

Minister for Finance, Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, and Natural Resources – Supplementary Questions – November 2023

Stamp duty	
1. How much stamped duty was collected on insurance in 2022-23?	
ANSWER: Please refer to Budget Paper 1, page 4-7.	

Stamp duty	
2. How much stamp duty is budgeted to be collected on insurance in: (a) 2023-24? (b) 2024-25? (c) 2025-26? (d) 2026-27?	
ANSWER: Please refer to Budget Paper 1, page 4-7.	

Stamp duty	
3. Are any insurance policies exempt from stamp duty?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>There are a number of exempt insurance policies from duty under the <i>Duties Act 1997</i>, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crop and livestock insurance taken out on or after 1 January 2018. • Lenders mortgage insurance. • Insurance covering only property of the Crown that is located in NSW. • Insurance effected by a separate policy for a distinct sum against loss by fire on the tools, implements of work or labour used by mechanics, artificers, handcrafters and labourers. • Insurance covering mortgages or pools of mortgages acquired for the purpose of issuing mortgage-backed securities. • Private insurance for hospital or medical benefits insurance or ambulance services. • Workers' compensation insurance. • Compulsory third party insurance for motor vehicles. • Insurance of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ a floating vessel used primarily for commercial purposes, or ○ goods and merchandise, or the freight of goods and merchandise, carried by land, sea, or air ○ or both. • Redundancy insurance in respect of a housing loan where the sum does not exceed \$124,000. • Reinsurance. • An annuity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ issued, created or sold by a life company ○ purchased by a person from a life company. • Policies of life insurance being group superannuation investment policies that are owned by the trustee of a superannuation plan, which are for the benefit of more than one member of the superannuation plan. 	

Stamp duty	
4. Has any modelling been done by Treasury, or is Treasury aware of any research on, the effect of stamp duty on insurance affordability and on rates of underinsurance or non-insurance?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>NSW Treasury is aware of a study that looked at the impact of insurance duty (Tooth R., <i>Analysis of Demand for Home and Contents Insurance</i>, Insurance Council of Australia, 4 August 2015).</p>	

Natural disasters	
5. Has any modelling been done by Treasury, or is Treasury aware of any research on, the costs incurred by the NSW Government following natural disasters attributable to underinsurance or non-insurance?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>In 2021, NSW Treasury conducted modelling of physical climate risks for the 2021-22 NSW Intergenerational Report. This modelling included an estimate of the fiscal cost of natural disasters. NSW Treasury is undertaking further work to update cost estimates using improved data.</p> <p>Updated cost estimates will include damage sustained to property that is underinsured or uninsured. NSW Treasury is not aware of other modelling or research that specifically considers the costs incurred by the NSW Government following natural disasters attributable to underinsurance or non-insurance.</p>	

Labour hire	
6. What is the baseline spend on labour hire in relation to the Government's election commitment to cut this by 25% by June 2026?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>The 25 per cent reduction to agency labour hire was calculated against actual budget forecasts, and applied to only General Government Sector agencies, non-frontline recurrent expenditure forecasts for labour hire.</p>	

Labour hire	
<p>7. What is the amount attributed to reduction in labour hire included in the \$13 billion reprioritisation in the 2023-24 Budget?</p> <p>(a) Of this, what is the allocation for each year 2023-24 to 2026-27?</p> <p>(b) Of this, how much is allocated to each of these portfolios:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The Cabinet Office; ii. Customer Service; iii. Education; iv. Enterprise, Investment and Trade v. Health; vi. Planning and Environment; vii. Premier’s Department; viii. Regional NSW; ix. Communities and Justice; x. Transport and Infrastructure; and xi. Treasury? 	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>The 25 per cent reduction to agency labour hire was calculated against actual budget forecasts, and applied to only General Government Sector agencies, non-frontline recurrent expenditure forecasts for labour hire.</p> <p>Allocations to agencies are included in their budgets.</p>	

Consultants	
<p>8. What is the baseline spend on consultants in relation to the Government’s election commitment to cut this by \$35 million per annum from 2023-24?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>The reduction in spending on consultants was a nominal reduction in amount spent.</p>	

Consultants	
<p>9. What is the amount attributed to reduction in spend on consultants included in the \$13 billion reprioritisation in the 2023-24 Budget?</p> <p>(a) Of this, what is the allocation for each year 2023-24 to 2026-27?</p> <p>(b) Of this, how much is allocated to each of these portfolios:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The Cabinet Office; ii. Customer Service; iii. Education; iv. Enterprise, Investment and Trade; v. Health; vi. Planning and Environment; vii. Premier's Department; viii. Regional NSW; ix. Communities and Justice; x. Transport and Infrastructure; and xi. Treasury 	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>Allocations by agencies are included in their budgets.</p>	

Advertising	
<p>10. What is the baseline spend on advertising in relation to the Government's election commitment to cut this by 25% by June 2026</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>The reduction in spending on advertising was not a percentage reduction against a baseline, rather a nominal per annum reduction in the amount spent.</p>	

Advertising	
<p>11. What is the amount attributed to reduction in spend on advertising included in the \$13 billion reprioritisation in the 2023-24 Budget</p> <p>(a) Of this, what is the allocation for each year 2023-24 to 2026-27?</p> <p>(b) Of this, how much is allocated to each of these portfolios:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The Cabinet Office; ii. Customer Service; iii. Education; iv. Enterprise, Investment and Trade; v. Health; vi. Planning and Environment; vii. Premier's Department; viii. Regional NSW; ix. Communities and Justice; x. Transport and Infrastructure; and xi. Treasury 	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>Allocations to agencies are included in their budgets.</p>	

Travel	
12. What is the baseline spend on travel in relation to the Government's election commitment to cut this by \$40 million per annum from 2023-24	
ANSWER:	
The reduction in travel expenditure was not a percentage reduction against a baseline, rather a nominal per annum reduction in the amount spent.	

Travel	
13. What is the amount attributed to reduction in spend on travel included in the \$13 billion reprioritisation in the 2023-24 Budget? (a) Of this, what is the allocation for each year 2023-24 to 2026-27? (b) Of this, how much is allocated to each of these portfolios: i. The Cabinet Office; ii. Customer Service; iii. Education; iv. Enterprise, Investment and Trade; v. Health; vi. Planning and Environment; vii. Premier's Department; viii. Regional NSW; ix. Communities and Justice; x. Transport and Infrastructure; and xi. Treasury	
ANSWER:	
Allocations to agencies are included in their budgets.	

Legal expenses	
14. What is the baseline spend on legal expenses in relation to the Government's election commitment to cut this by 25% by June 2026?	
ANSWER: The reduction in legal expenditure was not a percentage reduction against a baseline, rather a nominal per annum reduction in the amount spent.	

Legal expenses	
15. What is the amount attributed to reduction in spend on legal expenses included in the \$13 billion reprioritisation in the 2023-24 Budget? (a) Of this, what is the allocation for each year 2023-24 to 2026-27? (b) Of this, how much is allocated to each of these portfolios: i. The Cabinet Office; ii. Customer Service; iii. Education; iv. Enterprise, Investment and Trade; v. Health; vi. Planning and Environment; vii. Premier's Department; viii. Regional NSW; ix. Communities and Justice; x. Transport and Infrastructure; and xi. Treasury?	
ANSWER: Allocations to agencies are included in their budgets.	

Senior executives	
<p>16. What is the baseline number of senior executives in relation to the Government's election commitment to cut this by 15% by June 2026</p> <p>(a) In relation to the baseline how many senior executives subject to the reduction policy were attributed to each of these portfolios:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The Cabinet Office; ii. Customer Service; iii. Education; iv. Enterprise, Investment and Trade; v. Health; vi. Planning and Environment; vii. Premier's Department; viii. Regional NSW; ix. Communities and Justice; x. Transport and Infrastructure; and xi. Treasury 	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>Please refer to the Treasurer's answer to Question Without Notice 'Public Service Senior Executives' by the Hon. Chris Rath on 23 August 2023.</p>	

Senior executives	
<p>17. What is the amount attributed to reduction in spend on senior executives included in the \$13 billion reprioritisation in the 2023-24 Budget?</p> <p>(a) Of this, what is the allocation for each year 2023-24 to 2026-27?</p> <p>(b) Of this, how much is allocated to each of these portfolios:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The Cabinet Office; ii. Customer Service; iii. Education; iv. Enterprise, Investment and Trade; v. Health; vi. Planning and Environment; vii. Premier's Department; viii. Regional NSW; ix. Communities and Justice; x. Transport and Infrastructure; and xi. Treasury 	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>Allocations to agencies are included in their budgets.</p>	

Revenue	
<p>18. On what date was the Minister for Finance first made aware that new modelling by Treasury since that done for the 2022-23 Half Yearly Review indicated that approximately \$17 billion in extra tax revenue could be anticipated for the years covered by the 2023-24 Budget?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>Treasury regularly provides advice to the Treasurer and Minister for Finance throughout the Budget process.</p>	

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Debt Recovery	
<p>19. How many debt recovery notices have been issued to:</p> <p>(a) recipients of funding through the JobSaver program?</p> <p>(b) recipients of funding through the Micro-Business Grant program?</p> <p>(c) (if a breakdown is not available under 1a and 1b) recipients of funding through the JobSaver and Micro-Business Grant programs?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised: Questions in relation to the JobSaver and Micro-Business Grants Audit are best directed to the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government.</p>	

Debt Recovery	
<p>20. How many reviews of debt recovery notices were sought by:</p> <p>(a) recipients of funding through the JobSaver program?</p> <p>(b) recipients of funding through the Micro-Business Grant program?</p> <p>(c) (if a breakdown is not available under 2a and 2b) recipients of funding through the JobSaver and Micro-Business Grant programs</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>Please refer to answer for Question 19.</p>	

Debt Recovery	
<p>21. How many reviews of debt recovery notices were offered without request by the Department of Customer Service or Revenue NSW to:</p> <p>(a) recipients of funding through the JobSaver program?</p> <p>(b) recipients of funding through the Micro-Business Grant program?</p> <p>(c) (if a breakdown is not available under 3a and 3b) recipients of funding through the JobSaver and Micro-Business Grant programs</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>Please refer to answer for Question 19.</p>	

Debt Recovery	
22. How many reviews of debt recovery notices were conducted for: (a) recipients of funding through the JobSaver program? (b) recipients of funding through the Micro-Business Grant program? (c) (if a breakdown is not available under 4a and 4b) recipients of funding through the JobSaver and Micro-Business Grant programs?	
ANSWER: Please refer to answer for Question 19.	

Debt Recovery	
23. How many small businesses that have been forced to repay funds received through JobSaver or the Micro-Business grant programs have had a quality assurance process applied to ensure debt recovery notices are accurate?	
ANSWER: Please refer to answer for Question 19.	

Debt Recovery	
24. How many debt recovery notices have been overturned for: (a) recipients of funding through the JobSaver program? (b) recipients of funding through the Micro-Business Grant program? (c) (if a breakdown is not available under 6a and 6b) recipients of funding through the JobSaver and Micro-Business Grant programs?	
ANSWER: Please refer to answer for Question 19.	

Debt Recovery	
25. Of those reviews that overturned the debt recovery notices, what was the average value refunded to businesses and not pursued?	
ANSWER: Please refer to answer for Question 19.	

Debt Recovery	
26. What is the average value of debt recovery notices issued by the Department of Customer/Revenue NSW to: (a) recipients of funding through the JobSaver program? (b) recipients of funding through the Micro-Business Grant program? c) (if a breakdown is not available under 8a and 8b) recipients of funding through the JobSaver and Micro-Business Grant programs?	
ANSWER: Please refer to answer for Question 19.	

Debt Recovery	
27. How many representations have been received raising concerns in respect of debt recovery notices or revised calculations on JobSaver or Micro-Business grants by: (a) The Minister (b) The Department of Customer Service (c) Revenue NSW	
ANSWER: Please refer to answer for Question 19.	

Penalty Notices	
<p>28. Since your appointment how many penalty notices have been issued by Revenue NSW?</p> <p>(a) What was the dollar value of these penalty notices?</p> <p>(b) How many of these notices have been issued to registered industrial organisations?</p> <p>(c) Of those notices issued to registered industrial organisations, how many are still outstanding?</p> <p>(d) Of these penalty notices how many have been for traffic offences?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>Please refer to the ‘Penalty notice dashboard’ page of the Revenue NSW website: https://www.revenue.nsw.gov.au/help-centre/resources-library/statistics/penalty-notice-dashboard</p>	

Penalty Notices	
<p>29. How many of these penalty notices for traffic offences were for low range speeding offences?</p> <p>(a) What was the dollar value of these penalty notices for traffic offences?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>Please refer to the ‘Penalty notice dashboard’ page of the Revenue NSW website: https://www.revenue.nsw.gov.au/help-centre/resources-library/statistics/penalty-notice-dashboard</p>	

Penalty Notices	
<p>30. What was the dollar value of these penalty notices for low range traffic speeding offences?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>Please refer to the ‘Penalty notice dashboard’ page of the Revenue NSW website: https://www.revenue.nsw.gov.au/help-centre/resources-library/statistics/penalty-notice-dashboard</p>	

Penalty Notices	
31. Since your appointment as Minister how many reviews of penalty notices have been requested? (a) How many of these were overturned? (b) What was the dollar value of these overturned penalty notices?	
ANSWER: If special circumstances led to the offence committed, a person may request a review of their fine, which may result in a caution or the fine being overturned. Please refer to the Review Assist Guide on the Revenue NSW website: https://www.nsw.gov.au/money-and-taxes/fines-and-fees/fines/request-a-review/review-assist-guide	

Electric Vehicle Stamp Duty	
32. How many applications for the electric vehicle stamp duty exemptions have been received since 1 September 2021. If possible by financial year? (a) Have they all been approved? (b) If not, on what basis were these rejected?	
ANSWER: Please refer to the Electric Vehicle Strategy Dashboard on the Revenue NSW Website: https://www.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2023-04/20221231_EV-Strategy-Dashboard.pdf	

Electric Vehicle Stamp Duty	
33. In cases where the application was rejected is there a process they can ask questions about that and request a review? (a) If so how many of these reviews have been requested? (b) How many of these reviews were successful	
ANSWER: Please refer to the Electric Vehicle Strategy Dashboard on the Revenue NSW Website: https://www.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2023-04/20221231_EV-Strategy-Dashboard.pdf	

Electric Vehicle Stamp Duty	
34. What is the total value of the stamp duty exemptions that have been approved?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>Information about the value of stamp duty exemptions (including the Budget commitment) is available at the 'Electric Vehicle Stamp Duty Refund' page of the Revenue NSW website: https://www.revenue.nsw.gov.au/grants-schemes/electric-vehicle-stamp-duty-refund</p>	

Revenue NSW	
35. How many staff are employed by Revenue NSW?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>Please refer to the Department of Customer Service's Annual Report.</p>	

Revenue NSW	
36. What is the average attendance in the office per week across the Revenue NSW from 1 April 2023 to present?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>Flexible working arrangements are tailored on an individual basis and are discussed as part of ongoing conversations which are embedded in the Department's Performance Development Framework.</p>	

Revenue NSW	
37. What is the accommodation expenditure for leased premises for Revenue NSW?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>Department and agency expenditure is published in Annual Reports.</p>	

Revenue NSW	
38. What is the average wait time before a call to Revenue NSW is answered?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>In October 2023 the average wait time for a call from an individual to Revenue NSW to be answered was 1 minute and 10 seconds.</p> <p>Note: This does not include calls answered by Service NSW on behalf of Revenue NSW.</p>	

Revenue NSW	
39. Since April 1 2023, how many complaints have been received from Service NSW?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>Revenue NSW handles all complaints in accordance with its complaints handling policy.</p>	

Payroll Tax Audits for GPs and Practices

Revenue NSW	
40. Since the announcement of a 12-month amnesty on payroll tax audits for General Practitioners, what consultation has been undertaken by the Minister and/or Revenue NSW on a long-term solution?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>The NSW Government has undertaken significant consultation since the announcement of a 12-month pause on payroll tax audits for general practitioners and medical centres. We have and will continue to engage with peak bodies in the industry and important stakeholders to determine an appropriate solution.</p>	

Revenue NSW	
41. When can General Practitioners expect to be made aware of the outcome of these consultations?	
ANSWER: Please refer to media release of the Minister for Finance and the Minister for Health dated 24 August 2023.	

Revenue NSW	
42. Will the NSW Government extend this 12-month amnesty should the consultations with the sector be ongoing or the necessary legislation not introduced to the Parliament?	
ANSWER: Please refer to media release of the Minister for Finance and the Minister for Health dated 24 August 2023.	

Revenue NSW	
43. What actions has Revenue NSW undertaken to advise General Practitioners of these changes?	
ANSWER: In relation to the communication of the pause on GP payroll tax audits: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Minister for Finance and the Minister for Health held a press conference and issued a media release dated 24 August 2023. 2. The Minister for Finance and the Minister for Health undertook extensive media engagement on the issue. 3. The Government has engaged with peak bodies, including the Royal College of General Practitioners, the Australian Medical Association and General Practice owners, on this issue. 4. Information was made available on the 'Payroll tax and the medical services industry' page on the Revenue NSW website. 5. Businesses with audits underway were contacted. 	

Revenue NSW	
44. What actions has Revenue NSW undertaken to advise General Practitioners of the 12 month amnesty?	
ANSWER: See answer to Question 43.	

Revenue NSW	
45. Since 1 April 2023, how many payroll tax audits were commenced in New South Wales? (a) How many of these audits have been completed? (b) How many of these audits found businesses had underpaid payroll tax? (c) How many of these audits found businesses had overpaid payroll tax? (d) What was the total amount payable to the New South Government? (e) What was the average amount of tax payable?	
ANSWER: 43,012 business are required to lodge an annual reconciliation of their payroll tax in NSW. A portion of these businesses are selected to undergo an audit process. Please refer to the 'Payroll tax audits' page on the Revenue NSW website for further information about how Revenue NSW selects businesses for audit.	

Revenue NSW	
<p>46. Since 1 April 1 2023, how many payroll tax audits were commenced in New South Wales on general practitioners?</p> <p>(a) How many of these audits have been completed?</p> <p>(b) How many of these audits found that general practitioners had underpaid payroll tax?</p> <p>(c) How many of these audits found that general practitioners had overpaid payroll tax?</p> <p>(d) What was the total amount payable to the New South Government?</p> <p>(e) What was the average amount of tax payable?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>Payroll tax audits are conducted on a range of business across various industries, including on general practitioners (which have been paused for 12 months). Please refer to the 'Payroll tax audits' page on the Revenue NSW website for further information about how Revenue NSW selects businesses for audit.</p>	

Revenue NSW	
<p>47. Since 1 April 2023, how many garnishee orders have been issued by Revenue NSW to residents under the COVID border closure program?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>As at 31 October, garnishee orders have been issued to 5,267 individuals.</p> <p>Note: the above figures relate to individuals who have received a quarantine fee, residential status was not taken into account.</p>	

Revenue NSW	
48. How many NSW residents still have unpaid fees?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>As at 20 November 2023 there are 6,391 individuals that reside in NSW that still owe a Quarantine Fee debt. Revenue NSW have engaged people through multiple channels to help resolve their quarantine debt. This includes the issuance of invoices, debt notices and debt recovery orders, SMS and email reminders, outbound calls, urgent notice issuance and garnishee orders.</p>	

Revenue NSW	
49. What is the total amount outstanding by NSW residents under the COVID border closure program?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>As at 20 November, a total of \$18,081,862.96 is outstanding.</p>	

Revenue NSW	
50. What steps were taken by Revenue NSW to ensure that residents subject to garnishee orders had received at least three separate notices across the 90 day period specified?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>Prior to the issuance of a Garnishee Order, Revenue NSW cross-referenced with other state and federal agencies the contact and address details to ensure they were up to date and correct as possible.</p> <p>Revenue NSW issued a separate Invoice, Debt Notice and Debt Recovery Orders for each case within the 90 days. Where Revenue NSW was able to confirm a recent address, or a new contact detail was found, an additional notice and/or an SMS reminder were issued. For those currently offshore, alternative contact methods such as email were utilised where available.</p>	

Revenue NSW	
51. What actions were taken by Revenue NSW to ensure that the details in these notices and later garnishee orders were sent to the correct address?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>The original notices were issued based on the information provided by the individual and received from NSW Health / Police NSW at the time the individual left hotel quarantine.</p> <p>Prior to the issuance of a Garnishee Order, Revenue NSW cross-referenced contact and address details with other state and federal agencies to ensure they were up to date and correct as possible.</p> <p>Where the detail was confirmed as the most recent, or new contact detail was found, an additional notice and/or an SMS reminder were issued before progressing to Garnishee Order. For those currently offshore, alternative contact methods such as email were utilised where available.</p>	

Revenue NSW	
52. In cases where Revenue NSW was notified of notices being sent to the incorrect address, what support was provided to residents of NSW to assist them in resolving their debts?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>Please refer to answer for Question 51.</p>	

Revenue NSW	
53. How much notice was provided to residents before garnishee orders were put in place?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>Please refer to answer for Question 51.</p>	

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Revenue NSW	
54. To date, what is the total amount owed to NSW taxpayers from other states? (a) Please provide breakdown by state.	
ANSWER: Inter-jurisdictional debt owed by State and Territory Governments is managed through NSW Treasury.	

Revenue NSW	
55. What steps has Revenue NSW taken to recover these debts?	
ANSWER: This is a matter for NSW Treasury.	

Coal royalties	
56. What considerations formed part of the Government's decision to increase coal royalties by 2.6 per cent?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>The Government set out key principles for the development of options to reform coal royalties. These principles included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve revenue: the new royalty rates must maintain at least the same coal royalty revenue when prices are in line with their historical trends • Provide an appropriate return: the new royalty rates must ensure NSW citizens receive an appropriate return on the sale of coal • Adapted to NSW: the new royalty rates should be designed to suit the specific conditions of the coal mining industry in NSW. <p>The Government also considered the impacts of increasing coal royalties on retail electricity prices.</p> <p>The new rates were developed following consultation with the mining industry, coal fired power stations and key trading partners.</p> <p>For further detail, please refer to the media release of the Treasurer and Minister for Natural Resources dated 6 September 2023.</p>	

Coal royalties	
57. Is your government intending to increase those royalties further in future budgets?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>The Government will continue to deliver budgets that are responsible and deliver the best outcomes for the people of NSW. The update to the coal royalty rate ensures that the state earns a fair return for its resources under modern market conditions.</p>	

Coal royalties	
58. Was any consideration given to returning the increase in revenue stemming from the increase in coal royalties to communities across regional NSW?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>Careful consideration was given to the potential impacts of higher royalties on coal mining and the sustainability of the coal mining industry and the jobs it supports in regional NSW.</p> <p>As noted when the policy was announced, the increase in coal royalty rates is a key element in the Government's long-term plan to balance the need for budget repair, rebuild the state's essential services (including in regional areas) and take pressure off NSW families and businesses.</p>	

Mining Licences	
59. At what point did you become aware that Mining, Exploration and Geoscience had wrongly approved 3,340 licences for miners in Lightning Ridge and White Cliffs?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>My Office was provided a Departmental briefing on invalidly granted and renewed mineral claims across Lightning Ridge and White Cliffs on 5 May 2023.</p>	

Mining Licences	
60. On what date did you announce the refund scheme for those affected miners?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>6 June 2023.</p>	

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Mining Licences	
61. On what date were half of those affected licences re-validated?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>Of the 1,230 mineral claims that were required to cease mining activity, half were re-validated as of 25 August 2023.</p>	

Mining Licences	
62. How long did it take you to re-validate all of those licences?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>Validation of all purported grants and renewals of the affected mineral claims occurred upon the assent of the Mining Amendment (Mineral Claims – Opal) Act 2023 on 24 October 2023.</p>	

Mining Licences	
63. How much time did you spend on the 22nd of May with the Lightning Ridge Miners Association, the White Cliffs Miners Association and the Glengary, Grawin, Sheeppark, Miners Association?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>All of my meetings are disclosed in line with my obligations.</p>	

Mining Licences	
64. How much time did you spend on the 25th of May with the SDA Union?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>All of my meetings are disclosed in line with my obligations.</p>	

Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement	
65. What are the current requirements for insurance for prospective suppliers to the NSW Government?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>The NSW Procurement Policy Framework (last updated April 2022) sets out guidance to agencies on insurance requirements. For all procurements of any value, agencies should minimise insurances and indemnities imposed on suppliers, with risk allocated to the party best placed to mitigate or manage those risks. When contracting with suppliers, agencies should determine insurance requirements for each contract based on the type of procurement arrangement, value, risk profile, category and market profile and other factors.</p> <p>In addition, on 5 November 2023, I issued a Ministerial Direction that directs the NSW Procurement Board to issue a Procurement Board Direction seeking procurement opportunities for small and medium businesses. This direction implemented our election commitment, announced on 7 February 2023. Under this Direction, agencies must only require small (and medium) businesses to provide insurance details and/or a certificate of insurance at the time of contract award rather than, for example, when responding to a request for submissions.</p>	

Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement	
66. Under current procurement practices is it the case that the NSW Government “contracts out” of proportionate liability, as claimed by the Insurance Council of Australia, in its publication “A Stronger NSW” (https://insurancecouncil.com.au/wpcontent/uploads/2023/02/20785_ICA_NSW-Election-Report_Final-DoublePageSpread.pdf)	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>The Civil Liability Act 2002 allows contracting parties to include provisions in a contract that exclude or modify the application of Part 4, and the proportionate liability regime that it creates. The NSW Procurement Board Direction titled 'PBD 2017-03 Civil Liability Act 2002 - proportionate liability' sets out requirements for contracting out of proportionate liability in respect of the application of this legislation.</p>	

Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement	
<p>67. Do current procurement practices impose “onerous, unnecessary and unfair professional indemnity insurance requirements” on suppliers in the engineering and construction sectors as claimed by the Insurance Council of Australia, in its publication “A Stronger NSW” (https://insurancecouncil.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/20785_ICA_NSW-ElectionReport_Final-DoublePageSpread.pdf)</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>Under the NSW Procurement Policy Framework, for all procurements of any value, agencies should minimise insurances and indemnities imposed on suppliers, with risk allocated to the party best placed to mitigate or manage those risks.</p>	

Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement	
<p>68. According to the Administrative Arrangements (Public Service agencies and Ministers) Order 2023 (28 September 2023 version) the Department of Enterprise, Investment and Trade (DEIT) is listed as responsible to the Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Procurement (the Minister). In relation to DEIT:</p> <p>(a) How many staff are responsible to the Minister, or provide support for the Minister?</p> <p>(b) Which aspects of the portfolio of Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement is DEIT responsible to the Minister for?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>(a) The Department’s staffing numbers are published in its Annual Report.</p> <p>(b) Please refer to the Premier’s media release dated 27 September 2023.</p>	

Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement	
<p>69. According to the Administrative Arrangements (Public Service agencies and Ministers) Order 2023 (28 September 2023 version) the Department of Customer Service (DCS) is listed as responsible to the Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Procurement (the Minister). In relation to DCS:</p> <p>(a) How many staff are responsible to the Minister, or provide support for the Minister?</p> <p>(b) Which aspects of the portfolio of Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement is DCS responsible to the Minister for?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>(a) The Department’s staffing numbers are published in its Annual Report.</p> <p>(b) Please refer to the Premier’s media release dated 27 September 2023.</p>	

Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement	
<p>70. According to the Administrative Arrangements (Public Service agencies and Ministers) Order 2023 (28 September 2023 version) the Treasury is listed as responsible to the Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Procurement (the Minister). In relation to the Treasury:</p> <p>(a) How many staff are responsible to the Minister, or provide support for the Minister?</p> <p>(b) Which aspects of the portfolio of Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement is Treasury responsible to the Minister for?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>(a) The Department’s staffing numbers are published in its Annual Report.</p> <p>(b) Please refer to the Premier’s media release dated 27 September 2023.</p>	

Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement	
<p>71. What is the definition of “Domestic Manufacturing” for the purpose of the Minister’s portfolio?</p> <p>(a) Does “domestic” refer only to NSW?</p> <p>(b) Does “domestic” refer to Australia and New Zealand?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>As excerpted from Premier’s media release date 27 September 2023:</p> <p><i>The changes to the ministry underscore the NSW Government’s commitment to domestic manufacturing and build the pipeline of skilled workers to drive productivity and jobs in NSW.</i></p> <p>...</p> <p><i>The new portfolio of Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement will drive the return to domestic manufacturing and building things here again, using government procurement power to boost local jobs.</i></p>	

Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement	
<p>72. In relation to the pre-election commitment to mandate “increased tender weightings to 30% for local content, jobs creation and ethical supply chains” in government procurement:</p> <p>(a) Does the Government intend to keep this election promise?</p> <p>(b) When will this mandate be in place?</p> <p>(c) Will this mandate apply to all use of “previous government procurement dollars”?</p> <p>(d) What definition of “local content” is intended in this commitment?</p> <p>(i) NSW only?</p> <p>(ii) Australia and New Zealand?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>Policy and implementation work in relation to this election commitment is ongoing.</p>	

Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement	
73. How many times and on what dates has the Procurement Board met since 25 March 2023?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>Since 25 March 2023, the NSW Procurement Board has met on the following dates:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 31 May 2023 2. 26 June 2023 3. 11 July 2023 4. 30 August 2023 5. 29 November 2023 	

Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement	
74. Which meetings of the Procurement Board have been attended by the Minister either in her capacity as Minister for Finance or in her capacity as Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>The Minister attended the Procurement Board meeting on 30 August 2023 and on 29 November 2023.</p>	

Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement	
75. Have there been any changes to the Procurement Policy Framework since 25 March 2023?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>The NSW Government has started taking steps to reforming NSW procurement rules and practices. Of note, on 5 November 2023 I issued a Ministerial Direction that directs the NSW Procurement Board to issue a Procurement Board Direction seeking procurement opportunities for small and medium businesses. Under this Direction, agencies must only require small (and medium) businesses to provide insurance details and/or a certificate of insurance at the time of contract award rather than, for example, when responding to a request for submissions.</p>	

Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement	
76. What engagement has the Minister had with stakeholders in relation to Aboriginal Procurement Policy?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>NSW Treasury undertook extensive consultation with stakeholders as part of the Aboriginal Procurement Policy Review 2023. This included Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal businesses, Aboriginal communities and government staff.</p> <p>I have had many conversations and representations on issues relating to Aboriginal Procurement Policy. I also engaged with Aboriginal stakeholders at the following events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On 28 August 2023, at the launch of the Treasury publication, Pathways to Prosperity: First Nations Women's Economic Participation Review report. First Nations women and community members, Aboriginal peak organisations and policymakers from across government attended the launch, which included a panel discussion with representatives of the report's independent Expert Advisory Panel consisting of First Nations entrepreneurs, corporate leaders and policy experts. • On 13 November 2023, the Minister attended the Closing the Gap progress meeting with representatives from the NSW Coalition of Peak Organisations (NSW CAPO), the Treasurer and the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty. 	

Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement	
77. What engagement with stakeholders has the Minister had in relation to Small and Medium Enterprise and Regional Procurement Policy?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I have met with a number of stakeholders in relation to SME and regional procurement issues. All of my meetings are disclosed in line with my obligations.</p>	

Existing Contracts	
78. What contracts which are currently private do you intend to take government ownership of, now or at their expiry?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>Decisions in relation to contracts with suppliers to the NSW Government are commercially sensitive information.</p>	

Existing Contracts	
79. What plans are there to change existing overseas construction contracts into domestic contracts?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>Decisions in relation to contracts with suppliers to the NSW Government are commercially sensitive information.</p>	

Qantas	
<p>80. Are you a Member of the Qantas Chairmans Club?</p> <p>(a) Have you ever previously been a member? When did you cease to be a member?</p> <p>(b) When did you initially become a member?</p> <p>(c) When was this declared on the Ministerial gifts register?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>A copy of my most recent Ordinary return dated 29 September 2023 for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 disclosing receipt of Qantas Chairman’s Lounge membership will be publicly available on the NSW Parliament’s website.</p> <p>A copy of my disclosure under Part 4 of the Schedule to the Ministerial Code disclosing receipt of Qantas Chairman’s Lounge membership will be publicly available on TCO’s disclosure log on TCO’s website.</p>	

Department/Agency Staffing	
81. How many senior executive service employees were employed by each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities on: (a) 28 March 2023? (b) 23 October 2023?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>Numbers of senior executives are publicly reported within Annual Reports as per standard practice. The FY2022-23 Annual Reports for the following Departments and agencies within my portfolio responsibilities: will be tabled towards the end of the year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treasury • Department of Regional NSW • Department of Enterprise, Investment and Trade • Department of Customer Service. 	

Department/Agency Staffing	
82. What is the expenditure on senior executive service employees employed by each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities since 28 March 2023?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>Numbers and remuneration of senior executives are published in Annual Reports. Salaries and wages are included under employee related expenses in the Financial Statements of the Annual Report.</p>	

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Department/Agency Staffing	
83. How many individuals were employed as internal legal counsel by each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities on: (a) 28 March 2023? (b) 23 October 2023?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>In Treasury, the Department of Regional NSW, the Department of Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and the Department of Customer Service, internal legal counsel teams provide support.</p>	

Department/Agency Staffing	
84. What is the expenditure on internal legal counsel employees employed by each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities 28 March 2023?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>Salaries and wages are included in Departments' Annual Report.</p>	

Department/Agency Staffing	
<p>85. How many redundancies were processed by each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities since 28 March 2023?</p> <p>(a) Of these redundancies, how many were:</p> <p>i. Voluntary</p> <p>ii. Forced</p> <p>(b) What was the total cost of all redundancies in each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>Redundancies are published in Departments' annual report under employee related expenses.</p>	

Department/Agency Staffing	
<p>86. Is any former employee from your ministerial office now employed by any Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised:</p> <p>The employment of former Ministerial office staff is not tracked.</p> <p>Ministerial office staff must comply with their ethical obligations under the NSW Office Holder's Staff Code of Conduct, including after the cessation of the employment.</p>	

Department/Agency Staffing	
87. How many staff were dismissed from each Department/agency under your portfolio responsibilities since 28 March 2023? (a) Without identifying individuals, what were the reason(s) for each dismissal?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>The termination of an employee is treated confidentially and is managed in accordance with the Government Sector Employment Act 2013 and relevant accompanying policies.</p>	

Department/Agency Staffing	
88. What was the total amount each of the Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibilities spent on stationery since 28 March 2023?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>Stationery costs are contained within the other expenses category in the Other Operating Expenses note of the audited financial statements within the Department / Agency's Annual Report.</p> <p>The costs for the period 28 March 2023 to 30 June 2023 form part of the Department / Agency Annual Report 2022-23. These reports are due to be released shortly.</p> <p>Costs for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 will form part of the Department / Agency Annual Report 2023-24.</p>	

Department/Agency Staffing	
89.How many employees in each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities are working in an 'acting' capacity?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>Internal mobility is encouraged and acting arrangements are supported as part of the department's Performance Development Framework.</p>	

Department/Agency Staffing	
90.What is the average number of days worked from home by employees in each Department/Agency within your portfolio responsibilities?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>Flexible working arrangements are tailored on an individual basis and are discussed as part of ongoing conversations which are embedded in the departments' Performance Development Framework.</p>	

Department/Agency Staffing	
<p>91.Do any senior executive service employees in any of the Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibilities have a driver that is paid for by the Department/agency?</p> <p>(a) If so, what is the number of senior executive service employees that have a driver, and which senior executive service employees have a driver?</p> <p>(b) How much was spent on these drivers since 28 March 2023?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>No senior executive employed by the Departments or agencies within my portfolios have a driver.</p>	

Department/Agency Staffing	
92. Since 28 March 2023, how much has been spent on charter air flights by your portfolio agencies, broken down by agency?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>Charter air flights are contained within the travel costs category in the Other Operating Expenses note of the audited financial statements within the Department / Agency's Annual Report. This is in accordance with the Treasury Direction TD23-11 Annual reporting requirements.</p> <p>The travel costs for the period 28 March 2023 to 30 June 2023 form part of the Department / Agency Annual Report 2022-23. These reports are due to be released shortly.</p> <p>Travel costs for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 will form part of the Department / Agency Annual Report 2023-24.</p>	

Department/Agency Staffing	
93. Since 28 March 2023, how much has been spent on domestic flights by your portfolio agencies, broken down by agency? (a) Of these, how many flights were taken in business class? (b) Of these, how many flights were taken in first class?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>Domestic travel is contained within the travel costs category in the Other Operating Expenses note of the audited financial statements within the Department / Agency's Annual Report. This is in accordance with the Treasury Direction TD23-11 Annual reporting requirements.</p> <p>The travel costs for the period 28 March 2023 to 30 June 2023 form part of the Department / Agency Annual Report 2022-23. These reports are due to be released shortly.</p> <p>Travel costs for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 will form part of the Department / Agency Annual Report 2023-24.</p> <p>Official travel is taken in accordance with the NSW government travel policy.</p>	

Department/Agency Staffing	
<p>94. Since 28 March 2023, how much has been spent on overseas flights by your portfolio agencies, broken down by agency?</p> <p>(a) Of these, how many flights were taken in business class?</p> <p>(b) Of these, how many flights were taken in first class?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>The travel costs for the period 28 March 2023 to 30 June 2023 form part of the Department / Agency Annual Report 2022-23. These reports are due to be released shortly.</p> <p>Travel costs for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 will form part of the Department / Agency Annual Report 2023-24.</p>	

Department/Agency Staffing	
<p>95. What was the total expenditure since 28 March 2023 by each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities on:</p> <p>(a) Taxi hire?</p> <p>(b) Ridesharing services?</p> <p>(c) Limousine/private car hire?</p> <p>(d) Hire car rental?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>The items are contained within the travel costs category in the Other Operating Expenses note of the audited financial statements within the Department / Agency's Annual Report. This is in accordance with the Treasury Direction TD23-11 Annual reporting requirements.</p> <p>The travel costs for the period 28 March 2023 to 30 June 2023 form part of the Department / Agency Annual Report 2022-23. These reports are due to be released shortly.</p> <p>Travel costs for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 will form part of the Department / Agency Annual Report 2023-24.</p>	

Hospitality	
96.How much has your ministerial office spent on hospitality, including catering and beverages, since 28 March 2023?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised:</p> <p>Catering provided for official purposes may be funded from the Ministerial office budget.</p> <p>As Members of Parliament, Ministers have credit facilities extended to them for dining and hospitality at Parliament House. The facilities may be used for business or private purposes.</p>	

Hospitality	
97.How much have Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities spent on hospitality, including catering and beverages, since 28 March 2023?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>Hospitality costs, including catering and beverages are contained within the other expenses category in the Other Operating Expenses note of the audited financial statements within the Department / Agency’s Annual Report.</p> <p>The costs for the period 28 March 2023 to 30 June 2023 form part of the Department / Agency Annual Report 2022-23. These reports are due to be released shortly.</p> <p>Costs for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 will form part of the Department / Agency Annual Report 2023-24.</p>	

Hospitality	
98.Have you been the recipient of any free hospitality? (a) What was the total value of the hospitality received?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>Ministers are required to declare to the Secretary of TCO certain gifts and hospitality with a market value of more than \$500 under Part 4 of the Schedule to the Ministerial Code. This is a continuous obligation for which Ministers are personally responsible.</p> <p>I have complied with all of my obligations under the Ministerial Code.</p>	

Hospitality	
<p>99. Have any staff members in your office been the recipient of any free hospitality?</p> <p>(a) What was the total value of the hospitality received?</p> <p>(b) Are these gifts of hospitality declared publicly?</p> <p>(c) Do staff declare their gifts publicly?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>All Ministerial staff are required to comply with their disclosure obligations under the Gifts, Hospitality and Benefits Policy for Office Holder Staff and I expect them to do so.</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>A breach of the Policy may be a breach of the Office Holder's Staff Code of Conduct.</p> <p>The Policy includes disclosure obligations for Ministerial staff in respect of gifts, hospitality and benefits over \$150. These disclosures are kept on the Office Holder's Register of Gifts and Benefits.</p> <p>If a Ministerial staff member is required by their role to accompany their Office Holder at an event that the Office Holder is attending as the State's representative, or where the Office Holder has asked the staff member to attend, then attendance at that event would not constitute a gift or benefit for the purposes of the Policy.</p>	

Agency Invoices	
<p>100. How many invoices to suppliers or contactors from your portfolio agency were not paid on time since 28 March 2023, broken down by agency?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>Details are contained in the Departments / Agency's Annual Report under the heading account payment performance.</p> <p>Details for the period 28 March 2023 to 30 June 2023 form part of the Department / Agency Annual Report 2022-23. These reports are due to be released shortly.</p> <p>Details for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 will form part of the Department / Agency Annual Report 2023-24.</p>	

Agency Invoices	
101. How many invoices to suppliers or contactors from your portfolio agency were paid over 30 days late on time since 28 March 2023, broken down by agency?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>Details are contained in the Departments / Agency's Annual Report under the heading account payment performance.</p> <p>Details for the period 28 March 2023 to 30 June 2023 form part of the Department / Agency Annual Report 2022-23. These reports are due to be released shortly.</p> <p>Details for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 will form part of the Department / Agency Annual Report 2023-24.</p>	

Agency Invoices	
<p>102. How many invoices to suppliers or contactors from your portfolio agency were paid over 60 days late on time since 28 March 2023, broken down by agency?</p> <p>(a) What was the penalty for paying suppliers or contactors late, broken down by agency?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>Details are contained in the Departments / Agency's Annual Report under the heading account payment performance.</p> <p>Details for the period 28 March 2023 to 30 June 2023 form part of the Department / Agency Annual Report 2022-23. These reports are due to be released shortly.</p> <p>Details for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 will form part of the Department / Agency Annual Report 2023-24.</p>	

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Car/Driver	
<p>103. Has your Ministerial car been subject to any traffic or parking fines?</p> <p>(a) If so, please provide details of each fine?</p> <p>(b) Who was driving the car at the time of each incident?</p> <p>(c) Who paid any of the fines?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>This matter is the subject of a Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA) (Cross-14) release, reference number PD_A5881802 that can be found on the Premier's Department disclosure log.</p> <p>Where a fine is incurred the payment of the fine is the responsibility of the driver of the vehicle.</p>	

Car/Driver	
<p>104. Has your Ministerial Car been pulled over by the police?</p> <p>(a) If so, who was driving the car?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised:</p> <p>The department does not record these types of events.</p>	

Complaints	
105. Has the Minister been the subject of any workplace complaints, including bullying, harassment, and sexual harassment?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>Any complaint or disclosure made under the Respectful Workplace Policy is confidential. The Respectful Workplace Policy applies to all Ministerial Offices and staff and is published on the Cabinet Office's Website. As noted in the Goward Review, a key aspect of effective workplace complaint policies is confidentiality in the complaint and investigation process. Confidentiality ensures that staff feel safe about raising concerns and confident that action will be taken in response.</p>	

Consultants	
106. Since 28 March 2023, how many consultancy contracts have been signed in your portfolio agencies, broken down by agency? (a) What was the individual amount of each contract? (b) What is the purpose of each contract? (c) Who was the contract with? (d) Did the contract go to a competitive tender?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>Consultancy expenditure, including details of consulting engagements over \$50,000, are included in the annual reports of agencies and departments in accordance with the NSW Treasury Policy and Guidelines TPG23-10 - Annual Reporting Requirements.</p> <p>Details for the period 28 March 2023 to 30 June 2023 form part of the Department / Agency Annual Report 2022-23. These reports are due to be released shortly.</p> <p>Details for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 will form part of the Department / Agency Annual Report 2023-24.</p>	

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Consultants	
<p>107. How much did the Department/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities spend in legal costs since 28 March 2023?</p> <p>(a) For what specific purposes or matters was legal advice sought?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>Legal costs are contained within the fees for services rendered category disclosed in the Other Operating Expenses note of the audited financial statements within the Department / Agency's Annual Report.</p> <p>Details for the period 28 March 2023 to 30 June 2023 form part of the Department / Agency Annual Report 2022-23. These reports are due to be released shortly.</p> <p>Details for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 will form part of the Department / Agency Annual Report 2023-24.</p>	

Consultants	
<p>108. Have any Department/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities engaged any consultants to provide the following services or advice since 28 March 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Social media? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. What were the cost of these services? (b) Photography? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii. What were the cost of these services? (c) Videography? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> iii. What were the cost of these services? (d) Acting training? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> iv. What were the cost of these services? (e) Ergonomics? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> v. What were the cost of these services? 	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>Photography, videography and ergonomics costs were incurred and are contained within the fees for services rendered category disclosed in the Other Operating Expenses note of the audited financial statements within Departments' Annual Reports 2022-23, including for the period 28 March 2023 to 30 June 2023. These reports are due to be released shortly.</p> <p>The period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 will form part of Departments' Annual Reports for 2023-24.</p>	

Departmental Credit Cards	
<p>109. For each department, statutory agency and/or other body in the Minister's portfolio please report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) How many credit cards are currently on issue for staff? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Please provide a break-down of this information by grade. (b) What was the value of the largest reported purchase on a credit card for the last year? (c) What was each largest reported purchase for? (d) What was the largest amount outstanding on a single card at the end of a payment period and what was the card holder's employment grade? (e) How many credit cards have been reported lost or stolen? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. What was the cost to replace them? (f) How many credit card purchases were deemed to be illegitimate or contrary to agency policy? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. What was the total value of those purchases? ii. How many purchases were asked to be repaid on the basis that they were illegitimate or contrary to agency policy and what was the total value thereof? iii. Were all those amounts repaid? iv. If no, how many were not repaid, and what was the total value thereof? (g) What was the largest purchase that was deemed illegitimate or contrary to agency policy and asked to be repaid, and what was the cardholder's employment grade? (h) What amount was repaid, in full? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. What amount was left unpaid? (i) Are any credit cards currently on issue connected to rewards schemes? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Do staff receive any personal benefit as a result of those reward schemes? (j) Can a copy of the staff credit card policy please be provided? 	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>The use and management of purchasing (credit) cards for official purposes is in accordance with standard procurement arrangements of the NSW Government. Further, each Department / Agency within the portfolio have policies in place.</p>	

Efficiency Dividends	
<p>110. Was an efficiency dividend applied to any Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities in the 2023-24 NSW Budget?</p> <p>(a) If so, what was the efficiency dividend applied to each Department/agency?</p> <p>(b) What measures are being considered to achieve this efficiency dividend?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>The budget papers include detailed information on budgeted expenses, revenue and capital expenditure. This includes detailed financial statements for individual agencies as well as for government as a whole. The budget papers also outline the financial impact of measures in the budget on individual portfolios as well as for government as a whole.</p>	

GIPA Applications	
<p>111. How many GIPA Applications have been received by your ministerial office since 28 March 2023?</p> <p>(a) How many of these Applications have been accepted?</p> <p>(b) How many of these Applications have been rejected?</p> <p>(c) If so, what were the reasons provided?</p> <p>(d) How many of these Applications were re-assigned?</p> <p>(e) How many of these Applications had fees waived/reduced?</p> <p>(f) Please provide in table form the following details of each Application received by your office:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Date received. ii. Date acknowledged. iii. Date responded. iv. The description provided for the information sought. 	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>Information concerning the obligations of a Minister's office as an agency under the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (the Act) is required to be submitted to the Attorney General in accordance with section 125(2) of the Act.</p> <p>The information is included in the annual report of the Department of Communities and Justice in accordance with sections 125(3) and (5) of the Act.</p>	

GIPA Applications	
<p>112. How many GIPA Applications have been received by each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities since 28 March 2023?</p> <p>(a) How many of these Applications have been accepted?</p> <p>(b) How many of these Applications have been rejected?</p> <p> i. If so, what were the reasons provided?</p> <p>(c) How many of these Applications were re-assigned?</p> <p>(d) How many of these Applications had fees waived/reduced?</p> <p>(e) Please provide in table form the following details of each Application received by your office:</p> <p> i. Date received.</p> <p> ii. Date acknowledged.</p> <p> iii. Date responded.</p> <p> iv. The description provided for the information sought.</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>Information concerning an agency’s obligations under the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (the Act) is included in the relevant agency annual report in accordance with section 125(1) of the Act.</p> <p>Further information about applications received by The Cabinet Office and the Premier’s Department is available on the disclosure log for each Department on their respective websites.</p>	

Labour Hire Firms	
<p>113. Have any Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities utilised the services of Labour Hire Firms since 28 March 2023? If yes, please advise in table form:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The names of the firms utilised. (b) The total amount paid to each firm engaged. (c) The average tenure period for an employee provided by a labour hire company. (d) The longest tenure for an employee provided by a labour hire company. (e) The duties conducted by employees engaged through a labour hire company. (f) The office locations of employees engaged through a labour hire company. (g) (g) The highest hourly or daily rate paid to an employee provided by a labour hire company. 	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>Portfolio agencies make use of the vendor management system (VMS) Contractor Central in accordance with the mandatory whole-of-government Contingent Workforce Scheme. Information on Contractor Central and the Scheme, including registered suppliers, can be found on the NSW Procurement <i>buy.nsw</i> website.</p> <p>Contractor costs are contained in either “agency contractors” within Employee Related Expenses for a standard labour hire contractor or “contractor – projects” category disclosed in the Other Operating Expenses for project related contractors. Both form part of the audited financial statements within the Department / Agency’s Annual Report.</p> <p>Details for the period 28 March 2023 to 30 June 2023 form part of the Department / Agency Annual Report 2022-23. These reports are due to be released shortly.</p> <p>Details for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 will form part of the Department / Agency Annual Report 2023-24.</p>	

Minister for Finance, Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, and Natural Resources – Supplementary Questions – November 2023

Media and Public Relations	
<p>114. How much has your ministerial office spent on advertising or sponsored posts since 28 March 2023 on the following social media platforms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Facebook (b) Instagram (c) LinkedIn (d) TikTok (e) YouTube (f) WhatsApp (g) X (formerly known as Twitter) 	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised:</p> <p>No money has been spent from the Ministerial office on advertising or sponsored posts on the social media platforms.</p>	

Media and Public Relations	
<p>115. How much has each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities spent on advertising or sponsored posts since 28 March 2023 on the following social media platforms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Facebook (b) Instagram (c) LinkedIn (d) TikTok (e) YouTube (f) WhatsApp (g) X (formerly known as Twitter) 	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised:</p> <p>Department and agency expenditure is published in Annual Reports and on OpenGov NSW.</p>	

Media and Public Relations	
116. Have you had media training or public speaking training? (a) If yes, who paid for it? (b) If paid by taxpayers, what was the amount paid since 28 March 2023?	
ANSWER: I have not undertaken media training or public speaking training with taxpayer funding.	

Media and Public Relations	
117. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies and what is the total cost to employ these advisers?	
ANSWER: I am advised; Staff numbers are included in the Annual Report. Each of the Departments and agencies within my portfolio responsibilities is responsible for their media or public relations advisors. Staff salaries are set by the Crown Employees (Public Sector- Salaries) Award.	

Media and Public Relations	
118. What is the forecast for the current financial year for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed in each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities and their total cost?	
ANSWER: Please refer to the answer to question 117.	

Media and Public Relations	
119. What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Media monitoring services are procured under a whole-of-government contract. - A whole-of-Government contract reduces administration costs on individual Departments and Agencies, takes advantage of economies of scale, and avoids duplication in services (and costs) across NSW Government. - Isentia have recently secured the whole-of-government contract for the next three years, at a savings for more than \$2 million compared to the previous contract. - Details of the three-year contract are available at https://www.tenders.nsw.gov.au/?event=public.cn.view&CNUUID=E99BBB53-FC12-DC94-57E7E126B8321F73 	

Merchant fees	
120. Please provide a list of all transactions where customers need to pay a merchant fee on credit and/or debit card payments in each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities.	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>Agencies within my portfolio responsibilities operate in line with Treasury Circular TC18-18 Agency recouping of merchant interchange fees.</p> <p>Merchant fees are embedded in credit card payments and are not separately identified in the data captured by accounting systems. Where a merchant fee is incurred, the fee will be allocated to the expense category.</p> <p>For Revenue NSW, where customers pay fines, state taxes, or state debt liabilities by credit/debit card, merchant fees are applied. Alternative fee-free payment methods are available for customers, including cash, cheques, direct debit, BPay, and in some instances direct credit.</p>	

Minister for Finance, Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, and Natural Resources – Supplementary Questions – November 2023

Merchant fees	
121. Please provide the percentage and/or amount of the merchant fees applied to all credit and/or debit card payments/transactions payments in each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities.	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>Merchant fees are embedded in individual credit card payments. The Percentages will vary by supplier and the nature of the transaction.</p>	

Merchant fees	
122. What was the total amount paid in merchant fees on credit and/or debit card payments made by each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities since 28 March 2023?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>Merchant fees are embedded in credit card payments and are not separately identified in the data captured by the accounting system. Where a merchant fee is incurred the fee will be allocated to the expense category, for example a merchant fee on a domestic air fare will be treated as a Travel expense.</p>	

Ministerial disclosures	
123. Did you make any updates to your Ministerial disclosure on or after 2 August 2023? (a) If yes, what prompted this update to your disclosure?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised:</p> <p>Disclosure obligations for Ministers under Part 2 (Standing disclosure of interests), Part 3 (Conflicts of Interest) and Part 4 (Gifts and Hospitality) of the Schedule to the Ministerial Code are continuous. Ministers are required to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • notify the Premier of a change to their pecuniary and other interests as soon as practicable after the change has occurred • notify the Premier of a change to pecuniary and other interests held by their immediate family members, as soon as practicable after the change has occurred • notify the Premier promptly of conflicts of interest • disclose gifts and hospitality promptly to the TCO Secretary. <p>I make continuous disclosures of the matters that are covered by the Ministerial Code.</p>	

Office Administration	
124. What brand of paper is used in your office? (a) Is it recycled paper? (b) Is it Australian made paper?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised office supplies are purchased in accordance with standard procurement arrangements.</p>	

Office Administration	
<p>125. How many staff members were employed in your ministerial office at the MS6 grade for the following months:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) April (b) May (c) June (d) July (e) August (f) September (g) October 	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised that Ministerial staff numbers and grades are published on the NSW Government Website:</p> <p>https://www.nsw.gov.au/departments-and-agencies/the-cabinet-office/access-to-information/premier-and-ministers-staff-numbers</p>	

Office Administration	
<p>126. How many staff members were employed in your ministerial office at the MS5 grade for the following months:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) April (b) May (c) June (d) July (e) August (f) September (g) October 	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>Please see the answer to Question 125.</p>	

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Office Administration	
<p>127. How many staff members were employed in your ministerial office at the MS4 grade for the following months:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) April (b) May (c) June (d) July (e) August (f) September (g) October 	
<p>ANSWER: Please see the answer to Question 125.</p>	

Office Administration	
<p>128. How many staff members were employed in your ministerial office at the MS3 grade for the following months:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) April (b) May (c) June (d) July (e) August (f) September (g) October 	
<p>ANSWER: Please see the answer to Question 125.</p>	

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Office Administration	
<p>129. How many staff members were employed in your ministerial office at the MS2 grade for the following months:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) April (b) May (c) June (d) July (e) August (f) September (g) October 	
<p>ANSWER: Please see the answer to Question 125.</p>	

Office Administration	
<p>130. How many staff members were employed in your ministerial office at the MS1 grade for the following months:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) April (b) May (c) June (d) July (e) August (f) September (g) October 	
<p>ANSWER: Please see the answer to Question 125.</p>	

Office Administration	
<p>131. What is the average salary for staff members in your ministerial office since 28 March 2023?</p>	
<p>ANSWER: Please see the answer to Question 125.</p>	

Office Administration	
<p>132. How many DLOs were seconded to your ministerial office for the following months:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) April (b) May (c) June (d) July (e) August (f) September (g) October 	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised that information relating to Department Liaison Officers is available on the Disclosure Log: Government Information {Public Access} Act 2009 (the GIPA Act), Reference number PD_A5833715</p> <p>https://www.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2023-09/PD%20A5833715%20-%20Disclosure%20log%20-%2020230913.pdf</p>	

Office Administration	
<p>133. How many staff in your office are employed as 'caucus liaison officers'?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) What are the responsibilities allocated to 'caucus liaison officers'? (b) Have 'caucus liaison officers' been directed to only work with Government MPs? (c) Do 'caucus liaison officers' contact members of the Australian Labor Party as part of their regular work duties? 	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised:</p> <p>All staff are employed to assist the Minister in accordance with the Members of Parliament Staff Act 2013 and staff are expected to comply with the NSW Office Holder's Staff Code of Conduct.</p>	

Office Administration	
<p>134. How many staff members employed in your office under the Members of Parliament Staff Act 2013 have been seconded from a NSW Government Department/agency?</p> <p>(a) Please list each Department/agency staff members have been seconded from.</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised:</p> <p>NSW Government sector employees may be seconded from agencies to Ministers' offices in accordance with clause 35 of the Government Sector Employment Regulation 2014 (GSE Regulation).</p> <p>Ministerial staff numbers and grades are published on the NSW Government Website: https://www.nsw.gov.au/departments-and-agencies/the-cabinet-office/access-to-information/premier-and-ministers-staff-numbers</p>	

Office Administration	
<p>135. What is your ministerial office budget for 2023-24?</p> <p>(a) How much of this budget is allocated to staff?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised that Minister's office budgets are drawn from the Premier's Department annual financial allocation to cover employee related expenses, accommodation, and other operating expenses. Further information relating to Ministers' Office Budgets is available in the Ministers Office Handbook.</p>	

Office Administration	
<p>136. How many iPhones/Smart Phones are assigned to staff in your ministerial office?</p> <p>(a) For each phone, how much was each bill in 2022-23?</p> <p>(b) How many phones have been lost or replaced due to damage in your office?</p> <p>i. What is the cost of replacing those phones?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised:</p> <p>Ministers' Staff Acceptable Use of Communication Devices Policy provides guidance on the use, loss, theft, and return of communication devices provided for business purposes. Minister's staff may use mobile telephones for business and (reasonable use) private purposes.</p> <p>Under the current mobile plans all local and Australia-wide calls to land lines/mobiles and texts are included in the plan. Premium service calls, international calls and global roaming services are outside of the plan and may be still chargeable based on the principles below.</p> <p>Ministers' staff mobile phone charges are paid from the Ministers' office budget except for the items listed below, which need to be paid as a private expense:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal international calls from within Australia • Personal travel related global roaming charges • Personal premium number service calls <p>Any personal calls which are outside the plan need to be declared and paid for monthly. Declarations are not required otherwise.</p> <p>The purchasing of technology items is in accordance with standard procurement arrangements.</p> <p>The costs for the period 28 March 2023 to 30 June 2023 form part of the Department of Premier and Cabinet Annual Report 2022-23.</p>	

Office Administration	
<p>137. How many iPads or tablets are assigned to your ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?</p> <p>(a) What was the cost of providing iPads or tablets to your ministerial office in 2022-23?</p> <p>(b) How many iPads or tablets have been replaced due to lost or damage in 2022-23?</p> <p>i. What was the cost of replacing these devices?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised:</p> <p>Ministers' Staff Acceptable Use of Communication Devices Policy provides guidance on the use, loss, theft, and return of communication devices provided for business purposes.</p> <p>The purchasing of technology items is in accordance with standard procurement arrangements.</p> <p>The costs for the period 28 March 2023 to 30 June 2023 form part of the Department of Premier and Cabinet Annual Report 2022-23.</p>	

Office Administration	
<p>138. How many laptops has the Premier's Department or The Cabinet Office assigned to your ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?</p> <p>(a) What was the cost of providing laptops to your ministerial office in 2022-23?</p> <p>(b) How many laptops have been replaced due to lost or damage in 2022-23?</p> <p>i. What was the cost of replacing these devices?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised the following:</p> <p>Ministers' Staff Acceptable Use of Communication Devices Policy provides guidance on the use, loss, theft, and return of communication devices provided for business purposes.</p> <p>The purchasing of technology items is in accordance with standard procurement arrangements.</p> <p>The costs for the period 28 March 2023 to 30 June 2023 form part of the Department of Premier and Cabinet Annual Report 2022-23.</p>	

Office Administration	
139. Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in your ministerial office since 28 March 2023? (a) What is the cost of this?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>Purchase or lease of artwork for official purposes is in accordance with standard procurement arrangements.</p> <p>The costs of purchasing or leasing artwork for official purposes are contained within the other expenses category in the Other Operating Expenses note of the audited financial statements within the Premier’s Department Annual Report. The costs for the period 28 March 2023 to 30 June 2023 form part of the Department of Premier and Cabinet 2022-23.</p>	

Office Administration	
140. Have any floral displays or indoor plants been hired or leased for display in your ministerial office since 28 March 2023? (a) If so, what was the cost of these items?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>Hire or lease of floral displays or indoor plants is in accordance with standard procurement arrangements.</p> <p>The costs of hiring or leasing floral displays or indoor plants are contained within the other expenses category in the Other Operating Expenses note of the audited financial statements within the Premier’s Department Annual Report. The costs for the period 28 March 2023 to 30 June 2023 form part of the Department of Premier and Cabinet Annual Report 2022-23.</p>	

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Office Administration	
141. What was the total amount your office spent on stationery since 28 March 2023?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised;</p> <p>Spending on office stationery is in accordance with standard procurement arrangements.</p> <p>The costs of stationery are contained within the other expenses category in the Other Operating Expenses note of the audited financial statements within the Premier’s Department Annual Report. The costs for the period 28 March 2023 to 30 June 2023 form part of the Department of Premier and Cabinet Annual Report 2022-23.</p>	

Office Administration	
142. What was the total cost of all subscriptions by you and your staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals, and periodicals since 28 March 2023? (a) What are these services / newspapers / magazines / journals / periodicals?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised:</p> <p>The total cost of all subscriptions is in accordance with standard procurement arrangements.</p> <p>The costs of subscriptions are contained within the other expenses category in the Other Operating Expenses note of the audited financial statements within the Premier’s Department Annual Report. The costs for the period 28 March 2023 to 30 June 2023 form part of the Department of Premier and Cabinet Annual Report 2022-23.</p>	

Minister for Finance, Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, and Natural Resources – Supplementary Questions – November 2023

Office Administration	
<p>143. What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by you and your office since 28 March 2023?</p> <p>(a) What were the gifts purchased?</p> <p>(b) Who were they gifted to?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised:</p> <p>The Ministers' Office Handbook outlines the policy relating to gifts.</p>	

Office Administration	
<p>144. What non-standard features are fitted to your ministerial vehicle?</p> <p>(a) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised:</p> <p>Non-standard accessories fitted to Ministerial vehicles are for business, security, and safety related reasons, in accordance with the NSW Government Motor Vehicle Operational guidelines.</p>	

Office Administration	
<p>145. What is the total spend for your office since 28 March 2023 for:</p> <p>(a) Taxi hire?</p> <p>(b) Ridesharing services?</p> <p>(c) Hire car rental?</p> <p>(d) Limousine/private car hire?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised the following:</p> <p>The Ministers' Office Handbook outlines that taxis or ride share services are an option for business trips, including trips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home after evening duty (e.g., when Parliament is sitting, when required to perform the duties of the job, etc.) where public transport is not reasonably available or where it may be unsafe to use public transport. Generally, use of taxis for these purposes would occur after 8:00pm. • To or from the airport in connection with early morning or late-night flights on official trips. • To meetings when it would be unsafe or uneconomical to use public transport. <p>Costs are managed within Ministerial office budgets.</p>	

Office Administration	
<p>146. Were any planes or helicopters chartered by you or your office and paid for with public money since 28 March 2023?</p> <p>(a) If yes, please provide details of the trip including the date of the trip, purpose of the trip, the method of transport and the cost?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised the following:</p> <p>All domestic and international travel bookings for official business must be made through the NSW Government’s approved travel management supplier, this is currently FCM Travel Solutions.</p> <p>Travel covered by the NSW Government contract includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • commercial and charter air travel, • accommodation, • ground transport (car hire, rail, coach, and ferry). <p>Financial commitments for travel expenditure from the Ministers’ office budget need to be made within office arrangements approved by the Chief of Staff as an authorised financial delegate.</p> <p>Where a Minister, or employee of the Minister’s office undertakes travel, travel is taken in accordance with the NSW government travel policy and the Ministers’ Office Handbook. The Premier’s Department website also details PD_A5842315, “Domestic and international travel of NSW Ministers and their offices” that has been released under the <i>Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009</i>.</p>	

Office Administration	
<p>147. How many people are employed in your ministerial office as at 1 October 2023?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised:</p> <p>The Ministerial staff numbers and grades are published on the NSW Government Website:</p> <p>https://www.nsw.gov.au/departments-and-agencies/the-cabinet-office/access-to-information/premier-and-ministers-staff-numbers</p>	

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Office Administration	
<p>148. How many women are employed in your Ministerial office as at 1 October 2023?</p> <p>149. How many staff employed in your ministerial office identify as culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) as at 1 October 2023?</p> <p>150. How many staff employed in your ministerial office identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander as at 1 October 2023?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>We aim for an inclusive and diverse workforce across Ministerial offices that reflects the communities that we serve.</p>	

Office Administration	
<p>151. How many staff in your office are employed as media advisers or have responsibility for media/social media/communications?</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised:</p> <p>All staff are employed to assist the Premier in accordance with the Members of Parliament Staff Act 2013.</p> <p>I am advised that Ministerial staff numbers and grades are published on the NSW Government Website:</p> <p>https://www.nsw.gov.au/departments-and-agencies/the-cabinet-office/access-to-information/premier-and-ministers-staff-numbers</p>	

Office Administration	
152. How many staff in your office are employed as policy advisers or have responsibility for policy work?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised:</p> <p>All staff are employed to assist the Premier in accordance with the Members of Parliament Staff Act 2013.</p> <p>I am advised that Ministerial staff numbers and grades are published on the NSW Government Website:</p> <p>https://www.nsw.gov.au/departments-and-agencies/the-cabinet-office/access-to-information/premier-and-ministers-staff-numbers</p>	

Overseas Trips	
153. Have you had any overseas trips paid for using public funds since 28 March 2023?	
(a) If yes, did any of your relatives or friends accompany you on these trips?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised:</p> <p>In line with M2015-05-Publication of Ministerial Diaries and Release of Overseas Travel Information, Minister's overseas travel is published on the Premier's Department Website.</p>	

Overseas Trips	
154. Have you undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded since 28 March 2023? (a) If yes, what was the nature of these trips? (b) Who paid for these trips?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised:</p> <p>In accordance with M2014-02 Ministerial Arrangements During Absences, Ministers who travel overseas are generally required to seek the Governor's authorisation for another Minister to act on their behalf. All acting arrangements approved by the Governor are published in the NSW Government Gazette.</p> <p>Gifts and Hospitality, including contributions to travel are managed in accordance with the NSW Ministerial Code of Conduct.</p>	

Parliamentary Secretary	
155. Does your Parliamentary Secretary have pass access to your ministerial office?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I do not have a Parliamentary Secretary.</p>	

Parliamentary Secretary	
156. Does your Parliamentary Secretary have a desk in your ministerial office?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I do not have a Parliamentary Secretary.</p>	

Parliamentary Secretary	
157. Has your Parliamentary Secretary spoken on any pieces of legislation on your behalf? If so which legislation?	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I do not have a Parliamentary Secretary.</p>	

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Parliamentary Secretary	
158. What event/meetings has your Parliamentary Secretary attended on your behalf? (a) Please provide in table form the date and the purpose of the event/meeting.	
ANSWER: I do not have a Parliamentary Secretary.	

Parliamentary Secretary	
159. How often do you meet with your Parliamentary Secretary?	
ANSWER: I do not have a Parliamentary Secretary.	

Parliamentary Secretary	
160. Has your Parliamentary Secretary travelled overseas since 28 March 2023? (a) If so, when, and where? (b) If so, what was the cost of: i. Airfares? ii. Accommodation? iii. Food and beverage? iv. Transportation? v. Entertainment?	
ANSWER: I do not have a Parliamentary Secretary.	

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Parliamentary Secretary	
<p>161. Has your Parliamentary Secretary travelled domestically since 28 March 2023?</p> <p>(a) If so, when, and where?</p> <p>(b) If so, what was the cost of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Airfares? ii. Accommodation? iii. Food and beverage? iv. Transportation? v. Entertainment? 	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I do not have a Parliamentary Secretary.</p>	

Parliamentary Secretary	
<p>162. Has your Parliamentary Secretary received training?</p> <p>(a) If so, was it speech, voice, or media training?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. If yes, who provided this training, on what date and at what cost? 	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I do not have a Parliamentary Secretary.</p>	

Probity Auditor	
<p>163. Has your office or department used a Probity Auditor or Probity Advisors, or similar, since 28 March 2023?</p> <p>(a) If so please list the company and/or individual, the project, the engagement dates, and their total remuneration in tabular format.</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised:</p> <p>Under the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA Act), agencies are required to register government contracts valued at \$150,000 (including GST) or more on the NSW Government eTendering website.</p> <p>Departments are also required to include in their annual report information in relation to consultants engaged by or on behalf of the agency, pursuant to Div. 7.3 of the Government Sector Financial Act 2018 and NSW Treasury Policy and Guidelines – Annual Reporting Requirements TPG23-10.</p>	

Training	
<p>164. Have you received any training since becoming a Minister?</p> <p>(a) If yes, please provide the details of what the training was.</p>	
<p>ANSWER:</p> <p>I am advised:</p> <p>All Cabinet Ministers have a undertaken a program of Ministerial induction training.</p> <p>Ministers will undertake Respectful Workplace Policy Training that will commence in December.</p> <p>Members of Parliament have a Skills Development Allowance that may be used in a manner consistent with the Parliamentary Renumeration Tribunal.</p>	

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Training	
165. Have you received any speech, vocal or performance training? (a) If so, what was the cost? (b) Was this cost covered by the taxpayer?	
ANSWER: I have not undertaken speech, vocal or performance training with taxpayer funding.	

Website Usage	
166. What were the top 20 most utilised (by data sent and received) unique domain names accessed by your ministerial office since 28 March 2023?	
ANSWER: I am advised: All acceptable use of network services must be lawful, appropriate, and ethical. The Ministers' Staff Acceptable Use of Network Services Policy is available in the Ministers' Office Handbook.	

Website Usage	
167. What were the top 20 most accessed (by number of times accessed) unique domain names accessed by your ministerial office since 28 March 2023?	
ANSWER: I am advised: All acceptable use of Network Services must be lawful, appropriate, and ethical. The Ministers' Staff Acceptable Use of Network Services Policy is available in the Ministers' Office Handbook.	