



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEES

## **BUDGET ESTIMATES 2021-2022 Supplementary Questions**

**Portfolio Committee No. 5 – Legal Affairs**

**POLICE**

Hearing: Wednesday 1 September 2021

**Answers due by: Thursday 30 September 2021**

**Budget Estimates secretariat**  
Phone 9230 2898  
[BudgetEstimates@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:BudgetEstimates@parliament.nsw.gov.au)

## POLICE

### Questions from the Hon Adam Searle MLC

#### New South Wales Crime Commission

#### Questions 1-16 directed to Michael Barnes, Crime Commissioner

1. The NSW Crime Commission *Annual Report* 2019-2020 page 9 provides a table of highlights for the reporting year.
  - (a) What are the numbers for each highlight since the Annual Report was published, including how many joint arrests and how many charges, the value of the confiscation orders etc.?
  
2. Since the commencement of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Crime Commission has detected significant increases in the wholesale price of drugs, with increased profits for organised crime groups: *Annual Report* 2019-2020, page 23.
  - (a) Has the Crime Commission detected further increases in wholesale drug prices since these figures were published?
    - i. If so, what are those increases?
  - (b) How has this been impacted by the current Covid-19 situation over the past 11 weeks?
  - (c) What has been the operational response to this by the Crime Commission?
  
3. The Crime Commission has reported in the most recent Annual Report at page 23 that a number of established money laundering networks had ceased trading activities during early 2020.
  - (a) What has been the experience since early 2020, and – in particular – over the last 11 weeks?
  - (b) Has the decline or ceasing of trading activities been more pronounced in different industries?
    - i. Please provide details.
  
4. How does ‘cuckoo smurfing’ (using unwitting third parties and their bank account details to launder money) work in practice?

5. Has there been any changes to the practice of '*cuckoo smurfing*' to launder money this year?
  - (a) If so, what are those changes?
  - (b) Over what time period were any changes detected?
  - (c) What are the drivers of any changes?
6. Last year, the Crime Commission reported that reduced international travel due to Covid had interrupted the importation of illegal drugs into Australia. Did these importation activities recover in the later part of 2020?
7. Has the importation of illegal drugs into Australia declined this year?
8. What has been the impact of the current Covid outbreak over the last 11 weeks on drug importation activities?
9. What has been the impact of the current Covid outbreak over the last 11 weeks on drug distribution activities throughout NSW?
10. Have local residents been recruited into the collection and distribution of illegal drugs that have been imported into Australia to a greater degree since the commencement of the pandemic, as apprehended at page 24 of the *Annual Report*?
11. How effective have the increased use of dedicated encrypted networks been in disrupting the activities of organised crime networks?
  - (a) Can you provide details of how dedicated encrypted networks have been applied to this task?
12. Given the restrictions on movement during the Covid outbreaks last year and this year, has the Crime Commission detected any increase in the use of identity theft and online activities?
13. In the most recent *Annual Report* at page 24 the Crime Commission referred to several instances of persons entering Australia possessing and using fraudulent NSW drivers licenses. Since the publication of this report, has the CC detected further instances of persons who have been permitted to enter Australia possession and using fraudulent NSW documentation of any kind?
  - (a) If yes, please provide details.

14. In the most recent *Annual Report* at page 24 the Crime Commission indicated that financial institutions did not look for the type of methodology being used, small cash deposits of less than \$10,000.
  - (a) What steps has the CC taken to educate financial institutions about this?
  - (b) What have been the results of any steps taken?
  - (c) Have financial institutions changed their scrutiny of such transactions?
  
15. Since the publication of the *Annual Report* page 27, how many persons have been the subject of referrals for consideration for confiscation proceedings?
  - (a) How many in 2021?
  - (b) How many referrals were made from each source?
  - (c) How many defendants have been proceeded against in 2021?
  - (d) What is the estimated realisable value by referral and by order sought for 2021?
  
16. Can you please provide the committee with updated versions of each table in the 2019-2020 *Annual Report*, with information for the 2020-2021 year?

<b>Questions from the Hon Mark Buttigieg MLC (on behalf of the Opposition)</b>
--

17. Commissioner Fuller, given your comments at the Budget Estimates hearing regarding the rate of crime during COVID-19 where you said “We certainly are seeing in some areas, such as adult sexual assault, child sexual assault and domestic and family violence, that those numbers are unfortunately consistently high” can you please provide the most recent statistics on the incidences of crime in the categories mentioned in your comment (and any other relevant crime) by LGA (or similar regional breakdown) along with the same comparable metric from earlier this year before the current outbreak?
  
18. Commissioner Fuller, given your comments at the Budget Estimates hearing regarding the changes in Public Health orders, where you said “*We have our general counsel work with general counsel at the Department of Premier and Cabinet to construct, what we would determine, a fact sheet so officers have an understanding of either the new health order or the evolution of the health orders.*” Will you provide copies of the fact sheets that you have distributed to police since the start of the current lockdown?

## Police Costings

19. Will you provide the cost for NSW Police to procure and fit an individual unit of each of the following units for operational use:
- (a) Random Drug Testing Unit
  - (b) Random breath testing kit
  - (c) Police station for up to 50 staff
  - (d) Police station for up to 100 staff
  - (e) Police station for up to 200 staff
  - (f) Police station for up to 300 staff
20. Will the Road Safety Plan 2021 be continuing for the coming years?
- (a) If yes, can you confirm the cost of the program for the following years:
    - i. 2021
    - ii. 2022
    - iii. 2023
    - iv. 2024
21. Will you provide the cost for NSW Police to procure and fit an individual unit of each of the following vehicles for operational use:
- (a) Highway patrol vehicle
  - (b) 6 cylinder - operational vehicle
  - (c) 4 cylinder - operational vehicle
  - (d) 4WD - operational vehicle
  - (e) Motor cycle
  - (f) Bicycle
22. Will you provide the cost for NSW Police to procure and fit an individual unit of each of the following Police Air Wing craft for operational use:
- (a) Bell 412EPi Twin engine helicopter
  - (b) Single engine Squirrel
  - (c) Twin engine Squirrel
  - (d) Eurocopter EC135 Twin Engine Helicopter
  - (e) Cessna Grand Caravan EX208B fixed wing

23. Will you provide the cost for NSW Police to procure and fit an individual unit of each of the following water craft for operational use:
- (a) Class 1 (32 metres)
  - (b) Class 2 (16 metres)
  - (c) Class 3 (10.5 metres)
  - (d) Class 4 (8 metres)
  - (e) Jet Ski

### **Recurrent Funding**

24. What recurrent funding is being given in the 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 financial years to the following units of NSW Police:
- (a) Aviation Support Branch
  - (b) Counter Terrorism and Special Tactics
  - (c) Dog Unit
  - (d) Firearms Registry
  - (e) Forensic Evidence & Technical Services Command
  - (f) Legal
  - (g) Marine Area Command
  - (h) Communications and Security Command
  - (i) Police Band
  - (j) PoliceLink Command
  - (k) Police Prosecutions Command
  - (l) Professional Standards Command
  - (m) Public Affairs Branch
  - (n) Special Constables
  - (o) State Crime Command
  - (p) Traffic and Highway Patrol
  - (q) Recruitment Branch

### **NSW Police Force headcount**

25. Will you populate this table, showing how many police officers, administrative staff and total staff have been working at every NSW police station and office for each year, starting with the 2011-12 financial year, until the 2018-19 financial year? (If there are new police stations, please add them for the year it become operational and every year subsequent).

<b>Employee headcount</b>		2011-12	
<b>Command</b>	Police Officers	Administrative Staff	Total
<b>TOTAL NSW POLICE</b>			
<b>Central Metropolitan Region</b>			
Region office			
Eastern Beaches PAC			
Eastern Suburbs PAC			
Inner West PAC			
Kings Cross PAC			
Leichhardt PAC			
South Sydney PAC			
St George PAC			
Surry Hills PAC			
Sutherland Shire PAC			
Sydney City PAC			
<b>North West Metropolitan Region</b>			
Region office			
Blacktown PAC			
Blue Mountains PAC			
Hawkesbury PAC			
Ku-ring-gai PAC			
Mount Druitt PAC			
Nepean PAC			
North Shore PAC			
Northern Beaches PAC			
Parramatta PAC			
Quakers Hill PAC			
Ryde PAC			
The Hills PAC			
<b>South West Metropolitan Region</b>			
Region office			
Auburn PAC			
Bankstown PAC			
Burwood PAC			
Camden PAC			
Campbelltown City PAC			
Campsie PAC			
Cumberland PAC			
Fairfield City PAC			
Liverpool City PAC			
<b>Northern Region</b>			
Region office			
Brisbane Water PD			

Coffs-Clarence PD			
Hunter Valley PD			
Lake Macquarie PD			
Manning-Great Lakes PD			
Mid North Coast PD			
Newcastle City PD			
Port Stephens-Hunter PD			
Richmond PD			
Tuggerah Lakes PD			
Tweed-Byron PD			
<b>Southern Region</b>			
Region office			
Lake Illawarra PD			
Monaro PD			
Murray River PD			
Murrumbidgee PD			
Riverina PD			
South Coast PD			
The Hume PD			
Wollongong PD			
<b>Western Region</b>			
Region office			
Barrier PD			
Central West PD			
Central North PD			
Chifley PD			
New England PD			
Orana-Mid Western PD			
Oxley PD			

## Land Sales

26. On August 11, 2021, the Sydney Morning Herald reported that the NSW Government has imposed a \$3 billion land and property sale target on its departments and agencies by 2023.
- What is the target set for NSW police?
  - As of September 1, 2021, how much land has been sold within NSW police?
  - As of September 1, 2021, how much land has been set for sale?
27. Between January 1, 2017 and September 9, 2021, what has been the total land sale value of property held by NSW Police?
28. Between January 1, 2017 and December 31, 2017 what has been the total land sale value of property held by NSW Police?



29. Between January 1, 2018 and December 31, 2018 what has been the total land sale value of property held by NSW Police?
30. Between January 1, 2019 and December 31, 2019 what has been the total land sale value of property held by NSW Police?
31. Between January 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020 what has been the total land sale value of property held by NSW Police?
32. Between January 1, 2021 and December 31, 2021 what has been the total land sale value of property held by NSW Police?
33. Between January 1, 2021 and June 30, 2021 what has been the total land sale value of property held by NSW Police?

#### **Antisemitic incidents and Nazi flag and swastika incidents**

34. In a GIPA request in 2020, NSW police confirmed that in a two year period that it has received 112 incidents of antisemitism including 31 Nazi flag incidents, please list the full 31 Nazi flag incidents and their locations. (The GIPA reference is LEGAL4504/20 decision date October 14, 2020)
35. Since 2018, has the NSW Police investigated any incidents in NSW, where there were complaints about the baking of pies/cakes with a Nazi swastika symbol on the top of the pie/cake?
  - (a) If yes:
    - i. How many times did these incidents occur?
    - ii. What were the times, dates and locations of these incidents?
    - iii. What were the results of the investigations?

#### **Cyber Security**

36. In the NSW Legislative Council report on Cyber Security (Report 52 – March 2021), Deputy Commissioner Dave Hudson reported that NSW Police's own systems had been the subject of 58 significant attacks in 2020, but none were successful.
  - (a) If yes:
    - i. List the dates of those attacks and were charges laid.
    - ii. Detail how many of those attacks were local, inter-State and overseas.

## **Vaccination Rates**

37. As of September 9, 2021, how many police officers are employed in NSW?
- (a) As of September 9, 2021 how many of these police officers are vaccinated with:
- i. At least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine?
  - ii. Two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine?
38. As of September 9, 2021, how many non-police officers are employed by NSW Police?
- (a) As of September 9, 2021, how many of these non-police officers are vaccinated with:
- i. At least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine?
  - ii. Two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine?

## **Staff**

39. As of September 1, 2021, what was the overall number of staff employed by NSW Police?
40. As of September 1, 2021, what was the overall number of uniformed officers employed by NSW Police?
41. As of September 1, 2021, what was the overall number of administrative officers employed by NSW Police?
42. As of September 1, 2021, what was the overall number of executive officers employed by NSW Police?
43. As of September 1, 2021, what was the overall number of commissioned officers employed by NSW Police?
44. As of September 1, 2021, what was the overall number of senior sergeants and sergeants employed by NSW Police?
45. As of September 1, 2021, what was the overall number of senior constables employed by NSW Police?
46. As of September 1, 2021, what was the overall number of constables employed by NSW Police?
47. As of September 1, 2021, what was the overall number of probationary constables employed by NSW Police?

### **Refusing to go into quarantine**

48. Between March 1, 2020 and September 8, 2021, how many people have been taken in custody for refusing to go into quarantine – or breaking quarantine?
- (a) How many police hours were used to undertake these activities?
  - (b) What were the results of those incidents?

### **Tweed Cross-border protests**

49. In regard to the August 29 protests on the NSW-Queensland border:
- (a) What were the total number of arrests?
  - (b) What were the total number of charges laid by NSW Police?
    - i. Of those charges, how many were withdrawn or dropped?

### **St Mary's COVID clinic attack**

50. In regard to the August 28<sup>th</sup> attack on the St Mary's COVID testing clinic:
- (a) What is the NSW Police response to expert advice that the graffiti and slogans written on the wall were similar to those carried out by far-Right and neo-Nazi groups?
  - (b) As of September 9, have any arrests been made in relation to the attack?

### **Surveillance of the anti-vaccination movement**

51. Have the NSW Police established any taskforces or unit to monitor or conduct surveillance over the anti-vaccination movement?
- (a) If yes, how many officers are assigned to this activity?
  - (b) If yes, how many charges were laid in relation to this activity?

### **5G Towers vandalism/attacks**

52. At the Budget Estimates inquiry, Deputy Commissioner David Hudson referred to protests and attacks on 5G towers – in relation to extremist activity. Will you please detail:
- (a) How many attacks were carried out on 5G towers in NSW in 2019; 2020; and between January 1- September 1, 2021?
  - (b) What were the exact dates of those attacks?
  - (c) What were the nature of those attacks?
  - (d) Where any arrests made in relation to these attacks?

- (e) What were the location of those attacks/incidents?
- (f) Were arrests or charges laid in relation to those attacks?
  - i. If yes, how many?

### **National Socialist Network**

- 53. How many members are believed to be operating in NSW?
- 54. Have there been arrests made in NSW in relation to the National Socialist Network?
  - (a) If yes, will you please detail:
    - i. What were the nature of those arrests?
    - ii. How many charges were laid?

### **Infringement Notices**

- 55. How many public health order infringement notices were issued by NSW Police from March 1, 2020 to April 30, 2021?
  - (a) What percentage of those infringement notices were challenged?
  - (b) What percentage of those infringement notices were dropped?
- 56. How many public health order infringement notices were issued by NSW Police from January 1, 2021 to August 31, 2021?
  - (a) What percentage of those infringement notices were challenged?
  - (b) What percentage of those infringement notices were dropped?

### **COVID positive officers**

- 57. As of September 9, 2021, how many NSW Police officers have tested COVID positive?
  - (a) Of those officers, how many acquired COVID on duty?
  - (b) Of those officers, how many acquired COVID during the recent protests?
  - (c) Of those officers, how many acquired COVID making arrests or enforcing quarantine?
  - (d) Of those officers, how many acquired COVID through other means?
- 58. As of September 9, 2021, how many NSW Police officers were forced to undergo isolation due to potential COVID-19 exposure?

## **Police Commissioner Replacement**

59. Given applications for the next Police Commissioner closes on September 19, 2021 at 11.59pm, what is the date for the short-list of candidates to be provided to the selection panel?

## **COVID Crisis Cabinet**

60. How many meetings of the COVID Crisis Cabinet has the NSW Police Minister attended?
61. How many meetings of the COVID Crisis Cabinet has the NSW Police Commissioner attended?
62. What are the exact dates that the NSW Police Minister and/or the Police Commissioner attended these meetings?

## **Singleton Police Station**

63. In the 2021-22 budget, the NSW Government said it was allocating \$12 million over two years to a new police station at Singleton, how much will be spent in 2021?
- (a) How much will be spent in 2022?
64. What is the planned opening date of the new Singleton Police station?
65. In the 2021-22 budget, the NSW Government said it would provide \$54.5 million for new police stations in Bega, Goulburn, Jindabyne, Perisher and Thredbo. What is the exact expenditure allocated to these five police stations (individually)?

## **Illicit drug crime**

66. Have illicit drug arrests and seizure in NSW increased or decreased during 2020-2021 COVID outbreaks?
67. What were the number of drug related arrests in 2019?
- (a) What was the total value of the seizures in relation to these arrests?
68. What were the number of drug related arrests in 2020?
- (a) What was the total value of the seizures in relation to these arrests?

69. What were the number of drug related arrests in NSW between January 1, 2021 and August 31, 2021?

(a) What was the total value of the seizures in relation to these arrests?

### **Cocaine**

70. Have cocaine arrests and seizure in NSW increased or decreased during 2020-2021 COVID outbreaks?

71. What were the number of cocaine-related related arrests in 2019?

(a) What was the total value of the seizures in relation to these arrests?

72. What were the number of cocaine-related related arrests in 2020?

(a) What was the total value of the seizures in relation to these arrests?

73. What were the number of cocaine-related related arrests between January 1, 2021 and August 31, 2021?

(a) What was the total value of the seizures in relation to these arrests?

### **Ice**

74. Have ice arrests and seizure in NSW increased or decreased during 2020-2021 COVID outbreaks?

75. What were the number of cocaine-related related arrests in 2019?

(a) What was the total value of the seizures in relation to these arrests?

76. What were the number of ice-related related arrests in 2020?

(a) What was the total value of the seizures in relation to these arrests?

77. What were the number of ice-related related arrests between January 1, 2021 and August 31, 2021?

(a) What was the total value of the seizures in relation to these arrests?

### **Spending**

78. For each department, agency, State-owned corporation or other body, and for each division of those bodies, if any, in your portfolio/cluster in FY 20/21 what was the total amount spent on each of the following categories?

- (a) Indoor plants
- (b) coffee and tea
- (c) crockery
- (d) kettles, sandwich presses and toasters
- (e) alcohol
- (f) cakes, muffins and pastries
- (g) computers, computer monitors and office chairs
- (h) office renovations and fit-outs
- (i) taxi and rideshare expenses
- (j) office equipment
- (k) office renovations or upgrades
- (l) hospitality
- (m) conferences
- (n) travel
- (o) accommodation
- (p) employee development and training activities
- (q) study assistance
- (r) travelling and meal expenses
- (s) temporary accommodation benefits - commercial and private
- (t) removal and storage expenses
- (u) education of children
- (v) reimbursement of transaction expenses (includes stamp duty, real estate costs for employee who is moving)
- (w) reimbursement of incidental costs (includes gas, electricity)
- (x) additional benefits

79. For each department, agency, State-owned corporation or other body, and for each division of those bodies, if any, in your portfolio/cluster, from FY 20/21 what are details (specific item, and total cost) of the top five most expensive occurrences of spending on each of the following categories?

- (a) indoor plants
- (b) coffee and tea
- (c) crockery
- (d) kettles, sandwich presses and toasters
- (e) alcohol

- (f) cakes, muffins and pastries
- (g) computers, computer monitors and office chairs
- (h) office renovations and fit-outs
- (i) taxi and rideshare expenses
- (j) office equipment
- (k) office renovations or upgrades
- (l) hospitality
- (m) conferences
- (n) travel
- (o) accommodation
- (p) employee development and training activities
- (q) study assistance
- (r) travelling and meal expenses
- (s) temporary accommodation benefits - commercial and private
- (t) removal and storage expenses
- (u) education of children
- (v) reimbursement of transaction expenses (includes stamp duty, real estate costs for employee who is moving)
- (w) reimbursement of incidental costs (includes gas, electricity)
- (x) additional benefits