

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2021-2022

Supplementary Questions

Portfolio Committee No. 5 – Regional NSW and Stronger Communities

Paul Toole MP
Deputy Premier
Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Police

Hearing: 4 May 2022

Answers due by: 31 May 2022

RESPONSES TO SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS

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DEPUTY PREMIER, REGIONAL NEW SOUTH WALES, POLICE

Questions from the Hon Mark Buttigieg MLC (*on behalf of the Opposition*)

Floods

1. Has the flooding in northern NSW had an impact on NSW Police staffing?

Answer:

Both Operation Floods 2022 and Operation Floods Recovery 2022 have had some impact on a number of commands and business units across the State as they have contributed to staffing orders and deployments to assist the police and community in the Northern Rivers.

Since 3 March to 18 May 2022, a total of 1,303 Police personnel have been deployed from across the State to Northern NSW in support of the flood-related operations linked to response and recovery efforts. The sharing of these deployments is so as not to deplete any one section or unit, but rather to have a minimal effect over a larger workforce.

Initially, around 120 Police personnel were sent on weekly deployments. Since 19 April 2022, those numbers have been reduced to 26 Police personnel per week.

Fundamental to these deployments has been maintaining a sufficient Police response and supporting community confidence across the PD.

2. How many police officers have lost their homes?

Answer:

Privately owned = 11
Private Leases = 4
Police Housing = 5

3. How many police stations have been affected?

Answer:

100 police stations, including three where only the administration offices were affected and two non-public facing operational locations.

4. How much police equipment has been destroyed including the number of vehicles?

Answer:

Coffs/Clarence PD:

Nil destroyed; minor water damage occasioned to Ulmarra Police Station residence (seepage through floor).

Richmond PD:

Three police vehicles and three Police Stations (Lismore, Coraki and Woodburn) have been impacted. Richmond PD is still compiling an extensive list of damaged equipment.

Tweed/Byron PD :

No vehicles were completely destroyed, although a number of vehicles were damaged and are awaiting assessment and repair.

A significant amount of Police issued uniform items, including boots, were destroyed.

5. Has the flooding had an impact on NSW Police budgets?

Answer:

The cost of repair will be covered by insurance and therefore have no impact to the organisation's budget position.

6. Will there be a long-term impact on NSW Police staffing or budgets?

Answer:

It is not anticipated that the NSW Police Force will require any budget adjustments or long-term staffing adjustments as a result of the floods.

As a result of the NSW Government's commitment of an additional 1,500 positions for the NSW Police Force, the number of authorised positions in the Northern Region has increased and the NSW Police Force has an effective deployment model to address staffing issues during major events.

The NSW Police Force regularly undertakes resourcing needs assessments based on state-wide population shifts and movements.

7. Have there been any cases of looting as a result of the flooding?

Answer:

There have been 46 property offences reported, which related to the flood in Richmond and one person was arrested/charged with looting in Tweed/Byron.

8. Have there been any particular policing challenges associated with the floods and what, if any, learnings have you taken from them in relation to policing?

Answer:

The NSW Police Force anticipates significant recommendations and lessons-learnt will be forthcoming once the 2022 NSW Flood Inquiry review has been completed.

Urgent response times

9. What is the official definition of an urgent call?

Answer:

See response to Questions Taken on Notice on 4 May 2022.

10. What is the official definition of a non-urgent call?

Answer:

Calls for service are assigned with one of five priorities when entered by Police employees into the NSW Police Force (NSWPF) Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system.

Priority 3 is described as “non-urgent”.

Priority 3:

- Respond as soon as possible when there are no Priority 1 or 2 matters outstanding. This includes incidents that generally involve a member of the public requiring Police to attend as soon as possible. For example, break and enter, noise complaints, motor vehicle accident, non-violent domestics, animal complaints, shoplifters etc.

11. How many different classifications are there for calls to police?
- (a) Please list them; name the category and provide the number for the years:
- i. 2018-19
 - ii. 2019-20
 - iii. 2020-21
 - iv. 2021-22
 - v. 2022 until May 1

Answer:

See [TAB A - NSWPF Calls for Service](#) - for numbers of incidents for selected years.

12. What is the benchmark time for a non-urgent call?

Answer:

There is no benchmark time for non-urgent calls for service.

13. What percentage of non-urgent calls in 2020-21 were not answered within the benchmark time?

Answer:

I refer you to the response to Question 12.

14. What was the longest urgent call wait in 2021 for:
- (a) Parramatta?
 - (b) Campsie?
 - (c) Liverpool City?
 - (d) Leichhardt?
 - (e) Cumberland?
 - (f) Ryde?
 - (g) Blacktown?
 - (h) Blue Mountains?

- (i) Campbelltown?
- (j) Fairfield?
- (k) Hawkesbury?
- (l) Nepean?
- (m) Riverstone?
- (n) Auburn?
- (o) Burwood?
- (p) Inner West?
- (q) Lake Illawarra?
- (r) South Sydney?
- (s) Sutherland?
- (t) Bankstown?

Answer:

It is not practicable to provide the specific data sought by the member within the limited timeframe for responding to supplementary questions, as this would require the NSW Police Force to manually review all records and every entry of each Computer Aided Dispatch Incident by the Police Area Commands and Police Districts.

15. What percentage of non-urgent calls were not answered within the benchmark time in 2021 in:
- (a) Parramatta?
 - (b) Campsie?
 - (c) Liverpool City?
 - (d) Leichhardt?
 - (e) Cumberland?
 - (f) Ryde?
 - (g) Blacktown?
 - (h) Blue Mountains?
 - (i) Campbelltown?
 - (j) Fairfield?
 - (k) Hawkesbury?
 - (l) Nepean?
 - (m) Riverstone?
 - (n) Auburn?
 - (o) Burwood?
 - (p) Inner West?
 - (q) Lake Illawarra?
 - (r) South Sydney?
 - (s) Sutherland?
 - (t) Bankstown?

Answer:

As above - there is no benchmark time for non-urgent calls for service.

Operational staff

16. As of May 9, 2022, how many sworn operational staff were there in NSW?

Answer:

These figures are publicly reported in each NSWPF Annual Report.

17. As of May 9, 2022, how many civilian operational staff were there in NSW?

Answer:

These figures are publicly reported in each NSWPF Annual Report.

18. What percentage of staff were female in 2020-21?

Answer:

These figures are publicly reported in each NSWPF Annual Report.

19. How many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander operational staff were there in 2020-21?

Answer:

These figures are publicly reported in each NSWPF Annual Report.

20. How many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander non-operational staff were there in 2020-21?

Answer:

These figures are publicly reported in each NSWPF Annual Report.

21. What was the proportion of total staff who were Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander in 2020-21?

Answer:

These figures are publicly reported in each NSWPF Annual Report.

22. How many operational staff per 100,000 people were there in the 2020-21 period in NSW?

Answer:

244 (*'Operational' definition as per the Report on Government Services Methodology*)

23. How many operational staff per 100,000 people were there for the same period in Queensland?

Answer:

This question should be directed to the Queensland Police Service, as appropriate.

24. How many operational staff per 100,000 people were there for the same period in Victoria?

Answer:

This question should be directed to the Victorian Police, as appropriate.

25. Would it be correct to say that NSW has the lowest number of operational staff per capita in Australia?

Answer:

This question requires a number of assumptions to be clarified before an answer can be provided.

Russian influence in NSW

26. Since the conflict in Ukraine, has NSW counter-terrorism turned its examination and approach to activists from that region?
27. Are you working with your federal counterparts in relation to that?
28. How long have Eastern European extremists been on your radar?

Answer to Questions 26 to 28:

The NSW Police Force Counter Terrorism and Special Tactics Command has long standing partnerships with law enforcement and intelligence partners to monitor violent extremist activity in all its forms.

This includes any activity in NSW that is related to the conflict in the Ukraine.

29. Have any arrests been made?

Answer:

Nil arrests have been made.

30. Has there been an increased threat from such extremists in recent years?
 - (a) What about in recent weeks?
 - (b) Has the Russian invasion of Ukraine seen an increase in extremist activity here?
 - (c) Are you concerned about such activity?

Answer:

The NSWPF has not seen increased terrorist threat from "Eastern European extremists" in NSW.

31. Are you aware of the "Australian Cossacks" who have been active in NSW, funded by a Russian Orthodox oligarch who may or may not be funnelling Russian state money to the group?

Answer:

Yes.

32. Is it true that the man known as “Aussie Cossack” recently called on his 50,000 followers to join a rally to support Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, claiming that Putin was “helping” Ukrainians from “Nazis” in a “peacekeeping operation?”

Answer:

The “Aussie Cossack” posted information on social media regarding a rally on Sunday 6 March 2022, calling for support for Vladimir Putin.

Gangs and Operation Hawk

33. Operation Hawk was a two-day operation against organised criminals that began on the morning of January 27. There was a great deal of media fanfare where the Deputy Premier talked with much bluster just weeks after his elevation to Police Minister. How many arrests were made during that operation?

Answer:

There were 115 arrests made.

34. Of the arrests made during that operation, how many have been released from custody – without formal charges?

Answer:

Nil.

35. How many charges were laid as a direct result of Operation Hawk?

Answer:

292

36. How many of those charges were dropped?

Answer:

Charges withdrawn:	5
Charges dismissed:	1

37. Outlaw motorcycle gang activity in NSW is now very concentrated in northern NSW. Is this correct?

Answer:

Yes.

38. Have these changes increased bikie gang activity in NSW?

Answer:

No.

39. What is your government doing to put further resources in bikie activity in these new areas?

Answer:

30 new positions were allocated to Strike Force Raptor on 11 May 2022.

40. What is your government doing to monitor these “feeder groups” and get them on the police radar?

Answer:

The NSWPF, the NSW Crime Commission, the Australian Federal Police and the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission work collaboratively to gather and share intelligence, and to target the activities of criminal groups and their feeder groups.

Bail

41. Has the Police Minister expressed his concerns about our state's lax bail laws?
42. If so, what has been expressed?

Answer to Questions 41 and 42

Any commentary is a matter of public record.

43. In response to a Question on Notice after last Estimates, it was revealed that Mostafa Baluch offered to be subject to electronic monitoring if he were granted bail – and was himself responsible for arranging his own ankle bracelet with a private company. Is this standard practice?

Answer

This question and those through to 60 (inclusive) should be directed to the Attorney-General as the Minister responsible for the *Bail Act 2013* (NSW).

44. What is the policy for electronic monitoring?
45. Are all people who are bailed afforded the opportunity to rent their own ankle bracelets from private contractors?
46. How does the state monitor the quality of the offerings from these independent contractors?
47. Does the state not have funding to surveil bailed alleged commercial drug traffickers?
48. Since the multi-million dollar recapture effort for Baluch, has the government ensured that people on bail cannot simply make their own arrangements for electronic monitoring?
49. How many electronic ankle tagging bracelets are currently in use in NSW by the criminal justice system?
50. Where are these bracelets currently being used?
51. Who provides these bracelets?
52. Does the government have a contract or contracts with a company or companies providing these bracelets? If so:

- (a) When were these contracts entered into?
 - (b) Was there a public tender for these contracts?
 - (c) When do the contracts conclude?
53. If not, how is the provision of these bracelets regulated?
54. What is the estimated cost per day of electronic ankle tagging bracelets met by the government or its agencies?
55. What is the estimated cost per day of electronic ankle tagging bracelets met by the person who wears the ankle bracelet?
56. What is the average duration that a person is required to wear such a bracelet?
57. What is the monitoring process for each electronic ankle tagging bracelet?
58. Have concerns been raised about malfunction or inadequate operation of these bracelets?
- (a) When?
 - (b) By whom?
 - (c) What was the nature of the malfunction or inadequate operation?
 - (d) What steps have been taken to address these concerns?
59. How often do wearers of these ankle bracelets manage to remove them and abscond?
60. In what proportion of cases does this occur?

Answer:

Questions 43 to 60 should be redirected to the Attorney General as the responsible Minister for the *Bail Act 2013* (NSW).

3D weapons

61. Are current 3D-printing firearms laws sufficient to charge and convict such extremists?

Answer:

Section 51F of the *Firearms Act 1996* provides an offence for possessing a digital blueprint for the manufacture of a firearm on a 3D printer or on an electronic milling machine.

62. How does the NSW legislation regulating the 3D printing of weapons compare with that in other jurisdictions in Australia and internationally?

Answer:

There are existing offences in NSW which apply broadly to 3D printing firearms and weapons. These include:

- Section 50A of the *Firearms Act 1996*, which makes it an offence in NSW to manufacture a firearm unless authorised. The offence is punishable by a maximum of 10 years imprisonment, which increases to a maximum of 20 years imprisonment where a person manufactures a prohibited firearm by virtue of s 50A(2);
- Section 51F of the *Firearms Act 1996*, which makes it an offence in NSW to possess a digital blueprint for the manufacture of a firearm on a 3D printer or on an electronic milling machine. The offence is punishable by a maximum of 14 years imprisonment;
- Section 25A of the *Weapons Prohibition Act 1996*, which makes it an offence in NSW to manufacture a prohibited weapon. The offence is punishable by a maximum of 14 years imprisonment; and
- Section 25B of the *Weapons Prohibition Act 1996*, which makes it an offence in NSW to possess a digital blueprint for the manufacture of a prohibited weapon on a 3D printer or on an electronic milling machine. The offence is punishable by a maximum of 14 years imprisonment.

All other Australian jurisdictions have offence provisions, which broadly prohibit the unauthorised manufacture of firearms and associated items.

International laws vary on the 3D printing of weapons.

63. How many finalised charges were there under s 51F of the Firearms Act in 2018-19?

Answer:

One charge was finalised between 1 July 2018 and 30 June 2019.

64. How many finalised charges were there under s 51F of the Firearms Act in 2019-20?

Answer:

Two charges were finalised between 1 July 2018 and 30 June 2020.

65. How many finalised charges were there under s 51F of the Firearms Act in 2020-21?

Answer:

Three charges were finalised between 1 July 2020 and 30 June 2021.

66. Do these statistics reflect the true scope of the threat posed by 3D-printed firearms in NSW?

Answer:

These represent the known threat of 3D printed firearms.

67. What are the challenges to bringing successful prosecutions against those who would illegally print 3D weapons?

Answer:

According to the Judicial Information Research System, there have been three convictions for an offence under section 51F of the *Firearms Act 1996* since 2018. There are no regulatory barriers to purchasing a printer legally, so mere possession of such a printer is not an element of the s.51F offence.

A review of section 51F charges did not reveal any charges that have failed.

68. What gaps are there in the current legislation?

Answer:

The NSW Government is in regular discussions with Police to examine any legislation where changes may be necessary. This is highlighted by the recent Bill to amend the *Firearms Act* for Category D licence holders.

69. Given the stalled Firearms and Weapons Legislation Amendment (Criminal Use) Bill 2020, what is your government doing to address the gaps in the current legislative framework?

Answer:

The stakeholder feedback and Portfolio Committee report on the provisions of the Bill are being taken seriously. A high level of diligence and care is being undertaken to ensure that any legislative action is appropriate.

There are existing offences which apply broadly to these kinds of matters.

70. What advice has NSW Police provided to the government on 3D weapons?

Answer:

The NSW Police Force has advised on relevant matters relating to 3D printed weapons.

71. What do police advise their officers when they discover plans for 3D weapons?

Answer:

Police are advised to investigate whether an offence has been committed under section 51F of the *Firearms Act 1996*.

Consideration is also given to applying for a Firearms Prohibition Order and/or Weapons Prohibition Order. An identical offence for the manufacture of prohibited weapons exists under section 25B of the *Weapons Prohibition Act 1998*.

72. What are the implications of weapons-grade 3D printers like the Markforged FX20 on criminal activity?

Answer:

Technological improvements and the uptake of new technology result in reduced prices, making such equipment potentially more accessible. Improvements may also contribute to more durable and reliable 3D-printed weapons.

73. Could criminal gangs get their hands on products like the FX20?

Answer:

A criminal syndicate could purchase any commercially available product, although this would potentially leave an evidentiary trail.

74. Are you concerned about this kind of technology?

Answer:

The misuse of any technology for criminal purposes is of concern.

75. What is your government doing to make absolutely certain that violent criminals cannot get their hands on products like the FX20?

Answer:

The NSW Government is committed to upholding public safety when it comes to criminal offences related to the illegal possession, use, and manufacture of firearms and firearms parts.

Crime during Covid

76. We have been advised that crime in western Sydney has increased – petty crime, assault, robberies, break and enter. Do you have data on this?

77. Where has it increased?

Answer to Questions 76 to 77:

The NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) produces a quarterly and annual report series examining trends in crime reported to, or detected by the NSW Police Force. These reports are available online.

Hizb-ut-Tahrir

78. Have the police closed the case/investigations on Hizb ut-Tahrir rallies last year in Lakemba?

79. If yes, why have they closed them?

80. If not, what is the status of those investigations?

Answer to Questions 78 to 80:

The Hizb ut-Tahrir rallies in 2021 resulted in two separate investigations. One investigation has been completed. The NSWPF is awaiting advice from the Director of Public Prosecutions. The second investigation remains active.

The NSWPF does not comment on open investigations.

Jihadi terrorism

81. Are you aware of the case of accused ISIS member Joseph Saadieh, who was found by the AFP to have bomb-making screenshots on one of his devices?

Answer:

Yes

82. Was Saadieh released on bail despite police warning that they did not have the resources to monitor any accused people released with ankle bracelets?

Answer:

Questions about the operation of the *Bail Act 2013* (NSW) should be directed to the Attorney General.

83. Do you believe that there should be a presumption against bail for members of jihadi terrorist organisations?

Answer:

Questions about the operation of the *Bail Act 2013* (NSW) should be directed to the Attorney General.

84. Does the Saadieh case suggest that there ought to be more funding for monitoring of dangerous terrorists?

Answer:

The abovementioned matter is currently before the Court, and cannot be commented on.

Questions about the supervision and detention of high risk offenders under the *Terrorism (High Risk Offenders) Act 2017* should be directed to the Attorney General.

Both NSW and Commonwealth schemes require monitoring and compliance of offenders, as per the conditions imposed by the court. The NSW and Commonwealth Governments have funded government agencies in relation to their respective schemes.

85. A 34-year-old man in Caringbah was arrested in December for allegedly belonging to Islamic State and police said he was preparing a terrorist attack. Was he in the known entity management system prior to his arrest?

Answer:

Yes.

86. How many individuals are presently being tracked in tiers one, two, three, and four respectively?

(a) Could you give us a breakdown?

87. What is the total number of individuals being tracked as of today in the known entity management system, or any other terrorist tracking systems you may have?

Answer to Questions 86 and 87:

As at 17 May 2022, the NSWPF has 2,203 individuals in its known entity management system.

It is important to note that these numbers include people who are in custody or subject to post sentence supervision.

A breakdown of these tiers is as follows:

- Tier 1 (High Risk) = 17
- Tier 2 (Medium Risk) = 66
- Tier 3 (Low Risk) = 244
- Tier 4 (Very Low Risk) = 1,876

88. What are the proportions of people being tracked in terms of whether they are ideological or religious extremists?

(a) That is, what is the proportion of far-right extremists versus jihadi extremists, for instance?

Answer:

For Tiers 1 to 3 (excluding Tier 4) the breakdown is as follows:

- 41% Religious extremism
- 15% Ideological extremism
- 44% No recorded primary ideology (for example, mixed and/or unclear ideology and/or fixated or grievance-fuelled threat).

89. Are there any religious extremist organisations you would like to see the federal government list as terrorist groups?

Answer:

The NSW Police Force is comfortable with the current processes where the Commonwealth Government consults with intelligence agencies and jurisdictions, including law enforcements agencies.

90. Is the common database shared amongst state, territory, and federal government?

Answer:

There are well-established information sharing arrangements and systems in place between state, territory and federal law enforcement and intelligence services.

91. Has COVID had an impact on the threat assessment and the number of individuals being tracked?

Answer:

The Terrorism Intelligence Unit experienced an increase in assessments during COVID. This was in part due to the increase in threats to high office holders.

92. Are people being tracked in tiers three and four a potential threat?

Answer:

A person assessed at Tier three is considered a low risk, and a person assessed at Tier Four is considered a very low risk.

93. How do you decide what tier of threat in which to place a particular individual?

Answer:

A consistent assessment is applied to all individuals, initially and ongoing.

94. How can NSW residents be protected from people in tiers three and four given that they are not under any meaningful surveillance?

Answer:

The NSW Police Force is a well-resourced police force with a dedicated Counter Terrorism and Special Tactics Command, that works with partner agencies to ensure an integrated and coordinated approach to countering terrorism.

Right-wing terrorism

95. The Base was listed in December by the federal government as a terrorist group, the second right-wing extremist organisation to be designated as such in Australia after the Sonnenkrieg Division. Would you provide an update on the activities of these and similar right-wing extremist and/or white nationalist groups in NSW?

Answer:

Neither The Base nor Sonnenkrieg Division conduct real-world activity in NSW, nor have formal members. Instead, offshore groups such as these attract online supporters and online references. Other similar groups both have a global online profile but conduct negligible activity in NSW.

96. Have there been foiled attacks in NSW that you can reveal to the public?

Answer:

The NSW Joint Counter Terrorism Team conducts preventative investigation by proactively targeting terrorism suspects. A significant number of offenders have been charged with terrorism and other offences. However, the NSWPF is unable to state how many would have progressed to an attack if these individuals had not been arrested.

97. Has the threat of right-wing extremism grown during the pandemic?

Answer:

The principal terrorist threat in NSW comes from individuals who adhere to a violent Sunni based extremist ideology, but the threat from ideologically motivated violent extremism (IMVE), specifically nationalist and racist violent extremism, is increasing. The threat from IMVE remains relatively low.

98. What kind of online activity have right-wing extremists been undertaking during the pandemic?

Answer:

Nationalist and racist extremists have not drastically changed their online activity during the pandemic.

99. Are there any other ideological extremist groups you would like to see listed as terrorist organisations by the federal government?

Answer:

The NSWPF is comfortable with the current processes where the Commonwealth Government consults with intelligence agencies and jurisdictions, including law enforcements agencies.

100. Is there a particular right-wing extremist threat in rural and regional NSW that is not apparent in metropolitan areas?

Answer:

The nationalist and racist violent extremist threat exists in both regional and metropolitan areas of NSW.

101. Are you monitoring particular areas more closely than others?

Answer:

The NSWPF monitors violent extremist activity across the state.

102. There has been substantial anti-vaxx activity across the state, such as in Port Macquarie, Dubbo, Orange, and right outside parliament. Have the police been monitoring these extremists to determine whether they pose a terrorist threat?

Answer:

The NSWPF is aware of the anti-vaccination sentiment that has increased in response to COVID-19, but is not aware of any specific individuals or groups with a credible intent to conduct violence.

103. Have terrorists been involved in 3D-printing weaponry?

Answer:

The NSW Joint Counter Terrorism Team has only investigated one matter relating to 3D printer capability.

104. The Nazi flag was flown in Wagga Wagga and the Christchurch massacre terrorist came from Grafton. To what extent has the threat assessment from right-wing and white nationalist extremists escalated recently?

Answer:

The NSWPF continues to monitor individuals and groups that espouse a nationalist and racist ideology.

105. There was an individual with a Nazi flag in his bedroom arrested in September over plans to 3D-print a weapon.

- (a) Is he still in custody?
- (b) What is the status of his case?
- (c) Are current 3D-printing firearms laws sufficient to charge and convict such extremists?
- (d) Is 3D printing a particular concern in terms of right-wing extremists?

Answer:

(a) No.

(b) The individual entered a guilty plea on 5 October 2021, was sentenced on a two-year intensive Corrections Order.

(c) Yes.

(d) Yes.

106. There has been substantial anti-mandate activity in Port Macquarie. Have you been tracking potential violent right-wing extremist elements at such protests?

Answer:

Anti-mandate views are held by many parts of our community, including from various backgrounds, faiths, ages and ideological beliefs.

The NSWPF continues to monitor protest activity.

Report on Government Services 2022: sexual assault

107. What was the reported increase in sexual assault reports to March 2021?

Answer:

This information is publicly available on the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research website.

108. Of sexual assault investigations finalised in NSW in 2020, what proportion had proceedings begun against the offender?

Answer:

8,030 sexual assault incidents were reported in 2020. Of those, 1,136 sexual assault incidents resulted with a legal action in 2020.

(Please note that the NSW Police Force is unable to obtain figures related to "investigations" so instead, a count of incidents and incidents with legal action are used).

109. Victoria brought proceedings against the offender in 46.2% of sexual assault investigations finalised in 2020; Queensland brought proceedings against the offender in 60% of sexual assault investigations finalised in 2020; and Tasmania brought proceedings against the offender in 77% of sexual assault investigations finalised in 2020. How does NSW compare when it comes to prosecuting sex offenders?

Answer:

This information is included in the Productivity Commission's Report on Government Services.

Social media breaches

115. What are the broad outlines of the police force's social media policy?

Answer:

This information is available on the NSWPF website at www.police.nsw.gov.au.

116. Why is it important that officers comply with your code of conduct?

Answer:

The professional reputation of the NSWPF relies on the integrity and ethical conduct of every individual within the organisation.

117. How many police officers have been investigated since the beginning of 2019 for breaches of your social media policy?

Answer:

152 sworn officers have been investigated since 1 January 2019.

118. How many of these allegations were sustained?

Answer:

102 allegations were sustained (some officers had multiple allegations investigated).

119. How many officers resigned as a result of these investigations?

Answer:

The Professional Standards Command (PSC) of the NSWPF will only become aware of an officer's resignation in special circumstances (ie. when the employee is suspended or subject of an investigation for serious misconduct).

The PSC does not have access to resignations that are accepted by the officers' commander.

120. How many had to attend counselling?

Answer:

34 officers undertook counselling.

121. How many were suspended without pay?

Answer:

Seven officers were suspended without pay due to the serious nature of the incident which involved other allegations, including breach of the social media policy.

122. How many were restricted from duties?

Answer:

Nine officers were restricted from duty.

123. How many received official warnings?

Answer:

22 officers received a Commander's warning notice and seven officers received a Region Commander's warning notice.

124. What consequences took place against the rest of the officers against whom allegations were found to have been sustained?

Answer:

Advice and Guidance =	17 officers
Conduct Management Plan =	one officer
Mentoring Action =	three officers
Training and Development =	two officers

Sod turnings

125. Premier Perrottet turned the first sod at Bega's new \$16 million police station, which we have been hearing about for some years now. When will it start operating?

Answer:

This is addressed in the response to Questions Taken on Notice.

126. What has happened in the period since the first sod was turned at Bega?

Answer:

This is addressed in the response to Questions Taken on Notice.

127. You turned the first sod on Goulburn Police station, to be built at the Police Academy. When will it start operating?

Answer:

This is addressed in the response to Questions Taken on Notice.

128. What is your response to concerns that your promise to build the Singleton Police Station is not being fulfilled and that you have allocated funds to it but it is so low down the list of priorities that it won't get built within the two year deadline?

Answer:

The funding prioritisation for 2021/22 financial year for the redevelopment of Singleton Police Station has enabled preliminary consultation with the Command and commencement of feasibility review of the existing site.

129. In the same visit as the Bega sod-turning, the first sod was turned on the new \$10 million police station in Jindabyne. When will that police station start operating?

Answer:

This is addressed in the response to Questions Taken on Notice.

130. The NSW Nationals in 2007 and again in 2019 promised a 24/7 police station in Murwillumbah with an additional 15 officers. When will this promise be fulfilled?

Answer:

All police stations attached to Police Districts (PDs) and Police Area Commands (PACs) are flexible resources available to respond to incidents across PDs/PACs.

All local resources are also supplemented by specialist police (highway patrol, major crime squads, covert resources and the like), who are managed centrally but can be deployed across boundaries to meet the changing community needs and respond to changing crime patterns and emerging issues.

The Tweed/Byron Police District utilises all of its current staffing to maintain a policing response across all sectors of the District, including Murwillumbah. It should be noted that the Murwillumbah sector, as with all parts of the District, has a 24-hour response available to the public.

As part of the additional 1,500 Police Officers allocations, Tweed/Byron PD has been allocated nine additional Authorised Police Positions to date.

131. How much did the new police station at Gunnedah cost?

Answer:

Approximately \$7.7 million.

132. Does the police station at Gunnedah have capabilities for 24-hour policing?

Answer:

Gunnedah Police Station has the capacity to accommodate additional police resources and to operate as a 24-hour Police Station.

133. Are police stationed at Gunnedah 24 hours per day?

(a) If not, why not?

Answer:

Gunnedah has a 24-hour policing response consisting of 19-20 hours rostered coverage, as well as receiving support from other Commands within the NSWPF.

All police stations attached to PDs and PACs are flexible resources available to respond to incidents across PDs/PACs.

All local resources are also supplemented by specialist police (highway patrol, major crime squads, covert resources and the like), who are managed centrally but can be deployed across boundaries to meet the changing community needs and respond to changing crime patterns and emerging issues.

134. Have you received a letter from Gunnedah mayor Jamie Chaffey saying that crime trends backed up the need for 24 hour policing at Gunnedah?

Answer:

Yes.

135. Will you promise that Gunnedah police station will be staffed 24 hours per day before the next election?

Answer:

Refer to Answers to Question 133.

Guns

136. In Operation Hawk, how many firearms were seized?

Answer:

84.

137. What is the trend in terms of illegal firearms held by gangs?

138. Is it on the increase or on the decline?

Answer to Question 137 and 138:

It is not possible to know how many illegal firearms are held in the community or by criminal gangs. However, Strike Force Hawk has seized 84 firearms and 3,396 ammunitions, whilst Strike Force Erebus has seized four firearms to date.

139. Hesham Naaman lost his son Mustafa last year in what was widely regarded as a case of mistaken identity – the killers were likely trying to kill Ibrahem Hamze, a high-profile member of the notorious Hamzy clan. Mr Naaman has called for anybody caught with a gun to receive a mandatory jail sentence. How do you respond to his call?

Answer:

Questions about mandatory custodial sentencing under the *Crimes (Sentencing Procedure) Act 1999* should be directed to the Attorney General.

140. Should bail be granted to people who have been convicted of firearms crimes?

Answer:

Questions about the *Bail Act 2013* should be directed to the Attorney General.

141. Will the government commit to toughening gun laws in NSW?

Answer:

The Government is committed to upholding and improving public safety by maintaining strict controls on the possession and use of firearms, and promoting the safe and responsible storage and use of firearms.

142. What is the status of the Firearms and Weapons Legislation Amendment (Criminal Use) Bill 2020?

Answer:

The Bill's second reading debate is currently adjourned. The Bill was referred to Portfolio Committee No. 5 - Legal Affairs in March 2020 to conduct an inquiry into its provisions.

The Portfolio Committee published its report and recommendations in April 2021.

Stakeholder feedback and the Committee report are being taken seriously. As such, a high level of diligence and care is being undertaken to ensure that any amendments to the Bill are appropriate.

143. When was that legislation introduced?

Answer:

The Bill was introduced in the Legislative Assembly on 26 February 2020.

144. Why has the legislation seemingly stalled?

Answer:

See Answer to Question 142.

145. There are substantial holes in the legislative framework relating to the manufacture of firearms, including 3D-printed weapons parts, that that legislation sought to address. What is going to happen with that legislation?

Answer:

See Answer to Questions 61, 62, and 142.

146. Is there some other legislation the government is preparing to address the matter that that bill sought to address?

Answer:

See Answer to Question 142.

147. What are the advantages to criminals of electromagnetic guns?

Answer:

Electromagnetic guns are capable of discharging a wide variety of projectiles (not traditional ammunition) by electromagnetic charge and do not have unique identifiers. The projectiles could be manufactured (by 3D printers) and there would be no gun powder residue on the offender after a shooting.

148. What is the NSW government's position on magnetic weapons?

149. The Morrison government has banned the importation of these magnetic weapons. Will you move to ban their possession, sale, and so forth in NSW?

Answer: To Questions 148 and 149.

The NSW Government is committed to upholding the public safety interest by ensuring that firearms and prohibited weapons can only be possessed by those who are authorised to do so.

Just like with any new firearm or weapon that may present a danger to the public, the NSW Government will consider whether appropriate restrictions are required for the possession, use, and transfer of electromagnetic weapons in NSW.

150. How many guns were stolen between 2007 and 2017?

Answer:

See [TAB B – Stolen Firearms statistics between 2007 and 2017](#)

151. How many murders took place between 2007 and 2017 using stolen firearms?

Answer:

It is not possible to ascertain if a firearm used in a murder was stolen, unless the firearm is located and examined.

152. Is your government concerned about weapons theft and the use of stolen weapons in the commission of crimes?

Answer :

Refer to response to Question 141.

153. What is your government doing to reverse this trend?

Answer:

Refer to response to Question 141.

Drug law reform

154. Why has your government still not responded to the more than 100 recommendations handed down by the Ice Inquiry two years ago?

155. Is your government waiting until after the next election to make decisions that might leave you exposed to accusations of being soft on drugs?

Ice inquiry

156. In November last year in answering questions asked during the Estimates process, Minister Hazzard advised that the “government was committed to developing a meaningful and substantial response to the Inquiry’s final report.” When can the public expect to see this response?

157. Why has the government not responded in the more than two years since Commissioner Professor Dan Howard handed down his report?

158. Why is there still no Drug and Alcohol strategy for the state?

Answer:

Questions 154 to 158 should be redirected to the Attorney General for response.

Drug driving

159. How many motorists were charged for drug driving in 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21, and in the first six months of 2021-22? Please provide a breakdown by police area region, command and district.

Answer:

See [TAB C – Drug Driving Charges statistics by Region and PAC/PD](#)

Elder abuse

160. Does your government regard preventing elder abuse as a priority?

Answer:

Tackling and curtailing all forms of crime are taken seriously by the NSW Government.

161. Did your government promise in 2018 that every police command would receive a specialist elder abuse prevention officer?

Answer:

In 2018, the NSW Government announced the roll-out of Aged Crime Prevention Officers .

162. Has each and every police command received a specialist elder abuse prevention officer?

Answer:

The roll-out continues.

163. Out of the 56 police commands in NSW, how many currently have specialist elder abuse prevention officers?

Answer:

To date, 12 Aged Crime Prevention Officers (ACPOs) positions have been established across the State. All police officers are trained to respond to and investigate all forms of alleged crimes.

164. When will the remaining police commands receive their specialist elder abuse prevention officers?

Answer:

The roll-out continues.

Flood scams

165. How many people have been charged with perpetrating fake charity and insurance schemes in the wake of the floods?

Answer:

No charges have been laid to date.

166. How will the government prevent such scams being perpetrated against innocent NSW residents in future?

Answer:

NSW Police work with a range of government agencies, such as Service NSW, while regularly providing public alerts of potential scams.

Police commissioner's former media adviser

167. How long was Grant Williams employed as executive director of the Public Affairs Branch of the NSW Police Force?

Answer:

Three years and 10 months.

168. Why did Grant Williams leave his position as executive director of the Public Affairs Branch of the NSW Police Force?

Answer:

Terminated under section 40(2) of the *Police Act 1990* (NSW).

169. What was the total departure package paid to Mr Williams?

Answer:

An Executive's total remuneration package is personal and private information (unless required for the purposes of public reporting under the Annual Report requirement).

Goulburn Police Academy

170. Does the NSW police force have a contract with Charles Sturt University to provide higher education studies for NSW Police recruits?

Answer:

Yes.

171. Has Charles Sturt University breached any conditions of that contract?

Answer:

No.

172. How many breaches have there been?

Answer:

I refer you to the answer to Question 171.

173. Does the contract include grounds for termination?

Answer:

Yes.

174. What are the requirements for the delivery of classes at the academy?

Answer:

Charles Sturt University (CSU) is required to make available sufficient positions in the Associate Degree in Policing Practice (ADPP) to meet the resourcing needs of NSWPF. Advanced notice in writing is provided by the NSWPF to CSU documenting this requirement.

175. What percentage must be delivered by Charles Sturt, and what percentage by the NSW Police Force?

Answer:

The Academic components of the ADPP should be delivered at a rate of 50% by NSW Police Force and 50% by CSU.

176. What percentage of classes has Charles Sturt been delivering?

Answer:

Under a well-established contractual framework between NSWPF and CSU to deliver the ADPP, there is sufficient flexibility to ensure suitable resourcing to meet the program needs.

177. What is the financial penalty for Charles Sturt failing to deliver their contracted percentage of classes?

Answer:

Should CSU not collaboratively deliver the academic components of the ADPP, they would be in breach of contract. However, this has not occurred.

178. Has a formal "Improvement Notice" been issued to Charles Sturt from Work Safe NSW regarding psychological injuries to staff in the Academy work space?

Answer:

The NSWPF has not been issued with an Improvement Notice from SafeWork NSW for the School of Policing Studies.

If an Improvement Notice has been issued on a third party, it is a matter for that party to confirm or publicise any such notice. This information is otherwise not made publicly available by SafeWork NSW.

179. Are there tertiary courses that must be completed before applying for the NSW Police Force?

- (a) What is the name of this course/these courses?
- (b) How much is the current cost of this course/these courses?
- (c) Which universities offer this course/these courses?
- (d) Is the requirement to take this course/these courses one of the reasons for the reduction in applications to join the NSW Police Force?
- (e) Are you considering abolishing the requirement to take this course/these courses as part of police recruitment?

Answer:

(a) University Certificate in Workforce Essentials (UCWE).

(b) \$1,728 in 2022.

(c) CSU.

(d) No.

(e) The NSWPF is actively reviewing recruitment strategies to compete with other employers/Australian Police Forces to attract suitable applicants from a limited human resources talent pool.

Police numbers and staffing

180. Your government promised an additional 1,500 police officers. Minister Toole told Estimates that around 650 must be rolled out by the next election in order to meet that election commitment. When exactly will these police officers be delivered by?

Answer:

It is important to distinguish between positions and people who occupy those positions.

The NSWPF recruits to an authorised number of positions. Once a position becomes available, the organisation can then recruit officers to fill them.

The last 550 remaining positions of the 1,500 new positions will be activated in July 2022.

It is anticipated that positions will be progressively allocated to commands and filled throughout the 2022/23 financial year.

Teenage stabbings

181. How many persons of interest last year aged 10-17 were there involved in knife attacks across NSW in 2021? By age group?

182. How many children aged 10-17 were victims of non-domestic assaults using a knife, screwdriver, or scissors in 2021? By age group?

Answer to Question 181 and 182:

See [TAB D – Statistics on knife attacks involving young people](#).

183. How many teenagers (age 10 to 17) were charged for stabbing attacks in NSW in 2021? By age group?

184. How many teenagers (age 10 to 17) were charged for stabbing attacks in NSW in 2020? By age group?

185. How many teenagers (age 10 to 17) were charged for stabbing attacks in NSW in 2019? By age group?

186. How many teenagers (age 10 to 17) were charged for stabbing attacks in NSW in 2018? By age group?

187. How many teenagers (age 10 to 17) were charged for stabbing attacks in NSW in 2017? By age group?

188. How many teenagers (age 10 to 17) were charged for stabbing attacks in NSW in 2016? By age group?

Answer to Question 183 to Question 188:

See [TAB E – Statistics on stabbing attacks involving young people](#).

Audit Office of NSW's report into Police Responses to Domestic Violence

189. The report found that there is no monitoring of training or skills levels for domestic violence policing across the NSW Police Force. What evidence does the NSW Government have that the NSWPF workforce has the required skills and knowledge necessary to effectively police domestic violence incidents, particularly given that domestic violence survivors have often experienced trauma?

Answer:

All NSW Police Force employees have access to a Domestic Violence (DV) Fundamentals course, which is comprised of online modules, face to face and assessment components. Progress and completion are monitored through the NSWPF Police Education and Training Environment (PETE) system and completion recorded in SAP profiles.

A Constable Development Program, which will commence in June 2022, will require Constables participating in the program to undertake DV Fundamentals and Domestic Violence Evidence in Chief (DVEC).

The 2020-21 training year contained mandatory training on DV and firearms for all sworn officers.

190. Has the NSW Government investigated the possibility of establishing standalone domestic and family commands, similar to those in Victoria and Queensland?

Answer:

The NSWPF has accepted Recommendations 1 and 2 of the Audit Report NSW, both of which relate to exploring, understanding and resourcing in response to the demands of domestic and family violence.

191. Will the NSW Government commit to immediately commencing work on the domestic and family violence component of the Integrated Policing Operational System (IPOS)?

Answer:

DV related matters are currently associated to events within the NSWPF Computer Operational Policing System (COPS).

IPOS is funded and due to commence work on the COPS related replacement in Phase 2 of the program. Currently, Phase 2 is due to commence late 2022 or early 2023, with IPOS Phase 2 *Go Live* for Investigations and Event Management or Record Management currently scheduled in June 2025

192. How will the NSW Government improve its collaboration with stakeholders working in the domestic violence and sexual assault fields to ensure that the NSW Police Force gets the feedback it needs about survivor experience and improve domestic and sexual violence responses?

Answer:

The NSWPF has accepted the recommendation from the Audit Office of NSW on working collaboratively with stakeholders. The NSWPF is committed to further strengthen the receiving and utilisation of victim feedback.

For example, the NSWPF holds quarterly stakeholder meetings involving the Corporate Sponsor, Domestic and Family Violence (DFV), the Corporate DFV team and representatives from government and non-government agencies.

These meetings provide the opportunity for the NSWPF to hear from the field (and the voice of the victim/survivor) as to opportunities to enhance and strengthen responses to victims. They also provide the opportunity for the organisation to provide information regarding policies, procedures, changes to processes and training.

Representatives from Wirringa Baiya Aboriginal Women's Legal Centre and Women's Legal Service are also invited to attend the quarterly stakeholders meeting.

A representative from the NSWPF's Aboriginal Coordination Team also spoke about the role of the Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer (ACLOs), the Aboriginal Strategic Direction and the importance of community and partnerships to support victims of DFV.

Participants were offered insights into a police response to DFV, with a seven member panel talking through each stage of a DFV response and the role of each officer.

193. How will the Police Force improve its interactions with survivors of domestic violence who identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander?

Answer:

See Answer to Question 192.

194. What training do all police officers undergo to inform the way in which they interact with domestic violence survivors and perpetrators?

- (a) Does this include specialist training in liaising with people who identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander?
- (b) Is training available for and provided to police officers at all stages in their career?
- (c) Are refresher courses available to all officers?
 - i. If so, are they mandatory?

Answer:

Training in relation to DV interactions commences at the NSWPF Academy within the Associate Degree in Policing Practice (ADPP) and is built upon as an officer progresses throughout their career.

Training includes:

- (a) The DV Fundamentals and DV Officers courses, which include information and references to resources as well as training specifically for when liaising with people who identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders; and
- (b) Training courses and learning tools are available and provided to all NSW Police Force sworn officers relating to DV at all stages in their careers. The Constable Development Program, commencing in June 2022 will also require newly attested Constables to complete the DV Fundamentals and DVEC courses.

These courses provide information on and make extensive references to interactions with DV survivors and perpetrators. Additionally, various mandatory and optional Mandatory Continuing Police Education packages, Six Minute Intensive Training (SMITs), and MicroLearn modules provide relevant training on these interactions.

MicroLearn offer small, bite-sized pieces of information at a moment's notice and are available to all staff any time.

SMITs sessions refer to short refresher training delivered by way of a discussion of scenarios at the beginning of shifts at PAC/PDs. SMITs are available to staff at any time.

- (c) Yes. Relevant MicroLearns and SMITs are available to all NSWPF personnel. The DV Fundamentals course online components are available to all officers 24/7 and once completed, can be used as an ongoing guide to refresh their knowledge.
 - (i) The courses are not mandatory. However, the 2020-21 MCPE DV & Firearms would have been mandatory for all sworn officers to complete. The DV Fundamentals course is mandatory to complete prior to enrolling in some of the specialist DV courses.

195. Domestic violence service providers have indicated their support for co-location/responder models to improve domestic violence incident responses. Are there any co-location models currently in place?
- (a) If so, where are they?
 - i. Are there plans to expand this model to other areas of the State?
 - (b) If not, why haven't the pilots which were to originally commence in five locations across NSW last May-June 2021, and were pushed back to 1 April 2022, begun?

Answer:

No. Project has been paused as funding for caseworkers (Legal Aid) has not been received from the Commonwealth.

196. Do all NSW police officers receive mandatory, regular, trauma and gendered-violence-informed training?
- (a) Is this training delivered by sexual assault and Domestic Violence experts including people who have experienced sexual and/or domestic violence?

Answer:

Training is not mandatory at this stage, with the exception of the 2020-21 Mandatory Continuing Police Education (MCPE) for DV and Firearms.

An Adult Sexual Violence course is being developed, which will be required to be completed for all training Detectives and will be available for all current NSWPF Detectives. The proposed Adult Sexual Violence course will consider inclusion of trauma and gendered-violence-informed training, and victim centric based training.

A working group is currently considering additional content (including transformational change as to sexual violence) and an intention for mandatory training across NSW.

An approved MCPE package on victims is being developed and will be included for delivery to NSW Police Force staff for the 2022-23 training year. This package will be a combination of online and face to face.

The Constable Development Program, commencing in June 2022 includes a requirement for participants to undertake the DV Fundamentals, DVEC and victims support training. This will be delivered by relevant experts and trained educators, and may include persons who have experienced sexual and domestic violence.

197. Is there a review underway into the effectiveness of the Domestic Violence Safety Assessment Tool (DVSAT)?
- (a) If so, when will the review be finalised?

(b) If so, who has been consulted as part of the review?

Answer:

Yes. The review commenced in 2020 with the NSWPF undertaking a detailed scoping activity to determine the following:

- Appropriate human resource skill and capability to design and develop a risk assessment tool;
- Availability and accessibility of quality data to assist in analysis of the indicators to inform the tool and the accuracy of the indicators in predicting repeat victimisation;
- Capability of the information systems to capture, extract, compute and forward report the analysis of data against the requisite indicators; and
- In February 2022, BOCSAR published its report outlining the development of a risk assessment tool that could be easily administered by frontline officers. The NSWPF is undertaking a trial of the BOCSAR tool. A working group with stakeholders, including Legal Aid and BOCSAR has been established. The trial will be a retrospective data analysis of a 12-month window of data to ascertain the effectiveness of the proposed BOCSAR model. The analysis will likely take three months upon the window of data being obtained.

198. The report states that the 'personnel dedicated to domestic and family violence policy do not reflect the volume or complexity of domestic and family violence work across New South Wales.' Does the current policy team of six have the capacity to oversee this significant area of demand?

(a) Does the NSW Government plan to increase the number of people dedicated to domestic violence policy?

(b) If so, where will they be located?

- i. How will their efforts be allocated to communities that have high Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations; are Culturally and Linguistically Diverse; and/or are rural and remote?

Answer:

The NSWPF has accepted all recommendations arising from the Audit Office of NSW report. It is acknowledged the work of the DFV Policy team is significant with the team providing strategic, operational and legal support across the NSW Police Force.

The response to the recommendation of the Audit Office report will consider the structure, function, resourcing and location of this team to meet the needs of the organisation.

199. There are no formal reporting relationships between the centralised Domestic and Family Violence Policy Team and domestic violence specialist personnel in local commands. What are the processes for the NSW Government to ensure centralised policy advice is reaching all 57 local commands?

Answer:

While there are no formal reporting relationships between the DFV Policy Team and local command DFV specialist personnel there are a number of mechanisms and pathways that are used to enable two-way information sharing.

These include:

- Region Domestic and Family Violence Coordinators (RDVC) meetings, which every six weeks. The DFV Policy Team attend these meetings and provide updates on changes to policy, procedure, projects, systems etc. These meetings also provide an opportunity for the RDVC to share insights and issues from their region and commands, which then informs the ongoing work of the DFV Policy team;
- DV Sergeant Meetings - across the metropolitan regions, the RDVCs facilitate quarterly DV Sergeant meetings. A representative from the DFV Policy team attends these meetings and at these forums, and provides and receives information directly from the specialist officers;
- Muddles - email muddles are used to communicate directly with the DV teams in the Commands. These provide a direct route to the specialist officers with changes to legislation, policy, procedure, stats, reports etc shared through this medium;
- DV reps- there is a group of DV representatives that are the contact point for specific consultation or policy/procedural advice where a proposed change would have a particular impact on the field. These representatives are specialist workers and represent metropolitan, regional and rural policing needs;
- There are also a range of IT methods engaged, such as screensavers, DV Insights, Nemesis messages, Memorandums from the Corporate Sponsor to Region Commanders and posters; and
- Liaison with Prosecutions Command, which occurs directly from the DFV Team Legal Advisor where information is both provided and feedback received. More recently, a monthly meeting has been established between the Corporate DFV team and Prosecution Command DFV portfolio holders to share information, discuss changes and consider options for improving processes for officers.

200. Why are system enhancements such as the Integrated Policing Operational System (IPOS) Domestic Violence framework scheduled for release in 2025?

(a) Can this timeline be moved forward?

i. If not, why not?

Answer:

See Answer to Question 191.

No, the timeline cannot be moved forward.

The IPOS program has, as part of its scope the replacement of legacy systems not just 'systems enhancements'. The enhancements are being delivered over three separate phases.

201. Has the Professional Standards Command made recommendations to the NSW Police Force regarding updating investigation processes to mitigate concerns about conflicts of interest when the alleged offender in a domestic violence incidence is a current or former serving police officer?

(a) If so, what are they?

i. When will they be implemented?

(b) If not, when is this expected to occur?

i. What steps are being taken in the meantime to ensure complaints are being properly and independently investigated?

202. What stakeholders were consulted as part of this process?

Answer to Question 201 and 202:

The NSWPF PSC utilises Misconduct Matter Allocation Risk Appraisal (MARA) Guidelines, which assists with making a determination if a misconduct matter should be managed locally or transferred to another command.

The completion of a MARA A form is mandatory for all Complaint Management Team (CMT) managed investigations, and addresses potential conflicts of interest of the CMT members and evaluation of command/investigation resources.

The MARA B form allows for the investigator to declare any conflicts of interest in investigating the matter.

With regards to the consideration of “conflict of interests”, the NSWPF has guidelines in place that assist with determining who should be responsible for investigating allegations of misconduct and specifically whether such investigations need to be reallocated.

The NSWPF acknowledges the complexity of DFV and the ways in which victims seek assistance from police. It is recognised that this is compounded for victims who are employed by the organisation or where the offender is an employee. As such, the NSWPF has been undertaking a review of the investigation process.

This has been assisted and informed by advice and feedback received from key stakeholders, particularly those who work directly with victims.

Liddell Power Station Closure

203. What are the Government’s estimates regarding how many direct jobs will be affected by the closure of the Liddell power station in 2023?
204. What are the Government’s estimates regarding how many indirect jobs will be affected by the closure of Liddell power station in 2023, including contractors, associated coal mines and businesses across the supply chain?
205. What are the government’s estimates regarding the difference in pay and conditions between the current jobs at Liddell power station and the new jobs forecast to be created on renewable projects?
 - a. What work has been undertaken to understand the impact of these differences across the regional economy?
 - b. What steps will the government take to ensure that new jobs created within Renewable Energy Zones are secure and well paid?

Ering Power Station Closure

206. What are the Government’s estimates regarding how many direct jobs will be affected by the closure of the Eraring power station in 2025?
207. What are the Government’s estimates regarding how many indirect jobs will be affected by the closure of the Eraring power station in 2025, including contractors, associated coal mines and businesses across the supply chain?
208. What are the government’s estimates regarding the difference in pay and conditions between the current jobs at Eraring power station and the new jobs forecast to be created on renewable projects?

- a. What work has been undertaken to understand the impact of these differences across the regional economy?
- b. What steps will the government take to ensure that these new jobs created within Renewable Energy Zones are secure and well paid?

Questions 203 to 208 should be redirected to the Treasurer and Minister for Energy as the responsible Minister.

209. Does Minister Toole agree with Federal Energy Minister Angus Taylor that the proposed plan to install a 700 megawatt battery to replace the Eraring Power Station is “delusional”?

Any commentary on this matter is on the public record.

Bayswater Power Station

210. How many more jobs will be affected if the closure of the Bayswater power station is brought forward again to 2030, as proposed by the Brookfield bid for AGL?

Question 210 should be redirected to the Treasurer and Minister for Energy as the responsible Minister.

Managing Power Station Closures

211. Will the Government commit to establishing a Hunter Valley Authority, similar to the Victorian Government’s Latrobe Valley Authority, to manage the impact on jobs of early closures of power stations and associated coal mines?

The NSW Government has legislated for the creation of the Royalties for Rejuvenation Fund which will support mining communities to diversify towards other employment opportunities as our domestic reliance on thermal coal declines over time.

212. Will the Government explore the creation of a job transfer scheme to facilitate movement of workers into jobs at remaining power stations?
213. What steps will the NSW Government take to prioritise workers displaced from the early closure of power stations for jobs on projects or in enterprises that receive public funding or NSW Government support?

Answer to 212 and 213

The NSW Government is supporting companies to undertake workforce transition planning aligned with the planned closure of power stations.

As part of the Eraring closure announcement (<https://www.energy.nsw.gov.au/nsw-response-to-closure-of-eraring-power-station>).

- The NSW Government is focused on ensuring the economic impacts of any decision to close coal-fired power stations are understood and appropriate measures are in place to support affected communities and workers.
- For example, as part of the NSW Government's response to Origin's announcement, the Government announced a comprehensive plan to support up to 3700 jobs in future industries that includes an estimated:
 - 500 extra jobs from a \$250 million Renewable Manufacturing Fund for initiatives to boost locally manufactured content for the renewable energy sector such as wind towers, electrolysers and batteries.
 - 500 extra jobs from a \$300 million investment over 10 years to expand the New Low Carbon Industry Foundations element of the Net Zero Industry and Innovation Program.
 - 2700 direct construction jobs associated with the Transmission Acceleration Facility to fast track the delivery of critical transmission infrastructure under the Electricity Infrastructure Roadmap.

NSW Strategic Statement on Coal Exploration and Mining

214. What was the advice provided to former Deputy Premier John Barilaro from the Advisory Body for Strategic Release, regarding how to remove the Hawkins-Rumker, Ganguddy-Kelgoola, and Wollembi coal exploration areas, from the map of areas in NSW coal regions available and excluded from future coal exploration and mining?

Advice from the Advisory Body for Strategic Release is published on the Department's website.

Greenfield Coal Mine Development

215. Do you agree with the following statement made by former Deputy Premier John Barilaro during his valedictory speech on 24 November 2021:

“The reality is that no-one is going to start a coalmine in this state because it will not be approved for seven to 10 years—and by then the world will have moved on. Our policy should reflect that...”

As set out in the Strategic Statement on Coal Exploration and Mining in NSW, the NSW Government is adopting a responsible approach to the future of coal mining in NSW. This includes ruling out some of the State's coal regions for proactive release for exploration. This approach strikes a balance between supporting responsible coal exploration in areas suitable for mining, while recognising the need to support and diversify the economies of coal-reliant communities.

Hawkins-Rumker Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment

216. How much did the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment spend on consultant reports relating to the Hawkins-Rumker coal exploration area?

Question 216 should be directed to the Minister for Planning and Minister for Homes.

Advisory Body for Strategic Release

217. Why did the previous Chair of the Advisory Body for Strategic Release leave the position?

The term of the former Chair expired on 2 February 2022.

218. Has a new Chair of the Advisory Body for Strategic Release been appointed?

Yes

219. If so, who is it?

Hugh Armenis

Mine Safety Technology Centre Closure

220. Are you aware of the Deloitte review into the Mine Safety Technology Centre dated 26 November 2018?

Yes

221. Do you know how much that report cost to produce?

\$78,389.00

222. The Report states that the MSTC was exposed to perceived and actual conflicts of interests due to the fact that it was providing commercial services to the industry while also assisting the regulator to set requirements for industry. The report was completed in 2018. What was the Government's response to the report?

After receiving the Deloitte report, the Department took deliberate steps to operationally separate the MSTC from the Resources Regulator, including adjusting reporting lines to manage this conflict. Upon review, the Department assessed that these steps did not fully address the key issues raised by the review, hence the more recent options assessment and decision to close the MSTC.

223. What action was undertaken to mitigate those perceived and actual conflicts of interest?

Ultimately the action taken to mitigate the perceived and actual conflicts of interest was to close the MSTC, with services transitioned to other organisations to ensure continuity to industry.

224. What was the cost of Ernst & Young's engagement to undertake a further review?

\$426,309.

225. Can you confirm that Coal Services will perform all of the safety and technical testing that was previously completed by MSTC?

Following the MSTC's closure on 8 April 2022, key testing services previously offered by MSTC are now offered to industry by a combination of Coal Services Pty and TestSafe Australia (part of the Department of Customer Service). Several of the testing services provided by the MSTC were already provided by other commercial market participants prior to the closure and these offerings to market continue.

DEPUTY PREMIER, REGIONAL NEW SOUTH WALES, POLICE

Questions from The Hon. Robert Borsak MLC

NSW Firearms Registry – Internal Reviews

226. On what date will the applications for Internal Review by the following persons be undertaken and completed?

- i. Gould, S
- ii. Fitch, J
- iii. Stever, B
- iv. Taggart, A
- v. Richardson, T
- vi. Hockey, B
- vii. Regent, KA
- viii. Botros, B
- ix. El-Khoury, M
- x. Moy, M
- xi. Lloyd, G
- xii. Southall, L,
- xiii. Law, ZC
- xiv. Manos, C
- xv. Steinfeldt, T
- xvi. Hallowell, C
- xvii. Dykes, JP
- xviii. Alsaddik, R
- xix. McCulla, A
- xx. Kennedy, SD
- xxi. Mantzouranis, A
- xxii. Boujaoude, EF
- xxiii. Sawicki, LD
- xxiv. Arnold, D
- xxv. Finch, TR
- xxvi. Rhodes, PL
- xxvii. Morn, S
- xxviii. Rooke, M
- xxix. Khan, KA
- xxx. Keys, P

Answer:

Since the creation of the Firearms Registry Service Delivery, Review and Advisory Unit, there continues to be progress in the clearing of historical internal review applications.

Based on the current strategy to clear historical workloads which resulted in an increase in the number of internal review (IR) applications received, the abovementioned applications should be reviewed in the coming months.

See **TAB F for a list of the anticipated review dates for outstanding IR applications.**

Anticipated review dates are calculated based on the current volume of applications received and processed to date, including applications prioritised due to business requirement.

Whilst progress was impacted as a result of the recent weather events, the Registry is on track to clear all internal review backlogs by the end of 2022.

Withholding evidence at NCAT

227. In proceedings involving firearm matters before the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal (NCAT) where the Commissioner of Police was the respondent:

- (a) How times did the Commissioner apply for an order under section 64(1)(d) of the Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 2013 in calendar years 2020, 2021 and 2022 (to 30 March)?
 - i. How many applications were granted?
 - ii. How many applications were declined?

- (b) How many times did the Commissioner apply for an order under section 59 of the Administrative Decisions Review Act 1997 in calendar years 2020, 2021 and 2022 (to 30 March)?
 - i. How many applications were granted?
 - ii. How many applications were declined?

Answer:

The NSWPF does not currently record the number of s59 or s64 applications and subsequent outcomes.

DEPUTY PREMIER, REGIONAL NEW SOUTH WALES, POLICE

Questions from Ms Abigail Boyd MLC

Reasons for withdrawing or discontinuing claims of sexual assault

228. NSW is the only jurisdiction in Australia not to be able to produce data on why sexual assault claims are withdrawn or discontinued. It is understood that the new IPOS system will allow this data to be produced, but that it will be a number of years before that capability is implemented.

- (a) What is the expected date of such data being made routinely available?
- (b) How will the NSW Police Force capture data in the meantime?
- (c) What is being done to ensure that data on withdrawal or discontinuation of sexual assault claims prior to the new IPOS system being functional will be available for data analysis and comparison with data under the IPOS system?
- (d) Why has this capability of the IPOS system not been prioritised and fast-tracked?

Answer:

- (a) From an IPOS perspective, the data could be available after *Go Live* for Phase 2 of the program.
- (b) The data is captured within the NSWPF COPS. However, there are limitations on the retrievability of information from the free text field to allow for bulk data analysis.
- (c) The NSWPF has implemented Web COPS enhancements to align legislative changes and offences under the Sexual Violence Framework. The NSWPF is committed to pursuing potential changes and enhancements to improve information collection and management in relation to sexual violence. The NSWPF is currently progressing several initiatives to improve qualitative and quantitative information, including the ability to record outcomes in both child and adult sexual assault cases.
- (d) The DV capability of the IPOS System prioritisation is based on a range of factors such as funding model, technology interdependencies (investigation and event management), contractual and commercial.

NSWPF Calls For Service

Financial Year	Priority (final)	#CAD Incidents
2017-18	P1	49
	P2	141642
	P3	1440936
	P4	292708
	P5	81953
	TOTAL	1926194
2018-19	P1	53
	P2	149115
	P3	1459808
	P4	303238
	P5	92681
	TOTAL	1971913
2019-20	P1	45
	P2	163172
	P3	1505072
	P4	308839
	P5	114547
	TOTAL	2057138
2020-21	P1	45
	P2	173844
	P3	1482279
	P4	303084
	P5	133436
	TOTAL	2056228
2021-22 (to 1 May 2022)	P1	98
	P2	145046
	P3	1300257
	P4	247981
	P5	79292
	TOTAL	1742812

Firearms Stolen* Between 2007-2017

Event Reported Year	Count of Firearms
2007	514
2008	439
2009	503
2010	533
2011	641
2012	685
2013	489
2014	659
2015	513
2016	742
2017	480

**Please Note that Firearms also refers to Gel Blasters, Paintball Guns and Airsoft Guns, as they come under the "Firearm" category in the data.*

Charges for Drug Driving* By Region and PAC/PD

Region	Command	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22 (July to December)
Central Metro	Eastern Beaches	190	190	139	55
Central Metro	Eastern Suburbs Pac	107	82	184	73
Central Metro	Inner West Pac	102	169	132	74
Central Metro	Kings Cross	34	56	105	54
Central Metro	Leichhardt	56	67	61	28
Central Metro	South Sydney Pac	391	309	379	139
Central Metro	St George Pac	261	239	233	106
Central Metro	Surry Hills	71	88	155	51
Central Metro	Sutherland Shire Pac	278	187	152	92
Central Metro	Sydney City Pac	52	93	144	41
North West Metro	Blacktown	42	30	55	32
North West Metro	Blue Mountains	15	16	35	19
North West Metro	Hawkesbury	72	90	144	112
North West Metro	Kuring Gai	84	103	121	81
North West Metro	Mt Druitt	77	58	165	67
North West Metro	Nepean Pac	152	66	94	36
North West Metro	North Shore Pac	39	17	23	12
North West Metro	Northern Beaches Pac	49	32	59	25
North West Metro	Parramatta	18	22	72	62
North West Metro	Riverstone Pac	32	34	68	20
North West Metro	Ryde Pac	8	11	25	25
North West Metro	The Hills	45	45	41	26
Northern	Brisbane Water	239	96	104	65
Northern	Coffs/Clarence	303	246	199	84
Northern	Hunter Valley Pd	192	134	268	103
Northern	Lake Macquarie	115	106	264	132
Northern	Manning/Great Lakes	131	115	183	104
Northern	Mid North Coast	239	223	324	224
Northern	Newcastle City	75	60	124	18
Northern	Port Stephens-Hunter Pd	208	115	277	89
Northern	Richmond	328	216	188	151
Northern	Tuggerah Lakes	194	86	116	63
Northern	Tweed/Byron	191	106	85	27

Police Transport & Public Safety	Pt&Ps Marine Area Command	1	0	0	0
South West Metro	Auburn Pac	22	21	37	39
South West Metro	Bankstown	113	108	133	89
South West Metro	Burwood Pac	92	66	87	35
South West Metro	Camden Pac	132	53	100	50
South West Metro	Campbelltown City Pac	126	72	110	26
South West Metro	Campsie	59	46	43	35
South West Metro	Cumberland Pac	48	62	170	96
South West Metro	Fairfield City Pac	247	327	270	89
South West Metro	Liverpool City Pac	283	234	432	153
Southern	Lake Illawarra	230	150	223	66
Southern	Monaro Pd	151	115	141	78
Southern	Murray River Pd	255	174	205	160
Southern	Murrumbidgee Pd	151	257	182	135
Southern	Riverina Pd	278	209	451	286
Southern	South Coast Pd	301	220	268	283
Southern	The Hume Pd	350	201	377	220
Southern	Wollongong	154	70	86	48
Unknown Region	Unknown Lac	0	0	2	0
Western	Barrier Pd	97	99	55	11
Western	Central North Pd	106	72	91	30
Western	Central West Pd	113	160	165	94
Western	Chifley Pd	163	203	208	112
Western	New England Pd	212	149	147	109
Western	Orana Mid Western Pd	222	183	208	137
Western	Oxley Pd	185	149	163	77

* Drug Driving only includes the law part codes for "Drive Vehicle, Illicit Drug Present in Blood etc - 1st Off" & "2nd+Off". This refers to charges resulting from RDTs.

**POIs Aged 10-17 Involved
in Knife Attacks* in 2021**

Age of POI	Total POIs
10	1
11	5
12	5
13	29
14	35
15	35
16	44
17	49

** Knife Attacks defined as incidents with MO Weapon Type>Knife/Sword/Scissors/Screwdriv and with an incident category of Assault, Homicide or Robbery (further classification Robbery with Wounding/GBH)*

**Victims Aged 10-17 involved in Non-DV Assaults with a
Knife/Scissors/Screwdriver in 2021**

Age of POI	Total Victims
10	3
11	4
12	5
13	8
14	15
15	19
16	22
17	23

**Charges for Individuals Aged 10-17 for
Stabbing Attacks* by Legal Action Year**

Age	Legal Action Year					
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
10	1	1	0	0	0	0
11	1	0	0	2	2	3
12	3	2	5	4	4	3
13	6	9	7	11	12	13
14	17	13	9	21	26	21
15	23	31	20	27	29	29
16	31	35	32	37	40	30
17	40	41	33	29	36	32

** Stabbing Attacks defined as Charges with an MO of Weapon Type>Sharp Instrument or Glass/Bottle and with an ANZSOC Category of: Acts Intended to Cause Injury>Assault>Common Assault & Serious Assault Resulting in Injury*

Name	Date of Internal Review application	Anticipated Review Date
Botros, B	14/07/2021	Jul-22
Regent, KA	14/07/2021	Jul-22
Moy, M	03/08/2021	Aug-22
El-Khoury, M	10/08/2021	Aug-22
Hallowell, C	18/08/2021	Aug-22
Lloyd, G	23/08/2021	Aug-22
Manos, C	02/09/2021	Sep-22
Southall, L,	02/09/2021	Sep-22
Law, ZC	14/09/2021	Sep-22
Dykes, JP	17/09/2021	Sep-22
Alsaddik, R	18/09/2021	Sep-22
Steinfelder, T	20/09/2021	Sep-22
Fitch, J	28/09/2021	Sep-22
Taggart, A	05/10/2021	Sep-22
Richardson, T	10/10/2021	Sep-22
McCulla, A	25/10/2021	Sep-22
Gould, S	30/10/2021	Sep-22
Mantzouranis, A	03/11/2021	Oct-22
Kennedy, SD	05/11/2021	Oct-22
Boujaoude, EF	23/11/2021	Oct-22
Stever, B	23/11/2021	Oct-22
Sawicki, LD	01/12/2021	Oct-22
Arnold, D	13/12/2021	Oct-22
Finch, TR	20/12/2021	Oct-22
Hockey, B	23/12/2021	Oct-22
Keys, P	05/01/2022	Nov-22
Morn, S	12/01/2022	Nov-22
Khan, KA	21/02/2022	Nov-22
Rooke, M	23/02/2022	Nov-22
Rhodes, PL	01/03/2022	Nov-22