



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEES

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2022-2023 Supplementary Questions

Portfolio Committee No. 2 - Health

HEALTH

Hearing: 7 September 2022

Answers due by: Tuesday 4 October 2022

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Health

Questions from the Hon. Mark Latham MLC

Individual Assessments and National Party Dinner

1. Who made the decision to conduct an individual assessment of Brad Hazzard?
 - (a) What was the role of Dr. Kerry Chant?
2. Who communicated this decision to Ms. Musto?
3. Did the Minister's Chief of Staff Leonie Lemont receive an individual assessment?
 - (a) Was she classified as close contact?
4. Among Adam Marshall's own staff and the MPs and staffers in the many ministerial offices he visited on 22 June, how many received individual assessments and of these, how many were classified as close contacts and how many as casual contacts?
5. Who communicated the decision for an individual assessment to Brad Hazzard and when and how was this done?
 - (a) What was the role of Dr. Kerry Chant?
6. Who communicated to Mr Hazzard that he was classified as casual contact and how and when was this done?
 - (a) What was the role of Dr. Kerry Chant?
7. What consideration was given to the fact that Brad Hazzard himself had isolated for 24 hours after finding out Adam Marshall was Covid infected, an admission by the Minister (who made and knew the rules) that he was in fact a close contact?
8. Did Hazzard receive the SMS sent to attendees of the National Party dinner and what did this message say?
 - (a) When was it sent?
9. Was David Heffernan from the NSW Pharmacy Guild classified as a close contact from the dinner?
 - (a) Was he interviewed by any contact tracers?
10. Do you recognise that Heffernan's circumstances were identical to those of Hazzard, that is, in a conversation group prior to the sit-down dinner, with Marshall having shaken hands with him?
 - (a) Why wasn't this reflected in the respective contact classifications of Heffernan and Hazzard?

11. Why has NSW Health failed in its fundamental duty to procedural fairness, that is, the same treatment under the law of citizens in identical circumstances (Hazzard and Heffernan)?
12. From the National Party dinner, which MPs (including Ministers) requested a review of their contact/isolation status?
 - (a) Which ones were granted reviews and was this done by individual assessment?
 - (b) What were the results of each of these assessments?

Questions from Ms Abigail Boyd MLC

Domestic Violence Routine Screening in Emergency Departments pilot

13. Answers to questions taken on notice by Mr Lyons at the 10 March 2022 Budget Estimates hearing relating to the Domestic Violence Routine Screening in Emergency Departments pilot (DVRS in EDs) advised that the evaluation was at the time of writing under way, and was scheduled for completion in 2022. Please provide an update on when this evaluation will be completed and published.

Access to abortion

14. The Minister advised during the 7 September 2022 Budget Estimates hearing that Family Planning NSW has been funded to review abortion access in NSW. Please provide the terms and timeline of this review.
15. Dr Nigel Lyons advised during the 7 September 2022 Budget Estimates hearing that the NSW public health system's focus in terms of access to abortion has been on 'supporting women in the later stages of pregnancy, usually from 20 weeks and above', which is a 'highly specialised service'. Please provide an update on what is being done:
- (a) to improve abortion access through the NSW public health system for people who are 20 or more weeks pregnant, and
 - (b) to ensure enough doctors in the NSW public health system have adequate training and/or specialisation to provide abortions for people who are 20 or more weeks pregnant.

Cosmetic surgery regulation

16. How many times have authorised officers entered and inspected premises that are licensed under the Private Health Facilities Act 2007 as a licensed cosmetic surgery class private health facility, in each of the following financial years:
- (a) 2017-18
 - (b) 2018-19
 - (c) 2019-20
 - (d) 2020-21
 - (e) 2021-22
 - (f) 2022-23

17. Of these, how many inspections followed written or oral notice of that inspection being given to the licensee or staff of the premises.
18. How many times have authorised officers entered and inspected premises that are not licensed under the Private Health Facilities Act 2007 as a licensed cosmetic surgery class private health facility but which are carrying out or suspected of carrying out cosmetic surgery procedures, in each of the following financial years:
 - (a) 2017-18
 - (b) 2018-19
 - (c) 2019-20
 - (d) 2020-21
 - (e) 2021-22
 - (f) 2022-23
19. Of these, how many inspections followed written or oral notice of that inspection being given to the licensee or staff of the premises.
20. How many times have authorised officers issued an improvement notice to the licensee or operator of a premises licensed under the Private Health Facilities Act 2007 as a licensed cosmetic surgery class private health facility, in each of the following financial years:
 - (a) 2017-18
 - (b) 2018-19
 - (c) 2019-20
 - (d) 2020-21
 - (e) 2021-22
 - (f) 2022-23
21. For each of the above, what further compliance enforcement activities were undertaken?

Questions from the Hon. Mark Buttigieg MLC <i>(on behalf of the Opposition)</i>
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Recruitment of staff

22. How many nurses resigned in 2020/21?
23. How many nurses resigned in 2021/22?
24. How many midwives resigned in 2020/21?
25. How many midwives resigned in 2021/22?
26. How many FTE vacancies are there as at 1 September 2022 across all LHD's?
27. In relation to the Government's announcement to recruit 7,674 health workers:
 - (a) How many have been recruited?
 - (b) In what LHD's have they been recruited to?
 - (c) Can you please provide a classification for the new recruits?

Salary Packaging

28. In 2021/22, how much money was collected by the Ministry from the 50% salary packaging from health care workers?
 - (a) How much was collected by each LHD?

Security in hospitals

29. How many occasions in 2020/21 was a Code Black issued in a NSW Hospital?
30. What recommendations from the Anderson Review have been fully implemented?
31. Do all Emergency Departments have at least one Health and Security Assistant rostered on at all times?
 - (a) If not, please provide a list of which Emergency Departments currently do not have at least one Health and Security Assistant rostered on
32. Will the Government be introducing changes to the Health Services Act as recommended in the Anderson Review?
 - (a) If yes, when?
 - (b) If no, why not?

Hunter New England Local Health District

33. Have you met with Adam Marshall to discuss his concerns in relation to the Hunter New England LHD?
 - (a) If yes, when?
 - (b) If yes, did he discuss splitting up the LHD?
34. Have you received correspondence in relation to the community wanting the LHD to be split up?
35. Have you discussed this matter with the Chair of the Hunter New England Board?
 - (a) If so when?

Palliative Care

36. When will the new palliative care unit at Westmead Hospital be completed?
 - (a) How many beds will this unit have?
37. When will the new palliative care unit at Nepean Hospital be completed?
 - (a) How many beds will this unit have?
38. How much did the Government spend on outpatient palliative care services in 2020/21?
39. In relation to the recent \$743 million announcement for palliative care, how many additional palliative care beds will there be in NSW hospitals?
40. In relation to the 600 additional palliative care nurses, allied health professionals, doctors and support staff, can you please provide a breakdown of how many will be in each LHD?

Mycobacterium chimaera and open-heart cardiac surgery

41. Seven patients have now been diagnosed with Mycobacterium chimaera infection after having open-heart surgery at Prince of Wales in 2015. Can you please advise how many patients had open-heart surgery at Princes of Wales in 2015?
 - (a) Are these patients provided with regular testing or monitoring?
 - (b) Are these patients facing any out of pocket expenses for testing or monitoring?
 - (c) Has NSW Health paid compensation to the seven patients who have developed this infection?
 - i. If so, how much has been paid?

Critical disruption of tenecteplase (Metalyse) 40mg and 50mg

42. On 3 August 2022, NSW Health issued a safety alert for the critical disruption to the supply of medication Metalyse. How much supply does NSW currently have?
- (a) The alert states that “stock preservation strategies are to be implemented by LHD’s, SHN’s and NSW Ambulance” Does this mean some patients will miss out on this medication?
 - (b) The alert states that we do not have sufficient supply to meet normal demand. Does this mean lives are at risk?
 - (c) The alert advises that the TGA have approved the supply of two overseas registered production. NSW Health ordered some of these products?

Parliament Inquiry, Current and future provision of health services in the South-West Sydney Growth Region

43. How many of the 17 recommendations from the Parliamentary Inquiry into health services in South-West Sydney have been implemented in full?

Hospital Beds

44. As of 1 September 2022, what is the number of beds within NSW public hospitals?
45. As of 1 September 2022, what is the number of treatment spaces within NSW public hospitals?

Administrations Costs

46. Administration costs for public hospitals as published on the Australian Institute Health and Wellbeing, has NSW as \$95,000 per hospital bed. What does this cost include?
47. Why have the administration costs risen from \$34,000 in 2011 to \$95,000 in 2021?
48. What is the projected administration costs over the forward estimates?

Third-party contractors or consultancies

49. For every agency, department, or state-owned corporation within your portfolio, please provide the following:
- (a) A list of all third-party contractor or consultancies engaged in communications services, including:
 - i. Contractor name,
 - ii. Contractor ABN,

- iii. Service provided,
 - iv. Total cost paid
- (b) A list of all third-party contractor or consultancies engaged in PR services, including:
 - i. Contractor name,
 - ii. Contractor ABN,
 - iii. Service provided,
 - iv. Total cost paid
- (c) A list of all third-party contractor or consultancies engaged in marketing services, including:
 - i. Contractor name,
 - ii. Contractor ABN,
 - iii. Service provided,
 - iv. Total cost paid
- (d) A list of all third-party contractor or consultancies engaged in Government relations or lobbying services, including:
 - i. Contractor name,
 - ii. Contractor ABN,
 - iii. Service provided,
 - iv. Total cost paid
- (e) A list of all third-party contractor or consultancies engaged in industry or peak body membership, including:
 - i. Contractor name,
 - ii. Contractor ABN,
 - iii. Service provided,
 - iv. Total cost paid
- (f) A list of all third-party contractor or consultancies engaged in policy or strategy development, including:
 - i. Contractor name,

- ii. Contractor ABN,
 - iii. Service provided,
 - iv. Total cost paid
- (g) A list of all third-party contractor or consultancies engaged in project management, including:
 - i. Contractor name,
 - ii. Contractor ABN,
 - iii. Service provided,
 - iv. Total cost paid
- (h) A list of all third-party contractor or consultancies engaged in accounting and audit, including:
 - i. Contractor name,
 - ii. Contractor ABN,
 - iii. Service provided,
 - iv. Total cost paid
- (i) A list of all third-party contractor or consultancies engaged in legal services, including:
 - i. Contractor name,
 - ii. Contractor ABN,
 - iii. Service provided,
 - iv. Total cost paid
- (j) A list of all third-party contractor or consultancies engaged in any other services, including:
 - i. Contractor name,
 - ii. Contractor ABN,
 - iii. Service provided,
 - iv. Total cost paid

Paediatric Cardiac Services at the Sydney Children's Hospital Network

50. What is the data from the Sydney Children's Hospital Network, by calendar year for the last 5 years on the number of:
- (a) Paediatric bypass cardiac surgical cases by STAT category?
 - (b) Paediatric non-bypass cardiac surgical cases?
 - (c) Paediatric ECMO cases- Post cardiac surgery (Post cardiectomy ECMO)?
 - (d) Paediatric ECMO cases - Non-cardiac surgery related at each site (Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick (SCH) and The Children's Hospital at Westmead (CHW))?
 - (e) Minimally invasive Cath lab cases by cardiology related to diagnostic cardiac catheter studies?
 - (f) Minimally invasive Cath lab cases by cardiology related to therapeutic cardiac catheter procedures for:
 - i. PDA, ASD, VSD, valve replacement?
 - ii. Electrophysiology?
 - iii. Others?
 - (g) Weekend operating cases involving cardiac surgery?
 - (h) Patients on waiting lists - including cat 1-3 and NRFC and any patients waiting but not yet listed?
 - (i) Patients having cancellations of paediatric cardiac surgeries?
51. How many patients have needed to be transferred from Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick (SCH) to The Children's Hospital at Westmead, in the last 12-month period, for cardiac treatment not offered at SCH?

Elective Surgery & Emergency Department Wait Times

52. From the period of January- March 2021 to January- March 2022 the Royal Hospital for Women have had a 20% increase in the median wait-time for urgent elective surgery - what specific measures has this government implemented to reduce urgent elective surgery wait times at the Royal Hospital for Women?

- (a) Additionally, what specific measures has this government implemented to increase the number of nurses and healthcare professionals at the Royal Hospital for Women, including measures to reduce burnout and professionals leaving their positions?
53. From the period of January- March 2021 to January- March 2022, Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick, has had an over 23% increase in patients spending over four hours in the emergency department - what specific measures has this government implemented to reduce emergency department wait times at Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick?
- (a) Additionally, what specific measures has this government implemented to increase the number of nurses and healthcare professionals at Sydney Children's Hospital, including measures to reduce burnout and professionals leaving their positions?
54. From the period of January- March 2021 to January- March 2022, Prince of Wales Hospital has had an over 27% increase of patients spending over four hours in the emergency department – what specific measures has this government implemented to reduce emergency department wait times at the Prince of Wales Hospital?
- (a) Additionally, what specific measures has this government implemented to increase the number of nurses and healthcare professionals at the Prince of Wales Hospital, including measures to reduce burnout and professionals leaving their positions?
55. What is the current wait time for children to access a MRI at Sydney Children's Hospital Randwick?
- (a) What is the NSW government doing to address the current wait times for children trying to access a MRI at Sydney Children's Hospital Randwick?

Staff Retention and Turnover Issues

56. What measures has this government implemented to address the staffing shortages and workloads of all health service workers across New South Wales?
57. Public hospitals are suffering from underfunding and understaffing, including the Prince of Wales Hospital that has multiple staffing issues – what is this government doing to assist the Prince of Wales Hospital with the following issues:
- (a) Domestic Services and Food Services teams at the Randwick Hospital Campus who regularly complain of shifts being left vacant?

- (b) Clinical Support Officers who feel they have become a dumping ground for any additional tasks that need doing in the wards, and subsequently feel workloads are becoming unsustainable?

Biomedical facility funding

58. What two biomedical facilities will the \$270 million fund?
- (a) Has construction of the facilities commenced?
 - (b) What contribution will the biomedical facilities have to support cancer treatment and prevention?
 - (c) When will the biomedical facilities be up and running?

Campbelltown Innovation Hub

59. In July 2022 construction began on the Campbelltown Innovation Hub for cancer. What role, if any has the NSW Government played to support the start-up of the facility in Campbelltown?