



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEE NO. 1

**BUDGET ESTIMATES 2011-2012**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**General Purpose Standing Committee No. 1**

Trade and Investment

Monday 24 October

Answers to be lodged by: 17 November 2011

**Budget Estimates Secretariat**

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<b>Hearing date</b>	<b>Portfolio</b>	<b>Answer to be lodged by</b>
24 October 2011	Trade and Investment	17 November 2011 [21 days]

## Questions relating to the portfolio of Trade and Investment

24 October 2011, 2.00 pm – 3.30 pm

### Questions from the Hon Mick Veitch MLC

- 1 Regional Relocation Grant
  - a. How many people have been successful in receiving the the Regional Relocation Grant as of today's date?
  - b. How many people have applied?
  - c. Where in Sydney were they located before the move?
  - d. Where did they move to?
  - e. How many west of the dividing range?
  - f. What were the ages of the successful recipients?
  - g. With regard to the marketing of the programme. How much has been spent so far in advertising the scheme out of the 1 million?
    - i. Is there a budget for the campaign?
    - ii. Who was engaged to prepare the marketing?
    - iii. Was the ad campaign an open tender or a selective/exclusive process?
    - iv. Contract for the work?
  - h. How many people are responsible for administering the Grant program?
  - i. How many Staff are paid to check compliance with the Grant Program?
  - j. How do you intend to recoup the money if recipients do not adhere to the conditions of the Grant Program?
  - k. Can you guarantee that unspent funds will not be considered 'windfall gains'?
  - l. Can you guarantee that any unspent funds will in fact be spent in Country NSW – West of the dividing range?

### Questions from the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC

- 2 Phones
  - a. How many blackberries does DPC assign to your Ministerial staff and to whom have they been issued?
  - b. How many iPads does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?
  - c. How many iPads have you purchased for your office and to whom have they been issued?
  - d. How many iPhones does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?
  - e. How many iPhones have you purchased for your office and to whom have they been issued?
  - f. For each phone or device, how much was each bill from April to October?
  - g. How any have phones or devices have been lost in your office?
  - h. What is the cost of replacing those phones or devices?

3 Media and Public Relations

- a. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies?
- b. What is the forecast for 2011-12 for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost?
- c. How many media or public relations advisers are employed in your ministerial office?

4 Overseas Trips

- a. Have any of your overseas trips in the past year been paid for in part or in full by using public money?
- b. If so, did any of your relatives or friends accompany you on these trips?

5 Office Costs

- a. What is the annual remuneration package for your chief of staff?
- b. What is the annual remuneration package for your head media advisor?
- c. What is the annual remuneration package for each of your staff?
- d. What is the estimated expenditure for your office budget in 2011-12?
- e. Have any office renovations or fit outs been undertaken in your ministerial office since April?
- f. If so, could you give details of contracted costs?
- g. What is your office budget?
- h. How many political advisors are in your office?
- i. How many administration staff?
- j. How many Department Liaison officers are assigned to your office?
- k. How many staff in the Department are assigned to Ministerial support duties?

6 Cabcharge

- a. In terms of your ministerial office, how much did your office spend on taxi fares, including Cabcharge since April?

7 Restructure

- a. Are any of your portfolio agencies undergoing a restructure?
- b. How many jobs are expected to be cut as a result of that restructure?
- c. How many people are expected to have their wages cut as a result of that restructure?
- d. How many voluntary redundancies are expected to be offered as a result of that restructure?

8 Agency Costs

- a. What is your agency's catering budget?
- b. Since April, has the agency changed its branding?
- c. How much was spent on rebranding the agency?
- d. How much has been spent on stationary?

9 Correspondence

- a. How long is the average turnaround for responding to correspondence in your agency?
- b. How many pieces of correspondence have been outstanding for more than 60 days?

10 Paying bills on time

- a. Since April, on how many occasions has the agency not paid a supplier or contractor for more than 30 days?
- b. How many bills have been outstanding for longer than that period?

- 11 Grants to non-government organisations
  - a. Does your department provide recurrent grant funds to non-government organisations?
  - b. If yes,
    - i. What are the names of all organisations in receipt of funding?
    - ii. What is the total amount of funding received by each organisation, including goods and services tax?
    - iii. On what date was the funding advanced?
    - iv. What was the purpose for each grant or funding advance?
    - v. Was any funding withheld or returned?
    - vi. If so, what were the reasons for withholding or requiring the funding to be returned?
    - viii. What is the indexation rate applied to non recurrent grant funds in 2011/2012?
  
- 12 Feasibility studies, audits, taskforces or
  - a. Is your department currently undertaking any feasibility studies, audits, taskforces or reviews,
  - b. If so;
    - i. What are the terms of reference or details of each study, audit, taskforce or review?
    - ii. Who is conducting the study, audit, taskforce or review?
    - iii. Was each study, audit, taskforce or review was publically advertised seeking expression of interest or competitive tenders?
    - iv. Is there a contract in place detailing terms of engagement for the study, audit, taskforce or review?
    - v. What is the timeline of each study, audit, taskforce or review?
    - vi. What are the details of any costs involved in each study, audit, taskforce or review?
  
- 13 In relation to the Digital Economy Industry Action
  - a. What are the 'Regional Perspectives' that are included in the Digital Economy Industry Action Plan?
  - b. How much funding has been allocated to these 'Regional Perspectives'?
  - c. When are these 'Regional Perspectives' expected to start?
  
- 14 In relation to the appointment of Moin Anwar as Director, Trade and Investment in the NSW Government Business Office in Abu Dhabi
  - a. When did the recruitment start?
  - b. Who conducted the recruitment?
  - c. How much did the recruitment cost?
  - d. How long is the term?
  - e. Are there reviews of his performance?
  - f. Who conducts the review?
  - g. When will the reviews be conducted?
  - h. Is there a contract for Mr Moin Anwar's services? Can we obtain a copy?
  - i. How many staff are employed to support Mr Anwar?
    - i. In Australia?
    - ii. In Abu Dhabi?
  - j. Where is his Office located? Is it co-located or is it stand alone?
  - k. How much does it cost to run his Office? How much is the Promotion, Travel and Entertainment Budget?

- 15 In relation to NSW Multicultural Business Advisory Panel
  - a. How far advanced is the establishment of the NSW Multicultural Business Advisory Panel?
  - b. How much has been budgeted for the establishment of the NSW Multicultural Business Advisory Panel?
  - c. How much has been spent to date?
  - d. Where will the Multicultural Business Advisory Panel be accommodated?
  - e. How many staff will be engaged to support the NSW Multicultural Business Advisory Panel?
  
- 16 In relation to the NSW Export and Investment Advisory Board
  - a. How much was budgeted for the establishment of the NSW Export and Investment Advisory Board?
  - b. How much has been spent to date?
  - c. Where will the NSW Export and Investment Advisory Board be accommodated?
  - d. What was the full cost of conducting the appointment process for the board of the NSW Export and Investment Advisory Board?
  - e. How many staff will be engaged (F.T.E) to support the NSW Export and Investment Advisory Board?
  - f. Do the board have any performance targets to meet?
  - g. Will the performance targets and the Boards results against these performances targets be reported publically? If so, how often?
  - h. How will they show they are being effective?
  
- 17 In relation to the document NSW 2021, A Plan to make NSW Number One
  - a. The Document NSW 2021, A Plan to make NSW Number One says you are responsible for and I quote; "Increase tourism in NSW with double the visitor expenditure by 2020", How do you plan on achieving this by 2020?
  - b. The document NSW 2021, A Plan to make NSW Number One it says you are responsible for and I quote;"Increase the value of primary industries and mining production by 30% by 2020",How do you plan on achieving this by 2020?
  
- 18 In relation to the Regional Development Offices
  - a. How many Regional Development Offices are there in NSW?
  - b. Where are they located?
  - c. How many staff (FTE) are employed at each office?
  - d. Can you give a commitment that no Regional Development Offices will be closed in your term in Government?
  
- 19 In relation to Restart NSW
  - a. Why is the rural component capped at 30%?
  - b. Can more than the 30% be spent in rural and regional NSW?
  - c. When can we expect this programme to start?
  
- 20 In relation to Restart NSW
  - a. You've promised to create \$160m resources for the regions program for mining affected areas, how much funding will be available from Restart NSW in each of the next four financial years for this program?
  - b. How will you determine which communities are eligible for the funding?

- c. What mechanisms have you put in place to ensure that projects receiving funding under this program would not have received funding under other programs – in other words how are you guaranteeing this is not replacement funding?
  - d. The Government suggested that its Restart NSW fund would have nearly \$5 billion, being \$1.5 billion from the arrangement with the desal plant and \$3.5 billion from ‘windfall gains’. What is Treasury’s prediction for how much will be in the fund for each of the next three years?
  - e. What arrangements does the Government have in place to ensure that Restart NSW funds are not replacing other Government capital funds?
- 21 In relation to speech, voice and media training
- a. Have you been provided with speech, voice or media training since becoming a Minister?
  - b. Who conducted the training?
  - c. When was it conducted?
  - d. Where was it conducted?
  - e. What was the cost?
  - f. Who paid for the training?
- 22 In relation to Trade Posts
- a. What is the budget allocation for each trade post?
  - b. What are the performance measures for each trade post
  - c. Do you plan to open new trade posts in the term of this Government?
  - d. Do you intend to close trade posts in the term of this Government?
  - e. How many staff are employed at each post?
  - f. What is the total salary of all staff employed to work at each Trade Post?
- 23 In relation to Waratah Bonds
- a. The Treasurer promised before the election that Waratah bonds would not add to NSW debt because he said they would replace debt taken out for the desalination plant – Can you explain how this transaction will work and the amount required from Waratah bonds to make it work?
  - b. How much does the Government expect to raise from Waratah bonds?
    - i. What is the Government’s target?
    - ii. How much is the Waratah bonds scheme costing to administer?
    - iii. How much would a similar total loan cost to administer?
- 24 Parliamentary Secretary
- a. Can you please list all travel related costs for your Parliamentary Secretary incurred in their capacity as Parliamentary Secretary since 1 July 2011:
    - i. kilometres travelled,
    - ii. accommodation,
    - iii. air fares
    - iv. meals/entertaining?
  - b. Can you please provide details of the following activities undertaken by your Parliamentary Secretary since 1 July 2011
    - i. meetings attended in their capacity as Parliamentary Secretary?
    - ii. functions attended in their capacity as Parliamentary Secretary?
  - c. How often do you meet with your Parliamentary Secretary?
    - i. Are these meetings documented?
    - ii. Who attends these meetings?

- d. Who provides instructions and direction to your Parliamentary Secretary, you or your Chief of Staff?
- e. Has the Parliamentary Secretary been provided with Speech, Voice or Media Training since becoming Parliamentary Secretary?
- f. If so:
  - i. Who conducted the training?
  - ii. When was it conducted?
  - iii. Where was it conducted what were the costs of the training?
  - iv. Who paid for the training?

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**There were no additional questions on notice lodged by members relating to the portfolio of  
Trade and Investment**