



PARLIAMENT OF NEW SOUTH WALES  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

2007-08-09

FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-FOURTH PARLIAMENT

# **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

**No. 124**

TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

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  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

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<b>Publication of Questions</b>	<b>Answer to be lodged by</b>
Q & A No. 109 (Including Question Nos 5022 to 5066)	07 April 2009
Q & A No. 110 (Including Question Nos 5067 to 5146)	08 April 2009
Q & A No. 111 (Including Question Nos 5147 to 5226)	09 April 2009
Q & A No. 112 (Including Question Nos 5227 to 5291)	14 April 2009
Q & A No. 113 (Including Question Nos 5292 to 5359)	15 April 2009
Q & A No. 114 (Including Question Nos 5360 to 5427)	16 April 2009
Q & A No. 115 (Including Question Nos 5428 to 5514)	17 April 2009
Q & A No. 116 (Including Question Nos 5515 to 5560)	28 April 2009
Q & A No. 117 (Including Question Nos 5561 to 5633)	29 April 2009
Q & A No. 118 (Including Question Nos 5634 to 5699)	30 April 2009
Q & A No. 119 (Including Question Nos 5700 to 5777)	01 May 2009
Q & A No. 120 (Including Question Nos 5778 to 5820)	05 May 2009
Q & A No. 121 (Including Question Nos 5821 to 5886)	06 May 2009
Q & A No. 122 (Including Question Nos 5887 to 5953)	07 May 2009
Q & A No. 123 (Including Question Nos 5954 to 6027)	08 May 2009
Q & A No. 124 (Questions—Nil)	-

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

**3 MARCH 2009**

(Paper No. 109)

**\*5022 GRAFFITI VANDALISM**—Mr Richard Amery asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

- (1) What action is undertaken by public schools in New South Wales to address the level of damage caused by graffiti vandalism in schools?
- (2) Are cans of spray paint confiscated from students who are in the school?
- (3) What examples of such action has been undertaken in schools in the Mount Druitt electorate?

Answer—

- (1) The NSW Government is committed to providing high quality public education across the state. Establishing and maintaining positive student discipline and effective learning is a priority. The "Suspension and Expulsion of Schools Students – Procedures", implemented at the start of the 2005 school year, give principals the power to take strong action in cases where malicious damage has been caused to school property.

The Education Act (1990) gives government schools the ability to require students to perform reasonable work or service for their school as a disciplinary measure. This option may be appropriate in dealing with graffiti and vandalism as restitution is likely to be a more effective long term learning experience than punishment alone.

The Department of Education and Training's Safety and Security Directorate regularly monitors the frequency and magnitude of security breaches that are reported by schools and provides onsite risk assessments. The risk assessment process provides schools with a range of proven strategies to reduce the risk of security incidents, including graffiti. The Safety and Security Directorate also provides schools with dedicated security patrols which have proven to have a significant effect upon the reduction of security incidents, including graffiti vandalism.

The Safety and Security Directorate also liaises with the NSW Police Force and the Rail Vandalism Taskforce in its efforts to minimise graffiti vandalism.

Schools that have been provided with security fencing also report significant reductions in the incidence of vandalism. Since 1995, security fences have been installed in 588 schools across the State at a cost of more than \$60 million.

- (2) Yes.
- (3) Plumpton High School is an example of a school with a robust anti-graffiti policy. The school's Student Representative Council coordinates an environmental beautification program which involves the removal of graffiti from desks, chairs and areas around the school. This program is publicised and given a high profile at school assemblies.

The strategies that are being implemented by the Department are reducing the incidence of vandalism and graffiti in New South Wales public schools.

21 security fences have been installed at schools in the Mt Druitt electorate.

**\*5023 PROPOSED SALE OF THE STATE'S ELECTRICITY BUSINESS**—Mr Richard Amery asked the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—

- (1) What is the current estimated financial return expected from the proposed sale of the State's electricity business?
- (2) How does this estimate compare with:
  - (a) the privatisation proposal proposed by former Premier Iemma and former Treasurer Costa throughout 2008;
  - (b) the privatisation proposed by former Premier Carr and former Treasurer Egan during the later part of the 1990s?

Answer—

- (1) This Question is a matter for the Minister for Finance.

I am advised it is not appropriate to pre-judge the outcome of the transaction strategy as this will set expectations for bidders. The transaction process will be designed to maximise competition in the bidding process and attract as many participants as possible.

- (2) See answer in (1).

\*5024 MONTHLY EXPENSE PERFORMANCE—Mr Mike Baird asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

Does the Minister receive a monthly update on expense performance relative to budget for both ministerial and departmental responsibilities?

Answer—

Yes.

\*5025 MONTHLY EXPENSE PERFORMANCE—Mr Mike Baird asked the Minister for Local Government, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

Does the Minister receive a monthly update on expense performance relative to budget for both ministerial and departmental responsibilities?

Answer—

I receive regular budget and expense updates.

\*5028 SALE OF HUNTER STREET PREMISES—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

- (1) For how much did the Hunter Water Corporation's former premises at Hunter Street, Newcastle sell?
- (2) How much did the Hunter Water Corporation pay for its new premises at 36 Honeysuckle Drive, Newcastle?

Answer—

I am advised by Hunter Water of the following details:

- (1) \$6 million exclusive of GST.
- (2) \$22.575 million inclusive of land, exclusive of GST.

\*5031 HIGH RISE DEVELOPMENT—DOUBLE BAY—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

In relation to high rise development and the Ashington Group's proposed high rise development at 33 Cross Street Double Bay, given that in Question 4946 the Minister said "If an EA is submitted, there will be a comprehensive community consultation as part of the consideration and assessment of the proposal", what form will the "comprehensive community consultation" take?

Answer—

- The Department of Planning will exhibit the Project Application and Environmental Assessment for a period of at least 30 days in accordance with statutory requirements.
- Exhibition will include the posting of letters, placement of advertisements in newspapers and making available the Environmental Assessment documents for review at the Department's Bridge Street offices, at Woollahra Council and via the Department's web-site.
- The Department will consult with the public and other stakeholders, such as Woollahra Council, in addition to relevant Government Agencies.

\*5033 SCHOOL MAINTENANCE—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

In relation to school maintenance and given the answer to Question 4114 said "The condition assessments of schools in the Sydney Region to identify outstanding maintenance work has been completed since the submission of this answer":

- (1) What maintenance work is now required at each of the following schools:
  - (a) Bellevue Hill Public School;
  - (b) Bondi Beach Public School;
  - (c) Bondi Public School;
  - (d) Double Bay Public School;
  - (e) Rose Bay Public School;
  - (f) Rose Bay Secondary College;
  - (g) Vaucluse Primary School;
  - (h) Woollahra Public School?
- (2) By what date will this maintenance work be completed at each school?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

Answer—

Condition assessments of NSW Public Schools were undertaken in late 2008 and will form the basis for all future maintenance programs, including all public schools in the Vaucluse electorate.

With the introduction of the "Building the Education Revolution" program the department is reviewing the maintenance needs of all NSW schools. Schools will benefit from the "National School Pride" element of the "Building the Education Revolution" program which provides funding for maintenance and minor capital works. The department is currently scoping and nominating these proposals.

As such, it is not possible at this stage to indicate the extent of funding that will be allocated and therefore which projects will be undertaken during the 2008-09 and 2009-10 financial years.

\*5034 NORTH WEST METRO PROJECT—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

In reference to the response to Question 4791:

- (1) What was the total staff remuneration paid by the Department of Premier and Cabinet to staff engaged on the North West Metro (NWM) project between 1 May 2008 and 30 June 2008 (inclusive)?
- (2) What was the total expenditure by the Department of Premier and Cabinet on the NWM project excluding staff remuneration between 1 May 2008 and 30 June 2008 (inclusive)?

Answer—

- (1) \$40,210
- (2) \$302,325 (excl GST)

\*5035 NORTH WEST METRO PROJECT—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) In reference to the North West Metro and employment of full time staff (see response to Question 4791), what was the expenditure on "the engagement of specialist skills for specific tasks as required" between:
  - (a) 1 May 2008 and 30 June 2008 inclusive;
  - (b) 1 July 2008 and 31 October 2008 inclusive?
- (2) What was the total expenditure on advertising and promotional activities for the North West Metro (NWM) project between:
  - (a) 1 May 2008 and 30 June 2008;
  - (b) 1 July 2008 and 31 October 2008?
- (3) Between 1 May 2008 and 30 June 2008 inclusive, what was the total remuneration paid to staff engaged on the NWM project from:
  - (a) the Ministry of Transport;
  - (b) the Transport Development Corporation?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) (a) \$3.548 million.  
(b) \$15.1 million.
- (2) (a) Nil.  
(b) \$348,752.
- (3) (a) \$19,508.  
(b) \$1.026 million.

\*5036 GAMING MACHINES—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister for Sport and Recreation—

- (1) How many individual gaming machine licences are currently issued in NSW?
- (2) How many gaming machine licences were issued across NSW as of:
  - (a) 30 June 2006;
  - (b) 30 June 2007;
  - (c) 30 June 2008?
- (3) How many individual gaming machine licences are currently issued for establishments located in the Ryde electorate?

- (4) How many gaming machine licences were issued for establishments located in the Ryde electorate as of:
  - (a) 30 June 2006;
  - (b) 30 June 2007;
  - (c) 30 June 2008?
- (5) What was the tax revenue collected from gaming machines across NSW for the financial years ending:
  - (a) 30 June 2006;
  - (b) 30 June 2007;
  - (c) 30 June 2008?
- (6) What was the tax revenue collected from gaming machines located in the Ryde electorate for the financial years ending:
  - (a) 30 June 2006;
  - (b) 30 June 2007;
  - (c) 30 June 2008?
- (7) How many people are currently registered for self-exclusion from gaming rooms of establishments located in the Ryde electorate?
- (8) How many people were registered for self-exclusion from gaming rooms of establishments located in the Ryde electorate as at:
  - (a) 30 June 2006;
  - (b) 30 June 2007;
  - (c) 30 June 2008?

Answer—

- (1) Gaming machine licences is not a term that is used in NSW, it is therefore assumed that the Member for Ryde is referring to poker machine entitlements (PMEs) in his questions.  
As at 27 February 2009, there were 98,655 PMEs issued in NSW.
- (2) The total number of PMEs issued in NSW:
  - (a) 99,493 PMEs as at 30 June 2006;
  - (b) 99,111 PMEs as at 30 June 2007;
  - (c) 98,834 PMEs as at 30 June 2008.
- (3) As at 27 February 2009, there were 979 PMEs issued in the Ryde electorate.
- (4) The total number of PMEs issued in the Ryde electorate:
  - (a) 973 as at 30 June 2006;
  - (b) 973 as at 30 June 2007;
  - (c) 979 as at 30 June 2008.
- (5) and (6) This question should be directed to the Treasurer, who is responsible for the collection of gaming machine tax.
- (7) and (8) is unavailable as there is no requirement for gaming venues to provide this information to Government.

\*5037 SALE OF PUBLIC HOUSING PROPERTIES—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Minister for Housing, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) How many properties were sold during last year in each of the following areas:
  - (a) Central Sydney;
  - (b) Greater Western Sydney;
  - (c) Northern NSW;
  - (d) Southern and Western NSW?
- (2) What were the proceeds of these sales in each of the above areas?
- (3) Of the 56 homes sold to public tenants during last year, how many were sold in each of the above areas?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) I have previously advised that the number of properties sold in the portfolio during the year and the proceeds from the sales is contained in the Housing NSW Annual Report. Independent market valuations are used to set prices for disposal. All proceed from the sales of properties are re-invested into providing housing assistance.
- (3) The majority of sales to tenants were spread over the Greater Western Sydney, Northern NSW and

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

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Southern and Western NSW Divisions.

\*5038 NEW PUBLIC HOUSING CONSTRUCTION DURING 2008/2009—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney—

Of the 893 properties to commence construction and 813 to be completed during the year, how many homes will commence construction and how many will be completed in each of the following areas:

- (a) Central Sydney;
- (b) Greater Western Sydney;
- (c) Northern NSW;
- (d) Southern and Western NSW?

Answer—

Housing NSW continually reviews its housing supply program and adjusts numbers according to demand and for high need areas.

Recently announced Commonwealth Government funding will provide significant additional commencements and completions in all of the areas nominated in 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12.

\*5039 HOMELESSNESS—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Minister for Housing, and Minister for Western Sydney—

What does the data received by Housing NSW from the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program, the Census, the City of Sydney, various non-government organisations and its own data from the Temporary Accommodation program, reveal as the latest statistics covering the number of people living on the streets of Sydney?

Answer—

Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) data is published by the Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW) and is available through the AIHW website.

The 2006 Census data is published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and data on homelessness is available through the ABS website.

Details of the City of Sydney Street Count are available through the City of Sydney web site.

Housing NSW provides Temporary Accommodation for people who are homeless or in housing crisis while they make longer-term arrangements. Further information can be found in Housing NSW's Annual Report.

\*5041 LACHLAN VALLEY RAILWAY—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Tourism, Minister for the Hunter, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

- (1) Given that the closure of the rail branch lines as a result of cost cutting in the recent Mini-Budget has left the Lachlan Valley Railway with no rail lines on which to operate, what action will the Minister take to assist this significant tourism attraction in the Cowra district to remain open?
- (2) Will the Minister make urgent representations to the Minister for Transport seeking to have the Lachlan Valley Railway given access to these rail lines for the purpose of tourism?

Answer—

The closure of railway lines is a matter for the Minister for Transport.

\*5042 RTA BOOKING REQUIREMENTS—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Roads—

- (1) Given that the RTA require a credit card to be used to make a booking for a licence or other appointment, and that disabled people frequently cannot afford a credit card and many mental health clients are encouraged not to have a credit card to avoid getting into financial difficulties, has the Minister changed the RTA's policy to remove this area of discrimination against disabled people and mental health clients?
- (2) If not, will the Minister undertake to act to remove this area of discrimination against disabled people and mental health clients?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) and (2) As part of the Road and Traffic Authority's (RTA) commitment to provide convenient and equitable access to services, three options for customers to book for a licence test appointment are provided:

- (i) Visit one of the RTA motor registries, agencies or sites attended by RTA officers.
- (ii) Book on the Internet at "myRTA.com".
- (iii) Call the RTA Contact Centre on 13 22 13.

Motor registries take cash and cheques, and also have Eftpos available for payments. Credit cards are normally required for Internet and telephone bookings.

Payment for a test booking is required in advance to ensure customers attend the scheduled test, or notify the RTA of any change in their plans as the RTA's experience is that some customers fail to keep a test appointment, preventing others from available test timeslots.

Parents, relatives or friends can make their credit card available for an online booking. Many driving schools also make bookings and pay the required fee on behalf of their clients. In exceptional circumstances, special arrangements can be made with the RTA for a test booking such as mailing a cheque to the RTA prior to the appointment.

Pensioners, including some customers with a disability, are exempt from certain licensing fees, including the practical driving test fee, if they are the holder of a valid pensioner card. They can book for a driving test online as long as the pensioner card has been validated by the RTA.

In view of the above, there are no plans to change the current policy.

\*5043 COURT MENTAL HEALTH LIAISON OFFICER—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—

- (1) Are there plans to install a court mental health liaison officer into Hornsby Court?
- (2) If so, when?

Answer—

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

I refer the Member to Question on Notice 4123 - Mental Health Liaison Officer.

\*5044 2008 CLINICAL SERVICES STRATEGIC PLAN—Mr Jonathan O'Dea 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 paid hours were dedicated to develop the 2008 Clinical Services Strategic Plan for Northern Sydney/Central Coast Area Health Service?
- (2) How many unpaid hours were spent?
- (3) How many senior and non-senior clinicians gave of their time to develop this plan?
- (4) Will the plan require substantial revision if the new hospital at Frenchs Forest does not proceed as previously promised, given its proposed status as "hub of healthcare services on the Northern Beaches"?
- (5) What complaints have been received from clinicians regarding delays in implementing the plan since its release in August?

Answer—

I am advised by the Minister for Health:

(1) and (2) The Clinical Services Strategic Plan for was developed by a group of senior clinicians who met on a regular basis, nearly weekly and after hours, all of whom contributed their time on an honorary basis.

It is difficult to estimate the number of paid and unpaid hours that were spent.

(3) The Clinical Strategy Group included 19 senior clinicians from across the Area Health Service. It is estimated that up to 500 senior and non-senior clinicians were consulted overall, this number included the clinicians who were involved in the consultation phase which lead to the finalisation of recommendations for the Clinical Services Strategic Plan.

(4) Health Service planning is a dynamic process. Plans are revised to meet changing demand, models of care, and service requirements.

(5) To date, the Department of Health advises there have been no formal complaints from clinicians



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

regarding delays in implementing the Clinical Services Strategic Plan.

\*5045 CLAIMS FOR TITLE TO LAND BY ADVERSE POSSESSION—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 Rural Affairs—

- (1) How many claims for title to land by adverse possession have been made in New South Wales in the last ten years?
- (2) How many claims of adverse possession have been made for land in the electorate of Davidson in the last ten years?
- (3) How many of these claims have been successful?
- (4) How many of the claims have been for encroachments and boundary issues as opposed to full parcels of land?

Answer—

- (1) 1,023 Applications for Possessory Title over "Torrens Title" land; and about 522 Primary Applications over "old system" land.
- (2) 1 Application for Possessory Title over "Torrens Title" land; and no Primary Applications over "old system" land.
- (3) 1.
- (4) There were none over "Torrens Title" land; and it appears that no Primary Applications over "old system" land were lodged as precise statistics on this aspect are not available.

\*5046 MISSING SECTION OF FOOTPATH—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Roads—

- (1) Why is there no footpath for pedestrians on the Ku-ring-gai side of Roseville Bridge heading south towards Malga Avenue in Roseville?
- (2) Is the RTA or the Ku-ring-gai Council responsible for this missing section?
- (3) When will this matter be addressed?

Answer—

I am advised this is a matter for the Ku-ring-gai Municipal Council.

\*5047 UNGARIE TO LAKE CARGELLIGO RAIL LINE—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) Can the Minister advise if the decision to close the Ungarie to Lake Cargelligo rail line has been reversed?
- (2) Can the Minister advise if funding has been allocated for maintenance of this line for the 2009-10 financial year?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The NSW mini-budget of 11 November 2008 identified that services on up to five grain lines would be suspended. At this stage no final decision has been made as to which lines will be closed.

The outcome of the Expression of Interest process for grain haulage services on the branch lines and the Federal Grain Rail Taskforce, both currently underway, will inform the final decision as to which lines will be suspended.

The NSW Government understands the significance of grain haulage to growers, carriers, business and the community.

- (2) The Government is currently developing the 2009-10 budget which will be delivered in June 2009.

\*5048 UNGARIE TO LAKE CARGELLIGO RAIL LINE—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

How much money has been spent on the Ungarie to Lake Cargelligo rail line in the last four years, including money that was spent on repairs as a result of the 2008 storms?

Answer—

I am advised:

Expenditure on the Ungarie to Lake Cargelligo rail line over the past 4 years is tabulated below:

	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
	\$,000	\$,000	\$,000	\$,000

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

Routine Maintenance and Inspection	329	320	308	299
MPM (cyclic maintenance) and Capital *	5,791	679	394	60
Storm and flood repairs			772	
TOTAL	6,120	1,000	1,473	359

\* MPM and Capital primarily includes cyclic sleeper replacement and associated ballasting and resurfacing and the replacement of life expired timber bridges with corrugated steel pipes or reinforced concrete culverts.

\*5049 IPART RECOMMENDATIONS—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—

- (1) Can the Minister detail which recommendations put forward by the IPART report released in October 2006 that directly relate to NSW and QLD have been implemented in relationship to harmonisation between the States?
- (2) (a) Has the Minister received any submissions from the Tweed electorate?  
(b) If so, what are the details?
- (3) What is the timeframe for implementing the remaining recommendations?

Answer—

- (1) The IPART report contains 74 recommendations that will make regulations more efficient and reduce costs for business in NSW.

Seventeen of those recommendations involve harmonisation between the states and territories which may benefit businesses that operate in both NSW and QLD. Of these, six recommendations have been completed.

The remaining 11 recommendations are on-track to be completed through cross-jurisdictional action, including through the Council of Australian Governments.

- (2) (a) No.  
(b) Not applicable.
- (3) The Government is committed to implementing the IPART recommendations and continue to work with other jurisdictions to achieve this.

\*5050 ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING LAWS—FAR NORTH COASTAL REGION—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

In relation to public comments made recently by the Member for Rockdale in regard to new State environmental planning laws for the Far North Coastal region:

- (1) (a) Is the Minister for Planning reviewing the current legislation in regards to coastal development on the North Coast?  
(b) If so, when will that review be undertaken?
- (2) Which Government department will be involved?
- (3) What is the proposed timeframe for a review?
- (4) Will the local community be involved?

Answer—

- (1) to (4) The Government is reviewing its role in coastal development decision making as part of implementation of the planning reforms. Consultation with key stakeholders will occur in this process.

\*5052 2008 CARBON FARMING EXPO—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of DECC officer Dr Brian Murphy's attendance at the 2008 Carbon Farming Expo and Conference in Orange in November?
- (2) What aspect of measuring soil carbon did Dr Murphy speak about?
- (3) Given recent CSIRO research has shown the importance of soil in storing carbon, does the Minister support the Government's decision to close the Glen Innes research station where soil carbon has been measured since 1934?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

- (4) Does the Minister realize the value of the Glen Innes data in future efforts to mitigate global warming?
- (5) Did the Minister make special representations to the Government to keep the soil carbon experiments going, and if not, why not?
- (6) Did the NSW Government give "a strong commitment to continue its research into soil carbon storage" at the recently formed National Centre for Rural Greenhouse Gas Research in Armidale?
- (7) How does closing the Glen Innes research station assist this commitment?

Answer—

- (1) Yes.
- (2) I am informed that Dr Murphy spoke about two aspects of measuring soil carbon; the measurement at scientific reference sites, and measurement at the paddock scale.

The purpose of Dr Murphy's talk was to explain the difference between these two scales of soil carbon measurement.

- (3) to (7) These questions concern the Glen Innes research station, which is managed by the Department of Primary Industries, and should be directed to the Minister for Primary Industries.

\*5053 TANDOU WATER PURCHASES—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

- (1) How much of the \$34 million paid to Tandou for 250 GL of water came from the NSW Government?
- (2) Is the Minister aware that Tandou's own website says that the 250 GL purchased was only ever available to Tandou after high rainfall and flood events about once every ten years or so in normal climatic times?
- (3) Why are the State and Federal governments paying \$34 million for 250 GL of surplus water, when Tandou's directors valued the company's total water allocations at \$33,571,000 in 2007?
- (4) Did the Department of Water and Energy (DWE) check the water valuation on the company's website before the offer was made?
- (5) Did the Minister say that it would be a long time until the benefits of such a big purchase would be realized, and that savings would only happen in really big flood events?
- (6) Will the Minister sack the relevant DWE staff for failing to achieve value for money?

Answer—

The Department of Environment and Climate Change managed the Tandou supplementary water purchase for the NSW Government. Accordingly, this is a matter for the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment.

\*5054 EMISSIONS TRADING SCHEME—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that the Premiers of South Australia and Tasmania have written to the Prime Minister raising specific concerns about the design of the emissions trading scheme (ETS), its impact on major industries, and expressing fears that the ETS will spark major losses of jobs and revenue?
- (2) Does the Minister share any of these concerns, and if so, which ones?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) The establishment of a carbon price under the proposed Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme will ensure that the cost of greenhouse gas emissions is factored into the business decisions of major emitters, and subsequently across the economy. This will ensure that, over time, low carbon goods and services will gain price benefits, reflecting their lower environmental impact.

The NSW Government has been working with the Commonwealth to ensure a smooth transition to a low carbon future. For example, financial assistance from the Commonwealth Government to emission intensive industries and existing coal-fired generators will be important to maintaining jobs and prosperity in NSW.

The Commonwealth Climate Action Fund will also provide financial assistance to households and businesses to minimise impacts and support the transition to a low carbon economy.

The NSW Government is also seeking to accelerate the development of 'green skills' for trades and professionals to meet the expanding job demand for 'green' workers like plumbers, electricians, builders and designers who deliver energy efficient design, building and other services under the energy efficiency strategy. Our renewable energy precincts initiative is also aimed at maximising NSW's share of jobs and investment in renewable energy.

\*5055 WAITING LISTS FOR ELECTIVE SURGERY—LITHGOW HOSPITAL—Mrs Jillian Skinner 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—

As at September 2008 how many patients were waiting ear, nose and throat (ENT) surgery at Lithgow Hospital and how long had they been waiting at the time of their treatment?

Answer—

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

As at 30 September 2008, there were 63 patients waiting for ENT surgery at Lithgow Hospital. On average they had been waiting for 3.56 months.

During September 2008, 10 ready for care patients were admitted for ENT surgery at Lithgow Hospital and they had been waiting on average for 3.99 months, at the time of admission.

Further information regarding Emergency Department activity, admitted patients, elective surgery for Area Health Services and selected hospitals is publicly available at:

[http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/resources/hospitals/performance/qhpr\\_0812\\_q2\\_pdf.asp](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/resources/hospitals/performance/qhpr_0812_q2_pdf.asp)

This information is available quarterly. The current report details October to December, 2008.

\*5056 WESTMEAD HOSPITAL MEDICAL STAFF COUNCIL—Mrs Jillian Skinner 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—

What is being done to investigate the serious claims leading to the motion of no confidence passed by the Westmead Hospital Medical Staff Council on 3 December 2008:

- (a) Failure of governance process in South West Area Health Service;
- (b) Failure with respect to the appointment and dismissal of senior medical staff;
- (c) The inappropriate operation of the Management of Concern and Complaint against a Clinician Committee (MCCCC);
- (d) Absence of clinical medical representation on all major decision making committees pertaining to the provision of direct clinical services;
- (e) Failure of governance of research?

Answer—

Westmead Hospital is one of Western Sydney's flagship hospitals for research, training of future clinical staff and the delivery of excellence in health care services.

The hospital treats over 1000 patients through the Emergency Department every week, providing some of the most complex treatments for leukaemia, diabetes, heart disease, cancer and surgery. Demand for services continues to rise.

The types of challenges identified by the Garling Inquiry have also led to debates amongst clinicians and administrators at Westmead Hospital. One of those challenges is making certain that clinicians are actively engaged with administrators to ensure the best possible outcomes for patients.

At a meeting of senior medical staff, held at Westmead Hospital in early December 2008 some clinicians at the hospital raised concerns regarding management of the hospital. The Chief Executive, Professor Stephen Boyages met with delegates of the medical staff executive after this meeting to listen to their concerns, assure them they are taken seriously and to plan a way forward.

To support the resolution of these issues an independent review, involving the participation of senior medical and clinical staff and administrators, has commenced. The review will be led by Patricia Faulkner and Professor Phil Harris.

Ms Faulkner is a former secretary to the Department of Human Services in Victoria (2000 to 2007). Ms Faulkner's experience is in public service to the community through the development and implementation of public policy relating to health, aged care, children's services, disability services and housing.

Professor Harris is a board member of the Clinical Excellence Commission. He is head of the Department of Cardiology at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, chair of the Patient Care Committee and chair of the Clinical Training Committee.

The review is expected to be completed by the end of May 2009.

Professor Boyages continues to meet with the senior clinicians at Westmead Hospital on a regular basis.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

\*5057 DENIAL OF NATURAL JUSTICE AND PROCEDURAL UNFAIRNESS—Mrs Jillian Skinner 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—

Is it normal practice for a senior nursing staff member in a NSW public hospital, to be investigated, to have his/her phone seized, office raided, and to be harassed and bullied and denied answers as to what it is he or she is being investigated for?

Answer—

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

The Department of Health has undertaken a number of investigations over recent years where NSW Health property has been confiscated as a necessary part of an investigative process. Depending upon the nature of a complaint/allegation it may be necessary to obtain, secure and preserve evidence from contamination, manipulation or destruction before informing the subject of the complaint. The Department of Health advises that further detail is required to be able to identify the particular incident to which the Member refers.

\*5058 TRAINING OF TEACHERS OF DEAF STUDENTS—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

- (1) Are teachers of deaf students required to undergo training in Auslan (Australian Sign Language)?
- (2) If not, is there a reason why this is not required?

Answer—

- (1) No.
- (2) In 2008 the NSW Department of Education and Training supported over 1,650 students who were deaf or hearing impaired.

Students who are deaf or hearing impaired use different communication approaches that include oral/aural, total communication and sign language. Teachers reflect these approaches in supporting the teaching and learning for these students.

Approximately 87 per cent of the students who are hearing impaired in NSW government schools use an oral/aural means of communication. This approach does not use any sign component and promotes the acquisition of spoken language using residual hearing and appropriate amplification.

The Department's current retraining program for teachers of the deaf and hearing impaired reflects the diverse communication and learning needs of these students and has built options to specialise with particular approaches into retraining programs.

Auslan is one of the communication approaches used. Approximately three per cent of the students who are deaf or hearing impaired (approximately 45 students) use Auslan and it is not necessary for each teacher of deaf or hearing impaired students to undergo training in Auslan.

\*5059 COST OF RESCUING AN ANIMAL—EXEMPTION—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Local Government, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

- (1) How many applications for exemptions from the costs of rescuing an animal from a NSW pound has the Department of Local Government received in the financial years 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08?
- (2) Of this number how many were approved?
- (3) (a) Is the Government considering opening the process to further applications?  
(b) If so, when will the department begin considering submissions?

Answer—

- (1) Applications for exemption from the payment of registration fees, applicable under Section 9 of the Companion Animals Act 1998, received by the Department of Local Government from animal rescue organisations were:

2005-06 - 2;  
2006-07 - 0;  
2007-08 - 0.

- (2) The number of applications approved were:

2005-06 - 2;  
2006-07 - 0;  
2007-08 - 0.

(3) (a) Applications for exemption from registration fees provided by Clause 16 of the Companion Animals Regulation 2008 were re-opened in December 2008.

(b) The Department is currently considering applications received to date.

\*5060 REVIEW OF INFRASTRUCTURE LEVIES—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

(1) When is the review of state and local council infrastructure levies announced by the Treasurer set to begin?

(2) When is the final report due to be released?

(3) (a) Have the terms of reference for this review been established?

(b) If so, can you provide details of these terms?

Answer—

(1) I am advised that the review has commenced.

(2) No report is to be prepared. Amendments to State and local levies are to be introduced progressively under the review process.

(3) (a) Planning Circular PS 09-001 issued 23 January 2009 defines the terms and scope of the review.

(b) See answer to (a).

\*5061 CARE WORKERS—Mr Ray Williams 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) Has the Minister received submissions relating to requests to allow people who need attendant care because of severe disabilities to use their usual care workers to perform their usual daily tasks while in hospital?

(2) Will the Minister allow these carers to assist these patients in hospitals?

Answer—

I am advised by the Minister for Health:

(1) and (2) The Department of Health has received, on occasion, correspondence regarding people with severe disabilities being supported by their usual care workers while in hospital.

The NSW Health Policy Directive 'People with a disability: responding to needs during hospitalisation' sets out guidelines for Area Health Services and hospitals regarding people with severe disabilities being supported by their usual care workers while in hospital. The document is publicly available on the NSW Health website at:

[http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/policies/pd2008/PD2008\\_010.html](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/policies/pd2008/PD2008_010.html)

Family members, carers and disability support staff (care workers) may assist with basic needs at the request of the person with a disability and in consultation with health professionals while in hospital, but are not obliged to assist with individual or medical care needs. In some instances, disability support staff may assist with basic needs, but this should happen in the context of a protocol or agreement between the disability agency and the hospital, with respective roles clarified during pre-admission planning.

In NSW the Department of Ageing Disability and Home Care (DADHC) is primarily responsible for providing accommodation services for people with severe disability. NSW Health and DADHC have policies in place that refer to the establishment of local protocols between DADHC services and with Area Health Services or hospitals to negotiate appropriate support for clients from DADHC group homes and Large Residential Centres (LRC) throughout their hospitalisation.

\*5062 SYDNEY INTERNATIONAL EQUESTRIAN CENTRE—Mr Ray Williams asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister for Sport and Recreation—

Has the Sydney International Equestrian Centre at Horsley Park been sold?

(a) If yes, what was the amount it was sold for?

(b) If no, does the NSW State Government have any intention to sell it in the future?

Answer—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

The above question should be referred to The Hon Carmel Tebbutt, Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment and Minister for Commerce as the land on which Sydney International Equestrian Centre is located falls within that portfolio area.

\*5063 NORTH RICHMOND BRIDGE—Mr Ray Williams asked the Minister for Roads—

Given the Minister was photographed by a local newspaper at an approach to the North Richmond Bridge recently, what is the Minister and the RTA doing to relieve the significant traffic congestion that occurs on a daily basis on either side of this bridge given that the Hawkesbury City Council has been compelled by the State Government's sub-regional strategy to allow additional development to cater for 5,000 people?

Answer—

I visited the area on 18 December 2008 to review the speed limit on Bells Line Road.

With regard to your question about North Richmond Bridge, I am advised that as a result of traffic generated by the Buldev development, the intersection of Bells Line of Road and Grose Vale Road will need to be upgraded.

In the long-term, it is also likely that Richmond Bridge will need to be duplicated with associated upgrading of the Bells Line of Road approach. Other local road widening and upgrading works will also be needed.

The RTA is working with Buldev on this issue and has requested that further traffic investigations be undertaken. The developer has been advised that any project would need to be assessed against other priorities across the state.

\*5064 MAITLAND HOSPITAL—EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT WAITING TIME—Mr Kerry Hickey 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—

What is the average waiting time at the Maitland Hospital's Emergency Department?

Answer—

I am advised by the Minister for Health:

An overall average waiting time at the Maitland Hospital Emergency Department is not kept, as patients are seen according to their clinical urgency / priority.

All patients are individually triaged by a Registered Nurse on arrival at the Emergency Department. The Registered Nurse assesses the patient's clinical condition before applying a priority or category of care between 1 and 5 according to the Australasian Triage Scale as follows:

Category 1: Patients must be treated immediately.

Category 2: Patients must be treated within ten minutes of arrival

Category 3: Patients must be seen within 30 minutes of arrival

Category 4: Patients must be seen within 60 minutes of arrival

Category 5: Patients must be seen within 120 minutes of arrival

National benchmarks are set for the percentage of patients that should be seen within the above timeframes. In the last 12 months the Maitland Hospital met or exceeded these national benchmark percentages, except in February 2008, when 72% of priority 3 patients were seen in 30 minutes, slightly below the benchmark of 75% for this category of patients.

The Quarterly Hospital Performance Report, including data relevant to Maitland Hospital, for the period October to December 2008 is available on the NSW Health website at:

[http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/resources/hospitals/performance/qhpr\\_0812\\_q2\\_pdf.asp](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/resources/hospitals/performance/qhpr_0812_q2_pdf.asp)

\*5065 ROADWORKS—MR 220—Mr Kerry Hickey asked the Minister for Roads—

How long have the roadworks been undertaken by the RTA on the "Gap" MR 220 and when will it be finished?

Answer—

I am advised:

During a major storm event that occurred in the Hunter Region in June 2007, damage was caused to a road cutting and embankment on a section of Leggets Drive, known as Heatons Gap.

The storm caused a rock fall and a tree to come down on the road. This material was removed from the road and also unstable material was removed from the rock face to make it safe for traffic.

At that time, the Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) undertook extensive geotechnical investigations and developed potential designs to further stabilise the area and guard against any further rock falls.

From an engineering perspective, this area is a complex section of road. On one side of the road is a steep cutting and rock face about 16 metres high. On the other side, is a steep embankment and the land drops away around 40 metres. The repair work also had to take into account the Great North Walk which runs through the site along the embankment side of the road.

Work commenced on the site in May 2008, and is being undertaken in two stages. Work on the cutting and rock face has been completed. This involved removing a section of the rock face, stabilising sections of the rock face with shotcrete and installing a three metre high, rock fall retaining fence. In addition, a retaining wall, approximately 100 metres long, has been installed to maintain access for the Great North Walk and two drainage pits have been installed.

The second stage involves constructing a concrete piled wall on the embankment side of the road. The geotechnical investigations for the piled wall have been completed and work on the wall is expected to commence in May 2009 and be completed by July this year, weather permitting.

While this work is carried out, the speed limit has been reduced to 60 kilometres per hour for approximately one kilometre. This is necessary because the alignment of the road has been moved and temporary roadside barriers are in place.

#### 4 MARCH 2009

(Paper No. 110)

\*5068 MOUNT DRUITT HOSPITAL ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY—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) Do the latest figures for the Mount Drutt Hospital show that there are approximately 33,000 occasions of service performed at the Mount Drutt Hospital Accident and Emergency Unit?
- (2) How do these figures compare with:
  - (a) Blacktown Hospital;
  - (b) Fairfield Hospital;
  - (c) Campbelltown Hospital;
  - (d) Camden Hospital?
- (3) (a) Is there any hospital operating in New South Wales that has over 30,000 occasions of service at its Accident and Emergency Department and does not have the facility of Emergency Surgery capacity at that hospital?
- (b) If so, what are the names of hospitals without such Emergency Surgery capacity?

Answer—

NSW Health data indicates there were 29,236 Emergency Department presentations at Mt Drutt Hospital during 2007-08.

(NSW Health uses the term "presentations" in relation to Emergency Department attendances. The term "occasions of service" is more commonly associated with the provision of Outpatient Services.)

The Member previously asked a similar question in relation to the performance of emergency surgical operations by Hospital Emergency Departments in the Sydney Metropolitan Area. The Member is referred to the response given to LA 4657 in this regard.

Hospital services for the residents of the Blacktown local government area (LGA) have been provided as a single health service operating from two sites: Blacktown and Mt Drutt Hospitals. The services offered at each site are planned to be complementary and to maximise efficiencies. This arrangement has significantly changed the way in which health care is provided to the local community. While the facilities are on separate campuses and each has an Emergency Department which operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, the two hospitals function as a single health service across two campuses for the one (Blacktown LGA) community.



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

**\*5069 SALE OF STATE MANAGED RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE FACILITIES**—Mr Greg Aplin 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) Given the Government's plan to transfer responsibility for State managed aged care facilities to the non-government sector, will the Minister guarantee to the communities of Corowa and Holbrook that the aged care bed places will not be removed from the towns and will remain at their current levels?
- (2) What effect will this potential sale have on the Holbrook Health Service and the Corowa District Hospital's classification that determines staffing numbers and management structures?
- (3) What effect will the proposed sale of the aged care beds in Holbrook and Corowa have on staff numbers at Holbrook Health Service and Corowa District Hospital?

Answer—

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

On 31 March I issued a statement to assure residents in NSW Government-owned nursing homes and their families there will be minimal disruption to services, particularly for those with special care needs, if the State Nursing Home Transfer Project goes ahead.

Expressions of interest have been sought from non-government service providers, interested in running aged care places on the Corowa Hospital campus and the Holbrook Aged Care Unit.

Service providers will need to prove they can maintain local access to existing residential aged care places and continuity of services to the Corowa and Holbrook communities.

Community consultations took place on Friday 27 March, following the recent announcement about the NSW Government's initiative for the remaining NSW Government-owned nursing homes.

NSW Health representatives met with Corowa Mayor, Gary Poidevin, and the Shire's councillors, as well as Holbrook Mayor, Denise Osborn, and two local Councillors.

Local communities can be assured that this project is driven by two important principles - identifying providers which are best placed to deliver quality services and ensuring state health resources are directed to the health services that are a state responsibility.

Any expressions of interest received will be assessed on the operator's record in providing quality aged care, in accordance with Federal and State legislative requirements, as well as their capacity to meet any special care requirements of residents.

Once the expressions of interest close, a shortlist of potential operators will be made public.

Staff-to-resident ratios will be determined by non-government residential aged care providers in accordance with resident care needs and in compliance with Australian Government aged care accreditation standards. It is expected the staff-to-resident ratio for the aged care unit should not differ to any great extent from current levels.

If the proposals don't deliver positive outcomes for residents, their families, staff, the health system and the community as a whole, then they will not be accepted.

**\*5070 MONTHLY EXPENSE PERFORMANCE**—Mr Mike Baird asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister for Sport and Recreation—

Does the Minister receive a monthly update on expense performance relative to budget for both ministerial and departmental responsibilities?

Answer—

The Department of Premier and Cabinet provides budget management services for Ministers' offices, including monthly budget reports after annual budgets have been allocated. Agency budget reporting is undertaken in accordance with the annual budget cycle requirements.

**\*5071 MARINE PARK SPEED LIMITS**—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

- (1) What advice did the Port Stephens Marine Park Authority receive on laws that restrict commercial operators in Port Stephens to a speed limit of 25 knots?
- (2) What community consultation did the Port Stephens Marine Park Authority undertake before implementing these laws?
- (3) How are the speed limits being enforced?

(4) How many fines/infringements has the department issued since the speed limits were introduced?

Answer—

- (1) The MPA has implemented a 25 knot speed limit on commercial vessels operating within the confines of Port Stephens via a condition on commercial vessel permits. Advice on a speed limit was sourced from a broad range of local and overseas sources, including scientific literature, other marine park agencies, commercial operators, Port Stephens Council, and boating agencies.
- (2) The permit condition is the result of assessment against the specific criteria required by the Marine Parks Act. This is a statutory assessment process. The approach was reviewed and endorsed by the local Marine Park Advisory Committee, and consultations were held with local commercial operators and the NSW Charter Vessel Association.
- (3) A combination of education and advice is provided to users and speed limits are then enforced during routine compliance patrols with MPA vessels.
- (4) One.

\*5072 WHALE WATCHING LAWS—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

- (1) What advice did the Port Stephens Marine Park Authority receive on laws which prevent licensed whale and dolphin watching tour operators from approaching a dolphin at a distance of less than 50 metres, a dolphin with calf 150 metres, and a whale with calf at 300 metres?
- (2) What community consultation did the Port Stephens Marine Park Authority undertake before implementing these laws?
- (3) How are these laws being implemented?
- (4) Has the Port Stephens Marine Park Authority issued any fines relating to the implementation of these laws?

Answer—

- (1) Staff in Port Stephens Marine Park Authority implement guidelines that are consistent with the National Guidelines for Whale and Dolphin Watching, 2005 and the National Parks and Wildlife Regulation in NSW.
- (2) In 2005, the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment announced a review of the ANZECC Guidelines for Whale and Dolphin Watching which resulted in the National Guidelines for Whale and Dolphin Watching, 2005, developed jointly by Australian, state and territory governments. Public consultation took place through six open forums around Australia and comment was invited on a discussion paper and draft guidelines.
- (3) Through a combination of public education, enforcement and through licensing commercial operations.
- (4) No.

\*5073 HEALTHONE CLINIC—Mr Craig Baumann 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) Has planning begun for the promised HealthOne clinic in Raymond Terrace, as promised by Health Minister Reba Meagher in 2007?
- (2) If so, what stage is the planning for the HealthOne clinic at Raymond Terrace up to?
- (3) How much funding was allocated in the 2008/09 State Budget to the planning of the HealthOne clinic at Raymond Terrace?
- (4) When is building expected to start on the HealthOne clinic at Raymond Terrace?
- (5) What is the Government's expected completion date of the HealthOne clinic at Raymond Terrace?

Answer—

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

- (1) The planning for the HealthOne NSW service in Raymond Terrace has begun. The development of integrated clinical models of care with GPs and community health services has commenced and will continue in parallel with the planning and construction of the HealthOne Raymond Terrace facility.
- (2) The service is being planned as part of a larger development in the Raymond Terrace Central Business District led by Port Stephens Council. Service and capital planning documentation is currently being completed by Hunter New England Area Health Service.
- (3) In 2008-09, \$100,000 was allocated from the HealthOne NSW budget to Hunter New England Area Health Service to support the planning for HealthOne Raymond Terrace.
- (4) Commencement of construction is yet to be confirmed and is dependant on:

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

- Port Stephens Council as the property owner confirming the feasibility of the final HealthOne NSW project proposal within the context of the larger development.
- Customary NSW Government approvals related to capital works projects.

(5) At this stage, the construction of the HealthOne Raymond Terrace facility is expected to be completed by December 2011.

\*5074 TOMAREE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL—LOCUM DOCTORS—Mr Craig Baumann 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 does the Hunter New England Area Health Service spend per annum on the provision of two locum doctors at Tomaree Community Hospital?
- (2) Per locum doctor, how much is spent on:
  - (a) the provision of accommodation;
  - (b) the provision of food and other incidentals;
  - (c) the provision of transport to and from the hospital;
  - (d) payment for the locum doctor's services?
- (3) Where are the Tomaree Community Hospital's locum doctors sourced from?

Answer—

I am advised by the Minister for Health:

- (1) to (3) I am advised by the Hunter New England Area Health Service that there are no general practitioners willing to undertake on-call responsibility at the Tomaree Community Hospital, and no bulk billing services available in town.

Locum doctors are sourced from a range of locations - including Hunter New England Area Health Service medical staff and external locum agencies.

As numerous locums are used and some require travel and accommodation and some don't it is not possible to provide cost "per locum doctor".

\*5075 HEALTH SYSTEM AND HEALTH PORTFOLIO—Ms Gladys Berejiklian 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 health system and the health portfolio:

- (1) What is the total spent on administration?
- (2) What is defined as an administration cost versus the cost of direct patient care?

Answer—

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

- (1) and (2) NSW Health accounting records do not capture "the total spent on administration". The Department of Health and all health services produce detailed annual reports providing staffing figures, financial performance and service provision. The Member is referred to the publicly available annual reports for further information on financial expenditure and service provision.

\*5076 CBD METRO PROJECT—Ms Gladys Berejiklian asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

When did the proposal for the \$4.8 billion CBD Metro project go before Cabinet?

Answer—

The CBD Metro was considered by Cabinet as part of the mini-budget process.

\*5077 OUTER SUBURBAN CARRIAGES—Ms Gladys Berejiklian asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

In relation to Outer Suburban Carriages (OSCARS):

- (1) How many have been relocated to the Epping to Chatswood rail link?
- (2) From which lines have they been removed?
- (3) What trains will replace the OSCARS on those lines?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Nil have been relocated. New Sets coming into service were allocated for the shuttle service.
- (2) N/A.
- (3) N/A.

\*5078 GOVERNMENT RECALL REFERENDUM—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

Will the Minister introduce legislation for a constitutional referendum at the 2011 State election to establish a Government recall provision similar to the provisions in the California Election Code?

Answer—

The Constitution of NSW requires that general elections in NSW be held every four years. This issue went to a referendum in 1995 with bipartisan support. By an overwhelming majority of 75 per cent, the people of NSW voted for fixed four-year terms.

\*5080 EDGECLIFF INTERCHANGE REDEVELOPMENT—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

In relation to the Edgecliff Interchange redevelopment and the Minister's statement (question 4844) that "options currently being developed are based on site constraints":

- (1) What are the options being developed?
- (2) What are the site constraints?
- (3) When did the "early concept development work" begin?
- (4) When is the "early concept development work" re-scheduled to be concluded?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) RailCorp is currently developing options for the station upgrade that look at the various locations where a lift could be placed in the shopping centre (Eastpoint Food Fair/Edgecliff Centre) to serve customers who wish to travel between the station concourse/street and the rooftop bus interchange.

These options are also taking into consideration the stair/escalator location and whether they are optimally located for circulation.

- (2) RailCorp is in the process of undertaking a pre-feasibility study to understand site constraints.

The key constraint is the ownership of land in the vicinity of the station, which will impact on how the works can be carried out. While RailCorp has ownership of the station, the bus interchange and some common areas, much of the shopping centre floors in between are privately owned.

- (3) The pre-feasibility process for the Easy Access upgrade of the station began in late 2008, and will continue in 2009.
- (4) The Easy Access upgrade of the station is not scheduled to begin construction until after 2013. Therefore detailed concept development does not need to begin until approximately 2012.

As the government has committed to other projects which are due for construction prior to Edgecliff Station Easy Access Upgrade, resource availability for design work before then is limited.

\*5081 INCIDENTS OF STALKING—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

- (1) In the following years, how many incidents of stalking have been reported to NSW Police by women:
  - (a) 2000;
  - (b) 2001;
  - (c) 2002;
  - (d) 2003;
  - (e) 2004;
  - (f) 2005;
  - (g) 2006;
  - (h) 2007;
  - (i) 2008?
- (2) Of those women who reported an incident of stalking, how many were subsequently murdered by the stalker?
- (3) Is counselling or other assistance compulsory for perpetrators and victims of stalking?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

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Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me:

(1) and (2) Accurate data in response to this question is not available from police information systems.

(3) No.

\*5084 BONNYRIGG LIVING COMMUNITIES PROJECT—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Minister for Housing, and Minister for Western Sydney—

How much has been allocated for the construction/acquisition of the additional 134 dwellings required to top up social housing in the Bonnyrigg Estate?

Answer—

Bonnyrigg Partnerships, the private partner in the renewal of the Bonnyrigg public housing area, is responsible for the cost of constructing or acquiring the 134 replacement dwellings off the estate.

The allowance that Bonnyrigg Partnerships has made to complete the acquisitions is commercial-in-confidence.

\*5085 HERITAGE LISTED HOUSING NSW PROPERTIES—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Minister for Housing, and Minister for Western Sydney—

(1) What are the locations of the 6 heritage listed properties, which were sold last year and what prices were achieved?

(2) Why is GST payable on the recent auction sale of the leasehold of two heritage-listed properties in Lower Fort Street, Dawes Point?

(3) What are the plans for the proceeds of the one successful auction sale?

(4) How much rent is collected on the 7749 housing NSW heritage-listed properties?

(5) How many of the heritage-listed properties are rented by public tenants, who receive a subsidy?

Answer—

(1) Four properties were located in the Central Western area of NSW; the remaining two were in the Sydney metropolitan area. Independent market valuations are used to set prices for disposal and prices vary depending on the location of the property.

(2) GST is not payable.

(3) The sale of the leases in Millers Point is part of the New Directions in Social Housing for the Inner West strategy, which directs the proceeds into building and buying new homes in the Inner Western Suburbs of Sydney.

(4) and (5) For those public housing tenants living in heritage listed properties, the rent received is dependent on the tenant's household income. Housing NSW regularly updates the income and household details of tenants to determine the amount of rent they need to pay.

\*5086 SECURE NEEDLE DISPOSAL UNITS IN PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Minister for Housing, and Minister for Western Sydney—

How many public housing estates have secure needle disposal units installed similar to those in the Pacific Del Mar estate, Tumbi Umbi and what is their annual cost?

Answer—

The installation of secure needle disposal units is a NSW Health matter and should be directed to my colleague the Minister for Health.

\*5087 HOUSING CODE ROAD SHOW—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

(1) What was the total number of attendees at each of the Department of Planning's Housing Code road show workshops (listed by venue) for the workshops conducted in February and March 2009?

(2) What steps will you take to publish the issues raised by individual attendees at each of the Road Show forums?

(3) Will you direct the Department of Planning to publish the issues raised by individual attendees?

Answer—

(1) The following is a list of registrations for the NSW Housing Code Implementation Workshops held for council staff, practitioners and the community in 16 venues across NSW during February and March 2009. In addition to the advertised Implementation Workshops, presentations were also been

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

made to industry and professional associations which have resulted in over 5000 attendees at workshops or presentations on the NSW Housing Code.

Venue	Registered attendees
Gosford	288
Parramatta	815
Liverpool	395
Coffs Harbour	168
Armidale	121
Ballina	235
Newcastle	466
Sydney - Redfern	1003
Dubbo	165
Wollongong	426
Wagga Wagga	253
Sydney - CBD	355
Queanbeyan	62
Batemans Bay	32
Albury	53
Broken Hill	26

- (2) As part of the implementation workshops for the NSW Housing Code feedback was invited during the workshops from attendees. These were directed in the form of both questions and comments. Comments did not always raise an issue and were in some instances providing positive feedback. The Department of Planning has recorded all questions and comments received and these have formed the basis for the release of fact sheets and frequently asked questions.
- (3) I have asked that the Department of Planning continue to record all questions and comments and responses provided in relation to the implementation of the NSW Housing Code and the Codes SEPP. These comments will continue to inform the release of fact sheets, supplementary information and frequently asked questions so that practitioners, councils and community members can all benefit from the comments raised in regard to implementation of the NSW Housing Code.

\*5088 PART 3A PROJECTS—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

- (1) How many Part 3A projects have been received by the Department of Planning since 1 October 2008, and can the Minister provide a list of these projects?
- (2) For the period 1 October to present, do the number of Part 3A projects called in by the Minister differ from those defined as "received by the Department of Planning" and if so, on what basis?
- (3) Can the Minister provide a list of the projects called in, as referred to in (2) above?

Answer—

- (1) Between 1 October 2008 and 23 March 2009, 84 Part 3A projects were received. Of these:

- 45 were declared Major Projects;
- 5 were rejected as Major Projects;
- 20 were declared to be of Local Significance only; and
- 14 were awaiting a decision.

See list at Appendix 1.

- (2) and (3) Yes. Only a small portion of applications received by the Department of Planning are "called in". Nine were deemed to be of State significance. See Appendix 2.

Appendix 1

Job	Site	CI 6/MP Requested	MP Criteria	Date CI 6/MP Decision
Declared MP				

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

Wolli Creek: Concept Plan - Mixed use retail/residential development	78-96 Arncliffe Street & 31-45 Princes Highway 78-96 Arncliffe Street & 31-45 Princes Highway, Wolli Creek	08/10/2008	Schedule 1 C113	12/01/2009
Project Application- Wind Farm	Yass Wind Farm three site precincts between 20-35 kilometres west and south-west of Yass,	09/10/2008	Schedule 1	17/10/2008
Avon, Beechworth and Arilla Roads, Pymble - multi unit housing	Avon, Beechworth and Arilla Roads, Pymble Avon Road, Arilla Road, Beechworth Road, Pymble	10/10/2008	Schedule 2	01/12/2008
Duralie Coal Project (Clareval)	Duralie Mine ,	13/10/2008	Schedule 1	27/10/2008
Project Application	Flyers Creek Wind Farm Beneree Flyers Creek Road, Carcoar	17/10/2008	Schedule 1	24/10/2008
Lidsdale Coal Loader Project	Lidsdale Coal Loader & Rail Siding Facility Lot 1 Main Street, Wallerawang	21/10/2008	Schedule 1	24/10/2008
Global Switch Site Redevelopment	Global Switch Site - Former Government Printing Office Building 390-422 Harris Street, Ultimo	24/10/2008	Schedule 2	07/11/2008
Sydney Olympic Park Educational College (K to 12)	Site 31 and 32 Shane Gould Avenue, Sydney Olympic Park	28/10/2008	Schedule 2	17/11/2008
Residential Subdivision	08_0242 - Lot 5 Moonee Beach Road, Moonee Beach Moonee Beach Road, Moonee Beach	04/11/2008	Schedule 2	20/11/2008
08_0118 Residential Subdivision into 17 lots	08_0118 Willow Avenue, Bogangar Willow Avenue, Bogangar	04/11/2008	Schedule 2	14/11/2008
Project Application MP 08_0227	Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Hospital Palmerston Road, Hornsby	06/11/2008	Schedule 1	12/11/2008
Manilla Hospital	Manilla Hospital Court Street, Manilla	07/11/2008	Schedule 1	20/11/2008
West Cliff Coal Preparation Plant Reliability Project	West Cliff Coal Mine , West Cliff	10/11/2008	Schedule 1	05/12/2008
Concept Plan and Project Approval Stage 1	Googong Water Cycle Project , Googong	12/11/2008	Schedule 1	21/11/2008
Commercial and Hotel development Berry/Walker Street	Berry and Walker Street, North Sydney 88 Walker Street and 77-81 Berry Street, , North Sydney	13/11/2008	Schedule 1 C113	16/12/2008

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

Novotel Hotel, Brighton Le Sands expansion	Novotel Hotel Brighton Le Sands 70 The Grand Parade, 6 - 20 Princess Street, Brighton Le Sands	19/11/2008	Schedule 1	12/01/2009
Construction and Operation of Maitland to Minimbah Third Track	Maitland to Minimbah Third Track Between Maitland and Minimbah, Hunter Valley	27/11/2008	Schedule 1	03/12/2008
Cardinal Freeman Village: Concept Plan - Works to existing aged care facility	Cardinal Freeman Village Victoria Street, Ashfield	28/11/2008	Schedule 1 C113	07/01/2009
Concept Plan 09_0050 - Sydney ARC Precinct	The University of Sydney Abercrombie St, Codrington Street, Darlington Road and Golden Grove Street, University of Sydney	02/12/2008	Schedule 1	16/12/2008
Project Application 09_0051 - Sydney ARC Precinct - Stage 1	The University of Sydney Abercrombie St, Codrington Street, Darlington Road and Golden Grove Street, University of Sydney	02/12/2008	Schedule 1	16/12/2008
Tourist Facility	06_0036 Meriki Island, South West Rocks Rainbow Reach Road, Rainbow Reach	08/12/2008	Schedule 2	19/12/2008
Project Application 08_0250 - Hunter Medical Research Institute	Hunter Medical Research Institute 2 Lookout Road, New Lambton Heights	09/12/2008	Schedule 1	16/12/2008
Mixed Use Development	08_0201 Ulladulla Harbour Triangle 23 - 27 Wason St, Ulladulla	10/12/2008	Schedule 2	31/12/2008
Taronga Zoo: Project Application - Chimpanzee Enclosure	Taronga Zoo	11/12/2008	Schedule 2	19/12/2008
Tourist Facility, Restaurant & Bottle Shop	08_0254 - 2 Lavis Lane, Williamtown 2 Lavis Lane, Williamtown	17/12/2008	Schedule 2	23/01/2009
Site 4 - Lindfield Avenue SEPP 53 commercial retail residential development	Site 4 - Lindfield Avenue SEPP 53 commercial residential development 23 & 23A Lindfield Avenue and 11 Havilah Avenue, Lindfield	17/12/2008	Schedule 2	15/01/2009
MP 09_0007 Stage 1 Library Building	Moore Theological College King Street, Newtown	22/12/2008	Schedule 1	30/12/2008
MP 09-0005 Concept Plan	Moore Theological College King Street, Newtown	22/12/2008	Schedule 1	30/12/2008



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

Goaf Gas Drainage Project	Appin Coal Mine Morton Park Road, Douglas Park	23/12/2008	Schedule 1	19/01/2009
Project Application	Shell Point Marina 15-21 Mangrove Lane, Taren Point	05/01/2009	Schedule 1	04/03/2009
Marina Expansion	07_0138 Marmong Point Marina Expansion 1 Nanda St, Marmong Point	09/01/2009	Schedule 1	19/01/2009
NRE No. 1 Colliery Project	NRE No. 1 Colliery Cnr Princes Highway & Bellambi Lane, Russell Vale	14/01/2009	Schedule 1	20/01/2009
Concept Plan 09_0010	St Vincent's Darlinghurst - Medical Research Precinct 362-392 Victoria Street, 405-429 Liverpool Street, Darlinghurst	15/01/2009	Schedule 1	20/01/2009
Project Application 09_0011 - Garvan Cancer Centre	St Vincent's Darlinghurst - Medical Research Precinct 362-392 Victoria Street, 405-429 Liverpool Street, Darlinghurst	15/01/2009	Schedule 1	20/01/2009
Project Application 09_0012 - UNSW Virology	St Vincent's Darlinghurst - Medical Research Precinct 362-392 Victoria Street, 405-429 Liverpool Street, Darlinghurst	15/01/2009	Schedule 1	20/01/2009
Tourist Facility	Caravan Park South West Rocks New Entrance Road, South West Rocks	20/01/2009	Schedule 2	30/01/2009
Residential and Tourist Facility	09_0016 Cnr Tweed Coast Rd and Cypress Crescent, Cabarita Cnr Tweed Coast Rd and Cypress Crescent, Cabarita, Cabarita	21/01/2009	Schedule 2	29/01/2009
Train Support Facility at Greta	Train Support Facility at Greta Great Northern Railway, Greta	27/01/2009	Schedule 1	04/02/2009
Project Application - Newstead to Bulla Park pipeline	Newstead (Wallumbilla Gas Hub) (Qld) to Bulla Park (NSW) gas pipeline ,	30/01/2009	Schedule 1	03/02/2009
Wongawilli Colliery Bath House Project	Wongawilli Colliery ,	04/02/2009	Schedule 1	05/02/2009
86-96 & 100 Mount Street, North Sydney	86-96 & 100 Mount Street, North Sydney 86-96 and 100 Mount Street, North Sydney	06/02/2009	Schedule 1 C113	04/03/2009

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

Multi-unit housing Major Project application	3-5 Pymble Avenue, Pymble Multi unit housing development 3-5 Pymble Avenue, Pymble	09/02/2009	Schedule 2	24/02/2009
Camden Gas Project - Stage 3	Camden Gas Project - Stages 1, 2 & 3 , Camden/Wollondilly/ Campbelltown	13/02/2009	Schedule 1	04/03/2009
MP09_0039 - Mixed Use Development, Redfern RSL, Gibbons Street, Redfern	Redfern RSL 157 Redfern Street, Redfern, Sydney	20/02/2009	Schedule 3	27/02/2009
MP09_0044 - Park Hyatt - Internal refurbishment	Park Hyatt 7 Hickson Road, The Rocks	27/02/2009	Schedule 2	09/03/2009
MP Rejected				
Mixed Use Development	08_0205 Saltwater Development, South West Rocks Philip Drive, South West Rocks	13/10/2008	Schedule 2	
Project Application - Huntley Colliery	Huntley Colliery Huntley, Huntley	02/11/2008	Schedule 1 C113	
Residential Subdivision	08_0202 Seaside City Seaside City, New Tweed Coast	19/11/2008	Schedule 2	
Alterations to Holiday Haven Tourist Park	Alterations to Holiday Haven Tourist Parks Collier Drive, Cudmirrah	16/02/2009	Schedule 2	13/03/2009
Alterations to Holiday Haven Tourist Park	Alterations to Holiday Haven Tourist Parks Burrill, Huskisson	16/02/2009	Schedule 2	13/03/2009
Declared Local Significance Only				
Nine (9) Lot Rural Residential Subdivision	08_0107 Cobaki Road, Cobaki 161 Cobaki Road, Cobaki	02/10/2008	Schedule 2	29/01/2009
Residential Subdivision	08_0204 Seaside City Blocks B1 & B2, Casuarina Way, New Tweed Coast	29/10/2008	Schedule 2	19/11/2008
105 Ramsgate Avenue, Bondi Beach - Residential	Bondi Beach - Residential 105 Ramsgate Avenue, Bondi	30/10/2008	Schedule 2	08/12/2008
Five (5) Lot Residential Subdivision	Five (5) Lot Residential Subdivision Kurrajong and Poinciana Avenues, Bogangar	04/11/2008	Schedule 2	26/02/2009
Seven lot subdivision	Boomerang Beach seven lot subdivision Boomerang Drive , Boomerang Beach	25/11/2008	Schedule 2	16/02/2009
Tourist Development	08_0097 Wooyung Rd Wooyung Road, Wooyung	11/12/2008	Schedule 2	29/01/2009

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

Commercial Building (Centrelink) Batemans Bay	Commercial Building (Centrelink) Batemans Bay Flora Crescent (rear of Batemans Bay Soldiers Club), Batemans Bay	16/12/2008	Schedule 2	09/02/2009
Four Storey Mixed Use Development	74 Terrigal Esplanade 74 Terrigal Esplanade, Terrigal	08/01/2009	Schedule 2	03/02/2009
Residential Flat Buildings	09_0003 Town Beach, Port Macquarie , Port Macquarie	12/01/2009	Schedule 2	29/01/2009
Residential Subdivision	09_0017 Casuarina North West Precinct Dianella Drive, New Tweed Coast	20/01/2009	Schedule 2	12/02/2009
Six (6) Lot Residential Subdivision	09_0014 Fisherman's Reach 6 Lot Subdivision 417 Fisherman's Reach Road, Fisherman's Reach	21/01/2009	Schedule 2	29/01/2009
09_0008 - Local significance 4th floor to existing 3 storey building within mixed residential/retail complex	Terrigal - Land bound by Campbell Crescent, Painters Lane, Terrigal Esplanade, Terrigal ,	23/01/2009	Schedule 2	03/02/2009
2 lot rural residential subdivison	Rural residential subdivision Wallaga Lake Road,	05/02/2009	Schedule 2	26/02/2009
Project Application - Rural Residential	Rise Estate Marana St, Bilambil Heights	10/02/2009	Schedule 2	10/03/2009
Alterations to Holiday Haven Tourist Park	Alterations to Holiday Haven Tourist Parks Entrance Road, Lake Conjola	16/02/2009	Schedule 2	15/03/2009
Alterations to Holiday Haven Tourist Park	Alterations to Holiday Haven Tourist Parks Prince Edward Avenue,	16/02/2009	Schedule 2	15/03/2009
Alterations to Holiday Haven Tourist Park	Alterations to Holiday Haven Tourist Parks Off Princes Highway, Lake Tabourie	16/02/2009	Schedule 2	15/03/2009
Alterations to Holiday Haven Tourist Park	Alterations to Holiday Haven Tourist Parks Cambewarra,	16/02/2009	Schedule 2	13/03/2009
Alterations to Holiday Haven Tourist Park	Alterations to Holiday Haven Tourist Parks Red Point Road, Waratah,	16/02/2009	Schedule 2	15/03/2009
33 Lot Residential Subdivision	33 Lot Residential Subdivision Tuckeroo Avenue, Mullumbimby	17/02/2009	Schedule 2	11/03/2009

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

Job	Site	CI 6/MP Requested	Date CI 6/MP Decision
Project Application - CBD Metro	CBD Metro	n/a	06/02/2009
Wah Wah Stock and Domestic Piping Project	Part of Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area, west of Barren Box Swamp,	n/a	26/02/2009
Project Application - M2 Upgrade	M2 Motorway	n/a	27/02/2009
Biomass-Fired Power Station	Edrom Road, Eden	n/a	01/02/2009
Killalea State Park Tourist Facility	Killalea State Park, Buckley Road, Shellcove	n/a	04/03/2009
Wolli Creek: Concept Plan - Mixed use retail/residential development	78-96 Arncliffe Street & 31-45 Princes Highway 78-96 Arncliffe Street & 31-45 Princes Highway, Wolli Creek	08/10/2008	12/01/2009
Commercial and Hotel development Berry/Walker Street	Berry and Walker Street, North Sydney 88 Walker Street and 77-81 Berry Street, , North Sydney	13/11/2008	16/12/2008
Cardinal Freeman Village: Concept Plan - Works to existing aged care facility	Cardinal Freeman Village Victoria Street, Ashfield	28/11/2008	07/01/2009
86-96 & 100 Mount Street, North Sydney	86-96 & 100 Mount Street, North Sydney 86-96 and 100 Mount Street, North Sydney	06/02/2009	04/03/2009

\*5089 INFRASTRUCTURE CO-ORDINATOR GENERAL—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—

- (1) (a) Has the Minister met with the NSW Infrastructure Coordinator General Bob Leece?
- (b) If so, what are the dates and venues of the meetings?
- (2) What will the pay structure be for Mr Leece?
- (3) What staff and what budget will the Office of the Co-ordinator General have?

Answer—

Questions relating to the appointment of Mr Bob Leece should be referred to the Premier.

\*5090 HOUSING CODE ROAD SHOW—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

What was the total cost of the Department of Planning's Housing Code road show conducted in February and March 2009?

Answer—

I am advised that whilst there are still Housing Code Implementation Workshops in progress and more costs will be incurred because of the timing of invoices and payments, the total costs incurred to date of the Department of Planning's Housing Code road show conducted in February and March 2009 at sixteen venues across NSW is \$271,160.

\*5091 HERITAGE ACT—PROPOSED CHANGES—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

When will you release proposed changes to the NSW Heritage Act, as promised by the former Minister Frank Sartor in March 2008?

Answer—

I anticipate that a Bill will be submitted to the current session of Parliament.

\*5092 PART 3A PROJECTS—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

- (1) How many Part 3A projects have been referred to the Planning Assessment Commission for

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

determination since 1 October 2008?

(2) Will the Minister provide a list of these projects.

Answer—

Since October 1, 2008 there has been one (1) project referred to the Planning Assessment Commission (PAC) for determination.

The Red Cross Medical Research facility at Alexandria was referred to PAC on 20 February 2009 and was determined on 23 February 2009.

\*5093 CESSNOCK CORRECTIONAL CENTRE—Mr Kerry Hickey asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State—

(1) What level of savings will be made by privatising Cessnock Correctional Centre?

(2) Where will these savings be made?

(3) How does this compare to the cost per day per inmate, in terms of public versus private?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Mini-Budget identified savings of \$15 million increasing to \$16.1 million from outsourcing the operations of Parklea and Cessnock Correctional Centres and some court security and escort functions to private operators.

It would be inappropriate to provide specific figures on the savings to be made for each function as it would provide the tendering companies with information that would distort the competitive processes.

\*5094 KURRI HOSPITAL—Mr Kerry Hickey 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—

Is there any waiting time at Kurri Hospital when patients are presented there?

Answer—

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

The Kurri Kurri District Hospital Emergency Department operates on a 24 hour, seven days per week basis. All patients are individually triaged by a Registered Nurse on arrival at the Emergency Department. The Registered Nurse assesses the patient's clinical condition before applying a priority or category of care between 1 and 5 according to the Australasian Triage Scale as follows:

Category 1: Patients must be treated immediately.

Category 2: Patients must be treated within ten minutes of arrival

Category 3: Patients must be seen within 30 minutes of arrival

Category 4: Patients must be seen within 60 minutes of arrival

Category 5: Patients must be seen within 120 minutes of arrival

National benchmarks are set for the percentage of patients that should be seen within the above timeframes. For the period July 2008 to 28 February 2009 the hospital met or exceeded these national benchmark percentages.

\*5095 E-BIKES—Mr Kerry Hickey asked the Minister for Roads—

(1) How does the owner of an E-bike obtain compliance to register their vehicle?

(2) Can they utilise the RTA to help with compliance?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) Road transport legislation categorises a number of cycles. In order of complexity and power, these are: pedal cycles, power assisted pedal cycles, mopeds and motorcycles. Most E-bikes are either a form of power assisted pedal cycle or a moped.

Power assisted pedal cycles are similar to pedal cycles in that the primary source of propulsion is from the person cycling. They also have a small motor fitted, limited to 200 watts, that is intended to provide assistance to the cyclist, such as when going uphill or to conserve energy.

Like pedal cycles, power assisted pedal cycles do not require registration nor do their riders require to be licensed, but they must wear an appropriate cycle helmet.

Cycles with a power output greater than 200 watts or if the motor does not serve to assist the cyclist, are categorised as mopeds. Like other mopeds, these must comply with the appropriate vehicle standards, including the relevant Australian Design Rules and be registered. Their riders must also hold a motorcycle licence and wear an appropriate motorcycle helmet.

In assessing whether an E-bike is a power assisted pedal cycle or a moped, a person must determine the power of its motor, which should be clearly specified at the point of purchase, and whether they intend to pedal while cycling it.

If it is a moped that requires registration, evidence of compliance with the relevant vehicle legislation, by way of a compliance plate, must be present on the moped at the point of purchase.

- (2) Vehicles offered for sale in Australia that are deemed to be eligible for registration, must be fitted with a compliance plate issued by the Federal Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government. This plate is confirmation that the vehicle complies with all the relevant legislation, including vehicle standards and Australian Design Rules.

E-bikes or mopeds fitted with an engine with a power output greater than 200 watts, or which are not intended to be cycled as the primary source of power, are a vehicle eligible for registration and must be fitted with such a compliance plate.

The Roads and Traffic Authority does not check a vehicle for compliance and relies upon the compliance plate for registration purposes.

**\*5096 HARDEN MURRUMBURRAH HOSPITAL AGED CARE BEDS**—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson 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) Given that the consultancy for the Legal Advisory Services for the State Nursing Home Transfer Project closed on 19 February 2009, how many firms have submitted a tender for the provision of these services?
- (2) When does the Minister anticipate that the Department of Health will decide on the firm to provide these services?
- (3) When does the Minister anticipate that the Department of Health will call for tenders or expressions of interest for service providers to take over the operation of the residential aged care places including those at the Harden Murrumburrah Hospital?

Answer—

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

- (1) Thirteen firms submitted tender proposals for the provision of legal advisory services for the State Nursing Home Transfer Project.
- (2) On 18 March 2009, Deacons was engaged by Health Infrastructure as legal adviser to assist in the implementation of this project.
- (3) There is currently no process that will see service providers "take over" any aged care services in NSW.

NSW Health called for Expressions of Interest on 3 April 2009 to explore service models that may see the transfer of remaining State Government nursing homes to the non-government sector. Such a transfer will only take place after suitable proponents, who have been identified through an EOI, submit detailed proposals that meet very clear criteria.

Successful proposals will provide local access to existing residential aged care places; continuity of aged care services and minimal disruption of services to residents. In addition, maintaining the care of residents with special care at existing levels will be a key issue for consideration.

If the proposals don't deliver positive outcomes for residents, their families, staff and the community as a whole they won't be accepted.

**\*5097 FIXED WATER CHARGES**—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

- (1) As of 3 March 2009 how many farmers were liable for fixed water charges?
- (2) What is the total of the funds owed as a result of these fixed water charges?
- (3) As of 3 March 2009 how many farmers had an unpaid, outstanding debt on fixed water charges?
- (4) What is the total amount of the outstanding funds owed on fixed water charges?
- (5) During (a) 2007-08, (b) 2006-07 and (c) 2005-06 how many farmers were forced to sell their water

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

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rights to pay off a fixed water charge debt?

Answer—

(1) to (4) Information on charging for water licences, including the number of licences, is contained in the annual reports of the Department of Water and Energy and State Water. The latest reports can be accessed at:

State Water

<http://www.statewater.com.au/>

Department of Water and Energy

<http://www.dwe.nsw.gov.au/home/>

(5) Farmers are not required to declare the reason/s for their licence sale and as a consequence, this data is not collected.

\*5099 SPEED CAMERA REVENUE—Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—

What amount of revenue was generated by the speed camera installed on Captain Cook Drive between Cawarra Road and Gannons Road?

Answer—

I'm advised by the Office of State Revenue that the Infringement Management Processing System (IMPS) commenced in September 2002. Data prior to September 2002 is managed by NSW Police.

Since September 2002, the total face value of penalty notices issued in relation to the speed camera installed on Captain Cook Drive is \$272,392.

\*5100 TRAFFIC LIGHT CONSULTATION—Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Minister for Roads—

What community consultation has taken place in relation to the upgrade of the traffic lights at the intersection of The Kingsway and Gannons Road, Caringbah?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Roads and Traffic Authority is currently preparing a community consultation letter regarding the improvement works at the intersection of The Kingsway and Gannons Road, Caringbah.

This letter will then be distributed to the community via letterbox drops. A newspaper article will be issued in the local papers advising the community of the improvement works.

There will also be a period where the community can provide feedback in relation to the works which will be used in the final determination of the project.

\*5101 ADDITIONAL RESOURCES—Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

What additional resources will be provided to the Fraud Squad, Crime Command within the next 12 months?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me that additional positions have been approved for the Fraud Squad.

\*5102 SCHOOL PASSES—Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

How many children in the Cronulla electorate have a school pass?

Answer—

I am advised:

As school travel records are not attributed to electorates, estimates are based on the suburbs and postcodes within the Cronulla electorate.

The Ministry of Transport estimate, as at February 2009, 4,238 students residing within the Cronulla electorate hold school bus passes.

\*5103 SUTHERLAND HOSPITAL—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 much money was raised by volunteers for Sutherland Hospital in:
  - (a) 2005;
  - (b) 2006;
  - (c) 2007?
- (2) How many patients were treated at Sutherland Hospital in:
  - (a) 2005;
  - (b) 2006;
  - (c) 2007?

Answer—

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

- (1) The net proceeds from fundraising by volunteers for the Sutherland Hospital was:
  - (a) \$267,113
  - (b) \$318,397
  - (c) \$509,067

(2)

Year	Inpatients Total Separations	Outpatient Occasions of Service	Emergency Department Attendances
(a) 2005-06	17,648	480,218	31,067
(b) 2006-07	18,206	533,899	34,389
(c) 2007-/08	18,573	519,197	35,197

\*5104 UNDERAGE DRINKING CHARGES—Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations—

How many charges for underage drinking have been laid against how many people in relation to incidents in the Sutherland Shire in:

- (a) 2006-07;
- (b) 2007-08;
- (c) the financial year 2008-09 to date?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (a) Twenty five infringement notices were issued.
- (b) Forty five infringement notices and one court attendance notice were issued.
- (c) From July 2008 to September 2008, 12 infringement notices were issued.

\*5105 RAIL CORRIDORS—Mr Daryl Maguire asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) Given that responsibility for rail corridors and infrastructure has now been given to Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC), who is responsible for maintaining and managing the corridors?
- (2) Who is responsible for past pollution of the corridors, i.e. garbage, steel left on roadways, easements etc?
- (3) Who is responsible for paying to rectify any identified problems from previous ownerships in the past 100 years?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (3) The Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC) took up a 60-year lease of the NSW interstate track and Hunter Valley rail freight corridors on 5 September 2004. According to the terms of the contract between ARTC and Rail Infrastructure Corporation (RIC), the ARTC has responsibility for maintenance and management of rail corridors and infrastructure under its lease, including rectification of any scrap materials on the corridor. Contamination existing at the time of the lease is dealt with by ARTC in co-operation with RIC under the terms of the Lease Agreement.



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

The Country Regional Network is owned by RIC and maintained and managed by ARTC under the Country Regional Network Management Agreement. Under the agreement ARTC identifies and prepares annual work programs which are submitted for RIC's approval. ARTC is also responsible for the day to day routine maintenance of the Country Regional Network. Activities carried out under the approved annual works program, and the day to day routine maintenance, are funded from RIC's annual budget allocation. These works can include progressive clean-up of scrap from the corridor.

\*5106 HUME HIGHWAY MANAGER—Mr Daryl Maguire asked the Minister for Roads—

- (1) Who is the person responsible for the management of the Hume Highway?
- (2) Is litter removed by:
  - (a) contractors;
  - (b) RTA;
  - (c) volunteers;
  - (d) councils?
- (3) How much was paid by the Manager of the Hume Highway to remove garbage roadside litter from the Hume Highway for the period 2006-07 and 2007-08?
- (4) Why is the section of the Hume Highway at Campbelltown clean and reasonably free of roadside litter?
- (5) Who cleans that section of the road and how much does it cost?
- (6) Why has no garbage been removed from the roadside from Campbelltown to the Victorian border on the Hume Highway?
- (7) When was the last contract awarded to clean roadside litter from the Hume Highway and to whom was it awarded?
- (8) Is the Road Manager of the Hume Highway paid a bonus and are roadside litter reduction targets part of the bonus payment measure?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) Regional Managers of Sydney, Southern and South West Regions are responsible for the management of the Hume Highway, located within their boundaries.
- (2) (a) and (b) Yes.  
(c) and (d) No.
- (3) Litter collection is treated as routine maintenance and is not specifically recorded.
- (4) The RTA regularly cleans the section of the Hume Highway from Casula to Menangle, approximately 22 kilometres, throughout the year.
- (5) The RTA's contractor picks up litter and sweeps the road once a month. The RTA pick up other debris, for example tyres. The estimated cost is \$250,000 per annum.
- (6) The RTA removes litter from roadsides, in accordance with established maintenance standards.
- (7) The current contract for the section of the Hume Highway from the Crossroads to the Sydney Region boundary at the Nepean River was awarded to Acme Pty Ltd on 31 October 2008.
- (8) Bonuses are not paid to RTA personnel responsible for litter collection.

\*5107 COLLECTION OF ROADSIDE GARBAGE—Mr Daryl Maguire asked the Minister for Roads—

- (1) Why are no subcontractors employed by the RTA to harvest roadside garbage on main state roads and the Hume Highway?
- (2) Have tests occurred using mechanical harvesters of roadside litter?
- (3) Where did those tests occur and when?
- (4) What was the result?
- (5) How many years has it been since contractors were employed by the RTA in South West to harvest roadside rubbish?
- (6) How much do collectors receive per km to harvest roadside rubbish in other areas?
- (7) Has the RTA investigated vacuum type machines to harvest roadside garbage?
- (8) When did the tests occur?
- (9) What was the result?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) engages its own Road Services workforce and Councils under Road Maintenance Council contracts to maintain the majority of the road network.

Part of the Sydney Region is maintained by a contractor, Downer EDI, as part of the Performance Specified Maintenance Contract. The current contract for the section of the Hume Highway from the Crossroads to the Sydney Region boundary at the Nepean River was awarded to Acme Pty Ltd on 31 October 2008.

It is the responsibility of these service providers to remove litter in accordance with established maintenance standards. Unfortunately, these efforts are often negated by ongoing littering by motorists.

(2) to (4) No tests have been carried out. Truck mounted suction sweepers are used to remove debris from roadside shoulders and formed kerbs. The grassed medians are either done by staff driving all terrain vehicles manually removing litter, or by staff on foot prior to mowing.

It is noted that some councils have mechanical machines that they use for beach cleaning and a contractor has sent in promotional materials for these types of machines. These are yet to be trialled for roadside works.

(5) Contractors have never been employed in the RTA's South West Region specifically to collect roadside rubbish.

(6) Litter collection is treated as routine maintenance and is not specifically recorded.

(7) to (9) No tests have been carried out. Truck mounted suction sweepers are used to remove debris from roadside shoulders and formed kerbs. The grassed medians are either done by staff driving all terrain vehicles manually removing litter, or by staff on foot prior to mowing. These machines are unable to be used in grassed areas due to restricted access around other vegetation, limited effectiveness in removing litter from grassed areas, and lack of traction in unsealed areas.

\*5108 ROADSIDE LITTER—Mr Daryl Maguire asked the Minister for Roads—

- (1) Has the Minister initiated any measures to engage contractors to clean the highways of New South Wales?
- (2) When did the Minister last inspect these highways with the purpose of identifying roadside litter and constructing a plan to have it removed?
- (3) Does the Minister or his agent have a strategy to remove roadside litter?
- (4) Does the Minister consider the removal of roadside litter and management of roadside litter have been successful?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (4) Local Government is the responsible authority for road reserves, with the exception of Freeways and Motorways.

The NSW Government, through the Roads and Traffic Authority, maintains the 'built infrastructure' within the road reserve on state roads. This is achieved under existing contractual arrangements with Local Government, or by internal service providers. Appropriate standards are set in all aspects of road maintenance, and this differs for the category of road.

Removal of litter that is hazardous to vehicles, pedestrians or cyclists, should be undertaken within four hours to one day, and offensive litter should be removed within one day to one week.

Routine removal of roadside litter is undertaken on a needs basis. This occurs at least eight times a year, and once fortnightly to monthly for some strategic roads.

\*5109 POWER ASSISTED CYCLES—Mr Daryl Maguire asked the Minister for Roads—

- (1) When will new regulations for power assisted cycles be implemented by the RTA?
- (2) Will some types of cycles need compliance plates?
- (3) Will riders need to be licensed to ride such cycles?
- (4) What authorities, overseas and interstate, is the RTA working with to develop new regulations?
- (5) What new power limit is being considered for pedal cycles?
- (6) What changes to the standards are being considered?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) will shortly issue a Discussion Paper that proposes amending the current definition for power assisted pedal cycles to better reflect the type and range of E-bikes that are now available on the market and to clearly differentiate between bona fide power assisted pedal cycles and mopeds.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

It is intended that this will form part of a national strategy for uniform legislation on power assisted pedal cycles.

There will be a two month period for analysing the paper and providing feedback. After this, the paper will be finalised and a recommendation made to amend the legislation accordingly. It is anticipated that this process will be completed before the end of 2009.

- (2) Pedal cycles and bona fide power assisted pedal cycles will not require compliance plates. Mopeds, including E-bikes that do not meet the definition of power assisted pedal cycles, require a compliance plate to be fitted for the purposes of registration.
- (3) Persons riding pedal cycles and bona fide power assisted pedal cycles will not require a licence to ride them. Persons riding mopeds, including E-bikes that do not meet the definition of power assisted pedal cycles, will continue to require a licence to ride them.
- (4) The RTA is working closely with all other road and vehicle authorities in Australia and the Federal Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government. It is also working with a number of other authorities, in particular, NSW Police and Australia Post, and a number of interest groups, including Bicycling NSW, the Australian Bicycling Council and a representative of bicycle retailers.

The discussion paper was developed following extensive research on the subject in many parts of the world, in particular, the European Community, New Zealand, Canada, the United States of America (USA), Japan and China. As part of this process, members of the RTA corresponded with members of authorities in New Zealand and Canada, and with experts in the USA.

- (5) It is currently proposed to increase the maximum power output to 250 watts. This will be in line with the requirements in Europe and Japan.
- (6) The main changes under consideration are:
  - The 250 watts is stated as 'continuous' which is not a current specification. This clarifies how the power output is to be measured.
  - The definition is being amended to highlight that a power assisted pedal cycle is a form of pedal cycle by requiring the motor to operate only while the vehicle is being pedalled.
  - The motor can only provide assistance up to a maximum speed of 25 kilometres per hour, at which point it cuts out and the sole source of power is from the cyclist.

This will specify the requirements for power assisted pedal cycles. If these are observed, the vehicle will not require registration, nor the rider licensing.

\*5110 LITTER REMOVAL ON HIGHWAYS—Mr Daryl Maguire asked the Minister for Roads—

- (1) Who is the person responsible for the management of the Pacific Highway?
- (2) Who is the person responsible for the management of the Princes Highway?
- (3) Who is the person responsible for the management of the Newell Highway?
- (4) Who is the person responsible for the management of the Olympic Highway?
- (5) Who is the person responsible for the management of the Sturt Highway?
- (6) How much litter was removed on the above highways?
- (7) Is litter removed by:
  - (a) contractors;
  - (b) RTA;
  - (c) volunteers;
  - (d) councils?
- (8) How many contractors are available to the Road Manager to engage to clean roadsides?
- (9) How much rubbish in tonnes has been removed in the past 12 months?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) Managers:  
Sydney Region;  
Hunter Region;  
Northern Region.
- (2) The RTA's Regional Managers:  
Sydney Region;  
Southern Region.
- (3) The RTA's Regional Managers:

South West Region;

Western Region.

- (4) The RTA's Regional Managers:

South West Region;

Western Region.

- (5) The RTA's Regional Manager South West.

- (6) The RTA does not record the volumes of litter collected.

- (7) (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) No.

(d) Yes.

- (8) Roadside maintenance, including cleaning, is carried out by the RTA's Road Service workforce and councils under Road Maintenance Council contracts to maintain the majority of the road network.

Part of the Sydney Region is maintained by a contractor, Downer EDI, as part of the Performance Specified Maintenance Contract.

- (9) See answer to question (6).

\*5111 LUCY OSBORN-NIGHTINGALE MUSEUM ANATOMY COLLECTION—Ms Clover Moore 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—

Given the media reports about the value of the morbid anatomy collection held by the Lucy Osborn-Nightingale Museum at Sydney Hospital and the Government's previous commitment to maintain this museum and provide accommodation at Sydney Hospital:

- (1) What action will the Government take to support the museum to maintain and upgrade this collection so that it remains available to students and researchers?

- (2) Will the Government ensure that NSW Health acts to support the museum?

Answer—

I am advised by the Minister for Health:

The Lucy Osburn-Nightingale Museum has a valued and important role in promoting the history of nursing in Australia. South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra Area Health Service (SESAHS) is committed to the preservation of the pathology collection which is of significant scientific, educational and research value.

However, some of these specimens are very old and in poor condition and require professional assessment to determine their viability. The Government needs to ensure that they are safe to be kept and that they present no Occupational Health and Safety risk to staff, volunteers or visitors.

The Area Health Service has engaged Prof Stan McCarthy and Prof Eva Raik - both eminent pathologists with a long history of involvement in the pathology profession to assist the Foundation and the Area Health Service. Prof McCarthy and Prof Raik with the assistance of the honorary curator of the Lucy Osburn-Nightingale Museum, will log, assess and register the specimens and advise on the appropriate management of these specimens.

Specimens assessed suitable for retention will remain under the auspices of Sydney Hospital (SESAHS). Ongoing management of the collection will be undertaken by an Advisory Committee reporting to the Chief Executive of the Sydney Hospital (SESAHS).

The Chief Executive of the Sydney Hospital will apply for an Anatomy Licence under the Anatomy Act 1977, for the whole collection and the housing of the specimens at Sydney Hospital.

The Advisory Committee, on the basis of information derived from the audit, will also advise the Chief Executive of which specimens will be loaned to the Lucy Osburn-Nightingale Foundation, the University of Notre Dame, the University of Sydney and Royal Prince Alfred Hospital and such other institutions as may from time to time be appropriate.

On completion of the audit a complete register of the collection will be put in place which will record all specimens forming part of the collection and the respective sites at which portions of the collection are held.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

Transfer of loaned specimens to other sites will require notification to and the agreement of Sydney Hospital (SESAHS) and will be in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Anatomy Act 1977 and other relevant Acts.

Research which requires the partial or complete use of a specimen will require the prior approval of the Sydney Hospital (SESAHS) on the advice of the advisory committee.

\*5112 STREET LIGHTING—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Roads—

Given the street lighting network charges to councils have increased by 40 per cent over the last four years and are proposed to increase a further 78 per cent over the next five years:

- (1) Will the RTA increase payments to councils under the Traffic Route Lighting Subsidy Scheme in line with these increases?
- (2) If so, by how much?
- (3) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (3) The Roads and Traffic Authority's allocation to the Traffic Route Lighting Subsidy Scheme is planned to be increased in line with the inflation expectation. Currently, annual inflation is assumed to be 2.5 per cent.

\*5113 SOUTH DOWLING STREET NORTH PEDESTRIAN SAFETY—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Roads—

Given it has been over a year since the permanent removal of the clearway on South Dowling Street North and traffic conditions should have settled:

- (1) How has the NSW Government reviewed pedestrian safety on South Dowling Street North since removal of the clearway was made permanent?
- (2) What conclusions has the NSW Government made about pedestrian safety on South Dowling Street North?
- (3) What further reviews are proposed for the future?
- (4) To what extent is the NSW Government considering further measures to improve pedestrian safety on South Dowling Street North, such as the signalised pedestrian crossing previously proposed?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) has conducted routine on site inspections. It has also reviewed traffic flow data and pedestrian crash history for this section of South Dowling Street.
- (2) No crashes have been recorded involving pedestrians on this section of South Dowling Street since the removal of the clearway. It can therefore be concluded that the level of safety for pedestrians is adequate.
- (3) The RTA will continue to monitor the traffic flow on South Dowling Street, and review crash data to maintain an acceptable level of safety for all road users.
- (4) The current level of safety for pedestrians is considered adequate and accordingly, the RTA is not considering any further measures to improve pedestrian safety at this stage.

\*5114 RATE CHARGES AND STREET LIGHTING NETWORK CHARGES—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Local Government, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

Given the street lighting network charges to councils have increased by 40 per cent over the last four years and are proposed to increase a further 78 per cent over the next five years:

Will the NSW Government adjust rate capping for councils if the proposed significant increases in street pricing are approved, to ensure councils do not have to cut back on service delivery?

Answer—

In determining the annual rate peg amount, the Government takes into account general cost movements expected to occur for the local government sector in the current financial year. These are reflected as a general percentage increase for all councils.

In some circumstances councils may apply for a special rate variation, depending on local factors. Any such application will be scrutinised closely and must be supported by a robust business case and demonstrate broad community support.

\*5115 EFFECTS OF VOLUNTARY EMISSION REDUCTIONS—Ms Clover Moore asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

Given the Residential Rebate Program and proposed renewable energy feed-in-tariff system are measures used by the NSW Government to encourage households and businesses to volunteer to invest in measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions:

- (1) Is the NSW Government aware of growing community concern that the Federal Government's Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme could prevent voluntary actions that cut carbon emissions from reducing Australia's overall greenhouse gas emissions beyond the 2020 target of 5 to 15 per cent, because such actions would only reduce the price for carbon permits and create opportunities for some industries to pollute within this target?
- (2) What action is the NSW Government taking to ensure that voluntary measures to reduce emissions by NSW residents and businesses, such as installing rooftop solar panels, will reduce Australia's emissions beyond the Federal Government's proposed greenhouse gas emissions reduction target?

Answer—

- (1) The Government is aware of community views on this issue.
- (2) Putting a price on carbon through an emissions trading scheme will create incentives for households, businesses and the public sector to reduce the greenhouse emissions intensity of their day-to-day activities.

Following the introduction of the CPRS, the NSW Government will continue to support actions by households and businesses to reduce their emissions in a number of ways, including using energy more efficiently, installing solar water heaters and installing rooftop solar photovoltaic panels.

The Government's energy efficiency policies and programs ensure that low cost energy efficiency opportunities are taken advantage of, helping to deliver emissions reductions under the CPRS while reducing the impact of increasing electricity prices on NSW electricity customers. Support for clean technologies helps lead to improvements and cost reductions in these technologies.

By supporting clean technologies and helping to deliver emissions reductions under the CPRS at least-cost, the NSW Government aims to help put Australia in a position to adopt increasingly ambitious emissions reduction goals over the medium to long term.

\*5116 SYDNEY AIR POLLUTION—Ms Clover Moore asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

Given that in 2006 the National Environment Protection Council (NEPC) listed Sydney's air pollution levels as almost 10 times higher than other Australian cities:

- (1) What action has the NSW Government taken since 2006 to improve air quality in Sydney?
- (2) What assessment has been made on the success of this action and how was it measured?
- (3) What short-term and long-term targets has the NSW Government set to reduce pollution levels in Sydney?
- (4) How will the NSW Government achieve these targets?
- (5) What research has been undertaken on the contribution that filtering inner city tunnel stacks could have on improving adjacent air quality?
- (6) What conclusions have been made?
- (7) How many complaints were made to the Department of Environment and Climate Change Pollution line in the last five years regarding pollution in and around metropolitan Sydney road tunnels?

Answer—

- (1) The NSW Government has a record of strong action that has delivered significant improvements in air quality.

In 2006, "Action for Air", the Government's 25-year air quality management plan was updated to reflect NSW Government actions to improve Sydney's air quality.

In August 2008, the NSW Government introduced the NSW "Cleaner Vehicles and Fuels Strategy" in August 2008, which outlines a range of vehicle and fuel related initiatives, including:

- vapour recovery at service stations;
- the Summertime Low-Volatility Petrol Program;
- the NSW Diesel Retrofit Program;
- the environmental rating of heavy vehicles;
- benchmarking the vehicle fleet;

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

- the NSW FleetWise Partnership;
- alternative fuels;
- community awareness and behaviour change education.

Further information on Action for Air and the above initiatives is available on the Department of Environment and Climate Change website.

(2) Every three years, the Government holds a Clean Air Forum to assess and re-evaluate programs for the management of air quality in NSW. The most recent Clean Air Forum was held in November 2007.

The papers presented at the forum are available on the Department of Environment and Climate Change website.

(3) The NSW State Plan - Priority E3(a) - includes cleaner air targets linked to national health based air quality standards set out in the National Environment Protection Measure for Ambient Air Quality. Please refer to the State Plan for further details.

(4) NSW consistently meets the standards for four of the six targeted air pollutants. The standards for ozone (photochemical smog) and particles can be exceeded on several days per year.

The Government has a wide range of programs in place to improve air quality as set out in "Action for Air".

(5) I understand that NSW Health has released the report "Investigation into the possible health impacts of the M5 East Motorway Stack on the Turrella Community". This falls within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for Health, the Hon John Della Bosca MLC.

(6) Refer to question (5).

(7) 37 complaints were received between January 2005 and 12 March 2009.

\*5117 HOLIDAY LETTING—Mr Donald Page asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

- (1) What is the NSW Government's policy on holiday letting in areas zoned residential?
- (2) Is it lawful to holiday let your residence in a residential zone?
- (3) If it is lawful, can the Minister explain why?
- (4) If it is unlawful, can the Minister explain why?
- (5) If a Council wishes to approve holiday letting in a residential zone, would this require an amendment to that council's Local Environment Plan?

Answer—

- (1) The NSW Government supports holiday letting and recognises its importance to the NSW tourism industry.
- (2) Holiday letting may be a lawful use in residential areas depending on the relevant council's planning controls.
- (3) See (2).
- (4) See (2).
- (5) It depends on the wording in that council's Local Environmental Plan.

\*5118 SCHOOLS IN ISOLATED AREAS—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

In relation to school day hours in isolated areas across NSW:

- (1) How many schools in isolated areas across NSW have adopted different school hours?
- (2) What are the names of each of these schools and what electorate are they located in?
- (3) What are the adjusted school times for each of these schools?
- (4) What is the regular attendance rate for children who are enrolled in these school locations?

Answer—

Schools in remote areas face particular challenges simply because of their location. Principals in these schools work closely with their communities to put in place structures designed to maximise the learning outcomes for their students.

As each location is different, schools respond flexibly to the particular needs of their communities.

One response in remote communities is to vary school hours in order to create time for parents, children and teachers to travel to access services in major centres during term times.

Such arrangements are negotiated on a school by school basis and do not reduce the number of face to face teaching hours for students. Arrangements are negotiated with the local community and take account of aspects such as student travel arrangements, impacts on other schools and supervision arrangements.

To provide a full answer to this question would involve a survey of all schools located in isolated areas. This would involve an unjustifiable diversion of resources away from the Department's core responsibilities.

\*5119 UNFLUED GAS HEATERS IN SCHOOLS—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

In relation to unflued gas heaters in schools:

- (1) How many public schools in NSW currently have unflued gas heaters, listed by Electorate?
- (2) By May 2009, how many public schools in NSW will have unflued gas heaters installed?

Answer—

- (1) Unflued gas heaters are the standard space heating equipment used in the majority of Department of Education and Training schools. A more detailed statistical response to this question would involve considerable time and the diversion of resources away from core responsibilities of the Department of Education and Training that cannot be justified.
- (2) See previous answer.

\*5120 CARRAMAR AGED CARE FACILITY—Mr Adrian Piccoli 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 State-owned Carramar Aged Care Facility in Leeton:

- (1) How many Full Time Equivalent staff are currently employed at the Carramar facility?
- (2) When will tenders for the sale of the facility be advertised?
- (3) Will tenders contain a guarantee that beds will not be lost and patient costs will not increase following the sale?
- (4) As the facility was funded partly by the State Government and partly by the community of Leeton prior to its opening, will the profits of the sale be split between the Government and the community?

Answer—

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

25.31 FTE.

NSW Health anticipates calling for Expressions of Interest for the transfer of state-owned nursing homes to the non-government sector in early April 2009. Such a transfer will only take place after suitable proponents, who have been identified through an EOI, submit detailed proposals that meet very clear criteria.

The Government is determined that successful proposals will provide local access to existing residential aged care places; that there is continuity of aged care services and minimal disruption of services to residents; that the care of residents with special care requirements is maintained at existing levels and that heritage assets are protected, where applicable.

If the proposals don't deliver positive outcomes for residents, their families, staff and the community as a whole they won't be accepted.

\*5121 TAFE NSW STAFFING AGREEMENT—Mr Greg Piper asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

As the overarching principle of the 2007 TAFE NSW Staffing Agreement states "... TAFE NSW recognises the importance of, and is committed to, increasing the use of permanent full-time and part-time employment ..." and section K - Reporting and Monitoring - states "The implementation of this Agreement shall be monitored at the TAFE Institute level. This monitoring shall be supported by the provision of appropriate data":

- (1) Does the Department of Education and Training collect the "appropriate data"?
- (2) If yes, are the hours worked in individual sections and campuses by TAFE part-time casual, temporary and permanent teachers included, and is this data available to TAFE Institutes?
- (3) If no, why is such data not collected?

Answer—



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

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- (1) Yes.
- (2) and (3) The TAFE NSW Staffing Agreement confirms that TAFE NSW is committed to increasing the use of permanent full-time and part-time employment where this is appropriate and sustainable, based on TAFE business and educational needs. The Agreement does not apply to part-time casual TAFE teachers. The Department of Education and Training provides data to the NSW Teachers Federation on a regular basis which is consistent with the terms of the Staffing Agreement.

\*5122 JUNE GAOL—Mr Greg Piper asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State—

What financial and other support is provided by the Government to the privately run gaol at Junee and what is the annual cost?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Department of Corrective Services pays an annual management fee for the operation of the Junee Correctional Centre. No other financial or other support is provided by the Government. The contract does provide that in the event that the operator seeks assistance from the Department, such assistance will be provided on a user-pays basis.

\*5124 TWEED SAND BYPASS PROJECT—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

In relation to the current contract for the Tweed Sand Bypass:

- (1) Is there any minimum amount of sand that needs to be pumped per year?
- (2) (a) Is there any penalty clause in terms of performance?  
(b) If so, what are the details?
- (3) (a) Has the Minister commenced negotiations with the Queensland Government and the Gold Coast City Council?  
(b) If so, who or which department?
- (4) Does the existing contract allow scope for modification?

Answer—

- (1) Details of the requirements of the project for sand delivery are contained within the Tweed River Entrance Sand Bypassing Act 1995.
- (2) Yes. Details are also contained within the Tweed River Entrance Sand Bypassing Act 1995.
- (3) No.
- (4) Yes.

\*5125 RAIN TANK SUBSIDY SCHEME—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

In relation to the current rain tank subsidies scheme:

- (1) What is the total number of tanks supplied under this scheme to residents of the Tweed electorate in:
  - (a) 2007-2008;
  - (b) 2008-2009?
- (2) What is the total amount of money used to provide residents of the Tweed electorate with water tanks under this scheme in:
  - (a) 2007-2008;
  - (b) 2008-2009?

Answer—

- (1) (a) 217 rainwater tank rebates were paid in 2007/08.  
(b) 159 rainwater tank rebates were paid in 2008/09 (to 16 March 2009).
- (2) (a) \$114,300 in 2007/08.  
(b) \$85,976 in 2008/09 (to 16 March 2009).

- \*5126 CARE FLIGHT HELICOPTER SERVICE—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:

How many retrievals have there been by the QLD Care Flight Helicopter service in:

- (a) 2007-2008;
- (b) 2008-2009?

Answer—

I am advised:

Information sourced from the Queensland Clinical Coordination Centre and RACQ CareFlight (Gold Coast) indicates that in the 2008 calendar year there were 7 transfers from the Tweed Hospital By the QLD CareFlight helicopter. To date in 2009, there has been one transfer from the Tweed Hospital.

- \*5127 TOORALE STATION BUDGET—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

Given the February advertisement for a Project Manager to manage a team of staff, consultants and contractors in the development and implementation of plans for the adaptive re-use and maintenance of Toorale Station:

- (1) What is the total budget for the Project Manager's position?
- (2) What is the total budget for other Toorale staff in 2009?
- (3) What is the total budget for Toorale consultants in 2009?
- (4) What is the total budget for Toorale contractors in 2009?
- (5) How much will it cost the NPWS to maintain Toorale in 2009?

Answer—

- (1) \$102,058 per annum.
- (2) Total budget for other Toorale staff in 2009 is forecast at \$404,295 per annum. Budgets for the second half of 2009 will be finalised as part of the Department's 2009/10 budget process.
- (3) \$15,000 (to 30 June 2009).
- (4) \$15,000 (to 30 June 2009).
- (5) The Department of Environment and Climate Change has allocated \$580,000 for the management of Toorale for the period to 30 June 2009. Budgets for the second half of 2009 will be finalised as part of the Department's 2009/10 budget process.

- \*5128 IPART—CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION MEASURES—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

Given the Premier's December 2008 request for IPART to determine which NSW climate change mitigation measures should be terminated, transitional or redesigned to better complement the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme:

- (1) Why did the Minister announce the Sustainability Advantage Energy Saver and Energy Efficiency for Small Business programs on December 15 when IPART was still investigating if the old measures are worth continuing?
- (2) Were the Sustainability Advantage Energy Saver and Energy Efficiency for Small Business programs assessed by IPART?
- (3) How will the Sustainability Advantage Energy Saver and Energy Efficiency for Small Business programs fit with the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme when it does not credit energy efficiency?

Answer—

- (1) Energy efficiency measures reduce energy consumption and save money. However, individuals and business do not automatically take up energy efficiency activities (despite the fact that it can save them money), and it is well established that incentive programs have a role in influencing consumer behaviour.

The Sustainability Advantage Energy Saver and Energy Efficiency for Small Business programs are justified on purely economic grounds, and are complementary to the proposed Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme.

- (2) The Sustainability Advantage Energy Saver and Energy Efficiency for Small Business programs are both currently being assessed under the IPART review.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

- (3) The Energy Efficiency for Small Business program applies to businesses below the proposed Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme threshold, which use less than 160MWh of electricity per year.

The Sustainability Advantage Energy Saver is aimed at medium to large-sized firms and is an extension of the very successful Sustainability Advantage program. Only the very largest firms participating in Sustainability Advantage Energy Saver will also be included in the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme and then only in relation to their direct emissions such as from burning coal, gas or oil in major facilities. Electricity usage (the main target of the State program) is not covered by the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme.

- \*5129 LASER HAIR REMOVAL REGULATION—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

In relation to laser hair removal and the Minister's move in December 2008 to introduce strengthened solarium tanning laws:

- (1) Why is the Minister flagging changes to the Radiation Control Regulation for suntanning units but not regulating laser hair removal at the same time?
- (2) Given that laser hair removal and solarium tanning are both controlled by exactly the same regulation, why had regulating solariums gained precedence over regulating laser hair removal?
- (3) Given that many of the safety requirements such as appropriate operator tanning, restrictions on the length and frequency of sessions and the display of warning notices are the same, when will the Minister change the Radiation Control Regulation for laser hair removal?

Answer—

- (1) to (3) The application of regulatory controls to the laser hair removal industry is being considered at the national level through the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA) and the Radiation Health Committee.

ARPANSA has agreed to prepare a Regulatory Impact Statement to identify the most appropriate model for regulation. This process has not been finalised.

NSW will consider the outcomes of this process as part of a national uniform approach.

- \*5130 AREA HEALTH SERVICES—FTENURSES—Mrs Jillian Skinner 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—

How many Full Time Equivalent nurses were working within the following Area Health Services (AHS) in the 2007-08 financial year:

- (a) Greater Southern AHS;
- (b) Greater Western AHS;
- (c) Hunter New England AHS;
- (d) North Coast AHS;
- (e) North Sydney Central Coast AHS;
- (f) South Eastern Sydney Illawarra AHS;
- (g) Sydney South West AHS;
- (h) Sydney West AHS;
- (i) Children's Hospital Westmead?

Answer—

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

Information relating to FTE nurses working within the Area Health Services in the 2007-08 financial year can be found in the Area Health Services annual reports.

Annual reports are available at [www.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au)

- \*5131 AREA HEALTH SERVICES—FTE MEDICAL STAFF—Mrs Jillian Skinner 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—

How many FTE medical staff were working within the following Area Health Services in the 2007-08 financial year:

- (a) Greater Southern AHS;
- (b) Greater Western AHS;
- (c) Hunter New England AHS;

- (d) North Coast AHS;
- (e) North Sydney Central Coast AHS;
- (f) South Eastern Sydney Illawarra AHS;
- (g) Sydney South West AHS;
- (h) Sydney West Area Health Service;
- (i) Children's Hospital Westmead?

Answer—

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

Information relating to FTE medical staff working within the Area Health Services in the 2007-08 financial year can be found in the Area Health Services annual reports.

Annual reports are available at [www.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au)

\*5132 FTE NURSES—Mrs Jillian Skinner 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—

How many FTE nurses were working at the following hospitals in the 2007-08 financial year:

- (a) Auburn;
- (b) Bankstown/Lidcombe;
- (c) Belmont;
- (d) Blacktown;
- (e) Camden;
- (f) Campbelltown;
- (g) Canterbury;
- (h) Children's Hospital at Westmead;
- (i) Concord;
- (j) Fairfield;
- (k) Gosford;
- (l) Hawkesbury;
- (m) Hornsby;
- (n) John Hunter;
- (o) Liverpool;
- (p) Manly;
- (q) Mona Vale;
- (r) Mt Druitt;
- (s) Nepean;
- (t) Prince of Wales;
- (u) Royal Hospital for Women;
- (v) Royal North Shore;
- (w) Royal Prince Alfred;
- (x) Ryde;
- (y) St Vincent's;
- (z) Sydney;
- (aa) Sydney Children's;
- (ab) Westmead;
- (ac) Wyong?

Answer—

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

Nursing workforce profiles can be found in each Area Health Service's annual report. I refer the member to [www.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au)

\*5133 LOCAL COURTS—Mr Greg Smith asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations—

(1) Does the list of local court days and hours of operation as printed at

[http://www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au/lawlink/local\\_courts/ll\\_localcourts.nsf/pages/lc\\_location](http://www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au/lawlink/local_courts/ll_localcourts.nsf/pages/lc_location)

on Monday 2 March 2009 reflect the current opening days and hours of local courts across New South Wales?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

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- (2) If there is any discrepancy in opening days and hours with the website for local courts, what are those discrepancies?
- (3) What changes have been made to the opening days and hours of local courts since the end of the 2008 calendar year?
- (4) What changes have been made to the opening days and hours of local courts since the end of the 2007 calendar year?
- (5) What changes have been made to the opening days and hours of local courts since the end of the 2006 calendar year?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) All permanent changes to opening days or hours are updated on the website. Temporary changes are not posted on the website.
- (3) to (5) No central records are kept of changes made at individual courts.

\*5134 SENIOR EXECUTIVE SERVICE—Mr Greg Smith asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations—

In accordance with Premier Nathan Rees' undertaking last year that the Senior Executive Service would be reduced by 10%, which Senior Executive Service positions have been deleted in departments and agencies that the Attorney General is responsible for since the Premier's announcement?

Answer—

I am advised:

In October 2008, the Premier announced that there will be a 20% reduction in senior executive numbers. The Government is on track to meet the reduction target.

\*5135 MULTI-AGENCY ANTI GRAFFITI ACTION TEAM—Mr Greg Smith asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations—

- (1) On what dates did the Multi-Agency Anti Graffiti Action Team meet in the 2008 calendar year?
- (2) What is the membership of the Multi-Agency Anti Graffiti Action Team?
- (3) Are the minutes of the meetings of the Multi-Agency Anti Graffiti Action Team available to the public? If not, why not?
- (4) Since its inception in 2006 what new initiatives against graffiti vandalism have the Multi-Agency Anti Graffiti Action Team recommended?
- (5) What initiatives recommended by the Multi-Agency Anti Graffiti Action Team have the Government implemented?
- (6) What is the funding provided for the operation of the Multi-Agency Anti Graffiti Action Team?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) In 2008, several formal and informal meetings, consultations and round tables were conducted by and with Anti-Graffiti Action Team (AGAT) members and stakeholders to inform the review of all graffiti-related legislation. This included meetings with Standards Australia, about spray paint standards, and meetings with local anti-graffiti action networks.
- (2) I refer the Member to the NSW Attorney General's website and the links therein.
- (3) No. The minutes include information that relate to operational policing.
- (4) I refer the Member to my public statements on the matter in the Hansard and on the Attorney General's website.
- (5) All of the initiatives recommended by AGAT.
- (6) Participating agencies provide funding from their core budgets.

\*5136 SINGLETON FLYING FOX PLAGUE—Mr George Souris asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

- (1) What is the current situation regarding the plague of flying fox bats at Burdekin Park in Singleton?
- (2) Why has it been impossible for Singleton Council to obtain licences and approvals so as to enable attempts to be made this autumn to relocate the bats away from the Park in time for this year's Anzac Dawn Service and later Anzac Remembrance to be held free of the usual urine showers, stench and filth from this unwanted plague?

- (3) What role have you and your agencies undertaken to assist the local community and what are the latest impediments to undertaking the relocation plan as recommended by the expert appointed and commissioned by your own agency, the National Parks and Wildlife Service, and in conjunction with your immediate predecessor?

Answer—

- (1) to (3) The NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change granted approval to Singleton Shire Council in August 2008 to relocate the flying fox colony, however negotiations between Council and the Commonwealth Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts for approval under Commonwealth legislation are continuing.

In November 2007, the NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change engaged independent expert Dr John Nelson from Monash University, who prepared a report for Council and the Department on the relocation of flying foxes from Burdekin Park. Dr Nelson's report forms the basis of Council's current strategy to attempt to relocate the colony to a more suitable location. The Department is represented on a Steering Committee, recommended by Dr Nelson and established by Council, to oversee the relocation attempt.

\*5137 GREYHOUND AND HARNESS RACING RESTRUCTURE—Mr George Souris asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister for Sport and Recreation—

- (1) What is the cost of the disbandment of the Greyhound and Harness Racing Regulatory Authority?
- (2) What are the anticipated savings associated with the transfer of functions from the Greyhound and Harness Racing Regulatory Authority?
- (3) In what way are you satisfied that the integrity of the newly formed structure is sufficient to ensure the proper regulatory control of greyhound and harness racing?
- (4) Can you ensure the greyhound and harness racing industries that the cost of this restructure will not impact upon prize-money in either code of racing and that the Government will guarantee these costs are provided to the industry?

Answer—

- (1) The costs and the anticipated savings cannot be identified until such time that the Greyhound and Harness Racing Regulatory Authority staff are given the opportunity to nominate their preference from the following options:
  - (i) transfer to the receiving bodies (ie Greyhound Racing NSW or Harness Racing NSW);
  - (ii) seek redeployment within the public sector; or
  - (iii) voluntary redundancy.
- (2) See answer to (1) above.
- (3) The legislation providing for the transfer of the regulatory functions to the new industry Boards will have appropriate statutory obligations. These will be modelled on the legislation applying to Racing NSW, which has been responsible for both commercial and regulatory responsibilities for the thoroughbred racing industry since 1996.
- (4) The greyhound and harness racing industries have made provision for initial transitional costs associated with the disbandment of the Greyhound and Harness Racing Regulatory Authority, and information on the full cost will be made available when it becomes known.

\*5138 FLASHING LIGHTS IN SCHOOL ZONES—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Minister for Roads—

In relation to flashing lights in school zones in NSW:

- (1) What is the total number and exact street location of all flashing lights signs installed to date as part of the current \$46.5 million rollout?
- (2) What is the total number, exact street location and planned installation date of all flashing lights signs yet to be installed as part of that rollout?
- (3) What are the names of the successful tender companies involved in the current rollout?
- (4) What is the cost of supplying and installing, and the manufacturer's name, for each type of light being used in the current rollout?
- (5) What is the cost of ongoing monitoring and maintenance for each type of light being used in the current rollout?
- (6) What is the cost of infrastructure such as back-to-base monitoring etc?
- (7) What are the details of all faults with all lights that were installed or that commenced operation since January 2007, including:
  - (a) location of sign;

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

- (b) manufacturer of sign;
- (c) nature of fault;
- (d) date and time fixed;
- (e) whether the fault was reported by back-to-base monitoring or not?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) The school zone sites in which the School Zone Alert Signs have been installed as part of the current \$46.5 million rollout are as follows:

	School Name	Treatment Road Name	Suburb
1	St Paul's Primary School	Tongarra Road (Illawarra Highway)	Albion Park
2	Albion Park Rail Public School	Tongarra Road (Illawarra Highway)	Albion Park
3	Albury North Public School	Mate Street	Albury
4	Lavington Public School/ Meadowbank Education Trust School	Urana Road	Albury
5	Arcadia Public School	Blacks Road	Arcadia
6	Austinmer Public School	Lawrence Hargrave Drive	Austinmer
7	Batemans Bay High School	Beach Road	Batehaven
8	Baulkham Hills School	Windsor Road	Baulkham Hills
9	Beecroft Public School/ Arden Anglican College	Beecroft Road	Beecroft
10	Cranbrook College	New South Head Road	Bellevue Hill
11	Floraville Public School	Floraville Road	Belmont
12	Belmore South Public School	Canterbury Road	Belmore
13	Belmore North Public School/ Belmore Boys High School	Burwood Road	Belmore
14	Berkeley Public School/ Illawarra Sports High School	George Street	Berkeley
15	Bilpin Public School	Bells Line Of Roads	Bilpin
16	Blackheath Public School	Great Western Highway	Blackheath
17	Prairievale Public School/ Mary Immaculate Primary School	Mimosa Road	Bossley Park
18	Prairievale Public School	Prairievale Road	Bossley Park
19	Botany Public School	Botany Road	Botany
20	Brookvale Public School	Pittwater Road	Brookvale
21	Burwood Public School	Railway Parade	Burwood
22	Byron Bay High School/ St Finbarr's Primary School	Coast Road (Bangalow Road)	Byron Bay
23	Cabramatta Public School	Cabramatta Road East	Cabramatta
24	Cabramatta West Public School	Cabramatta Road West	Cabramatta
25	Cardiff Public School	Macquarie Road	Cardiff
26	Cardiff High School/ MET School Cardiff South Campus	Myall Road	Cardiff
27	Miranda North Public School/ Endeavour Sports High School/ Caringbah High School	The Boulevard/ Captain Cook Drive	Caringbah

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

28	Caringbah High School/ Caringbah North Public School/Miranda North Public School	Willarong Road	Caringbah
29	Carlingford Public School	Marsden Road	Carlingford
30	Cattai Public School	Cattai Road	Cattai
31	Cessnock High School/ Cessnock Public School	Aberdare Road	Cessnock
32	Cessnock West Public School/St Patrick's Primary School	Wollombi Road	Cessnock
33	Clemton Park Public School	Bexley Road	Clemton Park
34	Coledale Public School	Lawrence Hargrave Drive	Coledale
35	Colo Heights Public School	Putty Road	Colo Heights
36	Concord West Public School	Concord Road	Concord West
37	Corrimal Public School/St Columbkille's Primary School/Illawarra School for Children with Autism	Princes Highway	Corrimal
38	Crescent Head Public School	Pacific Street	Crescent Head
39	Croydon Park Public School	Georges River Road	Croydon Park
40	St Spyridon College Junior Campus	Gardeners Road	Daceyville
41	St John's College/St John's Primary School/Dubbo Christian School	Sheraton Road	Dubbo
42	Eastern Creek Public School	Rooty Hill Road	Eastern Creek
43	Eastwood Public School	Rutledge Street	Eastwood
44	Empire Bay Public School	Empire Bay Drive	Empire Bay
45	St Joseph's Catholic College	Hume Highway (Liverpool Road)	Enfield
46	St John Vianney's Primary School	Cabbage Tree Lane	Fairy Meadow
47	Rosebank College	Parramatta Road	Five Dock
48	Bishop Tyrrell Anglican College	Minmi Road	Fletcher
49	Forest Lodge Public School	Pymont Bridge Road	Forest Lodge
50	Forest Lodge Public School	Ross Street	Forest Lodge
51	Gladesville Public School	Victoria Road	Gladesville
52	Holy Cross Primary School	Lake Road	Glendale
53	Goolma Public School	Goolan Road	Goolma
54	Goonellabah Public School	Bruxner Highway	Goonellabah
55	Ravenswood School for Girls	Pacific Highway	Gordon
56	Gosford High School	Racecourse Road	Gosford
57	Griffith Public School/ Griffith High School/ Kalinda School	Willandra Avenue	Griffith
58	Gulmarrad Public School	Brooms Head Road	Gulmarrad
59	Gundagai Public School	West Street	Gundagai
60	Hamilton Public School	Tudor Street	Hamilton
61	Hanwood Public School	Kidman Way	Hanwood



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

62	Good Samaritan Catholic College	Hoxton Park Road	Hinchinbrook
63	Ilford Public School	Castlereagh Highway	Ilford
64	Kincumber Public School	Avoca Drive	Kincumber
65	Kingsgrove High School/ Kingsgrove Public School	Stoney Creek Road	Kingsgrove
66	St Patrick's Catholic Public School/ James Cook Technical High School/ Moorefield Girls High School/ Bethany College/ Kogarah Public School	President Avenue	Kogarah
67	St Pius High School - Adamstown	Northcott Drive	Kotara
68	Lambton Public School	Croudace Street	Lambton
69	St Joseph's Primary School	Ocean Street	Laurieton
70	Liverpool West Public School	Flowerdale Road	Liverpool
71	St Kieran's Catholic Primary School	Condamine Street	Manly Vale
72	St Aidan's Catholic Primary School/ The French School of Sydney Junior Campus	Maroubra Road	Maroubra
73	Marrickville High School	Sydenham Road	Marrickville
74	Matraville Sports High School/ Chifley Public School	Anzac Parade	Matraville
75	Merewether Public School	Glebe Road	Merewether
76	Hamilton South Public School	Stewart Avenue	Merewether
77	Spring Terrace Public School	Orange-Blayney Road	Millthorpe
78	Minto Public School/ Sarah Redfern High School/ Sarah Redfern Primary School	Pembroke Road	Minto
79	Mogo Public School	Princes Highway	Mogo
80	Mount Austin Public School/ Henschke Primary School	Bourke Street, Wagga	Mount Austin
81	Mount Pritchard Public School	Meadows Road	Mt Pritchard
82	Mudgee Public School/ Mudgee High School	Horatio Street	Mudgee
83	Mullumbimby High School	Jubilee Avenue	Mullumbimby
84	Murwillumbah High School/ Sathya Sai School/ Murwillumbah Public School	Kyogle Road	Murwillumbah
85	Muswellbrook South Public School	New England Highway	Muswellbrook
86	Nashdale Public School	Cargo Road	Nashdale
87	New Lambton South Public School	St James Road	New Lambton
88	Niagara Park Public School	Narara Valley Drive & Washington Avenue	Niagara Park
89	Normanhurst Public School/ Normanhurst Boys High School/ Loreto Catholic College	Pennant Hills Road	Normanhurst

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

90	North Haven Public School	Ocean Street	North Haven
91	Narrabeen North Primary School/Narrabeen Sports School	Pittwater Road	North Narrabeen
92	St Monica's Catholic Primary School	Windsor Road & North Rocks Road	North Parramatta
93	Strathfield North Public School	Concord Road	North Strathfield
94	Oakdale Public School	Burraborang Road	Oakdale
95	Peak Hill Central/St Joseph's Primary	Newell Highway	Peak Hill
96	Pennant Hills High School/Pennant Hills Public School/St Agatha's Parish Catholic Primary School	Boundary Road	Pennant Hills
97	St Anthony's Primary School	Menangle Road	Picton
98	Picton High School	Remembrance Drive	Picton
99	Picton Public School	Argyle Street	Picton
100	St Joseph's Primary School	Williwa Street	Portland
101	Punchbowl Public School	Canterbury Road	Punchbowl
102	Rainbow Street Public School	Rainbow Street	Randwick
103	Revesby Public School/St Luke's Catholic Primary School	The River Road	Revesby
104	Richmond High School	Lennox Street	Richmond
105	Vineyard Public School	Windsor Road	Riverstone
106	Robertson Public School	Illawarra Highway	Robertson
107	Rossmore Public School	Bringelly Road	Rossmore
108	Smithfield Public School	The Horsley Drive	Smithfield
109	Santa Sabina College/Santa Maria Del Monte/Meriden Anglican Junior School/Meriden Anglican Senior School/Trinity Grammar Preparatory School	The Boulevard/Raw Square	Strathfield
110	Meriden Anglican Junior School/Meriden Anglican Senior School/Santa Maria Del Monte Catholic Junior School	Redmyre Road	Strathfield
111	Tahmoor Public School	Remembrance Drive	Tahmoor
112	Wollondilly Anglican College	Remembrance Drive	Tahmoor
113	Peel High School	Oxley Highway	Tamworth
114	The Oaks Public School	John Street	The Oaks
115	Toronto High School	Awaba Road	Toronto
116	Ulladulla High School	St Vincent Street	Ulladulla
117	Sturt Public School/Sacred Heart Primary School (Koorringal)	Lake Albert Road	Wagga Wagga
118	Wagga High School/Kildare Catholic College	Mitchelmore/Edmondson/Best Streets	Wagga Wagga
119	Knox Grammar School/Warrawee Public School/Abbotsleigh Senior Campus	Pacific Highway	Wahroonga

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

120	Barker College	Pacific Highway	Waitara
121	Wallerawang Public School	Barton Street	Wallerawang
122	Willoughby Girls High School/ Willoughby Public School	Mowbray Road	Willoughby
123	Wyrallah Road Public School	Wyrallah Road	Wyrallah
124	Bass Hill Primary School	Hume Highway	Yagoona
125	St Mary's Primary School	Elizabeth Street	Young
126	Young Public School/ Young High School/ Hennessy Catholic College	Campbell Street	Young

(2) The RTA selects the school zone sites for the rollout on an ongoing basis to maximise road safety in school zones.

School zone sites are chosen based on a number of factors, including crash history, approaching speed limits, road environment and visibility, ensuring that schools with the highest priority get flashing lights first.

The list of additional school zones to be fitted by 2009 is currently being finalised and future works are not yet available.

(3) 2008 rollout - Sigtec Pty Ltd was awarded the tender for interim supply, installation and maintenance of the School Zone Alert Systems.

For the 2009 rollout and beyond, the following contracts have been awarded as the result of public tenders:

- Supply of type approved Alert Signs - Hi Vis Pty Ltd, Aldridge Electrical Industries Pty Ltd and Axent Global Pty Ltd
- Supply of Alert Device Controllers - Sigtec Pty Ltd
- Supply of Central Management Computer - Sigtec Pty Ltd

The RTA is currently evaluating tender submissions for the Installation and Maintenance of School Zone Alert Devices. This contract is expected to be awarded very shortly.

(4) This information is commercially sensitive and cannot be disclosed.

(5) The costs associated with the current installed bases are:

Type	Annual Cost Estimates
1	\$ 695,000
2	\$ 200,000
3	\$ 60,000
4	\$ 80,000
5	\$ 80,000
6	\$ 60,000
Total	\$ 1,175,000

(6) The values of these contracts for the duration of the \$46.5 million program are:

- Alert Device Controller: \$1,203,295.50.
- Central Management Computer: \$818,181.81.
- Provision of servers, communication network and hosting/maintenance of servers: \$285,985.

(7) The field trial was conducted on School Zone Alert Systems in 2007. The type of information produced varied among suppliers. As a result of the trial, the current systems were adopted.

The systems are currently operating with a high degree of reliability which is enhanced by the base to base monitoring system. This permits an early response to any fault which may occur with any system from time to time.

\*5139 DEMERIT POINTS—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Minister for Roads—

In relation to demerit points in NSW:

- (1) For a demerit-point offence, are demerit points restored after a 36-month period?
- (2) For a demerit-point offence, are demerit points displayed for a 40-month period?

(3) If this is the case, what is the reason for the disparity?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) to (3) The law permits the counting of demerit points for offences of any age but suspension can only be applied if the dates the offences were committed are within three years of each other.

However, the Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) considers it would be unreasonable to consider offences more than 40 months old.

The 40 month period exists to ensure that delays between an infringement taking place and the RTA being notified of the infringement are taken into account and ensures that only recent and relevant offences are counted.

For this reason, demerit points up to 40 months old are displayed on the RTA's online demerit point enquiry screen, because these offences have the potential to count towards a demerit point licence suspension.

\*5140 NEW KEMPSEY POLICE STATION—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

What is the planned timeframe, including commencement and completion dates, for the new police station at Kempsey?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me:

Construction on the new police station at Kempsey is due to commence in the first half of 2009, with an estimated completion date of mid-2010.

\*5141 TRAVELLING STOCK ROUTES—Mr John Turner asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

In answers to questions on notice in the budget estimates hearing process the Minister said that in relation to travelling stock routes (TSR) that may be taken over by the Department of Lands there may be an "increase in revenue to lands from the use of TSRs:

(1) What is the proposed increase in revenue?

(2) Where would the revenue come from?

(3) Will people be charged to use TSRs that may be taken over by the Department of Lands?

(4) In what circumstances will people or organisations be charged?

Answer—

Travelling stock reserves returned to the administration of the Department of Lands will be managed in accordance with the Principles of Crown Land Management as set out in the Crown Lands Act 1989, as is the case with all other Crown land throughout the State.

All travelling stock reserves that are returned to the Department of Lands will be assessed to determine their existing and potential use, along with their environmental, social and cultural values. The assessment process will also identify whether any potential community use exists in addition to the existing travelling stock reservation. The assessment process is currently being developed and trialled in the Hunter Valley.

Subject to the outcomes of the assessment, users of travelling stock reserves under the administration of the Department of Lands will be charged on the same basis as other Crown land tenants having regard to the provisions of the Crown Lands Act.

It should be clearly understood that any TSR returned to the Department of Lands or any TSR retained by the new Livestock Health and Pest Authorities will remain reserved for travelling stock purposes and therefore remain available for that purpose.

\*5142 FORSTER PRIVATE HOSPITAL—Mr John Turner 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—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

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In relation to the Minister's advice (question 4629) that "public inpatient services at Cape Hawke Community Private Hospital (now known as Forster Private Hospital) will commence once contractual arrangements are finalised":

- (1) What is the current stage in relation to contractual arrangements?
- (2) When is it expected that the contractual arrangements will be finalised?
- (3) When is it expected that provision of public beds will occur?

Answer—

I am advised by the Minister for Health:

- (1) to (3) Contractual arrangements between Hunter New England Area Health Service and Pulse Health Limited, current operators of Forster Private Hospital, to provide public inpatient services for low acuity patients at the Hospital have now been finalised and the new arrangements at Forster Private Hospital commenced from Wednesday 11 March 2009.

\*5143 RAIL CROSSING UPGRADE—Mr John Williams asked the Minister for Roads—

- (1) Will the \$46 million allocated to the State by the Federal Government for the upgrade of rail crossings be expended by October as per the time frame?
- (2) Will the work be carried out by local contractors?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) As part of the Federal Government's infrastructure stimulus package, New South Wales has been allocated \$42.77 million for rail level crossing upgrades, which must be expended by July 2010.

A proposal for the delivery of projects utilising this funding is currently with the Federal Government for evaluation and approval.

- (2) At this stage, the contractors to be used for the delivery of the proposed projects have not been determined.

\*5144 USE OF WYNN OR KURZWEIL TECHNOLOGY FOR DYSLEXIA—Mr Ray Williams asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

Given legislation was passed in December 2008 to acknowledge dyslexia as a disability and/or a severe learning difficulty, why is technology such as WYNN or Kurzweil, which has been successfully tested and proven to help sufferers of dyslexia or children with severe learning difficulties, not being implemented into public schools across NSW to assist those children to read and write?

Answer—

The Department of Education and Training provides support for students with severe learning difficulties including dyslexia through its \$134 million "Learning Assistance Program".

This program addresses the specific learning needs of students through direct and intensive instruction and through the professional development of teachers. The "Learning Assistance Program" employs more than 1,378 specialist teachers who work directly with students and their teachers. The program is flexible, locally managed and able to directly respond to the individual learning needs of students in a timely manner.

WYNN and Kurzweil technology are two of a range of commercially available literacy software products that schools are able to access which provide support to people with difficulties in reading and writing. Schools make decisions about software based on the educational needs of individual students and the technology available to their school.

The NSW Government is making a substantial financial investment in technology in schools through the Connected Classrooms strategy and its link to support materials including available software to support teaching and learning.

The WYNN software, along with two other literacy software resources "Read and Write Gold" and "Dragon Speaking Naturally", and three types of portable note takers, are held in each region as part of their "Learning Assistance Program" libraries and are available for schools to borrow and trial with students in order to make informed decisions about the purchase of which resources will best meet students' learning needs.

\*5145 USE OF WYNN OR KURZWEIL TECHNOLOGY FOR DYSLEXIA—Mr Ray Williams asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

Given legislation was passed in December 2008 to acknowledge dyslexia as a disability and/or a severe learning difficulty, and given private schools such as the Matarday Catholic College at Tuggerah and the Central Coast Grammar School at Erina Heights along with many other private schools across NSW are using technology such as WYNN or Kurzweil to benefit students with severe learning difficulties, why is the Government not implementing this technology into public schools, when several of these units were purchased some time ago?

Answer—

The Department of Education and Training provides support for students with severe learning difficulties including dyslexia through its \$134 million "Learning Assistance Program".

This program addresses the specific learning needs of students through direct and intensive instruction and through the professional development of teachers. The "Learning Assistance Program" employs more than 1,378 specialist teachers who work directly with students and their teachers. The program is flexible, locally managed and able to directly respond to the individual learning needs of students in a timely manner.

WYNN and Kurzweil technology are two of a range of commercially available literacy software products that schools are able to access which provide support to people with difficulties in reading and writing. Schools make decisions about software based on the educational needs of individual students and the technology available to their school.

The NSW Government is making a substantial financial investment in technology in schools through the Connected Classrooms strategy and its link to support materials including available software to support teaching and learning.

The WYNN software, along with two other literacy software resources "Read and Write Gold" and "Dragon Speaking Naturally", and three types of portable note takers, are held in regions' "Learning Assistance Program" libraries and are available for schools to borrow and trial with students in order to make informed decisions about the purchase of which resources will best meet students' learning needs.

\*5146 USE OF WYNN OR KURZWEIL TECHNOLOGY FOR DYSLEXIA—Mr Ray Williams asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

Given legislation was passed in December 2008 to acknowledge dyslexia as a disability and/or a severe learning difficulty, will the Minister remove the discrimination against students with severe learning difficulties who attend public schools that do not have access to technology such as WYNN or Kurzweil, which has been successfully tested and proven to help sufferers of dyslexia or children with severe learning difficulties?

Answer—

The amendment of Section 20 of the Education Act 1990 acknowledges that students with significant learning difficulties are regarded as students with special needs for the purposes of receiving additional assistance as provided for by the Act. Students with significant learning difficulties were already targeted for additional assistance, prior to the amendment of the Act through the Department of Education and Training's \$134 million "Learning Assistance Program".

This program addresses the specific learning needs of students through direct and intensive instruction and through the professional development of teachers. The "Learning Assistance Program" employs more than 1,378 specialist teachers who work directly with students and their teachers. The program is flexible, locally managed and able to directly respond to the individual learning needs of students in a timely manner.

The WYNN software along with two other literacy software resources "Read and Write Gold" and "Dragon Speaking Naturally", and three types of portable note takers, are held in regions' Learning Assistance Program libraries and are available for schools to borrow and trial with students in order to make informed decisions about the purchase of which resources will best meet students' learning needs.

The NSW Government is making a substantial financial investment in technology in schools through the Connected Classrooms strategy and its link to support materials including available software to support teaching and learning.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

---

\*5148 MINISTERIAL ADVISORY COUNCILS—Mr Greg Aplin asked the Minister for Fair Trading, Minister for Citizenship, and Minister Assisting the Premier on the Arts—

What appointments have been made or renewed for the following Ministerial Advisory Councils since November 2006:

- (a) Fair Trading Advisory Council;
- (b) Home Building Advisory Council;
- (c) Property Services Advisory Council;
- (d) Motor Vehicle Industry Advisory Council;
- (e) Retirement Villages Advisory Council?

Answer—

The Office of Fair Trading advises that all members of the following Ministerial Advisory Councils have been re-appointed:

- (a) Fair Trading Advisory Council - extended to 30 June, 2009;
- (b) Home Building Advisory Council - extended to 30 June, 2009;
- (c) Property Services Advisory Council - extended to 30 June, 2009;
- (d) Motor Vehicle Industry Advisory Council - extended to 30 June, 2009;
- (e) Retirement Villages Advisory Council - extended to 30 June, 2009.

\*5149 MULWALA CANAL BRIDGE—Mr Greg Aplin asked the Minister for Roads—

- (1) Has Corowa Shire Council applied to the Federal Government for 50% of the funding to provide a safe pedestrian walkway at the Mulwala Canal bridge?
- (2) Will the Minister allocate the remaining 50% of the costs before the September 2009 deadline to complete local government projects under the Federal Government's funding criteria?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) understands that council has Federal Government grant funds available for 50 per cent of the project cost.
- (2) The RTA will continue discussions with Corowa Council and Murray Irrigation to develop an affordable structure to improve pedestrian safety.

\*5150 FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES GRANTS PROGRAM—Mr Greg Aplin asked the Minister for Community Services—

- (1) Given the report of the Special Inquiry into Child Protection clearly recognised the primacy of strong communities in raising children and highlighted the important role of Community Services Grants Program (CGSP) funded services, will the Minister be seeking increases to the overall funding of these grants from Treasury?
- (2) Are you aware that the Glenecho Neighborhood House, Westside Community Centre, Springdale Heights Community Centre and The Place Youth Centre in Albury, all rely on this funding to provide coordinators (part-time) and are they struggling to meet demand?
- (3) Will the Minister secure increased funding for Community Service Grants Program to ensure current and future demands can be met in the Albury electorate?

Answer—

(1) and (3) The recently released "Keep Them Safe, A shared approach to child wellbeing" is the Government's blueprint for action resulting from the Special Commission of Inquiry into Child Protection. The approach is backed by a substantial investment in a better future for our most vulnerable children, families and communities. The Government will take a staged approach to reviewing Government funding to the Non Government sector to establish a co-ordinated system and eliminate unnecessary overlap whilst providing delivery of service where most needed. The Community Services Grants Program will be incorporated into this approach.

(2) Glenecho Neighbourhood House, Westside Community Centre and Lavington Springdale Heights Community Centre receive combined annual funding of \$139,256, and The Place receives \$77,654 annually.

While Co-ordinators at some of these services have experienced an increase in usage linked to recent factory closures, they have reported to the Department that these demands are being met by engaging other services to provide assistance through an established and co-ordinated referral network. This

network includes Albury Family Support and the Albury Adolescent Family Counselling Service. These services are also funded by the Department through the Community Services Grants Program to a total annual amount of \$361,740.

\*5152 E72, E73 AND E69 BUS SERVICES—Mr Mike Baird asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) Will the Minister confirm whether the State Transport Authority plans to axe the E72, E73 and E69 bus services in the Seaforth/Balgowlah area after Easter?
- (2) Are there further changes proposed to the bus services in the Seaforth/Balgowlah area?
- (3) Will these changes limit the number of Express services to the city?
- (4) Will these changes include stopping services at Milsons Point?
- (5) How does the Minister expect residents of the Northern Beaches to commute to the city if services are being cut and no other public transport is provided?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (5) As part of State Transit's program for an improved bus network for the northern beaches, including the Seaforth/Balgowlah area, public consultation on a draft Integrated Network Plan was undertaken in 2008. Responses from the community are now being evaluated and will inform the final plan. The aim is to ensure sufficient services so residents wishing to commute to the city can be accommodated, and without undue delay. The plan will ensure bus users benefit from an improved network that responds to the changing needs of the community and brings service improvements to where they are most needed.

\*5153 RATE OF RENTAL RETURN—Mr Mike Baird asked the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—

- (1) Did the Minister or his office, on 16 January, receive a copy of the Egan National Valuers Report on the rate of return on the seven NSW Maritime Sydney precincts, which report found that the rates of return in those precincts varied from 0.16% to 0.85%, and in the Seaforth to Manly area was 0.23%?
- (2) Did he, or his office, receive a registered letter from the Waterfront Action Group dated 20 January 2009, to which was attached a letter of the same date to Steve Dunn, Chief Executive Officer of NSW Maritime, and which requested that he "direct your staff to hold in abeyance the issuance of all rental invoices . . . for the 2009 calendar year, in respect of Residential Waterfront Leases, until such time as the Review of the Rate of Return has been completed"?
- (3) Was there a new batch of invoices produced on February 12, still using the incorrect, irrelevant and outdated rate of return of 3.05%, when the Egan report found that "the use of this percentage has resulted in above market rentals being charged"?
- (4) Why were those invoices so issued?

Answer—

- (1) There is no record of this correspondence.
- (2) Yes. The correspondence was replied to on 15 February 2009.
- (3) The current 3.05% rate of return for domestic waterfront tenancies is as recommended by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal in its 2004 report "Review into Rentals for Waterfront Tenancies on Crown Land in NSW." The rate has consistently applied to NSW Maritime domestic waterfront tenancies since December 2004, and continues to be applied in 2009 invoices. Various pensioner and hardship concessions are available for those in need.
- (4) Rental payments are a standard lease requirement. Where a waterfront landowner has entered into a domestic lease with NSW Maritime, they will as a matter of course be invoiced for rental payments in accordance with that lease.

\*5154 MINI-BUDGET TARGETED SAVINGS—Mr Mike Baird asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

- (1) How is the Department of Commerce progressing in meeting the target for one-off expense savings across a number of areas as detailed in the Mini-Budget?
- (2) How much has been saved to date?
- (3) Will the target of \$11 million as outlined in the Mini-Budget for the 2008-09 financial year be met?

Answer—



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

(1) Commerce has implemented various strategies to achieve the mini-budget savings and in the short time frame from November 2008 to February 2009, has progressed well in realising the savings and is in a strong position to achieve the full year targets.

(2) Based on year-to-date February 2009 financial results, Commerce has exceeded its year-to-date mini budget recurrent savings target of \$5.5 million.

Commerce's capital expenditure budget has also been revised to reduce total expenditure to include the mini budget savings target of \$ 4 million and these savings have been achieved as at February 2009.

(3) Commerce is confident that the mini budget savings target for 2008/09 will be fully achieved.

\*5155 MINI-BUDGET TARGETED SAVINGS—Mr Mike Baird 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 is the Health Department progressing in standardising patient billing and referral practices across public hospitals to achieve the savings as detailed in the Mini-Budget?

(2) How much has been saved to date?

(3) Will the target of \$40 million in savings as outlined in the Mini-Budget for the 2008-09 financial year be met?

Answer—

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

(1) to (3) Following a statewide planning process, Health Services are now progressing the implementation of the new arrangements with Visiting Medical Officers.

This initiative supports Area Health Services in their revenue generation and collection practices. Performance will be measured through end-of-year revenue financial results of Health Services.

\*5156 TOMAREE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL'S EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT—Mr Craig Baumann 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 people presented to the Tomaree Community Hospital's Emergency Department in:

- (a) January 2008;
- (b) February 2008;
- (c) March 2008;
- (d) April 2008;
- (e) May 2008;
- (f) June 2008;
- (g) July 2008;
- (h) August 2008;
- (i) September 2008;
- (j) October 2008;
- (k) November 2008;
- (l) December 2008;
- (m) January 2009;
- (n) February 2009?

(2) Of those, how many were transferred to:

- (a) John Hunter Hospital in:
  - (i) January 2008;
  - (ii) February 2008;
  - (iii) March 2008;
  - (iv) April 2008;
  - (v) May 2008;
  - (vi) June 2008;
  - (vii) July 2008;
  - (viii) August 2008;
  - (ix) September 2008;

- (x) October 2008;
- (xi) November 2008;
- (xii) December 2008;
- (xiii) January 2009;
- (xiv) February 2009?
- (b) Mater Hospital Newcastle in:
  - (i) January 2008;
  - (ii) February 2008;
  - (iii) March 2008;
  - (iv) April 2008;
  - (v) May 2008;
  - (vi) June 2008;
  - (vii) July 2008;
  - (viii) August 2008;
  - (ix) September 2008;
  - (x) October 2008;
  - (xi) November 2008;
  - (xii) December 2008;
  - (xii) January 2009;
  - (xiv) February 2009?

Answer—

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

Tomaree Community Hospital Emergency Department Presentations

Jan-08	1,489
Feb-08	840
Mar-08	1,123
Apr-08	854
May-08	890
Jun-08	889
Jul-08	865
Aug-08	895
Sep-08	842
Oct-08	1,006
Nov-08	842
Dec-08	1,416
Jan-09	1,630
Feb-09	995

(2) (a) John Hunter Hospital and Calvary Mater Newcastle Hospitals are Level 6 Tertiary Referral Hospitals with Staff Specialists in most speciality and subspeciality services and very sophisticated diagnostic services. Transfers occur from across the region to these hospitals to access these staff and services.

Total Transfers	John Hunter Hospital
Jan-08	17
Feb-08	17
Mar-08	29
Apr-08	23
May-08	7*
Jun-08	4*
Jul-08	21

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

Aug-08	20
Sep-08	21
Oct-08	22
Nov-08	28
Dec-08	34
Jan-09	21
Feb-09	35

\* Transfer numbers by Ambulance Service NSW to John Hunter Hospital not available for May and June 2008.

(2) (b)

Total Transfers	Calvary Mater Newcastle Hospital
Jan-08	34
Feb-08	31
Mar-08	34
Apr-08	46
May-08	8*
Jun-08	1*
Jul-08	27
Aug-08	36
Sep-08	25
Oct-08	41
Nov-08	38
Dec-08	43
Jan-09	52
Feb-09	31

\* Transfer numbers by Ambulance Service NSW to Calvary Mater Newcastle Hospitals not available for May and June 2008.

\*5157 BREACHES OF MARINE PARKS LAWS—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

(1) How many fines for breaches of marine parks laws in the Great Lakes Port Stephens Marine Park were issued between 1 December 2008 and 28 February 2009?

(2) Of those fines:

(a) For what offences were the most fines issued?

(b) How many were issued to people who lived within the Port Stephens and/or Great Lakes region?

(c) How many fines were issued to people who live in the greater Sydney region?

(d) How many fines were issued to people who do not live in New South Wales?

(e) How many fines were issued to people who live in Australia?

Answer—

(1) 36 fines.

(2) (a) Harm or the attempt to harm animals in a sanctuary zone.

(b) 8.

(c) 27 (including residents of the Newcastle/Hunter area).

(d) 1.

(e) 36.

\*5158 LOWER HUNTER REGIONAL STRATEGY—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

(1) How many recommendations in the Lower Hunter Regional Strategy relating to the Port Stephens electorate have been implemented since its inception in 2006?

(2) If any, what were the recommendations and when were they implemented?

Answer—

(1) and (2) A number of actions in the Lower Hunter Regional Strategy relating to the Port Stephens electorate have been implemented since its inception in 2006. Those actions include:

- RAAF Base Williamstown - Newcastle Airport Employment land (DAREZ) gazetted in February 2009 with the potential to deliver 5,600 jobs and generate \$485 million capital investment to the Region.
- Tomago Industrial site (Westrac) identified as industrial land in the Lower Hunter Regional Strategy and gazetted in June 2007 as industrial zoned land under the Major Projects, State Environmental Planning Policy.
- A North Raymond Terrace (Kings Hill) Working Group - comprising of representatives from the Department of Defence, including the Royal Australian Air Force and the Defence Support Group, NSW Department of Planning and Port Stephens Council - has been established to provide advice regarding residential development proposed by Port Stephens Council at North Raymond Terrace and assess its compatibility with current and future military operations planned for Williamstown RAAF Base.
- Port Stephens Council is progressing four (4) draft local environmental plans for rezoning proposals consistent with the Regional Strategy at Medowie. The amendments provide for 734 dwellings, a new supermarket, two neighbourhood centres and clubhouse.
  - Kingston Properties, Medowie Road - 400 dwellings
  - Citta Properties, Medowie Road - 250 dwellings, neighbourhood centre and clubhouse
  - Medowie Town Centre (Buldev) - second supermarket (10,000 m2 business zoned land)
  - Abundance Road (Advocate Developments) - 84 dwellings and a neighbourhood centre
- Local environmental plans in the Watagan to Stockton Corridor (including the foreshores of Port Stephens) are required to place land within the Corridor into appropriate zones that protect environmental values and provide for the on-going role of the biodiversity corridor.
- Port Stephens Council is working with the Department of Planning's Hunter and Central Coast Regional Office to amend the Council's Community Settlement & Infrastructure Strategy to be consistent with the Lower Hunter Regional Strategy.

\*5159 HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNITY WATER GRANT—Mr Andrew Constance asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that a Federal Government community Water Grant is in jeopardy at Eden Marine High School due to an asbestos issue in the school toilets and change rooms?
- (2) Will the Minister instruct the Department to remove the asbestos given the October 2008 Hazard report that identified an extreme risk to the staff and to students?
- (3) Why were 4 job sheets issued in relation to the repair work, and at what cost?
- (4) Will the Minister guarantee the funding from the water grant will be used?

Answer—

- (1) The Federal Government Community Water Grant to Eden Marine High School is not in jeopardy.
- (2) A project to remove toilet partitions and cistern housing containing fibrous material in the large girl's toilets in Block B and for the large boy's toilets in Block D has been approved. This project will include the installation of new partitions made from a hard laminate material which are currently being made to order. A hazardous materials report prepared in October 2008 noted that the toilet partitions and cistern housing was in sound condition and did not present a danger to students. The report identified this material as a low safety risk.
- (3) A number of subcontractors attended Eden Marine High School during October 2008, to carry out repair work on a cistern housing damaged as a result of vandalism. This work required the attendance at the school of a specialist in the removal of hazardous materials, a hygienist to conduct air monitoring, and on two separate occasions a contractor to carry out work on damaged cisterns to two toilet blocks. The four job sheets relate to separate trades. The repair work cost \$7,367.
- (4) The Department of Education and Training's Illawarra/South East Region Asset Management Unit is aware of Eden Marine High School's need to spend the Australian Government Community Water Grant before 30 June 2009 and has undertaken to work with the school's choice of contractor to complete the work within the specified timeframe.

\*5160 BRICE CORRESPONDENCE—Mr Andrew Constance asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations—

When will a written response to the correspondence that was sent to you from Danielle Brice of Tuross Heads be received?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

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Answer—

I am advised:

A written response has been sent.

\*5161 EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES ASSISTANCE—Mr Andrew Constance asked 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) Why is the Far South Coast region not receiving Exceptional Circumstances (EC) assistance when the Monaro and East Gippsland are receiving it?
- (2) Why are the farmers in the Far South Coast region not considered to be in difficulty?
- (3) Will the Government bring forward a request for an extension of EC to the Commonwealth on behalf of the region?

Answer—

- (1) Following a review of NSW areas by the Australian Government during winter 2008, EC was not extended in the South Coast-Moss Vale area. In not extending EC in the area, the Australian Government considered that conditions had improved, and, for the majority of producers in the area, a sustained recovery was commencing.

However, the improvement was only brief and the Bega Valley experienced a new EC drought event during this period.

- (2) See answer to (1).
- (3) An application for a new EC declaration has only become possible on the basis of 12 months low rainfall to February 2009. As such, on 18 March 2009 I submitted a new EC application for the Bega Valley to the Commonwealth Government. I have been assured by the Federal Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, the Hon Tony Burke MP, that the application for the Bega Valley will be given a high priority.

\*5162 CONVERGENCE INSUFFICIENCY—Mr Andrew Constance asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

- (1) What is the Government doing to address convergence insufficiency amongst school students?
- (2) Is the Minister aware that a program exists in Queensland schools to assist children with reading difficulties?
- (3) Are children being misdiagnosed with dyslexia?
- (4) Will the Minister implement vision screening to assist school children in NSW?

Answer—

- (1) The NSW Department of Education and Training provides an extensive range of services to support the literacy and numeracy development of students experiencing difficulties in the basic areas of learning. Through the Department's \$134 million Learning Assistance Program, specialist services are provided to students experiencing difficulties in the basic areas of learning. This includes those considered to have convergence insufficiency.
- (2) All Australian public education providers offer a range of programs to support children with reading difficulties.

The NSW Government's \$108 million Best Start initiative has a focus on literacy and aims to ensure that our youngest students make a strong start to their education and that any difficulties are picked up early. Individual assessments and individual learning plans for Kindergarten students began in 430 schools last year, with all 1,700 primary schools participating over the next two years.

Reading Recovery provides one-on-one teaching for students in year one to assist those with reading difficulties. As part of this program we have recently employed 50 more Reading Recovery teachers, as part of our commitment of another 200 over four years. Since 1996, the program has helped close to 85,000 six year olds master the basics of literacy.

In NSW, the Department of Education and Training specifically supports students experiencing learning difficulties, including those with difficulties learning to read, through its \$134 million Learning Assistance Program.

In 2009, 1,378 specialist support teachers learning assistance are working across both primary and secondary schools providing individualised support to students with difficulties in learning to read, and support to their teachers.

- (3) The Department of Education and Training uses a non-categorical approach to addressing the educational needs of individual students with difficulties in literacy and/or numeracy. This means that students do not need a specific diagnosis and specialist support is provided to students in NSW government schools according to individual educational need.

As a consequence, students with difficulties in reading are identified and then supported through classroom based assessment and intervention which measures their performance against syllabus outcomes. Children with a diagnosis of dyslexia are included in this group of students.

- (4) NSW Health, through its Statewide Eyesight Preschooler Screening program offers all four year old children free vision screening. All children in NSW have access to vision screening before they start school through this program.

Vision testing is also available from NSW Health for students throughout their schooling when referred by parents or teachers.

- \*5163 LIAISON OFFICER RESIDENCE—Mr Andrew Constance asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

Why doesn't the Batemans Bay Marine Park have an indigenous liaison officer who lives adjoining the Marine Park?

Answer—

The Department of Environment and Climate Change directs the work but not the home location of its officers.

- \*5164 FILM PROGRAM INCOME—Mr Andrew Constance asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

- (1) What level of income has been generated by the NSW Police from their involvement in the filming of "true crime" programs?

- (2) Does the Minister believe the receipt of such income could compromise police officers?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me:

- (1) User pays income is a cost recovery measure. A fee is charged for any costs incurred to the NSW Police Force for any use of their time and resources not related to core business.

- (2) No.

- \*5166 EXTENDED CLEARWAY PROVISIONS—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Minister for Roads—

In relation to clearways on New South Head Road:

Has the RTA reviewed the need for extended clearway provisions for eastbound traffic on New South Head Road, between New Beach Road at Rushcutters Bay and Darling Point Road, from mid-morning to mid-afternoon Saturday and Sunday and beyond 7pm Monday to Friday?

Answer—

I am advised:

Yes.

- \*5169 BERRIMA—HERITAGE REGISTER—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

What is the progress of the town of Berrima in the Wingecarribee Shire being listed on the State Heritage Register?

Answer—

As the Honourable Member would appreciate, the listing of an entire town is an extensive exercise, requiring detailed consultation with all owners and residents.

Rather than proceeding with the listing of Berrima at this time, I have directed the Department of Planning to devote its resources to the Thematic State Heritage Register Listing Program which I recently announced, where community nominations are invited for the following themes:

- Aboriginal heritage
- Governor Lachlan Macquarie

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

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- Convicts
- World War One & Two.

\*5170 FORCED MARRIAGES—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

- (1) What is known about marriages in NSW in which the female is forced to marry against her will? To whom are reports of this nature involved and what procedures are in place for responding to them?
- (2) Are there any measures designed to discourage forced marriage?

Answer—

The provisions of the Commonwealth Marriage Act 1961 address the impact of coercion or duress on the status of a marriage in Australia. Questions regarding the operation of this legislation are a matter for the Commonwealth Government.

Article 3(a) of the "UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children", of which Australia is a signatory, states that, for the purposes of the protocol:

"Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs."

The provisions of the Commonwealth Criminal Code (Trafficking in Persons Offences) Act 2005 address exploitation. However, under the Act, the definition of exploitation does not include forced marriage. Questions regarding the operation of this legislation are also a matter for the Commonwealth Government.

\*5171 TEMPORARY OR CONTRACT STAFF—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Minister for Housing, and Minister for Western Sydney—

What is the number of temporary or contract staff employed in the NSW Department of Housing for each of the past five years being 2002-2007 inclusive?

Answer—

The number of staff employed in Housing NSW, including temporary staff is contained in the Annual Report.

\*5172 HOUSING INDUSTRY—TAXES AND RED TAPE—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Minister for Housing, and Minister for Western Sydney—

Given the housing shortage in New South Wales, what representations has the Minister made to the Premier or the Treasurer about assisting home buyers and developers by reducing or amending the taxes and red tape currently affecting those in the housing industry?

Answer—

The NSW Government has already acted to boost the NSW housing industry and improve housing affordability for families. Water levies, State Government levies and local government levies charged to new developments are all being reduced including:

- Cutting State infrastructure charges in the south west and north west growth centres from \$23,000 to around \$11,000 per lot until June 2011.
- Abolishing infrastructure levies payable to Sydney Water Corporation and Hunter Water, saving up to \$15,000 per lot.
- Capping infrastructure contributions payable to local councils at \$20,000 per lot - with all contributions exceeding \$20,000 requiring approval from the Planning Minister.

\*5173 SPEED CAMERAS—CENTRAL COAST—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—

What is the total revenue raised from speed cameras located on the Central Coast during the financial years ending:

- (a) 30 June 2008;
- (b) 30 June 2007; and
- (c) 30 June 2006?

Answer—

I'm advised:

The total face value of penalty notices issued in relation to the fixed speed cameras located on the Central Coast for the financial years ending:

- (a) 30 June 2008 was \$1,673,719;
- (b) 30 June 2007 was \$1,727,371; and
- (c) 30 June 2006 was \$943,250.

\*5175 WATER CONSUMPTION—CENTRAL COAST—Mr Kerry Hickey asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

- (1) How much water has been utilised by the Central Coast from the Hunter Water Corporation?
- (2) Does the Hunter Water Board expect any increase in consumption from the Central Coast users?

Answer—

- (1) In the last 22 months no water has been supplied from Hunter Water to the Central Coast. In the drought periods before this some 8.5 gigalitres of water was transferred.
- (2) Future supplies will be dependent on climate and progress of the Mardi-Mangrove pipeline.

\*5176 LICENCE DISQUALIFICATIONS—Mr Kerry Hickey asked the Minister for Roads—

- (1) How many licences in the regional and rural areas of NSW have been disqualified?
- (2) How does this compare to the city areas where there is an abundance of public transport?
- (3) Is there special consideration for rural and regional areas where there is limited or no public transport before revoking licences?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) For the 2007-08 financial year, 9,143 court-ordered disqualifications were imposed against licensees residing in areas other than Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong.
- (2) For the 2007-08 financial year, 20,100 court-ordered disqualifications were imposed against licensees residing in the Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong areas.
- (3) It is the court's responsibility to impose penalties within the limits set by Parliament, according to precedents set by previous cases and on the basis of evidence presented by the prosecution and the defence.

Should a person be found guilty and convicted for a serious driving offence, the court will base the penalty on the information and facts received during the hearing. The court may also consider the impact that the loss of licence would incur when making its determination of the period of disqualification, if any, that is to apply.

It is also important to note that in cases where a licence is suspended by the Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) for drivers who accumulate 12 or more demerit points within a three year period, an option exists for a driver to elect to be of good behaviour for a 12 month period as an alternative to sitting out the suspension period.

Additionally, a licence suspended by the RTA on the grounds of excessive speed attracts a right of appeal with the Local Court.

\*5177 LOSS OF WATER ENTITLEMENT—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

- (1) Will the Minister provide compensation for corporations, individuals or partnerships holding licences to underground water supplies in the event that mining operations result in a loss of their water entitlement through such licences?
- (2) If not, what solution or guarantee will the Minister provide for underground water supply licence holders who are impacted by mining operations?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) No. Mining is treated no differently to other commercial activities, including irrigation, for the purposes of groundwater licensing. License applications, where they are permitted, are assessed under the minimal impact principal, which includes impact on the environment and other existing licensed users. If the impacts are deemed to be unacceptable, then a license will not be granted. For major mining proposals, the Department of Water and Energy works closely with the Department of Planning in the assessment process, to ensure the rights of existing licensed groundwater users are protected.



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

Many of the major groundwater systems in NSW are embargoed from further licensing for commercial purposes, which means the only avenue available to proponents of new developments in these areas, including mines, is to purchase entitlement from the water market.

The Department of Water and Energy routinely monitors groundwater usage and water level trends across NSW as part of its role in ensuring the sustainable management of all groundwater sources. If the Department identifies that extractions by existing commercial license holders may be having a greater impact on groundwater levels and water availability for neighbouring stock and domestic groundwater users than was envisaged at the time the license was granted, it will work with other agencies and affected parties to facilitate arrangements for continued access and sustainable management of the resource.

Mines, like other license holders, are required to abide by the conditions on their licence. Failure to do so will attract the appropriate compliance action.

**\*5178 YASS SHIRE COUNCIL—WATER SUPPLY—**Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

Given that Yass Shire Council has regularly had to impose Level 5 water restrictions over recent years, and can only store a maximum of 9 months worth of water in its dam, when will the Minister act to assist Yass Shire Council to provide a more secure water supply for this rapidly growing region?

Answer—

The NSW Government has provided \$960,000 to Yass Shire Council towards the construction of a groundwater based drought supply to enhance the town's drought security.

It is the responsibility of the local water utility to ensure its town water supplies are adequate to cater for growth in its region. Works for growth are not eligible for financial assistance from the Country Towns Water Supply and Sewerage Program.

**\*5179 COST OF WIND GENERATED ELECTRICITY—**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, Minister for State Development—

- (1) Given that the only way to maintain stability in the grid when using electricity generated by wind turbines is to use open gas turbines, have any studies been done as to the overall cost of wind generated electricity?
- (2) What is the (a) maximum and (b) average financial cost per megawatt hour for open cycle gas turbines used to meet peak demand when wind farms are not operating because of calm weather?

Answer—

(1) and (2) It is not correct that "the only way to maintain stability in the grid when using electricity generated by wind turbines is to use open gas turbines." Therefore the cost of gas-fired electricity is not relevant. However, wind generation is often referred to as 'intermittent generation' due to its variable nature.

The National Electricity Market Management Company (NEMMCO) operates the market to ensure the least cost generation is dispatched to meet current demand levels and maintain overall system security.

However, the increase in wind generation in the National Electricity Market (NEM) has prompted NEMMCO to establish the Australian Wind Energy Forecasting System (AWEFS) project. The project aims to provide better forecasts that will drive improved efficiency of overall NEM dispatch and pricing, and permit better network stability and security management. It will do this by:

- (a) facilitating the operation of the market through more accurate wind generation forecasts; and
- (b) facilitating research to improve the quality and dimension of the forecast over time to accommodate other renewable types such as solar.

NEMMCO has also implemented a new set of market arrangements called the "Semi-Dispatch Arrangements", which require new intermittent generators, such as wind farms, to register under the new classification of Semi-Scheduled Generator and requires those generators to participate in the central dispatch process. These market arrangements are also aimed at improving the overall operation of the NEM.

**\*5180 HORNSBY STATION STAFF FACILITIES—**Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) What rationale was used for the creation of a special staff toilet for the regional manager and

assistant for Hornsby Station?

- (2) Is it true that only two people use the toilet and that it is locked at other times?
- (3) How much did it cost?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) This is a standard facility provided to all staff. The construction of the staff toilet included the refurbishment of the passenger toilets.
- (2) No. All RailCorp staff are entitled to use this facility.
- (3) \$68,000.

\*5181 TOILET AT HORNSBY STATION—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

Regarding the new toilet constructed on Platform 4 at Hornsby Station:

- (1) Were public toilets on Platform 4 lost to build it?
- (2) If so, how many public toilets remain?
- (3) If public toilets were lost, are there plans to build other public toilets at the station?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (3) The new public toilet consists of two cubicles. The interior design was reverted to the original heritage design.

Overall the space lost is the equivalent to one cubicle width. This space was converted into a staff toilet accessible from the adjoining office. There are currently four staff in this office and additional staff will be located within this office after the planned refurbishment works are complete.

There are no plans to build any additional public toilets.

\*5182 REMOVAL OF TILES—HORNSBY STATION—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) Why were the tiles removed from at least Platform 1 at Hornsby Station and replaced with tar?
- (2) How much did the removal of these tiles cost?
- (3) Are there plans to remove more tiles from platforms at Hornsby Station?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Due to the tiles having been laid some years ago, there was considerable ongoing maintenance cost associated with sub-surface movement which caused sections of tiles to lift.

The re-surfacing programme that followed included rectification of cross-falls to ensure the correct platform gradient for the safety of customers with prams or in wheelchairs.

- (2) The total cost of the project was \$180,521.
- (3) Platforms 2 and 3 are planned for cross-fall rectification in the 2009/10 financial year.

\*5183 HORNSBY STATION CLEARWAYS PROJECT—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) What date in 2009 will the Clearways Project at Hornsby Station be completed?
- (2) How many car spaces will be available to commuters?
- (3) How many bicycle spaces will be available?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Following commissioning, the new track and platform became operational on Monday 16 March 2009.
- (2) There are approximately 470 commuter car parking spaces available to commuters at Hornsby Station. The project delivered an overall net increase of approximately 50 commuter car spaces at Hornsby Station.
- (3) Hornsby Station has 20 bike lockers and as part of the project 12 bike racks were installed.

\*5184 DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING PROPERTIES—HORNSBY—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Housing, and Minister for Western Sydney—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

- (1) How many Department of Housing properties have been purchased in the Hornsby electorate in 2008 and in 2009 to date?
- (2) How much funding has been expended on such purchases?
- (3) Where are these properties located?
- (4) How many Department of Housing properties have been sold or are allocated to be sold in 2008 and 2009 to date?
- (5) How much income is expected from this?
- (6) Where are these properties located?

Answer—

- (1) to (6) Housing NSW has purchased a number of units in Hornsby. Housing NSW will always consider the most appropriate cost effective method of new supply to match housing need. Under its long-term asset plan, Housing NSW has extensive need for one and two bedroom accommodation.

As the largest landlord in Australia, Housing NSW owns more than 140,000 rental properties across NSW. Housing NSW, like any organisation, regularly reviews its assets to determine their cost effectiveness and viability. Housing NSW sells a very small number of properties each year.

The number of properties sold in the portfolio during the last year and the proceeds from these sales is contained in Housing NSW's Annual Report. Independent market valuations are used to set prices for disposal. All proceeds from the sale of properties are re-invested into providing housing assistance.

\*5185 SPORT AND RECREATION FUNDING—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister for Sport and Recreation—

- (1) How much funding has the Department of Sport and Recreation allocated to each electorate for expenditure on related infrastructure and improvement in 2007-08, and 2008-2009?
- (2) (a) Is this amount assured of being spent each year?
- (b) If not, why not?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) Information about the grants provided by NSW Sport and Recreation is publicly available in the Department of the Arts, Sport and Recreation Annual Reports. Expenditure is dependant upon the timing of grant payments claimed by recipients.

\*5186 GRAFFITI DAMAGE IN SCHOOLS—Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

- (1) What action is undertaken by public schools in the Cronulla electorate to address the level of damage caused by graffiti vandalism?
- (2) Are cans of spray paint confiscated from students who are in schools in NSW?
- (3) What examples of such action has been undertaken in schools in the Cronulla electorate?

Answer—

- (1) The NSW Government is committed to providing high quality public education across the State, which includes establishing and maintaining positive student discipline and effective learning is a priority. The "Suspension and Expulsion of School Students — Procedures", implemented at the start of the 2005 school year, give principals the power to take strong action in cases where malicious damage has been caused to school property.

The Education Act 1990 allows government schools to require students to perform reasonable work or service for their school as a disciplinary measure. This could be appropriate in dealing with graffiti and vandalism as restitution is likely to be a more effective long term learning experience than punishment alone.

The Department of Education and Training's Safety and Security Directorate regularly monitors the frequency and magnitude of security breaches that are reported by schools and provides onsite risk assessments. The risk assessment process provides schools with a range of proven strategies to reduce the risk of security incidents, including graffiti. The Safety and Security Directorate also provides schools with dedicated security patrols which have proven to have a significant effect upon the reduction of security incidents, including graffiti vandalism.

The Safety and Security Directorate also liaises with the NSW Police Force and the Rail Vandalism Taskforce in its efforts to minimise graffiti vandalism.

Schools that have been provided with security fencing also report significant reductions in the incidence of vandalism. Since 1995, security fences have been installed in 588 schools across the State at a cost of more than \$60 million.

- (2) Yes.
- (3) School principals must report all incidents of graffiti damage and vandalism by logging onto the Department's Facilities Maintenance Website (FMWeb). Some security incidents can be reported directly to the police via FMWeb. Principals in schools in the Cronulla electorate use this system to report incidents and to follow-up on the progress of repairs. Many principals also photograph the graffiti and provide these photos to the police to assist in identifying possible perpetrators.

I am pleased to report that there has been a decline in the number of reported incidences of graffiti vandalism in public schools in the Cronulla electorate in the last six months.

9 security fences have been installed at schools in the Cronulla electorate with one more to be completed by the end of this financial year.

**\*5187 GAMING MACHINE LICENCES**—Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister for Sport and Recreation—

- (1) How many gaming machine licences were issued for establishments located in the Cronulla electorate as of:
- (a) 30 June 2006;
  - (b) 30 June 2007;
  - (c) 30 June 2008?
- (2) What was the tax revenue collected from gaming machines located in the Cronulla electorate for the financial years ended:
- (a) 30 June 2006;
  - (b) 30 June 2007;
  - (c) 30 June 2008?

Answer—

- (1) Gaming machine licences is not a term that is used in NSW, it is therefore assumed that the Member for Cronulla is referring to poker machine entitlements (PMEs) in his questions.
- (a) 984 PMEs in the Cronulla electorate as at 30 June 2006
  - (b) 967 PMEs as at 30 June 2007
  - (c) 969 PMEs as at 30 June 2008.
- (2) This question should be directed to the Treasurer, who is responsible for the collection of gaming machine tax.

**\*5188 GUNNAMATTA BAY MARINA DEVELOPMENT**—Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

- (1) Has the Minister obtained expert advice in relation to the development application for the marina in Gunnamatta Bay?
- (2) If so, will the Minister make this advice available to the public?

Answer—

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Yes, as part of my determination of the project application.

**\*5190 RENAL DIALYSIS CENTRES**—Mr Daryl Maguire 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 is the minimum floor area per patient required to meet National Accreditation Standards for renal dialysis centres?
- (2) Will the Minister supply me with a copy of the medical governance model administered by the Renal Services at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital?

Answer—

I am advised by the Minister for Health:

- (1) There are no National Accreditation Standards for renal dialysis centres.
- (2) The Member's question is unclear; however, the following information may be of assistance:

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

---

- The medical Head of Department for Renal Services at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital (RPAH) is responsible for the management of renal medical services, including the appointment of medical staff; monitoring the quality and safety of services provided; service planning and development; and ensuring budgetary targets are achieved.
- The Head of Department for renal services reports to both the Area Clinical Director for Cardiovascular Services, Sydney South West Area Health Service and to the Director of Medical Administration for RPAH.
- The Area Clinical Director is primarily responsible for overseeing issues of quality and safety for renal services across the Area Health Service as well as service planning and development. While the Director for Medical Administration is primarily responsible for the recruitment and appointment of medical staff at RPAH and the operational management of medical services based at RPAH.
- The Head of Department for renal services at RPAH is also the Area Director, State-wide Renal Service.
- State-wide renal services based at RPAH provide medical outreach renal services to a number of rural Area Health Services.

\*5191 OUT-OF-COUNTRY DRIVERS—Mr Daryl Maguire asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) Why are out-of-country drivers not able to be issued with a NSW bus driver's authority until they have held a licence for 12 full months?
- (2) Why does this restriction apply in NSW when it does not apply in Victoria?
- (3) As bus companies are held responsible for the driving skills and fitness of their drivers, why are out-of-country drivers not treated like other drivers and required to take tests to determine their skills and fitness to drive?
- (4) As there is a need for bus drivers in rural areas, why are these restrictions placed on potentially competent drivers?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (4) The Passenger Transport Act 1990 and the Passenger Transport Regulation 2007 set requirements to ensure that public transport services are safe, reliable and efficient. These include that those wishing to drive public passenger vehicles in New South Wales have some experience of Australian road rules and conditions. Such requirements apply in both metropolitan and regional areas.

\*5192 AIR QUALITY AROUND ROAD TUNNELS—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Roads—

- (1) Given that the Air Quality Monitoring Stations at Tumbalong Park in Darling Harbour and Mary Ann Park in Ultimo, required in the approval conditions for the Cross City Tunnel, have been removed how will the NSW Government measure ambient air quality around the Cross City Tunnel?
- (2) How will it ensure that the proponent is able to undertake air quality monitoring at portals and in the ventilation stack, as required in the approval conditions?
- (3) How will it monitor changes in ambient air quality around the Cross City if tunnel use increases?
- (4) What plans are there to expand filtration of the M5 to other tunnels, particularly the Cross City Tunnel and Eastern Distributor?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The Department of Environment and Climate Change (DECC) operates approximately 13 stations to monitor air quality in the Sydney metropolitan area.  
The DECC Rozelle monitoring station collects data in the vicinity of the Cross City Tunnel. Data from this monitoring station, and generally all monitoring stations in the Sydney area, correlate closely. This indicates that the pollutant readings at these stations are strongly controlled by regional air quality, rather than local factors.
- (2) The stack monitoring data required under the conditions of approval will continue to be published on the Cross City Tunnel website, providing ongoing assurance to the public about air quality.
- (3) Analysis of the ambient air quality monitoring data has validated the air quality modelling undertaken during the design of the stack. Validation of the model provides assurance that there will be no adverse impacts associated with the operation of the stack and tunnel.

- (4) Filtration is not required under the conditions of approval for any of Sydney's road tunnels. The Government and the Roads and Traffic Authority are nevertheless continuing to investigate the applicability of filtration.

Australia's first tunnel filtration system is currently being constructed in the M5 East tunnel, under the Government's M5 East Air Quality Improvement Plan. The M5 tunnel was chosen due to the unique tunnel conditions. The M5 East carries about three times more heavy vehicles than any other Sydney tunnel.

**\*5194 CBD AIR QUALITY MONITORING**—Ms Clover Moore asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

Given the Air Quality Monitoring Stations at Tumbalong Park in Darling Harbour and Mary Ann Park in Ultimo, required in the approval conditions for the Cross City Tunnel, have been removed and there are now no air quality monitoring stations in Sydney's Central Business District:

- (1) How will the NSW Government assess the air quality in and around Sydney's Central Business District?
- (2) What plans does the NSW Government have to install an air quality monitoring station in Sydney's Central Business District?

Answer—

- (1) The National Environment Protection Measure for Ambient Air Quality sets out scientifically based requirements for numbers and locations of air quality monitoring stations. This has informed the configuration of NSW's air quality monitoring networks.

NSW's air quality monitoring network is considered Australia's best. There are 14 stations covering the Sydney Basin.

Air quality data collected from the monitoring stations located at Rozelle and Randwick is representative of regional air quality experienced by residents in central and eastern Sydney.

- (2) The Government does not have plans to install a monitoring station in the Central Business District at this time. However, monitoring in Sydney's Central Business District can be undertaken if there is a demonstrated need for specific information from that area.

**\*5195 WATER PRESSURE REDUCTION**—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

- (1) What bushfire hazard zones with residential dwellings in the Davidson Electorate have recently had, or are planned to have in 2009, water pressure reductions applied?
- (2) Will this water pressure reduction result in any additional risk to these dwellings in the event of fire?
- (3) If yes, what is the risk and does the Government regard it as acceptable?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) No pressure-managed areas have been implemented to date in the Davidson electorate. There are four areas that will be implemented within the electorate in 2009 to help reduce leakage and breaks in water mains. Of these, 170 dwellings are in bushfire hazard zones.
- (2) The pressure reduction program does not introduce any additional risk to those dwellings.
- (3) Not applicable.

**\*5196 MANAGEMENT FEES**—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

- (1) How many projects under the previous Federal Government's "Investing in our Schools" program did the NSW Department of Commerce project manage?
- (2) What were the total project management fees paid for all these projects?
- (3) Are there any cases where department project management fees exceeded 15% of project costs?

Answer—

- (1) 290.
- (2) Fees paid totalled \$2,126,553 which provided for a range of services such as design, documentation, disbursements and project management.
- (3) No

**\*5197 SHATTERPROOF GLASS IN SCHOOLS**—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

---

- (1) Do any schools in NSW have shatterproof glass installed?
- (2) If so, how many, and where?
- (3) In how many schools has shatterproof glass replaced metal bars on windows?
- (4) What consideration is being given to the wider use of shatterproof glass at schools as either a cost-saving, energy-saving, noise-abatement or crime prevention measure?

Answer—

- (1) Yes.
- (2) A detailed statistical response to this question would involve considerable time and the diversion of resources away from core responsibilities of the Department of Education and Training that cannot be justified.
- (3) In Department schools the presence of safety glazing may not result in the removal of metal bars for security purposes.
- (4) The Department of Education and Training will inspect and upgrade glazing at over 500 schools in the 2008/09 financial year to ensure compliance with Australian Standard 1288-2006.

\*5199 POLITICAL DONATIONS DISCLOSURE LAWS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

- (1) What further reform of political donations disclosure laws is the Government currently considering?
- (2) Do these include re-examining the definition under s.147 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act to make it clear to councils that "donations" means "reported political donations of \$1,000 or above"?

Answer—

The Government has already introduced reforms to NSW electoral laws to increase transparency and accountability in relation to the making and acceptance of political donations. The reforms introduced by the Government are outlined in its response to the report of the NSW Legislative Council Select Committee on Electoral and Political Party Funding.

The Commonwealth Government has initiated a Green Paper process which is looking at electoral reform generally. The NSW Government is working with the Commonwealth and other States and Territories as part of the Green Paper process.

Section 147 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 requires the disclosure of "reportable political donations". Section 147(2) defines a "reportable political donation" to mean "a reportable political donation within the meaning of Part 6 of the Election Funding and Disclosures Act 1981 that is required to be disclosed under that Part" and includes a note that "Reportable political donations include those of or above \$1,000".

\*5200 COST OF NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENTS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

- (1) How much did the Government spend on newspaper advertisements in late January that incorrectly informed people that school classes were to start on Tuesday 3 February 2009?
- (2) How much did the Government spend on corrective newspaper advertisements?
- (3) Why did this error occur?

Answer—

(1) and (2) Approximately \$42,000 was spent on placing the advertisements in question.

(3) There was a booking agency error.

\*5201 HONORARY TRADE AND INVESTMENT ENVOYS—Mr Barry O'Farrell asked 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) How many Honorary Trade and Investment Envoys have been appointed by the NSW Government?
- (2) What is the role and for which countries are they responsible?
- (3) When was each appointed?

Answer—

(1) One.

(2) To actively promote NSW in an honorary capacity to potential investors. The country is Italy.

(3) 2002.

\*5202 MOBILE SCREENING—Mr Donald Page 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) Do places such as Ballina and Byron Bay no longer have access to a mobile van for breast cancer screening?
- (2) Will women from Ballina and Byron Bay find access to breast screening more difficult now they have to go to Lismore or Tweed Heads, especially as there is very little public transport?
- (3) What is the rationale for abolishing mobile breast screening for large sections of the Far North Coast when this area has a very high level of breast cancer and an ageing population?
- (4) Does the Minister acknowledge that early detection of breast cancer through mobile breast cancer vans is important to saving lives and increasing the chances of recovery from breast cancer?
- (5) (a) Will the Government reverse this decision?  
(b) If not, why not?

Answer—

- (1) to (5) I refer the Member to the response provided by the Minister for Health to a Question Without Notice on this issue dated 10 March 2009.

\*5203 BREASTSCREEN MOBILE VANS—Mr Donald Page asked the Minister for Tourism, Minister for the Hunter, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

- (1) How many BreastScreen NSW Mobile Vans are/were operating in NSW in:
  - (a) February 2009;
  - (b) February 2008;
  - (c) February 2007?
- (2) How many BreastScreen NSW Mobile Vans are currently servicing Ballina and Byron Bay?
- (3) How many women in NSW received a free mammogram in the year ending:
  - (a) December 2006;
  - (b) December 2007;
  - (c) December 2008?
- (4) What was the budget figure allocated to BreastScreen NSW in the November 2009 Mini-budget?

Answer—

I am advised:

BreastScreen NSW is part of BreastScreen Australia, a population based screening program aimed at enabling the early detection of breast cancer through the provision of free mammographic screening.

This financial year \$53.1 million is being invested in BreastScreen NSW. That's an increase of \$8.3 million over last year.

BreastScreen NSW is open to all women 40 years and over, with women aged between 50 and 69 specifically targeted.

The NSW Government is continuing the delivery of the BreastScreen NSW Program with the digital mammography equipment rollout which commenced this financial year.

Further information about BreastScreen NSW is available in the Cancer Institute NSW Annual Reports and on the website at [www.cancerinstitute.org.au](http://www.cancerinstitute.org.au)

\*5204 DSRD RESTRUCTURE—Mr Donald Page asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

- (1) As part of the restructuring of the NSW Department of State and Regional Development (DSRD) are any DSRD offices in regional NSW being considered for closure?
- (2) If any DSRD office/s are being targeted for closure what are the specific criteria against which offices are being assessed?
- (3) Which DSRD offices are being targeted for closure?
- (4) How is it planned to service industry and businesses in the regions serviced by the offices proposed to be closed?
- (5) What are the investment and job outcomes attained over the past 5 years by the offices that are proposed to be closed?
- (6) Are any staff cutbacks being planned in conjunction with DSRD office closures?



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

- (7) Are the new overseas trade missions announced by the Premier for China, India and the UAE to be funded from internal DSRD savings, which could include DSRD office closures and associated staff losses in regional NSW?
- (8) What are the potential cost savings from any proposed DSRD office closures in regional NSW?
- (9) What are the potential cost savings from the overall restructure of DSRD?
- (10) What will be the loss in economic terms to regional NSW of any closures or staff losses?

Answer—

The Department of State and Regional Development is undergoing a restructure to enable it to more efficiently and effectively deliver programs and services aimed at attracting investment and creating new jobs in NSW.

This is particularly important in the current climate of global economic uncertainty.

The restructuring process, which will examine all aspects of the Department's operations, is ongoing and is not expected to be completed until later in the year.

Businesses and communities in regional NSW can expect the same high level of service already available to them from the Department once the restructure is complete.

I look forward to making further announcements that will demonstrate an increase in our services to country NSW.

\*5205 NSW POLICE SECURITY INDUSTRY REGISTRY—Mr Greg Piper asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

- (1) Does the NSW Police Security Industry Registry have a backlog of new security licence applications to process?
- (2) If yes, what is the current timeframe for processing applications?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me:

- (1) and (2) The Security Industry Registry has had a large influx of security licence applications in recent weeks. The Registry is taking steps to ensure that processing of these licence applications proceeds as quickly as possible.

\*5206 TILLEGRA DAM—Mr Greg Piper asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

In relation to the proposed Tillegra Dam in the Hunter Valley:

- (1) Will the Minister confirm that the Hunter Water Corporation has not entered preliminary agreements of any sort with any potential tenderer?
- (2) Why has a potential tenderer begun recruiting for the dam construction?
- (3) Will the Minister ensure that any potential tenderer will not be compensated if unsuccessful?

Answer—

- (1) On 4 April, Hunter Water advertised for expressions of interest from construction companies to assist with the detailed design of two major components of the proposed Tillegra Dam project. This is normal practice on large infrastructure projects and often occurs in concert with the studies required in the planning approvals process.
- (2) Hunter Water has had no involvement in the recruitment of staff by companies involved in the construction of the Tillegra Dam.
- (3) Hunter Water does not reimburse unsuccessful tenderers. Hunter Water will pay all of the contractors selected to advise on the designs a small amount for their advice but there will be no reimbursement for unsuccessful tenderers.

\*5208 MATERNITY UNITS—TWEED SHIRE HOSPITALS—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 maternity units at hospitals in the Tweed Shire that service Tweed electorate constituents:

- (1) What is the yearly figure for childbirths carried out in the Tweed Heads Hospital for the period:
  - (a) 2006-07;

- (b) 2007-08;
- (c) 2008-09?
- (2) What is the yearly number of Queensland residents giving birth in the Tweed Heads Hospital for the period:
  - (a) 2006-07;
  - (b) 2007-08;
  - (c) 2008-09?
- (3) What are the current 2009 year-to-date figures for:
  - (a) total childbirths carried out in the Tweed Heads Hospital;
  - (b) the number of Queensland residents giving birth in the Tweed Heads Hospital?
- (4) What is the yearly figure for childbirths carried out in the Murwillumbah Hospital for the period:
  - (a) 2006-07;
  - (b) 2007-08;
  - (c) 2008-09?
- (5) What is the yearly number of Queensland residents giving birth in the Murwillumbah Hospital for the period:
  - (a) 2006-07;
  - (b) 2007-08;
  - (c) 2008-09?
- (6) What are the current 2009 year-to-date figures for:
  - (a) total childbirths carried out in the Murwillumbah Hospital;
  - (b) the number of Queensland residents giving birth in the Murwillumbah Hospital?

Answer—

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

- (1) (a) 1,201
- (b) 1,247
- (c) 883 (YTD February 2009).
- (2) (a) 661
- (b) 684
- (c) 486 (YTD February 2009).
- (3) (a) As for (1) (c) above.
- (b) As for (2) (c) above.
- (4) (a) 377
- (b) 368
- (c) 233 (YTD February 2009).
- (5) (a) 19
- (b) 29
- (c) 17 (YTD February 2009).
- (6) (a) As for (4) (c) above.
- (b) As for (5) (c) above.

\*5209 PRISONER TRANSFERS—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

In relation to prisoner transfers in the Tweed:

- (1) What is the total number of prisoner transfers from Tweed Courthouse to Lismore carried out by corrective services and police staff over the last 12 months?
- (2) What is the breakdown into monthly numbers of correctional services and police transfers over the last 12 months?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me:

- (1) and (2) Police conducted 130 prisoner transfer journeys from Tweed Heads to Lismore Corrective Services in the calendar year 2008.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

\*5210 TRANSPORTATION OF PRISONERS—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State—

In relation to transportation of prisoners in the Tweed Electorate:

What is the average number of hours devoted to transporting a typical prisoner from Tweed Courthouse to Lismore by correctional services staff in:

- (a) 2006-07;
- (b) 2007-08;
- (c) year to date?

Answer—

I am advised:

The average time to transport an inmate from Tweed Heads to Lismore is approximately 1.75 hours. This time has not changed over the period in question.

\*5211 OPERATION AND SUBSIDENCE PLANS—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, Minister for State Development—

- (1) Which mines are operating in NSW without an agreed operation plan?
- (2) When did the Department first become aware of the lack of operations plans?
- (3) Why has this situation be allowed to continue?
- (4) When will each of these mines be required to have an agreed operations plan in place?
- (5) Which mines are operating in NSW without an agreed subsidence plan?
- (6) When did the Department first become aware of the lack of subsidence plans?
- (7) Why has this situation be allowed to continue?
- (8) When will each of these mines be required to have an agreed subsidence plan in place?

Answer—

- (1) All high risk large and medium mines have mining operation plans. A small number of low risk mining operations do not have current mining operations plans. The Department of Primary Industries is working with these mines to promote operational compliance.
- (2) The Department of Primary Industries continually reviews compliance and consults with mining companies about mining operation plan requirements.
- (3) See answer to question (2).
- (4) All mines are required to have operation plans which are to the satisfaction of the Department of Primary Industries.
- (5) All longwall mining operations operate to approved Subsidence Management Plans.
- (6) See answer to question (5).
- (7) See answer to question (5).
- (8) See answer to question (5).

\*5212 GOVERNMENT WEBSITE FOR JOBSEEKERS—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

Given that the NSW Department of Commerce became aware of unauthorised attempts to access and extract information from the NSW Government website for jobseekers before January 26:

- (1) How many email addresses of registered users were obtained as a result of the access?
- (2) Did the sent spam email advertising a job vacancy contain any computer viruses, trojans or malware?
- (3) What are the names of the independent experts the department has engaged to investigate this matter?
- (4) Which relevant authorities did the department refer the matter to?
- (5) Why is the department still claiming the site is "unavailable due to system maintenance"?
- (6) When will the website be returned to service?

Answer—

- (1) to (6) The precise number of email addresses accessed is not known.

The sent spam email did not contain any computer viruses, trojans or malware.

Ernst & Young are the independent experts the Department of Commerce has engaged to investigate the matter.

Commerce notified the NSW Police Force, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission, the Australian Communications and Media Authority and the NSW Privacy Commissioner of the incident.

A successor website will be in place by the end of 2009. Until it is launched, interim arrangements will be maintained.

\*5213 STEIN INQUIRY—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

- (1) Have the findings of the Stein inquiry into the Border Rivers Gwydir Catchment Management Authority been in the hands of the New South Wales Government for more than six months, and not publicly released in full?
- (2) If so, why have the full findings not been released?
- (3) What was edited out of the version of the report that was sent to the Border Rivers Gwydir Catchment Management Authority last August?
- (4) What changes did the Minister direct the Gwydir CMA to make?
- (5) When will the full Stein report and its recommendations be made available?

Answer—

- (1) to (5) The report handed down to the former Minister by Justice Paul Stein contained references to local personnel and industrial relations matters which are not appropriate for public release. The other contents of the report were made public.

The Minister made directions under the Catchment Management Authorities Act 2003 to the CMA. These related to Board appointments, strategic planning, staff development and recruiting, community engagement and partnering, CMA systems and financial management. Directions were also given to all other CMAs on desirable generic improvements that are to be made to their governance system and capabilities.

The Hon Verity Firth MP, former Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, has already released a Summary Report that also contained her Ministerial decisions on the recommendations.

\*5214 FTE MEDICAL STAFF—Mrs Jillian Skinner 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—

How many FTE medical staff were working at the following hospitals in the 2007-08 financial year:

- (a) Auburn;
- (b) Bankstown/Lidcombe;
- (c) Belmont;
- (d) Blacktown;
- (e) Camden;
- (f) Campbelltown;
- (g) Canterbury;
- (h) Children's Hospital at Westmead;
- (i) Concord;
- (j) Fairfield;
- (k) Gosford;
- (l) Hawkesbury;
- (m) Hornsby;
- (n) John Hunter;
- (o) Liverpool;
- (p) Manly;
- (q) Mona Vale;
- (r) Mt Druitt;
- (s) Nepean;
- (t) Prince of Wales;
- (u) Royal Hospital for Women;
- (v) Royal North Shore;
- (w) Royal Prince Alfred;
- (x) Ryde;
- (y) St Vincent's;
- (z) Sydney;

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

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- (aa) Sydney Children's;
- (ab) Westmead;
- (ac) Wyong?

Answer—

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

Workforce profiles can be found in each Area Health Service's annual report. I refer the member to [www.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au)

\*5215 FTE PHYSIOTHERAPISTS—Mrs Jillian Skinner 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—

How many FTE physiotherapists were working within the following Area Health Services in the 2007-08 financial year:

- (a) Greater Southern AHS;
- (b) Greater Western AHS;
- (c) Hunter New England AHS;
- (d) North Coast AHS;
- (e) North Sydney Central Coast AHS;
- (f) South Eastern Sydney Illawarra AHS;
- (g) Sydney South West AHS;
- (h) Sydney West Area Health Service;
- (i) Children's Hospital Westmead?

Answer—

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

Workforce profiles for allied health staff can be found in each Area Health Service's annual report. I refer the member to [www.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au)

\*5216 PUBLIC HOUSING CONSTRUCTION—Mr George Souris asked the Minister for Housing, and Minister for Western Sydney—

Of the proposed new public housing construction for NSW, both from funds sourced from the NSW budget and from the Federal Government, what are the numbers of construction starts (commenced or proposed to commence) for the periods (a) 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 and (b) 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010 for the following local government areas:

- (a) Gloucester Shire;
- (b) Dungog Shire;
- (c) Singleton;
- (d) Muswellbrook Shire;
- (e) Upper Hunter Shire;
- (f) Liverpool Plains Shire?

Answer—

Following the announcement by the Prime Minister of funding for construction of social housing under the Nation Building Economic Stimulus Plan, Housing NSW has been developing plans for the construction of 6,000 additional dwellings across NSW. Under Stage 1 funding will be provided in the Singleton, Muswellbrook and Upper Hunter Shires.

Under Housing NSW's normal new supply program, the construction starts proposed are in the Singleton, Muswellbrook and Upper Hunter Shires.

\*5217 DEVELOPMENTS UNDER PART 3A—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

- (1) How many developments have been declared to be a development to which Part 3A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 applies following a decision by the Minister to call in the project under her discretionary powers under Part 3A and SEPP (Major Projects) 2005, since the Minister's appointment as Minister for Planning?
- (2) In how many of these cases had the applicant also been a financial contributor to the NSW ALP at any time in the preceding three-year period?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

Answer—

- (1) Between 8 September 2008 and 23 March 2009, there have been eleven (11) projects "called in" by the Minister using her discretionary powers.
- (2) It is the proponent's responsibility to disclose their political donations in accordance with the Local Government Planning Legislation Amendment (Political Donations) Act 2008. A register of disclosures is located in the Department of Planning's Information Centre and disclosures associated with Part 3A project applications are available on the Major Project Register on the Department's website.

Appendix List of Projects referred to in answer

Site	Web Description	Capital Investment Value (\$)	Construction Jobs	Operational Jobs	CI 6/MP Requested	MP Criteria	Date CI 6/MP Decision
"Rise" Estate; Marana St, Bilambil Heights	Concept Plan - Estate development - residential, Education, Retirement village, Retail, Recreation				13/08/2007	Schedule 1 CI13	30/09/2008
88 Walker Street and 77-81 Berry Street, North Sydney	Commercial and hotel development	240,000,000	1000	3500	13/11/2008	Schedule 1 CI13	16/12/2008
78-90 Old Canterbury Road, Lewisham	Mixed use residential/retail development over the whole site. Possibility of incorporating a part of Brown Street which is a public road and will require a Voluntary Planning Agreement with the Council.	150,000,000	200	200	24/09/2008	Schedule 1 CI13	02/01/2009
Cardinal Freeman Village; Victoria Street, Ashfield	Renewal, refurbishment and expansion of existing aged care facility known as Cardinal Freeman Village.	110,000,000	1000	15	28/11/2008	Schedule 1 CI13	07/01/2009

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

78-96 Arncliffe Street & 31-45 Princes Highway, Wolli Creek	Construction of mixed use retail/ residential development comprising 8 storey, 16 storey and 22 storey.	260,000,000	799	1045	08/10/2008	Schedule 1 C113	12/01/2009
86-96 & 100 Mount Street, North Sydney	Commercial Development	130,000,000	200	3000	06/02/2009	Schedule 1 C113	04/03/2009
South East Fibre Exports 5 MW Biomass-Fired Power Station, Edrom Road, Eden	The construction and operation of an ancillary 5 megawatt biomass-fired power station at a coastal woodchip export facility.	18,700,000		6		Specific Order	01/02/2009
CBD Metro	The CBD Metro is a 7km long metro railway from Rozelle to Central, with new stations at Rozelle, Pyrmont, Barangaroo-Wynyard, Martin Place, Town Hall Square, and Central.	4,400,000,000	To be advised	To be advised		Specific Order	06/02/2009
Wah Wah Stock and Domestic Piping Project; Part of Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area, west of Barren Box Swamp,	Replace existing open channel stock and domestic water supply system with a pressurised piped system.	40,000,000				Specific Order	26/02/2009

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

M2 Upgrade; M2 Motorway,	Develop- ment for the purposes of the M2 Upgrade, extending along the M2 Motorway approx- imately from Windsor Road, Baulkham Hills to Delhi Road, North.	550,000,000	525	10		Specific Order	27/02/2009
Killalea State Park; Buckley Road, Shellcove	Construction of 106 short stay tourist accommo- dation lodges, conference facilities, pool, gym, spa, amenities, restaurant, cafe, kiosk, activities centre, communal facilities, car park areas and access trails				25/11/2007	Specific Order	04/03/2009

\*5218 CAPITAL WORKS FOR SCHOOLS—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

- (1) Of the Government's \$150 million Principals Priority Building Program, how much is being spent on capital works and maintenance in public schools in the Pittwater electorate?
- (2) Of this amount, what capital works will be funded in which schools?
- (3) When is work expected to begin on the proposed projects?

Answer—

- (1) Approximately \$240,000 is being spent in the Pittwater electorate as part of the Principals Priority Building Program.
- (2) Two schools in the electorate will receive funding under the program. Narrabeen Lakes Public School will receive an upgrade to its ventilation systems in Blocks G and H. Narrabeen North Public School will receive an upgrade to its stormwater system.
- (3) The project at Narrabeen Lakes Public School is scheduled to be completed during the 2009/10 financial year. The project at Narrabeen North Public School scheduled to be completed during the 2010/11 financial year.

\*5219 ONLINE BULLYING—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

- (1) What strategies has the Government undertaken to combat online bullying in NSW primary and high schools?
- (2) If a child reports a complaint, what avenues are available to teachers to address the problem?

Answer—

The New South Wales Government does not tolerate any form of bullying in schools.

Over the last 15 years there has been an increasing focus on research which aims to understand the causes and consequences of bullying among school aged children. Many researchers note that as a relational



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

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issue, approaches to addressing bullying require relationship responses. Bullying is a societal problem, manifested in a variety of settings that requires a variety of responses at all levels.

Cyber bullying is a relatively new method of bullying following the rapid increase in use of mobile phones and the Internet. Significant resources are made available to schools to address bullying issues. Departmental staff work with students, parents, teachers and principals' groups about ways to counter all forms of bullying including cyber bullying. The Government enables schools to implement effective anti-bullying strategies via policies, guidelines, curriculum, personnel and other resources.

New South Wales public schools have always taught the values that are the basis of law, customs and care for others in our society. On 25 March 2004 the New South Wales Government released a statement on Values in NSW public schools.

Schools in New South Wales share with families and the community the responsibility for teaching values. Values are taught explicitly in classrooms and through the activities and relationships of the school and its community. In schools, core values influence how people communicate, work together and make decisions. They are reflected in the policies and procedures of schools and the Department.

The Department of Education and Training is sending a strong message that bullying is unacceptable through the Anti-bullying Plan for Schools. The plan complements each School Discipline and Student Welfare policy. All schools must have a Plan that equips schools, teachers, students and parents with specific strategies to identify, report and deal with bullying behaviours.

It is a requirement that the Plan be reviewed on a regular basis, so that all members of the school community are aware of and remain committed to it.

New South Wales government schools implement anti-bullying programs via curriculum areas such as Personal Development, Health and Physical Education and Human Society and its Environment. Students are taught skills such as communicating, decision-making, and problem-solving.

Students are taught Child Protection Education, as a mandatory component of Personal Development, Health and Physical Education from Kindergarten to Year 10. In Child Protection Education, students learn about recognising and responding to unsafe situations, seeking assistance effectively and establishing and maintaining non-coercive relationships.

Department of Education and Training staff work with students, parents, teachers and principals' groups about ways to counter cyber bullying including the inappropriate use of mobile phones and the internet.

Clear advice is provided to school communities regarding appropriate and inappropriate uses of technology in schools including inappropriate use of portable computer games, iPods and similar devices.

In order to ensure that departmental Internet and email services are safe and suitable for students, filters are used when students are browsing the web from departmental sites. The Internet "SmartFilter" system introduced to all schools for 2007 blocks inappropriate web sites. The Google "SafeSearch" strict filter blocks web pages containing both explicit text and explicit images.

Under the "Internet and Email Services: Acceptable Usage for Schools" policy, before students gain access to the Department's intranet, students must agree to certain conditions. These conditions include that students never send or publish threatening, bullying or harassing material to another person or make excessive or unreasonable demands upon another person when using the Department's electronic communication.

Principals have the power to impose strong sanctions to counter bullying. Principals are able to place students on suspension for up to 20 days for behaviour that threatens the safety and well-being of other students or staff.

In schools, Student Representative Councils and student anti-bullying committees hold regular meetings to discuss issues and find solutions. Student welfare committees provide additional support to students in need.

At the local level, schools are supported via personnel such as student welfare consultants who are trained and resourced to support schools in the development and maintenance of anti-bullying initiatives.

Specialist support teachers also provide whole school and targeted assistance to teachers and support to students in liaison with parents and relevant agencies.

The Department provides advice and support to parents related to the use of technology and cyber bullying via parent information sheets.

The Government also supports collaborative national projects such as the

"Safe and Supportive School Communities" project which involves all Australian education authorities. The project provides a collaborative platform to share policies, programs and practices which help create safe and supportive schools. The associated "Bullying. No Way!" website is recognised nationally and internationally as a rich resource for schools and their communities to help address issues of bullying, violence and harassment.

The "Bullying. No Way!" website has excellent examples of strategies schools are currently using to address bullying including cyber bullying.

The NSW Government is supportive of Commonwealth Government initiatives such as the Cyber Safety Consultative Working Group and Youth Advisory Group on Cyber-Safety. The government provides input to these groups along with other States/Territories, industry and non-government organisations on how best to address cyber bullying.

It is important that issues related to bullying are addressed quickly. Parents are advised to contact the principal of the school in the first instance, if they have specific concerns related to bullying. It is important that the principal is made aware of bullying behaviour and that the parent's concerns are followed up. Students who are bullied are advised to immediately tell a trusted adult, which may include a teacher.

Where a child reports a complaint, there are clear avenues available to teachers to address the problem.

It is a requirement of the Department that employees participate in annual child protection training. Issues relating to internet safety have been included in training.

Teachers are also provided with specific training on identifying and managing bullying behaviours via national programs such as MindMatters and the "Cybersafety Outreach - Professional Development for Educators".

Specific strategies are also provided to teachers in programs developed by the Department of Education and Training such as "Strategies for Safer Schools and the Behaviour, Learning and Teaching Program".

Teachers are provided with resources to encourage student involvement with peer based bystander resources such as "Taking Action, Keeping Safe - A resource for student leaders to counter bullying". Teachers also use resources such as the Method of Shared Concern - a non-punitive problem-solving approach to addressing cases of bullying.

**\*5220 PEDESTRIAN ACCESS PASSAGEWAYS**—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

- (1) Do "right of way" pedestrian access passageways still apply if they pass through Department of Education and Training land?
- (2) If so, are there any conditions or exceptions?

Answer—

Any legally created and registered right of way still applies if it passes through Department of Education and Training land.

The right of pedestrian access can also be included in executed leases or licences.

The terms and conditions of the right of way for pedestrian access will vary depending on the particular circumstances but should be defined in the easement or executed lease or licence document.

**\*5221 STATE HERITAGE REGISTER NOMINATIONS**—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

- (1) Of the "more than 200" nominations for inclusion on the State Heritage Register (Written Question No. 4403) that have been resolved since the Heritage Branch was merged into the Department of Planning, how many of these nominations were recommended to the Minister for inclusion?
- (2) Of these recommendations, how many did the Minister place on the State Heritage Register?

Answer—

- (1) I am advised that the Heritage Council recommended three items for the register since March 2008.
- (2) All three recommended items have been listed.

**\*5222 COMPOSITION OF HERITAGE COUNCIL**—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

- (1) When does the Minister expect to reach a conclusion regarding the future composition of the Heritage Council?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

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(2) Will any proposed changes be released for public comment before being implemented?

Answer—

I anticipate that a Bill implementing the main recommendations of the 2007 Heritage Act Review, including changes to the membership of the Heritage Council, will be submitted to this session of Parliament.

As the Review was subject to a public consultation process and the Review's report has been made available publicly, I do not intend to hold a further public consultation process prior to the submission of the Bill to Parliament.

\*5223 COMMUNITY BROADBAND—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

In relation to the NSW Community Broadband Development Program:

- (1) What is the size of the fund?
- (2) When was the assessment finalised?
- (3) When were the grants made?
- (4) How many applications were received?
- (5) How will the success of the projects be evaluated?

Answer—

Expressions of interest closed for this \$11.6 million program on 12 February 2009 and 33 applications are now being assessed.

An announcement of successful applications under this program is scheduled for later in April 2009.

Success of the projects will be assessed according to criteria set out in the expression of interest.

\*5224 ABORIGINAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING UNIT—Mr Richard Torbay asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

- (1) Can the Minister explain how the restructure of the Aboriginal Education and Training Unit at the New England Institute of TAFE, currently underway, accords with the recommendations of the independent review conducted by Dr Bob Morgan and Dr Jim Woolford?
- (2) Can the Minister outline the new staffing arrangements for the unit and give a reassurance that no positions will be lost and that Aboriginal staff will be re-employed by the New England Institute of TAFE?
- (3) Will the Minister give a reassurance that positive programs such as Baby Dreamers, literacy and numeracy partnership programs with schools and community groups and vocational education initiatives undertaken by the Unit will continue and be expanded?

Answer—

(1) The restructuring of the TAFE NSW - New England Institute Aboriginal Education and Training Unit is in line with the recommendations of the independent review. The overwhelming majority of the review's recommendations will be implemented progressively once the new organisational model is in place.

(2) The TAFE NSW - New England Institute Aboriginal Education and Training Unit will be staffed as follows:

- 1 Manager position
- 2 Educational Leader positions
- 5 Student Support Officer positions, located at Armidale, Tamworth, Moree, Gunnedah and Glen Innes Campuses
- 1 Clerical Officer position, located at Tamworth Campus

TAFE NSW - New England Institute will follow established Department of Education and Training policies and processes in implementing the new operational model.

Staff will be directly appointed or redeployed to positions in the new operational model where possible. Where this is not possible, staff who choose to apply for positions will be provided with support and advice. Staff who are not successful in gaining a position will be managed under the Department's policies for the management of displaced and excess employees.

(3) Each TAFE NSW Institute constantly monitors its programs and courses to ensure they remain relevant to community need and demand. TAFE NSW - New England Institute will continue to develop,

provide and support programs that respond to the cultural, vocational and educational needs of Aboriginal people in the New England region.

\*5225 ONCOLOGIST APPOINTMENT—Mr John Turner 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—

When will Mr Brettle of Lansdowne, who has a deteriorating health condition, receive an appointment with an oncologist at Manning Rural Referral Hospital?

Answer—

I am advised by the Hon John Della Bosca MLC, Minister for Health, that Mr Brettle has been offered an April 2009 appointment date at the oncology clinic at Manning Base Hospital.

\*5226 MARTIN BRIDGE—Mr John Turner asked the Minister for Roads—

- (1) Has the Roads and Traffic Authority or any agency on their behalf recently carried out work, or are they currently working, on the Martin Bridge at Taree?
- (2) (a) Does, or did, this work involve patch painting of the steel below the deck?  
(b) If so, is this work finished?
- (3) What is the value of patch painting the bridge as against a full repaint of the bridge?
- (4) Has the Minister seen the condition of the bridge personally?  
(a) If not, will he?  
(b) If so, when?
- (5) When will the bridge be fully repainted instead of spot painted?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) (a) Yes.  
(b) No. The work is expected to be completed mid 2009.
- (3) Approximately \$500,000 has been provided in 2008/09 for patch painting of the bridge. A full repaint of the bridge is estimated to cost between \$20 and \$25 million.
- (4) (a) No.  
(b) TBA.
- (5) A full repaint of the bridge will be considered for inclusion in future works programs, along with other state-wide priorities. In the meantime, routine maintenance, including patch painting, will continue to be carried out, to ensure the bridge remains structurally sound for traffic.

### 10 MARCH 2009

(Paper No. 112)

\*5227 METHADONE PROGRAM—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) Is methadone used as a means of treating persons addicted to heroin and other addictive substances?
- (2) How many persons are currently known to be receiving methadone as a treatment for drug addiction in New South Wales?
- (3) What is the latest information available as to the success rate of persons on a methadone program beating their drug addiction?
- (4) What period of time is allowed for a person getting Government-funded methadone to show that he or she has beaten their addiction to heroin or other substances?

Answer—

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

- (1) Methadone is used to treat people addicted to heroin and other opioids. Some addictive substances are not opioids and addiction to these substances is not treated with methadone.
- (2) As of 28 February 2009, 14,281 persons were being treated with methadone in New South Wales.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

- (3) The 2001 Australian National Council on Drugs Research Paper "Evidence Supporting Treatment" drew on existing major reviews of the effectiveness of clinical interventions. It concluded: "Methadone maintenance treatment has proven effectiveness in terms of retention in treatment, reduction in illicit opioid use, reduction in criminal behaviour, reduction in mortality rate, and improvement in health status."

Effectiveness is improved when combined with treatment addressing psychological and social issues that accompany dependence.

- (4) Heroin addiction is a chronic relapsing condition and, as such, cannot be treated within a pre-determined set time, regardless of whether a person is treated in the government-funded clinic or the private sector.

\*5228 SCHOOL BOOKS—Mr Richard Amery asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

- (1) Why do primary schools in the Mount Druitt electorate have different policies on charging a fee for the supply of books contained in the school's Book Pack?
- (2) What schools charge for the Book Pack?
- (3) What schools do not charge parents for the Book Pack?
- (4) Are the contents of these Book Packs uniform across all schools?
- (5) In relation to the schools referred to in (2) above, is the cost of the Book Pack uniform across the subject schools?
- (6) How does the cost of the school supplied Book Pack compare with the same items purchased privately by parents?
- (7) Can parents at the schools referred to in (2) above opt to buy the books privately?

Answer—

- (1) Five Mt Druitt Public Schools currently sell resource and equipment packs following consultation with their community and at a fee set by each school community.
- (2) The five schools are Glendenning Public School, St Marys North Public School, Blackett Public School, Rooty Hill Public School and Plumpton Public School.
- (3) Other primary schools in the Mt Druitt area do not offer book packs for sale.
- (4) No. While each school provides exercise books, grid books and handwriting books appropriate to the stage of the child, the contents of the packs vary significantly.
- (5) No. The contents and the price vary from school to school.
- (6) Parents may be able to purchase cheaper alternatives to some individual book pack items. However, such items may not meet the actual developmental needs of students. Bulk buying by schools means that most items in the packs can be supplied at a much lower cost than equivalent items purchased from stationery stores.
- (7) Parents may purchase books privately but are encouraged to purchase the book pack to ensure that every student in the school has access to developmentally appropriate stationery in each stage and key learning area. The five schools in (2) above provide exercise books and equipment at no cost to any student whose family is experiencing financial hardship.

\*5229 REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA—Mr Greg Aplin asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

- (1) Given that the State Government-funded Regional Development Boards and the Federally-funded Area Consultative Committees will merge to form Regional Development Australia at the end of June 2009, will this merger result in job losses to the Albury offices?
- (2) If so:
  - (a) How many jobs will be lost?
  - (b) What action is being taken to achieve redeployment of staff?

Answer—

Both Governments will commit the same level of funding and resources to Regional Development Australia as they have done to the previous entities.

Staffing for each Regional Development Australia Committee will be determined at the local level.

\*5230 NON-COMPLIANCE ISSUES—HUME FREEWAY ALBURY—Mr Greg Aplin asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

Given that the Deputy Premier and Minister for Climate Change and the Environment has supported my request for a meeting in Albury with Albury City Council by representatives of her Department, will you

also support this meeting and nominate representatives of the Department of Planning to address the non-compliance issues that remain outstanding two years after the opening of the Hume Freeway at Albury?

Answer—

I fully support an open and transparent approach to the regulation of major projects. I have arranged for Mr Scott Jeffries, Director - Major Infrastructure Assessments in the Department of Planning to assist Albury City Council with any concerns or queries it may have in relation to the Hume Freeway Upgrade project.

\*5231 TUMBARUMBA PRIMARY SCHOOL TOILETS—Mr Greg Aplin asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

Given the Federal Government stimulus package includes funding for improvements and maintenance for State Government Schools, can the Minister advise if the toilets at Tumbarumba Primary School have been identified for refurbishment under this program after repeated attempts by the school P&C to gain funding under previous State Government maintenance funding programs?

Answer—

Project nominations for the "Building the Education Revolution" program are being assessed by the Department of Education and Training for submission to the Commonwealth, who will determine which projects will receive funding. It is not possible at this stage to indicate if a toilet upgrade for Tumbarumba Public School will be included in the program, as the final decision will lie with the Commonwealth.

\*5233 VACANT SPACES—MOSMAN WHARF—Mr Mike Baird asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) Why have two spaces been left vacant on Mosman Wharf that could be let for commercial purposes?
- (2) How much money is the taxpayer losing because these premises are not being let?
- (3) Is this related to the transfer of the responsibility for the wharf from Sydney Ferries to NSW Maritime?
- (4) If that is the case, how long will this process take?
- (5) When will the sites be available for lease to businesses?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (3) New leases will be available pending transfer of the property from Sydney Ferries to NSW Maritime. Revenue potential will be dependent on variables such as duration of the lease, market value and any redevelopment undertaken by NSW Maritime as part of its wharf refurbishment programme.
- (4) Sydney Ferries and NSW Maritime are committed to transferring wharf ownership by 30 June 2009.
- (5) Interested parties should direct enquiries to NSW Maritime following the transfer of ownership on 30 June 2009.

\*5234 TREE PLANTINGS—Mr Mike Baird asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

- (1) What requirement is there for trees to be planted as part of any new development under the Government's new Housing Code?
- (2) Has the Minister considered the environmental impact of not requiring trees to be included in landscaping requirements?

Answer—

- (1) The NSW Housing Code includes a development standard for the provision of a landscaped area. This development standard requires that a landscaped area be provided as part of the erection of a dwelling house. A landscaped area is a part of a site used for growing plants, grasses and trees, but does not include any building, structure or hard paved area.
- (2) The Department of Planning undertook extensive research and consultation during the preparation of the NSW Housing Code. This research included a review of existing council controls relating to new dwelling houses and consulting a wide range of stakeholders. The inclusion of a landscaped area was a response to submissions received during the May 2008 exhibition of the draft NSW Housing Code including comments received from environmental groups where a landscaped area was encouraged as it would allow for tree planting, increase a site's permeability and reduce stormwater run-off.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

---

\*5235 AIR-CONDITIONING IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

- (1) How many public schools in NSW have air-conditioning installed in at least one classroom?
- (2) How much does the Department of Education spend on the provision of air-conditioning in NSW schools per annum?
- (3) Given the Federal Government supplies grants to cover the cost of installing air-conditioning in public schools, what funding has the NSW Government made available to fund the operation of the air-conditioners in schools?

Answer—

- (1) Data that is accurate to this level is unavailable at this time due to the large amount of air cooling that was provided under the Commonwealth's Investing in Our Schools Program.
- (2) The budget allocation and projected year-end expenditure for 2008-09 is \$3 million and the indicative budget allocation for 2009-10 is also \$3 million. The Department has the ability to vary individual sub-program allocations each year within the overall Minor Capital Works Program, based on priorities at the time.
- (3) Recurrent funding for the maintenance and operation of air conditioners in schools are provided by maintenance and global funding allocations.

\*5236 ENFORCEMENT OF SPEED ZONES—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Minister for Roads—

- (1) Why has the Government refused/failed to update mobile speed cameras in NSW?
- (2) What replacement strategy does the Government have to enforce speed zones, particularly in school zones in Port Stephens?
- (3) How many school zones in Port Stephens have flashing lights?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) NSW Police have responsibility for mobile speed cameras and speed zone enforcement.
- (3) Two school zones in Port Stephens have flashing lights. These zones cover four schools: Bob's Farm Public School, Tomaree Public School, Tomaree High School, and St Philip's Christian College.

\*5237 PATIENT TRANSFERS BY WESTPAC RESCUE HELICOPTER—Mr Craig Baumann 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 patients transferred from the Tomaree Community Hospital to the John Hunter Hospital were transferred by the Westpac Rescue Helicopter in:
  - (a) January 2008;
  - (b) February 2008;
  - (c) March 2008;
  - (d) April 2008;
  - (e) May 2008;
  - (f) June 2008;
  - (g) July 2008;
  - (h) August 2008;
  - (i) September 2008;
  - (j) October 2008;
  - (k) November 2008;
  - (l) December 2008;
  - (m) January 2009;
  - (n) February 2009?
- (2) How many patients transferred from the Tomaree Community Hospital to the Mater Hospital, Newcastle were transferred by the Westpac Rescue Helicopter in:
  - (a) January 2008;
  - (b) February 2008;
  - (c) March 2008;
  - (d) April 2008;
  - (e) May 2008;
  - (f) June 2008;

- (g) July 2008;
- (h) August 2008;
- (i) September 2008;
- (j) October 2008;
- (k) November 2008;
- (l) December 2008;
- (m) January 2009;
- (n) February 2009?

Answer—

I am advised by the Minister for Health:

(1)

- (a) January 2008 - 0
- (b) February 2008 - 0
- (c) March 2008 - 1
- (d) April 2008 - 1
- (e) May 2008 - 2
- (f) June 2008 - 1
- (g) July 2008 - 0
- (h) August 2008 - 1
- (i) September 2008 - 1
- (j) October 2008 - 1
- (k) November 2008 - 0
- (l) December 2008 - 2
- (m) January 2009 - 2
- (n) February 2009 - 1

(2)

- (a) January 2008 - 0
- (b) February 2008 - 0
- (c) March 2008 - 0
- (d) April 2008 - 0
- (e) May 2008 - 1
- (f) June 2008 - 0
- (g) July 2008 - 0
- (h) August 2008 - 1
- (i) September 2008 - 0
- (j) October 2008 - 0
- (k) November 2008 - 0
- (l) December 2008 - 0
- (m) January 2009 - 0
- (n) February 2009 - 0

\*5238 HERCULES STREET CHATSWOOD COMMUNITY HEALTH PRECINCT—Ms Gladys Berejiklian 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 Hercules Street Chatswood Community Health precinct:

- (1) What were all the health services, public and non-government organisations, operated and located on that site before December 2004?
- (2) What is the Northern Sydney and Central Coast Area Health Service (NSCCAHS) definition of a "Primary Health Community Health Centre"?
- (3) Why is most of this site being prepared for sale when all current national and international health reports recommend that many more community health services be devolved from hospital sites to community sites?
- (4) Where is the permanent replacement for Westview Drop-in and Living Skills groupwork centre as promised by NSCCAHS?

Answer—

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



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

- (1) The following primary and community health services were located on the Chatswood site prior to 2004:

- Child and Family Health Services
- Community Mental Health Services
- Community Drug and Alcohol Services
- Aged Care and Rehabilitation Services.

- (2) Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Health Service, as part of the NSW health system, defines an Integrated Primary and Community Health Care Centre as a "HealthOne" centre that provides coordinated and integrated services for a local community.

In a HealthOne facility, General Practice and Community Health staff work together as a multidisciplinary team, in a professionally satisfying and sustainable working environment. These are 'one stop shops' for team-based health care with an emphasis on health promotion, illness prevention, early intervention and self management of chronic disease. These services support individuals to take greater responsibility for their health and well-being.

- (3) The plan for community health services on the North Shore is to deliver services in a variety of locations across the local area - exactly the model recommended by national and international evidence-based research.
- (4) Community mental health consumer programs, such as those currently delivered at Westview will continue to be delivered in a variety of ways, either from the Chatswood Community Health Centre, the Community Health Building at Royal North Shore Hospital, or from local council facilities like the neighbourhood centres.

\*5239 "THE TRANSPORT NEEDS OF SYDNEY'S NORTH-WEST SECTOR"—Ms Gladys Berejiklian asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

In relation to the Legislative Council's "The Transport Needs of Sydney's North-West Sector" committee report of December 2008, what recommendations will the Government be implementing?

Answer—

I am advised:

This report is currently under consideration by the Government.

\*5240 BRIBERY AND FRAUD AT RAILCORP—Ms Gladys Berejiklian asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

In relation to ICAC recommendations into bribery and fraud at RailCorp:

- (1) (a) Has the Minister asked the Auditor-General to advise on the implementation of ICAC's findings in its Investigation into bribery and fraud at RailCorp?
- (b) If so, when?
- (2) What is the implementation schedule?
- (3) By when will all recommendations be implemented?

Answer—

- (1) (a) and (b) Yes. When the final ICAC report was handed down, I wrote to the Auditor General and invited his office to work with RailCorp to oversee the implementation of the ICAC recommendations. The Auditor General declined this offer, but has advised that his office will progressively review the implementation of the actions contained in RailCorp's response to the final ICAC Report and will report to Parliament when all the actions have been implemented and his review is complete.
- (2) and (3) I am committed to the implementation of actions in response to all issues raised in the ICAC report and have the full support of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of RailCorp in this regard. The RailCorp submission lodged with ICAC on Friday 27 March 2009 provides the timeline for implementation of the recommendations. The RailCorp submission is available on RailCorp's website.

\*5241 HYDROCEPHALUS RESEARCH—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 level of funding is the Government providing towards research into Hydrocephalus?
- (2) Will the Minister introduce a shunt registry in NSW?

Answer—

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

- (1) and (2) Funding for research into specific health conditions in Australia is primarily provided through the National Health and Medical Research Council.

The NSW Government does not provide direct funding towards research into hydrocephalus.

Significant research is already being undertaken in NSW at prestigious research institutes such as the Prince of Wales Medical Research Institute and The Children's Hospital at Westmead to learn more about hydrocephalus.

A shunt registry is being considered by the Children's Hospital at Westmead as part of their clinical prioritisation process.

- \*5242 FUNDING FOR SURF CLUB EQUIPMENT—Mr Andrew Constance asked the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

When will the funding from the Premier's department be forthcoming for the emergency equipment at surf clubs on the Far South Coast?

Answer—

The New South Wales Government provides global funding of \$1.7 million of Surf Lifesaving Australia NSW Branch for the provision of lifesaving equipment in all surf clubs in NSW. In relation to the request for funding at surf clubs on the Far South Coast a decision will be made shortly.

- \*5243 TEENAGE BINGE DRINKING PROGRAM—Mr Andrew Constance asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

When will the Minister respond to the request for consideration of a teenage binge drinking program to be administered through NSW schools and which was produced in Batemans Bay?

Answer—

I refer the Honourable Member to the reply I sent to him on 9 December 2008 regarding this matter.

The NSW Government shares the community's concern about rates of teenage alcohol consumption and binge drinking.

The Department of Education and Training has a range of programs in place that aim to educate students about the problems of drug and alcohol misuse and to assist students and families where drug use has been identified.

Drug education is taught to all students as part of Personal Development, Health and Physical Education from Kindergarten to Year 10. Years 11 and 12 students also participate in the course "Crossroads: a personal development and health education course for Stage 6" which provides ongoing opportunity for learning about drug and alcohol issues.

The Department's approach to drug education is based on what research has shown to be most effective in preventing drug abuse and harm. The research indicates that classroom teachers, with specific knowledge of students and the learning context, are best placed to provide drug education as part of an ongoing school program.

The Department develops resources to support the delivery of drug education in schools that are consistent with current research and have been trialled and evaluated prior to distribution to schools.

The research also indicates that programs should commence before young people start to make decisions about drug and alcohol use.

The Department's most recent alcohol education resource, "Message in a Bottle: A Stage 2 and Stage 3 alcohol education resource" was produced to develop primary students' awareness of the possible harmful effects of alcohol and to help them make informed decisions about alcohol.

The Department of Education and Training is always interested to hear of resources that may be useful in supporting student welfare initiatives in schools. The Department is not able to endorse private providers or programs.

Individuals and agencies can approach schools about their services. Schools might choose to supplement their lessons by inviting guests to work with their students or using resources developed by other agencies. School principals determine the suitability of resources and whether they meet the needs of their local school communities.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

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\*5244 MINISTERIAL STAFF—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Minister for Roads—

In relation to the Minister's private staff:

Given your advice (Question 4732) that "Details of staff are available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet website", which website only provides a summary of total staff and total monthly costs, what are the roles by position and title of each member of the Minister's private staff?

Answer—

I am advised:

Roles and titles of Ministerial staff are set out in the notes to the table showing Ministers' Staff Numbers published on the Department of Premier and Cabinet website.

\*5245 MR BOB ELLIS—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

In relation to Mr Bob Ellis:

- (1) When did Mr Bob Ellis commence employment in the Premier's Office?
- (2) What is the nature of the work Mr Bob Ellis does for the Premier's Office?
- (3) Does Mr Bob Ellis work for the Premier every day or only on days when there is a Question Time?
- (4) Has Mr Bob Ellis drafted answers to the Government's Questions Without Notice?
- (5) Has Mr Bob Ellis rehearsed the Premier before Question Time?
- (6) Has Mr Bob Ellis drafted answers to Written Questions?
- (7) Has Mr Bob Ellis drafted speeches for the Premier or any other Ministers, and if so, which speeches?
- (8) What has been the cost of Mr Bob Ellis' services since 5 September 2008?

Answer—

Mr Ellis undertakes various writing projects as required on a contract basis.

\*5246 JOB COMPACTS—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

In relation to your advice that "Twelve Job Compacts have been established in NSW to date", what are the details of the twelve job compacts including date signed, organisations involved and locations?

Answer—

This information is available on the Department of Aboriginal Affairs' website.

\*5247 HIGHWAY PATROL OFFICERS—GLADESVILLE LAC—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

- (1) In the Gladesville Local Area Command (Gladesville LAC) for the period ending 30 June 2008:
  - (a) How many officers were allocated to full-time highway patrol duties?
  - (b) How many officers were allocated to part-time highway patrol duties?
  - (c) How many vehicles are exclusively allocated to highway patrol duties?
  - (d) Of the vehicles exclusively allocated to highway patrol duties, how many of these are motorcycles?
- (2) In the Gladesville LAC for the period ending 30 June 2007:
  - (a) How many officers were allocated to full-time highway patrol duties?
  - (b) How many officers were allocated to part-time highway patrol duties?
  - (c) How many vehicles are exclusively allocated to highway patrol duties?
  - (d) Of the vehicles exclusively allocated to highway patrol duties, how many of these are motorcycles?
- (3) In the Gladesville LAC for the period ending 30 June 2006:
  - (a) How many officers were allocated to full-time highway patrol duties?
  - (b) How many officers were allocated to part-time highway patrol duties?
  - (c) How many vehicles are exclusively allocated to highway patrol duties?
  - (d) Of the vehicles exclusively allocated to highway patrol duties, how many of these are motorcycles?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me:

- (1) to (3) The Eastwood and Gladesville Local Area Commands (LACs) share Highway Patrol resources, which are deployed according to need.

In the 2005-06 financial year, there were 19 authorised full-time positions and 7 vehicles, including one motorcycle. In the 2006-07 financial year, there were 20 authorised full-time positions and 7 vehicles, including one motorcycle. In the 2007-08 financial year, there were 20 authorised full-time positions and 8 vehicles, including one motorcycle.

\*5248 HIGHWAY PATROL OFFICERS—EASTWOOD LAC—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

- (1) In the Eastwood Local Area Command (Eastwood LAC) for the period ending 30 June 2008:
  - (a) How many officers were allocated to full-time highway patrol duties?
  - (b) How many officers were allocated to part-time highway patrol duties?
  - (c) How many vehicles are exclusively allocated to highway patrol duties?
  - (d) Of the vehicles exclusively allocated to highway patrol duties, how many of these are motorcycles?
- (2) In the Eastwood LAC for the period ending 30 June 2007:
  - (a) How many officers were allocated to full-time highway patrol duties?
  - (b) How many officers were allocated to part-time highway patrol duties?
  - (c) How many vehicles are exclusively allocated to highway patrol duties?
  - (d) Of the vehicles exclusively allocated to highway patrol duties, how many of these are motorcycles?
- (3) In the Eastwood LAC for the period ending 30 June 2006:
  - (a) How many officers were allocated to full-time highway patrol duties?
  - (b) How many officers were allocated to part-time highway patrol duties?
  - (c) How many vehicles are exclusively allocated to highway patrol duties?
  - (d) Of the vehicles exclusively allocated to highway patrol duties, how many of these are motorcycles?

Answer—

- (1) to (3) I refer the Member to my response to his Question on Notice No. 5247 on the same subject.

\*5249 PUBLIC HOUSING—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Minister for Housing, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) How many Department of Housing dwellings are currently located in the Ryde electorate?
- (2) How many Department of Housing dwellings were located in the Ryde electorate as of:
  - (a) 30 June 2006;
  - (b) 30 June 2007;
  - (c) 30 June 2008?
- (3) How many tenants are currently receiving public housing in the Ryde electorate?
- (4) How many tenants are currently subject to acceptable behaviour agreements for public housing in the Ryde electorate?
- (5) How many approved applicants are currently on the public housing register for public housing in the Ryde electorate?
- (6) How many approved applicants are currently on the priority public housing register for public housing in the Ryde electorate?

Answer—

- (1) 1,146.
- (2) The number of social housing properties fluctuates. Housing NSW is continually reviewing its housing portfolio in all areas of NSW and has a long-term asset plan designed to increase the overall supply of social housing, particularly targeting housing that is most in demand, such as smaller one and two bedroom accommodation.
- (3) All 1146 properties are tenanted. Properties may be vacant for short periods while tenants are moving or repairs are being undertaken.
- (4) Housing NSW has introduced new measures aimed at improving its management of anti-social behaviour in public housing. The Anti-social Behaviour Strategy focuses on support, prevention and early intervention.

Housing NSW has introduced new Senior Client Service Officer (Anti-social Behaviour) positions across the State whose role include assisting client service teams to improve the management and outcomes of anti-social behaviour complaints.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

---

- (5) and (6) The number of people on the housing register awaiting accommodation varies and changes constantly. Many factors influence how long each applicant waits including the type of accommodation sought (e.g. number of bedrooms, style of dwelling); the type of household (e.g. aged couple, single person); and special needs (e.g. ground floor requirements, modifications).

\*5250 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOMICIDE REVIEW TEAM—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

- (1) What progress has been made on the establishment of a Domestic Violence Homicide Review Team (DVHRT)?
- (2) Which organisation will be represented on the DVHRT?
- (3) How will these representatives be chosen?

Answer—

A Domestic Homicide Advisory Panel has been established. The panel is currently conducting a 5-year review of domestic violence homicides. The NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research is conducting a trends analysis of domestic and family violence related homicides for the years 2003 to 2008 to inform the panel's review.

The panel comprises both Government and non-Government representatives. Members include:

- Dr Lesley Laing, Deputy Chair of the Premier's Council on Preventing Violence Against Women;
- Professor Julie Stubbs, Criminologist, The University of Sydney;
- Ms Betty Green, Convenor of the Domestic Violence Coalition Committee; and
- Senior officers from the Office for Women's Policy, the NSW Police Force, the Attorney General's Department, the Department of Community Services, the Department of Health and the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research.

The non-Government representatives were chosen for their demonstrated experience and expertise in the area of domestic violence and for their ability to provide relevant expert advice and guidance to the Panel. Government representatives were nominated by their individual agencies.

\*5251 COMMUNITY SERVICES GRANTS PROGRAM FUNDING—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for Community Services—

Given the fact that other than a CPI alteration to the Community Services Grants Program funding there has not been an increase for 17 years, when will a funding enhancement be implemented?

Answer—

A business case was developed from the Community Services Grants Program Review in 2008 and the recommendations of the business case are under discussion between the Department of Community Services and NSW Treasury. The final structure of the Community Services Grants Program will reflect the outcomes of these discussions and the recently announced Government response to the Special Commission of Inquiry.

\*5252 REPORTS OF STALKING—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

- (1) What was the number of reports of stalking that were made to police by women for the following years:
  - (a) 2000;
  - (b) 2001;
  - (c) 2002;
  - (d) 2003;
  - (e) 2004;
  - (f) 2005;
  - (g) 2006;
  - (h) 2007;
  - (i) 2008?
- (2) Of those reports, how many murders that were connected with these stalking incidents occurred?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) I refer the Member to my response to her previous Question on Notice No. 5081 on the same subject.

\*5253 HAZARD REDUCTION—Mrs Shelley Hancock asked the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Small Business—

- (1) How much hazard reduction has been undertaken in the Shoalhaven Local Government Area in the past two years?
- (2) How many applications for hazard reduction have been submitted by local Rural Fire Service brigades in the Shoalhaven?
- (3) How many applications have been approved?

Answer—

- (1) 379 works completed.
- (2) 18.
- (3) 17.

\*5254 LINEAR ACCELERATOR—Mrs Shelley Hancock 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) When will the Government release the NSW Cancer Plan that identifies the need for a linear accelerator in the Shoalhaven?
- (2) Considering public support for a linear accelerator in the Shoalhaven, will the Government support the provision of such a facility?

Answer—

I am advised by the Hon John Della Bosca MLC, Minister for Health:  
The "NSW Cancer Plan 2007-2010" was published in November 2006.

The fundraising efforts of the Shoalhaven community are acknowledged. Radiotherapy services are highly specialised and require a specialised workforce, as well as significant investments to establish the service.

Government decision making will continue to carefully consider the balance between finite resources and the relative priority of these services in relation to existing geographic coverage and access and the competing needs for other clinical services.

\*5255 MENTAL HEALTH WING—Mrs Shelley Hancock 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—

When will the recommendations relating to the establishment of a 12-15 bed mental health wing (as identified in the South Eastern Sydney Illwararra Area Health Service Clinical Services Strategic Plan 2006-2009) be commenced?

Answer—

I am advised by the Minister for Health:

A stand alone Mental Health facility in the Shoalhaven area is a priority on the Area Health Service's Capital Asset Strategic Plan and preliminary planning has commenced.

Mental health services across the Illawarra region have recently undergone a period of significant expansion with the opening of the Mental Health Rehabilitation Unit and Adolescent Mental Health Day Service at Shellharbour Hospital and the new Older Persons Mental Health Unit at Wollongong Hospital. Patients from the Shoalhaven and South Coast regions will be able to utilise the new facilities at Shellharbour and Wollongong.

\*5256 MOUNT WHITE INSPECTION CENTRE—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Minister for Roads—

- (1) How many inspections of heavy motor vehicles or trucks were conducted at the Mount White Inspection Centre on the F3 in:
  - (a) 2007;
  - (b) 2008?
- (2) How many heavy motor vehicles or trucks were waved on, hence avoiding inspection at the Mount White Inspection Centre on the F3 in:
  - (a) 2007;
  - (b) 2008?

Answer—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

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I am advised:

- (1) and (2) All heavy vehicles with a Gross Vehicle Mass of 8 tonnes or more travelling along the F3 Freeway are required to divert into the heavy vehicle screening lanes.

In 2007, 46,281 heavy vehicles were directed into the checking station for an inspection. A further 1,087,485 heavy vehicles had other details checked and recorded by the technology used in the screening lane, including driving hours and registration.

In 2008, 56,204 heavy vehicles were directed into the checking station for an inspection. A further 1,873,222 heavy vehicles had other details checked and recorded by the technology used in the screening lane, including driving hours and registration.

The Mount White southbound heavy vehicle checking station was opened on 3 June 2007.

\*5257 MINISTERIAL OFFICE—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State—

- (1) What is the budget for his ministerial office?  
(2) How many staff are employed in his ministerial office?  
(3) What is the floor space of his ministerial office?

Answer—

The allocation of Ministers' offices and budgets are centrally controlled by the Ministerial and Parliamentary Services Division within the Department of Premier and Cabinet.

The arrangements for the employment of special temporary employees to carry out work for political office holders are the same for Ministers, Parliamentary Secretaries and the Leader of the Opposition. Ministers' staff are employed by the Director General, Department of Premier and Cabinet, pursuant to the Public Sector Employment and Management Act 2002.

\*5258 MINISTERIAL JURISDICTION—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State—

- (1) How many public sector employees are under his jurisdiction as Minister?  
(2) What departments/agencies are under his jurisdiction?  
(3) What budgetary allocation is administered by departments/agencies under his jurisdiction?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The Member is referred to the Annual Report of the agency referred to below.  
(2) and (3) As Special Minister of State, the Minister draws his portfolio support and resources from the Department of Premier and Cabinet.

\*5260 DEMOUNTABLE CLASSROOMS—Mr Kerry Hickey asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

- (1) How many demountable classrooms are there in the Cessnock electorate?  
(2) What is the longest period of time a demountable classroom has been utilised in any school in the Cessnock electorate?  
(3) Is there any program available for the replacement of demountables with permanent buildings into the future?

Answer—

- (1) As at 18 March 2009, there are 73 demountable classrooms located at public schools in the Cessnock electorate.  
(2) The Department of Education and Training's Asset Management System does not hold data prior to 1995. Therefore, any demountable classroom installed at a school prior to 1995 will have an unknown placement date. There are records of demountable classrooms which have been utilised since 1995.  
(3) In 2001, the Government introduced an initiative to replace long term demountable teaching facilities with permanent accommodation. Since that time the Government has allocated funds for the provision of 167 new classrooms, 28 new libraries and 13 new administration facilities at 87 schools - replacing 208 demountable buildings. By the end of 2008-09, the Government will have spent

almost \$65 million to replace these long term demountable classrooms, libraries and administration facilities with permanent accommodation.

The Commonwealth "Building the Education Revolution" program may also be available for the replacement of demountables to permanent buildings into the future although final approval for those projects lies with the Commonwealth.

\*5261 RETRAINING OF BONDS WORKERS—Mr Kerry Hickey asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

- (1) What programs are available for retraining of the Bonds workers that were laid off by Pacific Brands at Cessnock?
- (2) How is the Minister addressing these workers plight?

Answer—

The NSW Government, through the Department of State and Regional Development is working with businesses in the region that may provide opportunities for employment of Pacific Brands workers.

The Department of State and Regional Development will continue to facilitate sustainable investment to create jobs and attract business to Cessnock.

\*5262 SOLAR CELL TECHNOLOGIES—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, Minister for State Development—

Given the innovation in solar cell technologies that is growing rapidly world wide, and referred to in your answer to Written Question 4422, why is the Minister pursuing the construction of industrial wind turbines that are unpopular with local communities, utilize large amounts of resource material for their construction, are imported from overseas and therefore do not incorporate local content, sit on ridgelines obstructing natural vistas, are being built by multinational organisations (some with very little corporate history and therefore very little proven long-term commitment to a community), are becoming larger rather than smaller in size and therefore taking a larger carbon foot print and require the backup use of open gas turbines, rather than pursuing instead these new solar cell technologies?

Answer—

The NSW Government supports the development of all genuine renewable energy technologies, including solar photovoltaics.

To encourage the development of renewable energy, as well as other clean energy technologies, the Government has introduced programs such as the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Scheme, the NSW Renewable Energy Target, and GreenPower. These market-based programs are technology neutral, and encourage the lowest cost solutions to be developed.

The NSW Government recognises the advantages of distributed solar power generation, and recognises the need for additional support for this industry. The Government is currently examining the possibility of a feed-in tariff scheme to support solar photovoltaic generation.

The NSW Government's Renewable Energy Precincts initiative includes measures to facilitate solar power development as well as wind power and other renewable energy types. This includes enhancements to the planning process to facilitate community opinion on new wind farm developments.

In relation to the Honourable Member's statement regarding the need for gas turbines to back up wind turbines, I refer to the answer to Question No. 5179. I am also informed that wind turbines have a very low carbon footprint compared to many other forms of energy. There is also a great deal of local content and added value in wind farm construction, and the development of the industry will make a significant contribution to regional economies in NSW.

\*5263 SNOWY WATER LICENCE FIVE-YEAR REVIEW—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

- (1) Given that the five year review of the Snowy Water Licence is now more than 12 months overdue when will the Minister place the draft water licence on public exhibition as required by the NSW Snowy Hydro Corporatisation Act 1997 Section 25?
- (2) Given that Section 27(2)(b) of the NSW Snowy Hydro Corporatisation Act 1997 requires that the report of the Snowy Scientific Committee be made available to the public as part of this public consultation process, when will the Minister publicly release the October 2008 report of the Scientific Committee?



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

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Answer—

- (1) The review of the Snowy Water Licence is still being finalised.
- (2) The Snowy Scientific Committee's report, "Adequacy of environmental releases to the Snowy River", is publicly available on the Department of Water and Energy's website at  
[www.dwe.nsw.gov.au/water/monitor\\_snowy.shtml#report](http://www.dwe.nsw.gov.au/water/monitor_snowy.shtml#report)

\*5264 TEACHERS AID TIME—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

- (1) Why has the teachers aid time at Crookwell High School for a disabled child been cut by 25% this year without being replaced by any other suitable form of support?
- (2) Will you act to immediately restore the cut teachers aid time?

Answer—

I am advised that there has been no reduction of funding support to any student at Crookwell High School and no student has had a reduction in teachers aide time.

\*5265 VEHICLE REGISTRATION—JOINT NAMES—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Roads—

- (1) When did it become impossible to register a vehicle under joint names?
- (2) When did this happen?
- (3) What is the rationale for this?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) and (2) The Roads and Traffic Authority introduced the concept of a "single registered operator" on 19 May 2008.

(3) The concept of a single registered operator ensures more effective enforcement of traffic, road transport and other laws, by identifying the person or corporation responsible for the operation of each vehicle.

It also improves the accuracy of the registration database, simplifies address management, vehicle transfer procedures, and the administration of concessions.

The introduction of a single registered operator is consistent with the Road Transport (Vehicle Registration) Regulation 2007, which requires the name of only one person to be recorded in the register as the registered operator of a vehicle.

\*5266 MONA VALE RENAL UNIT—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—

- (1) Did the construction of the Mona Vale renal unit commence in January 2009?
- (2) If not, why not?
- (3) If so, will it be opened in the second quarter of 2009?

Answer—

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

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Not applicable.
- (3) It is anticipated that the renal dialysis unit will be opened in mid 2009.

\*5267 HORNSBY SHIRE LIBRARY—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

- (1) What has been done to meet the increased need for funding for Hornsby Shire Library and its attached libraries?
- (2) Will funding be increased in the future to meet demands for library services?

Answer—

(1) State funding for Hornsby Council public libraries has grown from \$342,019 in 2004-05 to \$388,744 in 2008-09.

(2) The State Government remains committed to working with local councils in support of public libraries through the Library Act 1939.

State funding for public libraries has grown from \$17.92 million in 1999-2000 to \$24.5 million in

2008-09.

\*5268 NARRABRI HOSPITAL AND COONAMBLE MPS—Mr Kevin Humphries 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—

Can the Minister update the timeframe for the redevelopment of the following hospital and Multi Purpose Service (MPS):

- (a) Narrabri Hospital;
- (b) Coonamble MPS?

Answer—

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

- (a) Planning has been finalised for the construction of a new health care facility developed as an integrated acute, primary and community health care centre on the existing Narrabri Hospital site. The project also includes the co-location of the ambulance service.
- (b) The Minister for Health announced on 18 March 2009 that Lahey Constructions PL had won the contract to build the new Coonamble Multi Purpose Centre. Work is due for completion in 2010.

\*5269 CONCESSIONAL PRIMARY PRODUCERS—Mr Kevin Humphries asked the Minister for Roads—

- (1) What is the process undertaken by the Roads and Traffic Authority once a farmer who is no longer entitled to the Concessional Primary Producers Rate for vehicle registration (due to sale of property) seeks to register the said vehicle for private use?
- (2) Are there any taxes on costs, including stamp duty, that may be incurred in this exchange?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Customers need only attend their nearest RTA motor registry to declare a change in the usage of the vehicle.  
The RTA will calculate any change in the motor vehicle tax payable for the remainder of the current registration term.
- (2) There is no stamp duty payable for a change in vehicle usage.  
The RTA advises customers of any change in motor vehicle tax payable for the remainder of the current registration term.

\*5270 REGIONAL SPORTS FACILITIES PROGRAM—Mr Daryl Maguire asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister for Sport and Recreation—

- (1) When will applications for Regional Sports Facilities Program (RSFP) Grants for the year 2008-2009 open?
- (2) Why have applications not opened earlier?
- (3) How much is allocated to the program?
- (4) How much will the Southern Slopes receive in their allocation?
- (5) When will applications close for the 2008-09 year?

Answer—

- (1) to (5) The Regional Sports Facility Program is currently the subject of a review. Information about this program will be made available following this review.

\*5271 CAPITAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS—Mr Daryl Maguire asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister for Sport and Recreation—

- (1) When will the allocation of amounts to each electorate be made by the Minister of the Capital Assistance Grants?
- (2) How much can each electorate expect to receive in the allocation?
- (3) When will the announcement of the successful applicants be made by the department?

Answer—

- (1) to (3) The projects submitted under the 2008/09 Capital Assistance Program are currently being assessed. Allocations are determined as part of the assessment process.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

\*5273 VACANT LAND IN THE DUBBO ELECTORATE—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

In relation to vacant land in the Dubbo electorate:

- (1) What vacant land does the Department of Education and Training hold in the Dubbo electorate?
- (2) What area (in square metres) do these sites cover?

Answer—

There is one vacant school site located in the Dubbo electorate. It is the Dubbo West Public School site and it has an area of 28,610 square metres.

\*5274 VACANT LAND IN THE TAMWORTH ELECTORATE—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

In relation to vacant land in the Tamworth electorate:

- (1) What vacant land does the Department of Education and Training hold in the Tamworth electorate?
- (2) What area (in square metres) do these sites cover?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) There are two vacant school sites located in the Tamworth Electorate. They are:

- Gunnedah West Primary/High vacant site - 126,980 square metres.
- Tamworth South Primary/High vacant site - 91,505 square metres.

\*5275 DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES OFFICES—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked 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—

In relation to the closure of eight Department of Primary Industries (DPI) offices and research stations over the next three years, as listed in the November 2008 Mini-Budget:

- (1) How many (FTE) staff are employed in the DPI offices at:
  - (a) Condobolin;
  - (b) Griffith; and
  - (c) Temora?
- (2) When are these offices expected to close?
- (3) What is the total annual expenditure for each of these offices for each financial year from 2003-04 to date?

Answer—

- (1) (a) 12.23
- (b) 11.10
- (c) 8.00
- (2) Closure dates for these sites have not been determined at this stage.
- (3)

	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 to Feb 2009
Condobolin	\$1,723,499	\$932,093	\$808,629	\$712,751	\$851,440	\$502,592
Griffith	\$1,289,499	\$454,468	\$321,998	\$214,265	\$182,431	\$106,861
Temora	\$868,968	\$325,216	\$1,193,687	\$912,547	\$833,736	\$759,458

The variations in expenditure at Condobolin, Griffith and Temora research stations between 2003-04 and 2007-08 resulted because:

- Salaries were captured at the individual sites in 2003-04 however the accounting treatment changed in 2004-05 to capture the cost of salaries related to site management and projects centrally.
- Since 2004-05 the grant for Rural Financial Counsellors has been paid from an account linked to Temora Research Station, previously this account had been paid centrally.
- In addition to these adjustments, the expenditure on these sites has decreased due to:
  - Temora - oat breeding was scaled back in 2004-05, and ended in 2007-08 due to a lack of industry support. The national oat breeding program is now located in South Australia, and the NSW oat germplasm has been provided to the national program;

- Severe drought has resulted in less agronomic inputs being required at these agricultural station in the last three years;
- Severe drought also impacted adversely on external revenue from Research and Development Corporations to support research and extension projects;
- Griffith - viticulture research has been transferred to the joint venture between DPI and Charles Sturt University at the National Wine and Grape Industry Centre at Wagga Wagga;
- Condobolin - two researchers voluntarily left the employment of DPI in October 2004 and July 2005 respectively; and 2007-2008 expenditure reflects major planting of saltbush and a one-off maintenance effort.

\*5276 INITIATIVES FOR HOMELESS IN THE TWEED—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Community Services—

In relation to funding in the Tweed electorate for NSW Initiatives for Homeless in the Tweed:

- (1) What is the NSW Government's level of funding provided to services in the Tweed electorate under the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) for:
  - (a) 2006-07;
  - (b) 2007-08;
  - (c) year to date?
- (2) What is the NSW Government's level of funding provided to services in the Tweed electorate under the Community Services Grants Program (CSGP) for:
  - (a) 2006-07;
  - (b) 2007-08;
  - (c) year to date?

Answer—

- (1) The total funding for SAAP services located in the Tweed electorate is:

- (a) 2006-07 financial year \$499,350;
- (b) 2007-08 financial year \$531,494;
- (c) 2008-09 financial year to date \$494,040.

The funding reduction in 2008/09 from the 2007/08 financial year was due to a Service Provider receiving one off funds as part of the SAAP Innovation and Investment roll out for 2007/08.

- (2) The total funding for CSGP services located in Tweed electorate is:

- (a) 2006-07 financial year \$423,673;
- (b) 2007-08 financial year \$437,654;
- (c) 2008-09 financial year to date \$452,097.

\*5277 COURT MENTAL HEALTH OFFICER—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 large number of alleged mental health patients being dealt with in the court system of Tweed:

- (1) Has the Minister ever considered the appointment of a court mental health officer at Tweed Heads Court?
- (2) Has a needs analysis been conducted?
- (3) Have there been any submissions supporting this view?
- (4) If so, when will a court mental health liaison officer be appointed at Tweed Heads Court?

Answer—

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

- (1) to (4) The Justice Health Court Liaison Service commenced operations in 2001 and the service is currently operating in 21 local courts. A revised "Statewide Court Liaison Multi-Site Coverage Proposal" for the provision of court liaison services to an additional fifteen courts, including Tweed Heads Court, is currently being considered by NSW Health.

The identification and prioritisation of the sites in which Justice Health currently provides the Statewide Court Liaison Service was undertaken in consultation with the Deputy Chief Magistrate and based on the courts with the highest throughput.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

---

\*5278 GROSS FEED-IN TARIFFS—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

Considering the positive responses to the inquiry in regards to supporting gross feed-in tariffs (GFIT):

- (1) Is the Minister in support of GFIT?
- (2) If not, will the Minister detail her reasons and/or concerns?
- (3) What is the timeframe on the decision being made?
- (4) What is the timeframe for implementation?

Answer—

- (1) to (4) The NSW Solar Feed-in Tariff Taskforce was established in late 2008 to advise on design options for the NSW Solar Feed-in Tariff Scheme. The Taskforce has finalised its recommendations and provided a report to the NSW Government for consideration. The Government is currently considering this advice and is analysing the merits of the different design options, including whether the Scheme should pay a gross or a net feed-in tariff.

The NSW Government will announce a decision on the design of the Scheme in the near future.

\*5279 GRAFFITI—COMMUNITY SERVICE ORDERS—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations—

- (1) If your department does not distinguish offenders on community service orders on a case-by-case basis (ref. Question 4855) and so cannot differentiate graffiti vandals from other offenders convicted of malicious damage to property, how can the Government assess that it is meeting its commitment, made on 6 April 2000 by the then Premier, to make 66,000 hours of community service time available to local councils from non-violent, non-serious offenders for graffiti clean-up?
- (2) If the commitment has been scrapped, why has it been scrapped?

Answer—

I am advised:

This question should be directed to the Minister for Corrective Services.

\*5280 AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTRE—GLEN INNES—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

Given the 3 March announcement from the Federal Government committing \$32 million for research into soil carbon and nitrous oxide emissions to address climate change, will these funds be used to save the agricultural research centre at Glen Innes from closure?

Answer—

Questions concerning the agricultural research centre at Glen Innes should be directed to the Minister for Primary Industries.

\*5281 LOGGING IN LISTED FORESTS—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

- (1) What is the Minister's response to the National Parks Association of NSW report that found the NSW Government had illegally logged huge swathes of listed river gum wetlands?
- (2) From the point of view of the Department of Environment and Climate Change, what is the maximum percentage acceptable for logging in listed forests?
- (3) Does the Minister agree with the Minister for Primary Industries that only 3% of forests are being harvested?

Answer—

- (1) I am very aware of the plight of our red gum forests as I have inspected the Millewa, Pericoota and the Weraï groups of forests, to get a better understanding of an issue that has been raised with the NSW Government frequently.

An environmental impact assessment of forestry operations in the Riverina is being conducted under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act by Forests NSW.

The Department of Environment and Climate Change is working with the Department of Planning to assist with advice on the preparation of the environmental impact statement.

The NSW Government also purchased the 80,000 hectare Yanga Station on the Murrumbidgee River which was formally reserved in 2007. This resulted in an eight-fold increase in protected River Red Gum forests.

- (2) and (3) Questions relating to prescribed percentages should be directed to the Minister for Primary Industries.

\*5282 LIGHTS ON STATION PLATFORMS—Mr Greg Smith asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) What is CityRail's policy with respect to keeping on lights on above-ground station platforms during daylight hours?
- (2) Does CityRail keep lights on at above-ground CityRail platforms in broad daylight regardless of natural lighting conditions?
- (3) What was the cost of lighting during daylight hours on CityRail platforms for the last financial year?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The lights at above-ground stations are controlled by Photo-Electric cells (also referred to as 'Lumatrols') which automatically activate the lights depending on the amount of ambient light and the location of the 'cell'. The lighting circuit also has a by-pass function where the automatic feature of the switching process may be excluded if the business needs of the station are such that continuous lighting is required, for reasons such as safety, or in those circumstances where the 'Lumatrol' has failed.
- (2) Lights at the majority of CityRail above-ground-stations are normally in the 'off' position during daylight hours. However, there are some stations where the current design of the system power supply requires that lights are kept on in the interests of customer safety and convenience. This represents approximately 1% of the total station population. RailCorp is taking action to address this at locations where a change in circuitry is possible.
- (3) RailCorp's billing process does not provide for a meaningful break-down of CityRail platform lighting costs during daylight hours.

\*5283 EPPING ROAD BUS LANE—Mr Greg Smith asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) How many bus services use the bus lane on Epping Road Monday to Friday during morning (7.00 am to 9.00 am) and evening (5.00 pm to 7.00 pm) peak periods?
- (2) How many bus services use the bus lane on Epping Road Monday to Friday during non-peak periods?
- (3) How many bus services use the bus lane on Epping Road on Saturdays?
- (4) How many bus services use the bus lane on Epping Road on Sundays?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) There are a total of 436 timetabled State Transit and Hillsbus weekday bus services operating along Epping Road during the morning (7:00am to 9:00 am) and 401 timetabled services during the evening (5:00pm to 7:00pm) peak periods.

This equates to a total of 2,180 timetabled State Transit and Hillsbus services Monday to Friday for the morning (7:00am to 9:00am) and 2,005 timetabled services during the evening (5:00pm to 7:00pm) peak periods.

- (2) There are 1,108 timetabled State Transit and Hillsbus weekday bus services operating along Epping Road during non-peak periods, equating to 5,540 timetabled services Monday to Friday for these non-peak periods.
- (3) There are 286 timetabled bus services State Transit and Hillsbus operating along Epping Road on Saturdays.
- (4) There are 172 timetabled State Transit and Hillsbus bus services operating along Epping Road on Sundays.

\*5284 PENNANT HILLS ROAD—Mr Greg Smith asked the Minister for Roads—

What representations has the Minister for Roads or the RTA made to Infrastructure Australia or any other Federal Government agency regarding the construction of a tunnel under Pennant Hills Road or any other connection between the M2/M7 and the F3 freeway?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

---

Answer—

I am advised:

The NSW Government forwarded its submission for works under the Infrastructure Australia program. The F3 to Sydney Orbital was included in that submission

\*5285 TILLEGRA DAM—Mr George Souris asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

- (1) What funding arrangements have been made for the proposed Tillegra Dam?
- (2) Will Hunter residents alone, as reported, be paying an extra \$169 ("Build and be Dammed", Wendy Frew & Ben Cubby, Sydney Morning Herald, 7 February 2009) for water per year?
- (3) Will the Minister guarantee to implement a full benefit-cost analysis, designed to look at all costs not covered in the environmental assessment report?
- (4) Will Hunter residents be covering the cost of the dam?
- (5) Will the Minister direct IPART to conduct an assessment of the proposal and determine whether it is a viable water management option for the Hunter?

Answer—

I am advised by Hunter Water that:

- (1) The cost recovery for the proposed Tillegra Dam is included in Hunter Water Corporation's pricing submission, which is currently before the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART). IPART will release its draft determination in April 2009.
- (2) No.
- (3) The modelling used in the Environmental Assessment (EA) is that which is routinely used by State and Federal governments to assess the financial implications of projects. In the case of the Tillegra EA, the modelling is indicating a significant net economic benefit to the region.
- (4) Refer to answer (1).
- (5) The New South Wales Government has endorsed a proposal for Hunter Water Corporation to build the Tillegra Dam. As part of that endorsement, the Government has directed IPART to include the cost of constructing Tillegra Dam in the prices to be set for Hunter Water. IPART does not have a role in assessing water management options for the Hunter.

\*5286 STATE HERITAGE REGISTER—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

- (1) With reference to Written Question 4550, what was the one item rejected for inclusion on the State Heritage Register?
- (2) On what grounds was it rejected?
- (3) Of the five items subject to a Ministerial Review Panel, how many were approved for inclusion on the State Heritage Register?

Answer—

- (1) Kangaroo Point.
- (2) The Ministerial Review Panel recommended rejecting Kangaroo Point for the reason that its significance was not sufficient to support inclusion on the State Heritage Register. The review panel considered Kangaroo Point's significance appropriate for local listing consideration by Hornsby Council.
- (3) Three listing recommendations have been approved.

\*5287 "FAMILY FUNDAY SUNDAY" FARE—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

Has the Government considered the impacts of its \$2.50 "Family Funday Sunday" discount fare on smaller independently owned public transport operators such as the Church Point and Palm Beach ferry services?

Answer—

I am advised:

Yes.

\*5288 SYDNEY BUSES—CONTRACT REGION EIGHT—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) When will the proposed network changes to bus services provided by Sydney Buses in Contract

Region Eight be publicly released?

- (2) What portion of the 2,300 submissions to Sydney Buses are supportive of the proposed changes to Contract Region Eight?
- (3) What benefits will be provided to residents in the Pittwater area as part of the proposed changes?
- (4) Can the Minister confirm that he will not be changing the stopping pattern for express buses that operate between Pittwater and the Sydney CBD as part of the proposed changes?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The Ministry of Transport and State Transit are currently reviewing responses to the proposed changes to bus services in Contract Region 8.
- (2) Around one third of the submissions from residents were supportive of the full set of the proposed changes. The remaining submissions did not oppose the overall set of proposed changes but rather requested amendments to various individual components of the proposed changes.
- (3) The proposed network changes will respond to the changing needs of the community and introduce service improvements to match.
- (4) The Region 8 network plan is still being finalised. Once approved, the community will be advised of network changes prior to their implementation.

\*5289 DRAFT LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN—Mr Ray Williams asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

When will the NSW Department of Planning make comment on and return, the Hawkesbury City Council Draft Local Environmental Plan under the new LEP template?

Answer—

I am advised the Department of Planning returned the draft plan to Hawkesbury City Council with comments on 19 December 2008.

The Department and Council officers are currently working together to finalise various aspects of the draft plan. It is expected that Council will submit a revised package to the Department of Planning shortly so that the draft plan can be certified by the Department for public exhibition.

\*5290 PROPOSED LIGHT INDUSTRIAL AREA—Mr Ray Williams asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

Given many business people and employers in the Riverstone heavy industry area are being refused new development applications due to the proposed draft plan for this area, will the draft plan proposing a light industrial area in the current Riverstone heavy industrial area, which is causing uncertainty for these businesses, be abolished?

Answer—

I am advised that:

- Blacktown Council is not refusing new development applications in the Riverstone Industrial Area based on the proposed draft plans for that area.
- I have asked the Department of Planning to expedite its review of the issues raised in submissions about this rezoning proposal.
- I can assure the House that planning for the future of Riverstone will be based on the twin objectives of providing jobs for the future residents and to ensure existing industrial businesses can continue to operate and grow.

\*5291 E10 FUEL—Mr Ray Williams asked the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

- (1) Has the Government undertaken research into exactly how many registered vehicles in NSW are currently capable of using E10 fuel?
- (2) Does the Government know how many registered vehicles cannot use E10 fuel and will now have to use premium unleaded fuel at a significantly increased cost compared to unleaded fuel?

Answer—

- (1) Yes.
- (2) It is not possible to accurately gauge the fuel needs of each vehicle registered in NSW.



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

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(Paper No. 113)

\*5292 MISSING PERSONS—Mr Richard Amery asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

- (1) How many persons are currently listed as a Missing Person with the New South Wales Police Force?
- (2) How many of these persons are recorded as:
  - (a) under 18 years of age;
  - (b) over 18 years of age;
  - (c) suffering with any form of mental illness?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me:

- (1) 917.
- (2) (a) 179.
  - (b) 738.
  - (c) 124.

\*5293 SHATTERPROOF GLASS IN SCHOOLS—Mr Mike Baird asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

Will the Minister consider the use of shatterproof glass in schools in an attempt to reduce the level of vandalism against school property, of which a significant proportion is broken windows?

Answer—

The Department of Education and Training already uses safety glass in its schools.

\*5294 SPIT JUNCTION PROPOSAL—Mr Mike Baird asked the Minister for Roads—

- (1) Will the Minister confirm whether the Roads and Traffic Authority has received a proposal from a Mr Mark Hetherington in regards to easing congestion on the Spit corridor by adopting a one-way traffic solution at the Spit Junction?
- (2) Can the Minister provide information as to the Road and Traffic Authority's response to this proposal which was submitted over 18 months ago?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The Roads and Traffic Authority received a letter from the Member for Manly on 29 August 2007, making representations on behalf of a constituent, Mr Mark Hetherington, regarding a one-way traffic proposal.
- (2) The one-way traffic proposal for Spit Junction was forwarded to the Spit/Military Road Working Group for consideration. The proposal was deemed not appropriate for the Spit/Military Road corridor.

\*5295 MINI-BUDGET TARGETED SAVINGS—Mr Mike Baird asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

- (1) Can the Minister provide an update on how the NSW Police Force is progressing in meeting the target for the accelerated sale of assets surplus to operational requirements and the reduction in the allocation for police building works by \$5 million per annum and the provision for information and communication technology projects by \$15 million per annum as detailed in the Mini-Budget?
- (2) How much has been saved to date on each of those cost reduction measures?
- (3) Will the target of \$22 million in savings as outlined in the Mini-Budget for the 2008-09 financial year be met?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me:

- (1) to (3) The requirements of the mini-budget have been implemented.

\*5296 TOURLE BRIDGE PORT STEPHENS—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Minister for Roads—

- (1) What is the total cost of the establishment of the new, two-lane Tourle Street Bridge, Port Stephens?

- (2) What is the expected cost to decommission/demolish the old Tourle Street Bridge?
- (3) In the planning of the new bridge, did the Government investigate building a four-lane bridge?
- (4) If so, what was the estimated cost of the building a two lane instead of four-lane bridge?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) \$47 million, including the associated road works and demolition of the existing bridge.
- (2) \$3 million.
- (3) Yes. The Roads and Traffic Authority, as part of its investigations, also considered the cost of the new road approaches, approximately three kilometres, required to connect to a four lane bridge.
- (4) The construction of a two lane bridge, without associated road works, would cost approximately \$27 million. Construction of a four lane bridge, without associated road works, would cost approximately \$42 million.

\*5297 BRIDGE SAFETY—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Minister for Roads—

- (1) How often does the Government inspect the structure and stability of pedestrian bridges over roads?
- (2) How many pedestrian bridges have collapsed in NSW since 1995?
- (3) How have codes governing the design and construction of pedestrian bridges over roads changed since 1995?
- (4) What investigations have been carried out into the design and construction of pedestrian bridges following the collapse of the pedestrian bridge over the New England Highway at Maitland on 5 March 2009?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Inspections of all Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) managed pedestrian bridges over roads are carried out every two years.
- (2) According to the available information, other than the bridge over New England Highway at Maitland, which was damaged after a truck carrying a cherry picker impacted it, no other pedestrian bridge has collapsed since 1995.
- (3) No changes to Bridge Design Codes have been published since 1995, governing the design and construction of pedestrian bridges over roads.
- (4) An investigation into the design and construction of pedestrian bridges has been carried out. This has included a comparison of provisions in other national Bridge Design Codes with those in the current Australian Standard AS 5100.

\*5298 COMMUNITY HOSPITALS—Mr Craig Baumann 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 community hospitals are there in NSW?
- (2) How many community hospitals in NSW operate with only one locum doctor on call at any one time?
- (3) Of those, how many service a population of 20,000 or more?

Answer—

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

- (1) There are 113 public community hospitals in NSW.
- (2) and (3) The information requested is not readily available. To provide the level of detail requested would be resource intensive and the diversion of public resources necessary to answer this question cannot be justified on this occasion.

\*5299 SYDNEY FERRIES NIGHT VISION TRIAL—Ms Gladys Berejiklian asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

In relation to the Sydney Ferries night vision trial announced on 28 September 2008:

- (1) Has the trial been completed?
- (2) If so:
  - (a) Will the technology be rolled out across the entire Sydney Ferries fleet?
  - (b) When will night vision technology be rolled out across the entire Sydney Ferries fleet?
- (3) If not, what are the reasons for not rolling out the night vision technology across the entire Sydney

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

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Ferries fleet?

(4) How much did the trial cost?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) Yes.

(2) (a) Yes.

(b) The technology will be rolled out across the fleet by the end of December 2009.

(3) Not applicable.

(4) \$100,000. This includes the cost of purchasing one set of equipment that has been retained for operational use.

\*5300 FAMILY FUN DAY—Ms Gladys Berejiklian asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

In relation to the State Transit Family Fun Day celebration held at Luna Park:

(1) When was the last one held?

(2) Who was entitled to attend?

(3) How much did it cost?

(4) What is the future of the event?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) The State Transit 75th Anniversary Family Fun Day was held on Sunday 2 December, 2007.

(2) A general invitation was issued in the press inviting members of the public to attend.

(3) The total cost was \$198,259, funded by sponsorship.

(4) State Transit is not intending to run a similar event at this point in time.

\*5301 SCHOFIELDS TRAIN STATION—Ms Gladys Berejiklian asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

In relation to the future of the current Schofields train station:

(1) Has a decision been made about the future of the station?

(2) If it is being relocated, why is it being relocated?

(3) When will plans be finalised?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) The Richmond Line Duplication project includes a new Schofields Station and a second track between Quakers Hill and the new Schofields Station. The Transport Infrastructure Development Corporation (TIDC) is currently undertaking an Environmental Assessment of the Richmond Line Duplication project. The environmental assessment will consider the proposed relocation of Schofields Station and the impact of the project on the local community, including residents and businesses. Following public exhibition of the environmental assessment, TIDC will assess and consider submissions from the community and stakeholders.

(2) The proposed new Schofields Station will ensure current and future residents of Schofields have access to a modern facility providing space for commuter facilities such as lifts and footbridge, commuter car parking, and adequate space for a new bus/rail interchange.

(3) Following further community consultation, consideration of submissions received during the public exhibition of the environmental assessment and subject to the granting of project approval, the detailed design of the new Schofields Station will commence.

\*5302 CHILD PROTECTION SERVICES IN NSW—Mr Steve Cansdell asked the Minister for Community Services—

With respect to the Report of the Special Commission of Inquiry into Child Protection Services in NSW:

(1) Did this report recognise the significance of having strong communities in the context of raising and caring for children?

(2) Did the report recognise the distinct and important role of services funded under the Community Services Grants Program (CSGP)?

- (3) Now that the report of the inquiry has been presented to the Government, when will it be implementing the business case for funding enhancement of the CSGP that was presented to NSW Treasury by the Department of Community Services (DoCS) in February 2008?

Answer—

- (1) Yes.
- (2) A number of recommendations from the Special Commission of Inquiry support the recommendations of the Community Services Grants Program Review undertaken in 2007/2008, particularly the alignment of funded services in the Community Services Grants Program to the Child Protection system in the community.
- (3) A business case was developed from the Community Services Grants Program Review in 2008 and the recommendations of the business case are under discussion between the Department of Community Services and NSW Treasury. The final structure of the Community Services Grants Program will reflect the outcomes of these discussions and the recently announced Government response to the Special Commission of Inquiry.

\*5303 MOBILE BREAST SCREENING SERVICES—Mr Steve Cansdell 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) With the NSW Government stopping the free mobile breast screening bus visiting some areas on the North Coast of NSW, will the following towns in the electorate of Clarence lose this valuable service:
  - (a) Casino;
  - (b) Evans Head;
  - (c) Coraki;
  - (d) Grafton;
  - (e) Maclean;
  - (f) Yamba;
  - (g) Iluka;
  - (h) Woolli?
- (2) If the services are to be maintained, what are the proposed access times and dates for each respective area?

Answer—

I am advised by the Minister for Health:

- (1) and (2) NSW Health does not report on electorates. However, the mobile unit is scheduled to visit Evans Head, Grafton, Maclean, Yamba, Iluka and Woolli during 2009. The BreastScreen mobile unit has never been located in Coraki and due to the close proximity of the fixed BreastScreen site at Lismore, the mobile unit is currently not scheduled to visit Casino.

The mobile unit operates approximately three and half days per week and is operational from 8.00am until approximately 5.30pm, when it is open for a full day.

The Member should also refer to the response provided by the Minister for Health in the Hansard on North Coast Breast Screening Centres dated 10 March 2009.

\*5304 FISHERIES RESTRUCTURE—Mr Andrew Constance asked 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) What restructure is happening in the Fisheries Conservation and Aquaculture Branch effective from 1 July 2009?
- (2) Will the restructure impact on conservation managers' positions, including that in the electorate of Bega?
- (3) What is the function of that position on the Far South Coast?

Answer—

- (1) I am advised that an internal reorganisation of staff duties will enable NSW DPI to continue to meet its statutory obligations in these areas.
- (2) This issue is under consideration.
- (3) The primary function of conservation managers is the protection of aquatic habitats.

\*5305 STRICKLAND HOUSE—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

---

In relation to Strickland House:

- (1) Is the Premier aware that while Strickland House parkland has been open to the public for 15 years, the main house and ancillary buildings have been unoccupied, with the exception of a caretaker, for 20 years?
- (2) Is the Premier aware that not-for-profit community organisations could utilise space in the ancillary buildings?
- (3) Will the Government call for expressions of interest from not-for-profit community organisations interested in using the various buildings on the Strickland Estate?

Answer—

- (1) to (3) I am advised that Strickland House is managed by the State Property Authority, which opens the grounds to the public daily between 8am and 5pm. The State Property Authority responds to approaches from community groups and the general public regarding activities on the site.

\*5306 INDIGENOUS EMPLOYMENT SCHEME—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

In relation to the Indigenous Employment Scheme:

Given your advice (Question 4449) that "I have been briefed by Mr Andrew Forrest on the Australian Employment Covenant, and have informed him that the NSW Government will support the Covenant", since your meeting with Mr Forrest, what results have been achieved in supporting the Covenant?

Answer—

The NSW Government has already established the NSW Job Compact Program, a program which is consistent with the principles of the Australian Employment Covenant. I refer to my answers to Written Questions No 4449 and No 5246.

\*5307 NSW STATE PLAN—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

In relation to the NSW State Plan and the section called "Reporting Progress on the State Plan" on the Department of Premier and Cabinet website:

- (1) Why hasn't the Progress Report been updated since August 2008?
- (2) When will the website be updated?

Answer—

The data on the State Plan website is updated regularly. The most recent update was on 26 February 2009.

\*5308 RAILWAY STATION LIFTS—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) When were the Easy Access lifts installed at the following railway stations:
  - (a) Eastwood;
  - (b) West Ryde;
  - (c) Meadow Bank?
- (2) Since the installation of the Easy Access lifts, on how many occasions have they malfunctioned at the following stations:
  - (a) Eastwood;
  - (b) West Ryde;
  - (c) Meadow Bank?
- (3) Since the installation of the Easy Access lifts, for how many hours have the lifts been out of operation as a result of repairs carried out at the following stations:
  - (a) Eastwood;
  - (b) West Ryde;
  - (c) Meadow Bank?
- (4) Since the installation of the Easy Access lifts, on which dates have the lifts been out of operation as a result of repairs carried out at the following stations:
  - (a) Eastwood;
  - (b) West Ryde;
  - (c) Meadow Bank?
- (5) What criteria is used to determine which railway stations on the CityRail network have Easy Access lifts installed?

(6) Are there any current plans to upgrade Denistone Railway Station with Easy Access lifts?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) (a) Completed July 2008 and operational October 2008.  
(b) August 2003.  
(c) February 2007.
- (2) (a) 15, since October 2008.  
(b) 99, since August 2003.  
(c) 34, since February 2007.
- (3) (a) 73.6 hours, since October 2008.  
(b) 730.3 hours, since August 2003.  
(c) 201 hours, since February 2007.
- (4) Repairs to Easy Access lifts are undertaken as required to ensure the public can have access to these facilities.
- (5) RailCorp schedules easy access upgrades according to a number of weighted criteria, including (but not limited to): patronage; strategic importance to the network; potential growth; bus services; car parking; shopping; walking access; access to medical facilities; access to educational facilities; tourism; rail interchanges/termination within and between lines; and proximity to alternative accessible stations.
- (6) No.

\*5309 STORMWATER COLLECTION—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

- (1) As of 30 June 2008, what measures were in place to reduce the impact stormwater debris sourced from the Ryde Electorate has on:
  - (a) Parramatta River;
  - (b) Lane Cove River;
  - (c) Shrimptons Creek;
  - (d) Terrys Creek;
  - (e) Mars Creek;
  - (f) Porters Creek;
  - (g) Archers Creek?
- (2) As of 30 June 2009, what additional measures, if any, will be in place to reduce the impact stormwater debris sourced from the Ryde Electorate has on:
  - (a) Parramatta River;
  - (b) Lane Cove River;
  - (c) Shrimptons Creek;
  - (d) Terrys Creek;
  - (e) Mars Creek;
  - (f) Porters Creek;
  - (g) Archers Creek?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) Stormwater management is primarily a local council responsibility. Local councils are best placed to provide information about the specific measures to reduce the impact of stormwater debris sourced from the Ryde Electorate.

The NSW Government provides support to local councils in undertaking their stormwater management role, primarily through guidance material and funding grants under the Urban Sustainability Program, which is administered by the Environmental Trust.

In 2006 Ryde City Council was awarded two Urban Sustainability Program grants worth \$2.43 million. These projects are ongoing in 2009 and will contribute towards improved stormwater outcomes in the Ryde Electorate through improved planning controls and greater community engagement in catchment and stormwater management. One of these projects targets the catchments of Terrys, Mars and Shrimptons Creeks, while the other project targets the Parramatta River catchment.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

\*5310 EPPING TO CHATSWOOD RAIL LINK—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) What is the exact final cost for the construction of the Epping to Chatswood Rail Link, including the 'intensive commissioning' process conducted by RailCorp following the handover from the TIDC in December 2008?
- (2) What is the expected average patronage for the Epping to Chatswood Rail Link on a daily basis at:
  - (a) Epping;
  - (b) Macquarie University;
  - (c) Macquarie Park;
  - (d) North Ryde;
  - (e) Chatswood?
- (3) How many staff are employed at:
  - (a) Macquarie University;
  - (b) Macquarie Park;
  - (c) North Ryde?
- (4) What process does the stormwater collected in the train tunnel go through following collection at the Lady Game Drive treatment facility?
- (5) What measures are in place to counter graffiti crime at Epping to Chatswood Rail Link stations?
- (6) What is the total cost of an individual automatic ticket machine located at each of the underground Epping to Chatswood Rail Link stations?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The total cost to construct the project was \$2.3 billion.
- (2) (a) 9,000.  
(b) 8,000.  
(c) 3,000.  
(d) 1,000.  
(e) 8,000.
- (3) (a) 20.  
(b) 7.  
(c) 6.
- (4) Any stormwater at the entrance to the tunnels at Epping and Chatswood is intercepted and treated to remove some solids. It is then discharged into the local stormwater drainage system. The water collected in the train tunnel is groundwater and mostly comes from the water table in the Hawkesbury Sandstone.  
Once the water arrives at Lady Game Drive treatment facility it is processed and treated. It is not discharged to the Lane Cove River until it is within the range set for particular parameters.
- (5) Measures to counter graffiti vandalism include, low clutter/minimalist design which greatly enhances natural and formal surveillance opportunities; CCTV camera surveillance both of the stations and rail infrastructure; glass protected with security film; and vandal resistant finishes throughout.
- (6) The three ticket vending machines were purchased in 1999 at a then cost of \$95,876 each.

\*5311 MURDERS COMMITTED BY HUSBANDS OR PARTNERS—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

- (1) For the following years, what was the number of women who were murdered by their husband or partner while the couple was still cohabiting:
  - (a) 2000;
  - (b) 2001;
  - (c) 2002;
  - (d) 2003;
  - (e) 2004;
  - (f) 2005;
  - (g) 2006;
  - (h) 2007;

(i) 2008?

- (2) For the same years, what was the number of women who were murdered by their husband or partner while the couple was no longer cohabiting?
- (3) In the years listed above, how many children have been murdered by their father or carer while they had been living in the same residence?
- (4) In the years listed above, how many children have been murdered by their father or carer while they had been living in separate residences?

Answer—

The Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) analyses NSW recorded crime statistics. I suggest the Honourable Member's questions are more appropriately addressed to the Attorney General, within whose portfolio the Bureau resides.

\*5314 MINISTERIAL ADMINISTRATION—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State—

- (1) What Acts of Parliament come under his administration?
- (2) Which department is the support agency for his ministry?
- (3) How many public sector employees are seconded to his ministerial office?

Answer—

- (1) The Member is referred to the Allocation of Administration of Acts published in the NSW Government gazette and on the Government website: [www.legislation.nsw.gov.au](http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au).
- (2) As Special Minister of State, the Minister draws his portfolio support from the Department of Premier and Cabinet.
- (3) Departmental staffers are seconded to Ministers' offices from time to time as required.

\*5315 FTE EMPLOYEES—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State—

- (1) How many FTEs are employed in the NSW public sector as at 21 December 2008?
- (2) How many indigenous Australians are employed?
- (3) How many women are employed?
- (4) How many people with disabilities are employed?

Answer—

Information on the staffing profiles is available in agency annual reports.

\*5316 INDUSTRIAL AWARDS—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State—

- (1) How many industrial awards apply in the NSW public sector?
- (2) How many enterprise agreements apply in the NSW public sector?
- (3) Which awards are presently under negotiation?
- (4) Which enterprise agreements are presently under negotiation?

Answer—

- (1) 183
- (2) 52
- (3) Nominal expiry dates for public sector awards and agreements can be accessed on the NSW Industrial Relations Commission's website.

Typically, negotiations occur in the period leading up to the award or agreement expiry date or soon thereafter. Once negotiations have concluded the revised awards and agreements also appear on the aforementioned website.

- (4) Refer to question (3).

\*5317 HEALTH CHECKS—Mr Kerry Hickey asked the Minister for Local Government, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

- (1) How many health checks are being performed by the Local Government Department each year on councils?
- (2) Are the "checks" followed up to ensure recommendations are implemented?



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

Answer—

- (1) The Department of Local Government has advised me that it undertook 13 Promoting Better Practice reviews in 2004/05; 19 in 2005/06; 14 in 2006/07 and 22 in 2007/08. There are 11 reviews currently underway.
- (2) Yes. The Department of Local Government monitors each council's progress toward implementing the recommendations, with councils providing periodic written progress reports.

\*5318 STATE FORESTS—Mr Kerry Hickey asked 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) How many contractors work in the state forests compared to 2000?
- (2) How many contracts are being supplied by State Forest Department?
- (3) Are all contracts being met by timber supplied?

Answer—

- (1) Currently there are 91 stumpage and harvest and haul contractors licenced by Forests NSW.

Forests NSW introduced a computerised licence database system in 2002 and manual records of licences current in 2000 are no longer available.

However, for information the figure for 2002 was 200.

- (2) There are currently 126 wood supply agreements across the state. The regional distribution is as follows:

Region/Timber type	Wood supply agreements
Central & North East	76
Western	10
Southern	16
Total for Native forests	102
Softwoods	24
Grand Total	126

- (3) All timber is being supplied in accordance with the conditions in the wood supply agreements.

\*5319 HERITAGE GROUPS—Mr Kerry Hickey asked the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

How much funding has been allocated to the heritage groups in the Cessnock electorate? How does this compare to the electorates of Maitland and Newcastle?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) Since 2000 the Department of Planning has approved a total of \$106,500 in funding for heritage projects in the electorate of Cessnock. For the same period, \$319,060 has been approved for the electorate of Maitland and \$107,300 for the electorate of Newcastle.

\*5320 YASS PUBLIC HOUSING—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Given that during February the mean maximum temperature in Yass was 30.5 degrees and the highest temperature was 41 degrees, and that winter temperatures are regularly below freezing, will the Minister act to ensure that public housing in Yass, particularly that which is constructed of fibro and tin roofed, receives insulation?
- (2) If so, when?
- (3) If not, why not?

Answer—

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Housing NSW is upgrading ceiling insulation to properties in Yass and expects the work to be completed by mid year.
- (3) N/A.

\*5321 COWRA WATER TOWN SUPPLIES—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson 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) Given that the oversight of the safety of town water supplies is the responsibility of the Environmental Health Branch of the Department of Health, will the Minister advise the residents of Cowra whether there are any safety concerns about the addition of potassium permanganate to the town's water supply?
- (2) How many other water utilities in NSW add potassium permanganate to their water supplies?
- (3) What is the maximum level of potassium permanganate that can be safely added to a town's water supply?

Answer—

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

- (1) Potassium permanganate has been assessed by the National Health and Medical Research Council and considered suitable for use in the treatment of drinking water. There are no safety concerns at the concentrations used in drinking water, provided it is correctly dosed and monitored.
- (2) This question is a matter for the portfolio of the Minister for Water and should be redirected accordingly if a response to this issue is still required.
- (3) The concentration of manganese in the finished treated water should not exceed the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines value of 0.5 milligrams per litre.

\*5322 FORESTS NSW AUDIT—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, Minister for State Development—

- (1) Given that for the second year running the Auditor-General has recommended that Forests NSW review and modify its valuation model for native forests, and in 2007 Forests NSW advised the Auditor-General that this review would be undertaken during 2007-08, why has this review not been completed?
- (2) When will this review be completed and the results reported to the Auditor-General?

Answer—

- (1) The question is false.
- (2) The review was completed in June 2008 and reported to the office of the Auditor-General's at the time.

\*5323 COMMUNITY FIRE UNITS—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Small Business—

- (1) What is the number of Community Fire Units (CFUs) in the Hornsby electorate as at March 2009?
- (2) Are there plans to provide additional CFUs in this area this year before the next fire season?

Answer—

- (1) 24.
- (2) The Government is committed to the expansion of the CFU Program and has undertaken to increase the number of Units within the bushland urban interface. As a result of consultation with the community 3 applications were received for the establishment of CFUs in the Hornsby electorate. These applications are currently being assessed.

\*5324 FINGERPRINT TECHNOLOGY—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

- (1) Will the new fingerprint technology be provided to all beat police in the Kuring-gai Local Area Command?
- (2) How many kits will be provided?
- (3) If no, why not?
- (4) If yes, when will this occur?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me:

- (1) to (4) The Kuring Gai Local Area Command has received 6 state of the art portable electronic fingerprint devices. The devices will be available to all frontline police within the Command.

\*5325 UNIQUE PATIENT IDENTIFIER—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—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

Were there problems with the Unique Patient Identifier identifying two patients with the same number between Hornsby Hospital and Mona Vale Hospital at the end of 2008?

Answer—

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

The Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Health Service is not aware of a Unique Patient Identifier problem of this nature. However, the Area Health Service would be happy to further research this issue if the Member was able to provide names and/or dates relating to her question.

\*5326 REVENUE FROM SPEED CAMERAS—Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—

What is the total revenue raised from speed cameras located in the Sutherland Shire during the financial years ending:

- (a) 30 June 2008;
- (b) 30 June 2007;
- (c) 30 June 2006

Answer—

I'm advised:

The total face value of penalty notices issued in relation to the fixed speed cameras located in the Sutherland Shire for the financial years ending:

- (a) 30 June 2008 was \$1,215,379;
- (b) 30 June 2007 was \$279,890; and
- (c) 30 June 2006 was \$590,100.

\*5327 DEVELOPMENTS UNDER PART 3A—Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

In the Sutherland Shire, how many developments have been declared to be developments to which Part 3A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 applies following a decision by the Minister to call in the project under her discretionary powers under Part 3A and SEPP (Major Projects) 2005, since the Minister's appointment as Minister for Planning? In how many of these cases had the applicant also been a financial contributor to the NSW ALP at any time in the proceeding three years?

Answer—

- (1) None.
- (2) Not applicable

\*5328 WAGGA WAGGA PROBATION AND PAROLE—Mr Daryl Maguire asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State—

- (1) What are the principles guiding decisions on the location of probation and parole offices in NSW?
- (2) Are you aware that your department recently moved Probation and Parole in Wagga Wagga away from the CBD at the location of Gurwood Street near the judicial precinct?
- (3) Is it your policy that departments ignore Council requests to lodge DA applications and operate in locations without approval?
- (4) How much did the relocation cost?
- (5) Are you aware that a vacant building exists now that Wagga Wagga police have located to their new building?
- (6) Will you ensure that Probation and Parole relocate to the now vacant police station, National Bank or Government Office Block in Morgan, Sturt or Fitzmaurice Street?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Premises are chosen according to departmental criteria.
- (2) Yes.
- (3) No.
- (4) Relocation costs were consistent with standard practice.
- (5) Yes, however at the time of sourcing the leased premises the police station was neither vacant nor on

the market.

- (6) Decisions regarding the future location of the office will be made on the basis of departmental criteria.

\*5329 PUBLIC DENTAL CARE—Mr Daryl Maguire 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 public dentists are employed at Wagga Wagga Base Hospital?
- (2) Are all positions filled and how long has each public dentist been employed?
- (3) How many patients are treated per annum?
- (4) How many vouchers to attend a private practitioner were given by GSAHS in 2007 and 2008?
- (5) How much did the voucher distribution to patients needing emergency treatment by private dentists cost?
- (6) How many patients are waiting to access emergency care at Wagga Wagga Base Hospital?

Answer—

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

- (1) Three.
- (2) Two positions are filled. One dentist has been employed since 18 March 2002 and the other commenced on 13 August 2008. The third position will be filled under the NSW International Dentist Graduate Program commencing at Wagga Wagga in May 2009.
- (3) There were 11,385 occasions of service in 2008.
- (4) There were 4,269 vouchers issued in 2007 and 4,687 in 2008.
- (5) Emergency vouchers cost \$472,156 in 2007 and \$727,555 in 2008.
- (6) Nil.

\*5330 SCHOOL FLASHING LIGHTS—Mr Wayne Merton asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

How many schools in the Baulkham Hills Local Government Area have flashing lights constructed in 40 kph school zones?

Answer—

The installation and maintenance of flashing lights outside schools is primarily handled by the Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA).

Consultation may occur with the local council and school involved. Information on school flashing lights is held by the RTA and as such, any issues and questions should be referred to the Minister for Roads for consideration.

\*5331 BREASTSCREEN NSW MOBILE VANS—Mr Wayne Merton 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 BreastScreen NSW mobile vans are currently servicing Greater Western Sydney?
- (2) How many women in Greater Western Sydney received a free mammogram in the year ending:
  - (a) December 2006;
  - (b) December 2007;
  - (c) December 2008?

Answer—

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

- (1) In 2006 and up until 2 September 2007 Sydney West Area Health Service provided a BreastScreen service known as BreastScreen Greater Western Sydney. As of 3 September 2007, due to boundary changes the service became known as BreastScreen Sydney West. There are currently two BreastScreen NSW mobile vans servicing the BreastScreen Sydney West area.

On 3 September 2007, BreastScreen NSW Central and Eastern, provided through Sydney South West Area Health Service, realigned its boundaries to include the south western Sydney area and became known as BreastScreen NSW Sydney South West. BreastScreen NSW Sydney South West currently has three mobile vans servicing the Sydney South West area.

- (2) Data below includes mammograms provided through fixed sites and mobile vans:
  - (a) December 2006 - 56,246 (Data for the former BreastScreen Greater Western Sydney)

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

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Data below represents the combined data for BreastScreen Sydney West and Breastscreen NSW Sydney South West:

- (b) December 2007 - 55,668
- (c) December 2008 - 53,649

\*5332 M2 BUS SERVICE—Mr Wayne Merton asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

How many additional buses have been provided for the M2 motorway bus service to the city between January 2008 to December 2008?

Answer—

I am advised:

Twenty (20) additional buses were provided for bus services on the M2 between January 2008 and December 2008.

\*5333 NORTH WEST BUS T-WAY—Mr Wayne Merton asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) How many people used the North West Bus T-Way from Rouse Hill to Parramatta during 2009?
- (2) How many people used the North West Bus T-Way from Parramatta to Rouse Hill during 2009?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) There are two bus routes - the T64 and T65 - operating between Rouse Hill and Parramatta that utilise the North West Bus T-Way. The Ministry of Transport does not receive a breakdown of boardings based on the direction of travel. During the period January to February 2009 a total 91,261 passenger boardings were recorded on Routes T64 and T65.

\*5334 MINISTERIAL RESPONSIBILITY—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

- (1) In an answer to the Member for Davidson, was advice given by the Minister for Police on 12 June 2008 (Question 2981) that a question should be re-directed to the Minister for Fair Trading to obtain information on what action is being taken by the Government to prevent private investigators claiming that they can access any of the following: Tax, Medicare, Centrelink, Birth, Deaths and Marriages, RTA, Immigration, Veterans Affairs and telephone records, bank and credit card information, electricity gas and internet provider account details?
- (2) Did the Minister for Fair Trading consequently advise the Member for Davidson on 8 July 2008 (Question 3533) that matters relating to private investigators should be addressed to the Minister for Police?
- (3) When the Member for Davidson further asked the new Minister for Police (Question 4279 on 29 October 2008), why did that Minister respond by merely referring to the answer given on 12 June (Question 2981) which advises redirecting the question to the Minister for Fair Trading?
- (4) When the Member for Davidson further asked the new Minister for Fair Trading (Question 4278 on 29 October 2008) for information on what the Department of Fair Trading is doing to prevent private investigators from claiming that they can legally access information that is not legally available to them, did the Minister reply (on 27 November 2008) by merely referring to the answer previously given on 8 July (Question 3533), which stated that matters relating to private investigators should be addressed to the Minister for Police?
- (5) Which of your Ministers is responsible for providing an answer to the substance of the question of what action is being taken by the Fair Trading and Police Departments to prevent private investigators claiming that they can legally access information that is not available to them?
- (6) Will you instruct either or both the Minister for Fair Trading or the Minister for Police to provide information on how many private investigators have been successfully pursued in NSW for making such claims in the past two years?

Answer—

- (1) to (4) The Member for Davidson is referred to the public record for answers to these questions.

(5) to (6) NSW has a robust regulatory system for commercial agents and private inquiry agents. Private investigators are licensed under the Commercial Agents and Private Inquiry Agents Act 2004, which is administered by the Minister for Police. The Commissioner has powers under the Act to suspend or cancel licences (e.g. if, in the opinion of the Commissioner, the licence holder is not a fit and proper person).

The Minister for Fair Trading administers the Fair Trading Act 1987 (FTA) which provides a comprehensive consumer protection framework in NSW. For example, Part 5 of the FTA prohibits, amongst other things, misleading and deceptive conduct in trade and commerce, and false representations in connection with the supply of goods and services.

If the Member for Davidson has any specific information about private investigators claiming that they can lawfully gain access to the information referred to in his question, then he should bring it to the attention of the NSW Police Force and the Office of Fair Trading so that these agencies can determine what if any action should be taken.

**\*5335 FUNDING OF DISTINCTION COURSES**—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

- (1) Will the Minister ensure that the High School Certificate Distinction Courses, that are an invaluable way of utilising the talents of high performing NSW students, are retained beyond 2009?
- (2) Will the Minister issue a directive to the Board of Studies that it fund the Distinction Courses?

Answer—

- (1) At its August 2008 meeting, the Board considered the ongoing interim status of the Distinction courses and a number of associated issues. The Board gave serious consideration to indications of the degree of university support and to other factors likely to affect ongoing delivery of the program.

In this overall context, the Board determined to suspend the Comparative Literature course from 2009 onwards and to explore alternative arrangements to replace the Cosmology and Philosophy courses in the future.

In the short term, in 2009, the University of New England is delivering HSC Distinction courses in Philosophy and Cosmology, and the Board is facilitating this process.

In the longer term, and in keeping with the government's acceptance of the recommendations in Professor McGaw's 1997 White Paper "Securing Their Future", recommendation, negotiations with universities for other pathways for gifted and talented HSC students are underway.

The Board of Studies NSW continues to support educational opportunities for a broad a range of highly able students.

- (2) The HSC Distinction courses being offered in 2009 are funded through the Board of Studies. Until alternative arrangements are in place, any Distinction courses that may be offered will continue to be funded through the Board.

**\*5336 REPORTING UNDER STATE PLAN**—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

What is the Premier's level of commitment to reporting under the State Plan in light of the 12-month progress report/annual report (due in late 2008) still not appearing on the relevant Government website as of 11 March 2009?

Answer—

I remain committed to the State Plan and to measuring and reporting progress.

**\*5337 SPEED CAMERA**—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Roads—

- (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?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The site was established to detect speeding offences in the northbound direction only, and became operational on 31 July, 2000.
- (2) In total, the speed camera has been operational on average 93% of the time.
- (3) and (4) These questions are more appropriately directed to the Minister for Finance.

**\*5338 UNREGISTERED PAYROLL TAX QUESTIONNAIRES**—Mr Donald Page asked the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

In relation to Unregistered Payroll Tax Questionnaires consisting of 7 pages of questions, which are sent to small businesses in NSW:

- (1) Does the Office of State Revenue have access to Australian Tax Office records?
- (2) If yes, why is it necessary for the OSR to require small businesses to complete the time consuming Unregistered Payroll Tax Questionnaire, when all of the information requested is available from the ATO?
- (3) What are the criteria determining who receives the Unregistered Payroll Tax Questionnaire?
- (4) Is there a minimum number of employees that a small business must have before the Unregistered Payroll Tax Questionnaire is sent to them?
- (5) If not why not?

Answer—

I am advised this is a matter for the Treasurer.

\*5339 FUNDING OF PARENTING PROGRAMS—Mr Donald Page asked the Minister for Community Services—

- (1) Is the Government directing its senior managers to fund training placements only for "Triple P" at the exclusion of other programs?
- (2) If staff from NSW DOCS or non-Government organisations ask to go to "1-2-3 Magic", are they being denied an opportunity to do this?
- (3) By putting all its "eggs in one basket" with the "Triple P" program, is the Government stifling competition and stymieing the emergence of new and innovative parenting programs?
- (4) If one of the criteria to be successfully funded is that a program must be evidenced-based, and yet on other occasions that it meet local needs, on what basis are programs (aimed at meeting local needs) being accepted or rejected?
- (5) Specifically, why is the adolescent program, "Engaging Adolescents" not being funded, given that it meets a much recognised need in our community.

Answer—

(1) and (3) Families NSW is the NSW whole of government, prevention and early intervention strategy aimed at supporting families to raise their children. As part of this strategy, funding has been provided to train 1200 practitioners from across NSW in Triple P to assist families with children aged 3-8 years to have the opportunity to access parenting information and support. Attendance at training is voluntary.

The NSW Government also funds community agencies to provide a variety of parenting programs including Parents as Teachers (PAT), TIPS (Tips and Ideas on Parenting Skills), Triple P, 1-2-3 Magic and The Incredible Years.

(2) Decisions to fund staff to attend training are determined on a case-by-case basis and depend on funding availability, each staff member's goals for skill development and training, benefits of the staff member attending training, and other training opportunities that may be available. Within the Department of Community Services, decisions regarding learning and development opportunities are guided by each staff member's Personal Planning and Review agreement that is developed by the staff member and their manager on an annual basis.

(4) The Department of Community Services' overall vision for its funding programs is to achieve the best client outcomes with the available funding.

For each funding program, the Department develops a comprehensive funding plan based on policy directions and program guidelines, trends in demand, service capacity and economic modelling. The Program Funding Plans specify the nature of services required and funding available for these in each planning area. The development of Funding Plans is linked to current whole-of-government planning and funding processes.

In order to ensure that the Department's funding processes select the best placed provider to deliver the services required, the Department employs a range of funding options from contestable Expression of Interest (EOI) processes to direct allocation to a service. Regardless of the funding option, service providers will be assessed against selection criteria that reflect the requirements identified in program guidelines and Program Funding Plans.

(5) There are many programs on offer in the community targeting different groups such as adolescents, parents, babies/toddlers, older children with specific difficulties, fathers, and so on, and there is no automatic entitlement for any program to receive government funding. The Department allocates its available resources to meet identified priority needs. Should the Department receive requests for training

in a particular program that is likely to meet an area of priority need, it would review the program materials and provide advice on that basis. Agencies receiving funding from the Department might use the program if it was affordable and would help achieve the client objectives for which the agency had been funded.

\*5340 COST OF JUVENILE CUSTODY—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked the Minister for Juvenile Justice, Minister for Volunteering, Minister for Youth, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs—

In relation to juvenile custody:

- (1) What was the average cost per juvenile per day in NSW for the following years:
  - (a) 2003-2004;
  - (b) 2004-2005;
  - (c) 2005-2006;
  - (d) 2006-2007;
  - (e) 2007-2008;
  - (f) 2008-2009 (to date)?
- (2) What was the average cost per juvenile per day under community based supervision in NSW for the following years:
  - (a) 2003-2004;
  - (b) 2004-2005;
  - (c) 2005-2006;
  - (d) 2006-2007;
  - (e) 2007-2008;
  - (f) 2008-2009 (to date)?

Answer—

- (1) (a) \$573  
(b) \$565  
(c) \$572  
(d) \$556  
(e) \$541  
(f) \$530
- (2) (a) 39.95  
(b) \$22.00  
(c) \$23.00  
(d) \$23.00  
(e) \$16.00  
(f) \$17.00

In 2003-2004, old counting rules only identified the number of community orders, but not the other services provided in Juvenile Justice Community Services offices, which is reflected in an artificially high cost per day.

Since 2004-2005, the new counting rules for Juvenile Justice Community Services activities were considered more representative of the work undertaken (bail intervention, managing Community Service Orders etc.)

In 2007-2008, improved data collection on Juvenile Justice Community Services activities indicated the average daily number of services/clients were higher than previously recorded.

2008-2009 estimates are based on year-end projections as at February 2009.

\*5341 INDIGENOUS TUTORIAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

In relation to the Indigenous Tutorial Assistance Scheme (ITAS):

- (1) When will the ITAS program be up and running in NSW schools?
- (2) What is the reason for the delay to the start of the program in NSW schools?
- (3) How much funding has the State Government received from the Federal Government for the administration and operation for the program for 2009?
- (4) Have funds been made available to the State Government for the program?



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

- (5) How many students across NSW have applied for ITAS in the 2009 school year, listed by electorate?
- (6) Now that the NSW Government has been handed financial responsibilities for the ITAS from the Federal Government, why has the State Government changed the timing of the tutoring to occur during school hours, rather than the previously successful after hours program?
- (7) Would the Minister agree that taking indigenous children out of school for the additional tutoring is detrimental to their real time class learning experiences?

Answer—

(1) to (5) From 2009, Commonwealth funding for government schools will be provided through the National Education Agreement, with Specific Purpose Payments (SPP) being the primary vehicle for the Commonwealth to provide funding to assist the states and territories to deliver schooling.

The Department of Education and Training is finalising its tutorial strategy which will be rolled-out in schools at the beginning of Term 2, 2009.

The NSW Department of Education and Training has identified 172 Year 12 students requesting tutorial support and has provided funds for those students to assist them in completing their Year 12 studies.

In addition to this, the Department has funded 377 primary schools to initiate In-Class Tuition, for Term 1, 2009. A suite of options will be offered to schools to continue support after this period.

A more detailed response to the request for breakdown by electorate would involve considerable time and the diversion of resources away from core responsibilities of the Department of Education and Training that cannot be justified.

(6) Previously the secondary ITAS program operated outside of school hours due to the administration procedures and arrangements implemented through the Department of Employment, Education and Workplace Relations.

The In-Class Tuition program in primary schools has always operated during school hours, as it is an integral component of the teaching program within classrooms.

(7) No. Students have different learning and support needs. Sometimes it is appropriate to support students in the classroom, at other times their needs are best served by receiving individual targeted support.

\*5342 SCHOOL-BASED APPRENTICESHIP AND TRAINEESHIP LIAISON OFFICER POSITIONS—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

In relation to the School-based Apprenticeship and Traineeship Liaison officer positions:

- (1) What support is currently being provided to school-based apprentices and trainees?
- (2) How much funding was previously provided to School-based Apprenticeship and Traineeship Liaison officer positions in the Mid and Far North Coast Areas?
- (3) What was the total annual funding for Liaison officer positions across NSW from the Department of Education and Training for the following years:
  - (a) 1995-1996;
  - (b) 1996-1997;
  - (c) 1997-1998;
  - (d) 1998-1999;
  - (e) 1999-2000;
  - (f) 2000-2001;
  - (g) 2001-2002;
  - (h) 2002-2003;
  - (i) 2003-2004;
  - (j) 2004-2005;
  - (k) 2005-2006;
  - (l) 2006-2007;
  - (m) 2007-2008;
  - (n) 2008-2009 (to date)?

Answer—

- (1) The NSW Department of Education and Training provides support for school based apprentices and trainees in two ways:
  - (a) Funding is provided directly to each of the ten regions for the management, coordination and monitoring of their school based apprenticeship and traineeship program. Additional support funds are available to regions, upon application.

- (b) The Department also provides support through an Independent Industry Support Service. This service is provided not by schools, but by the statewide network of offices managed by NSW DET State Training Services.
- (2) The funding allocated to North Coast Region from State Office School Based Traineeship and Apprenticeship funds to support the program is as follows:

Financial Year	State Office School Based Traineeship and Apprenticeship funds	North Coast Region supplement
2006/2007	\$111,000	\$38,864
2007/2008	\$110,000	\$134,58
2008/2009	\$105,000	\$172,570

- (3) The first school based trainees began in 1999. Total annual funding provided from the Department to support the management of school based apprentices and trainees from 1999 to 2009 is as follows:

Year	TOTAL
1999	\$430,000
2000	\$285,000
2001	\$409,000
2002	\$550,000
2003	\$565,000
2004	\$642,500
2005	\$822,000
2006	\$986,000
2007	\$992,000
2008	\$962,000
2009	\$960,000

In addition, State Training Services Industry Support has been allocated a budget of \$1 Million per annum to support school based apprentices and trainees, since 2007.

\*5343 TWEED COAST REGIONAL CROWN RESERVE DRAFT PLAN OF MANAGEMENT—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

- (1) In relation to the Tweed Coast Regional Crown Reserve Draft Plan of Management, what was the involvement of the Department of State Planning in the preparation and release of this document?
- (2) At what stage was State Planning involved?
- (3) Did State Planning review any of the submissions received?
- (4) If so, will the Minister release the comments made by State Planning?

Answer—

The Department of Planning was invited to participate on the Project Reference Group, but declined.

\*5344 TWEED COAST REGIONAL CROWN RESERVE DRAFT PLAN OF MANAGEMENT—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

In relation to the Tweed Coast Regional Crown Reserve Draft Plan of Management:

- (1) Have all of the submissions been read by him as promised in October 2008 when he visited the Tweed Electorate in October 2008?
- (2) Has the Community Liaison Group been established as promised in October 2008?
  - (a) If so, who are the members of the group and when have they met or plan to meet?
  - (b) If not, will nominations be sought from the public or will they be appointed by the Minister?

Answer—

- (1) No. The draft plan is yet to be submitted to the Minister for Lands for adoption.
- (2) No. It is proposed that various Community Liaison Groups be established as issues and proposals arise following adoption of the Plan. It is likely that these Groups will include public nominees as well as appointments by the Minister.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

\*5345 TWEED COAST REGIONAL CROWN RESERVE DRAFT PLAN OF MANAGEMENT—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

In relation to the Tweed Coast Regional Crown Reserve Draft Plan of Management:

- (1) When will the Plan of Management be released for the Tweed Coast Regional Crown Reserve.?
- (2) Will there be any other comments from the public considered after release?
- (3) Will the Minister take on board the proposed draft LEP conditions from the Tweed Shire Council?

Answer—

- (1) The Plan of Management is expected to be released in 2-3 months, once it has been adopted by the Minister for Lands.
- (2) Yes. Public comment will be encouraged not only through the Community Liaison Groups, but also through all future planning phases when proposals contained within the adopted Plan are formally put forward for consideration.
- (3) The draft LEP conditions will be one of a number of considerations.

\*5346 RISING SEA LEVELS—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

- (1) Given that aerial laser mapping of the Hunter and Central Coast released in May 2008 identified more than 1660 homes built a metre or less above the current sea levels, when will the Department of Environment and Climate Change set a new sea level benchmark, and when will it advise the Department of Planning to repeat the mapping work with the new benchmark in mind?
- (2) Did the Sydney Coastal Councils Group's latest report state that many points around Sydney are highly vulnerable to rising sea levels and that climate change adaption planning remains "tentative and ad hoc"?
- (3) What action is the Government taking to give direction to the councils, especially as the Sydney Coast Councils Group's executive officer has noted that councils are hesitant to declare risks to their communities in the absence of such direction?

Answer—

- (1) The NSW Government recently released a draft Policy Statement on Sea Level Rise which includes sea level planning benchmarks which propose a rise of 40 cm to 2050, and 90 cm to 2100, both relative to 1990 mean sea levels.

The LIDAR survey and the subsequent mapping released in May identified properties that could potentially be impacted by sea level rise. It is unnecessary to repeat the mapping exercise.

- (2) Release of the State Government's draft policy on sea level rise provides the necessary platform for systematic planning and preparation for long term sea level increase.
- (3) The NSW Government is providing clear guidance to local councils to support sea level rise adaptation planning. The draft Policy Statement on Sea Level Rise includes sea level planning benchmarks to support consistent consideration of sea level rise in land use planning and coastal investment decision-making. The Department of Planning is preparing guidelines on how sea level rise should be considered in land use planning and development approval decisions by councils.

\*5347 INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of a new model and study presented at the Copenhagen meeting of the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) on March 10 predicting a sea level rise from 75 to 190 centimetres by 2100?
- (2) Was the DECC's 'Draft Sea Level Rise Policy Statement', which predicts a rise in mean sea levels of up to 40 cm by 2050 and 90 cm by 2100, based on the IPCC report from March 2007?
- (3) If so, is a new benchmark needed?

Answer—

- (1) The sea level rise session of the International Scientific Congress on Climate Change (ISCCC) in Copenhagen on 10 March 2009 highlighted concerns by leading researchers that sea level rise could exceed 1 metre by the turn of the century. This conference was not a meeting of the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).
- (2) The benchmarks contained in the NSW Government's Draft Sea Level Rise Policy Statement were based on projections provided in reports by the IPCC (2007) and the CSIRO (2007).

- (3) The Draft Sea Level Rise Policy Statement sets benchmarks that are consistent with the range of sea level rise projections recently presented to the ISCCC in Copenhagen. The Government is monitoring emerging evidence and will review the benchmarks on the basis of the best available scientific information, arising from formal assessment reports by the IPCC.

\*5348 SEA LEVEL MODEL AND STUDY—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

How will the new sea level model and study presented at the Copenhagen meeting of the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) on March 10 impact on State Environmental Planning Policy 71 - Coastal Protection?

Answer—

The Copenhagen conference of the International Scientific Congress on Climate Change (ISCCC) on 10 March 2009 highlighted concerns by researchers that sea level rise could exceed previous estimates by the turn of the century.

The conference however was not a meeting of the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and, at this stage, the information presented at the conference will not impact on SEPP 71 - Coastal Protection.

The benchmarks contained in the NSW Government's Draft Sea Level Rise Policy Statement (which will inform any future changes to SEPP 71) are based on the higher range of sea level rise projections provided in reports by IPCC (2007) and the CSIRO (2007). These figures are consistent with the range of sea level rise projections presented by speakers to the Copenhagen conference.

\*5349 SINGLETON HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL—Mr George Souris asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

- (1) How many demountable portable classrooms were located at Singleton Heights Public School as at 30 June each year 2001-2008 inclusive, and as at 1 March 2009?
- (2) Is the school in a growth area?
- (3) Are current enrolments expected to be maintained for the 2010, 2011, and 2012 years and beyond?
- (4) What is the demountable replacement program for this school?
- (5) When will the school be accommodated in permanent buildings for the maintainable school population?

Answer—

- (1) As at 30 June 2001 - 8 demountable classrooms;  
As at 30 June 2002 - 9 demountable classrooms;  
As at 30 June 2003 - 8 demountable classrooms;  
As at 30 June 2004 - 8 demountable classrooms;  
As at 30 June 2005 - 9 demountable classrooms;  
As at 30 June 2006 - 8 demountable classrooms;  
As at 30 June 2007 - 7 demountable classrooms;  
As at 30 June 2008 - 7 demountable classrooms; and  
As at 1 March 2009 - 7 demountable classrooms.
- (2) There has been consistent residential growth over the past 20 years in the area surrounding the school.
- (3) Yes.
- (4) and (5) All capital works proposals are subjected to careful analysis, evaluation and an objective prioritisation process. There are a significant number of requests for projects in schools across the State and each year decisions have to be made about which projects are undertaken within the available budget. For this reason, it is not possible to provide a timeframe as to when demountable replacements will be undertaken at the school.

\*5350 MURRURUNDI PUBLIC SCHOOL—Mr George Souris asked the Minister for Roads—

When will flashing school zone speed lights be installed on the New England Highway at Murrurundi Public School at Murrurundi?

Answer—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

I am advised:

On 26 September 2007, the New South Wales Government announced a \$46.5 million four-year program to further enhance the safety of students in school zones.

Flashing light technology and electronic alert systems are to be installed in 400 school zones, over a four-year period, at a rate of 100 systems annually.

School zones are selected by the RTA for the new technology based on stringent criteria including traffic and pedestrian volumes, crash history and crash risk.

Murrurundi Public School, which is located in a 50 km/h speed zone, will be considered, along with all school zones in NSW, on a priority basis for the installation of flashing lights.

\*5351 REGULATION OF BUILDING INDUSTRY—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Minister for Fair Trading, Minister for Citizenship, and Minister Assisting the Premier on the Arts—

In relation to the regulation of the building industry:

- (1) Why are low income tradespeople (e.g. owner-builders/pensioners) charged for Continuing Professional Development courses?
- (2) Why were consultation meetings held this year regarding changes to the Building Code - Australia not available to tradespeople residing north of Newcastle and south of Coffs Harbour?
- (3) What are the Minister's plans regarding national consistency in the regulation of the building industry?

Answer—

The Office of Fair Trading advises me that:

- (1) to (3) Only individuals licensed as a builder or swimming pool builder under the Home Building Act 1989 are required to undertake Continuing Professional Development each year as a condition of licence renewal. Neither individuals holding owner-builder permits or tradespeople are required to undertake Continuing Professional Development.

Questions as to the delivery of consultation meetings on the Building Code of Australia are best directed to the Australian Building Codes Board.

New South Wales is participating in the development of a national trade licensing system as agreed at the 3 July 2008 meeting of the Council of Australian Governments.

\*5352 TENDERS FOR ROADS INFRASTRUCTURE—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Minister for Roads—

In relation to tenders for roads infrastructure projects in NSW:

- (1) When was the last time the RTA called for tenders for a project of less than \$5 million?
- (2) Can the Minister provide me with a list of project tenders called for by the RTA over the past two years, including cost?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) 2008-09 Financial Year.
- (2) I refer the member to the Department of Commerce E-Tender Website for details of tenders called for by the RTA for over \$150,000.

\*5353 POLICE STATIONS—HOURS OF OPERATION—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

What is the average number of hours per week, over the previous 12 months, that the following police stations were open to the public with a police officer in attendance:

- (a) South West Rocks;
- (b) Gladstone?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me:

Both Gladstone and South West Rocks police stations work a combined roster with Crescent Head to provide maximum coverage of the sector. Gladstone and South West Rocks also both have Lock Up Keepers living in police residences to provide after hours coverage. While it is not possible to estimate

how many hours a week an officer is actually in attendance at these stations, pro-active policing, such as high visibility patrols, is given priority.

\*5354 BONVILLE DEVIATION—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Minister for Roads—

In relation to the Bonville Deviation on the Pacific Highway:

- (1) What was the total financial cost to the NSW Government and RTA for the Bonville Deviation?
- (2) Why is the Bonville Deviation reportedly sinking?
- (3) When did the Minister become aware of (2)?
- (4) What does the Minister propose will be immediately done to alleviate and/or stop the sinking of the deviation?
- (5) What are the anticipated costs to the NSW Government associated with (4)?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The anticipated final cost for the Bonville deviation project is expected to be close to \$245 million, which was the announced cost.
- (2) to (5) The recently completed Bonville upgrade on the Pacific Highway passes over some short sections of soft soil, typically 20 metres long at bridge abutments.

The soft soils are relatively shallow and measures to address them were included in the design and construction of the project.

The design for the Bonville upgrade has allowed for post opening settlement of up to 100 millimetres, and any settlement that has occurred to date remains within this allowance.

The contractor for the project will continue to monitor settlement as part of the ten year design, construction and maintenance contract for the upgrade.

Any monitoring costs have been included in the maintenance component of the original contract and no remedial works due to excessive settlement are expected to be required. Therefore, it is not anticipated that there will be additional costs to the NSW Government as a result of settlement on the project.

\*5355 "CARRAMAR" UNITS—Mr John Turner asked the Minister for Housing, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Does the Department of Housing own the "Carramar" units at 54 Little Street, Forster?
- (2) If so, does the Department plan to sell those units?
- (3) If so, when does the Department plan to sell the units?
- (4) If not, will any maintenance work be carried out on the units?
- (5) If so, when will that maintenance be carried out?

Answer—

- (1) to (5) Housing NSW owns a block of units at 54 Little Street Forster. Housing NSW is continually reviewing its housing portfolio in all areas of NSW and has a long-term asset plan designed to increase the overall supply of social housing, particularly targeting housing that is most in demand, such as smaller one and two bedroom accommodation.

\*5356 LICENCES TO UNDERGROUND WATER—Mr John Turner asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

What guarantee, remedy and/or compensation does the Minister give to people who hold licences to underground water supplies should mining operations deplete the water they are allowed to take through such licences?

Answer—

I refer the Honourable Member to the answer to Written Question 5177 dated 5 March 2009.

\*5357 SPECIAL INQUIRY INTO CHILD PROTECTION—Mr John Turner asked the Minister for Community Services—

- (1) Has the Special Inquiry into Child Protection been completed?
- (2) Does that inquiry recognise the distinct and important roles of the Community Services Grants Program funded services?
- (3) (a) If so, will the Government develop a business case for funding enhancements for the Community Services Grants Program?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

(b) If so, when?

(c) If not, why not?

Answer—

(1) Yes.

(2) Yes.

(3) A business case was developed from the Community Services Grants Program Review in 2008 and the recommendations of the business case are under discussion between the Department of Community Services and NSW Treasury. The final structure of the Community Services Grants Program will reflect the outcomes of these discussions and the recently announced Government response to the Special Commission of Inquiry.

\*5358 CONFISCATED ARTWORK—Mr Ray Williams asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

In relation to the artwork, numbering over 400 items in total, which was confiscated by police from Ronald Coles Art Gallery at Kenthurst and is now in the possession of Police:

(1) Will the Minister instruct police to hand over the paintings to the 150 owners who originally purchased these paintings and who hold bills of sale and proof of ownership of these paintings?

(2) Will the Minister intervene to prevent the police handing over these paintings to receivers on behalf of non-secured creditors who have no rightful ownership of these paintings?

(3) Will the Minister ensure that the decision to return the paintings to the 150 rightful owners is done prior to 20 March?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me:

(1) and (2) Police have commenced proceedings in the Supreme Court of NSW naming all claimants as parties so as to allow all interested persons to assert their claims to ownership and have the paintings returned to their owners according to the orders of the Supreme Court.

(3) Police will return the paintings once the Supreme Court has determined who are the rightful owners and subject to the possibility that they may be required as evidence.

\*5359 STAMP DUTY ON CARAVANS—Mr Ray Williams asked the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—

Will the Treasurer advise when the NSW State Government will remove the imposition of stamp duty on purchasers of new caravans, similar to our neighbouring states of Victoria and Queensland who do not charge stamp duty on caravans?

Answer—

I'm advised:

The final report of the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal's (IPART) Review of Taxation has identified 29 recommendations for reforming State taxes, including changes to duty payable on the purchase of a caravan.

Consideration of this recommendation will be included in the Government's response to the IPART Report.

**12 MARCH 2009**

(Paper No. 114)

\*5360 NON-COMPLIANCE ISSUES—HUME FREEWAY ALBURY—Mr Greg Aplin asked the Minister for Roads—

Given that the Deputy Premier and Minister for Environment and Climate Change has supported my request for a meeting in Albury with Albury City Council by representatives of her department, will you also support this meeting and nominate representatives of the Department of Roads to address the non-compliance issues that remain outstanding two years after the opening of the Freeway?

Answer—

I am advised:

Yes. The Roads and Traffic Authority nominated representative is Charlie Blomfield, General Manager, Hume Highway.

\*5361 FEDERAL GOVERNMENT-FUNDED REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE FOR DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING—Mr Greg Aplin asked the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney—

Given that the Federal Government has announced \$400 million for repairs and maintenance work on Department of Housing properties to return houses to a habitable condition:

- (1) Has any of this funding been allocated to the Albury area?
- (2) If areas to receive funding have not yet been identified, when will this occur?
- (3) What process is being used to match funding to need in all electorates?

Answer—

- (1) Yes.
- (2) and (3) All areas have been identified and Housing NSW has completed Property Assessment Surveys.

\*5362 MINI-BUDGET TARGETED SAVINGS—Mr Mike Baird asked the Minister for Housing, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Can the Minister provide an update on how the Department of Housing is progressing in meeting the target to improve operational efficiency, reduce corporate overheads and leverage procurement savings as detailed in the Mini-Budget?
- (2) How much has been saved to date?
- (3) Will the target of \$20 million in savings as outlined in the Mini-Budget for the 2008-09 financial year be met?

Answer—

(1) to (3) The 2008 Mini Budget outlined savings in a number of government areas of operation. Savings are to be made across all government agencies through:

- A reduction in advertising expenses
- A revised air travel policy to require lowest cost flights
- A reduction in the size of Chief Executive Service/Senior Executive Service
- The establishment of whole of Government "One Stop Shops".

Specific savings of \$20 million for Housing NSW are to be found through improved operational efficiency, reduced corporate overheads and procurement savings. Housing NSW will meet this target.

\*5363 LAND AT AMOURIN STREET NORTH MANLY—Mr Mike Baird asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

- (1) How much does the Government expect to receive from the sale of land at Amourin Street, North Manly, adjacent to Quarry Reserve?
- (2) Will the Minister consider withdrawing the sale?
- (3) Has the department considered the request by the Warringah Council to redesignate the land as a Reserve Trust?

Answer—

- (1) Between \$500,000 and \$600,000.
- (2) No.
- (3) Yes. The Department of Lands has advised Warringah Council that Council could compulsorily acquire the land for recreation purposes.

\*5364 AVERAGE ANNUAL LAND VALUATION—Mr Mike Baird asked the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—

- (1) What is the average annual land valuation used to determine land tax in NSW by the Valuer General in 2007, 2008 and 2009?
- (2) What is the average annual land valuation when determining land tax for those located in the Manly electorate in 2007, 2008 and 2009?



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

- (3) Will the Minister consider a system of averaging valuations over a five-year period to minimise major fluctuations in land tax payments?

Answer—

I'm advised:

- (1) This question falls within the responsibility of the Minister for Lands.
- (2) This question falls within the responsibility of the Minister for Lands.
- (3) The NSW Government introduced three-year averaging of land values and the tax-free threshold in the 2006-07 Budget. In addition, since the 2005-06 Budget, the tax-free threshold has been indexed annually to estimated average increases in land values for commercial, industrial, business and residential properties.

These initiatives have provided greater certainty for land tax payers by smoothing land valuations for land tax purposes. This assists property investors by minimising fluctuations of land tax liability.

- \*5365 DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING PROPERTIES—PORT STEPHENS ELECTORATE—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney—

Following reports the NSW Government is already spending \$808 million over the next two years to upgrade Department of Housing properties and build or buy 2,500 new homes for public housing:

- (1) How much will be spent upgrading Department of Housing properties in Port Stephens?
- (2) Will any of the reported 2,500 new homes to be built or bought be located in the Port Stephens electorate?
- (3) If so, where?

Answer—

Details of the \$5.1 million upgrading funding for the Port Stephens electorate has been announced by the Premier and reported in the Port Stephens Examiner.

Following the announcement by the Prime Minister of funding for construction of social housing under the Nation Building Economic Stimulus Package, Housing NSW has been developing plans for the construction of 6,000 additional dwellings across NSW by June 2012. This is in addition to its normal new supply program, which is being reconfigured to complement works under the Nation Building Economic Stimulus Package. As a result, Housing NSW does not yet have an approved capital program for 2009-10 and 2010-11, and will not have final details available until Commonwealth approval of proposals under the Nation Building Economic Stimulus Package at the end of August 2009.

In 2008-09 Housing NSW intends to spend approximately \$3 million on property acquisitions in the Port Stephens electorate.

- \*5366 PROTECTION FOR TENANTS—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Minister for Fair Trading, Minister for Citizenship, and Minister Assisting the Premier on the Arts—

- (1) What protection is available for tenants of rental properties that are seized by banks, etc. due to the property owner's failure to meet mortgage repayments, resulting in the tenant being given just 7 days to vacate the property?
- (2) What is the Government doing to protect tenants of rental properties affected by the aforementioned situation?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) The Office of Fair Trading advises me that tenants in these circumstances have the right to apply to the Consumer, Trader and Tenancy Tribunal seeking an order to have a tenancy vested between themselves and the mortgagee. The amount of time given to the tenant to vacate is currently at the discretion of the mortgagee. Consequently, tenants can seek to negotiate for an extension of the period given to vacate. Tenants also have the right to take action against the former landlord for having to end the tenancy early.

A review of the residential tenancy laws has been underway for some time with the issue of the rights of tenants when a mortgagee seeks to recover possession examined. The Government is currently finalising a reform package across a substantial number of issues on the rights and responsibilities of tenants and landlords.

- \*5367 TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION—PORT STEPHENS ELECTORATE—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Of the approximate 22,500 people who applied for temporary accommodation in 2007-08, how many

were in the Port Stephens electorate?

- (2) Of the approximate 28,000 households that received Rentstart assistance in 2007-08, how many were in the Port Stephens electorate?
- (3) Of the approximate \$9 million spent in 2007-08 on temporary accommodation, how much was spent in the Port Stephens electorate?

Answer—

- (1) 154 households some of who received multiple assistances.
- (2) 434 electorate households.
- (3) Temporary accommodation spending has increased by approximately 144% in 2007-08 compared to the previous year.

\*5368 QUAKERS HILL COMMUTER CAR PARK—Ms Gladys Berejiklian asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

In relation to the Quakers Hill commuter car park:

- (1) (a) Has a suitable site been found?  
(b) If so, where is the site?
- (2) Has a development application been lodged?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) (a) and (b) The Transport Infrastructure Development Corporation has identified a preferred site adjacent to the station.
- (2) A development application is not required.

\*5369 HIGH-CAPACITY ARTICULATED/BENDY BUSES—Ms Gladys Berejiklian asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

In relation to the 150 high-capacity articulated/bendy buses announced by the then Premier Morris Iemma on 26 May 2008:

Are the 150 high-capacity bendy buses part of the 300 additional buses promised on 31 October 2008?

Answer—

No, they are additional.

\*5370 LIST OF UNATTACHED EMPLOYEES—Ms Gladys Berejiklian asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

In relation to RailCorp's unattached list of employees who are on the payroll but not in a specific role:

- (1) How many people are currently on the list?
- (2) How much does it cost?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) 41 (as at 20 March 2009).

All staff on the unattached list are gainfully employed, doing required work while awaiting placement into a new position.

- (2) \$162,000.

\*5371 SCHOOL-BASED APPRENTICESHIPS AND TRAINEESHIPS—Mr Steve Cansdell asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

In regard to changes to regional support arrangements for school-based Apprenticeships and Traineeships (SBATS) from 10 April 2009:

- (1) Why is funding no longer available for SBAT Liaison Officer positions in the DET's North Coast Region?
- (2) Why is funding no longer available for the School-based Apprenticeship and Traineeship Liaison Officer (SALTO) service contract with CONNECT for the Northern Rivers area?
- (3) Is the Minister aware that, over the past four years, most school-based trainees may never have been offered such opportunities without the SALTO role based in the Northern Rivers area?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

- (4) Is the Minister aware of the valuable service provided by local Liaison Officers and the negative impact the loss of these positions and services will have on industry areas such as aged care/nursing, construction, engineering, information technology, business services, retail, etc?
- (5) Can the Minister guarantee that the loss of these five SALTO positions and four clerical officers across the region and replacing them with one Regional School-based Apprenticeship and Traineeship Officer, will not put this program in jeopardy?

Answer—

The School-Based Apprenticeship and Traineeship program will continue in 2009. Five positions, one full-time and four part-time, have been amalgamated to ensure support is available to every school.

Funding will continue for the Department of Education and Training's School-Based Apprenticeship and Traineeship Coordinator positions in the North Coast Region.

The services of the School Based Apprenticeship and Traineeship Coordinators will continue to be available and the service will be provided from the Lismore Office of the Department of Education and Training.

\*5372 REDUCTION IN BUS SERVICES—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) In relation to reductions in bus services and your advice that "Over the past two years, trip reductions and route discontinuations on Eastern Suburbs services have been minimal" (Question 4032), 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?
- (2) Given your advice that "there has been no net loss of services in the eastern region", can you explain the decision to cut the 311 service through Elizabeth Bay?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) (a) to (e) In the Coogee, Heffron, and Maroubra electorates there have been no trip reductions or removal of routes for services passing through these electorates. In the electorates of Vacluse and Sydney, some trip reductions and a route removal have occurred in light of other high frequency alternative services such as the Route 380 service and the introduction of the Route 333 Prepay service.

The trip reductions were:

Route L82 Circular Quay to Watsons Bay.  
Route 381 Bondi Junction to Circular Quay.  
Route X84 North Bondi to Bondi Junction.

The one route removal was Route L82 Watsons Bay to Circular Quay.

This has enabled the transfer of services to cater for strong growth and demand in other parts of these two electorates, such as in Oxford Street, Woollahra and Paddington, and has meant no net loss of services in the Eastern region.

(2) The Route 311 service through Elizabeth Bay is not being cut. The 311 route is being changed because it is not possible to run low-floor accessible buses in Billyard Avenue due to street infrastructure and access problems. State Transit is required under Federal Disability Standards to introduce these fully accessible buses on all its Sydney Buses routes.

\*5373 PRIVATE STAFF—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—

In relation to the Minister's private staff:

Given your advice (Question 4733) that "Details of staff are available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet website", and the website only provided a summary of total staff and total monthly costs, what are the roles by position and title of each member of the Minister's private staff?

Answer—

Roles and titles of the Minister's staff are set out in the notes to the table showing Minister's Staff

Numbers published on the Department of Premier and Cabinet website.

\*5374 PUBLIC SECTOR WORKFORCE STRATEGY—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

- (1) In relation to Public Sector Workforce Strategy and your advice (Question 4786) that "The Department of Premier and Cabinet has identified key data that is required and the key performance indicators (KPIs) that are of most use to agencies in workforce planning", what exactly is the "identified key data" and what are the key performance indicators?
- (2) Given your further advice that "In 2009, agencies will have access to a set of employee data from the workforce profile collection", on what date in 2009 will the agencies have the "employee data" and will you publicly release that data?

Answer—

- (1) The key data indicators which have been identified by the Department of Premier and Cabinet to support workforce planning at the agency level include data relating to workforce demographics and the profile of workforce participation.
- (2) The latest data from the Workforce Profile collection have been publicly available since 5 March 2009 on the Department of Premier and Cabinet's website.

\*5375 HAZARD REDUCTION—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Small Business—

- (1) What strategy is currently in place to reduce the threat of bushfires in the Lane Cove National Park?
- (2) Are there any plans to alter the current process of application for hazard reduction burns by RFS units in NSW?

Answer—

- (1) The local Bush Fire Management Committee has a Bush Fire Risk Management Plan (the Plan) in place which identifies assets at risk from bushfire and allocates responsibility for reducing the risk to those assets. Measures to reduce the threat of bushfire could include mechanical clearing, hazard reduction burns, specialised fire protection and community education campaigns.

In addition, there are there are statutory plans of management for the Lane Cove National Park prepared under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974.

- (2) No.

\*5376 LANE COVE NATIONAL PARK—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

Given the poor condition of roads within the Lane Cove National Park:

- (1) Are there any plans to improve the roads within the Lane Cove National Park?
- (2) What funds are allocated for road maintenance of the Lane Cove National Park in financial year 2008-09?
- (3) What strategies are in place to reduce the damage and increase the longevity of the roads within the National Park?
- (4) What was the total amount collected by patrons in park entry fees during financial year 2007-08?

Answer—

- (1) Yes. Since 2007 over \$1 million has been spent on new park entry works at Delhi Road and Lady Game Drive. Max Allen Drive is being progressively upgraded with \$30,000 spent on resurfacing in 2007/08 and future works planned.
- (2) The Department of Environment and Climate Change allocated \$12,000 to maintain access roads in Lane Cove National Park in the 2008/09 financial year. A further \$8,000 has been spent on road resurfacing.
- (3) A range of strategies are in place to ensure safe vehicle use and increase the life span of the roads. These include a speed limit of 40 kilometres per hour for all roads within the National Park, and the use of bollards, posts, speed humps and other traffic calming devices along the roads. The road shoulders and associated stormwater drains are regularly maintained by both the Roads and Traffic Authority and the National Parks and Wildlife Service to prevent and repair damage to the roads.
- (4) Lane Cove National Park entry fee receipts for the 2007-08 year totalled \$76,350.

\*5377 VOLUNTEERING INCENTIVES—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Minister for Juvenile Justice, Minister for Volunteering, Minister for Youth, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

- (1) What initiatives are currently available to non-government organisations to retain volunteers?
- (2) What initiatives are currently available to non-government organisations to attract volunteers?
- (3) How many volunteer programs are currently active across NSW that receive Government support?
- (4) How many volunteer programs are currently active in the Ryde electorate that receive Government support?

Answer—

- (1) to (4) There are many initiatives available to NGOs to retain volunteers. These range from work undertaken by Volunteering NSW and Volunteering Australia to provide advice and support on volunteer recruitment, management and training, through to work undertaken by Federal, State and local government authorities.

The NSW Government Volunteering Web Portal will soon be launched. The Portal will be a gateway to information about volunteering opportunities, government and philanthropic grants, and key issues for volunteering organisations.

There are a range of community based, non-government organisations throughout NSW that engage volunteers and receive government grants for specific project, program and service delivery purposes.

In addition to the organisations that engage volunteers and receive state government funding for specific purposes, the Ryde-Hunters Hill Volunteer Referral Centre also receives NSW State Government funding.

- \*5378 TRANSFER OF POLICE OFFICERS—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

When the Wingecarribee Shire was transferred from the Camden Local Area Command (LAC) to the Goulburn LAC, how many police officers were actually moved between those two commands from Camden LAC to Goulburn LAC?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me:

48 authorised positions were transferred to Goulburn Local Area Command due to a realignment which took effect on 1 December 2007.

- \*5379 EXPOSED WIRING—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations—

When will the exposed wiring in the Safe Room at Goulburn Court House be fixed?

Answer—

I am advised:

It has been fixed.

- \*5380 POLICE PROSECUTORS—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations—

- (1) How many Police Prosecutors resigned from their positions in the following years:

- (a) 2000;
- (b) 2001;
- (c) 2002;
- (d) 2003;
- (e) 2004;
- (f) 2005;
- (g) 2006;
- (h) 2007;
- (i) 2008?

- (2) What were the main reasons given for their resignation?

- (3) How many Police Prosecutors are employed in NSW at any given time?

Answer—

I am advised:

I am not the Minister responsible for Police Prosecutors.

\*5381 PUBLIC SECTOR RETIREMENT RATES—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State—

- (1) How many people retired or left the NSW public sector in 2008?
- (2) How many NSW employees joined the public sector in 2008?

Answer—

- (1) 27,657
- (2) 35,474

\*5383 SALARIES OF DISPLACED PUBLIC SERVANTS—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

- (1) What was the total cost of salaries for all of the displaced public servants (grade 1-12) in the financial year 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08?
- (2) What was the total cost of salaries for all of the displaced clerical officers within the Public Service in the financial year 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08?
- (3) What was the total cost of salaries for all of the displaced SES level public servants in the financial year 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08?
- (4) What was the total cost of salaries for all of the displaced CE level public servants in the financial year 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08?
- (5) What was the total cost of salaries for all of the displaced professional officers within the public service in the financial year 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08?

Answer—

- (1) All excess employees are meaningfully engaged in the delivery of government services while seeking permanent redeployment opportunities throughout the sector.
- (2) All excess employees are meaningfully engaged in the delivery of government services while seeking permanent redeployment opportunities throughout the sector.
- (3) Nil.
- (4) Nil.
- (5) Nil.

\*5384 ENERGY USE—AID FOR INDUSTRIES—Mr Kerry Hickey asked 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 is the State Government helping industries that utilise large amounts of energy use whilst the Carbon Trading Scheme is being implemented?

Answer—

The NSW Government has a number of programs in place which will help industry adjust to the impact of the Commonwealth's carbon trading scheme, the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (CPRS), when it is implemented.

The Government's Climate Change Fund established in July 2007 includes the \$30 million NSW Green Business Program for projects that will save energy (and water) in business operations in NSW.

The NSW Energy Efficiency Strategy aims to reduce NSW energy-related greenhouse gas emissions while reducing the impact of rising energy prices on businesses and the community. Measures which will help industries that utilise large amounts of energy include:

Energy Savings Scheme. This requires electricity retailers to pursue energy savings measures, thereby providing incentives for energy efficient process improvements and other activities that will reduce the energy use by industry.

Energy Savings Action Plans. High energy users in NSW are required to prepare a comprehensive analysis of an organisation's energy use and management strategies to identify cost-effective energy savings measures.

Sustainability Advantage Program. This is designed to help businesses reduce risks relating to the potential increase in energy costs under a national emissions trading scheme. An initial management diagnostic evaluates a firm's environmental performance and ranks possible initiatives.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

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The Government is also working closely with the Commonwealth to ensure that industries that utilise large amounts of energy, especially those which employ many regional staff, are not disadvantaged in the transition from the NSW Greenhouse Gas Reduction Scheme (GGAS) to the CPRS.

The Government has proposed a set of arrangements to the Commonwealth that would facilitate a smooth transition. These arrangements could include compensation to affected industries under some circumstances.

As a part of this process, the Government has undertaken an extensive process of stakeholder consultation on GGAS transition arrangements through a high level industry and government GGAS Transition Working Group.

\*5385 PRIVATISATION OF CESSNOCK AND PARKLEA GAOLS—Mr Kerry Hickey asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State—

If the cost per day per inmate is cheaper in the public sector that utilises the Way Forward program why is the Minister privatising Cessnock and Parklea Prisons and not implementing the Way Forward program?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Government is not privatising Cessnock and Parklea Correctional Centres. The Government is outsourcing the operations of the two centres and they will remain under the total control of the Department of Corrective Services.

The Department successfully implemented revised work practices within the Mid-North Coast (Kempsey), Dillwynia and Wellington Correctional Centres (known as "The Way Forward") resulting in a lower cost per inmate per day than traditionally run centres of similar classification. Significant problems have been experienced by the Department in implementing "The Way Forward" in other centres.

The current price and recent tender for the outsourcing of June Correctional Centre along with comparative private sector prices from other jurisdictions, indicate that there is scope for significant efficiency to be achieved for the taxpayers of NSW by the outsourcing of certain services.

\*5386 DOCTOR SHORTAGE—Mr Kerry Hickey 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 programs are in place by Hunter New England Health to address the doctor shortage in the Cessnock Electorate?
- (2) How long have these programs been in place?
- (3) What are the results of these programs when comparing the level of doctors to 1999?

Answer—

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

(1) and (2) In February 2008, the first group of students (160) to undertake the landmark Joint Medical Program began their studies. The Joint Medical Program is a partnership between the University of Newcastle, the University of New England and Hunter New England Health incorporating a five year course of international standing to prepare students to practice in urban, regional, rural and remote Australia.

Hunter New England Health is also working closely with the Hunter Rural Division of General Practice and the NSW Rural Doctors Network to try and attract more General Practitioners to the area.

The Hunter Rural Division of General Practice, which was established in 1992, is Commonwealth funded and covers an area in which approximately 198 GPs practice including the Cessnock local government area.

The Hunter Rural Division of General Practice is currently implementing and initiating multiple programs to benefit General Practice and the community. The focus of these programs includes prevention and early intervention; aged care; access to Allied Health services; chronic disease management (Diabetes, Mental Health); GP health recruitment and retention; and quality use in medicines and information management and technology.

(3) In 1999, 14 doctors were contracted as GP Visiting Medical Officers providing a medical service at Cessnock Hospital. Currently, 18 GP Visiting Medical Officers are contracted at Cessnock Hospital.

In 1999, 8 doctors were contracted as GP Visiting Medical Officers providing a medical service at Kurri Kurri Hospital. While 5 GP Visiting Medical Officers are currently contracted at Kurri Kurri Hospital, locum doctors are contracted to provide additional coverage. The Area Health Service continues efforts to permanently recruit to vacant positions across the Health Service.

\*5387 WYANGALA DAM ROAD CLOSURE—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

- (1) Given that the recent announcement of the closure of the road across the crest of the Wyangala Dam for security reasons will mean that residents of Wyangala living south of the dam wall and wishing to access the recreation area will now face an approximately 60 km road trip as opposed to a 5 km trip before the closure, what action has the Minister taken to address this situation?
- (2) What provision has the Minister made for primary school children living south of the dam wall to access Wyangala Public School without a 60 km plus bus journey?
- (3) What provision has the Minister made for quick access across the dam wall for emergency vehicles in the case of a road accident or bush fire?
- (4) Given that school bus drivers have raised safety issues regarding bus traffic on Mt McDonald road, did the Minister have the RTA conduct a safety inspection of this road and Reg Hailstone Way regarding their suitability for caravan traffic?
- (5) When will the announced upgrade of Mt Macdonald Road be completed?

Answer—

- (1) to (5) I have instructed State Water to ensure it consults with the community to identify and address any local issues relating to the proposed closure. As part of this process, State Water's Chief Executive Officer attended a community meeting in Wyangala on 24 March 2009.

The proposal announced by State Water to upgrade Mount Macdonald Road has been put on hold pending further community consultation.

\*5388 INVERELL FORESTRY NURSERY—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, Minister for State Development—

- (1) What was the sale price for the Inverell Forest Nursery obtained from the purchaser BEST Employment?
- (2) Was a valuation of this asset undertaken prior to its sale and if so what was the assessed value?
- (3) Why was this asset not sold by public tender to ensure the best financial return for the NSW taxpayer?

Answer—

- (1) \$505,000.
- (2) Yes. The assessed value was between \$480,000 and \$520,000.
- (3) The asset was not sold by public tender, but in accordance with Government guidelines, on the disposal of real property assets, by private treaty, to BEST Employment, a local not-for-profit company, for the best overall result for NSW taxpayers.

\*5389 BARIATRIC SURGERY—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson 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) Given the announcement of the Obesity Strategy by the Minister's predecessor on 4 August 2008, in what location in the Greater Southern Area Health Service will the specialised medical and surgical clinic be situated?
- (2) What is the projected opening date for this clinic?
- (3) When can general practitioners make referrals for surgical treatment under this program and to where can they make referrals prior to the opening of the medical and surgical clinics in the eight area health services?

Answer—

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

- (1) to (3) The Member's question refers to the establishment of Medical and Surgical Clinics over a four year period as a component of a \$36 million statewide Obesity Strategy. The strategy is still in its early stages and its establishment in the Greater Southern Area Health Service is subject to planning. Currently, Greater Southern Area Health Service clinicians refer patients who may require Bariatric



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

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surgery to metropolitan hospitals for clinical assessment for this type of surgery. Obesity and weight management strategies are offered in diabetes clinics across the Health Service.

\*5390 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE KITS—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

- (1) Have Kuring-gai local area command police been provided with domestic violence kits?
- (2) If yes, how many?
- (3) If no, why not?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me:

The Kuring Gai Local Area Command has been provided with four Domestic Violence Evidence Kits.

\*5391 HORNSBY HOSPITAL DEBT—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—

- (1) What is the current amount of debt owed by Hornsby Hospital for services and products provided?
- (2) To whom is this owed?
- (3) What plans are in place to pay for these services and products?

Answer—

I am advised by the Minister for Health:

The information the Member seeks is maintained at Area Health Service level, not on an individual basis.

Wherever possible, back office accounts management is not duplicated because this comes at the expense of clinical services.

The Garling Report noted that the reduced in the number of Area Health Services and their associated bureaucrats had produced very significant yearly savings which could be invested in patient care.

It is estimated that the O'Farrell/Skinner policy to more than double the number of Area Health Services would cost \$300 million per year, which could be better spent treating patients.

\*5392 DEBT FOR SERVICE AND PRODUCTS—PORTFOLIOS—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

- (1) How many and which portfolios are implicated in debt for service and products provided in the Hornsby electorate?
- (2) How much is owed in each portfolio and to which providers is this money owed?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) Guidelines regarding the payment of accounts are set out in Clause 15 of the Public Finance and Audit Regulation 2005 and the Treasurer's Direction 92/3 219.01. Information is also contained in agency Annual Reports.

\*5393 GOVERNMENT BOARD MEMBER—CONVICTION—Mr Kevin Humphries asked the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

If a member of a Government Board was found guilty of defamation in the NSW Court System, should their appointment continue?

Answer—

The relevant legislation will generally set out the circumstances in which a person may be removed from office. In other cases, it will depend upon the terms of the appointment.

\*5394 GOVERNMENT BOARD MEMBER—CONVICTION—Mr Kevin Humphries asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

If a member of a Government Board appointed within your portfolio was found guilty of defamation in the NSW Court System, should their appointment continue?

Answer—

Defamation is a civil matter between private citizens. Due consideration would ordinarily be given to what impact that would have on their appointment, in accordance with the legislation that governed their appointment, proper corporate governance procedures and the principles of natural justice.

\*5395 GOVERNMENT BOARD MEMBER—CONVICTION—Mr Kevin Humphries asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

If a member of a Government Board appointed within your portfolio was found guilty of defamation in the NSW Court System, should their appointment continue?

Answer—

Within my portfolio of Regional Development, NSW Regional Development Boards operate under a code of conduct and ethics which sets out appropriate standards of behaviour and provides a guide to solving ethical problems that may arise in the course of membership of Boards. The code requires members to be of good character and not have civil or criminal convictions punishable by a period of imprisonment.

\*5396 “FAMILY FUNDAY SUNDAY”—Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

Has the Government considered the impacts of its \$2.50 "Family Funday Sunday" discount fare on smaller independently owned public transport operators such as Cronulla ferries?

Answer—

I am advised:

Yes.

\*5397 LIBRARY FUNDING—Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

What has been done to meet the increased need for funding for Sutherland Shire Library and its attached libraries?

Answer—

State funding for Sutherland Shire Council public libraries has grown from \$468,776 in 2004-05 to \$522,180 in 2008-09.

\*5398 INITIATIVES FOR HOMELESS—Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Minister for Community Services—

In relation to funding in the Cronulla electorate for NSW Initiatives for Homeless:

- (1) What is the Government's level of funding provided to services in the Cronulla electorate under the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) for:
  - (a) 2006-07;
  - (b) 2007-08;
  - (c) year to date?
- (2) What is the Government's level of funding provided to services in the Cronulla electorate under Community Services Grants Programme (CSGP) for:
  - (a) 2006-07;
  - (b) 2007-08;
  - (c) year to date?

Answer—

- (1) The total funding for SAAP services located within the Sutherland Shire LGA, incorporating the Cronulla electorate is:
  - (a) 2006-07 financial year \$1,406,839;
  - (b) 2007-08 financial year \$1,445,194;
  - (c) 2008-09 financial year contracted funding is \$1,483,171.
- (2) The total funding for CSGP services located within the Sutherland LGA, incorporating the Cronulla electorate is:
  - (a) 2006-07 financial year \$986,275;
  - (b) 2007-08 financial year \$1,018,823;
  - (c) 2008-09 financial year contracted funding \$1,052,446.

\*5399 MOBILE ADVERTISING VEHICLES—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Roads—

With respect to the increasing number of vehicles being used as mobile advertising, which cause traffic and parking congestion, as well as air, noise and visual pollution:

- (1) When did the Government amend legislation to allow mobile advertising vehicles, and what was the

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

rationale for allowing mobile advertising vehicles?

- (2) What data does the Government collect about the number of mobile advertising vehicles?
- (3) How many mobile advertising vehicles are currently registered?
- (4) What additional income does the Government receive from vehicles designed and used solely or primarily for advertising?
- (5) What evidence does the Government have about the contribution of mobile advertising vehicles, including trailers, to traffic and parking congestion, especially in the CBD?
- (6) What evidence does the Government have about the contribution of mobile advertising vehicles, including trailers, to greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution, especially in the CBD?
- (7) What action can local Councils take to address the impacts of mobile advertising vehicles under the Local Government Act?
- (8) What action will the Government take to ban or regulate vehicles designed and used solely or primarily for advertising?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) to (6) Regulation 91 of the Motor Traffic Regulation 1935, which dealt with prohibiting vehicles being used solely for advertising, was repealed in 1987. Mobile advertising vehicles are not separately identified in the registration process, and there is therefore no additional income as they are registered as per normal registration requirements, according to the type of vehicle.

As there is no registration category for 'advertising vehicle', it would be difficult to determine how many vehicles are dedicated to advertising or their Greenhouse Gas contribution.

There is no evidence that vehicles used for mobile advertising contribute in a significant way to congestion.

(7) This question is more appropriately directed to the Minister for Local Government.

(8) There is currently no proposal to ban or regulate vehicles designed and used solely or primarily for advertising.

\*5400 COMMERCIALISATION OF NATIONAL PARKS—Ms Clover Moore asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

Given the Government has adopted the Tourism and National Parks Taskforce report, which makes recommendations to encourage private development in National Parks:

- (1) Why did the Government fail to keep its promise to release a draft report for public exhibition on development in National Parks before it adopted the Tourism and National Parks Taskforce report?
- (2) What consultation does the Government intend to undertake before introducing legislation based on the report, such as releasing a draft exposure bill?
- (3) Did the Government assess the economic benefits from increased tourism as a result of more development in national parks against increased management costs and environmental damage associated with developed national parks, before it adopted the report?
- (4) Given Tourism NSW's visitor data summary to the Tourism and National Parks Taskforce in June 2008 demonstrates that visits to national parks will very easily achieve the State Plan Target of 20 per cent growth by 2016, and that building commercial facilities in national parks will have damaging environmental impacts on these precious areas, why does the Government want to facilitate private development in national parks?

Answer—

- (1) The Taskforce on Tourism and National Parks indicated early in the process that it would consult with interested groups. Between June and November 2008 the Taskforce met with representatives from a range of organisations, and written submissions were also invited between 20 June and 29 August 2008.

A total of 293 submissions were received from the public and various organisations and covered a wide range of issues. The Taskforce was therefore of the view that further consultation was not required. The Government accepted the Taskforce's consensus report in November 2008 and agreed to implement its recommendations in December 2008.

- (2) Any proposed legislative amendments will include an appropriate consultation process.
- (3) The primary aim of the Taskforce on Tourism and National Parks was to provide advice on ensuring the ongoing conservation of National Parks in NSW, whilst making them more accessible and relevant to a broader range of people.

- (4) The NSW Government established a target in the State Plan for increased visitation to parks and reserves. This target ensures that our national parks remain relevant to the community and that a constituency of support for conservation of parks continues to be built.

The Government is seeking to refresh existing visitor experiences such as walks and tours and, where appropriate, provide a broader range of low impact accommodation options for families and the community, to experience and enjoy NSW's spectacular National Parks.

**\*5401 WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS PROJECT**—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

Given that the Inner City Legal Centre's Women's Employment Rights Project helps women facing discrimination in the workplace and nearly 90 per cent of discrimination cases taken up by the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission relate to employment:

- (1) Will the NSW Government continue to fund the Women's Employment Rights Project, such as through the Office of Women where previous funding has been provided, so they can continue to provide the only free specialist employment legal service for women in NSW?
- (2) Will the NSW Government provide immediate funds to prevent the imminent closure of the service?

Answer—

The NSW Government remains committed to addressing discrimination in NSW. The Anti-Discrimination Act 1977 makes various types of discrimination, including sex discrimination and sexual harassment, unlawful in numerous areas of life in NSW.

The NSW Government also provides a wide range of information regarding discrimination and work to the public. For example, the website of the NSW Anti-Discrimination Board provides information related to women and discrimination, including in the workplace, in addition to a list of organisations offering legal assistance.

The NSW Office for Women's Policy has previously provided financial assistance to the Inner City Legal Centre to support the Women's Employment Rights Project to undertake two discrete projects, not recurrent funding for the service. I am advised that the funding of \$100,000 and \$125,000 was provided in 2006/07 and 2007/08 for the Centre to develop projects which produced resources such as factsheets and webpages, in addition to conducting workshops and establishing a telephone advice service.

The Office for Women's Policy is not in a position to provide recurrent funding to the ICLC or any other organisation and as a result is unable to support the Women's Employment Rights Project on an ongoing basis.

I am further advised that the ICLC recently put forward a proposal to the NSW Office of Industrial Relations (OIR) for funding to undertake further research on women's employment rights as part of the Women's Employment Rights Project. This proposal was accepted by the OIR. However I understand that subsequently the Centre has decided not to continue with the Women's Employment Rights Project.

**\*5402 CONTAINER DEPOSIT SCHEME IN NSW**—Ms Clover Moore asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

- (1) Is the NSW Government aware of the reported increase in drink container recycling experienced in South Australia following the increase of deposit values from 5 cents to 10 cents in September last year?
- (2) What is the Government's response to these reports in light of Clean Up Australia Day chairman Ian Kiernan's comments that there was an increase in the amount of plastic picked up at the event this year compared to last year?
- (3) Given the owner of a Broken Hill recycling centre, Channings Bottle Yard, told the ABC that he could rehire staff laid off due to a lost recycling contract through the South Australian scheme if a container deposit scheme were introduced in NSW, what research has the NSW Government recently conducted on the economic benefits of a container deposit scheme?
- (4) Is the NSW Government aware of research conducted by Clean Up Australia that concludes that 8 out of 10 people in NSW want a 10 cent refund on containers?
- (5) What position will the NSW Government take when container deposits are discussed at the next Environment Protection and Heritage Council meeting of Environment Ministers?
- (6) What consideration will the NSW Government give to introducing a container deposit scheme in NSW if the council cannot agree to a national scheme?

Answer—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

- (1) I am advised that the South Australian Government increased the deposit value because the return rate for bottles had declined, and that the hoarding of containers in anticipation of the increased refund may explain the short term increase in drink container recycling. As the new deposit value has only been in place since September last year, it is too early to assess the long term effect of the 10 cent deposit.
- (2) Clean Up Australia has yet to release the results of the 2009 Clean Up Day activities. It should be noted that in addition to containers, plastics recorded by Clean Up Day volunteers include chip packets, plastic lids, and other plastic litter items. The 2008 national results also showed plastics as the most common source of rubbish, but also that this source has been declining since 2004.
- (3) NSW is participating in the national beverage container investigation being conducted by the Environment and Heritage Protection Council. The investigation is examining the cost effectiveness of a national container deposit system in comparison to a range of alternative policy measures aimed at recovering a similar quantity of beverage containers.
- (4) Yes.
- (5) The Government has for many years strongly supported increased recovery of packaging materials, including beverage containers, through a range of strategies. The Government will determine its position based on the evidence from the current national beverage container investigation.
- (6) The Government will give due consideration to all options to increase packaging recovery rates in NSW, based on their merits.

\*5403 COMMUNITY SERVICES GRANTS PROGRAM (CSGP)—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Community Services—

With respect to the Community Services Grants Program (CSGP), which provides funding to more than 900 projects across NSW including Neighbourhood Centres, Family Support Centres, Youth Services and community development projects:

- (1) Has the Government carried out five reviews of the CSGP over 18 years, but no significant changes were made?
- (2) Did the Department of Community Services last year complete a three-year review of the CSGP, and what did this review recommend?
- (3) Has there been no growth funding for the CSGP since 1990?
- (4) Has program funding indexation kept pace with cost increases since 1990?
- (5) What is the estimated increase in the cost of service provision for CSGP-funded organisations since 1990 and what indexation has been provided?
- (6) Did the Department of Community Services present a CSGP Business Case to NSW Treasury, and what did this Business Case argue?
- (7) Does this CSGP Business Case require a budget enhancement of \$45 million per annum, with an extra \$15 million proposed over three years?
- (8) What action was taken in response to this CSGP Business Case, and what additional funds were provided in the 2008/09 budget?
- (9) What did the Special Commission of Inquiry into Child Protection report on the value of stronger and well-connected communities in raising children and what did the Inquiry recommend for the CSGP?
- (10) What additional funds will the NSW Government provide to CSGP-funded organisations in 2009-10?

Answer—

(1) The Community Services Grants Program was reviewed in 1990, 1994 and 1999. The result of the 1999 review was to establish the Community Services Grants Program Roundtable. The current review occurred in 2007/08.

(2) The Community Services Grants Program Review commenced in April 2007. Ernst and Young was contracted to undertake the review and it was completed in March 2008.

The Business Case from the review recommended increased investment in the Community Services Grants Program over 3 years and has been forwarded to NSW Treasury as part of ongoing discussions on the Community Services Grants Program budget.

(3) to (5) Since 1988-89, funding has been indexed (approximately 3% p.a.) with an adjustment of \$3.2 million for the impact of an increase in the SACS award in 2002-03. In 2008-09 indexation amounted to \$2,627,152.

The Business Case from the review states: ". . . our analysis indicates that indexation subsequent to 2002-03 may not have been totally sufficient to compensate for the full increases in awards, though the difference is not significant".

(6) Yes. The Business Case argued for increased investment in the Community Services Grants Program over the next 3 years.

(7) Yes

(8) The matter is still under discussion with NSW Treasury.

(9) The report can be accessed at [www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au](http://www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au)

(10) The NSW budget for 2009-10 has not yet been determined.

\*5404 ENERGY AUSTRALIA'S NETWORK AUGMENTATION PLANS—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, Minister for State Development—

Given Energy Australia's submission to the Australian Energy Regulator for expenditure forecasts for the 2009-14 regulatory period include \$2.78 billion for growth (demand-related) investment:

- (1) What demand management projects does Energy Australia have planned for this regulatory period?
- (2) (a) When establishing its forecast demand-related investment figure for inner Sydney, what consideration did Energy Australia give to the impacts on demand related growth of the City of Sydney's plans for strategically placed precinct-scale distributed cogeneration and trigeneration, as referred to in its Sustainable Sydney 2030 plan?  
(b) Where can the public access these Energy Australia reports?
- (3) (a) When establishing its proposed distribution network investment costs, what consideration did Energy Australia give to more sustainable and cost effective means such as demand management?  
(b) Where can the public access these Energy Australia reports?
- (4) (a) How has Energy Australia reported on greenhouse gas emission implications of its submission to the Australian Energy Regulator in comparison to alternative investment options?  
(b) Where can the public access these Energy Australia reports?

Answer—

I am advised by EnergyAustralia that:

- (1) EnergyAustralia has reduced its capital forecast by \$47 million during the 2009-14 period as an estimate of the impact of demand management initiatives that it will implement.

Currently, EnergyAustralia has seven demand management projects either underway or in development, targeting Terrey Hills, Warringah, East St George, Greenacre, Willoughby, Nelson Bay and Wollombi.

- (2) (a) EnergyAustralia has been working closely with the City of Sydney on distributed cogeneration, looking at grid connection issues. It also works closely with proponents of embedded generators, for example a cogeneration plant in North Sydney and a similar system in Castlereagh Street, Sydney.

EnergyAustralia has entered into an agreement with the North Sydney generator to ensure it will be operating during the most critical times of the 2009/10 summer. This will reduce the peak demand on the subtransmission substation that supplies North Sydney.

Proposals for embedded generators are factored into demand forecasts. EnergyAustralia is committed to working closely with Council as firm proposals for green transformers emerge in the area.

(b) EnergyAustralia's regulatory proposal is available to the public through the Australian Energy Regulator (AER) website.

- (3) (a) EnergyAustralia's capital plan largely concerns replacement and renewal of its existing network to meet its license conditions for reliability. EnergyAustralia undertakes demand management investigations whenever it plans expansions to its network where capital expenditure is greater than \$1 million.

EnergyAustralia estimated that demand management will provide potential for significant smoothing of capital investment in major projects, including deferral of \$47 million in expenditure from the 2009-14 period to after 2014.

(b) Refer to answer (2) (b).

- (4) (a) EnergyAustralia investigates demand management options for all demand-related capital projects in excess of \$1 million.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

EnergyAustralia was one of the first energy companies to report greenhouse gas emissions in 1997 through the voluntary Greenhouse Gas Challenge Plus program. This year, EnergyAustralia will also report its energy use and the greenhouse impacts of its operations through the mandatory National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting System.

EnergyAustralia's demand management unit has engaged with hundreds of large scale commercial and industrial customers to improve their Power Factor and energy costs, thereby becoming more energy efficient.

(b) Refer to answer (2) (b).

\*5405 STREET LIGHTING GOVERNANCE—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, Minister for State Development—

Given street lighting is a vital community service with impacts on community safety and security, the use of public space, greenhouse gas emissions, and council rates:

- (1) (a) How does the Government justify the transfer of more than \$80 million a year between councils and utilities without any binding regulation covering the service or any contracts?  
(b) What action will the Government take to ensure that future street lighting arrangements between utilities and councils are covered by appropriate regulation and contracts?
- (2) Why hasn't the Government made the voluntary NSW Public Lighting Code mandatory, particularly given that EnergyAustralia has said in its own submission to the Australian Energy Regulator that it will not be able to comply with key sections of the code by 2014?
- (3) Why has the October 2007 Department of Water and Energy review of the Public Lighting Code failed to progress despite more than 60 submissions and widespread concern about the lack of code compliance and gaps in the current code?
- (4) Why hasn't a review on a future operational and governance model progressed for the delivery of public lighting across NSW, which was understood to be part of the Department of Water and Energy Public Lighting Code review?
- (5) What action will the Government take to prevent NSW utilities from banning new energy efficient lighting types (like metal halide and LED lighting) from the public lighting network by refusing to list them on their Standard Luminaires lists?
- (6) (a) What action will the Government take to prevent EnergyAustralia from withdrawing lighting services from parks across metropolitan Sydney, which places huge unnecessary public infrastructure costs on councils to replace public infrastructure?  
(b) To what extent is this particular issue being given consideration in the review of the Public Lighting Code?

Answer—

(1) (a) The prices for public lighting services have been regulated by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal in the past and will be regulated by the Australian Energy Regulator from 1 July 2009. Councils, as customers of the public lighting services, are notified of charges in advance and make payments on the basis of bills issued.

(b) The NSW Public Lighting Code is currently under review, and the Review will consider these issues.

(2) All three NSW distributors have agreed to adopt the NSW Public Lighting Code.

(3) and (4) In October 2007 the Department of Water & Energy wrote to Councils seeking their views on the need for a review of the Code, and many submissions were received. Following further meetings with some key stakeholders, the Review is now underway and a consultation paper will be released shortly. Relevant stakeholders, including the distributors and the Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils, will be consulted by the Department of Water and Energy.

(5) The NSW Public Lighting Code requires consultation between distributors and councils to list new luminaires and the Australian Energy Regulator, in its March 2009 supplementary draft decision, has committed to a 6 month approval process for the pricing to apply to such new listings.

(6) (a) EnergyAustralia has advised that it continues to provide lighting services to parks across metropolitan Sydney. EnergyAustralia is balancing the issues of changing landscapes and vegetation, vandalism and installation of other new equipment in parks and reserves, in maintaining the provision of lighting services to these areas.

(b) This issue will be considered in the Review of the Public Lighting Code.

\*5406 FEED-IN-TARIFFS—Ms Clover Moore asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

- (1) What conclusions has the Government made on the difference in years it would take a household or a business to pay off the uptake of solar photovoltaic cells depending on whether NSW adopts a "gross" or a "net" feed-in-tariff system?
- (2) What conclusions has the Government made on the difference in return that each system will have on the uptake of solar photovoltaic cells?
- (3) What conclusions has the Government made about improvements to service reliability and reductions in infrastructure costs that would result due to increased solar photovoltaic cell uptake from a gross instead of a net feed-in-tariff system?
- (4) Depending on whether NSW adopts a gross or net system, what conclusions has the Government made on the difference that the uptake of cells will have on the creation of green infrastructure jobs?
- (5) How were these conclusions made?

Answer—

- (1) to (5) On 23 November 2008, the NSW Government announced that it would implement a feed-in tariff scheme which will pay householders for electricity generated from rooftop solar photovoltaic systems. A Taskforce was established to advise the Government on scheme design. The Government recently received the report of the Taskforce which has assessed a range of feed-in tariff scheme options. The Government is considering the advice of the Taskforce.

\*5407 STREET LIGHTING CHARGES—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, Minister for State Development—

Given street lighting is a vital community service with impacts on community safety and security, the use of public space, greenhouse gas emissions, and council rates:

- (1) Why has EnergyAustralia proposed 153 per cent increases in network distribution charges for public lighting customers when public lighting is being held to a much lower service standard than is required for all other electricity customers and the public lighting load on EnergyAustralia's network is expected to decline significantly over the next five years?
- (2) In the current pricing review by the Australian Energy Regulator, why hasn't EnergyAustralia released its pricing model and cost information for these increases to its customers, particularly given that it provides a monopoly street lighting service to these council customers and that it released such information to councils during the last major pricing review in 2004-05?
- (3) Why is EnergyAustralia's proposed pricing for energy efficient lighting up to 84 per cent higher than Integral Energy's for exactly the same light, installed in the same way and coming out of the same NSW-based factory?
  - (a) How is this price difference possible in view of Section 6.1.2.b.2 of the National Electricity Code which says that pricing should be set with respect to a reasonable return on efficient investment and efficient operating and maintenance practices?
  - (b) Given the urgent need to encourage the uptake of energy efficient lighting, how will the NSW Government encourage the 41 councils served by EnergyAustralia to have energy efficient lighting installed?
- (4) Given the Victorian Government is conducting a joint investigation into new energy efficient road light technologies with the two major NSW-based manufacturers, has developed a model for appropriate pricing, and is considering a mass deployment program, why isn't the NSW Government playing a similarly active role in promoting the deployment of energy efficient lighting?
- (5) What investment in the replacement of ageing public lighting assets with energy efficient lighting and improvements in operations and maintenance will be delivered with the proposed price increases?
- (6) What consideration has the NSW Government given to the Street Lighting Improvement Program's call for a revision of the pricing regulatory regime along the lines of the Victorian model with a publicly reviewed model of pricing for each key lighting type?
- (7) (a) In the limited cases where councils are able to take on management of lighting directly, why are exit charges from EnergyAustralia-owned public lighting assets based on a written-up value of the assets instead of a reflection of the actual depreciated cost of installation?
  - (b) Does the NSW Government recognise this as an unreasonable barrier to competition?
- (8) Why do councils continue to be charged at the "General Business Supply Tariff" rate for council-owned lighting, which means their ongoing network and energy charges are equivalent to peak



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

period rates, even though charges for the exact same lighting technology and energy consumption for Energy Australia-owned lighting is much less?

- (9) What action will the NSW Government take to ensure these councils can effectively access appropriately cost-reflective network tariffs specifically developed for public lighting (e.g. EnergyAustralia Public Lighting Tariff 401)?

Answer—

- (1) EnergyAustralia's submission to the Australian Energy Regulator (AER) is for cost-reflective pricing to enable the delivery of an efficient and reliable public lighting service to its customers, including 41 Councils.

EnergyAustralia has subsidised the delivery of this service to Councils by approximately \$10 million over the past five years.

The AER is now considering public lighting prices for the next five years, and agrees that it is fair and reasonable that prices reflect the efficient cost of service.

The AER's supplementary draft decision estimated that the revised pricing structures to apply from 1 July 2009 will result in significant cost reductions for most customers. Analysis by the AER found that the total bills for EnergyAustralia customers will decrease on average by six percent from 2008-09 to 2009-10. The estimate for Sydney City Council is a seven percent decrease.

Councils, including the City of Sydney, will be able to pass on these savings to their residents via lower rates.

- (2) EnergyAustralia has advised that it provided all pricing and cost information to the AER for its consideration in determining cost-reflective pricing for public lighting services. The AER does not disclose some commercially sensitive material.
- (3) (a) and (b) The AER's supplementary draft decision states that "The use of different types and quality of components therefore explains to some extent why the NSW DNSPs are paying different prices for what would otherwise be considered the same product." The AER's draft decision also comments on the relative price savings that can be achieved by appropriate bulk ordering, and that the distribution businesses do not always buy in sufficient quantities to achieve the best prices.

In the supplementary draft decision the prices for public lights and public lighting services between Integral Energy and EnergyAustralia for energy efficient street lights are minimal. The draft prices for 2009-10 are as follows.

	EnergyAustralia	Integral Energy	Country Energy
CFL	\$92.69	\$91.81	\$118.65
T5	\$100.50	\$93.95	\$132.60

The AER determines prices for public lighting after detailed analysis of proposed price increases in order to value assets more accurately and establish cost reflective prices for new public lighting assets.

EnergyAustralia has already introduced energy efficient lights as the standard for all of its public lighting, with efficient lights installed for new lighting as well as for all replacement lighting.

EnergyAustralia wrote to all 41 Councils in May last year proposing to replace about 50,000 1970s style lights at no upfront cost. Since then only four Councils have agreed to the accelerated roll out of energy efficient lights in their area.

- (4) The NSW Government is actively supporting the development and installation of energy efficient road lighting. EnergyAustralia wrote to all 41 Councils in May last year proposing to replace about 50,000 1970s style lights at no upfront cost. The NSW distributors keenly follow the development of all new public lighting technologies that improve public lighting to Australian Standard requirements. Future street lighting trials are being planned. Any new lighting products to be offered by Councils will also require pricing approval by the AER.
- (5) For residential roads, EnergyAustralia has proposed to replace older style lights with energy efficient lighting over the next five years to improve lighting to Australian Standard requirements. So far four of the 41 councils serviced have agreed to this program.

For traffic routes, energy efficient lighting is installed on failure of the existing luminaire.

- (6) The AER is the responsible regulator currently overseeing NSW street lighting pricing arrangements. The AER has released a supplementary draft decision on public lighting charges and is also the regulator of Victorian pricing. The AER is undertaking a public assessment and consultation process on the public lighting charges for all NSW distributors.

- (7) (a) In its supplementary draft decision, the AER requires customers to pay for the replacement cost of the new asset as well as the depreciated value of the old asset. In the current Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal determination, exit charges are not based on written up value but depreciated to half the asset life.
- (b) The new regime determined by the AER provides greater clarity to assist Councils to determine when it is economical for them to replace existing lighting assets.
- (8) Network charges are based on the type of metering and associated load, in particular whether the power supply is metered or not.
- (9) EnergyAustralia offers the public lighting tariff for loads that are of a public lighting nature only. The public lighting tariff does not apply where other equipment, such as barbeques, security cameras or power points are installed along with lights.

Councils need to ensure that where they install electrically powered services such as barbeques, security cameras and power points, that these are separated from the public lighting installation. Separate metered or unmetered supplies are then possible for the public lighting and other electrically powered services.

\*5409 REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA—Mr Donald Page asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

Given the State Government's announcement that their Regional Development Boards will merge with the Federally-funded Area Consultative Committees to form Regional Development Australia:

- (1) How many jobs will be lost in the Department of State and Regional Development (DSRD) across the state?
- (2) How many jobs will be lost in DSRD in the northern rivers region?
- (3) Will small and emerging businesses across the state still have support from current DSRD staff as they do at the moment?
- (4) If not, what services will be made available through Regional Development Australia?
- (5) Will you identify any differences between the level of service delivery between the old and the proposed new arrangements?

Answer—

- (1) None.
- (2) None.
- (3) Yes.
- (4) N/A
- (5) N/A

\*5410 BALLINA, BYRON AND MULLUMBIMBY HOSPITALS—Mr Donald Page 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) Are there difficulties in staffing doctors to attend at Ballina, Byron and Mullumbimby hospitals?
- (2) What is the reason for the doctors threatening to strike at the hospitals?
- (3) What measures are being put in place by the Government to guarantee these three hospitals will have sufficient doctors to provide around the clock hospital services to patients who use these hospitals into the future?
- (4) Are too few doctors being asked to work very long hours at these hospitals which in turn is causing doctors to become more reluctant to make themselves available as Visiting Medical Officers?

Answer—

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

- (1) The Health workforce shortage is a global phenomenon. Attracting qualified staff is a challenge familiar to almost every profession and is especially difficult in health and in rural and remote locations. Hospital management liaises with General Practitioner/Visiting Medical Officers and Career Medical Officers to ensure sufficient doctors are available to fill the medical rosters.
- (2) There has been no discussion regarding strike action by the medical staff at Ballina, Byron Bay or Mullumbimby Hospitals.
- (3) Recruitment of a Career Medical Officer to Byron Bay Hospital will assist that Hospital to fully cover its medical roster. Consideration is also being given to recruiting a Career Medical Officer to the Mullumbimby Hospital for the same purpose. At Ballina Hospital discussions between the medical staff and hospital management are underway to determine how rostered medical coverage of the hospital can be strengthened. The North Coast Area Health Service is routinely seeking to recruit

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

more General Practitioners to work as Visiting Medical Officers at Ballina, Byron Bay and Mullumbimby Hospitals.

- (4) In recent times fewer General Practitioners have been seeking VMO appointments. This is due to several factors including the competing priority of their increasingly busy practices. With fewer General Practitioners participating, the frequency of working in the Hospital does increase. Hospital management works closely with the General Practitioner/Visiting Medical Officers to ensure safe working hours are maintained, and this is supported by engaging Locum Career Medical Officers, when required.

\*5411 GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON FIREWORK—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

In relation to fireworks:

How much has the Government spent on fireworks, broken down by:

- (a) calendar year since 1995
- (b) Individual firework event (for example, World Youth Day 2008, New Year's Eve 1995, etc.)?

Answer—

I am advised that it is not the NSW Government's usual practice to expend public funds on fireworks. The Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority contributes to individual events from time to time.

\*5412 PLAGUE LOCUSTS—DETECTION, CONTROL AND ERADICATION—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked 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—

In relation to the plague locust hatchings across NSW:

- (1) How many reported locust hatchings occurred in 2008-2009 in the Murrumbidgee electorate, which includes the former Rural Lands Protection Board areas of:
  - (a) Hay;
  - (b) Narrandera;
  - (c) Condobolin?
- (2) How much money have the following Livestock Health and Pest Authorities spent on detection, control and eradication of plague locusts since 1 January 2009:
  - (a) Riverina Livestock Health and Pest Authority;
  - (b) Lachlan Livestock Health and Pest Authority;
  - (c) Western Livestock Health and Pest Authority?
- (3) How much money have the following former Rural Lands Protection Boards spent on detection, control and eradication of plague locusts in 2008:
  - (a) Hay;
  - (b) Narrandera;
  - (c) Condobolin?

Answer—

- (1) The reporting of locust activity includes all activity, not just hatching.

- (a) 16 reports (amalgamated into Riverina LHPA).
- (b) 552 reports (amalgamated into Riverina LHPA).
- (c) 221 reports (amalgamated into Lachlan LHPA).

- (2) Approximate expenditure from 1 January 2009 to 26 March 2009:

- (a) \$87,512.
- (b) \$58,000.
- (c) Nil.

These figures do not include the value of chemicals supplied by the Department of Primary Industries from the Pest Insect Destruction Fund.

- (3)

- (a) \$6,784.
- (b) \$132,909.
- (c) \$27,000.

These figures do not include the value of chemicals supplied by the Department of Primary Industries

from the Pest Insect Destruction Fund.

\*5413 PUBLIC DENTAL WAITING LISTS—Mr Adrian Piccoli 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 public dental waiting lists:

- (1) How many people in the Murrumbidgee electorate are currently on the NSW public dental waiting list?
- (2) From the figure listed in (1):
  - (a) How many people are waiting to see a public dentist?
  - (b) How many people are awaiting treatment?
- (3) From the figure listed in (1), how long have these people been on the waiting list?
- (4) Of the figure listed in (1), what are the following age ranges:
  - (a) 0-18;
  - (b) 18-40;
  - (c) 40-65;
  - (d) 65 plus?

Answer—

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

- (1) to (4) The data sought is not routinely collated on the basis of electorate.

The NSW Oral Health Service Waiting List for Ambulatory Care is reported at an Area Health Service level and is published on the NSW Health website at:

[http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/cohs/health\\_services.asp](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/cohs/health_services.asp)

\*5414 NEW AFFORDABLE HOMES—TWEED ELECTORATE—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

In relation to the 9,000 new affordable homes being built as part of the Federal Government's stimulus package for NSW:

- (1) How many houses will be built in the Tweed electorate?
- (2) When will building commence?
- (3) When is the scheduled date of completion?
- (4) How many local jobs does the Premier believe will be created?

Answer—

Stage 1 of the new affordable homes being built, as part of the Federal Government's stimulus package for NSW, is being considered by the Federal Government.

In addition, Housing NSW is currently seeking proposals for Land and Housing packages across NSW, including Tweed Heads. The Commonwealth will make the final decision on which locations are to be approved.

\*5415 RESPITE CARE BEDS—TWEED ELECTORATE—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—

In relation to respite care beds in the Tweed electorate:

- (1) How many respite care beds are available within the Tweed Electorate?
- (2) Are there any plans to extend numbers in the near future?
- (3) What is the total budget spent on the provision of respite care beds within the Tweed electorate in:
  - (a) 2006-2007;
  - (b) 2007-2008;
  - (c) year to date?

Answer—

- (1) to (3) DADABC funds many services in the Far North Coast across the Local Government Area in the Far North Coast Local Planning Area and not specifically to the Tweed Electorate. The Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care (DADHC) provides funding according to number of places, not beds.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

Since 2006, an additional 75 centre-based respite places were provided for children and adults for the Tweed, Byron and Ballina Local Government Areas. A further 35 places have been tendered for centre-based respite on the Far North Coast in 2008/09.

In the 2008/09 financial year, there has also been substantial growth on the Far North Coast, with an additional 42 recurrent and 21 fixed-term flexible respite places. Further, respite for older carers has increased with 24 new places.

Growth has also occurred in social and recreational programs for people with a disability, taking total funding for services to people with a disability that have a respite effect to in excess of \$10 million.

\*5416 STAFFING AT 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 staff employed at Tweed Hospital:

- (1) What are the different departments and staffing numbers of each department?
- (2) What was the number of full-time equivalent clinical staff by month from December 2008 to 12 March 2009?
- (3) What was the number of full-time equivalent non-clinical staff by month from December 2008 to 12 March 2009?

Answer—

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

- (1) Workforce profiles can be found in each Area Health Service's annual report. This information can be located at - [www.ncahs.nsw.gov.au](http://www.ncahs.nsw.gov.au)
- (2) and (3)

CATEGORY	Dec 2008 FTE	Jan 2009 FTE	Feb 2009 FTE
Clinical	565	555	569
Non-Clinical Total	134	133	138

\*5417 PESTOFF RODENT BAIT 20R—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

- (1) Will the Minister confirm that last year the Lord Howe Island Board was quoted NZD 218,400 for 60 tonnes of Pestoff Rodent Bait 20R?
- (2) Will the Minister confirm that last year the Lord Howe Island Board was quoted NZD 21,000 for sea freight for the four 40 foot containers of bait?
- (3) Is the Minister aware that 60 tonnes spread over 1,400 hectares represents 42.8 kg of poison per hectare?
- (4) Why is the Lord Howe Island Board preparing for such high poison application rates?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) Yes.
- (3) and (4) The calculation is an oversimplification. The nominal amount of brodifacoum to be applied is 0.4g per hectare. This information was presented to the community at Community Information Session.

\*5418 KANGAROO HARVEST—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

Given that the Department of Environment and Climate Change has approved the first commercial kangaroo zone in a large part of central west New South Wales:

- (1) How many kangaroos can licensed shooters harvest?
- (2) How much kangaroo meat and leather does the DECC consider to be a commercial quantity?

Answer—

- (1) The 2009 quota for licensed harvesters is approximately 1.1 million kangaroos.
- (2) There is no set amount that the Department of Environment and Climate Change considers to be a commercial quantity. Any meat and skins that are to be sold must be obtained and processed through the commercial licensing framework.

\*5419 AERIAL BAITING OF RATS—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

- (1) Was the figure of \$6 million to carry out aerial baiting of rats on Lord Howe Island mentioned by Dr Ian Wilkinson at a public meeting on the island accurate?
- (2) If so, why will it cost as much as this to carry out the proposed baiting program, when it cost \$24 million for a similar program to kill rabbits on Macquarie Island?
- (3) If not, how much will the rat baiting program on Lord Howe Island cost and how many kilograms of rat poison will be applied per hectare?
- (4) Is it still proposed to go ahead with the rat baiting program on Lord Howe Island in 2011?

Answer—

- (1) \$6 million was based on preliminary budget estimates of the cost of eradicating rats and mice from Lord Howe Island in a single operation. The original figure has been, and will continue to be, revised as more detailed planning is undertaken.
- (2) The eradication of exotic rodents from Lord Howe Island is a complex and technically challenging operation. The proposal for Lord Howe Island includes research to identify and mitigate any risks to non-target species and residents, a baiting program that is tailored to the rugged terrain, and research to monitor the biodiversity impacts of rodent removal. Implementation of a biosecurity strategy to prevent re-invasion of rodents will also be included.
- (3) The current estimate of the cost of eradicating exotic rodents from Lord Howe Island is approximately \$8 million. The nominal amount of brodifacoum to be applied is 0.4 grams per hectare.
- (4) Any eradication program will require approval from both NSW and Commonwealth Government agencies.

\*5420 SPEED CAMERAS—Mr George Souris asked the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—

- (1) What is the gross revenue in fines raised at each speed detection camera within the boundary of Upper Hunter electorate for the period between 1 January 2008 and 31 December 2008?
- (2) In which other location within the Upper Hunter electorate is it planned to install speed detection cameras?

Answer—

I'm advised:

The total face value of penalty notices issued in relation to the fixed speed cameras located in the Upper Hunter electorate for the period 1 January 2008 to 31 December 2008 was \$712,910.

Any questions concerning the location of future speed camera installations fall within the responsibility of the Minister for Roads.

\*5421 SYDNEY BUS MUSEUM—Mr John Turner asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) Has the Sydney Bus Museum at Tempe closed?
- (2) If so:
  - (a) why was it closed?
  - (b) when was it closed?
  - (c) will the Minister re-open the museum?
    - (i) If so, when?
    - (ii) If not, why not?
- (3) If not, will the Minister relocate the exhibits to another building to provide public access?
  - (a) If so, when?
  - (b) If so, where?
  - (c) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (3) The Sydney Bus Museum at Tempe has not closed. State Transit recently commissioned an independent fire safety report on all the buildings on the site of the old Tempe Depot, including the building housing the Sydney Bus Museum. The building did not meet the current fire standards for a "Place of Public Entertainment". The Museum decided it should not open its doors to the public until works were carried out. State Transit is in continued discussions with the Museum about its future,

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

including a possible move to Leichhardt Bus Depot, once redevelopment work has been completed at that depot in the second half of this year.

\*5422 AGREED OPERATIONAL PLANS—Mr John Turner asked 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—

Regarding answers to Questions on Notice in the Budget Estimates in which it was stated that 97% of mines operate to agreed operational plans and also that action can be taken against mines that are not compliant:

- (1) On how many occasions has action been taken against non-compliant mines?
- (2) When were they taken?
- (3) Who owns the mines?
- (4) Which are the mines?
- (5) What form of action was taken?

Answer—

(1) The Department of Primary Industries (DPI) works with mines to promote operational compliance and applies a tiered approach to non-compliance.

Since the start of 2008, I am advised that three S.240 Notices and a S.125(3b) Notice were issued against mines that were not compliant with agreed operational plans.

(2) Since the start of 2008, DPI took the following actions:

- January 2008 – Comet Gold Mine was issued with a S.240 Notice to comply with its Mining Operations Plan.
- May 2008 – Wollondilly Coal Preparation Plant (operated by Burragorang Valley Coal Limited) was issued with a S.125(3b) Notice to suspend operations at the Preparation Plant until operations complied with an agreed Mining Operations Plan.
- January 2009 - Towrang Slate Mine was issued with two S.240 Notices to complete minor rehabilitation works following mine closure.

DPI continually reviews compliance and consults with all mining companies about operational requirements.

(3) Hillgrove Mining Pty Ltd was the holder of the mining lease the subject of the s240 notice for the Comet Gold Mine. Burragorang Valley Coal Pty Ltd was the holder of the mining lease the subject of the s125 notice for the Wollondilly Coal Preparation Plant. The Towrang Slate Mine, was a small mining operation. The two mining leases, the subject of the s240 notices, was operated by private individuals.

(4) See answer to Question (2).

(5) See answer to Question (2).

\*5423 MANNING RURAL REFERRAL HOSPITAL—Mr John Turner 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) Has the oncologist previously treating people at Manning Rural Referral Hospital been transferred/moved to Tamworth Hospital?

(2) If so:

- (a) Why was the oncologist transferred/moved to Tamworth Hospital?
- (b) When did the Hunter New England Area Health Service transfer/move the oncologist to Tamworth Hospital?
- (c) What actions were taken to ensure the people of the Myall Lakes Electorate requiring oncology appointments and treatment would receive oncology appointments and treatment at Manning Rural Referral Hospital?

(3) When will oncology services resume at Manning Rural Referral Hospital?

Answer—

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

(1) to (3) Medical Oncology Services have never ceased at Manning Rural Referral Hospital, Taree.

\*5424 SYDNEY MARDI GRAS—FUNDING—Mr Ray Williams asked the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

- (1) How much funding is the Government providing to the Sydney Mardi Gras and the associated Sleaze Ball and other parties?
- (2) What is their rationale for supporting a loss making venture given the current adverse economic conditions?
- (3) Why does the Government provide funding that supports "sleazey" values in society?

Answer—

- (1) to (3) Funding for the Mardi Gras festival is consistent with Events NSW's marketing objectives.

\*5425 MARDI GRAS—POLICE DEPLOYMENT—Mr Ray Williams asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

- (1) How many police officers were deployed to the Mardi Gras in 2009?
- (2) What was the economic cost of this deployment?
- (3) Has the Government sought a financial contribution from the organisers of the Mardi Gras for the cost of the police deployment?
- (4) If yes, what was the amount of the financial contribution?
- (5) If no, will the Government seek a financial contribution from the organisers of the Mardi Gras in the future?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me:

- (1) to (5) A total of 839 police were involved in the 2009 Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras operation. These officers were paid according to their rank and as part of their normal duties.

\*5426 WINDSOR ROAD RUBBISH—Mr Ray Williams asked the Minister for Roads—

As much of Windsor Road and the centre strip is continually littered with rubbish, and weeds are overgrowing the newly landscaped areas, will the Minister request the RTA to tidy up these neglected aspects of Windsor Road and ensure regular maintenance is provided to these areas in the future?

Answer—

I am advised:

Weed spraying on the median strip of Windsor Road and Old Windsor Road was recently carried out as part of the roads regular maintenance program.

\*5427 RETROSPECTIVE OPERATION OF PERPETUAL LEASE LEGISLATION—Mr Ray Williams asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

- (1) Was legislation passed, and commenced on 1 July 2004, to permit residents who were living on leased land, the opportunity to purchase properties at 3% of the current market value?
- (2) In August 2004, and as of 11 March 2009, did the Department of Lands website state that "should a landholder wish to withdraw their current application to purchase a perpetual lease (lodged prior to 1 July 2004) and reapply, their new application will be processed in accordance with the new provisions in the Act"?
- (3) Does this effectively mean that people who had already applied to purchase a perpetual lease from the NSW Government and who would be faced with paying 100% of the current market value of the property, would be given the opportunity to reapply and therefore purchase the land at 3% of the current market value and at a greatly reduced price?
- (4) Did Mr Martin Tebbutt, on 26 February 2004, pay \$360,000 plus GST of \$36,000 to the Department of Lands/Crown for the purchase of perpetual lease 91122, and were the titles subsequently registered on 27 July 2004?
- (5) On 21 June 2005 did Kathy Beves for the District Manager Business Services of Crown Lands NSW Department of Lands, write to Mr Martin Tebbutt and advise him that the Department of Lands had considered a request by Mr Tebbutt to have his property purchase price reduced in accordance with the new legislation and that the Department had commenced to reduce part of the original purchase price?
- (6) When will Mr Martin Tebbutt be refunded in full the outstanding amount of money he was promised by Department of Lands officers in written correspondence to him, which is in accordance with amendments to Schedule 7A of the Crown Lands Act?
- (7) Are there another 8 perpetual lease owners across NSW that have purchased under similar conditions



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

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and who have also not received refunds?

- (8) Does the combined total amount of funding that would be required to meet the Government's own amendments to legislation regarding Schedule 7A Crown Lands Act amount to \$950,000?
- (9) Why is the Government and the Minister for Lands acting contrary to legislation by not refunding these property owners their fair share of compensation, which is money that they have already paid to purchase perpetual properties above 3% of the market value of their properties?

Answer—

- (1) No. The legislation to which you refer only applies to the purchase of certain perpetual leases.
- (2) Yes.
- (3) No.
- (4) Yes.
- (5) Yes.
- (6) No refund is forthcoming as Mr Tebbutt's purchase application had been finalised by the time the new legislation commenced on 1 July 2004. Notwithstanding that the title had not been transferred to his name, Mr Tebbutt became the beneficial owner of the land in question on 26 February 2004 when he paid the agreed purchase price in full. The Department of Lands has previously acknowledged that the information conveyed its letter of 21 June 2005 was incorrect and was sent without the approval of the appropriate delegated officer.
- (7) No. The other eight cases to which you refer were all completed before the new legislation commenced. Hence, no refund is forthcoming.
- (8) No.
- (9) Mr Tebbutt's purchase application, which was lodged on 3 September 2001, was correctly processed under the legislation in force at that time.

**13 MARCH 2009**

(Paper No. 115)

\*5429 SHOOTERS/FIREARMS LICENCE—Mr Richard Amery asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

- (1) How many persons hold a Shooters/Firearm Licence in the State of New South Wales?
- (2) How many persons had their licence revoked during 2008?
- (3) Of the number of persons referred to in (2) above, for what reasons were the licences revoked?
- (4) How many persons had their licence revoked for committing gun-related crimes?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me:

- (1) 168,838 as at 16 March 2009.
- (2) 1,393.
- (3) There are various reasons why a firearms licence may be revoked.
- (4) Based on the information available, it is not possible to precisely describe the number of these revocations.

\*5430 BACKLOG IN HOUSING MAINTENANCE—Mr Richard Amery asked the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) What is the Government doing to address the backlog in maintenance required to maintain dwellings under the control of the Department of Housing?
- (2) How will this activity impact on dwellings that form the Mount Druitt housing estate?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) Housing NSW awarded new maintenance contracts at the end of 2008 which will improve the way property maintenance services are managed and address the backlog. The new maintenance contract applies to all areas of NSW including the Mount Druitt area.

The NSW Government has also agreed to bring forward funding that will focus on stimulating activity in the housing industry by allowing Housing NSW to accelerate its maintenance upgrade works to help address the backlog.

Housing NSW has also received additional funding under the Australian Government's Stimulus

Package to address the maintenance backlog.

- \*5431 BOCSAR LISTINGS AND THE ROI BAR, ALBURY—Mr Greg Aplin asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister for Sport and Recreation—

Noting that the NSW Recorded Crime Statistics for October 2007 to September 2008 do not list the Roi Bar in Albury in the top 100 licensed premises for incidents of assault:

- (1) What processes have been developed for licensed premises included in earlier listings to be reviewed and delisted from the "Top 50" problem venues if updated statistics support such action?
- (2) Will the Minister review the inclusion of the Roi Bar now that BOCSAR statistics for the period October 2007 to September 2008 reveal that measures taken by the licensee have resulted in the venue dropping out of the top 100 problem venues?

Answer—

- (1) The normal processes for the making of a regulation would apply.
- (2) Yes, when the premises that are subject to Schedule 4 of the Liquor Act 2007 are reviewed.

- \*5432 BARANGAROO SITE—Mr Mike Baird asked the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—

- (1) How much money has the Government received to date from potential developers of the Barangaroo site?
- (2) Will any of those proceeds be used to upgrade White Bay to improve the facilities for visiting cruise ships?

Answer—

This is a matter for the Minister for Planning.

- \*5433 CANCELLED JETCAT SERVICE—Mr Mike Baird asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) What labour savings has the Government made since the cancellation of the Manly JetCat service as part of the Mini-Budget?
- (2) Have all staff who were employed on the JetCat service been retained by Sydney Ferries?
- (3) Have the labour costs been effectively transferred into the general Sydney Ferries budget?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Sydney Ferries' workforce has reduced since the cancellation of the JetCats and will reduce further.
- (2) No.
- (3) All operational labour costs of vessel and wharf staff are accounted for against operational budgets.

- \*5434 TRAVEL CLAIMS FOR PARLIAMENTARIANS—Mr Mike Baird asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) What is the cost to administer the expanded travel claims for parliamentarians to claim bus, train and ferry travel following the axing of the free travel pass?
- (2) What is the level of claims so far received since the travel pass was scrapped?
- (3) What is the annual cost to taxpayers of the now scrapped free travel pass?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (3) I am advised that Parliament administers travel claims for Members of Parliament.

- \*5435 EXPRESS TRAINS—NEAR MISS—Ms Gladys Berejiklian asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

In relation to the near miss of two express passenger trains that came within 150 metres of each other at Tarana, New South Wales in January 2009:

- (1) What action has the Government taken?
- (2) What changes in policy have resulted?
- (3) What action has been recommended by the Australian Transport Safety Bureau?
- (4) What action will the Government take?

Answer—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

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I am advised:

- (1) to (4) The incident site at Tarana is located on the Defined Interstate Rail Network and as such is under the jurisdiction of the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB), a Federal Government body. The ATSB is conducting a rail safety investigation and as yet no report or recommendations have been produced.

\*5436 WOLSELEY STREET WHARF SEATS—Ms Gladys Berejiklian asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

When is the Wolseley Street Wharf at Drummoyne going to get back the seats that were removed a year ago for the wharf to be refurbished?

Answer—

I am advised:

The refurbishment of Wolseley Street Wharf was undertaken by NSW Maritime, which falls within the ministerial responsibility of the Minister for Ports and Waterways and the question should be redirected accordingly.

\*5437 VACANT WATERFRONT LOTS—ALEXANDER STREET BALMAIN—Ms Gladys Berejiklian asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) What is the future of vacant waterfront lots at 7 Alexander Street Balmain, adjacent to the Sydney Ferries yard?
- (2) Will this land be used to support improvement in Sydney Ferries services?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) The vacant waterfront lots at 7 Alexander Street, Balmain, have been zoned for residential development by Leichhardt Council.

\*5438 SCHOOL-BASED APPRENTICESHIPS AND TRAINEESHIPS LIAISON OFFICERS—Mr Peter Besseling asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

What are the reasons for ending funding for the positions of the Department of Education and Training School-Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships Liaison Officers at Grafton, Port Macquarie and Forster?

Answer—

Funding will continue to be available in 2009 for the Department of Education and Training's School Based Apprenticeship and Traineeship Coordinator positions in the North Coast Region.

The service will be based at Lismore, Grafton and Forster and will cover all public schools in North Coast Region.

Students will also be supported by enhanced partnerships with State Training Services, Australian Apprenticeship Centres, and other registered training organisations.

\*5439 RESOURCE DISTRIBUTION FORMULA—Mr Peter Besseling 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) Which Area Health Services are currently funded according to the Resource Distribution Formula funding model?
- (2) Which Area Health Services are not currently funded according to the Resource Distribution Formula funding model?

Answer—

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

- (1) and (2) All Area Health Services' growth funding allocations are guided by a number of management tools, including the Resource Distribution Formula.

\*5440 KING CREEK ROAD AND OXLEY HIGHWAY INTERSECTION—Mr Peter Besseling asked the Minister for Roads—

What are the latest plans for a safety upgrade of the King Creek Road and Oxley Highway intersection?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) is currently developing concepts for improvement works at this intersection with Port Macquarie Hastings Council. Once the RTA and Council agree on a concept, potential funding options will be negotiated with Council.

\*5441 "THE TORN BLUE FRINGE" REPORT—Mr Peter Besseling asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

- (1) What is the Government's response to the National Parks Association's 2008 report, "The Torn Blue Fringe"?
- (2) On what basis does the Government determine the need for future marine parks in New South Wales?

Answer—

- (1) The National Parks Association is a non-Government organisation and its Torn Blue Fringe Report has generated significant community debate. The Report has been referred to the Marine Parks Authority, for advice. The Government will consider advice from the Marine Parks Authority on this matter.
- (2) The NSW Government has made a significant contribution to the National Representative System of Marine Protected Areas over the last decade. We are now focused on ensuring that our existing marine parks and other strategies continue to protect the marine biodiversity and provide opportunities for sustainable use and enjoyment. Our current priorities are to complete the statutory reviews of the existing zoning plans for two marine parks - Solitary Islands and Jervis Bay.

\*5442 BEACH NETTING LICENCES—Mr Peter Besseling asked 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) How many licences have been granted for the practice of "beach netting" along the New South Wales North Coast?
- (2) What regulations are in place to ensure the sustainability of this practice?
- (3) What are the responsibilities for beach netting operators for dealing with any marine life caught in their nets that is not taken for consumption or sale?
- (4) How many beach netting licence holders are based in New South Wales?

Answer—

- (1) NSW does not issue commercial fishing licences specifically for beach hauling.
- (2) Refer to (1).
- (3) Refer to (1).
- (4) Refer to (1).

\*5443 BEGA HOSPITAL—BIRTHING FACILITIES—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) Was a woman seven days overdue and suffering pre-eclampsia sent home twice from Bega Hospital due to overcrowding and was an induction halted due to a lack of available beds?
- (2) Was there only one birthing room available for use on the 4th, 5th and 6th March because of a lack of doctors?
- (3) Were birthing mothers shuffled around at 2.00 am on Thursday 5 March due to a lack of beds, including one woman being removed so that another could birth?

Answer—

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

- (1) and (2) The Chief Executive of the Greater Southern Area Health Service advises the treatment provided to the patient was clinically appropriate and at no time was the mother or baby in any danger. Clinical need and clinically assessed priority will always determine the need for beds and where the beds are best placed.

All birthing services for the Bega Valley will continue to be located in Bega Hospital as recommended by the independent assessment of Maternity Services for the district.

The basis for this decision includes Bega Hospital having a larger establishment of midwifery and

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

theatre nursing staff, more specialist back up services and an after hours pathology service.

This arrangement provides a more comprehensive and safer model of care for mothers and babies in the local community.

\*5444 MORUYA FLOOD PLAIN STUDY—Mr Andrew Constance asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of concerns from residents north of Moruya who live on the flood plain about the 1992 flood plain study and, in particular, that this study restricts their ability to develop their own properties?
- (2) Is the Minister aware that some residents want a review of this study?
- (3) What studies have been undertaken on the Moruya flood plain and are there any plans for future studies expected into sea level rises?

Answer—

- (1) Some landholders and residents of the North Moruya area have written to the Department of Environment and Climate Change, and its predecessors, as well as former Ministers, on various occasions since 1998 regarding flooding. The residents have been advised that floodplain risk management is the responsibility of local government; in this case, Eurobodalla Shire Council. Eurobodalla Shire Council, with assistance from its Moruya Floodplain Management Committee, has prepared the Moruya River Floodplain Management Study (1995) and the Moruya River Floodplain Management Plan (1999). Council subsequently adopted the plan in 2004. The plan did not alter the current rural zoning in the north Moruya area, which was identified as a high hazard floodway.
- (2) Yes. Any decision to review the study is a matter for Eurobodalla Shire Council.
- (3) Eurobodalla Shire Council prepared the Moruya River Floodplain Management Study (1995) and the Moruya River Floodplain Management Plan (1999). I am advised that Eurobodalla Shire Council is currently undertaking a preliminary shire-wide review of areas potentially at risk from sea level rise.

\*5445 CAESAREAN SECTION RATES—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) Have caesarean section rates increased at Bega Hospital over the past 3 months?
- (2) What percentage of births at Bega Hospital were caesarean sections in the 6 months leading up to March 2008 and March 2009?
- (3) Has there been an increase in the number of women being reclassified as high risk and sent to Canberra to give birth?
- (4) How many have been sent in 2009 compared to the last 3 months of 2008?

Answer—

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

- (1) to (4) Between September 2007 and February 2008 the caesarean section rate at Bega Hospital was 30%. This rate declined during the period September 2008 to February 2009 where the rate was 21%.

Two women have been transferred to Canberra in 2009 due to high risk medical conditions, compared to one woman transferred for specialist tertiary care in the last 3 months of 2008.

\*5447 PREMIER'S PRIVATE STAFF—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

In relation to the Premier's Private Staff:

Given your advice (Question 4506) that "the Department of Premier and Cabinet publishes information about the number of staff employed in each Minister's office on its website", and the website only provided a summary of total staff and total monthly costs, what are the roles by position and title of each member of the Premier's private staff?

Answer—

Roles and titles of the Premier's staff are set out in the notes to the table showing Ministers' staff numbers published on the Department of Premier and Cabinet website.

\*5448 PUBLIC SECTOR REFORM—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

In relation to public sector reform:

- (1) Is the Premier aware that Federal Finance Minister Lindsay Tanner has been reported as saying this week "We can carry waste and inefficiency in government in good times if we choose to. We simply

can't afford it when things are tough. Finding more savings isn't undermining temporary surges in spending to stimulate the economy. It's complementary"?

- (2) Is the policy of the State Government consistent with the philosophy of the Federal Finance Minister?
- (3) Is the Premier aware the Victorian public sector has only 10 departments?
- (4) Will restructuring to reduce NSW departments to nine (as originally done in Victoria) reduce bureaucratic costs and improve information flow and the speed of decision-making?

Answer—

I refer to my response to question on notice number 3870 asked on 23 September 2008.

\*5449 RYDE SES SERVICES—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Small Business—

- (1) How many times was the City of Ryde SES Unit called out in:
  - (a) 2006;
  - (b) 2007;
  - (c) 2008?
- (2) What funding did each of the Ryde-based SES units receive for the financial years ending:
  - (a) 30 June 2006;
  - (b) 30 June 2007;
  - (c) 30 June 2008?
- (3) How much was spent on capital projects for the City of Ryde SES Unit in:
  - (a) 2006;
  - (b) 2007;
  - (c) 2008?
- (4) What strategies are currently in place to promote becoming a volunteer with the City of Ryde SES Unit?

Answer—

- (1) (a) 166;
- (b) 322;
- (c) 82.
- (2) and (3) In 2008-09 the SES received a record \$57.6 million which included an additional \$5.8 million as part of a volunteer support package. The SES global budget supports the operation of the 227 volunteer units around the State; however, costs are not directly attributed to the operation of individual units. Units are also provided with significant support by their local councils.
- (4) The Ryde City SES Unit has a current membership of 65. Like all SES units, a small number of volunteers leave the unit through natural attrition each year and the unit needs to replace these volunteers. The unit conducts an annual major recruiting drive from October to November that encompasses the Granny Smith Festival and National SES Week. This provides an intake of volunteers for the annual induction course held around November/December.

\*5450 SCHOOL ZONE FLASHING LIGHTS—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Minister for Roads—

- (1) Given your advice (Question 4793) that flashing light signs at each school zone will cost \$116,500 each:
  - (a) What are the different types of flashing lights that have been installed to date;
  - (b) What company won the tender for the installation of each different type of flashing lights;
  - (c) What is the cost of installation of each different type of flashing light?
- (2) How many school zones are there currently in the Ryde Electorate?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The cost to install flashing lights is approximately \$10,000 to \$13,000 depending on location.

For the 2008 rollout, Sigtec Pty Ltd was awarded the tender for interim supply, installation, and maintenance of the School Zone Alert Systems.

For the 2009 rollout and beyond, the following contracts have been awarded as the result of public tenders:

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

- Supply of type approved Alert Signs - Hi Vis Pty Ltd, Aldridge Electrical Industries Pty Ltd and Axent Global Pty Ltd.
  - Supply of Alert Device Controllers - Sigtec Pty Ltd.
  - Supply of Central Management Computer - Sigtec Pty Ltd.
- (2) There are 19 schools in the Ryde State Electorate District, with 30 associated school zones.
- \*5451 FEDERAL FUNDING TO COMBAT SERRATED TUSsock:—Ms Pru Goward asked 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) How much money has been given to NSW by the Federal Government over the following years to help combat serrated tussock:
- (a) 2004;
  - (b) 2005;
  - (c) 2006;
  - (d) 2007;
  - (e) 2008?
- (2) By relevant years and details, in what areas of NSW was the money spent?
- (3) How were the results monitored?
- (4) What, if any, success rate was there?
- Answer—
- (1) Funds provided to the NSW Government:
- (a) 2004: \$30,000
  - (b) 2005: \$47,000
  - (c) 2006: \$99,000
  - (d) 2007: \$110,455
  - (e) 2008: \$113,409
- Other Federal funding may have gone directly to Universities and community groups.
- (2) In all these periods funds were given to the New England Tablelands, Central Tablelands and Southern Tablelands.
- (3) Progress reports were prepared by NSW Department of Primary Industries and were submitted to the Federal Government.
- (4) The coordination projects resulted in more efficient and effective serrated tussock programs across NSW as well as development of improved management practices and formation of the Serrated Tussock Working Group of NSW and ACT.
- \*5452 TENANCY OF "HILLVIEW"—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- (1) What is the current situation with regard to the tenancy of the historic property "Hillview", located at Sutton Forest in the Wingecarribee Shire?
- (2) What are the terms of the Deed of Agreement that was drawn up between the tenant and the Department of Planning 11 years ago?
- (3) What does the department do to ensure the conditions of the Deed of Agreement are adhered to?
- Answer—
- (1) Hillview is currently occupied by Mr Damien Miller. No lease for the property has been signed by me at this time. The future use and occupancy of Hillview are matters which are the subject of present negotiations with Mr Miller.
- (2) The former Heritage Office invited expressions of interest for the restoration of Hillview. The successful tenderers - Damien and Vicki Miller entered into a Deed of Agreement to Lease with the Minister in 1999 under which they would be granted a 40 year lease over Hillview upon completion of restoration works by July 2001.
- (3) During Mr Miller's occupancy, inspections have been carried out by officers of the former Heritage Office and its consultants, the Department of Planning as well as the current and former chairs of the Heritage Council.
- \*5453 NUMBER OF DISPLACED PUBLIC SERVANTS—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- (1) What was the total number of displaced public servants (grade 1-12) in June 2006, June 2007 and

June 2008?

- (2) What was the total number of displaced clerical officers within the Public Service in June 2006, June 2007 and June 2008?
- (3) What was the total number of displaced SES level public servants in June 2006, June 2007 and June 2008?
- (4) What was the total number of displaced CE level public servants in June 2006, June 2007 and June 2008?
- (5) What was the total number of displaced professional officers within the public service in June 2006, June 2007 and June 2008?

Answer—

- (1) The total number of displaced Clerks Grade 1-12 registered with the Public Sector Workforce branch as at 30 June were as follows:
  - (a) 2006 - 130
  - (b) 2007 - 107
  - (c) 2008 - 114
- (2) The total number of displaced Clerical Officers registered with the Public Sector Workforce branch as at 30 June were as follows:
  - (a) 2006 - 20
  - (b) 2007 - 25
  - (c) 2008 - 8
- (3) Nil.
- (4) Nil.
- (5) Nil.

\*5454 COMPUTERS IN SCHOOLS—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

Under the Federal Government's promise for the Computers in Schools Program, how many laptops or desktop computers have been placed in schools in the electorate of Terrigal, by school and number supplied?

Answer—

No computers have been delivered to schools under the Laptops for Learning program to date.

Laptop computers will be rolled out to all Year 9 students commencing Term 3, 2009.

An additional allocation of laptops will be provided to Erina High School, Kincumber High School and Terrigal High School as part of the Round One allocation to meet the Commonwealth Government's initial objective to provide a computer/student ratio in schools of 1:2.

Tuggerah Lakes Secondary College Tumby Umbi Campus will receive an additional allocation of laptops in the supplementary round two process which is called Round 2.1.

\*5455 DRINK DRIVING—ELECTORATE OF TERRIGAL—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations—

- (1) How many people were charged with drink driving in 2008 in the electorate of Terrigal?
- (2) What is the age profile of drink drivers in the electorate of Terrigal?
- (3) What is the State average of drink driving charges by electorate or area?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (3) BOCSAR does not record charges by electorate.

\*5456 SCHOOL HALL—WHEELER HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

As the Government has now received, or is receiving, substantial Federal Government funds for infrastructure at schools, what steps has the Minister taken to ensure those funds will be prioritised to ensure a new school hall for Wheeler Heights Public School, in accordance with her Government's promise, to ensure it is delivered in this current four-year period?

Answer—



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

---

I am pleased to advise that Wheeler Heights Public School is to receive a hall facility under the NSW Government's Building Better Schools Program. The project will be completed within the term of the Government, and the Department of Education and Training will keep the school community apprised as to progress of the works.

Currently, the Department is preparing a draft schedule for the construction of the halls and gymnasiums that have been approved as part of the Building Better Schools Program. Planning for the new hall at Wheeler Heights Public School has commenced and the timing of the construction will be affected by the funding approvals determined by the State Budget.

\*5457 REDFERN-WATERLOO HUMAN SERVICES PLAN PHASE TWO—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

What protocols and referral pathways have been developed between health and other local service providers as referred to in the Redfern-Waterloo Human Services Plan Phase Two?

Answer—

The following steps have been undertaken to implement this action:

- The main hospital services at Rachel Forster relocated to Royal Prince Alfred Hospital in October 2000.
- Community Health Services were relocated to Pitt Street by June 30th 2008.
- Community-based health services currently being provided from temporary locations at Pitt St & Camperdown.
- Tenders closed for the construction of the new centre. Tender was awarded to Richard Crookes Construction (RCC).
- Works have commenced on the Redfern Community Health Centre and are scheduled to be complete by the first quarter 2010.

\*5458 ABORIGINAL SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT OFFICER—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

- (1) In accordance with the Redfern-Waterloo Human Services Plan Phase 2, when was the Aboriginal Support Development Officer in Home and Community Care System re-established, if at all?
- (2) Who is the person that currently occupies the position and what is the location of the position.

Answer—

- (1) The NSW Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care (DADHC) reported that the tender for Aboriginal HACC Development Officer was advertised November 2008.
- (2) DADHC have advised the Aboriginal Support Development Officer position recruitment process is still being finalised.

\*5459 NSW ABORIGINAL CHRONIC CARE STANDARDS—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

In accordance with the Redfern-Waterloo Human Services Plan Phase 2, what are the details as to what stage the implementation of the NSW Aboriginal Chronic Care Standards is at?

Answer—

Health NSW is the lead agency in implementing this issue. Health NSW has reported that the Aboriginal Chronic Care Area Health Service Standards are now incorporated into the new Clinical Service Redesign program "Walgan Tilly" in the Community Health section of the South West Sydney Area Health Service.

\*5460 AFFORDABLE HOUSING STRATEGY—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

- (1) In accordance with the Redfern-Waterloo Human Services Plan Phase 2, has there been an Affordable Housing Strategy developed for Redfern-Waterloo?
- (2) If so, when and where will it be publicly released?

Answer—

- (1) An Affordable Housing Strategy is currently being developed.
- (2) This information is not yet available.

\*5461 REDFERN-WATERLOO TRANSPORT WORKING GROUP—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

- (1) In accordance with the Redfern-Waterloo Human Services Plan Phase 2, has the Redfern-Waterloo Transport Working Group been established?
- (2) If so, what are the names of the members and are there any activities currently before the group?

Answer—

- (1) Yes.

- (2) The members of the group are:

Jane Rogers - South Sydney Community Transport Inc  
 Julie Parsons - Redfern Waterloo Authority  
 Clayton Freeman - NSW Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care  
 Nelson Contador - NSW Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care  
 Peter Ramshaw - NSW Taxi Council Ltd  
 Warren Finnan - State Transit Authority  
 Eric Graham - State Transit Authority  
 Nerida Morgan - RailCorp  
 Richard Campbell - City of Sydney  
 Millie Ingram - Wyanga Aboriginal Aged Care Program  
 Judy Murray - Alleena Aboriginal Home Care Service  
 Inspector Murchie - Police, Redfern Local Area Command  
 Mark Sterry - Sydney South West Area Health Service  
 Ann-Marie Vine - Principal Alexandria Park Community School  
 Mark Brimfield - Ministry for Transport  
 Mary Kerr - Ministry for Transport

The issues that the Group is examining include:

- Taxis - Working with the taxi networks around safety issues, secure ranks, brokered services.
- Travel Training exploring options to facilitate an exchange of information regarding existing services and how to access them.
- Safe walking routes.
- Culturally appropriate transport.

\*5462 ESTABLISHMENT OF ORGANISATIONS—REDFERN-WATERLOO—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

- (1) In accordance with the Redfern-Waterloo Human Services Plan Phase 2, has there been the establishment of:
- (a) the Redfern-Waterloo Dementia Taskforce;
  - (b) the Redfern-Waterloo Migrant Communities Working Group;
  - (c) the Redfern-Waterloo Disability Services Working Group?
- (2) What are the dates when each of the above was established, the names of the members and the contact details for each group?

Answer—

- (1) (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) Yes.

- (2) Dementia Taskforce:

- Established: 27 November 2008.
- Names of Members: Representatives from DADHC, Health NSW, City of Sydney, Wyanga Aged Care and Alleena. Specific names not yet available.
- Contact: Clayton Freeman, Project Officer, DADHC [clayton.freeman@dadhc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:clayton.freeman@dadhc.nsw.gov.au) or ph: 9334 3732.

Migrant Communities Working Group:

- Established: The NSW Community Relations Commission (CRC) have been implementing the actions included in this strategy and the Migrant Communities Consumer Group will be established in 2009.
- Names of Members: This information is not yet available.
- Contact: This information is not yet available.

Disability Services Group:

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

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- Established: This information is not yet available.
- Names of Members: Representatives from DADHC, City of Sydney and members of the existing Disability Interagency. Specific names not yet available.
- Contact: Clayton Freeman, Project Officer, DADHC [clayton.freeman@dadhc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:clayton.freeman@dadhc.nsw.gov.au) or ph: 9334 3732.

\*5463 HIGH-RISE DEVELOPMENT—DOUBLE BAY—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that community members assert that the high-rise development in Double Bay, being classified as a Part 3A project, was based on flawed analysis and mathematical errors in the consultants' reports prepared for the developer, Ashington?
- (2) What steps has the Minister taken to review whether or not the consultants' reports are substantive?

Answer—

- (1) I am aware of the matters raised by community members with regard to the proponent's assessment of proposed tourism employment generation for the development. The queries raised by residents have been forwarded to the Proponent by the Department of Planning.
- (2) I am advised the Department of Planning has had several discussions with the Proponent in relation to the calculation of employment generation to ensure that the Environmental Assessment adequately addresses the issue.

The relevant expert reports will be available for review by the public when the Environmental Assessment goes on public exhibition, if deemed adequate for exhibition purposes by the Department.

\*5464 TOURISM-RELATED JOBS—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

If the analysis as to the number of tourism-related jobs to be generated by the high-rise development in Double Bay, currently taken in under Part 3A, is seen to be defective, will the Minister agree to hand back the planning approval for this development to Woollahra Council?

Answer—

I will consider all submissions and advice from the Department of Planning before making a decision on the proposal.

\*5465 ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR—Mr Kerry Hickey asked the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney—

What programs are put in place by the Department of Housing to address anti-social behaviour in the large housing estates in the Cessnock electorate?

Answer—

In the Cessnock electorate a position has been created to focus on the large public housing areas of East Cessnock and Weston.

Housing NSW has a community facility located in the East Cessnock public housing area which is utilised by a number of government and non-government agencies for the delivery of programs. The programs target several groups to build and strengthen the community, offering a social outlet for residents.

Housing NSW is working with Cessnock City Council to close off a laneway in the East Cessnock public housing area which has a history of attracting anti social behaviour.

Housing NSW participates in the Crime Prevention Partnership for the Cessnock area and frequently meets with NSW Police to discuss problem areas including anti social behaviour issues.

\*5466 PRISON OFFICERS—CESSNOCK CORRECTIONAL SERVICES CENTRE—Mr Kerry Hickey asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State—

- (1) How many prison officers work at the Cessnock Correctional Services Centre?
- (2) How many of these have applied for transfers to other prisons?
- (3) What is the impact upon the community in regards to reduction of salaries spending?

Answer—

I am advised:

As of 16 March 2009:

- (1) 137 correctional officers and 61 industries, programs and administrative staff were employed at Cessnock Correctional Centre.
- (2) 68 correctional officers and 43 other staff had applied for transfers.
- (3) There will still be a correctional centre and it will still require custodial, industries, programs, health and administrative staff whose salaries will be spent in the community.

\*5467 CESSNOCK CORRECTIONAL SERVICE CENTRE—Mr Kerry Hickey asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State—

- (1) If there is to be an increase of beds in the Cessnock Correctional Centre, is the correctional facility going to provide transport for families who visit their spouses at the centre?
- (2) What is the correctional facility doing to address the problem of holding prisoners on court days which practice currently is stopping the police from doing their job within the local community?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Cessnock Correctional Centre does not provide transport for visiting families. The Department of Corrective Services, as part of its Community Grants Program, provides funding to the Community Restorative Centre, which provides limited transport to various correctional centres (including Cessnock Correctional Centre) for disadvantaged family members.
- (2) The Department of Corrective Services continues to work closely with its partner agencies in facilitating more efficient transport of prisoners.

\*5468 COUNTRY LIBRARIES FUND—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

- (1) Given that the Government announced in November 2008 that the Country Libraries Fund would commence from 1 January 2009, why are the guidance notes and application forms not yet available?
- (2) Why has the State Library of NSW still yet to receive any guidance from the Government regarding the disbursement of funds under this package?
- (3) When will the guidance notes and application forms for the Country Libraries Fund be made available?

Answer—

The relevant information is on the State Library of NSW's website.

\*5469 WYANGALA DAM PIPELINE—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

- (1) Will the Government provide support to the Council of Australian Governments for the CENTROC proposal to pipe water from Wyangala and Burrendong Dams to Orange, Bathurst, Lithgow, Parkes, Forbes, Young, Wellington and Condobolin?
- (2) Has the Department of Water and Energy undertaken or commissioned a report investigating the impact of this proposed extraction on downstream agricultural water users?
- (3) If so, will you provide me with a copy of this report?
- (4) If not, why has this important aspect of this proposal not been investigated?

Answer—

- (1) The NSW Government submitted the CENTROC proposal to the Commonwealth Government, which includes potential pipelines to pipe water from Wyangala and Burrendong Dams to population centres in central western NSW as part of the NSW Government's "Sustaining the Basin" package. While the application was not successful with the Commonwealth, the NSW Government continues to support the CENTROC proposal.
- (2) The NSW Department of Water and Energy has provided funding to the Central Regional Organisation of Councils (CENTROC) for the preparation of a Water Security Study (the Study). CENTROC has engaged consultants to undertake the study which will examine the impact of the proposed extraction on downstream agricultural water users.
- (3) The study report, when complete, will be the property of CENTROC. Any request for a copy should be directed to CENTROC.
- (4) Not applicable. See answers (1), (2) and (3) above.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

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\*5470 BURRINJUCK DAM HYDRO STATION—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, Minister for State Development—

- (1) With reference to your 7 January 2009 reply to my question 4885, have the two generators at Burrinjuck Dam had their technical problems resolved and are they now operational?
- (2) If not, what is the repair completion date of these two generators?
- (3) On how many days between October 2007 and October 2008, when the two generators became unserviceable, did the power station not operate due to (a) lack of sufficient water flow and (b) technical problems?

Answer—

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Not applicable.
- (3) (a) 296 days.

(b) 11 days. This occurred from 8 to 18 October 2008.

\*5471 UNANSWERED REPRESENTATION—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—

In relation to a representation made on behalf of Mr J Fry for Mission Australia Hornsby regarding alcohol advertising (November 2008), when will a response be received?

Answer—

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

A response has been forwarded to the Member.

\*5472 UNANSWERED REPRESENTATION—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—

In relation to a representation made 1 July 2008 regarding "lack of funding for vital equipment for the Special Care Baby Unit", when will a response be received?

Answer—

I am advised by the Minister for Health:

A response was forwarded on 25 August 2008.

\*5473 UNANSWERED REPRESENTATION—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

In relation to a representation made by Mr G Adams of Cherrybrook regarding environment sustainability and tree preservation orders (16 July 2008), when will a response be received?

Answer—

The delay in responding is regretted. A response to your representations was sent to your office on 16 April 2009.

\*5474 LOCAL ABORIGINAL LAND COUNCILS—Mr Kevin Humphries asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—

What is the current position of each Local Aboriginal Land Council in NSW in relation to their land and business plans?

Answer—

The Member for Barwon should be aware that under the Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983 (ALRA) the approval of community land and business plans is by the NSW Aboriginal Land Council, not the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs. Monitoring progress of the approved community land and business plan is a statutory function of the elected Board of that particular Local Aboriginal Land Council as per s62 of the ALRA.

\*5475 ABORIGINAL LAND COUNCIL—ADVISORY PANELS—Mr Kevin Humphries asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—

What are the details and makeup of advisory panels in relation to proposed approvals by the NSW

Aboriginal Land Council assessment and in relation to land dealings?

Answer—

The Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983 does not currently provide for advisory panels in relation to land dealings. However as the Member for Barwon would be aware, there is an exposure draft of the Amendment Bill for Land Dealings currently on public exhibition which canvasses this issue.

\*5476 LOCAL ABORIGINAL LAND COUNCIL—Mr Kevin Humphries asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—

For each NSW Local Aboriginal Land Council, what is:

- (a) the current financial position;
- (b) the current property/land register;
- (c) the list of eligible members with voting rights?

Answer—

Pursuant to the Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983, information pertaining to the current financial position; and the current property/land register for each Local Aboriginal Land Council is held by the particular Local Aboriginal Land Council and the New South Wales Aboriginal Land Council. Particulars of each Local Aboriginal Land Council's voting membership roll are held by the respective Local Aboriginal Land Council and the Registrar ALRA.

\*5477 SCHOOL FLASHING LIGHTS—Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

How many schools in Sutherland Shire have flashing lights constructed in 40 kph school zones?

Answer—

The installation and maintenance of flashing lights outside schools is primarily handled by the Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA).

Consultation may occur with the local council and school involved. Information on school flashing lights is held by the RTA and as such, any issues and questions should be referred to the Minister for Roads for consideration.

\*5478 CONSTRUCTION OF SCHOOL FLASHING LIGHTS—Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

For which schools in the Sutherland Shire does the Government have plans to construct flashing lights within the next 18 months?

Answer—

The installation and maintenance of flashing lights outside schools is primarily handled by the Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA).

Consultation may occur with the local council and school involved. Information on school flashing lights is held by the RTA and as such, any issues and questions should be referred to the Minister for Roads for consideration.

\*5479 SPEED CAMERAS REVENUE—Mr Wayne Merton asked the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—

What is the total revenue raised from speed cameras located in the Baulkham Hills Local Government Area during the financial year ending:

- (a) 30 June 2008;
- (b) 30 June 2007;
- (c) 30 June 2006?

Answer—

I'm advised:

There is one fixed speed camera in the Baulkham Hills Local Government Area, which is located on Old Northern Road, Castle Hill. The total face value of penalty notices issued in relation to the camera for the financial years ending:

- (a) 30 June 2008 was \$1,060,305;

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

- (b) 30 June 2007 was \$339,413; and
- (c) 30 June 2006 was nil.

\*5480 SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICES FUNDING INDEXATION—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—

With respect to NSW Government funding to non-Government organisations to provide social and community services (SACS):

- (1) Is about 80 per cent of Government grants for SACS programs spent on employee-related costs?
- (2) What assessment has the Government carried out to identify employee-related costs for SACS employers and annual increases in these costs?
- (3) What assessment has the Government carried out to identify non employee-related costs such as insurance and rent, and the annual increases in these costs?
- (4) What analysis has the Government done to identify necessary increases in grants to cover increased service costs?
- (5) What strategies does the Government have to ensure that grant funding is indexed to cover employee-related costs that SACS employers are required to pay?

Answer—

I'm advised:

- (1) This is the typical break down of employee to non employee costs.
- (2) The Government does monitor costs under the SACS award and other related award and on-cost wage movements.
- (3) The Government monitors a range of price indicators relevant to non employee related costs such as movements in the CPI.
- (4) The Government's indexation of employee and non employee costs to agencies and their contracted NGOs is undertaken through the normal Budget process.

\*5482 PADDINGTON BOWLING CLUB—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

With respect to Crown land leased by the Paddington Bowling Club, that is adjacent to Trumper Park and a densely populated residential area:

- (1) Does the club have a Perpetual Lease and seeks to transfer this to a Special Lease that would allow it to sell the lease on to commercial operators?
- (2) Is the Department of Lands aware of the increased commercial activity at the club, with an expansion of events where the venue is hired out?
- (3) Is the Department of Lands aware of the findings of the Liquor and Gaming Inquiry into the operations of the Paddington Bowling Club, and what action has been taken in response to these findings?
- (4) If this change of lease is approved, what protections would remain for adjacent residents to ensure that the club remains a recreation club and is not further commercialised?
- (5) What additional revenue would the Department of Lands receive if this lease is transferred to a Special Lease?
- (6) Has the club also requested transfer of land that acts as an informal roadway, currently managed by Woollahra Municipal Council, to the club?
- (7) If this transfer is approved, how would the Government protect public and vehicle access to Trumper Park, Paddington Community Garden and The Palms Tennis Courts?

Answer—

- (1) No.
- (2) Yes.
- (3) Yes. The Department of Lands expects the Club and the Licensee to comply with any directions or recommendations of the enquiry.
- (4) The purpose and terms of any new lease together with existing planning controls will govern the activities of the club.
- (5) None.
- (6) Yes.
- (7) Public access will be preserved by establishing a right of way or formally opening a public road.

\*5483 WSN ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS—SHAREHOLDER MINISTERS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—

- (1) Who are the shareholder ministers for WSN Environmental Solutions (WSN)?
- (2) In recent months, did WSN or related entities seek the Release or Extinguishment of a Restriction on the Use of Land in relation to its landfill property at Belrose?
- (3) If so, why was such application made contrary to previous assurances to the local community?
- (4) On what date did the WSN board approve of this action, if at all?
- (5) On what date did the NSW Government approve of this action, if at all?
- (6) What knowledge did you or your office have of this matter prior to this question being asked?
- (7) Does the Government condone or sanction this action by WSN?

Answer—

I am advised this is a matter for the Treasurer.

\*5484 WSN ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS—BELROSE SITE—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

- (1) Did the CEO of WSN Environmental Solutions (WSN), a Government-owned corporation, promise the local community in March 2004 that no additional landfill would be undertaken at its Belrose landfill site above that agreed with the community, unless a development approval was first obtained through Warringah Council?
- (2) Is WSN and the Government now honouring that commitment to the local community?
- (3) If not, why not?

Answer—

- (1) Although WSN believes it has an appropriate consent for such works, WSN acknowledges the voluntary commitment to the community in 2004 and is exploring the legal and planning issues associated with potentially lodging a variation application to its existing consent.
- (2) and (3) WSN is looking to discuss with the Community Advisory Committee and the council the best way of honouring the commitment.

\*5485 WSN ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS—BELROSE FACILITY—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

- (1) When did WSN Environmental Solutions (WSN) establish a landfill facility at Belrose?
- (2) What approvals did Warringah Council or the NSW government give prior to 1978 for WSN to operate this facility?
- (3) What were the conditions of any such approval in terms of waste volume and landform limits?
- (4) What licence conditions does the EPA currently apply in relation to waste volume and landform limits?
- (5) What additional controls are being considered in relation to current operations of WSN?

Answer—

- (1) In 1979 WSN took over management of an existing landfill at Belrose from Warringah Council.
- (2) WSN did not operate Belrose Waste and Recycling Centre prior to 1978.
- (3) The development approval does not state waste volume or landform limits.
- (4) The EPA does not regulate waste volume and landform limits.
- (5) Final landform height is being considered.

\*5486 WSN ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS—INDEXATION OF MONEY PAID—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

With reference to dividends paid by WSN (answer to Question 4433):

- (1) Up until its closure, why was the Sutherland Council Sports and Recreation Fund money received from WSN (initially an amount of \$1 per tonne landfilled at Lucas Heights) indexed for inflation?
- (2) Why is the Belrose Enhancement Fund money received from WSN (an amount of \$1 per tonne landfilled at the site) not currently indexed?
- (3) Has the amount for the Belrose site ever been indexed?
- (4) If so, why did this indexation for the Belrose site landfill stop?

Answer—



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

- (1) Because this was agreed to by WSN and Sutherland Shire Council as part of the plan for future use of the Lucas Heights I landfill.
- (2) Because indexation was not required under the agreement between WSN and the local community.
- (3) and (4) I am advised that WSN's records do not show indexation for inflation on the fund.

\*5487 WSN ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS—TONNAGE DUMPED—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

- (1) Why is it that the proposed dumping by WSN Environmental Solutions of 160,000 extra tonnes of garbage above previously agreed levels at the Government-owned WSN Belrose site requires no Government approvals, as indicated in your response to written question 4435?
- (2) What protection is there to prevent further increases in tonnage dumped without government approval?
- (3) If the extra dumping is in accordance with Government policy and procedure, are there any measures being actively considered to review this issue?

Answer—

- (1) The previous limits on height and capacity were not agreed, they were voluntarily set by WSN.
- (2) WSN is looking to discuss with Warringah Council and the community either setting limits via a variation to the development consent or by a legally binding agreement with the council.
- (3) WSN has development consent for the site and an EPA licence; these are currently not under review by the government.

\*5488 WSN ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS—SEWAGE WASTE—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

- (1) On how many occasions in 2008 did the WSN site in Belrose accept sewage waste?
- (2) What procedures are now in place to ensure illegal sewage-related waste is not dumped at Belrose?

Answer—

- (1) WSN received sewage-related waste at Belrose 235 times in the 2008 calendar year.
- (2) WSN is licensed to receive sewage-related waste.

As an operational measure WSN stopped accepting sewage-related waste at Belrose in December 2008 as it can be better managed at another WSN facility.

\*5489 INDUSTRIAL LAND IN RIVERSTONE—Mr Donald Page asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

- (1) (a) Why is the existing 4a industrial land in Riverstone presented as 4b (existing) on the Growth Centres Commission Draft Precinct Plan?
- (b) Was this an error as verbally indicated?
- (c) If it was an error, where is the retraction, in writing, and when will an amended draft plan be available?
- (2) What is the Growth Centres Commission and the Minister's intention with the land marked on the draft as light industrial?
- (3) Who were the working groups, State agencies and the local landowners that were consulted, as advised in the "Guide to the Precinct Planning Exhibition" dated 25 November 2008?
- (4) (a) What are "Existing Use Rights" and the impact of residential complaints on the "Existing Use Rights"?
- (b) Does it invoke clause 3A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation that allows "Existing Use Rights" to be overruled if necessary?
- (5) What is the exact timeframe for gazetting of the draft plan and what stage of the process is the Government currently at?
- (6) When the land is confirmed as 4a (heavy), what security do business owners have that the Department of Planning will not attempt to change the zoning again in the future?
- (7) What is the contingency plan if the land remains as 4a?
- (8) What compensation will landowners/businesses receive, due to restriction of trade, if the proposed changes are endorsed?

Answer—

- (1) (a) to (c) The existing General Industrial land in Riverstone is presented as Light Industrial (existing) on the draft Riverstone Indicative Layout Plan (ILP). The reason for this is to differentiate the existing industrial area from the proposed expansion of the industrial area, north of Victoria Road.

The identification of the industrial area as light industrial (existing) is not an error. The purpose of the draft ILP is to illustrate the plans for the future development of the Precinct, not to show what currently exists. The Department of Planning has explained the intent of the notation on the draft ILP to land owners who have queried this issue. The draft zoning has also been confirmed in letters the Department of Planning has sent to land owners in response to their representations on this issue.

- (2) The assessment of issues relating to the zoning of the Riverstone Industrial Area is being expedited, taking into account the concerns of land owners and business operators. The intention is to prepare planning controls that support jobs and businesses in Riverstone, and provide an attractive environment for new residents nearby.
- (3) The Precinct Planning Process included the establishment of working groups and a Project Control Group comprising staff from the Commission (now the Department) and the relevant Council (in this case Blacktown City Council). Depending on the issues under consideration, the working groups involved representatives of other NSW Government agencies, and I would refer any Member interested in the details, to the Riverstone Precinct Planning Report (released as part of the public exhibition).

Consultation with land owners occurred through periodic newsletters, a web site, and individual telephone and email communications with the community throughout the preparation of the draft Precinct Plan.

- (4) (a) An existing use is a use that is lawfully commenced but subsequently becomes a prohibited use under a new local environmental plan or other environmental planning instrument. Existing use rights provide for the continuation of previous rights to operate to avoid potential hardship and dislocation that could result.

Complaints from residents in relation to a use that operates under existing use rights would be treated the same as complaints in relation to any other lawful use.

(b) Section 75YA of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act states that, as part of a condition of approval under Part 3A, an applicant may be required to surrender existing use rights in relation to that development. This provision does not enable the Government to "turn off" existing use rights except where the project is approved under Part 3A.

- (5) The Department of Planning is aiming for gazettal of the Riverstone Precinct Plan in 2009. The public exhibition period for the draft Riverstone Precinct Plan closed on 6 February this year. However, in the interests of maximising community input, the Department has allowed late submissions, particularly in relation to the industrial area. More than 300 submissions have been received and the Department is currently working through the issues raised and assessing the need for amendments to the draft Plans before gazettal.
- (6) and (7) A decision regarding the rezoning has not been made.
- (8) Planning legislation does not provide for compensation to be made where land owners or businesses are affected by changes in planning controls. The Department is working on a review of the planning controls for the Riverstone Industrial Area. The intent of this review is to ensure that existing businesses can continue to operate and grow in a sustainable way, balancing jobs growth with residential growth and amenity to create sustainable communities.

\*5490 RURAL AND REGIONAL TASK FORCE—Mr Donald Page asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

- (1) How many of the recommendations of the Rural and Regional Task Force have been implemented?
- (2) Which recommendations have been implemented?
- (3) Does the Government intend to implement any recommendations that have not yet been adopted?

Answer—

The NSW Rural and Regional Taskforce Report was prepared for consideration by the Premier. With regard to the Taskforce's recommendations relating to my Regional Development Portfolio, the following actions have been implemented:

- establishment of the Local Infrastructure Support Fund (\$52 million) as part of the \$85 million Building the Country package of seven new programs to be funded over five years from 1 January 2009 to support businesses and communities in country NSW;
- extension of the Payroll Tax Incentive Scheme to include eligible areas in northern and western NSW;
- establishment of a network of Regional Development Australia committees in NSW to drive economic development across the state, which will be fully operational from 1 July 2009;
- a review of the strategic direction, operations and structure of the Department of State and

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

Regional Development has been undertaken and is currently being implemented.

The Department of State and Regional Development will convene a working group to develop approaches to a co-ordinated regional marketing strategy.

With regard to my Water Portfolio, the recommendations under section 13.11 of the Rural and Regional Task Force report, in relation to the Country Towns Water Supply and Sewerage Program and the Local Water Utilities Review, have been either acted on, or are under consideration by the Government.

The Government expects to finalise its response to the Independent Inquiry into Secure and Sustainable Urban Water Supply and Sewerage Services for Non-Metropolitan NSW in mid-2009.

\*5491 RURAL PUBLIC DENTAL CLINICS—Mr Adrian Piccoli 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 action is being taken by NSW Health to fill dental vacancies in rural public dental clinics?
- (2) How long is it since a dentist was permanently attached to the Griffith clinic?
- (3) What incentives is NSW Health putting in place to attract and retain dentists in rural locations?
- (4) When will a permanent dentist be appointed to the Griffith clinic?

Answer—

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

(1) and (3) In September 2008, the Industrial Relations Commission created new Awards for oral health staff. Among the improvements were enhancements to remuneration for dental officers and dental specialists, a new Award for oral health therapists that also applies to dental therapists and dental hygienists and an Award for dental prosthetists.

The new Awards also provide enhanced career pathways and are complemented by incentives for clinical practice in rural and regional NSW. These include rural oral health scholarships for oral health university students in their final two years of study, and the Graduate Rural Incentive Scheme for new graduates taking a position in public oral health services in rural and regional NSW and the Dental Officer Rural Incentive Scheme. These initiatives are outlined further on the NSW Health web site.

Other related initiatives include a NSW Dental Therapist Reconnect Program aimed at enticing therapists back into the public health workforce, enhancements to rural and regional clinical facilities and the continuation of the NSW International Dental Graduate Program.

The New South Wales International Dental Graduate Program provides a supervised clinical experience program of up to 12-months, for overseas trained Dentists who are enrolled with the Australian Dental Council, but are not yet fully registered in Australia.

The dentists who joined the program in January 2009 will be provided with clinical placements in the rural Area Health Services wherever possible to assist with service provision and filling of vacant positions once they are fully qualified.

(2) and (4) Despite repeated recruitment attempts, both locally and overseas, there has been no permanent dentist at Griffith Clinic since November 2006. Casual and locum services have been engaged to provide services at the Clinic. Both dental positions at Griffith are the subject of continued recruitment action.

\*5492 STUDENT BUS PASSES—TWEED ELECTORATE—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

In relation to student bus passes in the Tweed electorate:

- (1) What is the process for bus passes to be issued to students attending school and TAFE?
- (2) What is the expected time before a student is issued with a student bus pass?
- (3) How many student bus passes have been issued in the Tweed Electorate in:
  - (a) 2007;
  - (b) 2008;
  - (c) 2009?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Application forms for the School Student Transport Scheme are available from a student's school or TAFE. Completed application forms should be returned to the school or TAFE. Application forms are forwarded to the local transport operator for assessment. Eligible students are issued with a pass by local transport operators.

- (2) Passes are generally issued promptly by bus companies. However an 'amnesty' usually applies for the first two weeks of term to cover those students who only apply at the commencement of the term or later.
- (3) Student travel records are not attributed to local government areas or electorates.
  - (a) Based on the suburbs located within the Tweed electorate approximately 6,150 students were in receipt of school bus passes in the Tweed Electorate in 2007.
  - (b) Based on the suburbs located within the Tweed electorate approximately 6,300 students were in receipt of school bus passes in the Tweed Electorate in 2008.
  - (c) Data for student travel passes issued in the Tweed area in 2009 will not be received by the Ministry of Transport from bus operators until the end of Semester 1, 2009.

\*5493 PRIVATE BUS CONTRACTORS—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

In relation to bus services provided by private contractors under the Government's Rural and Regional Bus Service Contract:

- (1) What are the performance criteria for private contractors?
- (2) When will contractors in the Tweed electorate start monthly reporting?
- (3) What support is provided for the implementation of the red ticket system to private contractors?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Key performance criteria includes: the operation of scheduled services; on-time running; planning requirements including network reviews and community consultation; safety requirements; complaint management; and financial reporting.
- (2) Reporting for all new Rural and Regional Bus Contracts will commence from July 2009.
- (3) To assist with the implementation of the new Regional Excursion Daily (RED) tickets all operators have been provided with business rules, posters and booklets explaining how the RED ticket works, as well as information via a RED workshop and briefing sessions at key locations across New South Wales. Operators are also able to seek advice on day to day matters from the relevant regional office of the Ministry of Transport.

\*5494 BOYDS BAY MARINA—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

In relation to the proposed Boyds Bay Marina in the Tweed electorate:

- (1) What is the current status of this project?
- (2) When will the successful tender be named?
- (3) Will there be public consultation by the tenderer?
- (4) What will be the estimated timeframe of the project?
- (5) Will the project be considered under 3A State significant?
- (6) Will the Marina require any dredging of the Terranora Inlet or the Tweed River?

Answer—

- (1) The Department of Lands has commenced negotiations with a preferred proponent.
- (2) The successful proponent will be named when a project development agreement has been executed.
- (3) The successful proponent will be required to commit to a communication strategy as part of the development agreement.
- (4) It is envisaged that the project development agreement will be executed within 3 months; preparation and lodgement of a development application could take up to 12 months; and if development consent is forthcoming, construction could commence in early 2011.
- (5) This will be a decision for the Minister for Planning.
- (6) It is likely that the marina proposal will require some dredging.

\*5495 GAS HEATERS—BLUE MOUNTAINS SCHOOLS—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

Will Blue Mountains schools be fitted with flued gas heaters to reduce nitrogen dioxide levels before winter this year?

Answer—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

I am advised by the Department of Education and Training that low emission unflued gas heaters have been found to be compliant with the National Environment Protection Measures, which are ambient air quality guidelines developed by the National Environment Protection and Heritage Council.

The Department continues to liaise closely with other government agencies, including the Department of Commerce and NSW Health regarding unflued gas heaters.

The Department continues to monitor the safe use of gas heaters and provide advice to schools as appropriate to ensure the health, safety and comfort of students and teachers in NSW.

\*5496 HEALTH IMPACTS OF UNFLUED GAS HEATERS IN SCHOOLS—Mr Michael Richardson 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) Did the Minister's department not provide the Department of Education and Training (DET) with a complete copy of the 2005 Hunter New England Area Health Study on the health impacts of unflued gas heaters in schools as a spokesman for his department alleged in The Sydney Morning Herald on 4 January 2009?
- (2) Has the full document now been provided to DET and if not, why not?
- (3) What section or sections were withheld from DET and why?
- (4) Is there a connection between the extremely high rate of asthma among children aged 0-14 years in Katoomba and the unflued gas heaters in Blue Mountains schools?

Answer—

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

(1) to (3) NSW Health conducted a School Heater Surveillance Program in 2005 for non-government schools around the State. The sample for the survey did not include government schools, so the provision of the report to the Department of Education and Training was primarily for information regarding the key findings.

(4) NSW Health is working with the Department of Education and Training to investigate the health impact of "Low NOx" (nitrogen oxide) unflued gas heaters.

\*5497 WILDERNESS ASSESSMENT GUIDELINES—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

In relation to assessment of the Sandon and Wooli Catchments (answer to Question 4827):

- (1) Why is the Department of Environment and Climate Change only reviewing the Wilderness Assessment Guidelines now, when the NSW Ombudsman recommended a review should take place in 2004, 5 years ago?
- (2) Will the Colong Foundation's nomination of the Sandon and Wooli Catchments for assessment under Section 7 of the Wilderness Act continue to be assessed even though the due date of 12 October 2008 has passed?

Answer—

(1) The Department of Environment and Climate Change completed the guidelines in response to the Ombudsman's recommendations in 2007.

(2) Yes.

\*5498 PROPOSED CHANGES TO BUS ROUTES—Mr Anthony Roberts asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

Regarding the proposed changes to bus routes in the North West Region Survey conducted in late 2008:

- (1) How much did the brochure for the North West Region cost and how many were printed?
- (2) How was the brochure distributed throughout the North West Region?
- (3) How many were actually delivered and to which streets/roads/avenues etc in the Lane Cove electorate part of the North West Region?
- (4) Were the brochures actually delivered and if so can it be verified?
- (5) Were the following streets/roads/avenues within the Lane Cove electorate included:
  - (a) Ross Smith Parade;
  - (b) Matthews Avenue;
  - (c) Howell Avenue;
  - (d) Bridge Street;
  - (e) Romani Avenue;

- (f) Miramont Avenue;
- (g) Surada Avenue
- (h) Best Street;
- (i) Lucretia Avenue?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (5) There were 172,000 brochures printed at a cost of \$42,240 including GST. State Transit engaged a delivery company to hand deliver the brochure to the homes of residents in streets throughout the North West Region area. Brochures were also posted to key stakeholders including, councils, retirement villages, community organisations, and Members of Parliament. In addition information on the consultation process was advertised on buses and in local newspapers. An audit of the distribution process indicates that the streets listed in question 5 were covered.

\*5499 SALE OF GRAYTHWAITE—Mrs Jillian Skinner 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 Graythwaite in the electorate of North Shore:

- (1) Has NSW Health had any discussions or agreed to a purchase price with Shore School over the sale of Graythwaite?
- (2) Has NSW Health recently surveyed the site to assist with the sale?
- (3) Is the Minister aware of any plans by the Commonwealth to purchase the site?
- (4) What is the timeline for the sale of the site?
- (5) Is NSW Health looking at possibly purchasing the site?
- (6) Has the Minister or NSW Health had any approaches by Commonwealth departments to ask that any sale be delayed?
- (7) (a) Has NSW Health had any expressions of interest to purchase Graythwaite?  
(b) If so, from whom?
- (8) Would NSW Health consider delaying any sale of Graythwaite if the Commonwealth indicated the necessary money would be available?

Answer—

I am advised by the Minister for Health:

- (1) and (7) The Department of Health has not commenced a formal sale process. Eventual sale price will be determined in a fair and competitive market place. While general inquiries have been received by the Department of Health, the release of detailed information prior to commencement of a formal process could give an unfair competitive advantage to parties in receipt of such information.
- (2) No.
- (3) There was an election commitment from the current Federal Government to purchase the site.
- (4) The sale will be progressed in accordance with Court Orders.
- (5) No.
- (6) No.
- (8) The sale of the Graythwaite Estate needs to be progressed in accordance with Court Orders.

\*5500 RELATIVE PER DAY COST OF TREATMENT—Mrs Jillian Skinner 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—

What is the case mix relative per day cost of treatment at each of the Teaching and Rural Base Hospitals in NSW as at the end of 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008?

Answer—

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

Data in the table below represents the "average cost per patient day" for NSW teaching hospitals and facilities containing the term "base" in their title for the years 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07. The processing of 2007-08 data has not yet been finalised.

The term "Base Hospital" no longer necessarily reflects a facility's role or function.

	Average cost per patient day	Average cost per patient day	Average cost per patient day

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
NSW Teaching Hospitals	\$1,112.85	\$1,251.08	\$1,316.31
	Average cost per patient day	Average cost per patient day	Average cost per patient day
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
NSW Hospitals with "base" in their title	\$902.77	\$980.32	\$1,114.23

\*5501 WATER STUDY FOR THE LIVERPOOL PLAINS—TERMS OF REFERENCE—Mr George Souris asked 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—

In relation to Caroonia:

- (1) What concerns have come to the Minister's attention over the process to determine a terms of reference for a new independent water study for the Liverpool Plains?
- (2) Is the Minister satisfied that his appointment of Labor ex-MP Pam Allan is at arm's-length to his Government?
- (3) In what way is each individual appointment to the reference group justified by the Minister as being independent and at arms-length to his Government?
- (4) How can the local community be satisfied that the process of appointment, those chosen for appointment and the investigation itself will produce a genuine independent conclusion?

Answer—

- (1) The Ministerial Working Party on the Liverpool Plains Water study (now referred to as the Namoi Catchment Water Study), has been developing draft terms of reference for a water study in the region. As part of this process, three stakeholder workshops were held in the region and over ninety people attended. Local government, community groups, farming and industry were well represented. There was a variety of views expressed and these were subsequently reported back to the working party by the workshop facilitators. The working party will consider the results of these workshops in its finalisation of terms of reference. The overwhelming response to the process by the community has been very positive.
- (2) Yes.
- (3) The Namoi Catchment Water Study Working Group comprises representatives of the Caroonia Coal Action Group, Namoi Water and the NSW Farmers Association along with representatives of coal and gas companies holding exploration licences or conducting mining operations within the Namoi Water Catchment. These representatives are independent of the Government.
- (4) The Namoi Catchment Working Study Working Group is developing draft objectives, parameters and a governance structure for the proposed water study. The Working Group will present its recommendations to me at the completion of this process.

\*5502 REVIEW OF INCIDENTS INVOLVING MARINE WILDLIFE—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

- (1) In reference to Written Question 3808, when is the review of "the existing procedural guidelines and policies associated with incidents involving marine wildlife" to commence?
- (2) When will the final review be released?
- (3) What are the terms of reference for this review?

Answer—

- (1) The review commenced September 2008.
- (2) The revision of the Department's "Management Manual for Marine Mammals in NSW" will be concluded in 2010.
- (3) The terms of reference for the review which is being undertaken in consultation with ORRCA; Seaworld; RSPCA; Taronga Zoo; universities; and other marine wildlife specialists are to ensure that the Department's policies and guidelines reflect current best practice for:
  - returning animals to the ocean;
  - disentanglement from fishing nets;
  - management of animals that cannot fend for themselves;
  - humane euthanasia; and
  - human health and safety curing marine incidents.

\*5503 MONA VALE HOSPITAL—HOSPICE FOR THE TERMINALLY ILL—Mr Rob Stokes 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—

When does the Government expect that legal concerns over releasing the \$291,000 for extension of the palliative care unit or construction of a hospice for the terminally ill at Mona Vale Hospital will be resolved and the money released for these purposes?

Answer—

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

Palliative care programs have evolved over the past decade with more contemporary practice being the establishment of day hospital programs rather than stand alone hospices.

Advice has been sought from the Attorney General in relation to a request pursuant to Section 13 of the Charitable Trusts Act 1993, varying the donations received from a public appeal towards a palliative care day hospital program rather than the construction of a hospice.

It is anticipated that this matter should be clarified in the near future.

\*5504 IMPROVEMENTS TO MONA VALE ROAD—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Roads—

- (1) How much was spent on road resurfacing and improvements to Mona Vale Road in the 2007-08 financial year?
- (2) How much is budgeted for road resurfacing and improvements to Mona Vale Road in the current 2008-09 financial year?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The programming, budgeting and delivery of road improvements on Mona Vale Road for the 2007-08 financial year was the responsibility of Transfield Services Pty Limited as part of the Performance Specified Maintenance Contract with the Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) for the northern area of Sydney.
- (2) In the 2008-09 financial year, the maintenance contract with Transfield Services Pty Ltd ended on 24 October 2008. The RTA's records for the months of July to September 2008 show that 30,000 square metres of road pavement was paved at various locations, valued at approximately \$3.5 million.

\*5505 MONA VALE ROAD UPGRADE—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Roads—

- (1) Has the Mona Vale Road upgrade, identified on page 83 of the State Infrastructure Strategy, been approved?
- (2) If so:
  - (a) What are the plans for this upgrade?
  - (b) What is the cost of the proposed upgrade?
  - (c) What are the commencement and completion dates for this upgrade?
- (3) If not, when is it expected that a determination on this matter will be made?

Answer—

am advised:

- (1) to (3) The Mona Vale Road upgrade is in the State Infrastructure Strategy not in the 2008-09 Budget for the RTA.

\*5506 BUS REGION EIGHT—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

Of the 300 new buses to be provided by the Government during 2009, how many will be allocated to Bus Region Eight?

Answer—

I am advised:

The State Transit Authority has been allocated 40 of the 300 new growth buses. The Ministry of Transport is now working with State Transit to determine where to place the new buses in the light of growth trends across its four Sydney contract Regions, including Bus Region 8.



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

\*5507 LOSS OF LICENCES—LOW-LEVEL SPEEDING OFFENCES—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations—

- (1) Is the department considering offering a partial amnesty for drivers that have lost demerit points for low-level speeding offences, given that new changes acknowledge the severity of previous penalties?
- (2) If not, is the department considering alternatives to ameliorate some of the disruptions to individuals who have lost their licences as a result of these severe penalties?

Answer—

I am not the responsible Minister.

\*5508 CAR PARKING SPACES—NORTHERN BEACHES—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) Does the department plan to provide any additional car parking near public transport locations on Sydney's northern beaches?
- (2) If so, how many additional spaces are planned and where will they be installed?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) In November 2008, the Premier announced the expansion of commuter car parking at rail stations across Sydney, bringing the Government's total commitment to 7,000 extra commuter car parking spaces. These car park spaces allow commuters to park and ride the train, supporting the Government's policy of better utilising our road and rail network to get people around efficiently and comfortably. The current program does not provide additional commuter car parking on the Northern Beaches.

\*5509 THEME BASED LISTING PROGRAMME FOR HERITAGE NOMINATION—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

- (1) When will the "theme based listing programme" for heritage nomination commence?
- (2) Who will be empowered to appoint these "themes"?
- (3) (a) Will the public be consulted during the process of deciding these themes?  
(b) If so, in what ways?
- (4) (a) Will nominations by individual members of the public be limited to this thematic programme?  
(b) If not, will the Government consider codifying the rights of individuals to nominate items to the Heritage Council in legislation?

Answer—

- (1) The theme based program commenced on 27 February 2009.
- (2) and (3) The Heritage Council recommended the current themes and these were approved by the former Minister for Planning
- (4) (a) No, but priority will be given to the assessment of thematic nominations or for places under threat.  
(b) There is no need to codify the nomination process as this is fully explained on the publically accessible Heritage Branch, Department of Planning website.

\*5510 PITTWATER/BARRENJOEY ROAD UPGRADE—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Roads—

- (1) Are there any plans to upgrade Pittwater/Barrenjoey Road, given the poor state of maintenance of this road identified by the RTA in February 2009?
- (2) If so:
  - (a) When will this work commence?
  - (b) What sections of the road will be updated?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) Pittwater/Barrenjoey Roads form part of the newly arranged Performance Specified Maintenance Contract that was awarded to Downer EDI in late 2008.

The Roads and Traffic Authority has not yet received a program of specific pavement improvement works from Downer EDI. Details on locations and timing of any works can be provided once this program is finalised.

\*5511 BURRENDONG STATE PARK—Mr Russell Turner asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

- (1) Who are the current operators of the kiosk at Burrendong?
- (2) If the kiosk is privately run, who are the operators and what are the terms of the contract?
- (3) Who owns and manages the stock within the park boundaries?
- (4) What were the stock numbers in:
  - (a) 2006;
  - (b) 2007;
  - (c) 2008;
  - (d) currently?
- (5) What were the numbers of stock losses other than sale in:
  - (a) 2006;
  - (b) 2007;
  - (c) 2008?
- (6) Who are MAAS Constructions?
- (7) What involvement have MAAS Constructions had in any development at Burrendong?
- (8) Is that involvement as:
  - (a) private contractor who tendered for works;
  - (b) public private partnership (PPP)?
- (9) If the work was done under contract, what are the details and prices of the contract(s)?
- (10) If the works involved a PPP, what are the terms of the contracts?
- (11) What plans does the Minister have to increase visitation and financial viability of the Burrendong State Recreation Area?

Answer—

- (1) The Lake Burrendong State Park Trust.
- (2) The kiosk is not privately run.
- (3) to (5) The Lake Burrendong State Park Trust manages the stock within the park boundaries using normal management practices.
- (6) MAAS Constructions is a building and construction company that is based in Dubbo.
- (7) to (10) The Minister for Lands is advised that MAAS Constructions has been involved in some work at the Burrendong State Park.
- (11) Lake Burrendong State Park Trust has the responsibility to manage the Burrendong State Park.

\*5512 SUPPORT FOR RURAL CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE—Mr John Williams asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

- (1) How many communities in NSW with a population of under 5,000 have a chamber of commerce?
- (2) Will the Minister lift the threshold to allow the very few chambers of commerce in the Murray-Darling electorate to take advantage of the Minister's grants of up to \$5,000?

Answer—

- (1) There are 77 communities in regional NSW with a population of less than 5,000 that have a chamber of commerce. In those locations where no chamber of commerce is in place, the Small Chambers of Commerce Fund program will accept applications from other affiliations of businesses.
- (2) The population threshold for towns eligible to apply for funding from the Small Chambers of Commerce Fund will remain at below 5,000 as a specific measure for smaller communities. The Department of State and Regional Development also delivers the Community Economic Development Program through which larger chambers of commerce are able to access assistance.

\*5513 MARDI GRAS—COST OF STAFF DEPLOYMENT—Mr Ray Williams asked the Minister for Roads—

- (1) How many staff were employed by the Government to install and enforce road closures for the Mardi Gras in 2009?
- (2) What was the economic cost of this deployment?
- (3) Has the Government sought a financial contribution from the organisers of the Mardi Gras for the cost of deployment of staff?
- (4) If the answer to (3) is yes, what was the amount of the financial contribution?
- (5) If the answer to (3) is no, will the Government seek a financial contribution from the organisers of

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

the Mardi Gras in the future?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) None.
- (3) No.
- (4) Not applicable.
- (5) No.

\*5514 MARDI GRAS—COST OF STAFF DEPLOYMENT—Mr Ray Williams 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 ambulance officers and ambulances were on standby for the Mardi Gras in 2009?
- (2) What was the economic cost of this deployment?
- (3) Has the Government sought a financial contribution from the organisers of the Mardi Gras for the cost of the deployment of ambulance officers and ambulances?
- (4) If the answer to (3) is yes, what was the amount of the financial contribution?
- (5) If the answer to (3) is no, will the Government seek a financial contribution from the organisers of the Mardi Gras in the future?

Answer—

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

- (1) The Ambulance Service of NSW deployed 33 paramedics and 19 vehicles for Mardi Gras 2009 on Saturday, 7 March 2009.
- (2) The total cost of the Ambulance deployment was \$50,170.00 as calculated under the provisions of the Ambulance Major and Sporting Events Policy.
- (3) to (5) The Mardi Gras is classified as a Category B Hallmark Event in the Ambulance Major and Sporting Events Policy. Events in this category enhance awareness, appeal and profitability of a destination at a particular time and are not invoiced for the provision of ambulance services. These events typically have an international and/or national audience and provide significant economic and social benefits. Event organisers and the NSW Department of State and Regional Development have estimated that the total direct and flow-on value added to NSW from the 2008 Mardi Gras Parade is in the order of \$23 million to \$32 million.

**24 MARCH 2009**

(Paper No. 116)

5515 DRIVERS OVER 75 YEARS OF AGE—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Roads—

5516 RECREATIONAL FISHING LICENCES—Mr Greg Aplin 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—

5517 OFFICE OF STATE REVENUE—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—

5518 LEASING COSTS—GOVERNOR MACQUARIE TOWER—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—

5519 LIQUOR LICENSING LAWS—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister for Sport and Recreation—

\*5520 WOLSELEY STREET FERRY WHARF—Ms Gladys Berejiklian asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) For the past two elections has the Government promised a new pontoon-mounted wharf for the Wolseley Street ferry wharf?
- (2) Why are there still rotten timbers as the main foundation of the wharf?

(3) When is the next refurbishment due?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) to (3) NSW Maritime has responsibility for Wolseley Street Wharf. The questions should be redirected to the Minister for Ports and Waterways.

5521 NSW PUBLIC SECTOR WORKFORCE STRATEGY—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

5522 WATSONS BAY PILOT STATION—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—

5523 SOLAR POWER GENERATION—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

5524 PROBLEM GAMBLING SERVICE—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—

5525 MACQUARIE HOSPITAL—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Minister for Local Government, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

5526 YOUTH SERVICES—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Minister for Juvenile Justice, Minister for Volunteering, Minister for Youth, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs—

\*5527 FLASHING LIGHTS OUTSIDE SCHOOLS ON CENTRAL COAST—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

In relation to flashing lights outside schools in 40 km/h zones:

(1) Which of the following schools have flashing lights outside their schools:

- (a) Terrigal;
- (b) Wamberal;
- (c) Empire Bay;
- (d) Brisbania;
- (e) Kincumber;
- (f) Avoca Beach;
- (g) Woodport;
- (h) Erina Heights;
- (i) Pretty Beach?

(2) In relation to the schools listed in question (1) without flashing lights, when will they be installed?

(3) How many motor accidents were recorded in 2007 and 2008 in the vicinity of the following schools (please answer for each school);

- (a) Terrigal;
- (b) Wamberal;
- (c) Empire Bay;
- (d) Brisbania;
- (e) Kincumber;
- (f) Avoca Beach;
- (g) Woodport;
- (h) Erina Heights;
- (i) Pretty Beach?

Answer—

The installation and maintenance of flashing lights outside schools is primarily handled by the Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA).

Consultation may occur with the local council and school involved. Information on school flashing lights is held by the RTA and as such, any issues and questions should be referred to the Minister for Roads for consideration.

5528 FUNDING FOR THE CENTRAL COAST—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

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- 5529 GOSFORD POLICE STATION—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 Rural Affairs—
- 5530 RURAL ASSISTANCE AUTHORITY—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson 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—
- 5531 IPTAAS CLAIMS—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—
- 5532 TOORALE STATION—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—
- 5533 PROPERTIES SOLD BY HORNSBY SHIRE COUNCIL—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Local Government, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- 5534 SCHOOL FUNDING—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 5535 MENTAL ILLNESS—EXCESSIVE SPENDING—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Local Government, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- \*5536 ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY WATER AND SEWERAGE PROGRAM—Mr Kevin Humphries asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—
- (1) What is the current status of the 2008 Aboriginal Community water and sewerage program announcement projecting upgrades for communities across NSW?
  - (2) What commitments have been made in each of the 60 identified communities, and what progress has been made to any timelines identified for those upgrade projects?
- Answer—
- (1) and (2) This innovative 25-year program commenced rollout across the State in July 2008. The program details are being progressively outlined to the Aboriginal communities and local utility providers. All communities will have had their water and sewerage infrastructure and maintenance requirements scoped by the end of 2009. This work is being done in close partnership with local Aboriginal communities.
- 5537 ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM—Mr Kevin Humphries to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—
- 5538 ABORIGINAL HOME OWNERSHIP—Mr Kevin Humphries to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—
- 5539 OPENING OF AGED CARE VILLAGE—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—
- 5540 CABINET MEETING ADVERTISING—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 5541 CRONULLA POLICE STATION—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 Rural Affairs—
- 5542 PUBLIC HOUSING IN SYDNEY'S NORTH—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney—
- 5543 AESTHETIC CHANGES TO PUBLIC HOUSING—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney—
- 5544 PUBLIC HOUSING—DAVIDSON ELECTORATE—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney—

- 5545 DISPLACED/UNATTACHED PUBLIC SERVANTS—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 5546 INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 5547 VACANT LAND—BATHURST ELECTORATE—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 5548 EMPLOYMENT 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—
- 5549 BREAST CLINICS—TWEED ELECTORATE—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—
- 5550 MAMMOGRAMS FOR PATIENTS OVER 69—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—
- 5551 HELICOPTER PATROLS—SOLITARY ISLANDS MARINE PARK—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 5552 TREE PLANTINGS—GREENFLEET—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 5553 CURRENT DROUGHT—CARBON DIOXIDE LEVELS—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 5554 SCONE RENEWABLE ENERGY PARK—Mr George Souris to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 5555 LOCAL AREA COMMAND POLICING—Mr George Souris to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—
- 5556 FLASHING ORANGE LIGHTS IN SCHOOL ZONES—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Roads—
- \*5557 ANTI-BINGE DRINKING PROGRAMS—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Local Government, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

Will the Government consider additional funding to Pittwater Council for community-based anti-binge drinking programs given the above average rate of binge drinking in the Pittwater Local Government Area?

Answer—

While establishing alcohol free zones is a local government function, funding community health promotion projects is not.

- \*5558 FUNDING TO ASSIST NON-GOVERNMENT COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Community Services—

- (1) How many calls in the 2007-08 financial year were received by the DOCS helpline from the Pittwater electorate?
- (2) How much of the \$100 million funding to assist non-government community organisations to assume child-protection roles from DOCS is being allocated to the Pittwater electorate?
- (3) How many non-government community organisations in the Pittwater electorate are being considered to receive this additional funding?
- (4) On what criteria will the Government decide which of these organisations will receive the additional funding?

Answer—

- (1) Statistical information relating to 'child at risk of harm' reports is not available by electorate. The Pittwater Electorate is within the Department of Community Services Metro Central Region.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

---

Information on the number of reports referred to the Department's regions for further assessment can be accessed in the NSW Department of Community Services Annual Statistical report available at [www.community.nsw.gov.au](http://www.community.nsw.gov.au)

(2) to (4) The criteria for the allocation of the funding are still in development.

5559 "HALLMARK EVENTS"—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

5560 BEACH HAUL LICENCES—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—

**25 MARCH 2009**

(Paper No. 117)

5561 BANK CLOSURES—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Fair Trading, Minister for Citizenship, and Minister Assisting the Premier on the Arts—

5562 NSW HEALTH DEBT TO ALBURY RADIOLOGIST—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—

5563 OUTSTANDING CORRESPONDENCE—Mr Greg Aplin 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—

5564 BUS ROUTE 139—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

5565 COST OF SYDNEY CBD METRO—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

5566 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—

\*5567 SEMI-TRAILER CHARGES—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

With reference to semi-trailers driving on NSW roads, does the Minister have comparisons between NSW and the other states for the cost of:

- (a) green slip insurance;
- (b) registration costs;
- (c) workers compensation insurance paid by owners;
- (d) obtaining an annual safety inspection?

Answer—

I am advised:

As this matter falls under the responsibility of the Roads portfolio, this question should be directed to the Minister for Roads for consideration.

5568 STRIKE FORCE RAPTOR—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 Rural Affairs—

5569 PACIFIC HIGHWAY UPGRADE—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Roads—

5570 TRAFFIC VOLUME FIGURES—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Roads—

5571 PROPOSED 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 Rural Affairs—

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- 5572 PROPOSED 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 Rural Affairs—
- 5573 ST THOMAS CHILDCARE CENTRE—Ms Gladys Berejiklian to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 5574 WYONG COMMUTER CAR PARK—Ms Gladys Berejiklian to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- \*5575 SYDNEY FERRIES BLACK BOXES—Ms Gladys Berejiklian asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- (1) How many black boxes are now fully operational on the 28 Sydney Ferries Corporation vessels?
- (2) If some black boxes are not yet fully operational, when will they be?
- Answer—
- I am advised:
- (1) and (2) Each of the 28 Sydney Ferries vessels have a fully operational black box on board.
- 5576 BUS CORRIDORS—Ms Gladys Berejiklian to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 5577 FAMILY FUNDAY SUNDAY TICKETS—Ms Gladys Berejiklian to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 5578 MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS—Mr Peter Besseling to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 5579 PACIFIC HIGHWAY UPGRADE—MOORLAND—Mr Peter Besseling to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5580 MENTAL HEALTH TELEPHONE ACCESS LINE—Mr Peter Besseling to ask the Minister for Local Government, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- 5581 ADDITIONAL POLICE OFFICERS—Mr Peter Besseling to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—
- 5582 SCHOOL ZONE SIGNAGE—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5583 GRAFFITI DAMAGE—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 5584 PUBLIC SECTOR WORKFORCE STRATEGY—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 5585 RYDE HOSPITAL OCCUPANCY RATES—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—
- 5586 COMMUNITY SERVICES GRANT PROGRAM—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 5587 STATE ROAD EXPENDITURE—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5588 SPEEDING PENALTY CHANGES—Mrs Dawn Fardell to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5589 REGIONAL SPORTS FACILITY PROGRAM—Mrs Dawn Fardell to ask the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister for Sport and Recreation—
- 5590 MURDERS COMMITTED—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—
- 5591 OVERTIME WORKED BY CASE WORKERS—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Community Services—



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

---

- 5592 FUNDING FOR STATE SCHOOLS—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 5593 COMMERCIAL FISHING LICENCES—Mr David Harris 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—
- 5594 PUBLIC HOUSING IN THE ELECTORATE OF TERRIGAL—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Housing, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 5595 ROAD FUNDING IN THE ELECTORATE OF THE ENTRANCE—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5596 SCHOOL MAINTENANCE—CENTRAL COAST—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 5597 GROUNDWATER SHARING PLANS—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—
- 5598 LIVESTOCK HEALTH AND PEST AUTHORITIES (LH&PA)—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson 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—
- 5599 UNANSWERED CORRESPONDENCE—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 5601 HAWKESBURY RIVER WATER TESTING—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 5602 BROOKLYN SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 5603 TRAFFIC STUDY—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5604 ADDITIONAL BUSES—M2 BUSWAY—Mr Wayne Merton to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 5605 FLASHING LIGHTS IN SCHOOL ZONES—Mr Wayne Merton to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5606 FLASHING LIGHTS IN SCHOOL ZONES—Mr Wayne Merton to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5607 BARTON HIGHWAY ROADWORKS—Mr Wayne Merton to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5608 ANTI-DISCRIMINATION EXEMPTIONS—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations—
- \*5609 ETHANOL—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—
- (1) How much ethanol was produced in NSW in:
    - (a) 2008;
    - (b) 2007?
  - (2) How much ethanol was consumed in NSW in:
    - (a) 2008;
    - (b) 2007?
  - (3) Of the ethanol consumed but not produced in NSW, what states, territories and countries did it come from?
  - (4) Of the ethanol produced in NSW, how much is derived from "waste starch"?
  - (5) How does the Government define "waste starch" and what are the detailed specific sources of this starch?
  - (6) To what extent can "waste starch" be converted to, or used for, food and/or food production, including animal feed, given that starch essentially is flour?
  - (7) What research has the Government initiated into the potential to convert "waste starch" into other food sources, including animal feed?
  - (8) How does the Government define Second Generation Ethanol and how is this different from ethanol

produced from waste starch?

- (9) Does the definition for Second Generation Ethanol allow for the inclusion of any grain starch that can be used to produce food including feedstock?
- (10) What proportion of the proposed E10 mandate is expected to be filled by Second Generation Ethanol?
- (11) How much ethanol does the Government project will be consumed in NSW with the introduction of an E10 mandate?
- (12) How is all the starch proposed to be converted to ethanol for the E10 mandate used now?
- (13) In times of drought or global grain shortages, how will the Government guarantee that an E10 mandate will not have any impact on local and global food prices?
- (14) How will the Government guarantee that increased land clearing will not result from an E10 mandate?

Answer—

- (1) (a) and (b) The Department of Lands has no record of the amount of ethanol produced in NSW in 2007 and 2008.
  - (2) (a) 91,758,325 litres of fuel ethanol was consumed in NSW in 2008.  
(b) 14,645,159 litres of fuel ethanol was consumed in NSW in the fourth quarter of 2007. The exact amount of ethanol consumed in the first three quarters of 2007 is unknown.
  - (3) Some ethanol produced in Queensland came into NSW.
  - (4) The primary feedstock for the ethanol produced in NSW is waste starch. The Department of Lands does not keep records of the amount of waste starch that is used.
  - (5) Waste starch is starch that is not economically recoverable. Currently, the primary source of waste starch is wheat grain. Flour is mixed with water to enable gluten (wheat protein) to be extracted and further processed for the food industry. The further residue that is not economically recoverable is the primary feedstock for the ethanol production.
  - (6) Waste starch is not equivalent to flour because the starch is present as very fine particles suspended in wastewater with a concentration of only 4-6% starch w/v. The protein has been extracted as gluten and the coarser starch particles have already been extracted for food or industrial use. The remaining fine starch is not economically recoverable for food or animal feed. The fermentation of the waste starch stream to produce ethanol obviates the need for alternative wastewater treatment.
  - (7) None.
  - (8) Second generation ethanol is derived from cellulosic biomass such as agricultural and forestry residues. It requires advanced processing to break down the cellulosic material. Waste starch is a simple carbohydrate that can be fermented using first generation technology (traditional brewing equipment and methods), but still has the advantage of not competing with food supplies.
  - (9) No.
  - (10) None in the initial years, increasing as second generation production becomes available, possibly from 2013-2015.
  - (11) Up to 500 million litres per year.
  - (12) It is either exported as wheat or is not currently produced. More wheat will be processed for gluten production, which will make more waste starch available.
  - (13) The legislation includes provision for the mandate to be suspended in extraordinary circumstances, such as in severe droughts or other events that may disrupt grain markets.
  - (14) Existing land clearing controls will remain in place.
- 5610 WAVE ENERGY—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—
- 5611 PUBLIC SCHOOLS MAINTENANCE—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 5612 LEAF BLOWERS—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 5613 HOME MAINTENANCE AND MODIFICATION SERVICES—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—
- 5614 WSN GARBAGE TRUCK PURCHASES—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—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

---

- 5615 PEAK TIMES FOR NORTH SHORE LINE—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 5616 DELIBERATELY LIT BUSHFIRES—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations—
- 5617 REGION 2 BUS SERVICE—Mr Barry O'Farrell to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 5618 REGISTRATION LABELS ON MOTORCYCLES—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5619 ERARING POWER STATION COOLING TOWER—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 5620 ILLEGAL TRAIL BIKE ACTIVITY—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—
- 5621 HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS—TWEED ELECTORATE—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 5622 TRAFFIC VOLUME DATA—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5623 PUBLIC DISTURBANCE—AUSTRALIA DAY—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 Rural Affairs—
- 5624 TRUCK JOURNEYS THROUGH BLUE MOUNTAINS—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5625 "HOUR-GLASS" FUND—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 5626 "HOUR-GLASS" FUND—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—
- 5627 CRESCENT HEAD COUNTRY CLUB—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 Rural Affairs—
- 5628 NORTH COAST AREA HEALTH SERVICE—JOB CUTS—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—
- 5629 CROWN ESTATES—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 Rural Affairs—
- 5630 UNANSWERED CORRESPONDENCE—Mr John Turner to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Small Business—
- 5631 LAND TAX INCREASE—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—
- 5632 LAND TAX INCREASE—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—
- 5633 LAND TAX INCREASE—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—

**26 MARCH 2009**

(Paper No. 118)

- 5634 CHIFLEY COLLEGE—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 5635 LAND AT AMOURIN STREET, NORTH MANLY—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—
- 5636 INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING—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—
- 5637 CONDAMINE STREET—THIRD LANE—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5638 NELSON BAY PROPERTY—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney—
- 5639 TRAIN BREAKDOWNS—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 5640 WILLIAMTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 5641 RAIL MAINTENANCE—Ms Gladys Berejiklian to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 5642 WINDSOR RAILWAY STATION INTERCHANGE—Ms Gladys Berejiklian to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- \*5643 OUTER SUBURBAN CARRIAGES—Ms Gladys Berejiklian asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

In relation to the 122 Outer Suburban Carriages:

- (1) (a) Has the rollout been completed?
- (b) If not, how many carriages have been rolled out to date?
- (2) Which lines are those carriages servicing?
- (3) When will the remaining carriages be rolled out?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) (a) No.
  - (b) To date 29 four-car sets (116 carriages) have entered passenger service.
  - (2) The Eastern Suburbs/Illawarra/South Coast lines to Kiama, including Bondi Junction.  
The North Shore/Northern/Central Coast lines to Wyong.  
The Western Line to Penrith.  
The Epping-Chatswood Rail Link.
  - (3) The final four-car set is expected by the end of May 2009. The two spare cars (which do not form a complete train) are expected during July 2009.
- 5644 STRICKLAND HOUSE—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- \*5645 HOT WATER SYSTEMS—Mr Peter Debnam asked 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—

In relation to solar water heaters:

- (1) What is most recent estimate of the number of peak electric hot water systems in NSW and what change has there been in this number over the last five years?
- (2) What is the most recent estimate of the number of solar hot water systems in NSW and what change has there been in this number over the last five years?

Answer—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

---

- (1) Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) has this data.  
(2) Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) has this data.
- 5646 HIGH-RISE DEVELOPMENT—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 5647 GRAFFITI DAMAGE TO ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5648 TASER WEAPONS—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 Rural Affairs—
- 5649 GRAFFITI DAMAGE TO RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 5650 DOCS CASEWORKERS—RATE OF PAY—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 5651 SPECIAL LEASE—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—
- 5652 CHILDREN KNOWN TO DOCS—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 5653 UNANSWERED CORRESPONDENCE—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—
- 5654 SPEEDING OFFENCES—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—
- 5655 TERRIGAL BEACHFRONT/CBD CRIME—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations—
- 5656 TERRIGAL POLICE STATION—ACTUAL STRENGTH—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 Rural Affairs—
- 5657 PROGRAM OF APPLIANCES FOR DISABLED PEOPLE—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—
- 5658 HEAVY VEHICLE MEASUREMENTS—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5659 STATE WATER CORPORATION—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—
- 5660 UNANSWERED CORRESPONDENCE—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 5661 EMERGENCY EVACUATION PLAN—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Small Business—
- 5662 ESTUARY PROGRAMS—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 5663 VESTING OF PROPERTIES MEMORANDUM—Mr Kevin Humphries to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 5664 COMMUNITY SERVICES IN WESTERN NSW—Mr Kevin Humphries to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 5665 HEALTHONE INITIATIVES—Mr Kevin Humphries 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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- 5666 ANTI-BINGE DRINKING PROGRAMS—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Local Government, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- 5667 YOUTH SERVICES—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Juvenile Justice, Minister for Volunteering, Minister for Youth, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs—
- 5668 CYCLING EDUCATION—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5669 CYCLING SUPPORT AND EDUCATION—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 5670 BIRDS IN THE CENTENNIAL PARKLANDS—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister for Sport and Recreation—
- 5671 FUNDING OF YOUTH SERVICES—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Juvenile Justice, Minister for Volunteering, Minister for Youth, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs—
- 5672 FEDERAL ECONOMIC STIMULUS PACKAGE—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 5673 FLASHING LIGHTS IN SCHOOL ZONES—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5674 COMMONWEALTH FUNDING—Mr Barry O'Farrell to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 5675 ASSESSORS/INSTRUCTORS FOR OLDER DRIVERS—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5676 SPEED-RESTRICTED ZONE—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5677 DUST DEPOSITION—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- \*5678 SANDLEWOOD AVENUE PROJECT—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—
- In relation to the project located at Sandlewood Avenue, Cabarita and given your advice (answer to Question 4754) that "Community consultation was undertaken as part of the Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2000 and the draft Tweed Coast Regional Crown Reserve Plan of Management":
- (1) Why is there no further community consultation as promised in October 2008?
  - (2) If this consultation promise is to be fulfilled, when will it be advertised?
- Answer—
- (1) Further community consultation in respect of Crown land in Sandlewood Avenue, Cabarita will be undertaken as the project progresses.
  - (2) No timeframe has been established to date for the commencement of this project.
- 5679 HEALTH CHECKS—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—
- 5680 MISSING PERSONS—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 Rural Affairs—
- 5681 AERIAL MAPPING USING LIDAR—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 5682 EMISSIONS TRADING SCHEME—HUNTER REGION—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—
- 5683 EMISSIONS TRADING SCHEME—ILLAWARRA REGION—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—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

---

- 5684 SPEED CAMERA REVENUE—Mr Anthony Roberts to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—
- 5685 TRAFFIC INFRINGEMENT NOTICES—Mr Anthony Roberts to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—
- 5686 PARKING REVENUE—Mr Anthony Roberts 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—
- 5687 LOW-RENTAL HOUSING—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 5688 INTERPRETERS FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING—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—
- 5689 VIOLENT HOTELS LIST—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister for Sport and Recreation—
- 5690 REPORTING OF HOTEL ASSAULTS—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 Rural Affairs—
- 5691 NURSING NEEDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE—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—
- 5692 PLANNING POWERS—SYDNEY METRO—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 5693 BEACH HAUL FISHING LICENCES—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—
- 5694 BED OCCUPANCY RATES—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—
- 5695 BED OCCUPANCY RATES—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—
- 5696 BED OCCUPANCY RATES—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—
- 5697 UNANSWERED CORRESPONDENCE—Mr John Turner to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5698 UNANSWERED CORRESPONDENCE—Mr John Turner to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—
- 5699 MULTI-PURPOSE CENTRE—Mr John Turner to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

**27 MARCH 2009**

(Paper No. 119)

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- 5700 MRI MACHINE—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—
- 5701 INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING—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—
- 5702 PARKING SERVICES LEVY—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—
- 5703 PUBLIC HOLIDAY TRADING—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations—
- 5704 PROPERTY AT WHEELER HEIGHTS—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—
- 5705 LOWERING OF SPEED LIMIT—MORUYA—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5706 TUROSS HEAD TO MORUYA BUS SERVICE—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 5707 FAR SOUTH COAST HOSPITALS—INFECTION RATES—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—
- 5708 HAZARD REDUCTION BURN—POTATO POINT—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 5709 REQUEST FOR MEETING—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—
- 5710 RYDE HOSPITAL EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT—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—
- 5711 GRAFFITI VANDALS—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—
- 5712 ELECTRICITY SMART METERS—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—
- 5713 SPEEDING MOTORISTS—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5714 CASE PLAN MEETING—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 5715 CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 5716 STAFF TURNOVER RATES—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 5717 PREGNANT TEENAGERS ATTENDING SCHOOLS—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 5718 STRESS AND STRESS-RELATED LEAVE—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 5719 TERRIGAL POLICE STATION—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 Rural Affairs—
- 5720 TILLEGRA DAM—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

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- 5721 BRISBANE WATER LOCAL AREA COMMAND—ACTUAL STRENGTH—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 Rural Affairs—
- 5722 MODIFICATIONS APPROVED—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 5723 MODIFICATIONS APPROVED—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 5724 PROJECTS APPROVED—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 5725 PROJECTS APPROVED—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 5726 RIVERSTONE WEST PRECINCT—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 5727 PLANNING ASSESSMENT COMMISSION—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 5728 PLANNING ASSESSMENT COMMISSION WEBSITE—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 5729 PLANNING ASSESSMENT COMMISSION—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 5730 VISITS TO MANLY AND MANLY 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—
- 5731 RESPITE CARE—Mr Kerry Hickey to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—
- 5732 YOUTH PROGRAMS—Mr Kerry Hickey to ask the Minister for Juvenile Justice, Minister for Volunteering, Minister for Youth, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs—
- 5733 FISHING LICENCES—Mr Kerry Hickey 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—
- 5734 RECOMMENDATIONS TO CESSNOCK COUNCIL—Mr Kerry Hickey to ask the Minister for Local Government, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- 5735 CESSNOCK PCYC—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 Rural Affairs—
- 5736 CESSNOCK PCYC—Mr Kerry Hickey to ask the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister for Sport and Recreation—
- 5737 BUDGET FOR THE PARLIAMENT—Mr Kerry Hickey to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—
- 5738 WYANGALA DAM—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5739 IPTAAS—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—
- 5740 BARGO, BUXTON AND YANDERRA SEWERAGE WORKS—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—
- 5741 EDUCATION CONSULTANT—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

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- 5742 PARKING SPACES—HORNSBY STATION—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 5743 ATTACHMENT OF NUMBER PLATES—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5744 STATE FUNDING FOR ROADS—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Roads—
- \*5745 COMMUNITY SERVICES GRANTS PROGRAM—Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Minister for Community Services—
- What organisations in the Cronulla electorate are eligible for funding under the Community Services Grants Program?
- Answer—
- The Community Services Grants Program provides funding of \$1,052,446 for 19 projects providing services within the Sutherland LGA, which incorporates the Cronulla electorate.
- There is no additional funding available in the Community Services Grants Program budget.
- 5746 ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HOUSING—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney—
- 5747 RELOCATION OF PROBATION AND PAROLE OFFICERS—Mr Daryl Maguire to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State—
- 5748 SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE PACKAGE—Mr Wayne Merton to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 5749 LAPTOP COMPUTERS—Mr Wayne Merton to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 5750 FLASHING LIGHTS IN 40 KPH SPEED ZONES—Mr Wayne Merton to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5751 RAMP ON M2 MOTORWAY—Mr Wayne Merton to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5752 PUBLIC AND COMMUNITY HOUSING—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney—
- 5753 PARTY BUSES IN THE INNER CITY—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 5754 KINGS CROSS YOUTH AT RISK—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 5755 GOVERNMENT WASTE AND MISMANAGEMENT—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 5756 GOVERNMENT WASTE AND MISMANAGEMENT—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 5757 GOVERNMENT WASTE AND MISMANAGEMENT—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- \*5758 LINE MAINTENANCE CONTRACT—Mr Donald Page asked 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—
- Given the Government's often-stated commitment to retaining employment in NSW, why has the Government, through County Energy, given a major line maintenance contract for the Grafton area to an American-owned company ahead of a well-tested local Australian company?
- Answer—
- Country Energy has advised that the three successful tenderers for contracts for maintenance of vegetation corridors under and around its power lines in the Far North Coast region were selected after a rigorous and transparent tendering process, and represent what the corporation considers to be the best value for money for its customers and shareholders.
- Country Energy has further advised that the successful tenderers all employ local people in their

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

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operations, and one is a family-based company from Murwillumbah.

5759 CUTS TO FESTIVAL FUNDING—Mr Donald Page to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

\*5760 CARRAMAR AGED FACILITY—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

In relation to the State-owned Carramar Aged Facility in Leeton:

What is the current land value for the facility as at 24 March 2009?

Answer—

Land values in NSW are determined by the Valuer General as at the 1 July each year and reflect property market conditions at that time.

The Carramar Aged Care Facility in Leeton forms part of the Leeton District Hospital site. It is not separately valued.

The land value as 1 July 2008 for Leeton Park Hospital was \$819,000.

5761 MOUNT DRUITT TAFE COLLEGE—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

5762 TRANSITION COORDINATORS—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

5763 DEBT TO SERVICE AND PRODUCTS—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

5764 TEACHERS IN THE TWEED ELECTORATE—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

5765 PROJECT AT SANDLEWOOD AVENUE, CABARITA—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 Rural Affairs—

5766 HAZARD REDUCTION BURNS—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

5767 NATIONAL SOLAR SCHOOLS PROGRAM—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

5768 NATIONAL SOLAR SCHOOLS PROGRAM—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

5769 UNDERAGE DRINKING—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations—

5770 DRINKING IN ALCOHOL-FREE ZONES—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations—

5771 MECHANISMS FOR APPEAL—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—

5772 UNANSWERED CORRESPONDENCE—Mr John Turner to ask the Minister for Roads—

5773 UNANSWERED CORRESPONDENCE—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—

5774 UNANSWERED CORRESPONDENCE—Mr John Turner to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—

5775 MINE CLOSURE PROCESSES—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—

5776 PANTHER OR JAGUAR-LIKE ANIMAL—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—

5777 PANTHER OR JAGUAR-LIKE ANIMAL—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

**31 MARCH 2009**

(Paper No. 120)

5778 BLACKTOWN-MOUNT DRUITT HOSPITAL RADIOLOGY DEPARTMENT—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—

5779 WORKERS' COMPENSATION SAVINGS—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney—

5780 WORKERS' COMPENSATION SCHEME—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—

5781 OUTSTANDING PAYMENT DISPUTE—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

5782 ADVANCED CARE DIRECTIVES—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—

5783 CHILDREN WITH AUTISM—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

5784 SUPPORT SERVICES FOR CHILDREN WITH A DISABILITY—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

5785 WILLIAM STREET TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Roads—

5786 ADVERTISING EXPENDITURE—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—

5787 MOUNT PIPER POWER STATION—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—

5788 OMBUDSMAN REPORT—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

5789 BUFFALO ROAD SUBSTATION—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

5790 ENERGY AUSTRALIA SITE—BUFFALO ROAD RYDE—Mr Victor Dominello 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—

5791 LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUPER SCHEME—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—

5792 LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUPER SCHEME—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Local Government, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

5793 GOSFORD COUNCIL—DICK PERSSON—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Local Government, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

---

- 5794 WYANGALA DAM—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—
- 5795 BOVINE JOHNES DISEASE (BJD)—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson 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—
- 5796 OFFICE OF THE HAWKESBURY-NEPEAN—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—
- 5797 KURING-GAI LOCAL AREA COMMAND—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 Rural Affairs—
- 5798 HORNSBY HOSPITAL NURSING POSITIONS—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—
- 5799 HORNSBY HOSPITAL ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY POLICY—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—
- 5800 REVENUE FROM STATE LOTTERIES—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—
- 5801 RESPONSE TO REPORTS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 5802 BUDGET ALLOCATION—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—
- 5803 CARRAMAR AGED FACILITY—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—
- 5804 INTERACTIVE CLASSROOMS PROJECT—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 5805 JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTRES—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Juvenile Justice, Minister for Volunteering, Minister for Youth, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs—
- 5806 BIDDABAH PUBLIC SCHOOL—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 5807 FLEA INFESTATION—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney—
- 5808 UNINHABITABLE PREMISES—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney—
- 5809 POLICE NUMBERS—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 Rural Affairs—
- 5810 PROBATIONARY CONSTABLES—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 Rural Affairs—
- 5811 TWEED HOSPITAL NURSING SHIFTS—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—

- 5812 ROYAL NORTH SHORE HOSPITAL—MR DONALD MACKAY—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—
- 5813 CANYON COLLIERY—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 5814 POLLUTION FEES—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 5815 SYDNEY COASTAL COUNCILS GROUP—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 5816 FULL-TIME NURSING CARE—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—
- 5817 L60 BUS SERVICE—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 5818 NORTHERN BEACHES TO ST LEONARDS BUS TICKET—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 5819 COUNTRYLINK PATRONAGE—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 5820 RTA OFFICE—BROKEN HILL—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Roads—

**1 APRIL 2009**

(Paper No. 121)

- 5821 XPLOER TRAIL SERVICE—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 5822 WEEKLY BUS TICKETS—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 5823 MEETING WITH ALBURY CITY COUNCIL—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5824 ALBURY COURT STAFF—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations—
- 5825 RAPID BUS TRANSIT—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 5826 MANLY HOSPITAL STROKE UNIT—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—
- 5827 MONITORING OF UNDERGROUND FUEL TANKS—Mr Steve Cansdell to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- 5828 ABOLITION OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS SUBSIDY SCHEME—Mr Steve Cansdell to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- 5829 ADDITIONAL NURSES FOR HOSPITAL EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS—Mr Steve Cansdell 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—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

---

- 5830 CHILDREN WITH MEDICAL/PHYSICAL DISABILITY—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—
- 5831 ELECTRIC CARS—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 5832 PUBLIC SECTOR EMPLOYEES WITH CRIMINAL RECORDS—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 5833 ELECTRICITY NETWORK SENSORS—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—
- 5834 OLDER DRIVERS—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5835 RED LIGHT CAMERAS—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5836 SIDEWAYS FORCE COEFFICIENT ROUTINE INVESTIGATION MACHINE (SCRIM) TESTING—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5837 WESTERN AIR SERVICES—Mrs Dawn Fardell to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—
- 5838 NON-CURRENT ASSETS—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 5839 POLICE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE LIAISON OFFICERS—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—
- 5840 DESIGNATED STORAGE AREA—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—
- 5841 REQUEST FOR MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT REPORT—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 Rural Affairs—
- 5842 COMPLAINTS IN RELATION TO COUNCIL STAFF—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Local Government, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- 5843 CANADA BAY COUNCIL—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Local Government, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- 5844 LYNDBURST PUBLIC SCHOOL—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 5845 BURRINJUCK COURT HOUSES—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations—
- 5846 WELCOME REEF DAM—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—
- 5847 CONSULTATIONS ON BUS SERVICES—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 5848 FLASHING LIGHTS FOR SCHOOLS—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 5849 NATIONAL SOLAR SCHOOLS PROGRAM—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 5850 KURNELL FERRY SERVICE—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 5851 FEDERAL GOVERNMENT INFRASTRUCTURE PACKAGE—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

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- 5852 CLOSURE OF EASTERN DISTRIBUTOR—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5853 LAPTOP COMPUTERS—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 5854 GRAFFITI TAGS—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 Rural Affairs—
- 5855 SENTENCES FOR GRAFFITI—Mr Daryl Maguire to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations—
- 5856 NOISY VEHICLE ENFORCEMENT—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 5857 SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICES INDUSTRY PLANS—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 5858 LATE NIGHT ENTERTAINMENT TRANSPORT—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 5859 ABORIGINAL TRUST FUND REPAYMENT SCHEME—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 5860 GRAFFITI DAMAGE—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5861 GRAFFITI DAMAGE AT RAILWAY STATIONS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 5862 POWER BLACKOUTS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 5863 INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS—Mr Donald Page to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- 5864 INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS—Mr Donald Page to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—
- 5865 INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS—Mr Donald Page to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 5866 READING RECOVERY TEACHERS—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 5867 COMMUNITY LANGUAGE SCHOOLS—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 5868 VACANT LAND—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 5869 MAIN ROAD 217—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5870 MARINE LIFE—LAKE MACQUARIE—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 5871 TWEED HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS—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—
- 5872 RAIL PASSENGER SUBSIDIES—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 5873 DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES—TWEED ELECTORATE—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 5874 CUTS TO SENIOR EXECUTIVE SERVICE—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

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- 5875 LPG GAS BOTTLES—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 5876 MOTORCYCLE HELMET EXEMPTIONS—Mr Anthony Roberts to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5877 MOTORCYCLE LICENCES—Mr Anthony Roberts to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5878 INFRINGEMENT NOTICES—BICYCLE HELMETS—Mr Anthony Roberts to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—
- 5879 INFRINGEMENT NOTICES—MOTORCYCLE HELMETS—Mr Anthony Roberts to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—
- 5880 MOTORCYCLE HELMET REGULATIONS—Mr Anthony Roberts to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5881 ENFORCEMENT OF NON-WEARING OF HELMETS—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 Rural Affairs—
- 5882 WHITE BAY CRUISE SHIP TERMINAL—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- 5883 PORT OF NEWCASTLE CHARGES—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- 5884 VESSELS LYING OFF THE PORT OF NEWCASTLE—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- 5885 UNANSWERED CORRESPONDENCE—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 Rural Affairs—
- 5886 REHABILITATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING GUIDELINES—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—

**2 APRIL 2009**

(Paper No. 122)

- 5887 SCHOOL CERTIFICATE AND HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 5888 CAPITAL WORKS PROJECTS—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 5889 SCHOOL CAPITAL WORKS PROJECTS—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 5890 ALBURY WODONGA HEALTH—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—
- 5891 PAYMENT OF LAND TAX—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—
- 5892 EXPENDITURE ON MINISTERIAL OFFICES—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 5893 EXPENDITURE ON MINISTERIAL OFFICES—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

- 5894 EXPENDITURE FOR MOTOR VEHICLES EXPENSES—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 5895 CORRIE ISLAND—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 5896 NELSON BAY FORESHORE REDEVELOPMENT PLAN—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 Rural Affairs—
- 5897 TOMAREE COMMUNITY 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—
- 5898 DEMOUNTABLE CLASSROOMS—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 5899 HEALTH SERVICES—TILLIGERRY REGION—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—
- 5900 HEALTH SERVICES—RAYMOND TERRACE—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—
- 5901 HEALTH SERVICES—MEDOWIE—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—
- 5902 JOBS SUMMIT—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 5903 ASBESTOS EXPOSURE—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—
- \*5904 CHANGE ROOMS FOR PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY—Mr Andrew Constance asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—
- (1) Will the Minister agree to meet with Mr Bill Hyman following his correspondence to him dated 19 January 2009?
  - (2) Are you aware of the indignity and discrimination people with disability are subjected to due to incontinence issues wherein carers have no alternative to change their charges in public places in full view of the public?
  - (3) Given the planning requirements around toilet facilities, should those same requirements be extended to change room facilities for people with disabilities due to incontinence issues?
  - (4) In light of these potential changes to planning on local government, will the Minister assist to resource public change rooms for people with disabilities?

Answer—

- (1) to (4) I acknowledge the facilities currently provided at public venues for people with a disability are not always appropriate for people who require assistance with personal care. However, responsibility for disability standards for premises that are accessible to the public falls outside my portfolio. The Australian Government, under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992, is able to make national standards for access to public buildings for people with a disability.

The Australian Government has drafted disability standards for access to premises, which are the subject of an inquiry by the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs. Public submissions closed on 13 March 2009 and NSW Government agencies provided evidence to a hearing conducted by the Committee in Sydney on 25 March 2009. The Committee is expected to report later this year.

The objective of the Premises Standards is to achieve more consistent and systemic improvements in access for people with a disability. Greater accessibility will also benefit older people with mobility constraints.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

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- 5905 PROPERTY IN BROULEE—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 5906 DNA TESTING—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 Rural Affairs—
- 5907 CATEGORY 3 RESCUE VESSELS—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Small Business—
- 5908 WAVERLEY BUS DEPOT—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 5909 STATE PLAN TARGETS—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 5910 STAFFING AND STRUCTURAL CHANGES—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 5911 RYDE TAFE—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 5912 MEADOWBANK TAFE—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 5913 PART 3A PROJECTS—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 5914 ADOPTION OF CHILDREN IN CARE—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 5915 OUT OF HOME CARE—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 5916 SUITABILITY OF SENIOR STAFF—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 5917 COTTER DAM—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—
- 5918 YOUNG REGIONAL SCHOOL OF MUSIC—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 5919 COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRES—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—
- 5920 UNANSWERED REPRESENTATION—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 5921 UNANSWERED REPRESENTATION—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 5922 CHILDREN WITH AUTISM—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—
- 5923 BRIBERY AND FRAUD AT RAILCORP—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 5924 POLICE NUMBERS—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 Rural Affairs—
- 5925 PROBATIONARY CONSTABLES—Mr Wayne Merton to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—
- 5926 REVENUE FROM SPEED CAMERA—Mr Wayne Merton to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—

- 5927 NATURAL DISASTER PLANNING—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—
- 5928 PUBLIC HOUSING MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney—
- 5929 ADMINISTRATIVE DECISIONS TRIBUNAL REVIEW—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations—
- 5930 GREYHOUND MUZZLING—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Local Government, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- 5931 ACCESS TO ARTS—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 5932 MISSING PERSONS—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 Rural Affairs—
- 5933 AFFORDABLE HOUSING—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 5934 ABUSE OF TRIPLE-0 CALLS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea 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—
- 5935 BED OCCUPANCY RATES—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—
- 5936 HURLSTONE AGRICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOL INQUIRY—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 5937 NATIONAL SECONDARY SCHOOL COMPUTER PROGRAM—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 5938 GRAFFITI DAMAGE—TWEED ELECTORATE—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations—
- 5939 PROBATIONARY CONSTABLES—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 Rural Affairs—
- 5940 TWEED RTA OFFICE—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5941 T2, T3 AND BUS LANE INFRINGEMENT NOTICES—Mr Anthony Roberts to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—
- 5942 UNPAID HOSPITAL ACCOUNTS—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—
- 5943 STUDENT PROGRAMS ON DRIVER SAFETY AND AWARENESS—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 5944 ISSUING OF CERTIFICATES—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 5945 ADMISSIONS TO MONA VALE HOSPITAL—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—
- 5946 DEMOUNTABLE CLASSROOMS—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

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- 5947 GRAFFITI OFFENCES—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations—
- 5948 PROGRAMS ON ALCOHOL ABUSE AND BINGE DRINKING—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 5949 PORT BOTANY CHARGES—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- 5950 PORT KEMBLA CHARGES—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- 5951 NON-STANDARD NUMBER PLATES—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5952 NEW BRIDGE OVER BLATHERY CREEK—Mr Russell Turner to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5953 PROHIBITED EMPLOYMENT DECLARATION FORM—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Small Business—

**3 APRIL 2009**

(Paper No. 123)

- 5954 MOBILE BREATH TEST—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo representing the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—
- 5955 GRAFFITI RECORDS—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 Rural Affairs—
- 5956 SENTENCES FOR GRAFFITI—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations—
- 5957 DISABLED SCHOOL STUDENT TRANSPORT—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 5958 EXPENDITURE ON HEALTH—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—
- 5959 OFFICE OF BETTER REGULATION—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 5960 VANDERFIELD BUILDING—Ms Gladys Berejiklian 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—
- 5961 RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WATERFALL INQUIRY—Ms Gladys Berejiklian to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 5962 WALLAGA LAKE—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 5963 NSW CARERS ACTION PLAN—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney—
- 5964 OUTLAW MOTORCYCLE GANG MEMBERS—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 5965 STATE PLAN—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 5966 STAFF FREEZE—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—

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- 5967 HOT WATER SYSTEM REBATE—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 5968 PAYROLL TAX INCENTIVE SCHEME—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—
- 5969 WATER MAINS—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—
- 5970 COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTRE COMPLAINTS—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 5971 SHORT TERM FOSTER CARERS—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 5972 FOSTER CARERS—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 5973 SUITABILITY OF FOSTER HOMES—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 5974 TRANSFER OF CHILD FROM DOCS—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 5975 RESTORATION OF CHILDREN TO BIOLOGICAL PARENTS—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 5976 DEVELOPMENT AT BARANGAROO—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 5977 CONSTRUCTION AT BARANGAROO—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 5978 BARANGAROO HEADLAND PARK—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 5979 NURSING STAFF AT MANLY 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—
- 5980 INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- 5981 PROPOSED REFORM OF REGULATIONS—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- 5982 REGULATIONS REFORMED—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- 5983 GROWTH CENTRES COMMISSION STAFF—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 5984 APPLICATIONS FOR VACANT POSITIONS—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 5985 DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 5986 FORMER CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF GROWTH CENTRES COMMISSION—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 5987 PART 3A PROJECTS AND MODIFICATIONS APPROVED—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 5988 WATER RESTRICTIONS PATROL—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—
- 5989 ASBESTOS IN SCHOOLS—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009

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- 5990 HUME HIGHWAY AT BOOKHAM—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5991 UNANSWERED REPRESENTATION—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 Rural Affairs—
- 5992 UNANSWERED REPRESENTATION—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 5993 UNANSWERED REPRESENTATION—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—
- 5994 INSTALLATION OF FLASHING LIGHTS—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 5995 GRAFFITI DAMAGE AT RAILWAY STATIONS—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 5996 DRIVERS OVER 85—CRONULLA ELECTORATE—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 5997 SPEED CAMERA REVENUE—Mr Wayne Merton to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways representing the Treasurer—
- 5998 GRAFFITI OFFENCES—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations—
- 5999 SCHOOL LAPTOP COMPUTERS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 6000 DRIVERS OVER 85 YEARS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Roads—
- 6001 DR SURESH RANANAVERE—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—
- 6002 DR SURESH RANANAVERE—Mr Donald Page to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations—
- 6003 PROTECTION FOR BUSINESSES—Mr Donald Page to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 6004 PROTECTION FOR BUSINESSES—Mr Donald Page to ask the Minister for Fair Trading, Minister for Citizenship, and Minister Assisting the Premier on the Arts—
- 6005 ABORIGINAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 6006 AMEB MUSIC EXAMS—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 6007 PROPOSED UPGRADE OF THE SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—
- 6008 RECOMMENDATIONS OF UNSWORTH COMMITTEE—Mr Geoff Provest 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—
- 6009 YOUTH INFRINGEMENT NOTICES—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 Rural Affairs—
- 6010 REPCO RALLY AUSTRALIA—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

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- 6011 ALLIED HEALTH—CASUAL AND CONTRACT STAFF—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—
- 6012 ALLIED HEALTH STAFF—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—
- 6013 CASUAL, CONTRACT OR AGENCY NURSES—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—
- 6014 HEAD OFFICE STAFF—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—
- 6015 PROGRAM OF APPLIANCES FOR DISABLED PEOPLE—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—
- 6016 FARE EVASION—Mr George Souris to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 6017 ELLERSTON AND BELLTREES SCHOOLS—Mr George Souris to ask the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 6018 ALCOHOL-RELATED CHARGES—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations—
- 6019 ANALYSIS OF BUS LANE MARKINGS—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 6020 CONTRACT REGION EIGHT—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 6021 PORT EDEN CHARGES—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- 6022 PORT YAMBA CHARGES—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- 6023 FERRY WHARF UPGRADES—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- 6024 CARBON DIOXIDE EMISSIONS FROM SOIL—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 6025 SEA LEVEL RISES—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 6026 LORD HOWE ISLAND PESTS—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 6027 DISTRICT AGRONOMIST—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, Minister for State Development—