

Answers to Supplementary Questions

Questions from Mr David Shoebridge MLC

1. How much did Treasury contribute in additional funds to the Home Building Compensation Fund in the 2018-2019 financial year?

Answer:

In 2018/19, the Home Building Compensation Fund (HBCF) received \$28.5 million from Treasury grants. These grants relate to underwriting losses from FY2016/17, which is part of the pre-reform or legacy portfolio.

2. What parameters or policy guidelines exist to allowing icare to underwrite the Home Building Compensation Fund at a loss and what policy classes are being subsidised this way?

Answer:

The operations of the Home Building Compensation Fund are established under sections 8A(1)(a) and (b) of the *NSW Self Insurance Corporation Act 2004* and gives the NSW Self Insurance Corporation, for which icare provides services for, the following function:

“...to carry on the business of providing insurance for building work done in New South Wales that requires insurance...”

In carrying on the business of providing insurance, there are always externalities beyond control that may affect the business' position.

icare, in providing services for the NSW Self Insurance Corporation, has the responsibility of providing insurance that is mandatory for builders. In carrying out that responsibility, HBCF is priced as per the Home Building Compensation premium principles published by SIRA:

- premiums are fair and reflective of risk;
- premiums should not be excessive or inadequate;
- premiums should not be unreasonably volatile;
- premiums should provide incentives for risk management and good business practices; and,
- premiums to be consistent with the licensed insurer's capital requirements.

It is noted that the majority of under-pricing is historic

With respect to the pricing principles regarding minimising volatility and delivering premium fairness, for policies issued after the 2017 reforms, icare has made progress in moving the Fund to a solid financial footing by:

- progressively bringing premiums towards full break-even, with improved identification of high risk building categories to remove cross-subsidies;
- moving to a risk-based approach where builders who pose a lower risk are rewarded with lower premiums; and
- reducing operating expenses.

The majority of constructions are already being charged sustainable premiums, including:

- new single dwelling residential builds;
- renovations to single-dwelling residential builds; and,
- swimming pools.

There are some constructions where the premiums are not currently estimated to be sufficient for future liabilities, including: multi-story constructions; duplex, dual occupancy and triplexes; and single dwelling alterations.

- 3. What is the exact number of workers who have been forced out of the workers compensation system under section 39 because the five-year effluxion has now passed?**

(a) Please provide figures for each of:

- i. 2017-18**
- ii. 2018-19**
- iii. 2019-20 to date**

Answer:

Please see answer in responses to Questions on Notice.

Stadium PBO Costing

4. Secretary Michael Pratt gave evidence in Estimates on 29 August 2019 that you raised issue with the independent PBO costing of Labor's stadium loan policy. The PBO confirmed as much in an email to the Secretary dated 29 March 2019, released under GIPA.

(a) Please outline the nature of that conversation, and what was discussed, between yourself and the Secretary.

(b) What prompted that conversation?

(c) Did you ask Treasury to review the costing?

(d) Did you ask Treasury to represent your concerns to the PBO?

(e) Was that the only time you or your office discussed a Labor policy during the election period?

- i. Please outline all other interactions during the election period.**

(f) The Caretaker Conventions state that "Ministers should take particular care to ensure that they do not compromise the neutrality of the public service in the lead up to an election." Please explain how raising a concern about an opposition policy and asking Treasury to represent those concerns to the PBO does not constitute a breach of the Caretaker Conventions?

Answer:

After the PBO costing of Labor's stadium loan policy was made public on the PBO website, it was clear that this costing was flawed as it indicated that the Government would make revenue from the construction of the stadium - a treatment not provided to other assets built by the Government or part of the Government.

As Treasurer I complied with all the relevant obligations during the caretaker period. Treasury is the custodian of accounting standards in Government, and it was entirely appropriate that they sought to represent their concerns over this clearly flawed costing to the PBO.

Budget and Economic Assumptions

5. Please complete the following table with the assumptions that underpin the forecasts in the 2019-20 Budget, along with the data sources Treasury uses to measure these.

| NSW measure unless otherwise stated | Data source used | FY19 | FY20 | FY21 | FY22 | FY23 | FY24 | FY25 |
|---|------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Transfer duty volumes – residential sector | | | | | | | | |
| Transfer duty volumes – commercial sector | | | | | | | | |
| Transfer duty revenue | | | | | | | | |
| Land tax revenue | | | | | | | | |
| Payroll tax revenue | | | | | | | | |
| Sydney house price % change year on year (Forecasts are annual average growth) | | | | | | | | |
| Sydney auction clearance rates | | | | | | | | |
| RBA cash rate | | | | | | | | |
| 3 month bond rate (commonwealth) | | | | | | | | |
| 3 year bond rate (commonwealth) | | | | | | | | |
| 5 year bond rate (commonwealth) | | | | | | | | |

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|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 10 year bond rate (commonwealth) | | | | | | | | |
| National GDP (Forecasts are annual average growth) | | | | | | | | |
| NSW Household consumption (Forecasts are annual average growth) | | | | | | | | |
| Productivity (Forecasts are annual average growth per hour worked) | | | | | | | | |
| Dwellings approved - houses | | | | | | | | |
| Dwellings approved – dwellings excluding houses | | | | | | | | |
| Value Volume (real) of construction work done – building residential (private) (Forecasts are annual average growth) | | | | | | | | |
| Value Volume (real) of construction work done – building non residential (private) (Forecasts are annual average growth) | | | | | | | | |
| Value Volume (real) of construction work done – engineering (private) (Forecasts are annual average growth) | | | | | | | | |
| Value of construction work done – total construction | | | | | | | | |
| Business investment (Forecasts are annual average growth) | | | | | | | | |

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|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Lending to households for dwellings | | | | | | | | |
| Lending to businesses | | | | | | | | |
| Total New Capital Expenditure | | | | | | | | |
| CAPEX intentions | | | | | | | | |
| Job ads | | | | | | | | |
| Job vacancies | | | | | | | | |
| Public sector wages % change year on year (Forecasts are annual average growth) | | | | | | | | |
| Private sector wages % change year on year (Forecasts are annual average growth) | | | | | | | | |
| Participation rate – national | | | | | | | | |
| Participation rate – NSW | | | | | | | | |
| Underemployment rate - national | | | | | | | | |
| Underemployment rate - NSW | | | | | | | | |
| Employment to Population (15+) ratio – National | | | | | | | | |
| Employment to Population (15+) ratio - NSW | | | | | | | | |
| Unemployment rate - National | | | | | | | | |

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|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Unemployment rate - NSW | | | | | | | | |
| Population % change year on year - NSW (Forecasts are per cent change through the year to 30 June) | | | | | | | | |

Answer:

Please see 2019-20 Budget papers and Treasury response to the SO 52 order to produce documents regarding the 2019-20 Budget.

6. **Has any work been done by Treasury to review or reevaluate the economic forecasts in the 2019-20 Budget since it was released?**
(a) If so, please provide all materials relating to any review of forecasts.

Refer to Budget Estimates 2019-20 Treasury Portfolio Hansard transcript pages 41-42, 123-124.

7. **Please complete the following table:**

| | FY19 | FY20 | FY21 | FY22 | FY23 |
|-----------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Real state final demand | | | | | |
| Real gross state product | | | | | |
| Employment | | | | | |
| Unemployment | | | | | |
| Sydney CPI | | | | | |
| WPI | | | | | |
| Nominal gross state product | | | | | |
| Population | | | | | |
| Budget result | | | | | |

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|---------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Capital expenditure | | | | | |
| Net debt | | | | | |
| Net worth | | | | | |
| Revenue | | | | | |
| Expenses | | | | | |

Answer:

Please see 2019-20 Budget papers.

For each of the following scenarios. Please provide the closest modelling available for similar movements in the same direction for key economic indicators.

- (d) Higher unemployment
- (e) Higher underemployment
- (f) Higher participation rate
- (g) Lower WPI
- (h) Lower CPI
- (i) Lower house price growth
- (j) Lower house sale volumes
- (k) Lower national GDP
- (l) Lower business investment
- (m) Lower productivity
- (n) Lower dwelling approvals and starts
- (o) Lower RBA cash rates

Answer:

The 2019-20 Budget included detailed scenario analysis in BP1, appendix F. This scenario analysis is intended to complement the central economic outlook as presented in BP1 Chapter 2 by quantifying some of the key risks to the overall outlook. Two scenarios were considered: a positive shock to the NSW workforce participation rate (Scenario C above); and a negative shock to house prices, where NSW prices fall slightly more than the rest of Australia (Scenario F above).

Infrastructure Cost Allocations

- 8. Please complete the following table with the amounts of funding already allocated to the below projects, and the estimated total project value.**

| | Amount already allocated in existing budgets and forward estimates | Estimated project value | Estimated completion date | Current status |
|---|--|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| TRANSPORT | | | | |
| Bus Priority Infrastructure Program | | | | |
| Central Precinct Renewal | | | | |
| Cycling Investment Program | | | | |
| Delivering Sydney Clearways | | | | |
| Digital Systems - Onboard (Fleet) | | | | |
| Digital Systems- Digital Train Radio System and Fixed Telecommunication Network Updates | | | | |
| Electrical Substations and Sectioning Equipment Hut Replacement | | | | |
| F6 Extension Stage 1 | | | | |
| Ferry Fleet Replacement | | | | |
| Gateway to the South Pinch Points | | | | |
| Heathcote Road, Bridge over Woronora River | | | | |
| Heathcote Road, Infantry Parade to The Avenue | | | | |
| Henry Lawson Drive Upgrade (Stage 1) | | | | |
| M12 Motorway | | | | |

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|---|--|--|--|--|
| Macquarie University Bus Interchange Upgrade | | | | |
| Manns Road Upgrade, Stockyard Place to Narara Creek Road (Planning) | | | | |
| Memorial Avenue, Old Windsor Road to Windsor Road | | | | |
| Mona Vale Road West, McCarrs Creek Road to Powder Works Road | | | | |
| More Trains More Services - Stage 2 | | | | |
| More Trains, More Services Future Stages | | | | |
| Mulgoa Road, Jeanette Street to Blaikie Road | | | | |
| Muswellbrook Bypass | | | | |
| Nelson Bay Upgrade - Stage 1 | | | | |
| New England Highway, Belford to Golden Highway Upgrade | | | | |
| New England Highway, Singleton Bypass | | | | |
| New England Highway, Tenterfield Heavy Vehicle Bypass (Planning) | | | | |
| New Hawkesbury River crossing at Richmond (Planning) | | | | |
| Newcastle Inner City Bypass, Rankin Park to Jesmond | | | | |
| Newell Highway Overtaking Lanes Package | | | | |

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|---|--|--|--|--|
| Newell Highway, New Dubbo Bridge | | | | |
| Newell Highway, North Moree Heavy Duty Pavement | | | | |
| Newell Highway, North Narrabri to Moree Heavy Duty Pavement | | | | |
| Pacific Highway and Manns Road, Narara Creek Road to Parsons Road | | | | |
| Pacific Highway, Coffs Harbour Bypass | | | | |
| Pacific Highway, Wyong Town Centre | | | | |
| Pacific Motorway (M1), Extension to Raymond Terrace | | | | |
| Parramatta Light Rail Stage 2 | | | | |
| Princes Highway, Nowra Bridge Replacement over Shoalhaven River | | | | |
| Princes Motorway Improvements, Bulli Tops to Picton Road Stage 1 | | | | |
| Princes Motorway, Mount Ousley Interchange | | | | |
| Prospect Highway | | | | |
| SIS Pinch Point Program (Pinch Point 3 Program) | | | | |
| Spring Farm Parkway, Stage 1 | | | | |
| Stacey Street Widening between Rookwood Road and Griffiths Avenue | | | | |
| Sydney Gateway | | | | |

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|---|--|--|--|--|
| Sydney Harbour Bridge Deck Upgrade | | | | |
| Sydney Metro West | | | | |
| Sydney Metro Western Sydney Airport (Stage 1) | | | | |
| The Horsley Drive, M7 Motorway to Cowpasture Road | | | | |
| Transport Access Program - Commuter Car Parks | | | | |
| Transport Access Program - Ferry Wharves | | | | |
| Transport Access Program Package 1B | | | | |
| Transport Access Program Package 2B | | | | |
| Transport Access Program - Package 3 | | | | |
| Transport Access Program - Redfern Station Upgrade | | | | |
| Walking Communities (Pedestrian Facilities) | | | | |
| Warnervale Link Road, Albert Warner Drive to Pacific Highway | | | | |
| Western Harbour Tunnel & Beaches Link | | | | |
| Work Fleet Augmentation and Replacement Program, and Mobile Maintenance Train | | | | |
| HEALTH | | | | |

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|---|--|--|--|--|
| Eurobodalla Hospital Redevelopment | | | | |
| John Hunter Health and Innovation Project | | | | |
| Liverpool Health and Academic Precinct | | | | |
| Nepean Hospital Redevelopment Stage 2 | | | | |
| Primary and Integrated Care (HealthOne) Strategy | | | | |
| Rouse Hill Health Service | | | | |
| Shoalhaven Hospital Redevelopment | | | | |
| Statewide Mental Health Infrastructure Program | | | | |
| Sydney Children's Hospital Westmead Stage 2 | | | | |
| Tweed Hospital and Integrated Ambulatory Services Redevelopment | | | | |
| EDUCATION | | | | |
| Chatswood Education Precinct | | | | |
| Cooler Classrooms | | | | |
| Hurlstone Agriculture High School (Hawkesbury) relocation | | | | |
| Meadowbank Education Precinct | | | | |
| More than 170 School Upgrades across NSW | | | | |

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|--|--|--|--|--|
| Sydney Olympic Park new high school | | | | |
| PRECINCTS | | | | |
| Bays West | | | | |
| The Bays Urban Transformation - Bays Market District (Sydney Fish Markets) | | | | |
| Westmead Precinct | | | | |
| WATER | | | | |
| Warragamba Dam Raising | | | | |
| SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE | | | | |
| Redevelopment of Stadium Australia | | | | |
| SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE | | | | |
| Waterloo Estate Redevelopment - Communities Plus | | | | |
| CULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE | | | | |
| New Powerhouse Museum Parramatta | | | | |
| Riverside Theatre Redevelopment | | | | |
| Sydney Opera House - Main Concert Hall Renewal | | | | |
| The MAAS Project - Ultimo | | | | |
| JUSTICE | | | | |
| New Outer South West Sydney Court/Police Precinct | | | | |

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|---|--|--|--|--|
| Police Station Priority Projects | | | | |
| Regional Court Upgrade Program | | | | |
| Silverwater Upgrade and Enhancement Project | | | | |
| Sydney CBD court precinct | | | | |

Answer:

Please see 2019-20 Budget papers. Further questions should be directed to the relevant minister.

Historical Budget Figures

Question 9

Please complete the below table with historical actual results, and future forecasts for years in the future.

Answer:

The Government reports the key fiscal indicators for the general government and non-financial public sector from 1996-97 in Appendix D – Historical Fiscal Indicators in Budget Paper No.1 of the 2019-20 State Budget. These include the forward forecasts for both the general government and non-financial public sector over the budget and forward estimates. Key fiscal indicators from years prior to 1996-97 are not included in this attachment as prior to 1996-97, the Government reported its finances on a cash-basis.

For historical information on the Total State Sector, please refer to the relevant Annual Report on State Finances. For historical information on entities within the public financial corporations and public non-financial corporations sector, please refer to the relevant annual reports for entities within that sector.

NFPS Operating Statement

Question 10

NFPS revenues have declined from 85,482m to 83,981 (17-18 to 18-19). What is driving this decline?

Answer:

NFPS operating revenue represents a combination of general government revenue (e.g. State Taxes, Commonwealth Grants, etc) and public non-financial corporations sector revenue (e.g. commercial user fees and charges).

As part of the 2019-20 Budget, the Government has forecast a decrease in NFPS revenues in 2018-19 (relative to 2017-18) driven by:

- downward revisions in GST and Transfer Duty revenue in the general government sector
- a decrease in the Sales of Goods and Services revenue in the public non-financial corporations' sector associated with the deconsolidation of the WCX M4 Pty Ltd and WCX M5 Pty Ltd entities following the sale of WestConnex.

Question 11

Within the NFPS revenues, the sale of Goods and Services is down from 14,247m to 13,291m. What is driving this near \$1bn decline?

(a) Which agencies are seeing the declines and why?

Answer:

Please see Question 10 above.

Question 12

Transaction Expenses are growing from 82,766m to 86,079m. What is driving this increase?

(a) Which agencies are realising the cost increases?

Answer:

NFPS operating expenses represents a combination of general government expenses (e.g. provision of health, education, transport, police services, etc) and public non-financial corporations sector expenses (e.g. provision of water, electricity services etc).

As part of the 2019-20 Budget, the Government has forecast an increase in NFPS operating expenses (relative to 2017-18) driven by the Government's response to the drought, actuarial revaluations of long service leave and insurance claim, liabilities, and depreciation expenses related to asset revaluations and the transfer of transport assets into the general government sector.

Question 13

What assumptions is the government using to justify NFPS Revenues growth of 3.63% (Current 19-20 Budget + next 3 years) over the current budget and forward estimates, and expenses growth of only 3.15% over the current budget and forward estimates given it recently realised a decline in revenues and an increase in expenses which helped create a structural deficit in the NFPS operating statement?

(a) NOTE: Can simplify the question to "What assumptions is the government using to justify that NFPS revenue is growing faster than expenses given that it recently realised a decline in revenues and increase in expenses which helped create a structural deficit"

Answer:

NFPS operating revenue represents a combination of general government revenue (e.g. State Taxes, Commonwealth Grants, etc) and public non-financial corporations sector revenue (e.g. commercial user fees and charges).

While some temporary factors in the General Government sector contributed to a downward revision in 2018-19 revenue forecasts (e.g. GST and Transfer Duty), the 2019-20 Budget is forecasting a recovery of housing market transaction volumes, and a return to positive price growth during 2019-20, will support forecast annual growth of transfer duty averaging 5.2 per cent in the four years to 2022-23.

As growth rates are calculated relative to their base, a lower base in 2018-19 leads to a relatively higher rate in the corresponding year if the factors that led to the downward revisions are temporary.

PNFC Operating Statement**Question 14**

What assumptions is the government using to justify PNFC Revenues growth of 1.5% (Current 19-20 Budget + next 3 years) over the current budget and forward estimates, and expenses growth of 3.4% over the current budget and forward estimates?

Answer:

The public non-financial corporations (PNFC) sector is guided by a Commercial Policy Framework, which aims to replicate within government businesses the disciplines and incentives that lead private sector businesses toward efficient and commercial outcomes. The NSW Government continues to align the Framework with best practice.

In line with this best practice, State-Owned Corporations within the PNFC sector publish Statements of Corporate Intent which outline their corporate objectives, business overview, financial summary and performance targets that guide their revenue and expense outlook. As the PNFC sector covers a variety of commercial areas (e.g. electricity, water, property and resources, ports, etc) please refer to their individual published Statements of Corporate Intent for their relevant underlying commercial assumptions.

(p) Which agencies are seeing the highest increases in expenses?

The annual State Budget focuses on commercial performance in the PNFC sector. As such, it focuses on broader sectoral issues, capital expenditure and forecast dividends and tax equivalent payments. Please refer to their individual published Statements of Corporate Intent for the individual entity information.

(q) Which agencies are seeing expenses growing faster than revenues?

As represented by the aggregate PNFC expense and revenue rates, most entities within the PNFC have forecast expenses growing faster than revenues over the four years to 2022-23. Please refer to their individual published Statements of Corporate

Intent for their relevant underlying commercial assumptions that are guiding these forecasts.

Ministerial Travel/Meal Allowance

Question 15

How many nights travel were claimed by the Minister during the 2018-19 period?

Question 16

How many nights travel were claimed by the Minister's spouse during the 2018-19 period?

Question 17

What was the total amount of travel allowances claimed by the Minister and their spouse (if applicable) during 2018-19?

Question 18

What is the total amount of meal allowances claimed by the Minister and their spouse (if applicable) during 2018-19?

Answer (15-18):

In 2018-19, total expenditure by the Ministry on domestic travel was \$1,093,735.

Efficiency dividends

Question 19

What was the forecast efficiency dividend saving for each department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio in 2018-19?

Answer:

Savings from the NSW Government's efficiency dividend are outlined in the 2018-19 Budget Paper No.1 Page 6-4.

Question 20

What is the forecast efficiency dividend saving for each department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio in

(a) 2019-20?

(b) 2020-21?

(c) 2021-22?

Answer:

Savings from the NSW Government's efficiency dividend are outlined in the 2018-19 Budget Paper No.1 Page 6-4.

Question 21

What was the total efficiency dividend that was achieved for each department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio between 2011-12 and 2018-19 inclusively?

Answer:

Savings from the NSW Government's efficiency dividend are outlined in the 2018-19 Budget Paper No.1 Page 6-4.

Ministerial Office Administration

Question 22

How many staff are in your ministerial office?

- (a) What was the average salary for staff members in your office during 2018-19?**
- (b) What is the estimated average salary for a ministerial staffer in your office in 2019-20 based on current appointments?**

Answer:

Ministers' Office staff numbers and salary bands are available on the DPC website. Refer to: <https://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/publications/premiers-and-ministers-staff-numbers/>

Question 23

How many iPhone/smart phones are assigned to your staff?

- (a) For each phone, how much was each bill in 2018-19?**
- (b) How many phones have been lost or replaced due to damage in your office?**
- (c) What is the cost of replacing those phones?**

Answer:

There were 261 smartphones and other mobile devices allocated across the Ministers' IT Network in 2018-2019. The total usage cost of these smart phones and other mobile devices (including iPads) was \$334,630, compared to 2009-10 expenditure of \$434,854 under Labor. There were 6 devices lost/stolen across the Ministerial Offices during 2018-2019. The cost of replacing any lost or stolen devices is claimed through the NSW Treasury Managed Fund. Repairs are funded by the Department of Premier and Cabinet, Corporate and Ministerial Services.

Question 24

How many iPads or tablets has DPC assigned to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?

- (a) What was the cost of providing iPads or tablets to your Ministerial Office in 2018-19?**
- (b) How many iPads or tablets have been replaced due to lost or damage in 2018-19?**
- (c) What was the cost of replacing these devices?**

Answer:

There were 111 iPads allocated across the Ministers' IT Network in 2018-2019. The cost of replacing any lost or stolen devices is claimed through the NSW Treasury Managed Fund. Repairs are funded by the Department of Premier and Cabinet, Corporate and Ministerial Services.

Question 25

Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in your ministerial office in 2018-19?

- (a) What is the cost of this?**

Answer:

Artwork in Ministers' Offices includes art donated at no cost.

Question 26

Have any floral displays or indoor plants or pot plants been hired or leased for display in your ministerial office in 2018-19?

- a) If so, what was the cost of these items?**

Answer:

Floral arrangements purchased by the Ministry are managed within Ministerial office budgets.

Question 27

Have any floral displays or indoor plants or pot plants been purchased for display in your ministerial office in 2018-19?

- a) If so, what was the cost of these items?**

Answer:

Floral arrangements purchased by the Ministry are managed within Ministerial office budgets.

Question 28

What was the total cost of all subscriptions by you and your staff to news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals (including online services) in 2018-19?

- (a) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?**
- (b) Who is the subscriber for each of these?**

Answer:

Ministers' offices subscribe to a modest number of publications, which are managed within Ministerial office budgets.

Question 29

What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by you and your office in 2018-19?

- (a) What were the gifts purchased?**
- (b) Who were they gifted to?**

Answer:

Gifts are presented to dignitaries during overseas missions and to dignitaries visiting NSW in accordance with established protocol.

Question 30

Do you purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for your office?

- (a) What is the monthly cost of this?**

Answer:

The Ministry spent \$466 on filtered water for their offices in 2018-19.

Question 31

How much did your ministerial office spend on hospitality, including catering and beverages, in 2018-19?

Answer:

Expenditure on hospitality across the Ministry totalled \$27,782 in 2018-19, which includes catering for stakeholder meetings and courtesy calls with visiting dignitaries.

Question 32

What non-standard features are fitted to your ministerial vehicle?

- (a) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?**

Answer:

Ministers, the Leader of the Opposition, other nominated public office holders and certain former office holders are provided with official cars and drivers. During 2018-19, all costs associated with these vehicles were paid from the relevant Ministerial office budget.

Question 33

What was the total bill for your office in 2018-19 for:

- (a) Taxi hire
- (b) Limousine hire
- (c) Private hire care
- (d) Hire car rental
- (e) Ridesharing services?

Answer:

Expenditure on taxis, hire cars and ride share services in 2018-19 across the Ministry was \$119,179, compared to 2009-10 expenditure of \$175,776 under Labor.

Question 34

Were any planes or helicopters chartered by you or your office and paid for with public money in 2018-19?

- (a) If yes, will you please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?

Answer:

Expenditure on charter flights for the Ministry totalled \$83,845 in 2018-19, compared to 2009-10 expenditure of \$281,567 under Labor.

Question 35

Have you had media training or speech training?

- (a) If yes, who paid for it?
- (b) If paid by taxpayers, what was the amount paid in 2018-19?

Answer:

No.

Agile Workspaces/Activity Based Working/Hot-desking

Question 36

Have any of your departments, statutory agencies and/or other bodies adopted agile working environment/activity based working practices e.g. hot-desking?

- (a) If not, are there plans to introduce activity based working practices in 2019-20?

Answer:

Accommodation planning for NSW Treasury's agencies is undertaken in accordance with the Government's accommodation strategy and design guidelines. Agile working environments are being rolled out as appropriate.

Question 37

How much have your departments, statutory agencies and/or other bodies spent in the roll-out of the agile working environment including laptops, furniture, lockers and other equipment in 2018-19?

Answer:

Please see answer for Question 36.

Hospitality

Question 38

For each department, statutory agency and/or other body in the Minister's portfolio please report:

- (a) How much was spent on hospitality, including catering and beverages, in 2018-19?**
- (b) Whether the department, statutory agency and/or other body has coffee machines? And if so:**
 - i. How many?**
 - ii. What was their purchase cost?**
 - iii. What is their maintenance cost?**
 - iv. Who has access to them?**
 - v. Which staff have access to the machines?**

Answer:

Expenditure on hospitality is limited to official work-related purposes with any related staff benefits subject to Fringe Benefits Tax provisions.

The provision and acceptance of gifts, benefits and hospitality is subject to specific policies and agency Codes of Conduct and is strictly monitored.

Labour Hire

Question 39

Do any departments, statutory agency and/or other bodies within your portfolio responsibilities utilise the services of Labour Hire Firms? If yes, please advise in table form for 2018-19:

- (a) The names of the firms utilised**
- (b) The total amount paid to each firm engaged**

- (c) The average tenure period for an employee provided by a labour hire company
- (d) The longest tenure for an employee provided by a labour hire company
- (e) The duties conducted by employees engaged through a labour hire company
- (f) The office locations of employees engaged through a labour hire company
- (g) The highest hourly or daily rate paid to an employee provided by a labour hire company
- (h) Who authorised the use of labour hire companies?
- (i) Do staff under these labour hire arrangements receive as much training and security clearance as permanent staff?

Answer:

NSW Treasury does not use Labor Hire firms.

Stationary

Question 40

For each department, statutory agency and/or other body in the Minister's portfolio please report:

(a) What was the cost of stationary for the following financial years:

- i. 2015-16
- ii. 2016-17
- iii. 2017-18
- iv. 2018-2019
- v. 2019-present

(b) What brand of paper is used?

- i. Is this paper Australian made?

Answer:

Stationery purchases by NSW Treasury Cluster agencies are made in accordance with the applicable policies and procedures on procurement.

Credit Cards

Question 41

For each department, statutory agency and/or other body in the Minister's portfolio please report:

(a) How many credit cards are currently on issue for staff?

- i. Please provide a break-down of this information by grade.

(b) What was the value of the largest reported purchase on a credit card for the following financial years:

- i. 2015-16
- ii. 2016-17
- iii. 2017-18

- iv. 2018-2019
- v. 2019-present
- (c) What was each largest reported purchase for?
- (d) How much interest was paid on amounts outstanding from credit cards for the following financial years:
 - i. 2015-16
 - ii. 2016-17
 - iii. 2017-18
 - iv. 2018-2019
 - v. 2019-present
- (e) How much was paid in late fees on amounts outstanding from credit cards for the following financial years
 - i. 2015-16
 - ii. 2016-17
 - iii. 2017-18
 - iv. 2018-2019
 - v. 2019-present
- (f) What was the largest amount outstanding on a single card at the end of a payment period and what was the card holder's employment grade?
- (g) How many credit cards have been reported lost or stolen?
 - i. What was the cost to replace them?
- (h) How many credit card purchases were deemed to be illegitimate or contrary to agency policy?
 - i. What was the total value of those purchases?
 - ii. How many purchases were asked to be repaid on the basis that they were illegitimate or contrary to agency policy and what was the total value thereof?
 - iii. Were all those amounts actually repaid?
 - iv. If no, how many were not repaid, and what was the total value thereof?
- (i) What was the largest purchase that was deemed illegitimate or contrary to agency policy and asked to be repaid, and what was the cardholder's employment grade?
 - i. What that amount actually repaid, in full?
 - ii. What amount was left unpaid?
- (j) Are any credit cards currently on issue connected to rewards schemes?
 - i. Do staff receive any personal benefit as a result of those reward schemes?
- (k) Can a copy of the staff credit card policy please be provided?

Answer:

The NSW Government has implemented a PCard program to realise a number of benefits including savings from the use of cards over traditional high cost procure-to-pay processes and the enhanced capability to track and monitor expenditure.

Cards are issued to staff according to business need and are managed in accordance with Treasury Policy TPP 17-09 *Use and Management of NSW Government Purchasing Cards*. Staff are prohibited from using official PCards for personal or other unofficial purposes and cards are not connected to reward schemes or any other program that would provide a personal benefit to the cardholder.

All NSW Government card balances are paid within bank payments terms and therefore no late fees or interest charges are incurred.

Media and Public Relations

Question 42

For each department, statutory agency and/or other body in the Minister's portfolio please report:

- (a) How many media/communications/public relations advisers are employed?**
 - i. What is the total salary cost for media/communications/public relations advisers in 2018-19?**
- (b) What is the forecast for the current financial year for the number of media/communications/public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost?**
- (c) What is the total cost of media monitoring services?**
 - i. Please provide a breakdown by department, statutory agency and/or other body.**
- (d) Are any media or public relations advisers currently engaged as contractors?**
 - i. Who are these contracts with?**
 - ii. What is the value of these contracts?**
- (e) How much was spent on media or public relations advisors in financial year:**
 - i. 2015-16**
 - ii. 2016-17**
 - iii. 2017-18**
 - iv. 2018-2019**
 - v. 2019-present?**

Answer:

(a)-(b) NSW Treasury staff numbers are included in the Annual Report. Treasury staff numbers undertaking media or public relations activities are commensurate with need and can go down or up as required.

(c)-(e) The Financial Statements, including legal, consulting and any other general costs from third party service providers, are available in the agency annual report. These are available in accordance with NSW Government Procurement Policy.

Facebook

Question 43

How much did your ministerial office spend on Facebook advertising or sponsored posts in 2018-19?

Answer:

All advertising and sponsored posts are managed from within Ministerial office budgets.

Question 44

How much did your department, statutory agency and/or other body in the Minister's portfolio spend on Facebook advertising or sponsored posts in 2018-19?

Answer:

Where appropriate, social media is used by agencies alongside other forms of advertising as a cost effective medium of communication.

Overseas Trips

Question 45

Were any of your overseas trips in the last financial year paid for in part or in full by using public money?

- (a) If so, did any of your relatives or friends accompany you on these trips?**
- (b) Have you undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded?**
- (c) If so, what was the nature of these trips?**
- (d) Who paid for these trips?**

Answer:

Details of overseas travel including costs are published on agency websites.

Department/Agency Travel

Question 46

What was the total expenditure in 2018-19 by departments, statutory agencies and/or other bodies within your portfolio on:

- (a) Taxi hire**
- (b) Limousine**
- (c) Private car hire**
- (d) Hire car rental**
- (e) Ridesharing services**
- (f) Chartered flights?**

Answer:

Agency travel was conducted in accordance with relevant NSW Government policies and guidelines including Treasury Circular TC18-15 and ATO determinations.

Drivers

Question 47

Are any of the senior executives in the relevant department, statutory agency and/or other body provided drivers?

- (a) If so, can you please specify which positions are provided drivers?**
- (b) In total, how many drivers are used by senior executives in the department, statutory agency and/or other body?**
- (c) What is the total cost of drivers for senior executives in the department, statutory agency and/or other body?**

Answer:

No senior executives in NSW Treasury are provided drivers.

Consulting

Question 48

For each department, statutory agency and/or other body in the Minister's portfolio please report:

- (a) How much was spent in legal costs in 2018-19?**
 - i. For what specific purposes or matters was legal advice sought?**
- (b) Have departments, statutory agencies and/or other bodies under your portfolio engaged any consultants to provide the following services or advice in 2018-19:**
 - i. Social media**
 - ii. Photography**
 - iii. Acting training**
 - iv. Ergonomics**
- (c) What was the cost of these services?**
 - i. Social media**
 - ii. Photography**
 - iii. Acting training**
 - iv. Ergonomics**

Answer:

The Financial Statements, including legal, consulting and any other general costs from third party service providers, are available in agency annual report.

Web Content

Question 49

For each department, statutory agency and/or other body in the Minister's portfolio please report:

- (a) What were the top 20 most utilised (by data sent and received) unique domain names accessed this year?
- (b) What were the top 20 most accessed (by number of times accessed) unique domain names accessed this year?

Answer:

- a) Data sent and received is not tracked as a website metric as this does not provide customer benefit.

(b) Treasury:

| Site | Page views 2018-2019 FY 2019 |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| visitnsw.com | 11,055,000 |
| sydney.com.au | 10,884,000 |
| vividsydney.com.au | 1,932,000 |
| Procurepoint.nsw.gov.au | 1,340,000 |
| destinationnsw.com.au | 530,968 |
| treasury.nsw.gov.au | 478,165 |
| Budget.nsw.gov.au | 459,268 |
| businessmonth.nsw.gov.au | 260,541 |
| jobsfornsw.com.au | 203,321 |
| smallbusiness.nsw.gov.au | 196,019 |
| sydneystartuphub.com | 167,289 |
| study.sydney | 140,689 |
| tcorp.nsw.gov.au | 136,999 |
| wcaa.sydney | 30,633 |
| productivity.nsw.gov.au | 15,873 |
| invest.nsw.gov.au | 8,914 |

Department/Agency Staffing

Question 50

How many redundancies were processed by departments, statutory agencies and/or other bodies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2018-19?

- (a) Of these redundancies, how many were:
 - i. Voluntary?
 - ii. Involuntary?

Answer:

Voluntary redundancies are a component for agencies to achieve their efficiency dividends. Redundancy figures can be found in the Annual Report. The Labour Expense Cap

introduced in the 2012-13 Budget also continues to give Secretaries as much flexibility as possible to achieve these savings in the most appropriate ways to meet the service requirements of their agencies. Frontline staff such as, nurses, police officers and school teachers and regional employees have been quarantined from this measure.

Question 51

What was the total cost of all redundancies?

Answer:

Please see answer for Question 50.

Question 52

Have any staff who received a redundancy in the last two years undertaken any paid work or provided any paid services for the department, statutory agency and/or other body with which they were formerly employed?

(a) What was the nature of these works/services?

(b) What was the total cost of these works or services?

Answer:

Please see answer for Question 50.

Question 53

Are any staff formerly employed by your ministerial office now employed by departments, statutory agencies and/or other bodies under your portfolio responsibility?

Answer:

Please see answer for Question 50.

Question 54

How many staff were dismissed from departments, statutory agencies and/or other bodies under your portfolio responsibilities in 2018-19?

(a) What were the reason/s for each dismissal?

Answer:

Please see answer for Question 50.

Question 55

How much was spent advertising for recruitment for the following financial years:

(a) 2015-16

(b) 2016-17

(c) 2017-18

(d) 2018-2019

(e) 2019-present?

Answer:

Advertising expenses can be found in the Annual Report.

Smart Phone

Question 56

How many mobile phones are given to staff or board members?

(a) How many new mobile phones were purchased in the last year?

Answer:

IT costs are managed within each agency's budget and in accordance with NSW Government's ICT and procurement policies and frameworks.

Question 57

What is the total cost of these phones for the following financial years:

(a) 2015-16

(b) 2016-17

(c) 2017-18

(d) 2018-2019

(e) 2019-present?

Answer:

Please see answer for Question 56.

Question 58

How many had to be replaced due to damage?

Answer:

Please see answer for Question 56.

Question 59

How many were reported as lost?

60. How many tablets are given to staff or board members?

(a) How many new tablets in the last year?

Answer:

Please see answer for Question 56.

Question 61

What is the total cost of these tablets for the following financial years?

- (a) 2015-16
- (b) 2016-17
- (c) 2017-18
- (d) 2018-2019?

Answer:

Please see answer for Question 56.

Question 62

How many phones and tablets had to be replaced due to damage?

Answer:

Please see answer for Question 56.

Question 63

How many were reported as lost?

Answer:

Please see answer for Question 56.

Question 64

How many people have both a smart phone and a tablet?

- (a) What is the lowest ranked official who has both a work smart phone and tablet?

Answer:

Please see answer for Question 56.

Question 65

How many staff or board members overspent on their phone or tablet data bill?

- (a) By how much?
- (b) What was the average cost of data bills for tablets and mobile phones?
- (c) What was the highest monthly cost?

Answer:

Please see answer for Question 56.

Question 66

Do the departments, statutory agencies and/or other bodies within your portfolio have an iTunes account?

- (a) What was the total expenditure in 2018-19 on iTunes?
- (b) What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through iTunes?

Answer:

Please see answer for Question 56.

Question 67

Do the departments, statutory agencies and/or other bodies within your portfolio have a Google Play Store account?

(a) What was the total expenditure in 2018-19 on through the Google Play Store?

(b) What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through the Google Play Store?

Answer:

Please see answer for Question 56.

Merchant fees

Question 68

Please provide a list of all transactions where customers need to pay a merchant fee on credit and/or debit card payments to a department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio.

Answer:

There have been no instances where customers need to pay a merchant fee.

Question 69

Please provide the percentage and/or amount of the merchant fees applied to all credit and/or debit card payments/transactions to a department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio.

Answer:

Please see response for Question 68.

Question 70

What was the total amount paid in merchant fees on credit and/or debit card payments to departments, statutory agencies and/or other bodies within your portfolio in 2018-19?

Answer:

Please see response for Question 68.

Advertising and Sponsorships

Question 71

For each department, statutory agency and/or other body in the Minister's portfolio please report:

- (a) How much was spent on advertising in the following financial years:**
- i. 2015-16**
 - ii. 2016-17**
 - iii. 2017-18**
 - iv. 2018-2019?**

Answer:

The Financial Statements, including advertising and sponsorship, are available in agency annual reports. The NSW Government may use advertising to inform the public of their rights, obligations and entitlements as well as to explain government policies, programs, services and initiatives. Government advertising is conducted within guidelines outlined in the NSW Government Advertising Handbook. Any sponsorship arrangements are conducted within ICAC principles.

Question 72

Has your department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio engaged in any corporate sponsorships?

- (a) Who were these sponsorships with?**
- (b) What was the purpose of these sponsorships?**
- (c) What was the value of these sponsorships, by case and year?**
- (d) What was the value of these sponsorships in the following financial years:**
 - i. 2015-16**
 - ii. 2016-17**
 - iii. 2017-18**
 - iv. 2018-19?**

Answer:

Please see answer for Question 71.

Probity Auditor

Question 73

Has your office or department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio used a Probity Auditor or Probity Advisors, or similar, in the past five years? If so, please list the company and/or individual, the project, the engagement dates, and their total remuneration in tabular format.

Answer:

In accordance with the NSW Procurement Policy Framework, NSW Treasury has internal mechanisms in place to ensure that probity considerations are routinely taken into account in its procurement decisions, and the use of external probity advisers and auditors is the

exception rather than the rule. NSW Treasury's Annual Report includes all consultancies including those involving probity advisors valued more than \$50,000.

Energy

Question 74

For each department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio by name, how much electricity did it consume for each of:

- (a) 2014-15?**
- (b) 2015-16?**
- (c) 2016-17?**
- (d) 2017-18?**
- (e) 2018/19?**

Answer:

Energy purchases by NSW Treasury are made in accordance with the applicable policies and procedures on procurement under whole of government Contracts 776 (small sites under 100,000 kwh per annum) and 777. Under these contracts the following suppliers are mandated:

- 776 – Origin Energy Electricity Limited
- 777 – ERM Power Retail Pty Ltd

The NSW Government Resource Efficiency Policy was introduced in 2014 to reduce the NSW Government's operating costs and lead by example in increasing the efficiency of the resources it uses.

NSW Government agencies are required to report on energy use under the Government Resource Efficiency Policy. The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment publishes progress reports on compliance with the policy.

Question 75

What proportion of the electricity consumed by each department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio by name for those years came from renewable sources? Please name each source of energy (coal, solar, wind, etc.) and the proportion of the total electricity used.

Answer:

Please see answers to Question 74

Question 76

How much money was spent on electricity for each department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio by name in each of the above financial years?

Answer:

Please see answers to Question 74

Question 77

What was the name of the energy supplier to each department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio by name for those financial years?

Answer:

Please see answers to Question 74

Question 78

How much electricity is it estimated that each department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio will consume in:

(a) 2019-20?

(b) 2020-21?

(c) 2021-22?

Answer:

Please see answers to Question 74

Question 79

What proportion of that electricity is it estimated will come from renewable sources, for each year?

Answer:

Please see answers to Question 74

Question 80

For each department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio by name, please provide the estimated proportion of energy to be used from each kind of energy (coal, gas, solar, wind etc.)?

Answer:

Please see answers to Question 74

Question 81

What is the name of the energy supplier to each department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio for each of:

(a) 2019-20?

(b) 2020-21?

(c) 2021-22?

Answer:

Please see answers to Question 74

General Costs:

Question 82

For each department, statutory agency and/or other body in the Minister's portfolio please report:

(a) Any gardening services used for indoor or outdoor pot plants/flowers maintenance?

- i. Who are the contracts with?**
- ii. How much does each contract cost?**
- iii. How often do they visit?**
- iv. How much was spent on this service in financial year:**
 - § 2015-16**
 - § 2016-17**
 - § 2017-18**
 - § 2018-19?**

(b) Any floral displays or indoor plants or pot plants hired or leased for display in any offices?

- i. Who were the contracts with?**
- ii. How much was each contract cost?**
- iii. How much was spent on this service in financial year:**
 - § 2015-16**
 - § 2016-17**
 - § 2017-18**
 - § 2018-19?**
 - §**

Answer:

The Financial Statements, including expenditure on any general costs, are available in an agency's annual report. Plant and related purchases are made in accordance with the applicable policies and procedures on procurement.

Domestic Violence Leave Policies, Awareness and Usage

Question 83

For each department, statutory agency and/or other body in the Minister's portfolio please report:

- (a) A copy of the entity's policy or web link to the entity's domestic violence leave policy;**
- (b) Date of introduction of domestic violence leave into enterprise agreements/contracts of employment, awards as applicable;**
- (c) Whether or not all employees and/or contractors are eligible for domestic violence leave;**
- (d) Number of days of domestic violence leave that have been taken in each financial year since the introduction of such leave;**

- (e) Number of days available for eligible staff to access domestic violence leave in each financial year;
- (f) Number of other personal days of leave that have been taken in each financial year since the introduction of domestic violence leave;
- (g) Number of sick days available for eligible staff to access domestic violence leave in each financial year;
- (h) Whether or not all staff and/or contractors have access to Employee Assistance Programs?
- (i) What training has been undertaken with management and administration for those involved in approving and/or processing domestic violence leave on issues such as?
 - i. Privacy and confidentiality of information about domestic violence
 - ii. Access to emotional, psychological, financial and medical support which may be required

Answer:

(a) Section 6.18 of the Public Service Industrial Relations Guide provides guidance to staff and management on appropriate strategies for supporting a staff member experiencing domestic violence. This guidance further references Section 84A of the Award (leave for matters arising from domestic violence) and Treasury Circular 19-08 Domestic and Family Violence Workplace Support Policy – Guiding Principles for Agencies.

(b) Section 84A was added to the Award in 2011.

(c) All staff members employed under the Award in a cluster agency are entitled to be absent from the workplace due to an incident of domestic violence if required. Similar clauses apply to agencies covered by their own negotiated agreements.

(d) From 1 January 2019, a separate leave type of Domestic & Family Violence Leave was made available as a separate leave type. In 2018-19, there were no reported leave days of this type taken.

(e-g) In accordance with the Award, NSW Government Sector employees are entitled to ten days paid domestic and family violence leave per calendar year. This leave is non-cumulative and can be taken in part-days, single days, or consecutive days. Staff may also utilise all available Family and Community Service Leave, Sick Leave and Carer's Leave to assist with managing domestic violence circumstances. If this leave is unavailable special leave may be granted up to five days per calendar year.

(h) All staff, their families and contractors have access to the Employee Assistance Program.

(i) An e-learning module has been developed in consultation with Family and Community Services. NSW Treasury is working to ensure all staff are trained in line with the developed modules.

Question 84

Who has provided training on domestic violence in the workplace?

Answer:

NSW Treasury is an accredited White Ribbon Workplace through White Ribbon Australia. NSW Treasury continues to provide ongoing support and guidance to cluster agencies on best practice approaches to supporting women who are experiencing domestic violence

Question 85

What percentage of staff in each agency has undertaken domestic violence training?

Answer:

An e-learning module has been developed in consultation with Family and Community Services. NSW Treasury is working to ensure all staff are trained in line with the developed modules.

Question 86

What efforts have been made to ensure that perpetrators (or their accomplices) within the staffing profile are not able to access personal information of victims in order to identify their location, or other information which may assist in committing domestic violence against them, including changing or accessing records in such a way as to disadvantage them financially or legally?

Answer:

NSW Treasury complies with the highest levels of document and privacy management consistent with the *Privacy and Personal Information Act 1998* (NSW).

Sexual harassment and Anti-bullying training and awareness programs

Question 87

For each department, statutory agency and/or other body in the Minister's portfolio please report:

- a) **Date of introduction of sexual harassment and anti-bullying training and awareness programs and a copy of such documentation.**
 - i. **Whether or not all employees and/or contractors have received such training?**
 - ii. **Is this course mandatory for all employees/ contractors?**
 - iii. **How long for each session, how many sessions?**
 - iv. **Who delivers it?**
 - v. **Is the program tailored to take into consideration specific needs of LGBTQIA, ATSI and CALD or other at risk groups?**
How?
- b) **What percentage of staff in each department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio have undertaken sexual harassment and anti-bullying training and awareness programs?**
- c) **How many complaints have been initiated in relation to:**
 - i. **Sexual harassment**
 - ii. **Bullying**

iii. Workplace violence

Answer:

(a) This training was formally introduced first in July 2013 and is regularly reviewed and updated in accordance with policies and guidance.

(i) & (ii) Attendance at sexual harassment and anti-bullying training courses is mandatory for NSW Treasury and a number of other agencies in the cluster.

(iii) Session times vary between trainers and agencies but range from 2 hours up to half a day.

(iv) Various specialist providers as well as EAP providers. Some agencies utilise training courses organised by others within the cluster to maximise efficiencies.

(v) The needs of at-risk groups are considered in the training provided.

(b) Participation is mandatory in NSW Treasury and a number of agencies in the cluster.

(c) Complaints of this nature are addressed through NSW Treasury Complaints and Investigation Policy. Not all complaints are raised as a formal complaint and may be addressed informally and directly between the complainant and the individual being complained of.

Participation of women in Government

Question 88

For each department, statutory agency and/or other body in the Minister's portfolio please report:

(a) What number and percentage of women are employed within the department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio?

(b) What number and percentage of women are employed within the management levels of the department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio?

(c) What number and percentage of women are employed in the top ten leadership positions of the department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio?

(d) What strategies does the department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio use to encourage women in to management and leadership positions?

(e) What is the gender pay gap within your department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio?

(f) Does the department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio report participation of women figures to Women NSW on a regular basis?

Answer:

(a)-(c) This information is available in each agency's Annual Report.

(d) All agencies use gender balance on interview panels as well as offering flexible working arrangements to allow better management of work and home commitments. Agencies

continue to promote diversity and inclusion strategies which promote a workplace free from social biases of any kind.

(e) All equivalent positions determined by an objective assessment of their work value are paid the same salary within all agencies. The relevant distribution of women in each classification of work across the sector is reported by the Public Service Commission (PSC) but is also available in the agency's Annual Report.

(f) The workforce profile data collected by the PSC is made available to Women NSW.

Professional Photography

Question 89

How much has been spent on professional photography for the following financial years:

- (a) 2015-16
- (b) 2016-17
- (c) 2017-18
- (d) 2018-2019
- (e) 2019-present?

Answer:

The Financial Statements, including expenditure on professional photography, are available in agency annual reports.

Unmanned Aerial Services

Question 90

How much has been spent on Unmanned Aerial Services for the following financial years:

- (a) 2015-16
- (b) 2016-17
- (c) 2017-18
- (d) 2018-2019
- (e) 2019-present?

Answer:

The Financial Statements, including expenditure on unmanned aerial services, are available in agency annual reports.

Seconded Staff

Question 91

How many staff from your department, statutory agency and/or other body within your portfolio have been seconded to your Ministerial Office, for the following financial years:

- b. 2015-16
- c. 2016-17
- d. 2017-18
- e. 2018-2019
- f. 2019-present?

Answer:

NSW Government sector employees may be seconded from agencies to Ministers' offices in accordance with Clause 35 of the Government Sector Employment Regulation 2014.

Question 92

Please provide their names, their substantive work title, and their seconded work title.

Answer:

Please see answer for Question 91.

Consultant Costs

Question 93

For each department, statutory agency and/or other body in the Minister's portfolio please report, the total expenditure on consultants by financial year:

- (a) 2015-16
- (b) 2016-17
- (c) 2017-18
- (d) 2018-2019
- (e) 2019-present?

Answer:

The Financial Statements, including expenditure on consultants, are available in agency annual reports.

Question 94

What are names and values of the five most expensive reports produced by consultancies for each department, statutory agency and/or other body in the Minister's portfolio by financial year:

- (a) 2015-16
- (b) 2016-17
- (c) 2017-18
- (d) 2018-2019
- (e) 2019-present?

Answer:

Please see answer for Question 93.

Port of Newcastle

Question 95

Is the Treasurer aware that the 2019 NSW Nationals Conference passed the following motion: "That conference call on the NSW Nationals to ensure: The removal of all obstacles facing the Newcastle Container Terminal Expansion Plans, including the cap on the number of containers and the State Government fee payable on container exports and The Port's development of a high intensity container terminal."?

Answer:

This matter is currently the subject of court proceedings and is therefore subject to the *sub judice* convention.

Question 96

Does the Treasurer support the motion as passed by the 2019 NSW Nationals Conference?

Answer:

This matter is currently the subject of court proceedings and is therefore subject to the *sub judice* convention.

Question 97

Does the Treasurer agree with the Deputy Premier's comments that western district farmers and primary producers would "absolutely" benefit from a container port at Newcastle?

Answer:

This matter is currently the subject of court proceedings and is therefore subject to the *sub judice* convention.

Question 98

Does the cap on containers at the Port of Newcastle drive up costs of farming exports?

Answer:

Please refer to question 106. Otherwise, this matter is currently the subject of court proceedings and is therefore subject to the *sub judice* convention.

Question 99

Would a container terminal in Newcastle lower freight costs for northern NSW exports?

Answer:

This question would be more appropriately directed to the Minister for Transport and Roads.

Question 100

What would be the benefit to western district farmers and primary producers?

Answer:

This question would be more appropriately directed to the Minister for Primary Industries.

Question 101

Would a container terminal in Newcastle remove trucks from the M1 and Sydney's choked road network?

Answer:

This question would be more appropriately directed to the Minister for Transport and Roads.

Question 102

What would be the benefit of removing these trucks from the road network and transporting these containers by rail at the Port of Newcastle?

This question would be more appropriately directed to the Minister for Transport and Roads.

Question 103

If the court finds the cap on containers is anti-competitive and illegal what is the financial implication/impact for the NSW government?

(a) Has Treasury modelled the different outcomes of the ACCC court case?

(b) What will the port port cost the tax payers of NSW?

Answer:

Please refer to question 106. Otherwise, this matter is currently the subject of court proceedings and is therefore subject to the *sub judice* convention.

Question 104

Does the Treasurer stand by their methods of privatising ports in NSW?

Answer:

The Government's successful asset recycling strategy has delivered a once in a generation infrastructure boom that is benefiting the people of NSW. The proceeds from the leases, and other asset recycling initiatives, have enabled the Government to fund infrastructure projects, including public transport and roads, education, health, culture and sport and water security.

Question 105

This committee has previously been told that a container terminal can be developed in Newcastle, does the Treasurer agree?

Answer:

I am advised the Newcastle Port transaction arrangements do not prevent the development of a container terminal at the Port of Newcastle.

Question 106

What is the current container threshold at the Port of Newcastle for which compensations is payable to NSW ports?

Answer:

As indicated in the recent Parliamentary Inquiry, ...*"under the Port Botany and Port Kembla Port Commitment Deeds, (PCD) support (in the form of foregone wharfage) is payable by the State to the Port Botany / Kembla Port Manager if all of the following conditions are met:*

- Container volumes through Newcastle exceed a threshold level of 30,000 TEUs (twenty-foot equivalent units) as at June 2013 escalated at the higher of 6% pa or the growth rate of container throughput at Port Botany ('excess'). The threshold has to be exceeded for two years. (Container volumes at Newcastle are currently about 10,000 TEU – see below).*
- The Port Manager demonstrates to the reasonable satisfaction of the State that Port Botany or Port Kembla is not at full capacity.*
- The Port Manager demonstrates to the reasonable satisfaction of the State that container throughput is less than it would have been if Newcastle did not exceed the threshold and that there is a reasonable, material, causal connection between the 'excess' at Newcastle and the reduction in trade at Botany / Kembla.*

Under the Newcastle Port Commitment Deed, the financial obligations of the State under this arrangement are passed to the Newcastle Port lessee. To date, Port of Newcastle has not paid any PCD support related amounts to the State. The State's container trade needs will be able to be accommodated by Port Botany well into the future. The PCDs are contractual agreements which both NSW Ports and the Port of Newcastle agreed to and signed at the time of each transaction. During the Port Botany/Kembla and Newcastle Port transactions, bidders were aware of the PCD arrangements."

As at June 2019, the threshold for compensation is currently at around 43,000 TEU.

Question 107

The Port of Newcastle stands ready to invest \$1.8 billion into a container terminal in Newcastle, will you remove the cap and allow the port to diversify?

Answer:

Please refer to question 106.

Question 108

Has Treasury modelled how many jobs a Newcastle container terminal would create?

Answer:

No.

Question 109

How many jobs would a container terminal in Newcastle deliver for Newcastle and the Hunter?

Answer:

Please see response to question 108.

Question 110

How many jobs would a container terminal in Newcastle deliver for regional NSW?

Answer:

Please see response to question 108.

Question 111

Would a container in Newcastle reduce freight costs for businesses in Newcastle, the Hunter and Northern NSW?

Answer:

This question would be more appropriately directed to the Minister for Transport and Roads.

Question 112

Has Treasury modelled the economic benefit of a container terminal in Newcastle?

Answer:

No.

Question 113

What would be the economic benefit to NSW of a container terminal in Newcastle?

Answer:

Please see response to question 112.

Question 114

What would be the economic benefit to the Hunter of a container terminal in Newcastle?

Answer:

Please see response to question 112.

Question 115

Is the restriction on NSW ports adding to gridlock in Sydney? If so, what is this impact?

Answer:

This question would be more appropriately directed to the Minister for Transport and Roads.

Question 116

Are the restrictions placed on the Port of Newcastle affecting the efficiency of the NSW port network?

Answer:

This matter is currently the subject of court proceedings and is therefore subject to the *sub judice* convention.

Question 117

What percentage of containers are moved by road in Sydney?

Answer:

This question would be more appropriately directed to the Minister for Transport and Roads.

Question 118

Do you see a benefit for the NSW economy with competition between ports?

Answer:

This matter is currently the subject of court proceedings and is therefore subject to the *sub judice* convention.

Question 119

Are you aware of any anti-competitive restrictions facing the development of a container terminal at the Port of Newcastle?

Answer:

This matter is currently the subject of court proceedings and is therefore subject to the *sub judice* convention.

Question 120

Does the Government charge a legislated fee for container traffic at the Port of Newcastle above the Government's minimal specified cap?

Answer:

No, the Government does not charge a legislated fee for container traffic at the Port of Newcastle.

Question 121

Does the Government charge any fee for container traffic at the Port of Newcastle above the Government's minimal specified cap?

Answer:

The Government does not charge a fee for container traffic at the Port of Newcastle and there is no minimal specified cap. See response to question 106.

Question 122

Now the NSW Government has been named as a defendant alongside NSW Ports in the Federal Court case begun in December last year by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission, and the State of NSW is now directly accused by the ACCC of "illegal and anticompetitive" conduct in privatising Botany and Kembla to Newcastle's disadvantage – do you believe that the original contract is hugely deficient?

Answer:

The State of NSW is not directly accused by the ACCC of illegal and anti-competitive conduct in privatising Botany and Kembla. The matter is otherwise subject to the *sub judice* convention.

Question 123

Is the fact that the lessee of the Port of Newcastle can develop a container terminal if it wishes to do so, consistent with Government policy that the State's next container terminal will be developed at Port Kembla after Port Botany reaches capacity?

Answer:

Please refer to the NSW Government submission to the Public Works Committee's Inquiry into the impact of Port of Newcastle Sale Arrangements on public works expenditure in New South Wales and the NSW Government witness statements at the hearing on 31 January 2019.

Question 124

What is the government's source of funds to be able to pay NSW Ports Pty Ltd for container traffic at the Port of Newcastle above the government's minimal specified cap?

Answer:

Please see response to question 121.

No compensation payments to NSW Ports have been incurred under the respective Port Commitment Deeds for Port Botany and Port Kembla. The matter is otherwise subject to the *sub judice* convention.

Question 125

Did the Government lease the Port of Newcastle to be able to pay NSW Ports Pty Ltd for container traffic at the Port of Newcastle above the Government's minimal specified cap until 2063?

Answer:

No. There is no cap on containers at the Port of Newcastle. The matter is subject to the *sub judice* convention.

(a) If not, what is the Government's source of funds to be able to pay NSW Ports Pty Ltd for container traffic at the Port of Newcastle above the Government's minimal specified cap until 2063?

Answer:

Please see response to question 124.

Question 126

On what date did the government inform the ACCC of its decision to require the developer of a container terminal at the Port of Newcastle to pay the government's fee for container traffic at the Port of Newcastle above the government's minimal specified cap?

Answer:

Please see responses to question 121 and 144. This matter is currently the subject of court proceedings and is therefore subject to the *sub judice* convention.

Question 127

Do the lease arrangements for the Port of Newcastle reflect the Government's policy that Port Kembla will be the State's next container terminal when Port Botany reaches capacity?

Answer:

The lease arrangements for the ports of Newcastle, Botany and Kembla reflect the 2013 NSW Government's Freight and Ports Strategy and the 2018 NSW Freight and Ports Plan — that Port Kembla should be the State's next container terminal once Port Botany reaches capacity.

Please see also the Government's submission to the "Inquiry into the impact of Port of Newcastle sale [lease] arrangements on public works expenditure in New South Wales."

Question 128

Last year, in answer to supplementary question 91, you said "the ACCC was informed of the Port Commitment Deeds prior to the Newcastle Port transaction", on what date was the ACCC informed?

Answer:

Please see response to question 126.

Question 129

Last year, when you were asked supplementary question 126, "on which date did the Government inform the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission of its formal decision to invite Newcastle Stevedores Consortium to develop a container terminal at the Port of Newcastle subject to Newcastle Stevedores Consortium making the Government whole for any cost the Government incurred to NSW Ports in respect of this development?", you did not provide the date. What was that date?

Answer:

Newcastle Ports Corporation did not conclude a contract to build a container terminal with Newcastle Stevedores Consortium.

Question 130

What is the government's current cap on container numbers at the Port of Newcastle?

Answer:

There is no cap on containers at the Port of Newcastle. Please see response to question 106.

Question 131

Given that there is no legislated cap on the number of containers that can travel through the Port of Newcastle, did the Government make a cap on numbers at the

Port of Newcastle a rule for a scoping study into leasing Port Botany and Port Kembla?

Answer:

This matter is currently the subject of court proceedings and is therefore subject to the *sub judice* convention.

Question 132

Was the cap on numbers given as an instruction to the government's financial adviser, Morgan Stanley for conducting a scoping study in the first half of 2012 into leasing Port Botany and Port Kembla?

Answer:

This matter is currently the subject of court proceedings and is therefore subject to the *sub judice* convention.

Question 133

Last year, when you were asked supplementary question 127, "Was a decision made in 2012 to require any future operator of a container terminal at the Port of Newcastle to make the government whole for any cost the government incurred from paying the operator of Port Botany in respect of future container capacity development at the Port of Newcastle?" you advised no, do you stand by that answer?

Answer:

The long-term lease of the Port of Newcastle occurred in 2014.

Question 134

Is the government's decision that the developer of a container terminal at the Port of Newcastle is required to pay the government's fee for exceeding the minimal specified cap on container traffic at the Port of Newcastle, consistent with the government's decision that Port Kembla will be the State's next major container terminal after Port Botany reaches capacity?

Answer:

Please see responses to questions 121, 123 and 127.

Question 135

Was the Government required to comply with the "Working With Government Guidelines" as they were replaced in 2012 by the "Public Private Partnerships Guidelines" for conducting its negotiation with Newcastle Stevedores Consortium at the Port of Newcastle between 2010 and November 2013?

Answer:

Please see response to question 129.

Question 136

Does the Government disagree with the statement by the ICAC in its "Operation Spicer Report" dated August 30 2016 that "as a statutory state-

owned corporation, the NPC [Newcastle Port Corporation] was obliged to comply with the NSW Government's "Working with Government Guidelines"?

Answer:

Please see response to question 135.

Question 137

Was the "Ports Assets (Authorised Transactions) Act 2012" amended to authorise the Government to lease the Port of Newcastle after Port Botany and Port Kembla were leased to NSW Ports on May 30 2013?

Answer:

This matter is currently the subject of court proceedings and is therefore subject to the *sub judice* convention.

Question 138

When the Government leased Port Botany and Port Kembla to NSW Ports on May 30 2013, did the Government have authority to require the developer of a container terminal at the Port of Newcastle to pay the Government for container traffic at the Port of Newcastle above the Government's minimal specified cap; and, if so, what was that authority?

Answer:

This matter is currently the subject of court proceedings and is therefore subject to the *sub judice* convention.

Question 139

When the Government amended the Term Sheets with Newcastle Stevedores Consortium in 2013 requiring payment for container traffic above the Government's minimal specified cap, did the Government ask the ACCC to advise whether this requirement was likely to comply with the "Competition and Consumer Act 2010"; and, if not, why not?

Answer:

Please see response to question 129.

Question 140

Given that the Government's NSW Freight and Ports Strategy notes that the Port of Newcastle would continue to be NSW's primary coal export and will continue to service bulk grain and other commodities, how does the Government define the term "container" in respect of charging a fee for container traffic at the Port of Newcastle above the Government's minimal specified cap?

Answer:

Please see response to questions 121 and 142.

Question 141

Do the Port Commitment Deeds for Port Botany, Port Kembla and the Port of Newcastle all include the same meaning of the term "container"?

Answer:

Yes.

Question 142

What is the definition of container with respect to the Port Commitment Deeds?

Answer:

Details of container arrangements in the Port Commitment Deeds are commercial in confidence.

Question 143

Given that the Government charges a fee for container traffic at the Port of Newcastle above the Government's minimal specified cap, how many "containers" a year were shipped through the port since it was leased?

Answer:

Notwithstanding the response to question 121, this question would be more appropriately directed to the Minister for Transport and Roads.

Question 144

Given that the Government's transaction team engaged extensively with the ACCC from the early stages of all the port transactions regarding the competition and regulatory framework supporting the transactions, on what date did the Government advise the ACCC of the content of the Port Commitment Deeds for Port Botany and Port Kembla?

Answer:

This matter is currently the subject of court proceedings and is therefore subject to the *sub judice* convention.

Given that the Government's NSW Freight and Ports Strategy notes that the Port of Newcastle would continue to be NSW's primary coal export and will continue to service bulk grain and other commodities, why did the government advise this Committee on 22 August 2014 that a container terminal at the Port of Newcastle was "an uneconomic enterprise contrary to market demand" but fail to advise it of the government's fee charged for container traffic above the Government's minimal specified cap?

Answer:

The response provided by the Minister for Transport and Roads was a general comment. He also noted that the container port did not proceed and there is no decision to review. Please see response to question 121. In addition, any decision to build a container terminal at Newcastle is a matter for the private operator of the Port of Newcastle.

Question 146

Given that the Port of Newcastle is not prevented from developing a container terminal, would a container terminal be "an uneconomic enterprise contrary to market demand" if the Government abolished its fee charged for container traffic above the Government's minimal specified cap?"

Answer:

Please see response to question 145.

Question 147

Given that the Government's transaction team engaged extensively with the ACCC from the early stages of all the port transactions regarding the competition and regulatory framework supporting the transactions, was the government subject to the "Competition and Consumer Act 2010" in respect to Term Sheets with Newcastle Stevedores Consortium requiring Mayfield Development Corporation Pty Ltd to make the State of New South Wales pay for any cost the State incurred to NSW Ports with respect to future container capacity development at the Port of Newcastle?

Answer:

Please see response to question 129.

Question 148

Given the Government's assurances that there is no cap on containers at the Port of Newcastle - legislative or otherwise - is there competition in the NSW container port market between Port of Newcastle Investments Pty Ltd at the Port of Newcastle, and NSW Ports Pty Ltd at Port Botany?

Answer:

This matter is currently the subject of court proceedings and is therefore subject to the *sub judice* convention.

(a) If yes, how is the Government supporting this competition?

Question 149

Does Port Botany compete with the Port of Melbourne in the East coast container port market?

Answer:

This matter is currently the subject of court proceedings and is therefore subject to the *sub judice* convention.

(b) If yes, how many containers for the NSW market are shipped through the Port of Melbourne?

Question 150

What studies has the Government undertaken in relation to competition between the Port of Melbourne and Port Botany in the East coast container port market?

Answer:

This question would be more appropriately directed to the Minister for Transport and Roads.

Question 151

Is the government's unlegislated cap on container traffic at the Port of Newcastle consistent with the Government's freight and ports strategy?

Answer:

Please see responses to question 121 and 127.

Question 152

Is the Government's fee for container traffic above the Government's minimum specified cap at the Port of Newcastle, consistent with the Government's freight and ports strategy?

Answer:

Please see responses to question 121 and 127.

Question 153

Why does the Government not disclose the Government's fee for container traffic above the Government's minimum specified cap at the Port of Newcastle, in the Government's freight and ports strategy?

Answer:

Please see responses to questions 121 and 142.

Question 154

On what date did the Government inform the Parliament about the Government's fee for container traffic above the Government's minimum specified cap at the Port of Newcastle?

Answer:

Please see response to question 121 and refer to the 10 August 2016 statement by the then Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, available on the Legislative Council's Hansard.

Question 155

In terms of Treasury's leasing process for Port Botany and Port Kembla, before these ports were leased, did the Government inform the ACCC about the Government's intention to pay the lessee for container traffic above the Government's minimum specified cap at the Port of Newcastle?

Answer:

Please see responses to questions 121, 126 and 144.

(a) If yes, on what date?

Question 156

In terms of Treasury's leasing process for Port Botany and Port Kembla, after these ports were leased, did the Government inform the ACCC about the Government's contractual commitment to pay the lessee for container traffic above the Government's minimum specified cap at the Port of Newcastle?

Answer:

Please see responses to questions 121, 126 and 144.

(a) If yes, on what date?

Question 157

In terms of Treasury's leasing process for the Port of Newcastle, before this port was leased, did the Government inform the ACCC about the Government's intention to require the lessee to pay the Government's fee for container traffic above the Government's minimum specified cap at the Port of Newcastle?

Answer:

Please see responses to questions 121, 126 and 144.

(a) If yes, on what date and what did the ACCC advise?

Question 158

In terms of Treasury's leasing process for the Port of Newcastle, after this port was leased, did the Government inform the ACCC about the Government contractually requiring the lessee to pay the Government's fee for container traffic above the Government's minimum specified cap at the Port of Newcastle?

Answer:

Please see response to questions 121, 126 and 144.

(a) If yes, on what date?

Question 159

Did Treasury procure information indicating that a container terminal at the Port of Newcastle would be an uneconomic enterprise contrary to market demand, as disclosed by the then Treasurer, The Hon Andrew Constance MP, in answer to supplementary question 53 of the August 22 2015 Budget Committee hearing?

Answer:

Treasury is not aware of any such information being procured and please see response to question 145.

(a) If yes, what is that information?

Hunter Water Dividend

Question 160

Before the state election in March the Government ruled out stripping an additional \$100 million from Hunter Water but after the election back flipped and took the additional money - why?

Answer:

The Board of Hunter Water agreed to pay the increased dividend for 2018-19 instead of 2017-18, in order to align with the NSW Government's infrastructure investment timing. Hunter Water made this decision after the 2017-18 Statement of Corporate Intent (SCI) was released, where it was originally declared.

Question 161

Considering the government is requiring Hunter Water to pay an additional \$100 million dividend and Hunter Water will need to borrow these funds from TCorp, what is the cost of Hunter Water servicing this debt?

Answer:

The Board of Hunter Water Corporation approved an increased dividend for 2018-19. The Board's decision reflects Hunter Water's targeting of an efficient capital structure, in adherence to the *Capital Structure Policy for Government Businesses*.

Dividends cannot be paid from debt. Dividends are paid out of current and retained earnings. Hunter Water's borrowing is driven by its operational needs, including capital investment program and cash flow requirements.

Question 162

Is the \$100 million dollars Hunter Water had to borrow from TCorp listed as an asset for TCorp?

Answer:

Dividends cannot be paid from debt. Dividends are paid out of current and retained earnings. Hunter Water's borrowing is driven by its operational needs, including capital investment program and cash flow requirements.

a) If so, then \$100 million borrowed actually boosts the Government's books by \$200 million?

Answer:

No. Please refer to the answer above (no. 162) regarding borrowing by Hunter Water and its distinction from dividends.

Question 163

Why is the Government stripping an extra \$100 million dollar dividend out of Hunter Water?

Answer:

The Board of Hunter Water Corporation approved an increased dividend for 2018-19. The Board's decision reflects Hunter Water's targeting of an efficient capital structure, in adherence to the *Capital Structure Policy for Government Businesses*.

Dividends from State Owned Corporations contribute to the funding of critical services across the Hunter region and the rest of NSW, including health, education, law enforcement, public transport and roads.

Question 164

Will the cost of servicing this debt be passed on to customers?

Answer:

Dividend payments and capital returns do not impact on consumer prices, capital investment or service delivery.

a) If not, how will the interest be paid?

Answer:

IPART sets prices for Hunter Water based on the building block model of public utility regulation. The building block model factors in reimbursement for interest payments based on an assumed benchmark level of debt. Prices do not vary with Hunter Water's actual level of debt. It is noted that Hunter Water's debt level remains below the IPART benchmark.

Question 165

Will the Government be seeking any more additional dividends from Hunter Water this financial year?

Answer:

No.

Question 166

Will the cost of servicing this debt result in reduced funds in Hunter Water's budget to deliver improved services and infrastructure for their customers, like sewer services to customers in Hexham?

Answer:

No. Hunter Water's capital investment plan is independent of its dividend payments. Hunter Water's capital investment is higher over the budget and forward estimates, compared to the previous budget.

Dividend payments and capital returns do not impact on consumer prices, capital investment or service delivery. Hunter Water has the second lowest prices of any major Australian water utility.

Question 167

Why has the government imposed this water tax on Hunter Water customers?

Answer:

Dividends to shareholders are not a tax. Dividend payments and capital returns do not impact on consumer prices, capital investment or service delivery. Please refer to the question 166.