offices, the number of iPads lost or stolen was as follows.

	2011/12
Premier	1
Ministers	0
Total	1

15. What is the cost of replacing those iPads?

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

16. How many media or public relations advisers are employed by DPC?

ANSWER: Please refer to Question on Notice Legislative Council 2026.

17. What is the forecast for 2012-13 for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost?

ANSWER: There are no plans to change the current arrangements.

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

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

ANSWER: No relatives or family friends have accompanied the Premier. The Premier's trade missions have included representatives of business, education and arts organisations, appropriate public servants, and a member of the Premier's office. Three MPs paid their own cost and participated in the Lebanon/UAE mission.

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

ANSWER: Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet website at http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers_and_ministers_staff_numbers.

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

ANSWER: Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet website at
http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers_and_ministers_staff_numbers.

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

ANSWER: Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet website at
http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers_and_ministers_staff_numbers.

22. What is the estimated expenditure for your office budget in 2012-13?

ANSWER: The total budget allocation for the Premier's and Ministers' offices in 2012-13 is \$40,103,650, with \$5,744,883 allocated to the Premier's office and \$34,358,767 to the Ministers' offices.

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

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

ANSWER: Information on the assets balances for leasehold improvements are available in the Department's Annual Report.

24. What is your Ministerial office budget for 2012/13?

ANSWER: The budget allocations for the Premier's office and Ministers' offices are as follows.

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Premier	\$7,002,312	\$8,500,000	\$9,075,038	\$5,309,465	\$5,744,83
Ministers	\$39,673,567	\$40,334,000	\$40,978,962	\$31,516,017	\$34,358,767
TOTAL	\$46,675,879	\$48,834,000	\$50,054,000	\$36,825,482	\$40,103,605

Note. 2010-11 figures are a combination of 9 months of Keneally Government and 3 months of O'Farrell Government.

25. How many political advisors are in your office?

ANSWER: Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet website at
http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers_and_ministers_staff_numbers.

26. How many administration staff?

ANSWER: Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet website at
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27. How many Department Liaison Officers are assigned to your office?

ANSWER: Number of Department Liaison Officers (DLOs)

	Number of DLOs as at 5/09/2012
Premier	1
Ministers	57
TOTAL	58

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

ANSWER: The Premier and Ministers are provided with road transport services, with Ministerial Drivers assigned for this purpose.

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

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

29 a. If so, in what capacities?

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

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

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

31. How much did your office spend on taxi fares, including Cabcharge in the 2011/12 financial year?

ANSWER: Taxi expenditure by the Premier's office and Ministers' offices as represented in the Department's financial system is represented in the table below.

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Premier	\$26,418	\$32,525	\$27,600	\$15,485
Ministers	\$133,697	\$143,251	\$32,678	\$80,609
TOTAL	\$160,155	\$175,776	\$60,277	\$96,094

Note. 2010-11 figures are a combination of 9 months of Keneally Government and 3 months of O'Farrell Government.

32. Is the Department of Premier and Cabinet undergoing a restructure?

ANSWER: The Department of Premier and Cabinet undertakes 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.

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

ANSWER: To date 16 positions have been identified.

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

ANSWER: No staff will have their wages cut as a result of the restructure.

35. How many voluntary redundancies were offered in DPC since April 2011?

ANSWER: As outlined in the 2012/13 budget, the Government's 2011-12 program of voluntary redundancies remains on track to reach its target of 5,000 positions.

A labour expense cap has also been introduced as a new savings measure across the public sector with the target of a 1.2 per cent per annum reduction in labour costs growth.

Directors General will be given as much flexibility as possible to achieve the savings in the most appropriate way to meet the service requirements of their agencies. If it was solely achieved through headcount this would equate to up to 10,000 jobs over four years.

Nurses, police officers and teachers in schools have been quarantined from this measure.

36. How many voluntary redundancies were accepted from employees in DPC since April 2011?

ANSWER: As outlined in the 2012/13 budget, the Government's 2011-12 program of voluntary redundancies remains on track to reach its target of 5,000 positions.

A labour expense cap has also been introduced as a new savings measure across the public sector with the target of a 1.2 per cent per annum reduction in labour costs growth.

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37. How many voluntary redundancies are expected to be offered in 2012/13?

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Nurses, police officers and teachers in schools have been quarantined from this measure.

38. How much did DPC spend on catering in 2011/12?

ANSWER: Please refer to Question on Notice Legislative Council 2004.

39. How much did DPC spend on stationary in 2011/12?

ANSWER: \$443k

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40. What is DPC's catering budget?

ANSWER: Please refer to Question on Notice Legislative Council 2004.

41. What is DPC's stationary budget?

ANSWER: \$476k.

42. Since April 2011 have any of the agencies in your Department changed its branding?

ANSWER: NIL

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

ANSWER: N/A

43. How long is the average turnaround for responding to correspondence?

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

ANSWER: 43 & 44 (inclusive)

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.

45. In 2011/12 how many invoices has your Department(s) failed to pay a supplier or contractor for more than 30 days?

ANSWER: As the Premier stated in Parliament on 23 August 2012, the 30 day bill payment policy formally commenced on 1 January 2012. The first quarterly performance report is currently being finalised for release. In the first quarter almost 92 per cent of invoices were paid within 30 days, consistent with our policy and initiative. 31 small businesses have already been eligible to receive automatic interest charges on overdue accounts.

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

ANSWER: As the Premier stated in Parliament on 23 August 2012, the 30 day bill payment policy formally commenced on 1 January 2012. The first quarterly performance report is currently being finalised for release. In the first quarter almost 92% of invoices were paid within 30days, consistent with our policy and initiative. 31 small businesses have already been eligible to receive automatic interest charges on overdue accounts.

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

ANSWER: As the Premier stated in Parliament on 23 August 2012, the 30 day bill payment policy formally commenced on 1 January 2012. The first quarterly performance report is currently being finalised for release. In the first quarter almost 92 per cent of invoices were paid within 30 days, consistent with our policy and initiative. 31 small businesses have already been eligible to receive automatic interest charges on overdue accounts.

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

ANSWER: Yes

If yes,

48 a. What are the names of all organisations in receipt of funding?

ANSWER This information is provided as part of the Department's annual report.

48 b. What is the total amount of funding received by each organisation including goods and services tax?

ANSWER: This information is provided as part of the Department's annual report.

48 c. On what date was the funding advanced?

ANSWER: Funds are released at various times throughout the financial year following formal approval of each individual grant application.

48 d. What was the purpose for each grant or funding advance?

ANSWER: This information is provided as part of the Department's annual report.

48 e. Was any funding withheld or returned?

ANSWER: \$222 was returned during 2011-12.

48 f. If so, what were the reasons for withholding or requiring the funding to be returned?

ANSWER: A Grant was provided to P7 Peerless Sevens Inc in 2010-11, and the unspent funds of \$222 returned in 2011-12.

48 g. What is the indexation rate applied to non-recurrent grant funds in 2011/2012?

ANSWER: There was no indexation applied to non-recurrent grant funds in 2011-12.

48 h. What are the details of any costs involved in each study, audit, taskforce or review?

ANSWER: In 2011-12 DPC did not spend any Grant Funding on studies, audits, taskforces or reviews.

49. How many contractors has DPC retained since 1 July 2012 and at what cost?

ANSWER: This information is not held centrally for the Department. The number of contractors fluctuates.

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50. What is the current level of Aboriginal employment within DPC?; and

51. How has that changed since 1 July 2011?

ANSWER: 2009, 2010 and 2011 data can be found as published in the annual Workforce Profile Snapshot Reports.

2012 data is due to be released when the State of the Public Sector Report is released, late 2012.

These reports can be found on the PSC website:

<http://www.psc.nsw.gov.au/pscinternet/information.page?>

Additionally, NSW Treasury Circular 11/03 prescribes the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Disclosure Requirements, requiring that NSW public sector agencies include EEO data in their annual reports.

52. Since 1 July 2011, how much has been spent on charter air flights by DPC?

ANSWER: For the Department of Premier and Cabinet (not including Ministers Offices) \$11,625 was spent on Charter Flights in 2011-12.

53. In relation to feasibility studies, audits, taskforces and reviews: Is your department currently undertaking any feasibility studies, audits, taskforces or reviews?

If yes,

53 a. What are the terms of reference or details of each study, audit, taskforce or review?

53 b. Who is conducting the study, audit, taskforce or review?

53 c. Was each study, audit, taskforce or review was publically advertised seeking expression of interest or competitive tenders?

53 d. Is there a contract in place detailing terms of engagement for the study, audit, taskforce or review?

53 e. What is the timeline of each study, audit, taskforce or review?

53 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 the NSW Government.

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54. Can you please list all travel related costs for your Parliamentary Secretary incurred in their capacity as Parliamentary Secretary since 1 July 2011

ANSWER: Travel related costs* for the Premier's and Ministers' Parliamentary Secretaries was as follows.

	2011-12
Premier's Parliamentary Secretaries	0
Ministers' Parliamentary Secretaries	\$19,609
TOTAL	\$19,609

*Flights, accommodation and hire car expenses as detailed in travel contractor report.

54 a. kilometres travelled

ANSWER: Information not available

54 b. accommodation,

ANSWER: Department of Premier and Cabinet does not have any recorded costs for travel for the Premier's Parliamentary Secretaries. The total cost of accommodation for travel by Ministers' Parliamentary Secretaries during 2011/12 was \$1,925.

54 c. air fares

ANSWER: Department of Premier and Cabinet does not have any recorded costs for travel for the Premier's Parliamentary Secretaries. The total cost of flights for Ministers' Parliamentary Secretaries during 2011/12 was \$17,477.

54 d. meals/entertaining?

ANSWER: Information not available

55. Can you please provide details of the following activities undertaken by your Parliamentary Secretary since 1 July 2011;

55 a. meetings attended in their capacity as Parliamentary Secretary?

55 b. functions attended in their capacity as Parliamentary Secretary?

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

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

56 a. Are these meetings documented?

56 b. Who attends these meetings?

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

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

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

58. Has the Premier been provided with Speech, Voice or Media Training since becoming Premier?

ANSWER: No

If yes,

58 a. Who conducted the training?

ANSWER: N/A

58 b. When was it conducted?

ANSWER: N/A

58 c. Where was it conducted what were the costs of the training?

ANSWER: N/A

58 d. Who paid for the training?

ANSWER: N/A

59. Has the Premier's Parliamentary Secretary been provided with Speech, Voice or Media Training since becoming Parliamentary Secretary?

ANSWER: No

If yes,

59 a. Who conducted the training?

ANSWER: N/A

59 b. When was it conducted?

ANSWER: N/A

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59 c. Where was it conducted what were the costs of the training?

ANSWER: N/A

59 d. Who paid for the training?

ANSWER: N/A

60. Have any DPC engaged consultants in the 2011/12 financial year?

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

61. If yes, which companies were engaged for consultancy services in the 2011/12 financial year?

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

62. For what purposes has DPC engaged consultants?

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

63. How much has DPC spent on consultants in the 2011/12 financial year?

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

64. What is DPC's budget for consultants in the 2012/13 financial year?

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

65. Has DPC sponsored any organisations or events in the 2011/12 financial year?

ANSWER: Yes

66. If yes, which organisations and events were sponsored in the 2011/12 financial year?

ANSWER: ActiveTV Pty Ltd for Carols in the Domain in 2011 for \$80,000.

67. How much did DPC spend on sponsoring organisations and events in the 2011/12 financial year?

ANSWER: \$80,000

68. What is DPC's budget for sponsorship in the 2012/13 financial year?

ANSWER: There is no specific budget for sponsorship, funds were allocated from the overall DPC budget.

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69. Prior to the 2011 election, the Liberal/Nationals committed to "build light rail in the CBD". Given the Infrastructure NSW report warns against building light rail in the CBD, is this commitment under reconsideration by the Government?

ANSWER: The Coalition's commitment to expand Sydney's light rail system from Central to Circular Quay was subject to a feasibility study. This study is nearing completion and will inform the final Long Term Transport Master Plan, which will be released before the end of 2012.

70. On how many occasions has the Director General of Transport for NSW, Les Wielinga attended Infrastructure NSW Board meetings?

ANSWER: Mr Wielinga attended seven (7) Infrastructure NSW Board meetings.

71. Has the Premier spoken to Peter Grimshaw since he resigned on April 3 2012?

ANSWER: Yes

72. On how many occasions have you spoken to him?

ANSWER: Two or three times

73. What was the nature of those discussions?

ANSWER: To see how he was going.

74. Has the Premier provided Mr Grimshaw with a reference for any position of employment?

ANSWER: No

75. Has Mr Grimshaw performed any work for the Premier or a Government Minister?

ANSWER: No, Mr Grimshaw hasn't been on the DPC payroll since 3 April 2012.

76. If yes, how much has he been paid for that work?

ANSWER: N/A

77. Which Minister(s) has he performed work for?

ANSWER: N/A

78. What is the nature of that work?

ANSWER: N/A

79. Are you aware of Mr Grimshaw doing work for any agency in the NSW Government?

ANSWER: No

80. If yes, how much has he been paid for that work?

ANSWER: N/A

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81. Which Department has he performed work for?

ANSWER: N/A

82. What is the nature of that work?

ANSWER: N/A