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## 0172—Local Government—COUNCIL MONETARY LOSSES

Mr Primrose to the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Local Government—

The Minister for Local Government has frequently been quoted saying that 'Councils are losing over \$1 million a day.'

1. How was this amount calculated?
2.
  - a. What data was used?
  - b. From where was it sourced?
3. Does the Minister for Local Government stand by the accuracy of this assertion?

Answer—

In a letter to the Office of Local Government in September 2014, NSW Treasury Corporation stated that the total operating results for councils in deficit in 2012/13 was an aggregated deficit in excess of \$400million. The 2013/14 audited financial statements of councils show total operating income for all councils in 2013/14 was \$9.715 billion and total expenditure was \$10.075 billion, translating into a net operating deficit for the sector of \$359.442 million: or approximately \$1 million a day. This information is available in the Your Council report on the office of Local Government web site.

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Answer received on 28 July 2015 and to be printed in Questions & Answers Paper No. 15.

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