

**MINISTER FOR WESTERN SYDNEY  
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012-2013  
Questions on Notice**

**Questions from Mr Secord**

**Western Sydney**

**1.** As Minister for Western Sydney do you have:

**1 a.** An office in Western Sydney?

**ANSWER:** As Premier and Minister for Western Sydney, my Ministerial office is located at Parliament House Sydney and Governor Macquarie Tower, 1 Farrer Pl Sydney.

The Department of Premier and Cabinet has a Greater Western Sydney Regional Coordination Office. It is located at level 2, Macquarie Tower, 10 Valentine Ave, Parramatta NSW 2150.

**If yes,**

**i.** If so, where the office is located, which person or business owns the premises, what is the floor space, what is the annual rent, what is the staffing of the office and how frequently, if ever, do you work out of that office?

**ANSWER:** N/A

**1 b.** Dedicated staff to deal with this portfolio responsibility? And **i.** If so, how many staff are there and what is their annual remuneration and in which office are they located?

**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\\_minister\\_staff\\_numbers](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers_and_minister_staff_numbers).

**2.** How many times in the last twelve months have you visited Western Sydney in your capacity as Minister for Western Sydney?

**ANSWER:** In 2011/12 I regularly visited Western Sydney in my capacity as Minister for Western Sydney.

**3.** With whom did you meet and what was the purpose of the meetings?

**ANSWER:** The regular visit to Western Sydney in 2011/12 include:

- Community Cabinet meetings in St Marys, Parramatta and Springwood;
- Inspecting updates of the North West Rail Link;
- Inspecting construction of the South West Rail Link;
- Visit to Mt Annan Botanical Gardens;
- Sod turning of Erskine Park Rail Link Road;
- Inspecting upgrades of Great Western Highway and Camden Valley Way;
- Inspect hospital upgrades at Campbelltown and Blacktown Hospitals;
- Welcomed new nurses at Westmead Hospital;
- Supporting the investment of jobs by visiting Woolworths Master Project in Gregory Hills, new waste recycling facility at Eastern Creek, Brickworks at Horsley Park; and Eclipse Tower at Parramatta;
- Launch Operation EyeWatch at Quakers Hill;
- Supporting our major events at Sydney Olympic Park and showground;
- Attending Australia Day events in Parramatta and Penrith; and
- Supporting charity organisations and volunteers, such as Youth Off The Streets in Macquarie Fields, Parramatta Mission and meeting with SES from Hawkesbury, Hills, Mt Druitt and Blacktown units.

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**4.** Were you accompanied by any family members, staff or friends during those visits? If so who accompanied you on each trip and what was the cost to the taxpayer of this?

**ANSWER:** The Premier is occasionally accompanied by staff and travel costs are included in my Ministerial Office budget. On occasion, if invited and appropriate, a member of Mr O'Farrell's family may accompany him to events. For instance, the Premier took his family to attend the Parramatta opening night of the Sydney Festival in January.

**5.** How many representations have you made to other Ministers in your capacity as the Minister for Western Sydney and what was the nature of those representations?

**ANSWER:** As Premier and Minister for Western Sydney I receive and respond to issues by way of representations.

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 correspondence.

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

**End of questions from Mr Secord.**