



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

2011

FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-FIFTH PARLIAMENT

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

No. 19

THURSDAY 16 JUNE 2011

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.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Thursday 16 June 2011

Publication of Questions	Answer to be lodged by
Q & A No. 8 (Including Question Nos 0111 to 0123)	16 June 2011
Q & A No. 9 (Including Question Nos 0124 to 0140)	28 June 2011
Q & A No. 10 (Including Question Nos 0141 to 0158)	29 June 2011
Q & A No. 11 (Including Question Nos 0159 to 0170)	30 June 2011
Q & A No. 12 (Including Question Nos 0171 to 0187)	01 July 2011
Q & A No. 13 (Including Question Nos 0188 to 0202)	04 July 2011
Q & A No. 14 (Including Question Nos 0203 to 0206)	05 July 2011
Q & A No. 15 (Including Question Nos 0207 to 0214)	06 July 2011
Q & A No. 16 (Including Question Nos 0215 to 0221)	07 July 2011
Q & A No. 17 (Including Question Nos 0222 to 0238)	19 July 2011
Q & A No. 18 (Including Question Nos 0239 to 0250)	20 July 2011
Q & A No. 19 (Including Question Nos 0251 to 0263)	21 July 2011

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12 MAY 2011

(Paper No. 8)

*0117 LOCAL HEALTH NETWORKS—Dr Andrew McDonald asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

On 1 April 2011, how many acute overnight beds were operational in:

- (a) the Children's Hospitals network;
- (b) CC LHN;
- (c) Illawarra Shoalhaven LHN;
- (d) Nepean Blue Mountains LHN;
- (e) NS LHN;
- (f) SES LHN;
- (g) SWS LHN;
- (h) Sydney LHN;
- (i) WS LHN;
- (j) Far West LHN;
- (k) HNE LHN;
- (l) MNC LHN;
- (m) Murrumbidgee LHN;
- (n) Northern NSW LHN;
- (o) Southern NSW LHN;
- (p) Western LHN;
- (q) St Vincent's HN;
- (r) all of NSW?

Answer—

There are 11,800 beds available for admission from Emergency Departments with a level 3, 4, 5 or 6 Emergency Department.

A taskforce is currently underway to establish a consistent definition of "beds" within the NSW health system and determine the number of beds in the NSW health system.

24 MAY 2011

(Paper No. 9)

0124 MILK PRICE WAR—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Small Business—

0125 GLENDALE TECHNOLOGY HIGH SCHOOL—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Education—

0126 FUNDING FOR STUDENTS WITH A PHYSICAL OR INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY—Mr Jamie Parker to ask the Minister for Education—

0127 WORK EXPERIENCE FOR STUDENTS WITH A PHYSICAL OR INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY—Mr Jamie Parker to ask the Minister for Education—

0128 FUNDING FOR RESPITE CARE SERVICES—Mr Jamie Parker to ask the Minister for Ageing, and Minister for Disability Services—

0130 KEIRA ELECTORATE AND BROADER ILLAWARRA REGION—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Trade and Investment, and Minister for Regional Infrastructure and Services—

0131 KEIRA ELECTORATE AND BROADER ILLAWARRA REGION—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

0132 KEIRA ELECTORATE AND BROADER ILLAWARRA REGION—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Education—

0133 KEIRA ELECTORATE AND BROADER ILLAWARRA REGION—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

*0134 KEIRA ELECTORATE AND BROADER ILLAWARRA REGION—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—

(1) What are the Minister's priorities for the electorate of Keira over the next 12 months?

(2) What are the Minister's priorities for the broader Illawarra region over the next 12 months?

Answer—

The NSW Government has a 100 Day Action Plan.

We will begin to deliver our priorities and commitments based on our Five Point Action Plan:

1. Rebuild the Economy - we will rebuild a strong NSW economy through lower taxes and supporting businesses to grow and create jobs;
2. Return Quality Services - we will return quality services in areas such as health, transport, education and community safety;
3. Renovate Infrastructure - we will build the infrastructure that makes a difference to both our economy and people's lives;
4. Restore Accountability - we will restore accountability to government, talk honestly with the community and give people a say on decisions that affect their lives; and
5. Protect our Local Environment and Communities - we will protect local environments, work with communities and return planning powers to the people.

The NSW Government's first priority for the State is unashamedly restoring economic growth and establishing NSW as the first place in Australia to do business. The dividends of strong economic management are better services and infrastructure. Whether in transport, health, disability, homelessness, regional development or any other area of State Government responsibility, improved outcomes can only be delivered from a strong bottom line.

On 6 September 2011 the NSW Government will hand down the budget for 2011-12 to deliver stability, growth and ensure that our priorities will be funded.

0135 KEIRA ELECTORATE AND BROADER ILLAWARRA REGION—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Infrastructure NSW—

0137 KEIRA ELECTORATE AND BROADER ILLAWARRA REGION—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Transport—

0138 KEIRA ELECTORATE AND BROADER ILLAWARRA REGION—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Tourism Major Events Hospitality and Racing, and Minister for the Arts—

25 MAY 2011

(Paper No. 10)

0141 MAIN ROAD 92—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—

0142 COMPENSATION FOR LOCAL COUNCILS—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Transport—

0143 TRUNDLE MULTI PURPOSE SERVICE—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

0144 SOUTH WESTERN SYDNEY LOCAL HEALTH NETWORK—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

0145 TOMAREE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

0146 RENAL DIALYSIS—KEMPSEY DISTRICT HOSPITAL—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

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- 0147 MOUNT DRUITT HOSPITAL EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- 0148 RAYMOND TERRACE HEALTHONE CLINIC—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- 0149 NELSON BAY AMBULANCE STATION—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- 0150 NEW PARENT AND INFANT NETWORK—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—
- 0151 ULTIMO/PYRMONT BUSES—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Transport—
- 0152 ADULT COMMUNITY EDUCATION—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Education—
- 0153 ADULT LITERACY—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Education—
- 0154 COMPANY TITLE DISPUTES—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- 0155 REPORT FROM INFORMATION COMMISSIONER—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- 0156 PREVENTING VIOLENCE AGAINST GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDER PEOPLE—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- 0157 NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE SCHEME—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Ageing, and Minister for Disability Services—
- 0158 PEDESTRIAN SAFETY PADDINGTON/DARLINGHURST—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—

26 MAY 2011

(Paper No. 11)

- 0159 MOUNT DRUITT POLICE STATION—AUTHORISED STRENGTH—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- 0160 KINGSGROVE POLICE STATION REFURBISHMENT—Ms Cherie Burton to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- 0161 HURSTVILLE PRIMARY SCHOOL—ADDITIONAL CLASSROOMS—Ms Cherie Burton to ask the Minister for Education—
- 0162 ALLAWAH BRIDGE WIDENING—Ms Cherie Burton to ask the Minister for Transport—
- 0163 ST GEORGE HOSPITAL EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT—Ms Cherie Burton to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- 0164 HUNTER REGION RESPITE SERVICES—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Ageing, and Minister for Disability Services—
- 0165 JOHN PAGET—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- 0166 POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Premier, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 0167 POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—

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- 0168 POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Services, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 0169 NATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS REWARD PAYMENTS—Ms Carmel Tebbutt to ask the Minister for Education—
- 0170 NATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS REWARD PAYMENTS—Ms Carmel Tebbutt to ask the Minister for Education—

27 MAY 2011

(Paper No. 12)

- 0171 NUMBER PLATE RECOGNITION TECHNOLOGY—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- 0172 JOHN HUNTER HOSPITAL—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- 0173 INGLEBURN POLICE STATION—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- 0174 TIGERS DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION—Mr Jamie Parker to ask the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Infrastructure NSW—
- 0175 1300 HOUSING PHONE NUMBER—Mr Jamie Parker to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—
- 0176 WORLD CLASS EXHIBITION CENTRE—Mr John Robertson to ask the Premier, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 0177 SYDNEY DESALINATION PLANT—Mr John Robertson to ask the Premier, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 0178 100 DAY PLAN—Mr John Robertson to ask the Premier, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 0179 SOBERING UP CENTRES—Mr John Robertson to ask the Premier, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 0180 GRAFFITI CRACKDOWN—Mr John Robertson to ask the Premier, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 0181 HUNTER INFRASTRUCTURE FUND—Mr John Robertson to ask the Premier, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 0182 NORTH WEST RAIL LINK—Mr John Robertson to ask the Minister for Transport—
- 0183 INTEGRATED TRANSPORT AUTHORITY—Mr John Robertson to ask the Minister for Transport—
- 0184 MYZONE TICKETING SYSTEM—Mr John Robertson to ask the Minister for Transport—
- 0185 EXPRESS SERVICES FROM WESTERN SYDNEY AND THE CENTRAL COAST—Mr John Robertson to ask the Minister for Transport—
- 0186 LITERACY AND NUMERACY ACTION PLAN—Mr John Robertson to ask the Minister for Education—
- 0187 INCREASE IN BED AND NURSE NUMBERS—Mr John Robertson to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

30 MAY 2011

(Paper No. 13)

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
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- 0188 SHALVEY POLICE CITIZENS YOUTH CLUB—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- 0189 CALLAGHAN COLLEGE WALLSEND—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Education—
- 0190 MULTIPLE TRIP RAIL TICKET—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Transport—
- 0191 KEIRA ELECTORATE AND BROADER ILLAWARRA REGION—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Ageing, and Minister for Disability Services—
- 0192 KEIRA ELECTORATE AND BROADER ILLAWARRA REGION—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- 0194 KEIRA ELECTORATE AND BROADER ILLAWARRA REGION—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—
- 0196 KEIRA ELECTORATE AND BROADER ILLAWARRA REGION—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Healthy Lifestyles, and Minister for Western New South Wales—
- 0197 KEIRA ELECTORATE AND BROADER ILLAWARRA REGION—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—
- 0198 KEIRA ELECTORATE AND BROADER ILLAWARRA REGION—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Citizenship and Communities, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—
- 0199 KEIRA ELECTORATE AND BROADER ILLAWARRA REGION—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Sport and Recreation—
- 0200 COAL SEAM GAS—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Infrastructure NSW—
- 0202 COAL SEAM GAS—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—

31 MAY 2011

(Paper No. 14)

- 0203 WESTERN SYDNEY ACADEMY OF SPORT—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Sport and Recreation—
- 0204 NO COST TO CONSUMER DENTAL SERVICES—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- 0205 NURSE PRACTITIONERS—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- 0206 METHADONE DISPENSERS—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

1 JUNE 2011

(Paper No. 15)

- 0207 MOUNT DRUITT HOSPITAL—EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT ENHANCEMENT—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- 0208 BUS SERVICE BETWEEN MATRAVILLE AND MAROUBRA JUNCTION—Mr Michael Daley to ask the Minister for Transport—
- 0209 PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE AT BANKSIA STREET, BOTANY—Mr Michael Daley to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—

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- 0210 INCENTIVE TRANSFER SCHEME FOR TEACHERS—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Education—
- 0211 FUNDS FOR FACILITIES AT BRAYE PARK—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Local Government, and Minister for the North Coast—
- 0212 SEWERAGE CONNECTION TO WEST HOXTON—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Services, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 0213 BUS SERVICE FROM CARNES HILL VIA PRESTONS—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Transport—
- 0214 LOW SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS SCHOOL COMMUNITIES NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP—Ms Carmel Tebbutt to ask the Minister for Education—

2 JUNE 2011

(Paper No. 16)

- 0215 MOUNT DRUITT RAILWAY STATION—TICKET SALES—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Transport—
- 0216 TRANSFER OF HOUSING NSW STAFF—Mr Michael Daley to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—
- 0217 TRANSFER OF HOUSING NSW ASSETS—Mr Michael Daley to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—
- 0218 NEWCASTLE AND LAKE MACQUARIE CITY COUNCILS—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Local Government, and Minister for the North Coast—
- 0219 CARING TOGETHER—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- 0220 PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE—NEPEAN HIGH SCHOOL—Ms Carmel Tebbutt to ask the Minister for Education—
- 0221 SCHOOL ZONE FLASHING LIGHTS—Ms Carmel Tebbutt to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—

14 JUNE 2011

(Paper No. 17)

- 0222 BUS INTERCHANGE—MOUNT DRUITT RAILWAY STATION—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Transport—
- 0223 TILLEGRA DAM PROJECT—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Services, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 0224 BROADMEADOW SPORTING PRECINCT—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- 0225 REPLY TO EMAIL—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- 0226 POST-MORTEM REPORT—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- 0227 STAFF BASED IN WOLLONGONG LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA BOUNDARY—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Premier, and Minister for Western Sydney—

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- 0228 STAFF BASED IN WOLLONGONG LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA BOUNDARY—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Trade and Investment, and Minister for Regional Infrastructure and Services—
- 0229 STAFF BASED IN WOLLONGONG LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA BOUNDARY—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- 0230 STAFF BASED IN WOLLONGONG LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA BOUNDARY—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Education—
- 0231 STAFF BASED IN WOLLONGONG LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA BOUNDARY—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- 0232 STAFF BASED IN WOLLONGONG LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA BOUNDARY—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—
- 0233 STAFF BASED IN WOLLONGONG LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA BOUNDARY—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Infrastructure NSW—
- 0234 STAFF BASED IN WOLLONGONG LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA BOUNDARY—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Resources and Energy, Special Minister of State, and Minister for the Central Coast—
- 0235 STAFF BASED IN WOLLONGONG LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA BOUNDARY—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Transport—
- 0236 STAFF BASED IN WOLLONGONG LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA BOUNDARY—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Tourism Major Events Hospitality and Racing, and Minister for the Arts—
- 0237 STAFF BASED IN WOLLONGONG LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA BOUNDARY—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Treasurer—
- 0238 STAFF BASED IN WOLLONGONG LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA BOUNDARY—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Services, and Minister for the Illawarra—

15 JUNE 2011

(Paper No. 18)

- 0239 INTERSECTIONS WITH MOST RECORDED ACCIDENTS—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—
- 0240 SHORT-TERM "PAY DAY" LENDING—Mr Bryan Doyle to ask the Minister for Fair Trading—
- 0241 NO INTEREST LOANS SCHEMES—Mr Lee Evans to ask the Minister for Fair Trading—
- 0242 CHILDREN TRANSFERRED FROM JOHN HUNTER HOSPITAL—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- 0243 BREACH OF NON-PUBLICATION ORDER—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- 0244 CRIMINAL CHARGES OR INDICTMENTS NOT BE PROCEEDED WITH—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- 0245 REPRESENTATIONS CONCERNING PLUMBING ISSUES—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Services, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 0246 COFFS HARBOUR DISTRICT HOSPITAL—VACANT POSITIONS—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

- 0247 SOLAR PANEL INSTALLATION COMPLAINTS—Mr Dominic Perrottet to ask the Minister for Fair Trading—
- 0248 SKILLED MIGRANT AND REFUGEE MENTORING PROGRAMMES—Ms Carmel Tebbutt to ask the Minister for Education—
- 0249 FUNDING FOR FINANCIAL COUNSELLING SERVICES—Mr Darren Webber to ask the Minister for Fair Trading—
- 0250 HOME BUILDING WARRANTY COMPLAINTS—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Fair Trading—

16 JUNE 2011

(Paper No. 19)

- 0251 FIRST YEAR PROBATIONARY CONSTABLE—SALARY—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- (1) What is the base salary of a first year Probationary Constable in the NSW Police force?
 - (2) How much has this wage increased for each of the past five years?
 - (3) What percentage does each of these increases represent?
- 0252 UNETHICAL BUILDERS—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Fair Trading—
- (1) (a) Are there any reports of unethical builders operating locally in the Hunter?
(b) If so, how many have been reported?
 - (2) Has any immediate and long-term action been taken to prevent unethical building?
- 0253 WARATAH POLICE STATION—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- (1) What is the current authorised strength of the Waratah Police Station?
 - (2) How does this number compare with the actual strength at this station?
 - (3) (a) Has there been any change to these numbers over the past five months?
(b) If so, what are these changes?
- 0254 CUTS IN NURSING POSITIONS—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- With respect to the Minister's answer to a Question Without Notice where she said that 340 nursing positions were cut in western Sydney by the previous Government:
- (1) In which facilities were these positions?
 - (2) Were these positions permanently funded (i.e. part of staffing establishment) positions?
 - (3) How many positions were actually cut in each facility?
 - (4) In which year(s) were these positions deleted?
- 0255 NSW AMBULANCE SERVICE—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- (1) What is the total 2010-11 budget for the NSW Ambulance Service?
 - (2) How many fully qualified paramedics are employed by NSW Ambulance Service?
 - (3) How many paramedics in training are employed by NSW Ambulance Service?
 - (4) How many vacancies currently exist for qualified paramedics?
 - (5) What population figures are used to determine staffing levels of individual stations?
 - (6) What enhancement to paramedic numbers are planned over the next three years?
- 0256 COMPLIANCE COSTS—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—
- Noting the national survey of the costs of service standards and compliance costs for Government-funded community organisations that shows over 70 per cent carry out multiple compliance assessments, more

than 40 per cent spend more than 280 hours completing reports, two months of a full-time position is spent on standards and compliance each year, and fewer than 20 per cent report benefits from these requirements:

- (1) What assessment has the Government made of this data on service standards and compliance costs?
- (2) What cost-benefit analysis has the Government made of service standards and compliance requirements for funded organisations?
- (3) What action has the Government taken to streamline and reduce compliance costs and increase resources for service delivery?
- (4) What assessment has the Government made of the community sector's Standards and Performance Pathways program and its impact on compliance costs?
- (5) What other options has the Government considered to reduce compliance costs and increase resources for service delivery?
- (6) What action will the Government take to reduce compliance costs for funded organisations and get better value from Government funding?

0257 CLOSING THE GAP—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Citizenship and Communities, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—

Noting that there is national commitment since 2006 to closing the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities for health and life expectancy:

- (1) Will the Government make annual public reports on progress?
- (2) How will the Government ensure that all Government agencies make plans, set targets and evaluate progress towards closing the gap?
- (3) What plans does the Government have to work with the Commonwealth and other States and Territories to ensure nationally coordinated action?
- (4) What results has NSW achieved for Indigenous people in:
 - (a) reducing rates of death and illness;
 - (b) access to primary and community-controlled health services;
 - (c) preventing diabetes and improving its management;
 - (d) preventing cardio-vascular disease and improving its management;
 - (e) preventing middle ear infection and eye condition and improving its management;
 - (f) preventing alcohol abuse and smoking;
 - (g) access to dental health services;
 - (h) increasing the supply of fresh food; and
 - (i) improving housing supply and conditions?
- (5) What plans does the Government have to close the health and life expectancy gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people?

0258 MUNMORAH AND MOUNT PIPER STATIONS—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Resources and Energy, Special Minister of State, and Minister for the Central Coast—

With regard to the worst polluting power stations Munmorah and Mount Piper:

- (1) What plans does the Government have to increase energy efficiency and reduce pollution of these power stations?
- (2) What improvements are expected and how long will they take?
- (3) What consideration will the Government give to phasing out these power stations to transfer to more efficient forms of electricity production and distribution?

0259 VERY FAST TRAIN—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Transport—

With respect to proposals for a High Speed Rail to operate between Brisbane, Sydney, Canberra and Melbourne, and noting that the Commonwealth Government has a feasibility study underway on this proposal:

- (1) What assessment has the Government done on the costs and benefits of this proposal?
- (2) What contribution has the Government made to date for a joint Commonwealth, State and Territory commitment to high speed rail?
- (3) What is the Government's policy on this proposal?
- (4) What plans does the Government have to contribute to the success of this proposal?

0260 BAYS PRECINCT—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Infrastructure NSW—

- (1) Is the Government committed to developing a long term strategic planning framework/ master plan for the whole Bays Precinct area?
- (2) If so, what timeframe has the Government set for finalising the plan?
- (3) To what extent will the Government halt consideration and approval of development proposals until an integrated framework or plan has been finalised?
- (4) What role will the Community Reference Group have in Stage 2 of the Bays Precinct consultation process?

0261 SAME SEX MARRIAGE—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—

Noting the latest survey of community attitudes found that 80 per cent of women and 71 per cent of men believe same sex marriage will be made legal in the future:

- (1) What assessment has the Government made of the adequacy of current provisions to recognise same sex relationships in NSW?
- (2) How does the Government ensure that all NSW citizens are treated equally under the law with respect to relationship recognition?
- (3) Has the Government met with Australian Marriage Equality and other community groups concerned about equal legal treatment for same sex marriage?
- (4) What assessment has the Government made of State legislation to provide for an equivalent to same sex marriage, in the absence of a national system?
- (5) Does the Government intend State legislation to provide for an equivalent to same sex marriage, in the absence of a national system?
- (6) What action has the Government taken to advocate for Commonwealth law reform to provide a national system to recognise same sex relationships?
- (7) What action has the Government taken to advocate for Commonwealth law reform to provide same sex marriage?
- (8) What other action does the Government plan to ensure equal legal treatment for same sex relationships?

0262 ADULT LITERACY—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Education—

Noting the recent assessment of international adult literacy policies by the Irish National Adult Literacy Agency showing the success of jurisdictions where there is a "culture of adult learning by removing barriers to learning", and Australian data that 40% of employed and 60% of unemployed people were found to have had poor or very poor literacy and numeracy skills:

- (1) Is the Government aware of the criticism of Australia's poor progress with adult literacy?
- (2) What assessment has the Government made of the findings of this review of the impact of literacy policies and programs, including:
 - (a) the need for a minimum 100 hours for effective literacy programs;
 - (b) embedding adult literacy programs in vocational education;
 - (c) the benefits of expanding adult literacy across a range of providers, venues and situations;
 - (d) helping parents support their children's literacy through family literacy programs?
- (3) What action will the Government take to increase adult literacy opportunities through:
 - (a) workplace education programs;
 - (b) vocational education programs including TAFE;
 - (c) migrant and refugee support services;
 - (d) indigenous organisations;
 - (e) local community organisations;
 - (f) adult education providers?
- (4) What other plans does the Government have to expand literacy education?

0263 GARDENS OF STONE ACTIVITY—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Infrastructure NSW—

With regard to mining operations in the Gardens of Stone:

- (1) Is the Government aware of widespread concerns that the proposed open-cut mine in the Ben Bullen State Forest within the Gardens of Stone will:
 - (a) impact on the sandstone sculpted landscape;
 - (b) clearfell, scalp and destroy 1,088 hectares of old growth forest, turning them into piles of waste rock;
 - (c) destroy the habitat of at least 32 threatened native animals including the lyrebird, regent

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- honeyeater, tiger quoll and powerful owl;
- (d) contradict the responsibility of Forests NSW to manage State forests based on principles of ecological sustainability?
- (2) Will the Government ban open-cut mining in the public forests of the scenic and diverse Gardens of Stone region, given that the intensive underground mining has already exceeded an appropriate resource management balance for this sensitive region?
- (3) To what extent is the Government committed to minimising, adequately treating and discharging any waste effluent from coal mines away from the World Heritage area?
- (4) Will the Government require subsidence management plans for coal mining that includes subsidence protection for the Newnes Plateau pagodas, cliffs, streams and in particular upland swamps, noting that longwall mining is listed as a Key Threatening Process to these swamps under the Threatened Species Conservation Act, 1995?