



PARLIAMENT OF NEW SOUTH WALES  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

2007-08

FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-FOURTH PARLIAMENT

# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

**No. 101**

TUESDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2008

The Questions and Answers Paper is published at the end of each sitting day and will contain, by number and title, all unanswered questions, together with questions to which answers have been received on that sitting day and any new questions. Consequently the full text of any question will be printed only twice: when notice is given; and, when answered. During any adjournment of two weeks or more a Questions and Answers Paper will be published from time to time containing answers received.

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<b>Publication of Questions</b>	<b>Answer to be lodged by</b>
Q & A No. 89 (Including Question Nos 4019 to 4058)	25 November 2008
Q & A No. 90 (Including Question Nos 4059 to 4100)	26 November 2008
Q & A No. 91 (Including Question Nos 4101 to 4153)	27 November 2008
Q & A No. 92 (Including Question Nos 4154 to 4215)	28 November 2008
Q & A No. 93 (Including Question Nos 4216 to 4239)	02 December 2008
Q & A No. 94 (Including Question Nos 4240 to 4294)	03 December 2008
Q & A No. 95 (Including Question Nos 4295 to 4360)	04 December 2008
Q & A No. 96 (Including Question Nos 4361 to 4413)	05 December 2008
Q & A No. 97 (Including Question Nos 4414 to 4440)	16 December 2008
Q & A No. 98 (Including Question Nos 4441 to 4478)	17 December 2008
Q & A No. 99 (Including Question Nos 4479 to 4555)	18 December 2008
Q & A No. 100 (Including Question Nos 4556 to 4631)	19 December 2008
Q & A No. 101 (Including Question Nos 4632 to 4656)	30 December 2008

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21 OCTOBER 2008

(Paper No. 89)

\*4019 VOLUNTEER RUN KIOSK AND GIFT SHOP—MOUNT DRUITT HOSPITAL—Mr Richard Amery asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

- (1) How much money has been raised by the Mount Druitt Hospital volunteers from their operation of a kiosk and gift shop at the hospital for each of the last five years?
- (2) What items of equipment have been purchased by these funds for use in the hospital?
- (3) Will the Minister give an assurance that the operation of the volunteer run gift shop and kiosk will not be affected by the current tendering of hospital space by the Western Area Health Service?

Answer—

I am advised by the Hon John Della Bosca MLC, Minister for Health:

(1) The net funds raised by the volunteers from their kiosk operations at Mount Druitt Hospital are as follows:

2004-05 - \$34,564  
2005-06 - \$19,948  
2006-07 - \$23,266  
2007-08 - \$14,359

Figures pre-dating 2004-05 are not available due to system changes that occurred at the time of the amalgamation of the former Western Sydney and Wentworth Area Health Services.

Sydney West Area Health Service does not hold financial records for the Auxiliary, which is the volunteer organisation that operates the gift shop. The Auxiliary maintain and hold their own records, and therefore information regarding their operations is not available.

(2) Items of equipment purchased from funds raised (including funds that were previously held in reserve) include:

- Ventilator
- Cardiology blood pressure/temperature/pulse machine
- External pulse generator
- ECG machine
- Grasby apnoea monitors
- Dinamaps
- Pulse oximeters
- CPM Machine
- Orthopaedic shaver
- Blanket warming cabinet
- Patient chairs
- Vital signs monitor
- Sphygmomanometer
- Infusion pumps
- Speech pathology laptops
- Resuscitation Annie torso
- Oximeter machine
- 12 lead EGC simulator
- Digital chair scale
- Sonosite micromaxx hand carrier ultrasound
- Portable data projector
- GE Marquette cardiac monitoring system with central monitor printer

(3) Sydney West Area Health Service's current retail strategy tender process will not impact upon these two extremely valued services.

\*4021 WIRELESS BROADBAND—Mr Mike Baird asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

(1) Does the Minister intend to honour her government's commitment to deliver wireless broadband in

the Sydney CBD?

- (2) Does the Minister acknowledge there is increasing demand for wireless broadband access with wireless subscriptions increasing by almost 90% in the past six months, according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics this month?

Answer—

On 1 May 2008 the Government announced that the expression of interest process for the provision of a free WiFi service had concluded.

\*4022 CONFIRMATION OF STATEMENT—Mr Mike Baird asked the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

Will the Premier confirm his Treasurer's statement during Question Time on 24 September 2008 that the reason NSW is on credit watch is due to the "net financial liabilities of the State"?

Answer—

The Premier stands by the statements made by the Treasurer on this issue on 24 September 2008. Amongst other things, the Treasurer stated that "the major trigger for placing the New South Wales Government on credit watch was the failure of the Opposition to support power industry reform".

\*4023 BUS ROUTE 311—Ms Gladys Berejiklian asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

In relation to STA bus route 311:

- (1) What are the changes proposed?
- (2) What are the reasons for the changes?
- (3) When will these changes come into effect?

Answer—

- (1) to (3) Details of the proposed changes to the Eastern suburbs bus network, including route 311, are publicly available from the website [www.nswbusnetwork.com.au](http://www.nswbusnetwork.com.au)

State Transit undertook extensive community consultation during June to July 2008 on the proposed changes.

Community feedback on the proposed changes for Route 311 is currently being assessed and will be taken into consideration before any finalisation of the route.

The final changes for the eastern suburbs network and for Route 311 will be made public in the near future and prior to the introduction of the new network.

\*4024 BUS ROUTE 910—Ms Gladys Berejiklian asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

In relation to STA bus route 910:

- (1) Why was this route changed?
- (2) Why are commuters being denied access to this service?
- (3) When will the results from the public forum held on 11 July be released?
- (4) (a) Has a decision been made on the permanent route the 910 will take?  
(b) If so, what?
- (5) Will any further consultation take place?

Answer—

I am advised:

State Transit does not and has not operated a Route 910 service.

\*4025 URBAN TRANSPORT STATEMENT—Ms Gladys Berejiklian asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

In relation to the Urban Transport Statement:

- (1) When will the next one be released?
- (2) Will it include areas west of the Nepean area, including the Blue Mountains?
- (3) Will the development of a commuter car park at Glenbrook Railway Station be included in that statement?

Answer—

I am advised:

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- (1) to (3) While components of the Urban Transport Statement have been affected by mini budget considerations, implementation is ongoing with key initiatives continuing to be progressed, including implementation of bus priority on strategic corridors, commuter car parks, the CBD bus strategy and rail freight initiatives.

\*4026 INSTALLATION OF SPEED CAMERA—Mr Steve Cansdell asked the Minister for Roads—

- (1) As a result of the double fatality on the Pacific Highway at Broadwater, northern NSW, will the Minister approve the installation of a speed camera on the Pacific Highway on the northern approaches to Broadwater?  
(2) What steps has the NSW Government taken to ensure the safety of schoolchildren at Broadwater Public School which is in close proximity of this notorious black spot?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) is currently investigating the northern approach to Broadwater on the Pacific Highway to determine if a speed camera is warranted. The investigation is considering a number of set criteria that must be met and an outcome should be known shortly.  
(2) The RTA recently completed some improvements to the Highway near Broadwater Public School. The road was widened and the road curve improved. The speed limit in this area was also lowered to 50km/h.

\*4027 SERVICES FOR CANCER PATIENTS—Mr Andrew Constance asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

- (1) What services exist for cancer patients in the Eurobodalla?  
(2) What breast screening services exist for women in Narooma?  
(3) What services are available for women who have to travel to Canberra for treatment and do not have the support of family and friends?  
(4) Where are radiotherapy services available?

Answer—

I advise the Member to direct questions to the Minister Assisting (Cancer) in future. However I am advised by the Hon John Della Bosca MLC, Minister for Health:

- (1) The services available for cancer patients in the Eurobodalla include:
- Oncology Consultation Clinics with visiting Medical & Radiation Oncologists, and Haematologists
  - Chemotherapy administration
  - Access to a Cancer Care Coordinator
  - Oncology Social Worker
  - Breast Care Nurse
  - Community Nurses providing post surgery wound management, post chemotherapy monitoring and palliative care
  - Allied Health services, including Dietician, Speech Therapist, Occupational Therapist
  - Lymphoedema management through Physiotherapy (private service)
  - Volunteer in home support service (pilot through Cancer Council)
  - Transitional care packages
  - Access to local GPs
- (2) Women from Narooma can access BreastScreen services in Moruya.  
(3) There are a range of services available to women that have to travel to Canberra for cancer treatment these include community transport, ACT Health Cancer Care Coordinators, Breast Care Nurses and Social workers. The Leukemia Foundation also provides services if the patient qualifies for assistance.

In addition, financial assistance is available from the Isolated Patients Travel and Accommodation Assistance Scheme (IPTAAS). IPTAAS is aimed at helping those patients that need travel long distances to receive treatment. This program recognises that people living in isolated and rural communities experience particular difficulties in having to travel long distances for specialist treatment and aims to reduce the impact of this disadvantage upon the health of individuals and communities.

- (4) Radiotherapy services are available through all Area Health Services. Current radiotherapy services include: 18 oncology services in NSW which provide radiotherapy (13 of these are public centres and five are private centres) and 33 linear accelerators in the public sector and nine linear accelerators in the private sector.

\*4028 REVIEW OF MATERNITY SERVICES—BEGA AND PAMBULA HOSPITALS—Mr Andrew Constance asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

- (1) Will the Minister release to the community of the Bega Valley Shire the review of maternity services at Bega and Pambula hospitals?
- (2) (a) Is the Minister aware that this review was completed in May?  
(b) Why has it not been released?
- (3) Why has Pambula Hospital's maternity unit closed?
- (4) Will the Minister investigate the transfer of five women, two of whom were in labour, from Pambula to Bega due to the closure of Pambula's maternity unit?
- (5) Is the Minister aware of concerns held by local community representatives about the Government's ongoing under-resourcing of medical services in the region?

Answer—

I am advised by the Hon John Della Bosca MLC, Minister for Health:

- (1) and (2) The report of the review was completed in June 2008 and released publicly in early October 2008.
- (3) The recently completed independent assessment of maternity services in the Bega Valley made a number of recommendations in relation to the provision of maternity services in the Bega Valley. The key recommendation was that all obstetric services should operate from a single site at Bega Hospital. This decision will assist in providing a safe, sustainable high quality maternity service to the women of the Bega Valley.
- (4) Any complaints in relation to patient care will be investigated. I would encourage any women who have concerns to contact the Greater Southern Area Health Service. Greater Southern Area Health Service operates a 24 hour complaints notification line on (free call) 1800 011 824.
- (5) The Government has a strong commitment to the provision of appropriate medical services to the Bega Valley. In 2008-09 the NSW Government is investing \$569.1 million to deliver better services and improve health infrastructure across the Greater Southern Area Health Service. The 2008-09 Health Budget provides an additional \$32.4 million for the Greater Southern Area Health Service.

\*4029 HEAVY VEHICLE PERMITS—Mr Andrew Constance asked the Minister for Roads—

- (1) How many heavy vehicle permits have been issued for the Princes Highway?
- (2) Is the Minister aware of industry concerns in relation to special permits for infrequent trips to Sydney that is at additional expense to operators through fees and administration?
- (3) Why is there a requirement for these special permits if a blanket 12-month permit has already been issued?
- (4) If someone holds a permit that covers from Eden in the south to Nowra in the north for a 12-month period, why do they need to have to re-apply for a special permit that expires after one month?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) There were 19,500 Class 1 oversize and overmass Permits issued by the Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) in the 2007-2008 financial year for travel on NSW State roads.

There are currently 50 heavy vehicle operators who have approval for period class 1 Permits to access the Restricted Road sections of the Princes Highway with oversize loads for their heavy vehicle fleets.

- (2) A Class 1 Permit is required if a vehicle is oversize or overmass, and is issued at a cost of \$66 for a period of between 1 month and 12 months. This is a set fee charged regardless of the duration of the Permit.

On the Princes Highway between Wollongong and the Victorian border, a Class 1 Permit is required for oversize travel on these defined Restricted Road sections:

Between Gerringong and Berry,

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Between Ulladulla and Benalong Rd near Conjola,  
Between Narooma and Cobargo,  
Between Pambula and Eden

One Permit can be issued for travel through all these locations. A separate Permit is not necessary for each location.

(3) A 12 month annual Class 1 Permit does not grant oversize access to a defined Restricted Road. The RTA Special Permits Unit issues period Class 1 Permits for up to 6 months (renewable) for travel on these locations along the Princes Highway where an operator can provide sufficient justification. Casual travel needs, for example, once per month, is not sufficient to warrant the issue of a period Permit granting oversize access to a Restricted Road.

(4) A separate trip (one month) Class 1 Permit would only be needed where travel at a dimension exceeding the limit allowed under 12 month Class 1 Permit is required.

As part of a continuous improvement process, the RTA has recently commenced a state wide review of access requirements for Class 1 oversize and overmass vehicles and loads to better balance the needs of industry with the capacity of the road network and the safety of other road users.

\*4030 PROGRAMS TO COMBAT BULLYING—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

What programs are available to female students to combat bullying behaviour in NSW schools?

Answer—

The Department of Education and Training does not tolerate bullying in schools and has strong policies and procedures in place. Over the last 10 years, the NSW Department of Education and Training has implemented a range of initiatives to counter bullying behaviours in schools.

All schools are required to have an Anti-bullying Plan, which includes strategies to identify, report and deal with bullying behaviour. Regional support officers such as student welfare consultants are trained, and have been resourced, to support government schools with anti-bullying initiatives.

Government schools implement programs via curriculum areas such as Personal Development, Health and Physical Education and Child Protection Education. Indirect bullying is also addressed via multiagency approaches such as the "Crime Prevention Workshop for Secondary Schools" which has a module addressing the issue of cyber harassment and intimidation designed to be jointly delivered by teachers and New South Wales Police. "MindMatters", a national mental health initiative for secondary schools also includes modules for females to develop social and emotional skills and foster home, school and community partnerships.

There are many programs which provide particular support for female students and encourage positive peer relations across schools such as peer support, 'buddy' programs and mentoring programs. Peer mediation programs where students help resolve student disputes in a positive manner, and social skills programs, with modules for teachers, students and parents, to reinforce skills learnt at school and at home help foster skills which help to counter bullying behaviour.

Many schools offer programs in which female students can demonstrate responsibility and citizenship through community service both within and outside their school. Student representative councils and student anti-bullying committees also encourage students to become actively involved in their school, holding regular meetings to discuss issues and find solutions.

Student-led activities in schools such as school poster competitions, skits, drama, and visual arts help raise student awareness and promote responsible behaviour. Students implement resources such as "Taking Action, Keeping Safe: A resource for student leaders to counter bullying". Activities in the resource have been designed to be conducted either by teachers with student leaders or by student leaders with other students and aim to teach the skills to be able to recognise and respond appropriately to bullying behaviour, including covert or indirect bullying.

Students are now more willing to speak out about bullying behaviour with schools implementing excellent strategies to raise awareness and teach students the skills to counter bullying.

The Government is actively involved in developing and promoting strategies to counter covert bullying. Recently, for example, a technology guide for parents was produced titled "Click - A technology guide for parents". The guide provides parents with information and strategies to better protect young people from risks associated with technology use and is available on the Department of Education and Training's internet web site.

The Government has also undertaken to establish a Youth Advisory Group to ensure that the Government is kept up-to-date with issues that affect young people online.

The issue of bullying in our schools is taken seriously and all schools make strenuous efforts to ensure that children are safe. Evidence of the excellent practices in place to counter bullying and examples of what schools are already doing are provided on national web sites such as "Bullying. No Way!"

\*4031 EDGECLIFF INTERCHANGE REDEVELOPMENT—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

What is the status of the Edgecliff Interchange redevelopment?

Answer—

I am advised:

Early concept development work on the proposed Easy Access upgrade of Edgecliff Station is currently underway, including options to improve access to Edgecliff Interchange.

\*4032 BUS SERVICE CUTBACKS—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

In relation to bus service cutbacks:

In the two years prior to October 2008, which bus services have been either removed or reduced in frequency in each of the following electorates:

- (a) Vacluse;
- (b) Coogee;
- (c) Heffron;
- (d) Maroubra;
- (e) Sydney?

Answer—

I am advised:

Over the past two years, trip reductions and route discontinuations on Eastern Suburbs services have been minimal.

Where this has occurred resources have been reallocated to other routes in the Eastern Suburbs experiencing high demand. There has been no net loss of services in the eastern region.

\*4033 BOWRAL AND DISTRICT HOSPITAL EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT—Ms Pru Goward asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

Concerning the Emergency Department at Bowral and District Hospital:

- (1) How many people who live outside of the Wingecarribee Shire area attend Bowral Hospital's Emergency Department for treatment?
- (2) Is Bowral Hospital the closest hospital for these patients?
- (3) If not, why don't they attend the hospital closest to their home?
- (4) Is the booking office at Bowral Hospital's Emergency Department attended by clerical staff:
  - (a) 24 hours a day;
  - (b) 7 days a week;
  - (c) 52 weeks a year?
- (5) How many patients per month have spent the night in the Emergency Department at Bowral Hospital because of lack of ward beds since January 2008?

Answer—

I am advised by the Hon John Della Bosca MLC, Minister for Health:

(1) to (3) The number of people living outside the Wingecarribee Shire who attended Bowral Hospital's Emergency Department for treatment was 3,405 for the calendar year to 20 October 2008.

The reasons why such patients do not attend the closest hospital to where they live includes:

- Workers compensation (i.e. work in the local area);
- Motor vehicle accident occurring in the Wingecarribee Shire;
- Request of patient to NSW Ambulance Service;

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- Request of Local Medical Officer;
  - Individual preference of patient.
- (4) Bowral & District Hospital's Emergency Department has clerical staff covering the reception counter:
- (a) Between 7.00 am and 11.00 pm.
  - (b) Yes.
  - (c) Yes.
- (5) Since January 2008, on average approximately 14 patients per month have spent the night in the Emergency Department at Bowral and District Hospital.
- \*4034 UPPER NEPEAN AQUIFERS—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for Water, Minister for Rural Affairs, and Minister for Regional Development—
- (1) On what date was Cabinet approval given to proceed with the:
    - (a) assessment of the Upper Nepean and other Hawkesbury Valley aquifers; and
    - (b) development and exploitation of the Upper Nepean aquifers?
  - (2) On what date was the Cabinet decision communicated to the Sydney Catchment Authority (SCA)?
  - (3) Was the decision communicated in writing and, if so, will the Minister provide a copy of the letter or any electronic communication?
  - (4) (a) Did the SCA or the Department of Water provide the Minister or the Minister's office with an estimated cost to the SCA of the project?
    - (b) If so, what was the estimated cost?
  - (5) (a) Did the Minister, the department and/or the SCA seek an appropriation for the work to be undertaken?
    - (b) If so, when, and will the Minister provide any documents supporting the application?
  - (6) (a) If a request was made for an appropriation or if the project was to be funded from the SCA's existing funds, was the Minister provided with a cost-benefit analysis of the proposal?
    - (b) If so, will the Minister provide a copy of the cost-benefit analysis?
    - (c) If a cost-benefit analysis was not provided, what were the reasons given by the Minister's department or the SCA for not undertaking a cost-benefit analysis?
  - (7) On what date was the tender document prepared for the engagement of consultants to assess the Upper Nepean borefield proposal?
  - (8) What were the terms of reference for the engagement of consultants?
  - (9) On what date was the tender advertised and where was it advertised?
  - (10) What were the criteria for the selection of consultants for this project?
  - (11) Which firms or individuals submitted proposals?
  - (12) Was a selection committee established for the assessment of all the proposals and, if so, who were the members of the selection committee?
  - (13) Who was the successful tenderer and what was the total fee agreed between the SCA and the success tenderer?
  - (14) (a) Are any of the SCA's staff engaged on the Upper Nepean borefield proposal contract, employees?
    - (b) If so, who are they and from what firms are they on contract, and what are the terms and conditions of their engagement?
  - (15) On what date was the proposal of the Upper Nepean borefield referred to the Commonwealth Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts?
  - (16) What correspondence has been sent by the Minister, his department and/or the SCA to the Commonwealth Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts and what letters or electronic communications have been received from the Commonwealth Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts?
  - (17) What communications, written or electronic, has been sent by the Minister or his department to, or received from, the Department of Planning on the proposal for the development and exploitation of the Upper Nepean borefield?
  - (18) What communication, written or electronic, has been sent by the Minister or his department to, or received from, the Department of Planning in relation to a proposed water pipeline from Wingecarribee Reservoir and Goulburn?
  - (19) (a) Since 1 January 2000, has the Minister, his department or the SCA made any technical assessment or cost-benefit analysis of raising the height of the Tallawa Dam wall?

(b) If so, can copies of any such assessment/s be provided?

Answer—

(1) to (17) and (19) I refer the Honourable Member to the answer to Question on Notice 3875 dated 23 September 2008 asked by Ms Pru Goward about Upper Nepean Aquifers.

(18) This is a matter between Goulburn Mulwaree Council and the Department of Planning.

\*4035 REVIEWABLE DEATHS—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Community Services—

With reference to the Minister's media release of 15 October and her statements during the Estimates Hearings about reviewable deaths of children during 2007:

- (1) What was the specific cause of death of each of the eleven children that the Minister referred to as "uncommon circumstances"?
- (2) What were the circumstances surrounding the deaths of the two children from heat exhaustion, i.e. were they left unattended in a car?
- (3) Were each of the five children who died from drowning and the three children who died from accidental choking or smothering under adult supervision at the time of the accident?
- (4) What were the ages of the three children who died from drug overdoses?
- (5) Was each of these drug overdose deaths the result of a lack of parental supervision of dangerous drugs?

Answer—

- (1) Of the 11 children whose deaths were listed as uncommon:
  - One young person died from injuries sustained after a fall from a cliff.
  - One young person died from snake bite.
  - One child died from malnutrition and dehydration.
  - One child died from an injury sustained in a bicycle accident.
  - One young person died after inhaling solvent fumes.
  - One child died from a subdural brain haemorrhage. Police reported there were no suspicious circumstances.
  - Five children died unexpectedly while sleeping. Causes of death have not yet been determined.
- (2) The children died after apparently becoming trapped while playing in the boot of a car that was parked in the driveway of the family home.
- (3) Of the five children who drowned, one child was under adult supervision.  
Of the three children who died from accidental choking or smothering, none was under adult supervision.
- (4) Two 17 year old males and an 11 year old male.
- (5) No.

\*4036 MURRUMBIDGEE RIVER—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Water, Minister for Rural Affairs, and Minister for Regional Development—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the Murrumbidgee River, Angle Crossing to Googong Water Transfer proposal by the ACT Government and ACTEW/AGL that will reportedly remove up to three quarters of the flow of the Murrumbidgee River into the ACT water supply?
- (2) If so:
  - (a) Has the ACT Government discussed this proposal with the NSW Government?
  - (b) Has the NSW Government approved this proposal?
  - (c) What is the average annual water quantity that will be removed from the Murrumbidgee River as a result of this proposal?
  - (d) What effect will this have on downstream water users of the Murrumbidgee River?
  - (e) What effect will this have on environmental flows into the Murray Darling Basin?

Answer—

- (1) I am aware of the proposal of the ACT Government to pump water from the Murrumbidgee River at Angle Crossing to Googong Dam. However, there is no suggestion that the proposal will remove up to three-quarters of the flow of the Murrumbidgee River into the ACT water supply.
- (2) (a) Senior officials of the Department of Water and Energy have had preliminary discussions with senior officials of the ACT Government.  
(b) No.

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(c) The proposal by the ACT Government is to purchase water that would have otherwise been diverted from the Snowy Mountains scheme into Blowering Dam on the Tumut River, so that it may be diverted into the Murrumbidgee River upstream of Canberra from the Tantangara Reservoir. This would result in no increase in diversions from the Murrumbidgee River that may occur now.

(d) and (e) It is expected that there would be an increase in flows in the upper Murrumbidgee and a potential reduction in flows into the Murrumbidgee River from releases from Blowering Dam. It should be noted that releases from Blowering Dam for irrigation are made mostly during the summer months when natural flows would be minimal.

\*4037 COUNTRY AREA PROGRAM—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

- (1) Which schools in the Burrinjuck electorate fall below the new State Accessibility Remoteness Index of Australia (SARIA) level of 5.44 and have lost their Country Area program funding?
- (2) What is the SARIA index of each of the above schools under the new assessment criteria?
- (3) What was the SARIA index of each of the above schools under the old assessment criteria?

Answer—

(1) The New South Wales public schools in the Burrinjuck Electorate that will not be targetted for the New South Wales Country Areas Program in 2009 to 2012 are:

Boorowa Central School  
Grenfell Public School  
Koorawatha Public School  
Maimuru Public School  
Murrumburrah Public School  
Murrumburrah High School  
Stockinbingal Public School  
The Henry Lawson High School, Grenfell  
Wombat Public School

The Canberra-Goulburn Diocese schools in the Burrinjuck Electorate that will not be targetted for the New South Wales Country Areas Program in 2009 to 2012 are:

St Joseph's Primary School, Boorowa  
St Joseph's Primary School, Grenfell  
Trinity Catholic Primary School, Harden

(2) The State Accessibility Remoteness Index of Australia (SARIA) Index of the above schools in the Burrinjuck Electorate are:

Boorowa Central School - 4.22  
Grenfell Public School - 4.7  
Koorawatha Public School - 4.65  
Maimuru Public School - 4.67  
Murrumburrah Public School - 4.34  
Murrumburrah High School - 4.34  
Stockinbingal Public School - 5.05  
The Henry Lawson High School, Grenfell - 4.7  
Wombat Public School - 5.1  
St Joseph's Primary School, Boorowa - 4.22  
St Joseph's Primary School, Grenfell - 4.7  
Trinity Catholic Primary School, Harden - 4.34

(3) The State Accessibility Remoteness Index of Australia (SARIA) was developed in 2008 as part of the eligibility criteria for the quadrennial period 2009 to 2012. SARIA was not part of the previous criteria, therefore no SARIA ranking can be attributed to the above schools under the previous assessment criteria.

\*4038 HORNSBY HOSPITAL RENAL OUTPATIENT CLINIC—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

Regarding the Hornsby Hospital Renal Outpatient Clinic:

- (1) On how many days does it operate?
- (2) How many hours per day?

(3) How many patients per day are seen?

Answer—

I am advised by the Hon John Della Bosca MLC, Minister for Health:

(1) to (3) The Renal Outpatient Clinic at Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Hospital is a newly established outpatient service which operates every Monday excluding Public Holidays. The clinic operates for 3 hours per day from 1.30 pm to 4.30 pm. Renal patients attending the clinic are assessed by a Staff Specialist in Renal Medicine or a Renal Medicine Registrar under the supervision of the attending Staff Specialist. Currently, 8 to 10 patients per day are seen in the clinic.

\*4039 HORNSBY SHIRE COUNCIL—LOSS ON INVESTMENTS—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Local Government, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

(1) What implications for Hornsby Shire Council are there from the Lehman Brothers collapse?  
(2) How much money has been lost by Hornsby Shire Council in its investments of ratepayers' money?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) Hornsby Shire Council has advised that it does not anticipate that the Lehman Brothers event will have an impact on Council meeting its service obligations over the current financial year.  
(2) Hornsby Shire Council has reported in its 2007/08 audited financial statements that Council's investment portfolio totalled \$34 million and included securities that have been impacted by global financial market volatility. These securities were principally Collateralised Debt Obligations and Equity Linked Notes, which were written down by \$3.3 million to their market value. The audited financial statements are available from Council and a copy has been provided on its website.

The Department of Local Government has advised me that it is difficult to determine the final outcome for Council, as the investments impacted by global financial market volatility either haven't been sold or are yet to reach maturity.

\*4040 FAMILY VIOLENCE UNIT—POLICE OFFICERS NUMBER—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—

(1) What are the allocated numbers of police officers for the Family Violence Unit?  
(2) (a) Is this the current number?  
(b) If not, when will the correct number be allocated?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me:

(1) and (2) There are currently 8 positions, both sworn and unsworn, in the Domestic & Family Violence Team. 7 of these are now filled and the 8th position will be filled when current recruitment action is complete.

\*4041 SUTHERLAND HOSPITAL BIRTHS—Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

(1) How many births took place at Sutherland Hospital in 2007?  
(2) How many mothers giving birth at Sutherland Hospital in 2007 chose to have an epidural anaesthesia?  
(3) What is the cost to the health system of each epidural anaesthesia procedure for public patients?

Answer—

(1) to (3) I am advised by the Hon John Della Bosca MLC, Minister for Health, that epidural anaesthesia is used in childbirth for a variety of reasons including maternal choice and caesarean section as well being clinically indicated as part of the management of some conditions such as multiple pregnancy and hypertension. The vast majority of caesarean sections are conducted under epidural anaesthesia.

In 2007 at Sutherland Hospital 1,156 births took place, of these 310 women had an epidural while in labour. The estimated cost for each epidural procedure for public patients is \$338.00.

\*4042 CANCER PREVENTION—Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

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- (1) What progress is being made in terms of cancer prevention in New South Wales?
- (2) How do these figures compare with figures for southern Sydney?

Answer—

I refer the Member to my response to Question on Notice LA3904.

- \*4043 SOUTH EASTERN SYDNEY AND ILLAWARRA AREA HEALTH SERVICE—OUTSTANDING INVOICES—Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

Concerning money owed by the South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra Area Health Service:

- (1) How much money is owed by the South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra Area Health Service to creditors in the Sutherland Shire?
- (2) How many outstanding invoices are:
  - (a) over 45 days from the date of the invoice;
  - (b) over 60 days from the date of the invoice;
  - (c) over 90 days from the date of the invoice;
  - (d) more than 120 days from the date of the invoice?

Answer—

I am advised by the Hon John Della Bosca MLC, Minister for Health:

- (1) All Area Health Services are required to manage their budgets and pay creditors within established timeframes. Where that has not occurred, NSW Health is assisting Health Services to improve their processes and meet the payment timeframes which have been set.
- (2) Paying bills on time is an ongoing process and the situation regarding the number and value of invoices changes on a day-to-day basis.

- \*4045 GOVERNMENT DATA CENTRES—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

- (1) How many data centres does the NSW Government run across all departments?
- (2) To what extent are these data centres managed in a co-ordinated manner?
- (3) How has waste and duplication been targeted by the NSW Government in the area of information technology management?
- (4) What future plans are there for improved efficiencies in this area?

Answer—

Agencies such as Businesslink, Service First, NSW Health Technology and ac3 co-ordinate data centre activities on behalf of clusters of agencies.

The Government's People First program is targeting duplication and unnecessary expenditure in the area of information and communications technology management across all Government agencies.

- \*4046 PUBLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACES—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

- (1) Other than for kindergarten, how many spare places are available for 2009 in each of the public primary schools on the Ku-ring-gai Council side of the Davidson Electorate?
- (2) What steps are being taken to cater for the growing number of children and families moving into the area?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) I am advised that there are adequate spaces for anticipated students in Years 1 to 6 in public primary schools on the Ku-ring-gai Council side of the Davidson Electorate for the 2009 school year and beyond.

- \*4047 TOURISM INDUSTRY FUNDING—Mr Donald Page asked the Minister for Tourism, and Minister for the Hunter—

- (1) Given the importance of tourism to the economy of New South Wales and the findings of the O'Neill Report that tourism has foregone \$3.5 billion in lost revenue under the State Labor Government, will the Minister honour the commitment given by the former Minister Matt Brown in a media release dated 25 June 2008 that \$40 million will be committed to the tourism industry over the next 3 years?
- (2) (a) Will the Minister confirm that the \$40 million commitment will be honoured as quickly as possible to provide the tourism industry with the certainty they need to move forward?

(b) If not, why not?

Answer—

The NSW Government has confirmed its commitment of \$40 million to the NSW tourism industry over three and a half years through the Tourism Strategy.

\*4048 APPRENTICE LOCKSMITHS—Mr Donald Page asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—

- (1) Why is the Government continuing to make it illegal under the Security Industry Act for apprentices under 18 years of age to train as apprentice locksmiths in this State, especially when there is a shortage of locksmiths in New South Wales?
- (2) Is the Minister aware this means that existing apprentice locksmiths under 18 will not be able to continue their apprenticeships and that those who wish to become apprentices will be unable to do so if they are under 18?
- (3) Is the Minister aware there are employers who want to take on apprentice locksmiths who are under 18 but will now not do so?
- (4) Why has the Minister failed to respond to requests to fix this legislation so people under 18 can be apprentice locksmiths?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me:

- (1) to (4) The introduction of the Security Industry Regulation 2007 removed an exemption from security licensing requirements for apprentices and trainees. This change had an unintended impact on those aged under 18 in the technical sector of the security industry who are not eligible to hold a security licence.

An amendment to the Security Industry Regulation 2008 restored the licensing exemption for trainees and apprentices in the technical sector.

\*4049 CREDITORS OF CONSUMABLE SUPPLIES—TWEED HOSPITAL—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

In relation to the Tweed Hospital, what are the number and dollar value of creditors of consumable supplies for:

- (a) 30 days;
- (b) 60 days;
- (c) 90 days?

Answer—

The Tweed Hospital budget this year is \$89 million, an increase of 4.5 per cent over the previous year. Like every Area Health Service, the North Coast faces pressures from a growing and ageing population and rising health costs.

All Area Health Services are required to manage their budgets and pay creditors within established timeframes. Where that has not occurred, NSW Health is assisting Health Services to improve their processes and meet the payment timeframes which have been set.

Paying bills on time is an ongoing process and the situation regarding the number and value of invoices changes on a day-to-day basis.

\*4050 CONSUMABLE SUPPLIES—TWEED HOSPITAL—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

In relation to Tweed Hospital:

- (1) What was the total operation budget allocated on a month-to-month basis for consumable supplies for:
  - (a) 2007-08;
  - (b) 2008-09?
- (2) What was the actual cost on a month-to-month basis for consumable supplies for:

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- (a) 2007-08;  
(b) 2008-09 to date?

Answer—

The Tweed Hospital budget this year is \$89 million, an increase of 4.5 per cent over the previous year. Like every Area Health Service, the North Coast faces pressures from a growing and ageing population and rising health costs.

All Area Health Services are required to manage their budgets and pay creditors within established timeframes. Where that has not occurred, NSW Health is assisting Health Services to improve their processes and meet the payment timeframes which have been set.

Paying bills on time is an ongoing process and the situation regarding the number and value of invoices changes on a day-to-day basis.

\*4051 CROSS BORDER TRANSPORT TASKFORCE—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Roads—

In relation to the establishment of the Cross Border Transport Taskforce and the study undertaken that is currently before the Cabinet as a final report:

- (1) How many times did the taskforce meet?
- (2) Who were the NSW representatives on the taskforce and what organisations did they represent?

Answer—

I am advised that this question is more appropriately directed to the Minister for Transport.

\*4052 GRAVEL TAKEN FROM MACLEAY RIVER—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Minister for Roads—

In relation to gravel taken from the Macleay River for use on the Pacific Highway upgrades:

- (1) How many tonnes of gravel have been removed in the last five years?
- (2) Was approval given for its removal by the Department of Environment and Climate Change?
- (3) Was approval required from any other agency such as the Department of Primary Industries, Department of Water and Energy and Kempsey Shire Council?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The RTA's contractor for the Pacific Highway Bonville upgrade project, Abigroup, has advised that approximately 60,000 tonnes of sand (or approximately 40,000 cubic metres) was supplied to the Bonville project from the Macleay River. This sand was supplied over a two year period from early 2007 to late 2008.
- (2) and (3) The RTA understands that development approval was obtained for the quarry from which the sand was supplied. Any questions with regard to consultation or the development approval process for the quarry are a matter for the consent authority, Kempsey Shire Council.

\*4053 KEMPSEY DISTRICT HOSPITAL—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

In relation to Kempsey District Hospital:

- (1) Is the Minister aware that the hospital services an area with an indigenous population of more than 10%, a group identified as high priority for "Closing the Gap" on health outcomes?
- (2) If so, why have bed numbers been reduced and services withdrawn including Level 3 surgical, inpatient paediatric, orthopaedic and discharge planning?
- (3) Why are other services including renal dialysis, non-emergency caesareans and intensive care under threat of withdrawal?
- (4) Why has the North Coast Area Health Service stated that 86 beds are available, when a count by a concerned member of the community identified just 59 beds in September 2008?

Answer—

I am advised by the Hon John Della Bosca MLC, Minister for Health:

Population figures for Kempsey Local Government Area indicate (June 2006) there were approximately 2,720 indigenous residents out of a total of approximately 28,400 residents in the Kempsey Local Government Area. This represents 9.6% of the population.

Kempsey District Hospital retains a total of 86 available beds (including 10 mental health beds) with a daily inpatient average for 2007/08 of 68.5. Available beds numbers can change over time to meet varying clinical demand requirements.

Surgical services at Kempsey District Hospital remain at Level 3 delineation which has been unchanged for many years. The Hospital undertakes a primarily day only surgical role for elective surgery as part of the Hastings/Macleay Surgical Network. Day only orthopaedic surgery continues to be performed at Kempsey District Hospital. The Hospital also has six paediatric inpatient beds and retains a Level 2 service locally. A Level 4 specialist paediatric service is provided by Port Macquarie Base Hospital which supports higher level paediatric cases that are transferred to ensure that safe and appropriate clinical care is provided. The North Coast Area Health Service is currently considering a proposal for the continuation of the Discharge Planner position at Kempsey District Hospital.

Renal services and non-emergency caesarean sections will continue to be provided at Kempsey District Hospital. Demand for renal care in the Kempsey community is growing and funding is being made available to refurbish the existing unit and provide additional nursing shifts to cater for up to six additional patients. The Hospital also has a six bed High Dependency Unit with identified staff with appropriate levels of training in respiratory and cardiac nursing.

\*4054 SEAFORTH TAFE SITE—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

In relation to the Seaforth TAFE site:

- (1) What are the Department of Education and Training's plans for the future of the Seaforth TAFE site?
- (2) Are there any plans to sell the Seaforth TAFE site?
- (3) If so, when is the Department of Education and Training planning to sell the Seaforth TAFE site?
- (4) How much does the Department of Education and Training expect to realise from the sale of the Seaforth TAFE site?

Answer—

- (1) The former Seaforth TAFE site has been declared surplus to the Department's future requirements and has been approved for sale.
- (2) The Department has been working towards the eventual sale of the site for some years.
- (3) The site will be sold in accordance with the plans announced in the New South Wales mini-budget, following the rezoning of the site or a determination that it can be redeveloped for alternative purposes.
- (4) The property will be valued following a determination of its future development potential. This valuation will provide the basis of negotiations for the site's sale.

\*4055 PROPOSED WIND FARM—SILVERTON AREA—Mr John Turner asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—

- (1) (a) In relation to the proposed wind farm in the Silvertown area, what testing has been done on the effect of noise from the proposed wind farm on the villages of Silvertown and Penrose Park?
  - (b) If testing has occurred, what will be the effect?
  - (c) If no testing has been done, why not?
- (2) How many proposed turbines are to be located in the area and what is the size of the area?
- (3) What will be the density of the area to turbine?
- (4) How close to Silvertown and Penrose Park will the closest turbines be?
- (5) What is the construction time for the wind farm and if it is to be constructed on a staged basis, what is the time for each stage and how many turbines will be constructed at each stage?
- (6) (a) Has the Minister's department had any discussions with the promoter of the wind farm to move the wind farm from the immediate proximity of the Silvertown and Penrose Park villages?
  - (b) If so, what has been determined in those discussions?
  - (c) If not, will you have discussions with the promoter in order to reduce the visual and noise effect?
  - (d) If not, why not?
- (7) (a) Will the proposed wind farm have any effect on communications and television reception to the villages of Silvertown and Penrose Park?
  - (b) If so, what will be the effect?
  - (c) If so, what does the Government or promoter intend to do to remove such effects on

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communications and television reception?

- (8) (a) Will the immediate presence of a wind farm to Silverton and Penrose Park reduce the valuations of land tenure in those areas?  
(b) If so, what is the anticipated reduction in value?

Answer—

I am advised that the Department of Planning, through the environmental assessment processes under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, will consider the impacts arising from proposed turbines upon the environment and nearby villages.

There is no evidence to suggest that the proposed wind farm will have an adverse impact upon land values in the area, and preliminary assessment by the proponent suggests there will be a positive economic benefit arising from the proposed wind farm in terms of local employment, tourism opportunities and other flow on benefits.

- \*4056 CORRESPONDENCE—MR AND MRS J EARSMAN—Mr John Turner asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—

Has the Minister or his department received a letter from Mr and Mrs J Earsman concerning the Lake Burrendong and Mookerawa State Parks?

- (a) If so, has the Minister answered the letter?  
(b) If so, when?  
(c) If not, when will the Minister reply to the letter?

Answer—

The Minister for Lands received correspondence from Mr J S Earsman on 10 September 2008. The Central Division Regional Manager of the Department of Lands responded on behalf of the Minister on 24 September 2008.

- \*4057 PRESCHOOL FUNDING IN SOUTH MAROOTA AND WISEMANS FERRY—Mr Ray Williams asked the Minister for Community Services—

In relation to the preschools in South Maroota and Wisemans Ferry:

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the funding provided by the Department of Community Services to these preschools?  
(2) Is the Minister aware of the decision to downgrade these preschools from preschools to child care facilities owing to reduced funding?  
(3) Will the Government provide adequate funding for these preschools to enable them to remain as preschools?

Answer—

- (1) and (3) The South Maroota and Wisemans Ferry preschools are licensed as one preschool service known as Forgotten Valley Mobile Resource Unit which operates a mobile preschool at both South Maroota and Wisemans Ferry.

The service receives funding under the Department of Community Services Children's Services Program. As part of the Preschool Investment and Reform Plan, a new funding model for preschools was implemented from 1 July 2008.

In 2007-08, the Forgotten Valley Mobile Resource Unit received \$99,979 funding. This comprised \$76,939 recurrent funding and one-off additional viability funding of \$23,040 to assist Forgotten Valley Mobile Resource Unit to improve its business model.

In 2008-09 the service was not allocated an increase under the new funding model because of the low numbers of children attending the service. It will continue to receive the same amount of recurrent funding (\$76,939) for 2008-09 and the next four years.

- (2) I am advised that the licensee of the service is looking at remodelling service delivery to secure the viability of a preschool service.

- \*4058 AREA ASSISTANCE SCHEME—Mr Ray Williams asked the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—

- (1) Will the Government be abolishing the Area Assistance Scheme?

- (2) If the answer to (1) is yes, is the Government committing the budget of the Area Assistance Scheme to areas of need through other means?
- (3) If the answer to (1) is yes, where will the budget previously allocated to the Area Assistance Scheme be used?
- (4) Will changes to the Community Services Grants Program funding be included in the Mini-Budget in 2008?

Answer—

Details concerning this and all matters related to the mini-budget are to be found in the Government's announcement in Parliament of 11 November.

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(Paper No. 90)

\*4059 TRAVELLING STOCK ROUTES—Mr Richard Amery asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

- (1) Has the Minister been advised of claims by environmental and farmer groups that the Government intends to sell off Travelling Stock Routes in New South Wales?
- (2) What are the Government's plans for the current network of Travelling Stock Routes?

Answer—

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Travelling stock reserves ("TSRs") are part of the Crown estate reserved under the Crown Lands Act 1989.

Under the Rural Lands Protection Act 1998, the Minister for Lands may vest care, control and management of TSRs in Rural Lands Protection Boards ("Boards"). The Minister for Lands may also withdraw the care, control and management of TSRs from a Board in accordance with this Act. This can only be done with the concurrence of the Minister for Primary Industries.

If the management of a TSR is withdrawn from a Board it remains reserved as a TSR. The reservation of land as a TSR is part of the land title and is not part of the management regime.

The Government believes that if TSRs are no longer required for the purpose of moving and feeding stock, then Boards may not be the appropriate managers for such land. The Government has in place processes, managed by the Department of Lands, to determine the appropriate use and management of these lands.

The Government is not proposing to make any amendments to the Rural Lands Protection Act 1998 in relation to the existing transfer process of travelling stock reserves or routes

\*4060 WOODSTOCK EARLY CHILDHOOD INTERVENTION SERVICE—Mr Greg Aplin asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that over 250 children in the area around Albury are in need of specialist early intervention services?
- (2) As State funding is provided for only seven children at the Woodstock service, what action is being taken to assist the other young children in need?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) Tenders will shortly be called for delivery of new services to the value of \$142,500 under the EarlyStart Program. These funds have been prioritised for Albury and the surrounding areas. The EarlyStart Program will increase the availability of quality early childhood intervention supports for young children aged 0-6 years and their families.

DADHC currently provides funds to Woodstock Support Inc. to deliver early intervention services for nine children in the Albury area. The allocation of an additional \$142,500 will provide an extra 17 places in the Albury and Greater Hume Local Government Areas, representing a substantial increase in services to that area.

In addition, a range of supports are also provided by the Department of Education and Training and Department of Community Services which assist in promoting the development of young children with a disability in the early childhood years.

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\*4061 TENDER PROCESS FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD INTERVENTION FUNDING—Mr Greg Aplin asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—

- (1) Why is access to funding for early childhood intervention services conducted on a competitive basis?
- (2) Is allocation of funding influenced by geographical location?

Answer—

- (1) In the 2007-08 financial year, a tender process was held to allocate funds specifically targeted at advancing the early childhood intervention evidence base to assist in the further development of early childhood intervention services. The aim of this tender process was to pilot and expand the range of early childhood intervention models available to children with a disability.

The assessment process for selecting projects to be funded was designed to identify those proposals that best met the criteria specified in the tender documentation.

- (2) In the 2008-09 financial year, further funding will be allocated to early childhood intervention. The planning process for the allocation of these funds will take the relative need of different regions and areas into account.

\*4062 ACCESS TO EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES—Mr Greg Aplin asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—

- (1) Given the ongoing unmet need of young children requiring early intervention services in the Albury area, what principles of equity of access are operative through the Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care?
- (2) What services are currently provided in the Albury electorate and how many children are assisted?

Answer—

- (1) Tenders will shortly be called for delivery of new services to the value of \$142,500 under the EarlyStart Program. These funds have been prioritised for Albury and the surrounding areas. The EarlyStart Program will increase the availability of quality early childhood intervention supports for young children aged 0-6 years and their families.

DADHC ensures that services are accessible to the priority target groups through its individual funding agreements. Under these agreements, services are required to deliver supports that are culturally appropriate and in line with the funding program guidelines.

- (2) DADHC currently provides funds to Woodstock Support Inc. to deliver early intervention services for nine children in the Albury area. The allocation of an additional \$142,500 will provide an extra 17 places in the Albury and Greater Hume Local Government Areas, representing a substantial increase in services to that area.

In addition, a range of supports are also provided by the Department of Education and Training and Department of Community Services which assist in promoting the development of young children with a disability in the early childhood years.

\*4063 SHOALING IN THE LOWER HUNTER RIVER—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the long-term environmental deterioration of the lower Hunter River?
- (2) Is there a program in place to monitor environmental changes in the lower Hunter River?
- (3) Is there a program in place to monitor changes in shoaling in the lower Hunter River?
- (4) Is there a program to reverse the environmental deterioration of the lower Hunter River?

Answer—

(1), (2) and (4) This is a matter for the Hunter-Central Rivers Catchment Management Authority and the Department of Environment and Climate Change, which do not fall within my portfolio.

(3) NSW Maritime monitors changes in shoaling in NSW rivers in terms of the placement of navigation aids.

4064 ISLINGTON TO NEWCASTLE RAILWAY LINE—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

4065 MYALL RIVER—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

4066 FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY TRANSPORT—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- 4067 RETIREMENT VILLAGES—CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENTS—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Fair Trading, Minister for Citizenship, and Minister Assisting the Premier on the Arts—
- 4069 TRANSPORT CONCESSIONS—OVERSEAS STUDENTS—Ms Gladys Berejiklian to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4070 DEATH OF ANGELA PLEVEY—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4071 BROGO DAM—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Water, Minister for Rural Affairs, and Minister for Regional Development—
- \*4072 PUBLIC SECTOR REFORM—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- Given the response to Question 3870 advises that: "the Victorian public sector includes approximately 1872 public entities" what is the equivalent number of entities in NSW?
- Answer—
- The information on the Victorian public sector was from information collected by the Victorian government. The New South Wales Government does not collect information on the same basis.
- \*4073 GOVERNMENT BUREAUCRACY—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- In relation to Government Bureaucracy as at 22 October 2008:
- (1) What is the status of the Government's plan to reduce the number of bureaucrats?
  - (2) What is the reduction in bureaucrats achieved in each of the financial years 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 to date?
- Answer—
- The Government's February 2006 "Economic & Financial Statement" committed to a reduction of 5,000 positions. This target was met by the end of September 2008. These reductions were achieved through voluntary redundancies, redeployment and natural attrition, and did not affect key frontline services.
- The Premier has announced that there will be a 20% reduction in senior executive numbers, resulting in a reduction of 171 positions. Reductions in numbers must be undertaken by January 2009. The Department of Premier and Cabinet is currently working with agencies to develop their senior executive reduction strategies, to be submitted for approval by the Cabinet Standing Committee on the Budget.
- 4074 INCREASES IN COSTS AND CHANGES IN STAFF AND AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4075 ANALYSIS OF RIVER RED GUM WETLANDS—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- \*4076 WASTE MANAGEMENT SERVICES LEGAL COSTS AND LIABILITIES—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—
- (1) What was Waste Management Services' (WSN) total expense for legal costs incurred during 2007-08 and 2006-07 years?
  - (2) What financial reserves has WSN to account for future remediation liabilities and how has this amount reduced over the past four years?
- Answer—
- I'm advised:
- WSN's legal costs for the two years 2006-07 and 2007-08 totalled \$2.7 million.
- Additional details on WSN's rehabilitation and maintenance program are available in WSN's annual reports.
- 4077 ANALYSIS OF HEALTH AND SURVIVAL PROSPECTS OF THE BABY WHALE, COLIN—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

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- 4078 OUTSTANDING CORRESPONDENCE—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4079 SMOKE-FREE ZONES—HORNSBY—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Local Government, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- \*4080 REPAIR OF HOUSING NSW HOMES—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Housing, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- (1) In accordance with the \$1.6 billion pledged to repair 127,000 Housing NSW homes, how many of these are in the Hornsby electorate and where are they located?
  - (2) How much has been spent in the Hornsby electorate?
- Answer—
- (1) As at 14 November 2008, there are 274 public housing properties in the Hornsby electorate.
  - (2) The \$1.6 billion maintenance contracts began on 27 October. Figures will be available in the next Annual Report.
- 4081 CONSEQUENCES OF GROUP OFFENDING—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Juvenile Justice, Minister for Volunteering, and Minister for Youth—
- 4082 PENALTIES FOR GRAFFITI OFFENDERS—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Justice, and Minister for Industrial Relations—
- 4083 ASBESTOS IN SCHOOLS—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- \*4084 ENHANCEMENT FUNDING—BUSINESS ENTERPRISE CENTRES—Mr Daryl Maguire asked the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—
- (1) What involvement has the NSW Government had in enhancement funding for Business Enterprise Centres (BECs) recently provided to some BECs of up to \$33,000 including Albury and Bathurst?
  - (2) What input has the NSW Government had in assessing and distributing enhancement funding for BECs?
  - (3) What were the criteria to receive enhancement funding?
  - (4) What are the names of BECs that have not received enhancement funding?
  - (5) What was the time frame for distribution of enhancement funding?
  - (6) When were applications called for originally?
- Answer—
- I'm advised:
- This question should be referred to the Minister for Small Business.
- 4085 ENDOCRINOLOGIST AND NEPHROLOGIST SERVICES—Mr Daryl Maguire to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4086 BUS STOP INFRASTRUCTURE—ST IVES—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4087 FEMALE RATES OF LEUKAEMIA—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- \*4088 POLICE SERVICE BRANCH—DOSSIERS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- (1) How many dossiers on individuals, groups, politicians and journalists are kept by the Police Service Branch?
  - (2) How many applications for access to these dossiers have been made?
  - (3) How do individuals know if there is a dossier on them?
- Answer—
- (1) to (3) The NSW Police Force has advised me that there is no such unit as the Police Service Branch.

- 4089 RADIATION/ONCOLOGY SERVICE—CENTRAL COAST—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4090 HUNTER WATER CORPORATION—REDUCED YIELD FIGURES—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Minister for Water, Minister for Rural Affairs, and Minister for Regional Development—
- 4091 MORISSET STATION SECURITY—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4092 CLIMATE CHANGE, POLICY AND PROGRAMS GROUP—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4093 STAFF OF THE CLIMATE CHANGE, POLICY AND PROGRAMS GROUP—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4094 MACQUARIE MARSHES—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4095 ILLEGAL DIVERSIONS IN THE MACQUARIE MARSHES—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4096 BOTTLED DRINKING WATER—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4097 TRUEGAIN WASTE-OIL REFINERY—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4098 CONVICTION OF BRUCE MACKAY—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Justice, and Minister for Industrial Relations—
- \*4099 LAND TITLE INFORMATION SERVICE—Mr John Turner asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- (1) (a) Is the Minister aware that the Land Title Information (LPI) Service online title searching service was unable to be accessed between approx. 9.00 am and 3.30 pm on Tuesday 14 October?
    - (b) If so, why did this occur?
  - (2) (a) Is the Minister aware that it is a requirement in land settlements that a final search be done on the day of settlement for settlement to take place and that if a settlement does not take place it can lead to drastic consequences such as terminating contracts and forfeiting deposits, extra mortgage interest for vendors, redrawing cheque fees and settlement fees, people having loaded all their furniture into the removalist van having nowhere to go overnight?
    - (b) If so, what does the Minister say to those that might have been so affected by the outage that occurred in (1) above?
  - (3) What has the Minister done to ensure such happenings as mentioned in (1) above do not occur again?
  - (4) Did a flood occur in the basement of the LPI building that disrupted computer services to the LPI?
  - (5) (a) What contingency plan for the back up of computer services was undertaken by the LPI following the major flood?
    - (b) If nothing, why not?
  - (6) If contingency plans have been put in place, why did they not work during the time mentioned in (1) above?
  - (7) What action will be undertaken to ensure the Land Titles Office is able to operate and fulfil its functions?

Answer—

- (1) (a) Yes, the Minister is aware that on-line title searching services were not accessible from shortly before 10.00 am until 2.50 pm on Tuesday 14 October 2008.
  - (b) The service was affected by a software fault (bug) which caused the computer clock to reset itself, moving the system time forward 18 hours. To rectify this issue, the computer had to be totally

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powered down and a microcode patch applied by engineers from suppliers of the hardware. The system then had to be restarted and tested before user access could recommence.

- (2) (a) Yes.
- (b) The Minister apologises to anyone who may have been affected by the outage. Regular updates on the situation were provided to the network of information brokers, who supply 90% of on-line title searches to customers. Also, regular communication was maintained with industry sectors involved in property conveyancing through the Law Society of NSW and major banks. This should have allowed most planned settlements to be rescheduled for later in the day.
- (3) The hardware suppliers will put in place additional checks that will highlight critical issues. This is in addition to existing arrangements which guarantee a two hour on-site attendance. In addition, technical staff of the Department of Lands will meet monthly with the supplier to discuss critical issues reported since the last meeting. These new measures will ensure that critical systems warnings are reviewed by both parties for appropriate action.
- (4) A basement in one wing was flooded on the night of 8 April 2003. The building's mains power supply was affected, and had to be shut down. All systems reliant on power, including computer systems, were unavailable on 9 April 2003, but were restored by the opening of business on 10 April 2003.
- (5) A comprehensive Business Continuity Plan and a Disaster Recovery Plan were developed. Both Plans have been tested. In the event of a disaster such as a flood, core operational and line of business systems can be operated from the Department's Bathurst office. In addition, the water pumps that caused the flood in 2003 have been relocated to a new fire control room outside the Queens Square building.
- (6) Due to the complexities of the computer timing issues experienced at Queens Square, it was unclear whether a switch to the back up systems in Bathurst would result in the problems being replicated. Consequently, a decision was made to focus on rectifying the issue at Queens Square.
- (7) LPI has a rolling IT refresh program that ensures all the equipment remains current and supported. The computer environment has generally been very stable and reliable since the power supply equipment was upgraded more than three years ago with new twin Un-interrupted Power Supplies (UPS), supplementary diesel power generators and new air conditioners. LPI and Lands as a whole cannot guarantee that systems outages will never occur, but they are confident that systems and processes in place will ensure minimal disruption to customer services.

\*4100 NAMBUCCA HEADS ISLAND GOLF CLUB LIMITED—Mr John Turner asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—

- (1) (a) Has the Lands Department increased the rental of Nambucca Heads Island Golf Club Limited (the golf club)?
- (b) If so, what was the rental in 2006/07, 2007/08 and what will be the rental for 2008/09?
- (2) If there has been an increase in the rental for those periods of time how does the Department of Lands justify the increase in the rental?
- (3) (a) Has the golf club lodged an objection under the terms of the land valuation system and asked for an independent valuation?
- (b) If so, what was the name of the valuer?
- (c) If so, has the valuation occurred?
- (d) If so, when did it occur?
- (e) If so, when will the golf club receive advice of the valuation?
- (4) If the independent valuation has not been done, when will it be done?
- (5) (a) Is the Minister aware that the Nambucca Shire Council, the trustees of the Stuart Island Reserve upon which the golf club stands, is now requesting payment of the original amounts owing?
- (b) If so, will the Minister instruct the council to withhold such requests pending the finalisation of the valuation?
- (c) If not, why not?
- (6) (a) Is the Minister aware that interest may be charged on the outstanding amounts of the original rental?
- (b) If so, will the Minister instruct the trustees not to proceed to seek such interest in view of the fact that the independent valuation has not been forthcoming?

- (c) If not, why not?
- (7) (a) Will the Minister give an undertaking that no interest or penalty will be charged on the original amount or any recalculated amount on the basis that the independent valuation has not been received by the golf club as at the date of lodgement of these questions and that a reasonable time will be granted after the receipt of the valuation for the golf club to consider the valuation and make payment without penalty or interest being paid?
- (b) If not, why not?

Answer—

(1) and (2) The Department of Lands is not a party to the rental deliberations. The land in question is a Crown reserve that is under the trusteeship of the Nambucca Heads Stuart Island Reserve Trust. The affairs of this Trust are managed by Nambucca Shire Council. The Nambucca Heads Island Golf Club Limited leases part of the reserve from the Trust.

(3) (a) Yes.

(b) Hoolihan Valuations.

(c) Yes.

(d) 14 November 2008.

(e) It is expected that the golf club will be advised by 21 November 2008.

(4) N/A

(5) to (7) As trustee, the Nambucca Heads Stuart Island Reserve Trust is an autonomous body that is vested with care control and management of the reserve and is responsible for the day-to-day operational matters associated with that reserve. The Golf Club should therefore be discussing the issues of rental relief and financial hardship with the Trust.

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(Paper No. 91)

4101 EMERGENCY SURGERY AT MOUNT DRUITT HOSPITAL—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

\*4102 CALLAN PARK SITE—Mr Greg Aplin asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

(1) Which buildings at Callan Park will be under the management of the Department of Health following the transfer of the site's management to Leichhardt Council?

(2) Which buildings at Callan Park will be under the management of Leichhardt Council following the transfer of the site's management to Leichhardt Council?

Answer—

The Health Administration Corporation will retain the NSW Ambulance Service, nurses' accommodation, Church Street/Glover Street and child care precincts.

The waterfront, parkland and Wharf Road areas will transfer to Leichhardt Council under a 99-year lease at nominal rent.

4103 MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AT CALLAN PARK—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

\*4104 CO-PLACEMENT OF SIBLINGS IN OUT OF HOME CARE—Mr Mike Baird asked the Minister for Community Services—

(1) What is her department's policy on co-placement of siblings in Out of Home Care?

(2) Have any changes been made to this policy since she became Minister?

Answer—

(1) The Department's policy on the placement of siblings in out-of-home care is available on the Department's website [www.community.nsw.gov.au](http://www.community.nsw.gov.au)

(2) No changes have been made to this policy since I became Minister.

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- 4105 MANLY JETCAT—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4106 PREVENTION OF BIOSOLIDS ODOUR—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Water, Minister for Rural Affairs, and Minister for Regional Development—
- 4107 COPY OF SIGNED COMMISSIONING FORM—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Justice, and Minister for Industrial Relations—
- 4108 NORTHERN BEACHES STORAGE PROJECT—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Water, Minister for Rural Affairs, and Minister for Regional Development—
- \*4109 ELECTRICITY COSTS—PENSIONERS IN RETIREMENT VILLAGES—Mr Mike Baird asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- (1) Why do pensioners in retirement villages have to pay the full commercial rate for electricity that's billed to management when they receive a pensioner discount for their personal electricity costs?
  - (2) How is a "K factor" multiplier used to calculate electricity costs?
- Answer—
- (1) Retirement villages are commercial enterprises and are supplied as business users by the relevant retailer. Business customers are not eligible for a Pensioner Rebate but I am advised that in many cases the tariffs charged to villages are lower than those available to individual customers, as they generally consume a higher volume of electricity compared to household customers.
  - (2) There is no "K factor" applied to electricity prices in NSW.
- \*4110 INSPECTION OF PUBLIC HOUSING PROPERTIES—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Minister for Housing, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- (1) How often does the Department of Housing carry out inspections of public housing properties?
  - (2) How often does the Department of Housing carry out inspections on the tenants of public housing?
  - (3) (a) Is the Department of Housing entitled to enter a public housing property for an inspection if the tenant is not at home at the time?  
(b) If not, why not?
  - (4) What documentation can the Department of Housing provide to prove these inspections are taking place?
  - (5) Is it Department of Housing policy to relocate a tenant if his/her living arrangements change e.g. if a mother's two children move out of home, would the Department of Housing relocate the mother into a smaller home?
- Answer—
- (1) Housing NSW carries out property inspections for one or more of the following reasons:
    - Smoke alarm inspections: every 12 months.
    - Property assessment surveys: at least once every two years.
    - Planned Maintenance Visits: as required.
    - Fire risk inspections: as required.
  - (2) Information concerning Housing NSW's client contact policy is available at its website.
  - (3) (a) and (b) The Residential Tenancies Act 1987 gives Housing NSW the right to enter a tenant's premises in cases of emergencies or order from the Consumer Trader and Tenancy Tribunal. Reasonable attempts are made to gain access and written advice is issued to the tenant before action is taken to gain an order from the Tribunal.
  - (4) Evidence which can be provided to indicate that the inspection is taking place includes a letter to the client either from Housing NSW, a contractor on behalf of Housing NSW or the Consumer Trader and Tenancy Tribunal or notation on Housing NSW's electronic records.
  - (5) Information concerning Housing NSW's transfers policy is available at its website.
- 4111 HUNTER WATER CORPORATION—NEW PREMISES—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Water, Minister for Rural Affairs, and Minister for Regional Development—
- 4112 BUILDING AND ACTIVE COMMUNITY GRANTS—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister for Sport and Recreation—

\*4113 ETHANOL FUEL AND HYBRID VEHICLES—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

In relation to use of ethanol fuel and hybrid vehicles:

- (1) How many executive officers and public service staff have consistently used E10 blends in Government vehicles?
- (2) What is the Government doing to promote the use of E10 and hybrid vehicles within the public sector?
- (3) What is the Government doing to promote the use of E10 and hybrid vehicles to the NSW public?

Answer—

The use of E10-blended fuel is encouraged in line with Government Memorandum M2007-16: Biofuels and Other Alternative Fuels, which requires that all executive officers and public service staff who drive Government-owned vehicles use E10 blends or other alternative fuels where this is practicable, available and cost effective.

There are currently 350 hybrid vehicles in the NSW Government passenger vehicle fleet. There is a limited supply of hybrid vehicles in Australia, and the NSW Government endeavours to obtain hybrid vehicles where possible.

The NSW Government has led the way when it comes to driving action on renewable fuels. NSW was the first jurisdiction in the nation to implement an ethanol mandate - requiring that ethanol comprise 2% of petrol sold to retailers in NSW. As a result of that mandate, over 20% of all petrol sold in NSW is now E10.

4114 FUNDING FOR SCHOOL MAINTENANCE—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

4115 MURWILLUMBAH PROBATION AND PAROLE SERVICE OFFICE—Mr Thomas George to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Justice, and Minister for Industrial Relations—

4116 EATING DISORDERS—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

4117 HILLTOP RIFLE RANGE—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister for Sport and Recreation—

\*4118 PROBITY CHECKS—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Community Services—

- (1) Given that staff who work at non-government organisations that provide out of home care services to DoCS are required to undergo probity checks such as "working with children" and "police background" checks, at what frequency are these clearances audited by DoCS staff?
- (2) In the past 12 months, how many organisations have been found to be employing staff that were not fully cleared?
- (3) What action was taken against these organisations?

Answer—

(1) The NSW Commission for Children and Young People is responsible for monitoring background checking for child-related employment in accordance with the Commission for Children and Young People Act 1998.

(2) and (3) This information is not held by the Department of Community Services.

4119 QUANDIALLA COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICE—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

4121 HAEMODIALYSIS PATIENTS—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

4122 DEATHS FROM DOMESTIC VIOLENCE—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

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- 4123 MENTAL HEALTH LIAISON OFFICER—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Local Government, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- \*4124 HOUSING NSW WATER SAVING INITIATIVES—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Housing, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- (1) What initiatives have been implemented in the Wallsend electorate to encourage Housing NSW tenants to save water?
  - (2) How successful have these initiatives been?
- Answer—
- (1) In 2005 Housing NSW introduced water usage charges for Housing NSW tenants. Over the past year Housing NSW has installed water saving devices in 1,733 Housing NSW homes within the Wallsend electorate.
  - (2) Total water savings from the installation of water saving devices in the Wallsend electorate are estimated at 36.4 million litres annually - equivalent to 36 Olympic size swimming pools. Housing NSW tenants have reduced their water usage by an average of 9% over the past year saving a total of 2.5 billion litres of water annually.
- 4125 BUS SERVICES—SUTHERLAND SHIRE—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4126 MONEY RAISED BY VOLUNTEER KIOSK—SUTHERLAND HOSPITAL—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4127 PROPOSALS FOR EASTERN SUBURBS (REGION 9) BUSES—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4128 ALCOHOL FREE ZONE EVALUATION—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Local Government, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- 4129 BOARDING HOUSES—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Fair Trading, Minister for Citizenship, and Minister Assisting the Premier on the Arts—
- 4130 NOISY VEHICLE SUMMER OPERATIONS—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4131 PARTY BUSES—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- \*4132 RIVER RED GUM FORESTS—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

With regard to logging on Crown Land in the River Red Gum Forests of the Murray region:

- (1) What is the gross annual investment by the NSW Government for logging operations and activities on Crown Land in the NSW River Red Gum Forests of the Murray region?
- (2) How is this figure derived?
- (3) Is the NSW Government aware that a recent report "Seeing the Value for the Trees", from Economists at Large, estimates that Forestry NSW's (FNSW) operating costs are 88 per cent lower than the operating costs of loggers on private land?
- (4) How does the Minister explain this difference?
- (5) What is the net annual profit to the NSW Government from River Red Gum timber operations on Crown Land in the Murray Region?
- (6) How is this figure derived?
- (7) It is suggested in the report "Seeing the Value for the Trees" by Economists at Large that once costs not born by FNSW are factored in, FNSW actually operates at a loss of \$1.8 million per annum: can you explain why FNSW is managing these forests at a loss?
- (8) Does the NSW Government agree with Economists at Large's estimation of 136 jobs supported by logging on Crown Land in the NSW River Red Gum Forests of the Murray region?

Answer—

- (1) \$3,847,400 for 2006/07.
  - (2) From the financial year statement for Riverina Region of Forests NSW for 2006/07 and is the total cost for managing the red gum estate. This was the last full financial year that the Red Gum operations were totally contained within a single management unit and costs can be attributable separately to Red Gum management.
  - (3) Yes.
  - (4) It is invalid to compare the operating costs of managing native forests on public lands with those of loggers on private property in the way that the report does.
  - (5) \$776,000.
  - (6) This figure is the net contribution for Riverina Region for 2006/07.
  - (7) Forests NSW red gum operations are not operating at a loss.
  - (8) No. The jobs are significantly higher.
- 4133 TOURISM OPPORTUNITIES OF THE RIVER RED GUM FORESTS—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Tourism, and Minister for the Hunter—
- 4134 TYPE 1 DIABETES—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4135 PROTECTING CONSUMERS FROM GREENWASH—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Fair Trading, Minister for Citizenship, and Minister Assisting the Premier on the Arts—
- 4136 SCULPTURE BY THE SEA—FUNDING—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 4137 CORRECTION OF ERROR IN DETERMINATION—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Justice, and Minister for Industrial Relations—
- 4138 PURCHASING OF SCHOOL STATIONERY—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 4139 ACUTE CARE BEDS AT COOLAMON/ GANMAIN HOSPITAL—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- \*4140 DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING UNITS—COHEN STREET SPEERS POINT—Mr Greg Piper asked the Minister for Housing, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- With problems associated with the block of 46 Department of Housing units at Cohen Street Speers Point having apparently "fallen through the cracks", what actions will be taken to restore an acceptable standard of accommodation and amenity for residents?
- Answer—
- Urgent maintenance work was recently completed and additional maintenance work is expected to be completed in the near future.
- 4141 HUNTER WATER CORPORATION—BASE CASE SUPPLY FORECAST—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Minister for Water, Minister for Rural Affairs, and Minister for Regional Development—
- \*4142 DOMESTIC ELECTRICITY CHARGES—Mr Greg Piper asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- Why have NSW Domestic electricity charges increased by more than double the consumer price index and what is being done to attenuate any price increases for the 2009 year?
- Answer—
- The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal's (IPART) determination of regulated retail prices for 2007 to 2010 is available on its website. In real terms, prices have fallen over the past 12 to 15 years as the Bulk Supply Tariff has been replaced by prices determined in the competitive National Electricity Market.

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In 2007/08, the Government spent almost \$85 million on a range of ongoing social programs to assist customers pay their electricity bill.

4143 RESURFACING OF PACIFIC HIGHWAY—SEXTON HILL—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Roads—

\*4145 CAMP WOLLUMBIN—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—

In relation to Camp Wollumbin, a riverside camp located on the shore of Lake Cudgen that operated as a scout and youth fitness camp before it was shut down:

(1) (a) Does the Department of Lands still perform periodic maintenance on the facilities at Camp Wollumbin?

(b) If yes, how often does the Department carry out maintenance and what was the date of the last maintenance works completed?

(2) (a) Does the Department of Lands plan to reopen Camp Wollumbin as a scout and youth fitness camp?

(b) If not, what plans does the Department of Lands have for Camp Wollumbin?

Answer—

(1) (a) Yes. Also maintenance is undertaken by LJ Hooker which manages a tenancy agreement for the residence on the site.

(b) Periodic slashing to maintain asset protection zones around the facilities is undertaken as required. LJ Hooker arranged for plumbing repairs between the mains supply and the residence in October 2008.

(2) Camp Wollumbin has been identified in the Tweed Coast Regional Crown Reserve draft plan of management. The plan suggests options such as establishing an environmental education facility and field studies centre on the site. Public submissions in relation to the draft plan are currently being reviewed by the Department of Lands.

4146 COST OF ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORT FOR RENAL DIALYSIS PATIENTS—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

\*4147 JOINT POLICE OPERATIONS IN ALBURY WODONGA AREA—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—

In relation to the current memorandum of understanding between the NSW Police Service and the Victorian Police Service for future joint operations in the Albury Wodonga area:

What are the details of the MOU as well as the expected commencement date of the proposed operation?

Answer—

I refer the Member to the Answer provided to Question on Notice 3905 asked by the Member for Albury.

4148 NEW POLICE STATION—TWEED HEADS—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—

4149 SMOKING AREAS AT DUBBO RSL—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

4150 BUSHFIRE HAZARDS—BURGESS ROAD FORSTER—Mr John Turner to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—

4151 ADMINISTRATION OF GREAT LAKES COUNCIL—Mr John Turner to ask the Minister for Local Government, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

4152 UPGRADE OF MITCHELL HIGHWAY AND GORDON ROAD INTERSECTION—Mr Russell Turner to ask the Minister for Roads—

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4154 WATER AND SEWERAGE PROGRAMS—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Water, Minister for Rural Affairs, and Minister for Regional Development—

4155 NORTHERN BEACHES HOSPITAL—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

\*4156 COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE—FINDINGS—Mr Mike Baird asked the Minister for Juvenile Justice, Minister for Volunteering, and Minister for Youth—

- (1) What action is the Minister for Youth taking in light of the findings of the NSW joint parliamentary Committee on Children and Young People's visits around New South Wales?
- (2) From these visits, what concerns of young people is the Minister aware of that are not being addressed?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) Given the Committee has not yet reported, it would be premature to pre-empt its findings and recommendations.

4157 STATE-OWNED GENERATORS—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—

4158 PRIORITY SCHOOLS PROGRAM FUNDING—Mr Thomas George to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

4159 STAFF AT MENTAL HEALTH FACILITY IN LISMORE—Mr Thomas George to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

4160 GRANTS TO WOMEN'S GROUPS—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

\*4161 GRANTS TO WOMEN'S GROUPS—Ms Pru Goward asked the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

- (1) What are the details of all NSW Government grants provided to women's groups for the advancement of women in the calendar year 2007?
- (2) What are the details of all appraisals and/or evaluations of grants provided to women's groups in the calendar years 2006 and 2007, and where can they be accessed?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) Comprehensive information on grants to women's organisations is contained in the Department of Premier and Cabinet's annual reports.

4162 GENDER PAY EQUITY GAP—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

4163 REBATES FOR RAINWATER TANK INSTALLATION—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

4165 EMERGENCY SURGERY AT SUTHERLAND HOSPITAL—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

4166 NATIONAL PARKS AND NATURE RESERVE STAFF—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

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- 4167 RADIATION AND ONCOLOGY SERVICES—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4168 EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS AT GOSFORD AND WYONG HOSPITALS—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4169 ASBESTOS IN SCHOOLS—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- \*4170 NORTHERN BEACHES LOCAL AREA COMMAND—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- (1) What is the current authorised strength of police at Northern Beaches Local Area Command?  
(2) What is the actual strength?
- Answer—
- Information about police numbers - both authorised and actual strength - is available on the NSW Police website: [www.police.nsw.gov.au](http://www.police.nsw.gov.au)
- 4171 GROWTH CENTRES—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 4172 LAND IN THE SOUTH WEST GROWTH SECTOR—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 4173 LAND IN THE NORTH WESTERN GROWTH SECTOR—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 4174 COST OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT PER PASSENGER—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4175 NORTHERN BEACHES HOSPITAL—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4176 NORTHERN BEACHES HOSPITAL—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4177 MENTAL HEALTH LIAISON OFFICER—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Justice, and Minister for Industrial Relations—
- 4178 PEDESTRIAN SAFETY ALONG GALSTON ROAD—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4179 REPRESENTATION ABOUT POOR ROAD NETWORKS—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4180 BIKING COMPETITION FACILITIES—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister for Sport and Recreation—
- 4181 ORGAN TRANSPLANT RECIPIENTS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Justice, and Minister for Industrial Relations—
- 4182 CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS—ADDITIONAL FUNDING—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 4183 TEACHER SHORTAGES—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

- 4184 MONEY OWED TO CREDITORS OF NORTH COAST AREA HEALTH SERVICE—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- \*4185 DIP SITES IN THE TWEED ELECTORATE—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- In relation to dip sites in the Tweed Electorate:
- (1) How many dip sites are currently being used in the Tweed Electorate?
  - (2) Where are, and what are the details of, the contaminated dip sites owned by the Department of Agriculture in the Tweed Electorate?
  - (3) What are the future plans for the contaminated dip sites in the Tweed Electorate?
- Answer—
- (1) 15.
  - (2) The NSW Department of Primary Industries owns 4 dip sites in the Tweed electorate: a vacant block of land at Federation Drive, Terranora; a block of land with a single dwelling at the corner of Fraser Drive and Terranora Road; 2 adjoining blocks of land with dwellings at McLeod Street, Condong.
  - (3) Dip sites identified as being required for current or future operational needs are retained.
- 4186 NSW/QLD HEALTH JOINT PLANNING STUDY—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4187 RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINATION—NELSON PARADE HUNTERS HILL—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4188 ECONOMIST—ADVERTISED VACANCY—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4189 DATA SPECIALIST IN GREENHOUSE MODELLING AND ANALYSIS—ADVERTISED VACANCY—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4190 CLIMATE STUDY—DR MILTON SPEER—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4191 NORTH WEST METRO—ACQUISITION OF PROPERTIES—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4192 LASER AND INTENSE PULSED LIGHT—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4193 RURAL FIRE SERVICE—CONSULTATIONS—Mr Anthony Roberts to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- 4194 RURAL FIRE SERVICE—CAPITAL STOCK—Mr Anthony Roberts to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- 4195 RURAL FIRE SERVICE—CAPITAL STOCK—Mr Anthony Roberts to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- 4196 RURAL FIRE SERVICE—ADMINISTRATION COSTS—Mr Anthony Roberts to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—

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- 4197 ORANGE RESCUE HELICOPTER—Mr Russell Turner to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4198 RURAL FIRE SERVICE—PROJECTED COSTS—Mr Anthony Roberts to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- 4199 RURAL FIRE SERVICE—PROPERTY ASSETS—Mr Anthony Roberts to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- 4200 RURAL FIRE SERVICE—LEASED ASSETS—Mr Anthony Roberts to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- 4201 STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE POSITIONS ASSIGNED TO RURAL FIRE SERVICE—Mr Anthony Roberts to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- 4202 RURAL FIRE SERVICE—INVENTORY—Mr Anthony Roberts to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- 4203 FLOOD PLANNING LEVELS—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4204 HIGH SCHOOL CERTIFICATE—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- \*4205 RALLY AGAINST INAPPROPRIATE DEVELOPMENT—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- What is the police estimate of the number of people who marched along Macquarie Street between Hyde Park and Parliament House on Sunday 19 October 2008 as part of the Rally Against Inappropriate Development?
- Answer—
- The NSW Police Force has advised me:
- The number of marchers was estimated at around 800.
- 4206 INADEQUATE POOL FENCES—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Local Government, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- \*4207 POWERS OF PLANNING ARBITRATORS—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- Will planning arbitrators be empowered to consent to the demolition of items listed as heritage items under the Local Environmental Plan for the relevant Local Government area?
- Answer—
- I am advised that upon its commencement, the powers of Planning Arbitrators will be outlined in Sections 23 K and L and S 96 B - 96 L of the Environmental Planning and Assessment (Amendment) Bill.
- 4209 CYCLEWAYS—PITTWATER ELECTORATE—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4210 APPROVAL OF CONCEPT PLANS FOR SUBDIVISION—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- \*4211 TIME FOR ASSESSMENT OF DISCRETIONARY PROPOSALS—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

What is the longest time taken to date (from the time that a major project application was first lodged) for the assessment of a discretionary proposal called in for assessment under Part 3A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (NSW)?

Answer—

I am advised that the answer is 655 days, which included the period between 19 September 2006 and 4 April 2008 (563 days) when the application was referred back to the proponent to address a summary of community concerns.

A design review panel also recommended significant changes to the proposal and I am advised that this process, whilst contributing to the overall assessment time, produced a much more environmentally sustainable outcome, while refusal would have led to an existing ugly building staying.

When the exhibition period of 30 days plus the design review process and length of time taken by the proponent to respond to the Preferred Project Report is taken into account (being a total of 593 days), I am advised that the net processing time undertaken by the Department of Planning was 62 days.

\*4212 POWERS OF MINISTER FOR PLANNING—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

Can the Minister for Planning form an opinion, under clause 6(1) of the Major Projects SEPP, that a proposed development is a project to which Part 3A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act applies, before the submission of a Major Project Application in respect of that development by the proponent?

Answer—

I am advised by the Department of Planning that the answer is "yes".

4213 MEASURES TO PROTECT COASTAL AREAS FROM RISING SEA LEVELS—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

4214 COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT MANUAL—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

\*4215 OUTSTANDING CORRESPONDENCE RE: NERONG SEWERAGE SCHEME—Mr John Turner asked the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

- (1) Has the Premier or his Department received a letter from Mr John and Mrs Kelly Kurth concerning the Nerong Sewerage Scheme?
- (2) If so, has the Premier answered the letter?
- (3) If so, when?
- (4) If not, when will the Premier reply to the letter?

Answer—

I received a letter from Mr John and Mrs Kelly Kurth on 24 August 2008 in my capacity as the former Minister for Water. I am advised that the Minister for Water, the Hon. Phillip Costa, MP, replied to Mr and Mrs Kurth on 7 November 2008.

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(Paper No. 93)

4216 PAYMENT OPTIONS FOR CAR REGISTRATION RENEWALS—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Roads—

4217 AREA HEALTH SERVICES—YOUTH HEALTH TEAMS—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

4218 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT—SEAFORTH—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Roads—

4219 AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF POLICE MANAGEMENT SITE—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

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- 4221 FUNDING FOR WAIROA SCHOOL—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 4222 BRIGHTER FUTURES—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- \*4223 GUNDAGAI ASSAULTS—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- (1) With reference to the assault charges against Mr Ricky John William Wheeler of Gundagai arising from an incident at Stoney Beach near Gundagai on 29 January 2008, were charges laid against any other persons involved in the incident?
  - (2) If not, what was the reason for charges not being laid?
- Answer—
- The NSW Police Force has advised me:
- (1) Yes.
  - (2) N/A.
- 4224 MACARTHUR PRESCHOOL—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 4225 OSCAR TRAINS—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4226 ANTI-GAMBLING ADVERTISEMENT CAMPAIGN—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4227 CYCLING PROJECTS—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4228 ASSISTANCE FOR RESPITE CARE—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—
- 4229 ADVERTISING EXPENDITURE BY NSW GOVERNMENT AGENCIES—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—
- 4230 LAND TO BE ADDED TO GARIGAL NATIONAL PARK—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4231 TRAINING FOR NURSES—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- \*4232 UPGRADE OF POLICE RADIO NETWORK—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- Noting that NSW Police Force radio broadcasts were recently upgraded from analogue to a digital fully encrypted network within the major metropolitan and regional centres across New South Wales:
- (1) Did this upgrade include the Wagga Police Station?
  - (2) Did this upgrade include the Griffith Police Station?
  - (3) Did this upgrade include the Leeton Police Station?
  - (4) If these stations have not been upgraded, when are they likely to be changed from analogue to digital?
- Answer—
- The NSW Police Force has advised me:
- (1) to (4) Specific operations in regional areas which require secure digital communications can be facilitated through established channels.
- 4233 NATURAL DISASTER MITIGATION FUNDING—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—

- 4234 FLOOD MANAGERS—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4235 TWEED HOSPITAL—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- \*4236 MINING SUBSIDENCE ENGINEERS—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- Given that the Mineral Resources Division within the Department of Primary Industries is currently advertising for three Mining Subsidence Engineers for the Hunter/Newcastle/Central Coast area:
- (1) How many Mining Subsidence Engineers are currently employed in that area?
  - (2) How long has each of the three positions been vacant?
  - (3) How many mining development applications were approved by the Hunter/Newcastle/Central Coast offices while those positions were vacant?
  - (4) Who assessed these mining development applications for potential subsidence while those positions were vacant?
- Answer—
- (1) Four.
  - (2) There have been no vacancies in the three positions for the last three years.
  - (3) There were no vacancies and work proceeded at an historically high level with the Unit assessing 67 mine subsidence management plans during the financial year 2007-2008.
  - (4) As there were no vacancies the Subsidence Unit assessed all submitted mine subsidence management plans.
- 4237 NEW POSITIONS WITHIN THE CLIMATE CHANGE, POLICY AND PROGRAMS GROUP—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4238 ENERGY EFFICIENT AUDIT AND REFIT PROGRAM—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4239 VANDALISED AND STOLEN ITEMS AT MIDDLE DURAL PUBLIC SCHOOL—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

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(Paper No. 94)

- 4240 REVENUE FROM PARKING FEES AT HOSPITALS—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4241 PRIVATISATION OF CESSNOCK CORRECTIONAL CENTRE—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Justice, and Minister for Industrial Relations—
- 4242 GLASSING ATTACKS—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- 4243 VOLUNTEER-RUN WILDLIFE RESCUE UNITS—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4244 IMPACT OF THE AILING HEALTH OF THE MYALL RIVER ON TOURISM—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Tourism, and Minister for the Hunter—
- 4245 INCREASED RENT FOR REGISTERED CLUBS ON CROWN LAND—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—

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- 4246 INCREASED FEES FOR PARKING AT JOHN HUNTER HOSPITAL—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4247 YOUNGER PEOPLE IN RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—
- 4248 ADVERTISEMENT OF VACANT POSITIONS—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4249 FUNDING FOR SCHOOLS—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 4250 NATIONAL PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEES—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4251 JOHN MARCHEFF SOLAR PROJECT—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- \*4252 VISIT TO SOLAR THERMAL ELECTRICITY GENERATORS—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- In relation to Solar Thermal Electricity Generation:
- Given the response to Question 3871 said "An important function of the office of Premier or Minister is to visit companies and organisations to discuss initiatives which have benefits for New South Wales, including energy and environmental projects", when has the Premier or his Ministers visited any solar thermal electricity generators in this State or anywhere else in world?
- Answer—
- I believe that my previous response satisfactorily answers your question.
- 4254 RAIL SERVICES ON THE NORTHERN LINE—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4255 GRANTS TO WOMEN'S GROUPS—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 4256 WASTE MANAGEMENT SERVICES—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—
- 4257 GRANTS AND SUBSIDIES—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 4258 ANNUAL REPORT—JENOLAN CAVES RESERVE TRUST—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4259 NORTHERN BEACHES HOSPITAL—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4262 MEETING WITH MEDICAL SPECIALISTS—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4263 JACKGREEN ENERGY—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4264 FINANCIAL COUNSELLING SERVICE—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Fair Trading, Minister for Citizenship, and Minister Assisting the Premier on the Arts—
- 4265 REPRESENTATION ABOUT AUSTRALIAN ROAD RULE 97—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Roads—

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- 4266 REPRESENTATION REGARDING CYCLE WAY—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4267 REPRESENTATION ABOUT WIRE ROPE BARRIERS ALONG THE F3—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4268 NICOTINE REPLACEMENT THERAPY—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 4269 HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE—SUTHERLAND SHIRE—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 4270 EMERGENCY SECTION—SUTHERLAND HOSPITAL—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- \*4271 MIRANDA LOCAL AREA COMMAND—Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- (1) What is the current authorised strength of police at Miranda Local Area Command?
  - (2) What is the actual strength?
- Answer—
- Information about police numbers - both authorised and actual strength - is available on the NSW Police website: [www.police.nsw.gov.au](http://www.police.nsw.gov.au)
- 4272 TUMUT HOSPITAL REDEVELOPMENT—Mr Daryl Maguire to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4273 SCHOOLS AND TAFE—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 4274 LAND CLEARING SATELLITE MONITORING—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4275 BINGE DRINKING IN ENTERTAINMENT ZONES—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- 4276 INNER CITY POLICE COMMANDS—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- 4277 PHYSICIAN ASSISTED DYING—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4278 PRIVATE INVESTIGATORS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Fair Trading, Minister for Citizenship, and Minister Assisting the Premier on the Arts—
- \*4279 PRIVATE INVESTIGATORS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- (1) What is the Police Department doing to prevent private investigators claiming that they can legally access information that is not legally available to them?
  - (2) How many private investigators have been successfully pursued in NSW for making such claims in the past two years?
- Answer—
- I refer the Honourable Member to the response to his previous Question on Notice No. 2981 on the same subject.

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\*4280 ELECTRICITY INFRASTRUCTURE—KU-RING-GAI—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

- (1) How many extra dwellings is the Electricity Commission planning to service in the Ku-ring-gai Council area over the next 20 years?
- (2) What extra capacity has been planned for over that period of time?
- (3) What is the current value of the capital electricity infrastructure in the Ku-ring-gai Council area?
- (4) What extra capital expenditure will be required over the next 20 years?

Answer—

EnergyAustralia has advised:

- (1) Dwelling estimates used in long term load forecasts are based on the Department of Planning's Housing Strategy for Sydney.
- (2) EnergyAustralia plans to increase zone substation capacity in the Ku-ring-gai area by 87MVA over the period 2008 to 2024.
- (3) It is not possible to track value by region, as power supply to an area often originates from major assets in another region.
- (4) Estimated capital expenditure on projects greater than \$1 million in the Ku-ring-gai area in the period to 2024 is in the order of \$110 million.

\*4281 LICENSED AND REGISTERED FIREARMS—Mr Donald Page asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—

- (1) How many firearms registration applications were approved by the Firearms Registry in:
  - (a) 2006;
  - (b) 2007; and
  - (c) 2008 to date?
- (2) How many licensed firearm holders are there in the Ballina electorate?
- (3) How many registered firearms are there in the Ballina electorate?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me:

- (1) The number of Permits to Acquire firearms issued in the calendar years requested is as follows:
  - (a) 35,890.
  - (b) 36,656.
  - (c) 38,713 as at 31 October 2008.
- (2) 2,739.
- (3) 8,962.

4282 STATE RADIOTHERAPY PLAN—Mr Donald Page to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

4283 MOTOR ASSISTED PEDAL CYCLES—CONDITIONAL REGISTRATION—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Roads—

\*4284 SURPLUSES PRODUCED BY PHOTOVOLTAIC INSTALLATIONS—Mr Greg Piper asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

What progress has the Government made toward introducing a feed-in tariff for surpluses produced by domestic photovoltaic installations?

Answer—

The NSW Government has announced that a feed-in tariff scheme for NSW will be introduced and are currently establishing a taskforce to determine the appropriate rate and form for a feed-in tariff in NSW.

4285 ALLIED HEALTH SERVICES AT TWEED HOSPITAL—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

- 4286 LISMORE WESTPAC HELICOPTER SERVICE—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4287 SURGERY AT TWEED HOSPITAL—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4288 ENERGY EFFICIENT AUDIT AND REFIT PROGRAM—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4289 PRESUMED EXTINCT LIST—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4290 BIOBANKING TRUST FUND—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4291 UNPAID HOSPITAL BILLS—Mr George Souris to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4292 REPRESENTATION REGARDING LEARNERS PERMIT PERIOD—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4293 EROSION OF THE RIVERBANK OF THE NAMBUCCA RIVER—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4294 SILTATION OF KILLICK CREEK—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

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(Paper No. 95)

- 4295 ISSUES AFFECTING THE RETAIL LEASING INDUSTRY—DISCUSSION PAPER—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- \*4296 ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY LIAISON OFFICER APPOINTMENT—ALBURY—Mr Greg Aplin asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—

- (1) In view of the then Minister's statement in April 2008 that the appointment of an Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer to the Albury LAC was being processed as a matter of urgency, why has the appointment not proceeded?
- (2) When will the selection process commence?
- (3) What date will be set for the appointment?
- (4) Will the appointment be for twelve months or longer?
- (5) What commitment will be made to ensuring the permanent appointment of an ACLO to the Albury LAC?

Answer—

- (1) In April 2008 the then Minister for Police advised that the Memorandum of Understanding regarding the appointment of Aboriginal Community Liaison Officers (ACLOs) - rather than a specific appointment at Albury - was being processed as a matter of urgency.

The Commonwealth Department of Family & Housing, Community Services & Indigenous Affairs (FAHSCIA) funding for the Albury ACLO position will become available in the 2009-10 financial year.

- (2) When the FAHSCIA funding becomes available in 2009/10.
- (3) An appointment will be made when recruitment action is complete.
- (4) The appointment under FAHSCIA funding will be for a 12 month period.

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- (5) Following the appointment of an officer to the FAHSCIA funded position, the Albury Local Area Command will review workload and other issues and may prepare a case for funding to make the position permanent.
- 4297 BILLABONG CREEK SALT INTERCEPTION SITE—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Water, Minister for Rural Affairs, and Minister for Regional Development—
- 4298 HORNSBY HOSPITAL MENTAL HEALTH INTENSIVE CARE UNIT—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Local Government, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- 4299 ADOLESCENT DRUG AND ALCOHOL AWARENESS—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4300 ADOLESCENT DRUG AND ALCOHOL AWARENESS—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 4301 ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY LIAISON OFFICER APPOINTMENTS—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- 4302 ALBURY BASE HOSPITAL SURGERY—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4303 PATRONAGE OF MANLY FERRY AND JETCAT SERVICES—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4304 MANLY JETCAT STAFF—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4305 COST RECOVERY OF TRAIN SERVICES—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4306 PROPOSED CHANGES TO BUS ROUTES—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4307 COST OF JETCAT TRIP—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4308 REACH FOR THE STARS PROGRAM—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- \*4309 FEES PAID BY OYSTER FARMERS—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- (1) Is the Minister aware the ailing health of the Myall River has prevented oyster farmers in the Port Stephens area from harvesting this year?
  - (2) Is the Minister aware these oyster farmers are continuing to be charged lease fees by the NSW Government, despite not being able to harvest?
  - (3) Will the Minister consider waiving this lease fee until the health of the Myall River is restored and the oyster farmers can continue harvesting?
- Answer—
- (1) Yes.
  - (2) Oyster farmers cannot harvest oysters directly from the affected leases; however they can move the oysters and keep them on nearby approved "direct harvest leases" for 60 days or more before sending them to market.
  - (3) Oyster farmers suffering financial hardship may apply for assistance under the NSW DPI 'Aquaculture Debt and Fee Waiver Policy'. This approach is consistent with any other water quality/disease related event affecting the NSW oyster industry.
- 4310 REGULATION OF FACILITIES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—

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- 4311 POLLUTION IN MYALL LAKES NATIONAL PARK—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4312 CBD METRO—Ms Gladys Berejiklian to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4313 CBD METRO—Ms Gladys Berejiklian to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4314 GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE NUMBERS—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—
- 4315 GRANTS TO WOMEN'S GROUPS—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 4316 BOWRAL AND DISTRICT HOSPITAL EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4317 BULLYING IN THE NSW AMBULANCE SERVICE—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4318 RTA TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT EXERCISE—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4319 OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 4320 TEACHERS IN CHILDCARE CENTRES—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 4321 EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTRES—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 4322 NURSES AT HORNSBY HOSPITAL—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4323 REPRESENTATION REGARDING IDENTIFICATION PLATES FOR MOTORCYCLES—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4324 MENTAL HEALTH NURSES—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Local Government, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- 4325 WOMEN'S SPORTS—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister for Sport and Recreation—
- 4326 CYCLING PROJECTS IN THE CRONULLA ELECTORATE—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4327 TRAFFIC STUDY—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4328 OSCAR TRAINS—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4329 SUSTAINABLE ANIMAL FARMING—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4330 REGISTRATION EXEMPTIONS FOR ANIMAL RESCUERS—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Local Government, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- 4331 REFORM OF THE ANTI-DISCRIMINATION ACT—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Justice, and Minister for Industrial Relations—

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- 4332 COMMUNITY COSTS OF DRUG ADDICTION—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4333 SCHOOL ZONES FLASHING LIGHTS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Roads—
- \*4334 TRAVEL BY STAFF OF THE PREMIER'S DEPARTMENT—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- (1) How many overseas trips have been undertaken by Premier's Department staff in each of the financial years ending 30 June 2004-2008?
  - (2) What was the total cost of this travel (including accommodation) for each of those years?
- Answer—
- Information about overseas travel by Departmental staff in each of the financial years ending 30 June 2004 to 2007 is available in the Premier's Department and Department of Premier and Cabinet's Annual Reports.
- The Annual Report for the financial year ending June 2008 will be tabled shortly.
- 4335 FUTURE RAIL LINE TO THE WARRINGAH AREA—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4336 BIDDIBAH SCHOOL FACILITIES—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 4337 BUS INTERCHANGE AND PARKING SPACES—MORISSET STATION—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4338 PUBLIC HOUSING—TWEED ELECTORATE—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Housing, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 4339 BLACK SPOT FUNDING—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4340 HOT WATER SYSTEM REBATE—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4341 CONSTRUCTION OF COMMERCIAL TOURISM FACILITIES IN WILDERNESS AREAS—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4343 NATIONAL PARKS TOURISM—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4344 APPEALS FOR INCREASED COSTS IN STREET LIGHTING—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Local Government, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- 4345 POLLUTANTS FROM STORMWATER RUNOFF—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4346 CHECKING OF SHARK MESHING—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- \*4347 NORTHERN BEACHES LOCAL AREA COMMAND—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- What were the average authorised and actual staff levels of police for the Northern Beaches Local Area Command in the following financial years:
- (a) 2006-07; and
  - (b) 2007-08?

Answer—

Information about police numbers - both authorised and actual strength - is available on the NSW Police website: [www.police.nsw.gov.au](http://www.police.nsw.gov.au)

- 4348 FACILITIES FOR HEARING-IMPAIRED STUDENTS—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 4349 ENERGY EFFICIENT STREET LIGHTING—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4350 PROTECTIVE NETTING ON BEACHES—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- \*4351 NORTHERN BEACHES LOCAL AREA COMMAND—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- What actions has the government taken to address shortfalls in recruitment levels for NSW police in the Northern Beaches Local Area Command?
- Answer—
- The NSW Police Force has advised me:
- 21 additional officers have been allocated to Northern Beaches Local Area Command since 21 December 2007.
- 4352 INCIDENCE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- 4353 PACIFIC HIGHWAY INTERSECTION WITH OXLEY HIGHWAY—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4354 BULAHDELAH BYPASS—Mr John Turner to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4355 OUTSTANDING CORRESPONDENCE—Mr John Turner to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4356 OUTSTANDING CORRESPONDENCE—Mr John Turner to ask the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister for Sport and Recreation—
- 4357 OUTSTANDING CORRESPONDENCE—Mr John Turner to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4358 DRAFT PLAN OF MANAGEMENT FOR THE MANNING REGIONAL CROWN RESERVE—Mr John Turner to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- 4359 CROWN LAND RESERVES—Mr John Turner to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- 4360 IMPROVED FIRE TRAIL ACCESS—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—

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(Paper No. 96)

- 4361 SMALL BUSINESSES—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 4362 CALLAN PARK—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 4363 SOUTH EASTERN SYDNEY ILLAWARRA AREA HEALTH SERVICE—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Local Government, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- 4364 UPGRADE OF ROYAL NORTH SHORE HOSPITAL—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

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- 4365 SEAFORTH TAFE SITE—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 4366 UNFUNDED SUPER CONTRIBUTIONS—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- 4367 PRIMARY SCHOOL PLAYGROUND FUNDING—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 4368 RESPITE BEDS—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—
- 4369 COMMUTER PARKING AT WEST RYDE AND EASTWOOD RAILWAY STATIONS—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4370 MEASURES TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC SAFETY—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4371 NORTH COAST DAIRY INDUSTRY—Mr Thomas George to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- 4372 HEAVY VEHICLE CHECKING STATION ON HUME HIGHWAY—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4373 BUDGET CUTS TO THE SYDNEY METROPOLITAN CATCHMENT AUTHORITY—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Water, Minister for Rural Affairs, and Minister for Regional Development—
- 4374 RESIDENTIAL REBATE PROGRAM—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4375 STRATEGIES TO REDUCE HOUSEHOLD ENERGY BILLS—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—
- 4377 SCHOOL HALL—WHEELER HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 4378 RESPITE HOMES—WAKEHURST—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—
- 4379 DEBT OUTSTANDING TO CREDITORS OF MANLY AND MONA VALE HOSPITALS—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4380 AGENCY NURSES—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- \*4381 GROWTH CENTRES COMMISSION—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

For each of the last three years:

- (a) How many staff worked or are working at the Growth Centres Commission?
- (b) What is or was the total amount of the Growth Centres Commission budget allocated to staff salaries and wages?
- (c) What amount has been paid to consultants in each of the last 2 years?
- (d) How will the Minister ensure that no expertise will be lost when the Growth Centres Commission is merged into the Department of Planning?

Answer—

- (a) 2006/07 - 13.4 equivalent full time employees

- 2007/08 - 23.4 equivalent full time employees  
2008/09 - 29.7 equivalent full time employees
- (b) 2006/07 - \$2.296 million actual  
2007/08 - \$3.388 million actual  
2008/09 - \$4.547 million budget
- (c) 2006/07 - \$219,060  
2007/08 - \$24,182
- (d) The decision to integrate the land release expertise of the Growth Centres Commission into the Department of Planning will ensure that there is a clear focus on the acceleration of land release across New South Wales for the long term and that the expertise which exists within the Commission will be used to drive land release across the State. The Growth Centres Commission is currently working with the Department of Planning on administrative arrangements to facilitate the merger.
- \*4382 PLAGUE LOCUSTS—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- Given the increasing numbers of reports of locust hatchings, including 120 in Young, 146 in Gundagai, and many further west as at 30 October 2008, will more spotting helicopters be employed to locate the hatchings at this vital period prior to locusts taking flight?
- Answer—
- Aerial surveillance is undertaken by fixed and rotary wing aircraft as required to confirm the presence or absence of nymph locust bands.
- 4383 PUBLIC SCHOOL RESIDENCES—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 4384 COWRA POLICING—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- \*4385 HOUSING IN YASS—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Housing, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- (1) How many families in Yass are seeking public housing in Yass?  
(2) Will the Minister commit to the purchase of additional public houses in Yass?
- Answer—
- (1) The number of people on the housing register awaiting accommodation varies and changes constantly.  
(2) Yass is not a high demand area. There are other areas of the State that have higher demand for public housing due to population growth, such as along the NSW eastern seaboard.
- 4386 LINE MARKINGS ON THE PACIFIC HIGHWAY—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4387 REPRESENTATIONS REGARDING TRAFFIC ON PACIFIC HIGHWAY—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4388 REPRESENTATIONS REGARDING RTA APPROVAL OF A BURSTNER CARAVAN—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4389 PARKING FEES AT SUTHERLAND HOSPITAL—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- \*4390 ELIMINATION OF SENIOR EXECUTIVE POSITIONS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- In reference to the Premier's announcement some weeks ago that the Government is going to eliminate 171 senior executive positions:

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- (1) How many specific positions have been already eliminated?  
(2) How many specific positions have been already identified for elimination?

Answer—

The Premier has announced that there will be a 20% reduction in senior executive numbers, resulting in a reduction of 171 positions. Reductions in numbers must be undertaken by January 2009.

The Department of Premier and Cabinet is currently working with agencies to develop their senior executive reduction strategies, to be submitted for approval by the Cabinet Standing Committee on the Budget.

- 4391 CHATSWOOD TO EPPING RAIL LINE—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4392 OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY LEGISLATION—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- 4393 MEN'S SHEDS—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 4394 PROVISIONAL DRIVING TESTS—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4395 DISABILITY HOMES—TWEED ELECTORATE—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—
- 4397 FORESTS NSW TIMBER YIELDS—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- 4398 ENERGY EFFICIENCY AUDIT AND REFIT PROGRAM—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- \*4399 LICENSED FIREARM HOLDERS—LANE COVE—Mr Anthony Roberts asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—

How many licensed firearm holders are there in the Lane Cove electorate?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me:

1,184.

- \*4400 REGISTERED FIREARMS—LANE COVE—Mr Anthony Roberts asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—

How many registered firearms are there in the Lane Cove electorate?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me:

3,580.

- 4401 MOUNT DRUITT HIGH DEPENDENCY UNIT—Mrs Jillian Skinner to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- \*4402 TRAINING FOR POLICE OFFICERS—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—

What training do police officers undertake to deal with frontline situations of self-harm?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me:

The Associate Degree in Policing Practice curriculum includes training relating to self-harm issues and incidents. Material on the subject is also available to officers on the police intranet at any time.

\*4403 STATE HERITAGE REGISTER—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

What is the current backlog of items being assessed for inclusion on the State Heritage Register?

Answer—

I am advised that, as of 4 November 2008, there are 299 nominations under consideration.

This is a reduction of more than 200 since the Heritage Branch was merged into the Department of Planning eight months ago.

4404 FUNDING FOR ANTI-BULLYING PROGRAMS—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

4405 CORRECTIONAL CENTRE ESCAPE—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Justice, and Minister for Industrial Relations—

4406 KEMPSEY DISTRICT HOSPITAL—FORMER EMPLOYEE—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Justice, and Minister for Industrial Relations—

\*4407 ARSENIC AND OTHER METALS—MACLEAY RIVER AT BELLBROOK—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

In relation to the presence of arsenic and other metals in the Macleay River at Bellbrook following periods of rain:

- (1) What is the effect on animals along the Macleay from headwaters to the mouth, particularly stock drinking from the river?
- (2) Will there be remediation of the problem at the abandoned mining project 100 km upstream, which is believed to be the source of the arsenic and other metals, and in the river-bed?
- (3) Will the mine owners be compelled to pay for remediation of the entire problem?
- (4) What is being done to protect the valley from future pollution of this nature from new mining enterprises?
- (5) Who was responsible for this event apart from the mine developers?

Answer—

- (1) The NSW Department of Primary Industries (NSW DPI) is not aware of any reported effects from arsenic on stock drinking from the Macleay River, from the headwaters to the mouth.
- (2) The Derelict Mines Program funds projects involving assessment and remediation works at derelict mine sites in the Hillgrove area. The Program continues to investigate the feasibility of further works in the Hillgrove area.
- (3) Halls Peak is a derelict mine site and I am advised no person or company, with direct responsibility for the rehabilitation of the site, can be located.
- (4) Modern environmental requirements apply to new mining enterprises. Off-site pollution is regulated through the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997.
- (5) N/A.

4408 ARSENIC AND OTHER METALS—MACLEAY RIVER AT BELLBROOK—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

4409 ARSENIC AND OTHER METALS—MACLEAY RIVER AT BELLBROOK—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Water, Minister for Rural Affairs, and Minister for Regional Development—

4410 UPGRADE OF WATERFALL WAY—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Roads—

4411 WORKBENCHES AT MID NORTH COAST CORRECTIONAL CENTRE—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Justice, and Minister for Industrial Relations—

4412 GREAT WESTERN HIGHWAY UPGRADE—Mr Russell Turner to ask the Minister for Roads—

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4413 MITCHELL HIGHWAY BETWEEN ORANGE AND MOLONG—Mr Russell Turner to ask the Minister for Roads—

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4414 MONEY TRANSFERS INTO TAB ACCOUNTS BY PHONE—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister for Sport and Recreation—

4415 ROYAL NORTH SHORE HOSPITAL—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Local Government, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

4416 LAND TAX CLAIM OVER SYDNEY AIRPORT—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—

4417 INVESTMENTS FOR NSW LOTTERIES—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—

4418 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—

4419 PACIFIC BLUE RESORT—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

4420 ACCESS TO FREE IMMUNISATION—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

4421 PROVISION OF DISABILITY SERVICES—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—

4422 SOLAR ENERGY TECHNOLOGY—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development, and Acting Minister for Small Business—

4423 ELECTRIC CAR TECHNOLOGY—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development, and Acting Minister for Small Business—

4424 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT—TIME TAKEN TO ASSESS—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development, and Acting Minister for Small Business—

4425 SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS REGIONAL SHOOTING COMPLEX—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister for Sport and Recreation—

4426 MENTAL HEALTH DIAGNOSES—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Local Government, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

4427 HOSPITAL CONTRACT WORKS—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

4428 TRAIN TRAVEL—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

4429 WUNDARRA SERVICES—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Community Services—

4430 POT HOLES IN HORNSBY ELECTORATE—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Roads—

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- 4431 UNANSWERED GENERAL INQUIRY—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4432 UNANSWERED REPRESENTATION—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4433 DIVIDENDS PAID BY WSN—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4434 POTENTIAL AWT FACILITIES AND SEWERAGE—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4435 WSN BELROSE SITE—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4436 WALLSEND AGED CARE FACILITY—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4437 LICENSED DRIVERS 85 YEARS AND OVER—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4438 SCHOOL FUNDING FOR WATER SAVING DEVICES—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4439 AMBULANCE DISPATCHES—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4440 ROAD WORKS—CROWN ROAD AT BILPIN—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—

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- 4441 STRONGER LOCAL COMMUNITIES—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Housing, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 4442 REPORT OF INVESTIGATION—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 4443 ALBURY BASE HOSPITAL—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4444 MINI-BUDGET 2008-2009—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Local Government, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- 4445 PUBLIC HOUSING—RAYMOND TERRACE, NELSON BAY AND MAYFIELD—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Housing, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 4446 AXING OF FREE TRANSPORT FOR SCHOOL STUDENTS—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4447 MYALL RIVER AT TEA GARDENS—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Tourism, Minister for the Hunter, Minister for Small Business, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 4448 STAFF FREEZE—PROJECTED SAVINGS—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—
- 4449 INDIGENOUS EMPLOYMENT SCHEME—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

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- 4450 PUBLIC SECTOR EMPLOYEES—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—
- 4451 POLICE NUMBERS—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- 4452 LANE COVE TUNNEL CONTRACT—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4453 CURRENT AND EX-COUNCILLORS ON NSW BOARDS—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Local Government, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- 4454 DOCS PROPERTY—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 4455 COWRA HOSPITAL—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4456 ENROLLED NURSING COURSES—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 4457 UNANSWERED REPRESENTATION—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4458 “KEEPING ME SAFE” PROGRAM—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- 4459 NEW MAINTENANCE PROJECTS—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 4460 PARKING SHORTAGES AT RAILWAY STATIONS—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4461 AGENCY NURSES—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4462 PRICING SUBMISSIONS—Mr Daryl Maguire to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—
- 4463 ROAD RESURFACING—FOREST WAY—Mr Jonathan O’Dea to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4464 UPGRADE OF FOREST WAY—Mr Jonathan O’Dea to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4465 PEDESTRIAN OVERPASS—FOREST WAY—Mr Jonathan O’Dea to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4466 NATIONAL PARKS SIGNS—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4467 GATED ROADS IN PRIVATELY OWNED RETIREMENT VILLAGES—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4468 PACIFIC HIGHWAY PROJECT AT BANORA POINT—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4469 PACIFIC HIGHWAY PROJECT AT BANORA POINT—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4470 SUBSIDISED BLOOD AND BLOOD PRODUCTS—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4471 TOURISM IN NATIONAL PARKS—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

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- 4472 “AGGRESSIVE WEIRDO” INCIDENT—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Tourism, Minister for the Hunter, Minister for Small Business, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 4473 EXPECTATIONS OF NATIONAL PARKS—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Tourism, Minister for the Hunter, Minister for Small Business, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 4474 COMMERCIAL VENTURES IN WILDERNESS AREAS—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Tourism, Minister for the Hunter, Minister for Small Business, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 4475 NEW BUSES FOR THE NORTH-WEST—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4476 RYDALMERE PASSING LOOP—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4477 INTERSECTION OF PACIFIC HIGHWAY AND KAWANA LANE—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4478 NATIONAL GUIDELINES FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND MODIFICATION OF STREET RODS—Mr John Turner to ask the Minister for Roads—

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(Paper No. 99)

- 4479 ALBURY LAC TRAIL BIKES—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- 4480 TEACHER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 4481 ALBURY-WODONGA FREEWAY—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4482 PARKING FACILITIES—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4483 PEAK-HOUR HARBOUR BRIDGE TOLL—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4484 FALCON STREET INTERCHANGE—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4485 ENFORCEMENT BAYS—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4486 SHORT TUNNEL PROPOSAL—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4487 MANLY JETCAT—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4488 WHARF CHARGES—SYDNEY FERRIES—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4489 F3 TO RAYMOND TERRACE EXTENSION—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4490 RAYMOND TERRACE POLICE STATION—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- 4491 DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING TENANTS—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Housing, and Minister for Western Sydney—

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- 4492 CARDIAC CATHETERISATION UNIT—Mr Peter Besseling to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4493 HARRINGTON TURN-OFF AND PACIFIC HIGHWAY INTERSECTION—Mr Peter Besseling to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4494 KING CREEK ROAD AND OXLEY HIGHWAY INTERSECTION—Mr Peter Besseling to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4495 SUBSTITUTE CONSENT FORMS—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4496 NARDY HOUSE COMMITTEE—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—
- 4497 PAMBULA HOSPITAL APPOINTMENTS—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4498 BROGO DAM WALL—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Water, Minister for Rural Affairs, and Minister for Regional Development—
- 4499 WASTE FACILITY—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—
- 4500 WASTE FACILITY—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4501 WASTE FACILITY—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- 4502 RESTRICTIONS ON RURAL LANDS—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 4503 HIGH-RISE DEVELOPMENT—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 4504 RESPITE BEDS—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—
- 4505 RTA BUREAUCRACY—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4506 PREMIER'S PRIVATE STAFF—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 4507 RYDE HOSPITAL—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4508 CORRECTIVE SERVICES OFFICERS—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Justice, and Minister for Industrial Relations—
- 4509 GOULBURN CORRECTIONAL CENTRE—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Justice, and Minister for Industrial Relations—
- 4510 CONGESTION TAX—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4511 WSN SALE REVENUE—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—

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- 4512 SCHOOL STUDENT SPECIAL TRANSPORT SCHEME—Mrs Shelley Hancock to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4513 OSCARS—Mrs Shelley Hancock to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4514 CONJOLA MOUNTAIN PRINCES HIGHWAY REALIGNMENT—Mrs Shelley Hancock to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4515 CORRECTIONAL SERVICES—Mr Kerry Hickey to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Justice, and Minister for Industrial Relations—
- 4516 SHOWGROUND FUNDING—Mr Kerry Hickey to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- 4517 WEST WALLSEND FIRE STATION—Mr Kerry Hickey to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- 4518 KURRI KURRI AND CESSNOCK HOSPITALS—Mr Kerry Hickey to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4519 CESSNOCK AND KURRI KURRI POLICE STATIONS—Mr Kerry Hickey to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- 4520 ROADS IN THE HUNTER VINEYARD AREA—Mr Kerry Hickey to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4521 "STARS HOUSE" COFFS HARBOUR—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 4522 GREATER SOUTHERN AREA HEALTH SERVICE (GSAHS) BREACH OF PRIVACY—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4523 WIND FARM COST—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4524 SPRING FAIR—HORNSBY HOSPITAL—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4525 MENTAL HEALTH INTENSIVE CARE UNIT—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4526 HERITAGE WATER TOWER—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4527 HEATHCOTE LAND—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4528 GRAFFITI DAMAGE—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- 4529 GRAFFITI ARRESTS—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Justice, and Minister for Industrial Relations—
- 4530 SUTHERLAND HOSPITAL NURSES—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

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- 4531 EMERGENCY OPERATIONS—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4532 TRAIN TICKET SALES—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4533 CAPTAIN COOK'S LANDING PLACE—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4534 DOORKNOCKING CAMPAIGN—Mr Daryl Maguire to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 4535 EXTRA NEW BUSES—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4536 UNATTACHED/DISPLACED EMPLOYEES—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 4537 NORTH WEST METRO RAIL LINE—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4538 MEMBERSHIP OF THE AUSTRALIAN ROAD RULES MAINTENANCE GROUP—Mr Donald Page to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4539 SPECIAL NEEDS TEACHERS—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 4540 SCHOOL AND TAFE FUNDING—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 4541 FOR FIRST HOME BUYERS—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—
- 4542 WASTE SERVICE IMPROVEMENT PAYMENTS—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4543 WASTE SERVICE IMPROVEMENT PAYMENTS—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4544 STATE COORDINATOR CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4545 GOVERNMENT BUS PASSES—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4546 STATE LOTTERIES REVENUE—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister for Sport and Recreation—
- 4547 ALCOHOL-RELATED INJURIES OR ILLNESSES—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4548 REVOCATION OF LAND—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- 4549 "PARK-AND-RIDE" FACILITIES—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4550 STATE HERITAGE REGISTER—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 4551 STATE HERITAGE REGISTER—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

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- 4552 STATE HERITAGE REGISTER—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 4553 TREE PRESERVATION OFFICERS—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 4554 SALE OF CROWN ROADS—Mr John Turner to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- 4555 HARRINGTON BEACH STATE PARK—Mr John Turner to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—

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(Paper No. 100)

- 4556 PLASTIC SURGERY—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4557 WORLD YOUTH DAY—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 4558 SPECIAL NEEDS TEACHERS—ALBURY ELECTORATE—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 4559 STUDENT BUS PASSES—ALBURY ELECTORATE—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4560 FORMER SEAFORTH TAFE SITE—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 4561 NORTHERN BEACHES HOSPITAL—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4562 POLICE COLLEGE—COLLINS BEACH—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 4563 WATER INFRASTRUCTURE—HUNTER WATER CORPORATION—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Water, Minister for Rural Affairs, and Minister for Regional Development—
- 4564 UPGRADE TO LABORATORIES AT THE PORT STEPHENS FISHERIES CENTRE—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—
- 4565 UPGRADE TO THE NELSON BAY AMBULANCE STATION—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4566 CAR SPACE LEVY—CHATSWOOD—Ms Gladys Berejiklian to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4567 CAR SPACE LEVY—CHATSWOOD—Ms Gladys Berejiklian to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4568 BERMAGUI PRESCHOOL—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 4569 TRUCK STOPS—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4570 BEGA VALLEY SHIRE HOSPITAL—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

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- 4571 STAFFING AND STRUCTURAL CHANGES—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 4572 GRAFFITI RELATED OFFENCES—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Justice, and Minister for Industrial Relations—
- 4573 GRAFFITI RELATED OFFENCES—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Justice, and Minister for Industrial Relations—
- 4574 GRAFFITI RELATED OFFENCES—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Justice, and Minister for Industrial Relations—
- 4575 GRAFFITI REMOVAL AND PREVENTION—STATE RAIL—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4576 GRAFFITI REMOVAL AND PREVENTION MEASURES—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 4577 INQUIRY INTO CHILD PROTECTION—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 4578 ZEBRA CROSSING—HASTINGS PUBLIC SCHOOL—Mr Andrew Fraser to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4579 COSTS OF PENSIONS TO FORMER MEMBERS AND BY-ELECTIONS—Mr Thomas George to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—
- 4580 TECHNOLOGY FOR THE HARBOUR BRIDGE AND TUNNEL CONGESTION TAX—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4581 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PERPETRATOR PROGRAMS—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 4582 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PERPETRATOR PROGRAMS—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Justice, and Minister for Industrial Relations—
- 4583 LOGGING OPERATIONS IN OLD GROWTH FORESTS—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—
- 4584 FILLING OF VACANCIES—Mrs Shelley Hancock to ask the Minister for Local Government, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- 4585 ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY—Mrs Shelley Hancock to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4586 BUILDING STRONGER LOCAL COMMUNITIES—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4587 POLICE NUMBERS—BRISBANE WATER LOCAL AREA COMMAND—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- 4588 SWORN STATEMENTS—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 4589 STUDIES OF PINCH POINTS IN TRAFFIC FLOW—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Roads—

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- 4590 IMPROVING TRAFFIC FLOW—WARRINGAH ROAD AND WAKEHURST PARKWAY INTERSECTION—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4591 EXPANSION OF PORT OF NEWCASTLE—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- 4592 TRAVEL FROM THE NORTHERN BEACHES—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 4593 TRAVEL FROM THE NORTHERN BEACHES—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 4594 TRAVEL TO AND FROM THE NORTHERN BEACHES—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- 4595 SCHOOL BUS PASSES—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4596 TRAVEL TO AND FROM THE NORTHERN BEACHES—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 4597 ASSETS SALES—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 4598 ASSETS SALES—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 4599 MRS J HOLLAND—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4600 CHILD SERVICES FACILITIES—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 4601 REPRESENTATION ABOUT PACIFIC HIGHWAY—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4602 RENAL DIALYSIS FACILITY—MONA VALE HOSPITAL—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4603 MAINTENANCE WORKS—TOM UGLY'S BRIDGE—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4604 UPGRADE OF TRAFFIC LIGHTS—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4605 CONSULTATIONS WITH INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES—Mr Daryl Maguire to ask the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister for Sport and Recreation—
- 4606 CLOSURE AND AMALGAMATION OF POLICE COMMUNICATIONS CENTRES—Mr Daryl Maguire to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- 4607 RESTRUCTURING NSW ELECTRICITY INDUSTRY AND FEDERAL CARBON POLLUTION REDUCTION SCHEME—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 4608 SACS INDUSTRY PLAN—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 4609 ADOPTION ACT—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 4610 ANIMAL PRODUCTS FOOD LABELLING—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—
- 4611 FRAUD COSTS AND PREVENTION—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—

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- 4612 SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH CITY OF SYDNEY—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Housing, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 4613 INJECTION OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4614 CHILDREN OF PRISONERS—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Justice, and Minister for Industrial Relations—
- 4615 ALLEGED INCIDENT—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 4616 FUNDING FOR "EXTRA SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECTS"—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 4617 SCHOOL MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL WORKS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 4618 COUNTRY REGIONAL NETWORK SERVICES—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4619 MERGER OF BACK OFFICE FUNCTIONS—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4620 IMPROVEMENT OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 4621 ADVERTISED POSITIONS—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 4622 VALUATION REPORT—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4623 INTERSTATE TRAFFIC FINES—LENIENCY PROVISION—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—
- 4624 CAR-POOLING—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 4625 SELF-HARM SITUATIONS—PITTWATER—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- 4626 REVOCATION OF DRIVERS LICENCES—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—
- 4627 USE OF POLICE STATIONS AS POLICE RESIDENCES—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- 4628 DPI DAIRY OFFICER—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—
- 4629 CAPE HAWKE COMMUNITY PRIVATE HOSPITAL—Mr John Turner to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 4630 SALE OF PERPETUAL LEASES—Mr John Turner to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—

- 4631 UNDERGROUND WATER LICENCES—Mr John Turner to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—

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- 4632 HEALTH FUNDING—WESTERN SUBURBS OF SYDNEY—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

- (1) What has been the growth in health funding for the health services covering the broader western suburbs of Sydney over the past five years?
- (2) How are these growth figures broken down for each of the health services concerned, over the same period?
- (3) Has the growth in health funding kept up or exceeded the growth in the population in the areas covered by these health services?

- 4633 ALBURY LOCAL AREA COMMAND—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—

- (1) As at 31 October 2008, how many police officers attached to Albury LAC have been stood down from full time duty and for what reasons?
- (2) Are these officers still reflected in the 'actual strength' of the LAC?

- 4634 PEAK-HOUR TOLL/CONGESTION TAX—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Roads—

Why has the Government introduced a peak-hour toll/congestion tax on one entry to the CBD when all other entries remain unchanged?

- 4635 GREEN SLIP INCREASES—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Roads—

- (1) Given that the lifetime care and support section of the green slip levies is meant to be a \$20 average increase for all vehicles including motor cycles, what has happened to that commitment?
- (2) What are the further increases that the Motor Accident Authority is proposing?
- (3) Do the proposed increases have a fair basis?
- (4) Why isn't information on future green slip increases available to the public?
- (5) Why has the Motor cycle Council not been consulted on these increases?
- (6) Why if compulsory third party insurance is as it says third party, are motorcyclists paying extra?

- 4636 BONDI ROAD WEEKEND CLEARWAY TRIAL—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Roads—

In relation to the Bondi Road weekend clearway trial, what options, other than a Bondi Road Clearway, were considered by the RTA to alleviate weekend traffic congestion and why was each of those options not pursued?

- 4637 WOOD REPORT—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Community Services—

- (1) What is the estimated cost to implement each of the individual recommendations made by Justice Wood in the Report of the Special Commission of Inquiry into Child Protection Services in NSW?
- (2) What is the total cost to implement all of the recommendations in the above report?

- 4638 COWRA LOCAL ABORIGINAL LANDS COUNCIL—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—

Given the widely held concerns by the Aboriginal community in the Cowra district about the operation of the Cowra Local Aboriginal Lands Council will you appoint an administrator to oversee the operations of the council?

- 4639 COWRA COURT HOUSE—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Justice, and Minister for Industrial Relations—

- (1) Is staffing at the Cowra Court House the subject of a review or is a review of staffing at Cowra Court

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- House planned?
- (2) Does this review include the operating hours, number and type of cases heard or any other aspect of court house operations?
- 4640 REPRESENTATION ABOUT SUPPORT SERVICES FOR DISABLED PEOPLE—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—
- When will a response be made to representations made on behalf of Ms Rosa Nasiry (original correspondence dated 2 September 2008) in relation to additional transport and support services for her disabled son?
- 4641 AMBER ALERT PROGRAM—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- (1) Has the Government considered the USA program "Amber Alert"?
- (2) (a) If yes, in what form might this be introduced?
- (b) If not, why not?
- 4642 STAFF AT HORNSBY POLICE STATION—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- (1) Is the full time staff establishment present in all shifts at Hornsby Police Station?
- (2) At times, are there 70% less staff at Hornsby Police Station than should be present?
- 4643 WORKPLACE INJURIES—SYDNEY DESALINATION PLANT SITE—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Water, Minister for Rural Affairs, and Minister for Regional Development—
- (1) How many workplace injuries have occurred on the Sydney desalination plant site since construction began?
- (2) Are WorkCover inspectors allowed unrestricted access to the site?
- 4644 KU-RING-GAI COUNCIL HIGH DENSITY PLAN—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- (1) Is there a requirement for Ku-ring-gai Council to plan for its higher densities based on take-up rates and economic viability?
- (2) What other Metropolitan councils have been required by the Minister and Department of Planning to base planning for higher densities on take-up rates and ensuring economic viability for developers?
- (3) If Ku-ring-gai Council is the only metropolitan council to have planning based on take-up rates and ensuring economic viability for developers, why is this so?
- 4645 SPEED CAMERA—ARTERIAL ROAD ST IVES—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—
- (1) When did the fixed speed camera on the Arterial Road between Killara and St Ives first commence operation?
- (2) For how long in total since it first commenced operation has the camera not been actually operating?
- (3) How many vehicles have been photographed on Arterial Road, St Ives, for speeding to date?
- (4) What is the total value of the infringement notices in relation to this camera site to date?
- 4646 TAXI SUBSIDY SCHEME SMART CARD—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- When will the Government roll out the Taxi Subsidy Scheme smart card that was trialled in or around 2005?
- 4647 HOME MODIFICATION AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—
- (1) How many people in the DADHC's Riverina/Murray region are on the waiting list for Category 2 assistance under the NSW Home Modification and Maintenance Services scheme?
- (2) How long can people expect to wait once a quote and request for Category 2 funding has been made?
- (3) How many people in the DADHC's Riverina/Murray region are on the waiting list for Category 3 assistance under the NSW Home Modification and Maintenance Services scheme?

- (4) How long can people expect to wait once a quote and request for Category 3 funding has been made?  
 (5) Who decides whether a house is worth Category 3 modifications?  
 (6) What are the options open to home owners when it is determined that their house is not worth modifying?

4648 TARGET ACTION GROUP—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—

In relation to the Target Action Group:

- (1) How many times has the Target Action Group attended drug-related incidents in the Tweed Byron Local Area Command in:  
 (a) 2006-07;  
 (b) 2007-08;  
 (c) year to date?  
 (2) What is the response time for the Target Action Group to respond to an incident in the Tweed Byron Local Area Command?

4649 ABORIGINAL LIAISON OFFICER—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—

In relation to the Aboriginal Liaison Officer for the Tweed Byron Local Area Command:

- (1) Is this officer on duty or on long-term sick leave?  
 (2) If this officer is on long-term sick leave, what is the period of time before a replacement officer will be appointed?

4650 NATIONAL DISASTER MITIGATION PROGRAM—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—

In relation to the current applications for the 2008-09 National Disaster Mitigation Program, which had to be lodged in August 2008, will the Minister advise when this funding round will be announced?

4651 UPGRADE OF THE PACIFIC HIGHWAY BETWEEN KEMPSEY AND EUNGAI—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Roads—

In relation to the planned upgrade of the Pacific Highway between Kempsey and Eungai:

- (1) What is the planned commencement date of construction work?  
 (2) (a) Will the work be done in stages?  
 (b) If so, what are the planned stages and commencement and completion dates of construction relating to said stages?  
 (3) What impacts are expected upon the squash centre on the current highway at South Kempsey?

4652 CROWN LAND—SOUTH WEST ROCKS—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Emergency Services—

In relation to Crown Land on Gordon Young Drive, South West Rocks:

- (1) What is the status of the Draft Assessment of this land undertaken in 2003?  
 (2) When will information regarding the future uses of this land be available to the public?

4653 REZONING DECISIONS—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

In relation to rezoning decisions made as a result of new local environment plans, does a property owner whose property has a development opportunity removed have any legal recourse to either have the decision challenged or to financial compensation?

4654 PUBLIC TRAVELLING STOCK ROUTE—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—

How will the New South Wales Government achieve a well-resourced, well-managed public travelling

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stock route and reserves network across the State for future generations?

4655 CLOSURE OF DPI RESEARCH STATIONS—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—

- (1) Given that the Minister announced on 13 November 2008 that 8 DPI research stations would be closed during the next three years because they are no longer needed, why are these stations no longer needed?
- (2) Have these stations, especially the horticultural stations at Gosford, Alstonville and Griffith, been closed because they are located on prime real estate?
- (3) Does the Minister realise that closure of these stations, especially Gosford will mean the loss of many well-trained scientists at the peak of their careers plus the loss of facilities that are not available at any other DPI research station?
- (4) Does the Minister understand that the loss of these people and facilities will put NSW way behind the other States for years to come because it will be very hard to replace these scientists?
- (5) If the Minister is concerned about the loss of highly skilled scientists and facilities, especially at Gosford, has he considered negotiating with the University of Western Sydney to co-locate the Gosford Horticultural Institute at the Hawkesbury campus which is a campus that was run by the Department of Agriculture for more than 70 years and has 117 years of history in research and education?

4656 EMISSIONS PERFORMANCE OF THE STATE TRANSIT AUTHORITY BUS FLEET—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Roads—

In relation to the answer provided by the Minister in Question on Notice 3812 about improving the emissions performance of the State Transit Authority bus fleet:

- (1) How many older buses have been retrofitted with devices that reduce particles from bus exhaust emissions?
- (2) What are the devices?
- (3) What is the percentage of emissions that is prevented from leaving the exhaust of a bus from the use of each of these devices?
- (4) What is the cost of each of these devices?