



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

2014-15

SECOND SESSION OF THE FIFTY-FIFTH PARLIAMENT

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

No. 23

FRIDAY 16 JANUARY 2015

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

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Publication of Questions	Answer to be lodged by
Q & A No. 13 (Including Question Nos 6417 to 6437)	09 December 2014
Q & A No. 14 (Including Question Nos 6438 to 6460)	10 December 2014
Q & A No. 15 (Including Question Nos 6461 to 6495)	11 December 2014
Q & A No. 16 (Including Question Nos 6496 to 6515)	16 December 2014
Q & A No. 17 (Including Question Nos 6516 to 6523)	17 December 2014
Q & A No. 18 (Including Question Nos 6524 to 6560)	18 December 2014
Q & A No. 19 (Including Question Nos 6561 to 6593)	23 December 2014
Q & A No. 20 (Including Question Nos 6594 to 6600)	24 December 2014
Q & A No. 21 (Including Question Nos 6601 to 6668)	25 December 2014
Q & A No. 22 (Including Question Nos 6669 to 6673)	13 January 2015
Q & A No. 23 (Including Question Nos 6674 to 6677)	16 January 2015
Q & A No. 23 (Including Question Nos 6678 to 6682)	12 February 2015

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(Paper No. 13)

- *6417 **MAGISTRATE ECKHOLD**—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
Did the member for Dubbo at any time ask, request, suggest, or in any way make representations to you that Magistrate Eckhold no longer sit or have sittings reduced or limited at the Local Court at Dubbo?
Answer—
The only individual who can alter sitting days for magistrates is the Chief Magistrate.
- *6418 **DUBBO LOCAL COURT SITTINGS**—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
What changes are proposed for Local Court sittings at Dubbo in 2015?
Answer—
I am advised:
This information is publicly available on the Department of Justice NSW website.
- *6419 **MAGISTRATE ECKHOLD LOCAL COURT MATTERS**—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
Will recently proposed changes to the sittings at the Local Court at Dubbo mean that Magistrate Eckhold will hear fewer local court matters originating in Dubbo?
Answer—
I am advised:
The sitting days for all magistrates on the Dubbo Local Court circuit will be affected by the proposed changes.
- *6420 **COURT ROOM VISITS**—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
Since becoming Attorney General, how many and which magistrates have you observed in court rooms while the court was in session?
Answer—
In my role as Attorney General I have visited many courts across New South Wales.
- *6421 **STATE LIBRARY FUNDING CUTS**—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Trade and Investment, Minister for Regional Infrastructure and Services, Minister for Tourism and Major Events, Minister for Hospitality, Gaming and Racing, and Minister for the Arts—
(1) What funding cuts have been imposed on the State Library?
(2) Why have research facilities at the State Library been reduced?
Answer—
(1) All relevant information can be found in the State Library Annual Report which contains financial statements.
(2) Research facilities have not been reduced at the State Library.
- *6422 **REPRESENTATIONS REGARDING MAGISTRATE ECKHOLD**—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Trade and Investment, Minister for Regional Infrastructure and Services, Minister for Tourism and Major Events, Minister for Hospitality, Gaming and Racing, and Minister for the Arts—
Did you ask, request, suggest or in any way make representations to the Attorney General to remove or transfer Magistrate Eckhold from the Local Court at Dubbo?
Answer—
No. The Attorney General visited Dubbo at my request and met with a range of legal stakeholders and community groups.
- *6423 **NSW ELECTORAL COMMISSION**—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Premier, Minister for Infrastructure, and Minister for Western Sydney—
(1) Is Simon Kwok employed by the NSW Electoral Commission?

- (a) If so, in what capacity?
- (b) If so, when did his employment commence?
- (c) If so, what are his qualifications for the position?

Answer—

The NSW Electoral Commission has advised me of the following:

- (1) Yes.
 - (a) Mr Kwok is employed by the NSW Electoral Commission as Elections Manager.
 - (b) and (c) Mr Kwok has been employed as a permanent employee of the NSW Electoral Commission since 7 January 2013. He was recruited into his current role through a merit selection process.

*6424 PLUMBING COURSES AT MILLER TAFE—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Minister for Education—

What changes are proposed for plumbing courses at Miller TAFE for 2015?

Answer—

TAFE NSW - South Western Sydney Institute is changing the way that it delivers plumbing courses to ensure it continues to meet the needs of industry and employers in a financially sustainable way.

These changes will allow employers and apprentices a greater choice of course electives to make sure the skills being delivered best suit their needs. In some instances this may reduce the length of training, depending on the electives chosen.

*6425 BUILDINGS THAT HOUSE BROTHELS—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Minister for Local Government—

Is it an appropriate use of Council resources to buy buildings that house brothels?

Answer—

Councils are the appropriate body to decide public resource allocation on behalf of the community. Councils are accountable to their electors.

*6426 2014 HUNTER REGIONAL TRANSPORT PLAN PROJECTS—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter representing the Minister for Roads and Freight, Minister for the North Coast, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

- (1) What is the current status and cost of the Newcastle Local Government Area (LGA) project entitled "Safety works in King Street between Union Lane and Watt Street in Newcastle", listed under the Traffic Management and Road Safety Program in the 2014 Hunter Regional Transport Plan to commence in July 2013 with a cost of \$423,000?
- (2) What is the current status and cost of the Maitland LGA project entitled "Upgrade the New England Highway between the hospital and railway station roundabouts in Maitland (Election Commitment)" listed under the Traffic Management and Road Safety Program in the 2014 Hunter Regional Transport Plan with a cost of \$41,710,000?
- (3) What is the current status and cost of the Lake Macquarie LGA project entitled "Contribute to the Cardiff main street revitalisation project (election commitment)", listed under the Traffic Management and Road Safety Program in the 2014 Hunter Regional Transport Plan to commence in August 2013 with a cost of \$2,200,000?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) This project is now complete. The final cost of the project was \$851,000, funded by the Commonwealth Government Black Spot Programme.
- (2) The Government committed \$45 million to this project through the Hunter Infrastructure and Investment Fund.
 - Work at the hospital roundabout, including construction of slip lanes and installation of traffic lights, is complete.
 - Minor works at the railway station roundabout are complete, and further enabling works are underway in advance of overpass works.
 - A contract for construction of the overpass is expected to be awarded in December 2014, with construction expected to be complete in mid-2016.
- (3) The Government committed \$2.5 million to this project through the Hunter Infrastructure and Investment Fund.

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- Lake Macquarie City Council spent \$300,000 on the project in 2012-13, and did design work at a cost of \$240,000 in 2013-14.
- Roads and Maritime Services allocated \$1.969 million to Council for construction in 2014-15.
- Council has advised Roads and Maritime Services that construction will begin before the end of 2014.

*6427 ADAMSTOWN RAILWAY LEVEL CROSSING—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

Does the Government plan to remove the railway level crossing at Adamstown?

Answer—

I am advised:

No.

*6428 TAXI TRANSPORT SUBSIDY SCHEME—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

- (1) When was the maximum subsidy amount of \$30 per trip allowed under the Taxi Transport Subsidy Scheme last reviewed?
- (2) When does the Government plan to conduct the next review of the maximum subsidy amount allowed under the Taxi Transport Subsidy Scheme?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Government has carried out a review of the subsidies and incentives that support Wheelchair Accessible Taxi services, including the affordability and availability of the Taxi Transport Subsidy Scheme.

A number of recommendations to improve the service for customers are now being considered.

*6429 P1 DRIVING TEST WAIT TIMES—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Finance and Services—

- (1) What is the average wait time to book a P1 driving test at Roads and Maritime Services centres in Newcastle, Charlestown and Wallsend?
- (2) What action is the Government taking to reduce these wait times?

Answer—

The average wait time for driver testing for the Newcastle, Charlestown and Wallsend area is less than twelve days which is within the accepted standards.

Waiting times are closely monitored to allow for adjustments if required.

*6430 FIRE AND RESCUE NSW FUNDING—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for Sport and Recreation, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Western Sydney—

How much funding did the Government provide to Fire and Rescue NSW for each of the financial years from 2011-12 to 2014-15?

Answer—

Details of budget allocations to Fire and Rescue NSW can be found in the relevant NSW Budget Papers.

*6431 GOING HOME STAYING HOME POLICY—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) Will the Minister reverse the cuts to funding under the Going Home Staying Home policy?
 - (a) If not, why not?

Answer—

Details of the Going Home Staying Home reform are available on the Housing NSW website at <http://www.housing.nsw.gov.au/Help+with+Housing/Homelessness/Going+Home+Staying+Home/>.

*6432 INTERNATIONAL CHILD CARE COLLEGE AT BROADMEADOW—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Education—

- (1) Why was the International Child Care College at Broadmeadow overlooked during the Smart and Skilled application process?
- (2) How did the Smart and Skilled application process assess quality, as indicated in the National

Quality Framework assessment criteria, using only quantitative data?

- (3) Why is there no provision for a review or appeal of decisions under the Smart and Skilled application process?

Answer—

- (1) International Child Care College at Broadmeadow was not overlooked in the Smart and Skilled application process. It was assessed under the same eligibility and assessment criteria applied to all applications.
- (2) Smart and Skilled contract applications assessment considered all information provided in the applications. This information was not quantitative data only.
- (3) The governance of the application process met high standards of rigour and probity. Robust governance arrangements were in place throughout the application process, including external probity advice. The process operated within the NSW Government Procurement Guidelines. The Department of Education and Communities offered organisations a review process if they felt they had been unfairly excluded or disadvantaged by the application process.

- *6434 PEDIATRICS AND CHILD HEALTH RESEARCH—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

How much money did the Government allocate to pediatrics and child health research in the Hunter in each of the financial years from 2011-12 to 2014-15?

Answer—

I am advised:

The New South Wales State Government, through the NSW Medical Research Support Program, allocated over \$3.8 million in the 2011-12 financial year and over \$5.3 million in the 2012-13 financial year in funding to the Hunter Medical Research Institute.

- *6435 ROOTY HILL RAILWAY STATION PEDESTRIAN RAMPS—Mr Richard Amery asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

Does the gradient of the pedestrian ramps over the Rooty Hill Railway Station meet Australian Standard AS1428 for people with disabilities and people who use wheelchairs?

Answer—

I am advised:

In 2012, the Government announced the Transport Access Program which is delivering accessible, modern, secure and integrated transport infrastructure where it is needed most. This includes station upgrades, better interchanges and commuter car parks. This program includes more than \$770 million for improvements over four years.

Planning and design work is now underway to see which projects will come next. Access upgrades at Rooty Hill Station will be considered as part of this process.

The Transport Access Program is part of the Government's commitment to improve public transport services and provide a world class transport system people want to use.

- *6436 GROUP HOMES—Mr Barry Collier asked the Minister for Family and Community Services representing the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) Does the Government have any plans to privatise and/or outsource the management of Group Homes?

(a) If so, when will the Minister begin the process of advertising the sale and/or outsourcing in (1)?

Answer—

The Government is committed to a disability service system that increases choice and control for people with disability. For this reason, in December 2012 the New South Wales Government became the first state to sign a historic agreement with the Commonwealth to implement the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

These reforms mean the budget to support people with disability will increase from \$2.7 billion to a \$6.4 billion partnership between the New South Wales and Commonwealth Governments. Importantly, the NDIS will benefit around 140,000 people with disability in New South Wales alone.

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The NDIS will provide all participants with an individual funding package, based on an assessment of what is reasonable and necessary support to meet their needs, goals and aspirations. Each person with disability will have full choice and control over their funding and the supports they choose to access.

As New South Wales moves towards the full rollout of the NDIS, services provided by the government are being transitioned to the non-government sector.

*6437 DARLING HARBOUR LIVE DEVELOPMENT—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Women—

- (1) Did the information provided to the community for the Darling Harbour Live development indicate a proposed "green wall" along Darling Drive facing Ultimo?
- (2) Did photographs presented to the community display green walls as part of this development?
- (3) Have residents repeatedly raised concerns about noise impacts and poor visual amenity during consultation on this project?
- (4) What assessment was made of these concerns and the measures necessary to address them?
- (5) What action has the Government taken to prevent noise impacts and poor visual amenity as raised by the community?
- (6) What changes to the design for development along Darling Drive are intended?
- (7) What further action will the Government take to prevent noise and visual amenity from large walls in the Darling Harbour Live development?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Department of Planning and Environment was not involved with the applicant's pre-application community consultation and the department is unaware of any proposed design changes.

Further information about the Darling Harbour Live Development can be found at www.majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au.

5 NOVEMBER 2014

(Paper No. 14)

*6438 AMBIENT AIR QUALITY REVIEW—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, Minister for the Central Coast, and Assistant Minister for Planning—

- (1) What evidence does the Government have about the impact of air pollution on mortality and morbidity in New South Wales, and in urban areas in particular?
- (2) What are the main contributors to urban air pollution?
- (3) What strategies does the Government have in place to prevent death and harm from air pollution?
- (4) What assessment has the Government made of the benefit of better air quality standards and their impact on human health?
- (5) What contribution has the Government made, or intends to make, to the National Environmental Protection Measure for Ambient Air Quality review?
- (6) Will the Government support tighter regulation of air quality and measures to reduce air pollution?
- (7) What further action will the Government take to reduce air pollution?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

- (1) Information is available in the "Summary for Policy Makers of the Health Risk Assessment on Air Pollution in Australia" which is available on the Commonwealth Department of Environment website.
- (2) This data is freely available online via the Air Emissions in My Community web tool at <http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/air/airemissionsinmycommunity.htm>.
- (3) Through the Environment Protection Authority (EPA), the Government addresses emissions from industry, vehicles and commercial and domestic sources.

The EPA implements environmental regulatory requirements, licenses scheduled industry activities, conducts compliance and enforcement programs and implements non-statutory policies, programs and strategies to improve air quality and protect public health. These activities have been supported by a record budget allocation in 2014-15 to the EPA of \$141.6 million.

Control measures are targeted to areas where population health is most affected, and to the most polluting

activities in those areas.

Government initiatives to protect air quality are presented on the EPA website and include:

- Actions to reduce particle emissions as set out in Managing Particles and Improving Air Quality in NSW, and the Upper Hunter Air Particles Action Plan.
- Tightened regulation of industry licensed by the EPA, including through introduction of higher penalties and requirements to immediately report breaches of licence conditions and make monitoring results publicly available.
- The Dust Stop Program, under which pollution reduction programs have been placed on all open cut coal mines in NSW, requiring them to implement best practice measures to reduce dust emissions and monitor and report on the effectiveness of these actions.
- Regulatory inspections to monitor and enforce compliance with environment protection licence requirements, including unannounced aerial inspections of licensed coal mine operations and power stations in the Hunter Valley.
- The Wood Smoke Reduction Program which has provided councils in metropolitan and regional NSW with grants for community education, local enforcement and rebates to remove older wood heaters.
- Smoky vehicle enforcement by the EPA and Roads and Maritime Services, with increased penalties for smoky diesel trucks in the M5 tunnel.
- Regulation of low petrol volatility in summer and roll-out of vapour recovery at service stations in the Sydney Greater Metropolitan Region, to reduce emissions of ozone-forming pollutants.

(4) The most recent estimates of the benefits associated with air quality standards and their impact on human health can be found in documents prepared for the review of national ambient air quality standards for particles.

These documents include: Exposure Assessment and Risk Characterisation to Inform Recommendations for Updating Ambient Air Quality Standards for Particles, Ozone, Nitrogen dioxide and Sulfur dioxide; Summary for Policy Makers of the Health Risk Assessment on Air Pollution in Australia and the Draft variation to the National Environment Protection (Ambient Air Quality) Measure Impact Statement. These documents can be found on the Commonwealth Department of Environment website.

(5) The EPA has participated in the making and review of all air related National Environment Protection Measures. Since 2012, the EPA has led the review of the National Environment Protection Measure for Ambient Air Quality (AAQ NEPM) standards for particles. The EPA will continue to be involved in the next stage of the AAQ NEPM review, which will consider air quality standards for other pollutants.

(6) The Government supports the improvement of air quality across NSW. Regulations and control measures are developed on relevant evidence - including ambient air quality monitoring, the EPA air emissions inventory and particle characterisation studies - to determine the measures that will deliver the greatest overall benefit for the community.

The EPA also develops legally enforceable pollution reduction programs (PRPs) with industry operators, which are included as conditions on their environment protection licences. All environment protection licences and PRPs are freely available online at ww.epa.nsw.gov.au/prpoeapp/.

(7) The Government has provided \$8 million over 4 years for a number of major studies and programs that will continue to improve understanding and management of air quality both for NSW overall and for targeted sectors and regions. In consultation with industry and the community, the EPA is currently developing a Diesel and Marine Emissions Management Strategy which aims to progressively control and reduce emissions from priority sectors.

*6439 ENTERTAINMENT QUARTER SALE—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, Minister for the Central Coast, and Assistant Minister for Planning—

- (1) Was the lease for the Entertainment Quarter site at Moore Park, or part of the site, sold this year?
 - (a) If not, what negotiations are underway and what offers have been made for the sale of the lease?
 - (b) If so, who approved the sale given the initial lease requires the "landlord" to consent to any sublease of a significant part of the site?
 - (c) If so, what changes, if any, were made to the lease as a result of the sale?
- (2) When was the concept of transferring the ownership of the lease first raised with the Government?
- (3) What discussions have taken place with the current lessees about the future of the site?
- (4) What information has the Government received about the lessees' intentions for the site?
- (5) What assurances will the Government give to the community that any redevelopment of the site complies with the initial film related and ancillary activities purpose of the 1995 lease?
- (6) What assurances will the Government give to the community that the land and the buildings on it

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will be returned to the public as is required by the 1995 lease on its expiration?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

- (1) No.
 - (a) The lease owner Colonial First State has entered into negotiations regarding the sale of the lease with an interested buyer.
 - (b) Not applicable.
 - (c) Not applicable.
- (2) Colonial First State advised the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust in November 2013.
- (3) I am advised that Colonial First State has kept its tenants informed as to the ownership of the lease.
- (4) The lease is proposed to be transferred to a consortium on the same terms and conditions as the existing lease.
- (5) The Entertainment Quarter leaseholder must comply with all the terms of the lease and with State Environmental Planning Policy 47 which applies to the former Moore Park Showground site.
- (6) The Government will ensure that the terms of the Entertainment Quarter lease are complied with.

*6440 311 BUS SERVICE—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

- (1) What are the monthly patronage numbers for the 311 bus service since the data reported in Q.3127 in October 2012?
- (2) What patterns does State Transit report in patronage for the 311 bus service since March 2011?
- (3) Has the trend for increased patronage on the 311 bus service continued since March 2011?
- (4) What changes have been made in response to changing patronage levels on the 311 bus route?
- (5) What assessment has the Government made of changes to the 311 bus route to improve access and service levels?
- (6) What assessment has the Government made of returning the 311 bus to a 20 minute service?
- (7) What plans does the Government have for improving the frequency, running times, and the general operation of the 311 bus service?

Answer—

I am advised:

Route 311 patronage is reasonably constant on a monthly basis.

There are no reported instances of overloading on this service at any time of day.

Route 311 services are meeting the needs of customers.

Transport for NSW will continue to monitor this service to ensure it is meeting customer needs.

*6441 ROAD SAFETY FOR CYCLISTS IN OXFORD STREET—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter representing the Minister for Roads and Freight, Minister for the North Coast, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

- (1) Will the Government provide a bike box on Oxford Street at the intersection with South Dowling Street to separate cyclists from traffic on the red signal and allow vehicles to turn left on the green arrow?
- (2) Will the Government provide a bike box on Oxford Street at the intersection with Wentworth Avenue to separate cyclists from traffic on the red signal and allow vehicles to turn left on the green arrow?
- (3) What plans does the Government have to improve road safety for cyclists in Oxford Street?
- (4) What further action will the Government take to improve Oxford Street road safety?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) and (2) Bicycle boxes must meet certain criteria, including minimum lengths on the approach to an intersection and the width of the lane. It must also consider the mix of traffic on the route. These locations do not meet the required criteria.

(3) and (4) The Government aims, where possible, to separate cyclists from vehicles and pedestrians to increase road safety.

The City Centre Cycleway Network is being developed as part of the Sydney Centre Access Strategy and Sydney Cycling Future. The Government has identified and is committed to completing a separated cycleway between Bondi Junction and Sydney CBD. The Minister for Environment and Heritage and I

opened the first stage of the cycleway on 20 October 2014. Work with stakeholders continues to progress plans for further stages in the medium term.

Transport for NSW has also developed the Cycling Safety Action Plan 2014-16 with key stakeholders, including Bicycle NSW, Amy Gillett Foundation and NRMA Motoring and Services. A range of actions will be delivered over the next three years, including education and communications to riders and motorists, infrastructure improvements, and trials of innovative technologies.

Ongoing analysis of crashes along Oxford Street will continue to address issues identified for all road user groups.

*6442 MILLERS POINT HOUSING—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) Will the Government halt tenant relocations and property sales in the Millers Point, Dawes Point and The Rocks precinct until the development of the assets portfolio strategy recommended by the Inquiry into Social, Public and Affordable Housing?
- (2) How will the Government ensure that sale decisions are consistent with strategic policy, make the best use of public assets and comply with obligations under the Housing Act 2001 to provide housing to those in need?
- (3) How will the Government ensure all funds from the sale of these properties are used to buy or build additional social housing as referred to in recommendation two arising from the Inquiry?
- (4) Will the Government retain community housing properties in this precinct as listed in recommendation 21 arising from the Inquiry?
- (5) Will the Government transfer management of social housing properties in this precinct to community housing providers?
- (6) Will the Government retain multi-unit dwellings, such as the Sirius building, for social housing as referred to in recommendation three arising from the Inquiry?
- (7) Will the Government retain purpose-built social housing, such as the Cumberland and High Street properties, as referred to in recommendation 4 arising from the Inquiry?
- (8) What other action will the Government take to implement the recommendations arising from the Inquiry into Social, Public and Affordable Housing report in Millers Point, Dawes Point and The Rocks?

Answer—

I refer the Honourable member to the answer for Question on Notice 6366.

*6443 CENTRAL TO EVELEIGH PLANNING PROJECT—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Women—

- (1) What assessment has the Government made of installing solar panels above the railway lines near Central Station as part of the Central to Eveleigh planning project?
- (2) What assessment has the Government made of solar panel powered rail lines?
- (3) What further action will the Government take to build solar panels into redevelopment of the Central to Eveleigh corridor?

Answer—

I am advised:

An assessment of renewable and low-carbon energy solutions for the project will be included as part of the Central to Eveleigh Transport and Transformation Program Strategic Plan analysis. This will be part of the broader consideration being given to energy, water and waste management.

*6444 OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for Education—

- (1) How many children are waiting for a place in Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) in 2014?
 - (a) Of these, how many are from the inner city?
- (2) How many children are waiting for a place in OSHC in 2015?
 - (a) Of these, how many are from the inner city?
- (3) How does the Government ensure that planning and design of all new schools includes facilities for OSHC?
- (4) How does the Government ensure that planning and design of all upgrades or extensions to existing schools includes OSHC facilities?
- (5) How does the Government ensure that OSHC services are given priority for access to school properties and facilities, and are charged affordable fees?

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- (6) How does the Government ensure that OSHC fees paid by parents and guardians are affordable and capped?
- (7) What other support does the Government provide to OSHC services?
- (8) What action is the Government taking to support adequate OSHC services are available in high demand areas?
- (9) What further action will the Government take to increase access to OSHC in high demand inner city areas?

Answer—

(1) to (9) Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) is a Commonwealth Government responsibility and the NSW Department of Education and Communities does not collect data on OSHC enrolments or usage.

The Department of Education and Communities' Community Use of School Facilities policy and procedures provide the policy framework for OSHC services in New South Wales public schools. Preference is given to children's services providers over other community users. To ensure consistency and fairness, the Department sets minimum fee structures for licences and leases. Asset Management Units assist principals in ensuring that the appropriate fee is charged. The approach to fee calculation is outlined in the community Use of School Facilities for Children's Services implementation procedures. The licence fee paid by the children's services operator is required to cover all of the school's costs associated with having the operator use school facilities for the purpose of providing the service.

Under Local Schools, Local Decisions and the Community Use of School Facilities policies, public school principals are encouraged to make school sites available for non-government OSHC services.

The Commonwealth Government subsidises fees for parents using OSHC services via the Child Care Benefit system. Funding for the establishment of OSHC services may also be available from the Commonwealth Government through its Community Support Programme.

*6445 FARM ANIMAL PAIN RELIEF—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for Primary Industries—

- (1) What research has the Government conducted regarding measures to prevent pain to farm animals from castration, spaying, dehorning and mulesing procedures?
- (2) What strategies does the Government promote to prevent pain during these procedures?
- (3) What information, education and training does the Government provide for farmers to prevent or reduce pain during these procedures?
- (4) What prevention strategies to reduce pain during these procedures does the Government support?
- (5) What policies and strategies has the Government advocated to the Commonwealth and other States and Territories on this matter?
- (6) What further action will the Government take to prevent pain to farm animals from castration, spaying, dehorning and mulesing?

Answer—

(1) While not directly undertaken by the Government, extensive research has been carried out by industry.

(2) to (5) The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979 requires that a person take reasonable steps to alleviate pain for cattle and sheep castrated over six months of age, cattle dehorned over 12 months of age and sheep mulesed over 12 months of age. While these procedures may be carried out for animals under this age without pain relief, they must be undertaken in a manner that inflicts no unnecessary pain upon the animal. The Government promotes good on-farm practices through field days, publications and technical advice provided through the Department of Primary Industries and Local Land Services.

(6) Promotion of appropriate pain relief measures if and when they become available.

*6447 SENIORS TRAVEL FARE—Dr Andrew McDonald asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

Will you guarantee that the \$2.50 fare for seniors will not be increased or have its eligibility criteria changed after the 2015 election?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Pensioner Excursion Ticket (PET) continues to be available for customers, with fares capped at \$2.50 a day. There has been no change to the eligibility criteria.

The Gold Senior/Pensioner Opal card is now available. Fares for seniors and pensioners remain capped at

\$2.50 a day using the Opal card.

Seniors and pensioners have the choice to use the Gold Opal card, or continue to purchase paper PETs.

*6448 NOISE ABATEMENT—Dr Andrew McDonald asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

- (1) How is the Government addressing the need for noise abatement for residents of Casula and Glenfield who live next to the South Line?
- (2) Have costings for noise abatement in any area between Liverpool and Glenfield Railway Stations been undertaken in the last four years?
- (3) Has the Government estimated the cost involved with addressing the issue of noise abatement for these residents?
 - (a) If so, is a report of these estimates publicly available?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Government is delivering a comprehensive approach to managing the impacts of rail freight noise. The key areas of focus are to reduce the noise at its source, minimise its impact on residents, and reduce noise in the long term by managing how land is used near railway lines.

Noise emissions from the Southern Sydney Freight Line are a matter for the Australian Rail Track Corporation. Plans for the monitoring, management and mitigation of noise from the Southern Sydney Freight Line are set out in the Operational Noise and Vibration Management Plan, available on Australian Rail Track Corporation's website.

*6449 ACOUSTIC NOISE MEASUREMENTS ON THE SOUTH RAIL LINE—Dr Andrew McDonald asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

- (1) When were acoustic noise measurements on the South Rail Line last taken?
- (2) In which location(s) were these acoustic noise measurements taken?
- (3) Is a report of these acoustic noise measurements publicly available?
 - (a) If so, where?
- (4) When are these acoustic noise measurements due to be taken next?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Government is delivering a comprehensive approach to managing the impacts of rail freight noise. The key areas of focus are to reduce the noise at its source, minimise its impact on residents, and reduce noise in the long term by managing how land is used near railway lines.

*6450 INSTALLATION OF NOISE BARRIERS ALONG THE SOUTH LINE—Dr Andrew McDonald asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

What plans currently exist to install noise barriers along the South Line in the area between Glenfield and Liverpool Railway Stations?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Government is delivering a comprehensive approach to managing the impacts of rail freight noise. The key areas of focus are to reduce the noise at its source, minimise its impact on residents, and reduce noise in the long term by managing how land is used near railway lines.

Noise emissions from the Southern Sydney Freight Line are a matter for the Australian Rail Track Corporation. Plans for the monitoring, management and mitigation of noise from the Southern Sydney Freight Line are set out in the Operational Noise and Vibration Management Plan, available on Australian Rail Track Corporation's website.

*6451 SOUTH WEST RAIL LINK COMMUTER SERVICES—Dr Andrew McDonald asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

When are regular commuter services planned to commence on the South West Rail Link?

Answer—

As announced in November, South West Rail Link services will begin in early 2015.

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*6452 SOUTH WEST RAIL LINK TIMETABLE—Dr Andrew McDonald asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

- (1) When did planning for the new South West rail link timetable commence?
- (2) How many direct trains per hour will travel from Leppington to the city on working days between 6am and 10am?
- (3) How many direct trains per hour will travel from the city to Leppington on working days between 3pm and 7pm?
- (4) Will direct peak commuter trains to the city travel along the South Line or Airport/East Hills Line?
- (5) When will the timetable for the new South West rail link be released to the public?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) 2013.

(2) to (4) Initially, services will operate between Leppington and Liverpool, stopping at Edmondson Park and Glenfield stations.

Customers will be connected with the T5 Cumberland Line, T2 South Line and T2 Airport Line at Glenfield, and the T2 South Line, T3 Bankstown Line and T5 Cumberland Line at Liverpool. The service will connect customers to Sydney, Liverpool and Parramatta employment centres, and Sydney Airport.

Trains will run every 30 minutes between Leppington and Liverpool. The first service will depart Leppington Station at 5.06am each day, and the last service from Liverpool Station will depart at 11.58pm.

(5) The timetable will be released well in advance of services starting, giving customers plenty of time to plan their travel.

*6455 GAS LEAK DETECTION AND REPAIR—Dr Andrew McDonald asked the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, Minister for the Central Coast, and Assistant Minister for Planning—

- (1) What action will the Minister take to ensure that AGL's leak detection and repair program is more effective in the future after the Environmental Protection Agency identified many serious gas leaks that were not detected by AGL in its Annual Leak Detection and Repair Summary Report 2013?
- (2) What steps will be taken to enhance the transparency of this program for residents of Menangle, Mount Annan and Spring Farm?
- (3) Has the Minister, or his office, liaised with NSW Health to determine the long term health effects of exposure to fugitive gas emissions?
- (4) Does the Office of Environment and Heritage undertake regular reviews of scientific literature surrounding this issue?
 - (a) If so, what are the results of these reviews?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

(1) (a) The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) requires AGL, under the conditions of its Environment Protection Licence, to carry out a Leak Detection and Repair (LDAR) Program. AGL is required to undertake LDAR monitoring using agreed protocols and report to the EPA as part of the company's Annual Return process. The EPA has undertaken its own gas inspection program to provide independent assessment. All leaks detected under the program have been addressed by AGL.

(b) The Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 requires parties holding an environment protection licence to make environmental monitoring data publicly available. AGL is required to make pollution monitoring data available to the public on its website.

(2) (a) The Government formed a Coal Seam Gas Working Group comprising representatives from various government agencies, including the Office of Coal Seam Gas, the EPA, NSW Health and the Department of Planning and Environment. This group ensures all agencies are aware of issues relating to coal seam gas activities in New South Wales.

There are a number of scientific reports available that examine the medical impacts of methane on the human body. It is a scientific and medical area that is well understood within the health community and this is reinforced by NSW Health.

The EPA has commissioned the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation to undertake research into fugitive methane emissions from a range of industry types in NSW, including the Coal Seam Gas industry, with respect to emission rates and monitoring. The results will provide a greater understanding of background and current methane emission levels.

(2) (b) and (c) Environment protection licence limits in relation to emissions are the responsibility of the EPA.

*6456 GOVERNMENT APPRENTICES—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Education—

How many apprentices were employed by the Government as at 1 July for each of the years from 2010 to 2014?

Answer—

Questions about employment of staff across Government sector agencies are a matter for the Public Service Commissioner.

*6458 COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE ENFORCEMENT ACTION—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Education—

(1) How many cases were referred for compulsory attendance enforcement action in 2013?

(2) How many cases have been referred for compulsory attendance enforcement action this year as at 5 November 2014?

(3) How many final compulsory schooling orders were issued in the Children's Court and in all other courts in 2013?

(4) How many final compulsory schooling orders have been issued in the Children's Court and in all other courts this year as at 5 November 2014?

Answer—

(1) to (4) Statistics relating for compulsory attendance enforcement action are published annually on the Department's website.

*6459 MEMORIAL DRIVE EXTENSION—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter representing the Minister for Roads and Freight, Minister for the North Coast, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

(1) What work is currently underway on the next stage of the Memorial Drive extension?

(2) Has the final corridor of the Memorial Drive extension been determined?

(a) What are the details of this road corridor and where will it be located?

(3) What is the next stage of the extension to be undertaken?

(a) How much funding has been allocated to this stage?

Answer—

I am advised:

This information is available on the Roads and Maritime Services website.

*6460 TONNAGE OF TIMBER LOGGED BY FORESTRY CORPORATION NSW—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Primary Industries—

(1) During each of the financial years from 2010-11 to 2013-14, what was the total tonnage of the following types of timber harvested by Forestry Corporation NSW:

(a) Grade 1 Fencing Round;

(b) Grade 2 Salvage;

(c) Grade 3 Fencing Splits; and

(d) Grade 4 Firewood?

Answer—

(1) Data provided in responses (a) to (d) is for the product as described in the question. Domestic firewood is not included in the figures. Salvage figures listed are for all salvage grades. Figures are rounded.

(a) 2010-11: 840.

2011-12: 1,548.

2012-13: 677.

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- 2013-14: 108.
 (b) 2010-11: 318,479.
 2011-12: 312,584.
 2012-13: 274,020.
 2013-14: 289,924.
 (c) 2010-11: 950.
 2011-12: 562.
 2012-13: 986.
 2013-14: 580.
 (d) 2010-11: 32,587.
 2011-12: 131,196.
 2012-13: 121,171.
 2013-14: 102,561.

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*6461 RESTART NSW FUNDING ALLOCATION—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Premier, Minister for Infrastructure, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Has Restart NSW allocated funding to the planning or assessment of:
 - (a) A second Sydney Harbour Crossing;
 - (b) Any part of the WestConnex Freeway;
 - (c) A freeway to the Northern Beaches;
- (2) Was a cost-benefit analysis submitted to access funding for the investigation into:
 - (a) A second Sydney Harbour Crossing;
 - (b) Any part of the WestConnex Freeway;
 - (c) A freeway to the Northern Beaches;
- (3) Have any funds been allocated to the planning, assessment or construction of the North West Rail Line?
 - (a) Was a cost-benefit analysis submitted to access funding for the investigation or construction of the North West Rail Line?
- (4) Are any of the business cases, or cost-benefit analysis documents, for these 4 major projects publicly available?

Answer—

Information regarding Restart NSW is available in Budget Paper 4 of NSW Budget Papers 2014-15. An economic appraisal in accordance with NSW Government Guidelines is required by Infrastructure NSW as part of Restart NSW project assessments.

No Restart NSW funds have been allocated to the North West Rail Link.

Information regarding business cases and cost-benefit analysis are available in the Infrastructure NSW State Infrastructure Strategy Update 2014.

*6462 DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION ADVERTISEMENT IN THE DAILY TELEGRAPH—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Premier, Minister for Infrastructure, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Who requested the Premier's appearance in the Daily Telegraph's recent digital subscription advertisement?
- (2) Did the Premier receive any inducement or payment to appear in the advertisement?
- (3) Did the Daily Telegraph or News Corporation provide the Premier with any assurances about favourable coverage in exchange for his appearance?
- (4) Did the Daily Telegraph or News Corporation pay for the use of a New South Wales train carriage to film the advertisement?

Answer—

- (1) The Daily Telegraph.

- (2) No.
- (3) No.
- (4) Please refer to Transport for NSW.

*6463 HEAVY VEHICLE DRIVER ASSESSMENTS—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter representing the Minister for Roads and Freight, Minister for the North Coast, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

- (1) Who will fund the purchase and installation of the required in-cabin cameras used for the assessment of heavy vehicle drivers?
- (2) What is the anticipated cost of this technology being purchased and installed across the industry in New South Wales?
- (3) What is the minimum standard and requirements for the software used by this technology and equipment in order to be accessible for review at a later time?
 - (a) Is there a minimum mega-pixel requirement?
- (4) What will be the size of a recorded e-file, via in-cabin camera, and will it be possible to email this file?
- (5) Will the in-cabin camera "original" recorded files be required to be mailed to Roads and Maritime Services as per Commonwealth anti-tampering laws?
- (6) Who will assess and review the recorded files of the in-cabin cameras?
- (7) Will the person reviewing the recorded files of the in-cabin cameras be required or expected to have a history or expertise in heavy vehicle driving and assessment?
- (8) What will be the implications of a Heavy Vehicle Driving Assessment if the in-cabin cameras malfunction at any stage during the assessment?
- (9) What processes will be in place to account for other peripheral factors not detected by the camera that impact on the performance or assessment of a driving experience?
- (10) Will driving assessors be responsible for or expected to control the language used by applicants?
- (11) Will driving assessors be responsible for or expected to counsel applicants regarding language used?
- (12) Will driving applicants fail if their language during the assessment is deemed unacceptable by the proposed third party reviewer?
- (13) Is there any capacity within the proposed system to cater for the very nervous, self-conscious applicant with low self-esteem who may be put off by the in-cabin camera?
- (14) What strategies will be used to address localised situations where the only two competing providers in the same town will be required to send their applicant to the "opposition" for assessment?
- (15) Will heavy vehicle driver applicants be required to have their "map reading" skills assessed?
- (16) Will heavy vehicle truck operators be required to fulfill a bus stop assessment as part of their driving test?
 - (a) If so, why?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Registered Training Organisations.
- (2) The cameras are estimated to cost between \$500 and \$1500 per unit.
- (3) Technological requirements have been provided to Registered Training Organisation assessors in a Specifications Manual.
- (a) Yes.
- (4) File sizes will depend on the duration of the assessments.
- (5) No. The assessors provide the original files to the Registered Training Organisations, which can be accessed by Roads and Maritime Services at any time.
- (6) Registered Training Organisations will be required to self audit a percentage of final competency assessment footage under the terms of their Accreditation Agreement. Roads and Maritime Services will review video footage during random, triggered and scheduled audits.
- (7) Roads and Maritime Services officers will conduct audits using a standard Heavy Vehicle Competency Based Assessment audit checklist. Roads and Maritime Services auditors are trained to identify any obvious and clear breaches of Heavy Vehicle Competency Based Assessment criteria.
- (8) If a camera is identified as not fully functional during the first 15 minutes, the final competency assessment must be rescheduled. If a camera is identified as not fully functional after the first 15 minutes,

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the final competency assessment can continue, and a "Self-disclosure of Non-Compliance" form must be submitted to Roads and Maritime Services by the Registered Training Organisation.

(9) On location audits will take into account peripheral factors not captured by incabin cameras.

(10) and (11) No.

(12) No.

(13) Registered Training Organisation Assessors are responsible for preparing an applicant prior to assessments being conducted. This includes reassurance relating to the use of in-cabin cameras.

(14) In line with the revised accreditation agreement, a provider must ensure the assessor is not the same person who delivered the training course for that applicant.

The separation of training and assessment is consistent with Roads and Maritime Services' commitment to prevent any conflict of interest arising in training and assessment heavy Vehicle Competency Based Assessment Scheme.

Roads and Maritime Services will consider exceptional circumstances on a case by case basis.

(15) No.

(16) Criteria 15, Bus Stop Procedure is only required to be completed when applicants are assessed in a bus.

*6464 FEE FOR RESERVING NUMBER PLATES—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter representing the Minister for Roads and Freight, Minister for the North Coast, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

(1) Could the \$54 fee currently charged by Roads and Maritime Services for the holding of number plates which are to be placed on an already registered vehicle be charged on a monthly pro-rata basis of \$4.50 per month instead of the flat fee, regardless of the length of time the plates are on hold?

(2) Has any consideration been given to allowing this fee to be charged on a monthly basis instead of as an annual charge?

Answer—

I am advised:

1) Yes.

2) Yes.

*6465 ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEONS AT JOHN HUNTER HOSPITAL—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

(1) What is the expected wait time for an appointment with an orthopaedic surgeon at John Hunter Hospital?

(2) How many orthopaedic surgeons are available to see public hospital patients at John Hunter Hospital?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) and (2) Waiting times for an appointment with an orthopaedic surgeon at John Hunter Hospital vary depending clinical need.

John Hunter Hospital employs 17 orthopaedic surgeons.

*6466 EAR, NOSE AND THROAT SURGERY WAITING TIMES—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

(1) How many patients were waiting for ear, nose and throat surgery at John Hunter Hospital for each of the years 2010 to 2014?

(2) How long had these patients been waiting at the time of their treatment in each instance?

Answer—

I am advised:

The number of patients listed as waiting for ear, nose and throat surgery at 30 June each year at John Hunter Hospital were:

- 2014: 308.
- 2013: 653.

- 2012: 502.
- 2011: 409.
- 2010: 402.

Waiting times depend on the acuity of a patient's condition as appointments are scheduled according to clinical need.

In the Hunter New England Local Health District one hundred per cent of Category A patients; 97 per cent of Category B patients, and 97 per cent of Category C patients are receiving their surgery within recommended timeframes.

*6467 **BUSINESSES VOTING IN COUNCIL ELECTIONS**—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Local Government—

- (1) Are there plans to introduce compulsory voting for businesses or to double the value of business votes in New South Wales councils beyond the City of Sydney?

Answer—

Changes to the City of Sydney Act were recommended by the NSW Parliament Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters following a robust and exhaustive 18 month inquiry into Local Government elections.

*6468 **NEW WICKHAM TRAIN TERMINAL**—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

- (1) What is the total cost of building the new Wickham train terminal and transport interchange?
 (2) Will the new Wickham train terminal and transport interchange be serviced by light rail or buses by:
 (a) 26 December 2014;
 (b) 1 July 2015; and
 (c) 1 July 2016?
 (3) What is the cost of removing the remaining rail line and associated infrastructure between the existing Wickham Railway Station and the existing Newcastle Rail Line?
 (4) Will there be the need for other new rail infrastructure, apart from infrastructure at the proposed new Wickham Railway Station, to cater for the termination of heavy rail at Wickham?
 (5) What is the cost of establishing new rail corridor crossing points between Wickham and Newcastle Railway Stations?
 (6) How many new rail corridor crossing points will be designated for road vehicles?
 (7) What is the cost of installing light rail along the proposed Newcastle route?
 (8) Will the light rail in Newcastle be serviced at a designated workshop along the Newcastle Line or will it be transported to Sydney for servicing?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (3) The Government has committed \$460 million to the Newcastle Urban Renewal and Transport Program, including the delivery of the new Wickham Transport Interchange and light rail.
 (2) The new Wickham interchange will be serviced by trains and buses from the day it opens, followed by light rail once constructed.
 (4) Yes.
 (5) and (7) The Government has committed \$460 million to the Newcastle Urban Renewal and Transport Program, including the delivery of the new Wickham Transport Interchange and light rail.
 (6) Following truncation, level crossings at Stewart Avenue and Merewether Street will be opened permanently. Five new pedestrian crossings over the rail line will open in early 2015 with more crossings, including new vehicle crossings, to be considered.
 (8) The light rail project includes planning for a light rail operational facility at Wickham.

*6469 **WOLLOMBI PUBLIC SCHOOL**—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Education—

- (1) What education based measures have been used to assess the future of Wollombi Public School?
 (2) What other schools will be used to compare Wollombi Public School's education outcomes data?
 (3) Are the same education measures being used to assess the future of all schools, including large and small schools?
 (4) Will this data, analysis, assessment and comparative material be made public?

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- (a) If so, when?
- (5) What are the necessary criteria for Wollombi Public School to:
- (a) Retain the current operations of the school;
 - (b) Amalgamate with another school; and
 - (c) Place the school in recess?

Answer—

A school consultative group was formed to consider how to best meet the educational needs of students at Wollombi Public School. Future options were discussed and the educational needs of students at the school were raised and considered. Consultation included individual meetings, Parents and Citizens Association meetings, community meetings, consideration of written submissions and an open response survey, in which there were 49 respondents. The Director, Public Schools NSW, consulted directly with every family at the school, all staff and the Local Member, regarding the school's future.

Educational data was considered by the consultative group. Information which has been used and is available to the public is accessible on the My School web site.

A report was developed as a result of local consultation.

The Minister approved the Department of Education and Communities' recommendation that the school be closed at the end of 2014.

- *6470 SALE OF CHILD WINDOW SAFETY DEVICES—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Finance and Services representing the Minister for Fair Trading—

What action has NSW Fair Trading taken to monitor the sale of non-compliant child window safety devices in 2014?

Answer—

Fair Trading does not monitor the sale of window safety devices.

- *6471 CHILD WINDOW SAFETY LEGISLATION—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Finance and Services representing the Minister for Fair Trading—

How many owners corporations in New South Wales have adopted compliant child window safety legislation since the implementation of the Strata Schemes Management Amendment (Child Window Safety Devices) Act 2013?

Answer—

Fair Trading does not collect this information.

Owners corporations have until 13 March 2018 to comply with the new window safety laws, after which time penalties may apply.

- *6472 BANKSTOWN CITY RADIO CO-OPERATIVE LIMITED—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Finance and Services representing the Minister for Fair Trading—

What was the outcome of the annual general meeting held by Bankstown City Radio Co-operative Limited on 1 March 2014 with respect to the dispute between Bankstown City Radio Co-operative Limited and Bankstown-Auburn Community Radio Inc (ref Q.5571)?

Answer—

Bankstown City Radio Co-operative Limited has failed to respond to NSW Fair Trading's request for details of any meeting held on 1 March 2014.

Consequently, Fair Trading is currently considering appropriate compliance action.

- *6473 DEFECTIVE HOME BUILDING WORK—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Finance and Services representing the Minister for Fair Trading—

How many investigations for defective home building work in the Bankstown electorate have been undertaken by NSW Fair Trading inspectors for each of the years from 2011 to 2014?

Answer—

NSW Fair Trading's complaints database does not record data by electorate.

- *6474 FLASHING SCHOOL ZONE SIGNS—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Education—

(1) Will the Government erect flashing school zone signs outside any schools in the Bankstown

electorate within the next 12 months?

- (a) If so, at which schools will the flashing school zone signs be erected?
- (b) If not, why not?

Answer—

This question should be directed to the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter representing the Minister for Roads and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council.

*6475 TAFE ENROLMENT FEES—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Education—

- (1) Will the Minister guarantee that course enrolment fees at Bankstown TAFE and Padstow TAFE will not increase from 1 January 2015?
 - (a) If not, why not?

Answer—

From 1 January 2015, Smart and Skilled will introduce new fees for students enrolled in government subsidised qualifications. All approved training organisations delivering government subsidised training, including TAFE NSW, will charge the same fees.

*6476 BANKSTOWN CITY COUNCIL—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Local Government—

Will the Government confirm that it will not force Bankstown City Council to amalgamate with any other council?

Answer—

The Government has announced record funding for Local Government reform in the Fit for the Future package.

The Government expects councils to submit a proposal on how they will become Fit for the Future by 30 June 2015.

*6477 NORTH EAST LOCAL AREA PLAN—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

- (1) Will Transport for NSW make a submission to the Bankstown City Council draft North East Local Area Plan in light of the proposal to increase the density of the Greenacre small village centre and the likely increased demand for bus services by Greenacre residents?
 - (a) If so, will a copy of the submission be made publicly available?
 - (b) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) Yes.

(a) and (b) This is a matter for Bankstown City Council.

*6478 CONSULTATION WITH LOCAL ABORIGINAL LAND COUNCILS—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Natural Resources, Lands and Water, and Minister for Western NSW—

- (1) What consultation was undertaken with the Gandangara Local Aboriginal Land Council prior to the tabling of the Crown Lands Amendment (Public Ownership of Beaches and Coastal Lands) Bill 2014?
 - (a) If consultation did take place, on what date did it occur?
 - (b) If no consultation took place, why not?
- (2) What consultation was undertaken with the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council prior to the tabling of the Crown Lands Amendment (Public Ownership of Beaches and Coastal Lands) Bill 2014?
 - (a) If consultation did take place, on what date did it occur?
 - (b) If no consultation took place, why not?

Answer—

Prior to the introduction of the Crown Lands Amendment (Public Ownership of Beaches and Coastal Lands) Bill 2014, consultation was undertaken with the NSW Aboriginal Land Council, as the peak representative body for land councils in New South Wales.

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*6479 BEDS AT FAIRFIELD HOSPITAL—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

- (1) What is the total number of each of the following items located at Fairfield Hospital as at 6 November 2014:
 - (a) Beds;
 - (b) Cots; and
 - (c) Chairs?

Answer—

I am advised that:

- (1) Fairfield Hospital currently has 27 cots, with 8 cots provided in the Special Care Nursery and 19 cots provided in the General Nursery.

Additionally, Fairfield Hospital has 183 beds and 23 chairs.

*6480 FAIRFIELD HOSPITAL CAR PARK UPGRADE—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

- (1) What plans does the Government have to upgrade the car park at Fairfield Hospital?
- (2) When are the upgrades to the car park scheduled to commence?

Answer—

I am advised that:

- (1) and (2) The car park entry system at Fairfield Hospital was upgraded in August 2014.

*6481 CAR PARK REVENUE AT FAIRFIELD HOSPITAL—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

- (1) How much revenue was raised from the car park at Fairfield Hospital in each of the financial years from 2011-12 to 2013-14?
- (2) What maintenance works are scheduled to be completed as a result of the revenue raised from the car park?

Answer—

The Honourable Member is referred to the response to Legislative Council Question on Notice LC5412.

*6482 MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter representing the Minister for Roads and Freight, Minister for the North Coast, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

How many motor vehicle accidents occurred at the roundabout at Granville Street and The Horsley Drive, Fairfield in each of the financial years from 2011-12 to 2013-14?

Answer—

I am advised :

Four.

*6483 MOTOR VEHICLE AND PEDESTRIAN ACCIDENTS IN FAIRFIELD—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter representing the Minister for Roads and Freight, Minister for the North Coast, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

- (1) How many motor vehicle accidents occurred at the adjoining intersections of Nelson Street and The Horsley Drive, Fairfield and Nelson Street and Court Road, Fairfield in each of the financial years from 2011-12 to 2013-14?
- (2) How many accidents involving pedestrians occurred at these locations in each of the financial years from 2011-12 to 2013-14?

Answer—

I am advised:

16.

*6484 HOLROYD CITY COUNCIL AMALGAMATION—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Local Government—

- (1) What are the plans for the proposed amalgamation of Holroyd City Council?

- (2) How would the amalgamation impact on the delivery of services to the local community?
(3) Will there be any job losses as a result of the amalgamation?

Answer—

The Government has announced record funding for Local Government reform in the Fit for the Future package.

The Government expects councils to submit a proposal on how they will become Fit for the Future by 30 June 2015.

*6485 FAIRFIELD CITY COUNCIL AMALGAMATION—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Local Government—

- (1) What are the plans for the proposed amalgamation of Fairfield City Council?
(2) How would the amalgamation impact on the delivery of services to the local community?
(3) Will there be any job losses as a result of the amalgamation?

Answer—

The Government has announced record funding for Local Government reform in the Fit for the Future package.

The Government expects councils to submit a proposal on how they will become Fit for the Future by 30 June 2015.

*6486 WETHERILL PARK TAFE—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Education—

- (1) Since 2012, how many courses previously offered at Wetherill Park TAFE are no longer available?
(2) Which courses that were previously offered have been moved off campus?
(a) Where have these courses been moved to?

Answer—

(1) TAFE NSW – South Western Sydney Institute is in the process of transforming the Wetherill Park College into a Centre of Excellence for automotive trades. Once opened, the Wetherill Park Transport Technology Centre will be the largest automotive training facility in Sydney. The shift in the College profile reflects these changes with some course areas relocated to other colleges to accommodate the new facilities and reduce duplication across the Institute.

(2) Reflecting Wetherill Park College's status as a Centre of Excellence and to reduce duplication, the Institute has been progressively adjusting the College's profile. Some course areas have been relocated to other colleges within the Institute.

*6487 FAIRFIELD COMMUTER CAR PARK EXTENSION—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

What plans does the Government have to extend the commuter car park at Fairfield Station?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Government's Transport Access Program is delivering accessible, modern, secure and integrated transport infrastructure where it is needed most. This includes station upgrades, better interchanges and commuter car parks. This program includes more than \$770 million for improvements over four years.

The Fairfield Transport Interchange upgrade was completed in June 2014.

More planning and design work will now occur to see which projects will come next. Additional commuter car parking at Fairfield Station will be considered as part of this process.

The Transport Access Program is part of the Government's commitment to improve public transport services and provide a world-class transport system people want to use.

*6488 ASSISTED SCHOOL TRAVEL PROGRAM—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Education—

- (1) Has a full review of the unit running the Assisted School Travel Program taken place as recommended by Chris Raper?
(2) Did the Department of Education and Communities authorise contract variations that were introduced by this unit in 2012?
(3) Why are there two opposing sets of guidelines clarifying the same terms within the same contract?
(4) Why are operators not compensated for the costs associated with providing larger vehicles for the Assisted School Travel Program?

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- (5) Do Assisted School Travel Program contracts state that operators are to be remunerated on the basis of student numbers?
(a) If so, why did the information provided for the Rates Review indicate the model used is based on vehicle usage?

Answer—

- (1) A review of the Assisted School Travel Program was undertaken by Dr Ken Boston in 2012.
(2) Yes. Refer to the Department website for further details about the Assisted School Travel Program.
(3) to (5) Refer to the Department website for details about the Assisted School Travel Program.

*6489 NEW SCHOOL HALL AT KINGSWOOD HIGH SCHOOL—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Education—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of concerns from parents at Kingswood High School regarding the need for a new school hall to be built?
(2) Are there plans to build a new school hall at Kingswood High School?
(a) If so, what plans?
(b) If so, when will this work commence?

Answer—

- (1) Yes.
(2) (a) and (b) A project to construct a new or enlarge the existing gymnasium/multi-purpose facility at Kingswood High School will continue to be assessed and prioritised for funding against competing projects across all New South Wales government schools.

*6490 EARLY INTERVENTION UNITS—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Education—

- (1) How many Early Intervention Units that support students with special needs are there in New South Wales?
(a) Where are these units located?
(b) What recurrent funding is allocated to these units?

Answer—

- (1) There are 46.6 full time equivalent early intervention support classes in NSW public schools.
(a) Classes are located in 43 schools:

School name	Early Intervention Class
Annandale Public School	2.0
Bankstown South Infants School	1.0
Bomaderry Public School	1.0
Broken Hill North Public School	1.0
Claymore Public School	2.0
Dee Why Public School	1.0
Drummond Memorial Public School	1.0
Glenroi Heights Public School	1.0
Griffith North Public School	1.0
Hume Public School	1.0
Inverell Public School	0.6
John Palmer Public School	1.0
Kelso Public School	1.0
Killarney Vale Public School	1.0
Kingswood South Public School	1.0
Kotara South Public School	1.0
Lake Munmorah Public School	1.0
Lismore Public School	1.0
Loftus Public School	1.0
Manning Gardens Public School	1.0
Moree Public School	1.0
Moss Vale Public School	1.0

Mount Druitt Public School	1.0
Mount Warrigal Public School	1.0
Narara Public School	1.0
Narranga Public School	1.0
Normanhurst West Public School	1.0
Orana Heights Public School	1.0
Pendle Hill Public School	1.0
Punchbowl Public School	2.0
Smithfield Public School	2.0
South Grafton Public School	1.0
Tamworth South Public School	1.0
Telarah Public School	1.0
Tolland Public School	1.0
Toronto Public School	1.0
Towradgi Public School	1.0
Waratah Public School	1.0
Whalan Public School	1.0
Windsor South Public School	1.0
Wollondilly Public School	1.0
Woy Woy Public School	1.0
Yates Avenue Public School	1.0
Total	46.6

(b) The classes are provided under each host school's staffing establishment and entitlement. Recurrent funding is from the Department's Employee Salary Cost budget.

*6491 GRAFFITI HOTLINE REPORTS—Mr Ryan Park asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—

- (1) How many individual graffiti reports were made to the Graffiti Hotline between 1 July 2013 and 1 November 2014?
 - (a) How many of these reports were from the Wollongong Local Government Area?
 - (b) How many of these reports were from the Shellharbour Local Government Area?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) 1,176.
 - (a) A number of calls were made in the Wollongong and Shellharbour Local Area.
 - (b) A number of calls were made in the Wollongong and Shellharbour Local Area.

*6492 HYGIENE STANDARDS AT MOUNT DRUITT HOSPITAL—Mr Richard Amery asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

- (1) What is the Government's response to published survey results of hospital hygiene tests revealing Mount Druitt Hospital to be the worst of 15 hospitals surveyed?
- (2) Are the cleaning protocols at Mount Druitt Hospital any different to those at other hospitals surveyed?
 - (a) If so, what different cleaning schedules apply to the 15 hospitals surveyed?
- (3) What action is the Government taking to correct this situation?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) to (3) Microbiological testing of surfaces in healthcare facilities is not advised because it is difficult to separate organisms which may cause disease from those normally carried on healthy people. The germs referred in the published survey results are naturally-occurring and are in our homes, offices and other gathering places.

All cleaning activities at Mount Druitt Hospital comply with NSW Health's Environmental Cleaning Policy. Regular cleaning audits are undertaken at Mount Druitt Hospital and any identified issues are rectified within six hours.

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*6493 GOULBURN POLICE ACADEMY—Mr Richard Amery asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for Sport and Recreation, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Western Sydney—

- (1) Do applications for the NSW Police Force entail students doing their theoretical studies at institutions other than the Goulburn Police Academy?
- (2) Are students who finish their theoretical course at other institutions required to attend the Goulburn Police Academy to finish their training and become members of the NSW Police Force?
- (3) Is there a waiting list for students who have already completed their theoretical studies to enter the Goulburn Police Academy?
 - (a) If so, what is the waiting time for these students?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me:

(1) and (2) All theoretical studies in the Associate Degree in Policing Practice (ADPP) are completed through Charles Sturt University in partnership with the NSW Police Force, either by distance education or on campus at the NSW Police Academy. All students are required to attend the Academy to complete this degree.

(3) There is a waiting list of applicants seeking to gain entry into the ADPP; that is, to attend the NSW Police Academy. Once an applicant successfully completes sessions 1 and 2 of the ADPP, they are employed upon Attestation.

*6494 PORT OF NEWCASTLE AND PORT BOTANY LEASES—Mr Tim Crakanthorp asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter representing the Minister for Roads and Freight, Minister for the North Coast, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

- (1) Did the Government advise the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) of a cap on container numbers at the Port of Newcastle prior to leasing the Port of Newcastle and Port Botany?
- (2) Did the Government agree to compensate NSW Ports for container numbers in excess of the cap at the Port of Newcastle?
- (3) Did the Government advise bidders for the ports leases to obtain regulatory approval from the ACCC in relation to the cap on container numbers at the Port of Newcastle?
- (4) Will the cap on container numbers at the Port of Newcastle reduce competition between ports in New South Wales for the container trade?
- (5) Has the ACCC advised the Government that the cap on container numbers at the Port of Newcastle may be unlawful and could be unenforceable?
- (6) Does the Government forecast a four-fold increase in container movements by truck between Port Botany and Western Sydney by 2046?
- (7) What steps is the Government taking to secure a corridor for a rail freight bypass of Sydney?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) to (5) This is a matter for the Treasurer.

(6) With the opening of new intermodal terminals in Western Sydney, it is anticipated that the growth in truck trips from Port Botany to Western Sydney will be lower than the overall growth at Port Botany.

(7) The Australian Government has commissioned Australian Rail Track Corporation to design and construct an inland rail route between Melbourne and Brisbane. A New South Wales Inter-agency Steering Group with representatives from core agencies will be established to provide whole of-government input from New South Wales.

*6495 PRIVATISATION OF PRESCHOOLS—Mr Ron Hoenig asked the Minister for Education—

Can the Minister confirm that the Government does not intend to privatise preschools that are run by Parents and Citizens Associations at primary schools in New South Wales?

Answer—

There are no preschools run by Parents and Citizens Associations in public schools in New South Wales.

*6496 OPAL CARDS FOR CHILDREN—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

(1) Is a parent, grandparent or guardian required to purchase a separate Opal card for each child traveling with them?

(a) If not, how many times can a single Opal card be swiped at any one time?

(2) What is the minimum amount of money that must be placed initially on a child's Opal card?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) Yes. Each customer travelling must have a separate, valid Opal card to travel.

(2) \$5 at an Opal retailer using cash, debit or credit card or EFTPOS; or \$20 online at www.opal.com.au or over the phone on 13 67 25 (13 OPAL).

*6497 NEWCASTLE RAIL LINE—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

(1) Will the Government reconsider the decision to remove the rail line into Newcastle?

(a) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Government stands by every decision it has made regarding the long overdue renewal of the Newcastle city centre.

*6498 SPEED AND RED LIGHT CAMERAS—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter representing the Minister for Roads and Freight, Minister for the North Coast, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

How many additional combined speed and red light cameras have been installed in New South Wales since March 2011?

Answer—

I am advised:

Since March 2011, red-light speed cameras have been installed at 54 intersections.

*6499 VENESECTIONS—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

(1) How many publicly funded locations are available in the Hunter New England Local Health District to carry out venesections for patients who have haemochromatosis?

(2) How many venesections were carried out for patients who have haemochromatosis at the Calvary Mater Newcastle Hospital in 2012-13 and 2013-14?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) and (2) Most Hunter New England Local Health District facilities have the capability to provide therapeutic venesections for haemochromatosis patients.

Diagnostic coding does not specify which venesections were performed for haemochromatosis patients.

*6501 WATER COMPLAINTS IN THE HUNTER—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Natural Resources, Lands and Water, and Minister for Western NSW—

(1) How many complaints were received by the Hunter District Water Corporation about the taste of water being distributed from Chichester Dam in the six months to October 2014?

(a) How many complaints were received in the six months prior?

Answer—

13 in the six months to October 2014, and 11 in the six months prior. No complaints have been received since 5 November 2014.

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*6502 JUVENILE JUSTICE FACILITIES—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—

- (1) What is the capacity of each of the seven juvenile justice facilities in New South Wales?
- (2) Are these facilities operating at capacity?
- (3) Are there vacancies at any of these facilities?
 - (a) If so, which ones?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) This information is publicly available.
- (2) These facilities are not currently operating at capacity due to the drop in juvenile offenders in custody.
- (3) Vacancies are not indicative of positions not being filled.

*6503 PUBLIC LIBRARY FUNDING—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Trade and Investment, Minister for Regional Infrastructure and Services, Minister for Tourism and Major Events, Minister for Hospitality, Gaming and Racing, and Minister for the Arts—

- (1) How much did funding to New South Wales public libraries increase in this year's budget?
 - (a) How much funding has been allocated in 2014-15?
 - (b) How much funding was allocated in 2013-14?

Answer—

- (1) Total funding increased by \$990,000.
- (a) \$27,518,000.
- (b) \$26,528,000.

*6504 SMART AND SKILLED PROGRAM—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Education—

- (1) How much funding is allocated per trainee to successful training organisations under the Smart and Skilled program in New South Wales?
- (2) How much funding was allocated per trainee in New South Wales under the previous funding program through State Training?
- (3) How many trainee positions are available across New South Wales under the Smart and Skilled program?
- (4) How many positions were available across New South Wales under the previous program through State Training?

Answer—

- (1) Funding for individual trainees varies according to the traineeship qualification undertaken. Smart and Skilled prices, subsidies and fees for qualifications on 2015 Skills List are published on the State Training Services website.
- (2) NSW Apprenticeship and Traineeship Training Program price rates paid to training providers on contract for 2014 are published on the State Training Services website.
- (3) Smart and Skilled entitlement is demand driven within the budget.
- (4) The Apprenticeship and Traineeship Training Program is demand driven. More than 69,000 apprentices and trainees were funded in 2013.

*6505 WENTWORTH LOCAL COURT SITTINGS—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—

What changes are proposed for Local Court sittings and circuits in the Wentworth area in 2015?

Answer—

I am advised:

The sittings of the Local Court and circuits are a matter for the Chief Magistrate pursuant to the Local Court Act 2007.

*6506 BALRANALD LOCAL COURT SITTINGS—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—

What changes are proposed for Local Court sittings at Balranald in 2015?

Answer—

I am advised:

The sittings of the Local Court are a matter for the Chief Magistrate pursuant to the Local Court Act 2007.

*6507 WESTERN NEW SOUTH WALES LOCAL COURT SITTINGS—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—

What changes are proposed for Local Court sittings and circuits in Western New South Wales for 2015?

Answer—

I am advised:

The sittings of the Local Court and circuits are a matter for the Chief Magistrate pursuant to the Local Court Act 2007.

*6508 POLICE CITIZENS YOUTH CLUB—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for Sport and Recreation, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Western Sydney—

What steps need to be taken to establish a Police Citizens Youth Club at West Hoxton?

Answer—

I am advised:

Police and Citizens Youth Club NSW Limited is a public charitable company which is independent of both the Government and the NSW Police Force.

The Member or Liverpool City Council may wish to approach the Police and Citizens Youth Club NSW Limited directly to discuss establishment of a club in their local area.

The Government is a strong supporter of the work of the Police and Community Youth Clubs NSW Limited. In 2011 this Government committed \$20.25 million to establish eight new clubs and undertake capital works on clubs across the state.

*6509 LIVERPOOL POLICE STATION REFURBISHMENT—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for Sport and Recreation, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Western Sydney—

When will the refurbishment or renovation of Liverpool Police Station be completed?

Answer—

I am advised:

There are no plans to refurbish Liverpool police station. The Government has, however, committed to the construction of a new police station for Liverpool and has allocated \$22 million to the project. Construction related activity has commenced and the project is due for completion in 2016.

*6510 853 BUS SERVICE—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

Why can't the Route 853 bus servicing West Hoxton operate every half hour rather than every hour?

Answer—

I am advised:

The frequency of Route 853 in the West Hoxton area reflects the current level of demand.

*6511 TRAFFIC LIGHTS IN LIVERPOOL—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter representing the Minister for Roads and Freight, Minister for the North Coast, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

(1) Will the Government or Roads and Maritime Services provide and/or fund traffic lights at the intersection of Speed, Pirie and Bigge Streets, Liverpool?

(a) If so, when?

(b) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

Roads and Maritime has not received a request to install traffic signals at this location.

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*6512 MILLER TAFE ENGINEERING COURSES—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Minister for Education—

- (1) What advice has been provided to students in Engineering courses at Miller TAFE about those courses finishing earlier this year?
 - (a) Why was such advice provided?

Answer—

- (1) No formal advice was provided to Engineering students at Miller College about courses finishing early in 2014.

All engineering classes have continued as originally scheduled and no students have been disadvantaged by courses finishing early.

*6513 LIVERPOOL HOSPITAL CAFETERIA—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

Is there a proposal to replace the cafeteria at Liverpool Hospital?

Answer—

I am advised that:

Liverpool Hospital is currently planning a new food retail space for staff, patients and visitors.

*6514 ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES—Dr Andrew McDonald asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

- (1) Is the use of electronic cigarettes governed by the same legislation as regular tobacco products?
- (2) Are individuals allowed to "smoke" e-cigarettes indoors at cafes, bars or restaurants?
- (3) Is it permissible to use e-cigarettes around public hospitals?
- (4) What is the NSW Ministry of Health's position on e-cigarettes?
- (5) Does the Minister have any plans to introduce guidelines for the use of e-cigarettes?

Answer—

I am advised that:

- (1) No.
- (2) Yes, unless the café, bar or restaurant has its own policy that prohibits the use of electronic cigarettes on its premises.
- (3) The NSW Health Smoke-free Health Care Policy will ban the use of e-cigarettes at all NSW Health facilities.
- (4) NSW Health convened an expert panel to provide advice on the risks and benefits of electronic cigarettes and has developed fact sheets to assist consumer understanding of electronic cigarettes.
- (5) Future guidelines will be made following detailed consultation with health experts.

*6515 DAPTO TAFE—Ms Anna Watson asked the Minister for Education—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that the Dapto TAFE campus has been sold?
 - (a) If so, to which party was the Dapto TAFE campus sold?
 - (b) If so, what was the total amount of the sale?
 - (c) If so, when will the sale be announced?
 - (d) If not, why not?

Answer—

- (1) The Dapto TAFE campus has not been sold.
 - (a) N/A.
 - (b) N/A.
 - (c) N/A.
 - (d) N/A.

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(Paper No. 17)

*6516 RESURFACING OF THE NEWCASTLE RAIL LINE—Mr Tim Crakanthorp asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

- (1) Why is Transport for NSW resurfacing the track between Hamilton and Newcastle in light of the proposed closure of the rail line from Hamilton to Newcastle Railway Station?
(a) What is the total cost of this resurfacing?

- (2) Is the Minister reconsidering closing the rail line?

Answer—

I am advised:

Routine maintenance continues on this section to ensure the reliability, safety and integrity of the infrastructure.

*6517 REMOVAL OF THE NEWCASTLE RAIL LINE—Mr Tim Crakanthorp asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

- (1) What is the projected cost of each of the following components of the Newcastle Rail Line removal:
(a) The removal of the heavy rail line;
(b) The remediation of the corridor;
(c) The building of the new Hamilton stabling areas;
(d) The building of the Wickham Terminus;
(e) Preparing Hunter Street and Scott Street; and
(f) The construction of a light rail system from Wickham to Newcastle, with signalling and dual trackwork?
- (2) Has a business case been completed in relation to the expenditure in (1)?
(3) How can this business case be accessed by the public?

Answer—

I am advised:

The total cost of the Wickham interchange and Newcastle light rail projects will be determined as part of the detailed planning and approval process now underway.

*6518 BEAUMONT STREET SIGNAL BOX—Mr Tim Crakanthorp asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

Has a risk assessment been conducted on the new signal box at the Beaumont Street, Hamilton level crossing?

Answer—

I am advised:

Transport for NSW considers all known risks and opportunities throughout the planning and delivery of its projects.

*6519 CBD ENTERTAINMENT PRECINCT LIQUOR EXEMPTIONS—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Trade and Investment, Minister for Regional Infrastructure and Services, Minister for Tourism and Major Events, Minister for Hospitality, Gaming and Racing, and Minister for the Arts—

- (1) How many applications for exemptions from the restrictions of the Liquor Amendment (Sydney CBD Entertainment Precinct Plan of Management) Regulation 2014 under the Liquor Act 2007 has the Government received?
(a) How many of these applications have been approved?
- (2) How many of the applications and approvals in (1) were for:
(a) The CBD and The Rocks;
(b) Oxford Street;
(c) Other parts of Darlinghurst and Surry Hills;
(d) Haymarket; and
(e) Other areas within the precinct?
- (3) How many of the applications in (1) involve gambling venues?
(a) How many of these applications were approved and where are they located?
- (4) What assessment has the Government made of the impacts of these restrictions on gambling venues?
(5) What action will the Government take to review the exemption criteria and process?

Answer—

- (1) to (4) All successful applications are published on the Office of Liquor and Gaming's website.

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(5) An evaluation of the CBD Plan of Management is currently underway and being led by NSW Treasury. In addition, the Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing is undertaking an implementation review and will consider the impact of any exemptions within its normal evaluation framework.

*6520 NSW CIVIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—

- (1) Since the inception of the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal (NCAT), what proportion of strata and home building related hearings involved one or both parties requesting leave to be legally represented?
 - (a) What proportion of these cases was refused?
- (2) What assessment has been made of those cases that were refused?
- (3) What assessment has been made of compliance with the guidelines for NCAT members in granting leave for a person to be represented by a lawyer?
- (4) What assessment has the Government made on whether the guidelines are operating fairly?
- (5) What consideration is the Government giving to amending the guidelines or providing an automatic right to legal representation in strata and home building cases?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (1a) In relation to requests for leave to be legally represented that have been formally recorded in the Tribunal's case management system between 1 January 2014 and 31 October 2014, I can advise the following:
 - NCAT received 2,683 Home Building applications. Of these applications, the Tribunal received 79 written requests for leave to be legally represented (2.94 percent), with 10 being refused (12.6 percent).
 - NCAT received 1,199 Strata and Community Schemes applications. Of these applications, the Tribunal received 3 written requests for leave to be legally represented (0.25 percent), with none being refused.
- (2) If a person is refused leave to be legally represented in NCAT proceedings, he or she may seek leave to appeal that decision. NCAT's internal appeal panel has not received any applications for leave to appeal in relation to legal representation in Home Building or Strata and Community Schemes matters. Nor has the Tribunal received any formal complaints.
- (3) As outlined in my response to question 2, NCAT has not received any applications for leave to appeal about a particular decision to grant or refuse a person permission to be legally represented. Nor has the Tribunal received any complaints.
- (4) The low application rate for leave to be represented in Home Building and Strata and Community matters, combined with the absence of any appeals or complaints about the Tribunal's decisions, indicate that the current provisions relating to legal representation are operating fairly.
- (5) The Government will continue to monitor the application of the guidelines to ensure that the current provisions relating to legal representation operate fairly.

*6521 SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for Small Business, and Minister for Regional Tourism—

- (1) What avenues of support are available for small businesses under the Retail Leases Act 1994?
- (2) What measures can be used to help businesses in high street shopping areas such as Oxford Street?
- (3) How can the Government support pop-up shops, or other short term leases, that may help activate shopping streets and support startup businesses?
- (4) Does the Government have plans to support small businesses by activating rarely used shopping streets?
- (5) What further action will the Government take to support small businesses?

Answer—

- (1) The Retail Leases Act (the Act) supports small businesses by providing a regulatory framework for their industry and by establishing a mediation process to assist in resolving disputes. It provides certainty on key issues which have important economic consequences for small businesses and seeks to create a level playing field between landlords and tenants. The Act is currently undergoing a periodic review to ensure it stays in touch with the needs of the market and to further increase transparency in the sector.

The Act's mediation regime provides a low cost, accessible and efficient service to help the parties to a lease to resolve their disputes. This service is provided by the Office of the Small Business Commissioner's (OSBC) Dispute Resolution Unit which also offers commercial, strategic and procedural advice and information to landlords and tenants about leasing issues. The OSBC has also produced the NSW Retail Tenants Guide and the Small Business Info Kit to provide practical advice about leasing and the provisions of the Act in everyday language. These resources have been translated into Arabic, Chinese (simplified), Korean and Vietnamese to help New South Wales retailers from diverse backgrounds.

- (2) Businesses in high street shopping areas are able to access support through the Government's Small Biz Connect program. The program provides highly subsidised face to face business advice supported by a retail health check developed in partnership with the Australian Retailers Association. The health check can assist small retailers to identify actions to improve their business.

The OSBC's Dispute Resolution Unit provides a low cost, accessible and efficient mediation service to help businesses resolve disputes, along with commercial, strategic and procedural advice. The OSBC can help with disputes or issues involving a small business and a landlord or tenant, other business, Council or Government.

- (3) Businesses wishing to start or create a pop-up shop can get support through the Government's Small Biz Connect program.
- (4) The Government through the OSBC is working closely with Councils and local business communities to identify opportunities to activate their small businesses. Where local champions have identified areas of opportunity the OSBC will partner to assist in facilitating knowledge and skills development enabling a group of small businesses to develop collective actions to reactivate their street.
- (5) The Government is working to ensure that small businesses have an environment conducive to doing business. The OSBC in partnership with the NSW Business Chamber has initiated the Small Business Friendly Councils Program, the first of its kind in Australia. 41 Councils, representing over 242,000 small businesses, have committed to participate in the Program. Councils in New South Wales have the opportunity to be formally recognised and demonstrate their commitment to their local small business community by committing to report on business improvement processes and on-time payment policies in their operational plans; establishing a business advisory board in conjunction with key stakeholders from the local business community; and implementing new initiatives such as streamlining procurement or establishing pre-lodgement Development Application meetings. The OSBC is also conducting a periodic review of the Retail Leases Act, with a view to introducing greater transparency to the retail leasing sector, which will benefit small businesses.

*6522 KOGARAH RAILWAY STATION SHUTTLE BUS SERVICES—Mr Barry Collier asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

- (1) Has the Minister cancelled the shuttle bus services from Kogarah Railway Station to:
- St George Public Hospital;
 - St George Private Hospital; and
 - Calvary Hospital?
- (2) What is the annual cost of the shuttle bus services in (1)?
- (3) What was the patronage of the shuttle bus services in (1) in each of the following years:
- 2009;
 - 2011; and
 - 2013?

Answer—

I am advised:

In August 2013, the Kogarah shuttle service was extended to operate as Route 430 along a larger loop to include Kogarah Railway Station, St George Hospital and Calvary Hospital.

*6523 BULLYING IN SCHOOLS—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Education—

- (1) How many incidents of bullying took place in schools in the following regions for each of the years from 2010 to 2013:
- Sydney (North);
 - Sydney (Inner-city);
 - Sydney (South);
 - Sydney (South-West);

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- (e) Sydney (West);
- (f) Sydney (North-West);
- (g) North Eastern New South Wales;
- (h) North Western New South Wales;
- (i) South Western New South Wales;
- (j) South Eastern New South Wales; and
- (k) Central Coast and Newcastle?

Answer—

The New South Wales Department of Education and Communities does not collect data at a systemic level on incidents of alleged bullying in schools.

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(Paper No. 18)

*6524 REGISTERED TRAINING ORGANISATIONS—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Education—

- (1) Why were Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) offered training places in locations where there are no RTO training facilities?
- (2) What time limits have been placed on these RTOs to establish their facilities?

Answer—

- (1) All applicants were required to advise of facilities and equipment, trainers and other support for each region for which they applied.
- (2) All approved providers are expected to have the facilities and resources required to provide quality training for any student they enrol.

*6525 SMART AND SKILLED TRAINING PROVIDERS—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Education—

- (1) What avenues of appeal are available to unsuccessful Smart and Skilled training provider applicants?
- (2) How much time is provided for unsuccessful applicants to lodge an appeal?
 - (a) If there is no avenue for an appeal, why not?

Answer—

- (1) The Department of Education and Communities offered organisations a review process if they felt that they had been unfairly excluded or disadvantaged by the application process.
- (2) Organisations which feel that they have been unfairly excluded or disadvantaged should lodge their request for a review as soon as possible.

*6526 SAVINGS FROM THE REDUCTION OF REGISTERED TRAINING ORGANISATIONS—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Education—

What are the projected savings from the introduction of the Smart and Skilled Program and the reduction in the number of Registered Training Organisations in each of the financial years from 2014-15 to 2016-17?

Answer—

Smart and Skilled was not designed to reduce expenditure on training.

*6527 SMART AND SKILLED APPLICANTS—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Education—

- (1) Did any of the successful Smart and Skilled program training provider applicants who provided incorrect information in their applications have their contract offers withdrawn?
 - (a) If so, how many?
 - (b) If not, why not?

Answer—

One organisation's Smart and Skilled Contract was terminated after it was found to have provided incorrect information.

*6528 FINANCIAL PROTECTIONS FOR STUDENTS—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Education—

What financial protections are available to students of the Smart and Skilled program who may encounter

a training provider who is unable to complete their training to an acceptable standard?

Answer—

The requirements for the application and management of student fees are set out in the Smart and Skilled Fee Administration Policy. Provisions include:

- The requirements for the Provider to publish and make students aware of the fee refund policy before enrolment.
- Rules applying to students who transfer due to provider closure or contract termination.
- A fee adjustment policy where recognition of prior learning and/or credit transfer has been granted.
- The requirement for a clear withdrawal with no penalty cut-off date (as determined by the Provider).
- The Provider must comply with one of the national Vocational education and training regulator standards for Registered training Organisations for the protection of student fees, such as being a member of an approved Tuition Assurance Scheme.

*6529 SMART AND SKILLED APPLICATION PROCESS—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Education—

- (1) Why were some Registered Training Organisations (RTOs), who were unable to provide historical data as required in the Smart and Skilled application process, offered contracts ahead of other unsuccessful applicants who provided the required information?
- (2) Were parts of the application disregarded by the approving body?
 - (a) If so, which parts?
 - (b) If not, what criteria was valued more highly than historical data?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) All applications for Smart and Skilled contracts were subject to the same eligibility and assessment criteria.

*6530 FLYING FOXES—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, Minister for the Central Coast, and Assistant Minister for Planning—

- (1) Are there plans to remove flying foxes from the Threatened Species Conservation list?
 - (a) If so, when will this take place?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

Under the Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995, the independent Scientific Committee is responsible for determining whether a species should be listed or delisted.

*6531 OPAL CARD USE—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

- (1) What is the average daily use on weekdays of Opal cards at the following railway stations:
 - (a) Newcastle;
 - (b) Maitland;
 - (c) Branxton;
 - (d) Greta;
 - (e) Beresfield; and
 - (f) Tarro?

Answer—

I am advised:

More than 1.3 million Opal cards have now been issued to customers, including 60,000 Gold Senior/Pensioner Opal cards. Over 95 million journeys have been taken by customers using the Opal card.

*6532 DISABILITY COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROGRAM—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Family and Community Services representing the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) How much notice is provided to recipients and their carers for changes made to Disability Community Support Program funding packages?
- (2) How much notice will be given to those people with Disability Community Support Program funding packages that will be reduced or cancelled on 31 December 2014?

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Answer—

(1) and (2) The High Needs Pool and Attendant Care Programs were aligned under a new policy, the Community Support Program (CSP), which has been implemented since 1 July 2014. All participants were advised in September 2013 of the changes. The CSP provides participants with greater flexibility, choice and control over their disability supports. Under the CSP, participants are allocated an approved individual budget rather than a prescribed number of hours and type of support.

For individuals transferring from Attendant Care Program and High Needs Pool, the individual budget is based on their current approved hours of support, inclusive of direct and indirect costs. Participants decide how they want to use their funds in an individual plan. There has been no reduction in Ageing, Disability and Home Care funding during this transition.

There are no plans to reduce or cancel Community Support Program funding packages on 31 December 2014.

*6533 ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Finance and Services representing the Minister for Fair Trading—

What safeguards will be put in place to ensure that motorists will be protected from unskilled roadside assistance operators, who will not be required to hold a relevant licence or tradesperson certificate upon commencement of the Motor Dealers and Repairers Regulation 2014?

Answer—

The Australian Consumer Law requires companies providing roadside assistance services to guarantee that the work performed by their technicians is done with an acceptable level of skill and technical knowledge.

*6534 UNSAFE MOTOR VEHICLE REPAIR INSPECTIONS—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Finance and Services representing the Minister for Fair Trading—

On how many occasions did NSW Fair Trading officers inspect motor vehicles for unsafe or poor quality repairs that were subject to an insurance claim in each of the years from 2011 to 2014?

Answer—

NSW Fair Trading's complaints database does not record whether motor vehicle repairs are subject to an insurance claim.

*6535 PROSECUTIONS AGAINST PANELBEATING OPERATORS—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Finance and Services representing the Minister for Fair Trading—

How many prosecutions have been made by NSW Fair Trading against panelbeating operators in each of the years from 2011 to 2014?

Answer—

NSW Fair Trading has prosecuted and issued penalty infringement notices for breaches under the former Motor Vehicle Repairs Act 1980, to the following number of panel beating operators, in each of the calendar years specified:

- 2011 – nil prosecutions and 11 penalty infringement notices were issued against 9 operators.
- 2012 – nil prosecutions and 30 penalty infringement notices against 21 operators.
- 2013 – 1 prosecution for 12 offences and 13 penalty infringement notices against 10 operators.
- 2014 – nil prosecutions and 4 penalty infringement notices against 2 operators as at 30 November 2014.

*6536 THE YOUTHIE—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Citizenship and Communities, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Veterans Affairs, and Assistant Minister for Education—

(1) Will the Government commit to providing financial assistance to "The Youthie" in Raymond Terrace so that the youth support group can offer local youth more than 6 contact hours per week?

(a) If not, why not?

Answer—

The Raymond Terrace Neighbourhood Centre which runs "The Youthie" receives funding from the NSW Department of Family and Communities Services. This question should therefore be referred to the Minister for Family and Community Services.

*6537 ENGADINE DISTRICT YOUTH SERVICES—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Citizenship and Communities, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Veterans Affairs, and Assistant Minister for Education—

- (1) What financial assistance has the Government provided to the Engadine District Youth Services to ensure the continued provision of existing services beyond 1 January 2015?
- (2) Will the Government make up a Federal Government funding shortfall of \$500,000 to ensure that existing staff can continue their employment at the Engadine District Youth Service beyond 1 January 2015?
 - (a) If not, why not?

Answer—

- (1) The current funding provided to the Engadine District Youth Service is provided by the Federal Government under their Youth Connections program.
- (2) The Government does not provide funding for the Youth Connections program as it is a Federal Government Program.

*6538 TEACHER AND SUPPORT OFFICER REDUNDANCIES—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Education—

How many TAFE teaching and support officer positions were made redundant at Bankstown TAFE in each of the years from 2011 to 2014?

Answer—

Teacher redundancies:

- 2011 Nil.
- 2012 Nil.
- 2013 Nil.
- 2014 11.

There is no classification of "Support Officer" in TAFE NSW.

*6539 NURSE TO PATIENT RATIO AT BANKSTOWN-LIDCOMBE HOSPITAL—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

What has been the nurse to patient ratio at Bankstown-Lidcombe Hospital in each of the years from 2011 to 2014?

Answer—

I am advised that:

Nurse to patient ratios do not apply to New South Wales hospitals.

*6540 BANKSTOWN POLICE NUMBERS—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for Sport and Recreation, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Western Sydney—

- (1) Will the Government commit to increasing the number of police officers in the Bankstown Local Area Command?
 - (a) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

Police numbers are at record highs. As at December 2014 authorised strength was 16,485 and the Government's commitment is to boost the authorised strength of the NSW Police Force by 859 police officers, to reach 16,665 in August 2015. 679 of these additional positions have been brought online since December 2011.

The allocation of police resources is determined by the Commissioner. The most recent attestation was on 12 December 2014 and twelve recruits were allocated to the Bankstown Local Area Command.

*6541 MEASURES FOR INCREASING LIFE EXPECTANCY—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Natural Resources, Lands and Water, and Minister for Western NSW—

- (1) What specific measures have been implemented in the last 12 months to promote healthier lifestyles and to increase the life expectancy rate in the following towns:
 - (a) Walgett;

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- (b) Forbes; and
(c) Bourke?

Answer—

See below list of programs and services that promote healthier lifestyles in the towns of Walgett, Forbes and Bourke.

- Munch and Move, a state-wide program which aims to promote and encourage healthy eating and physical activity habits and reduce small screen recreation (TV, DVDs, computers) among young children aged from birth to five years who attend early childhood education and care services. All centre-based child care services and preschools in Bourke, Forbes and Walgett participate in.
- Crunch&Sip program promotes and supports schools to implement a dedicated fruit, vegetable and water break during class time. 8 out of 9 schools in Bourke, Forbes and Walgett participate in this program.
- Active After Schools programs in Bourke, Walgett and Forbes provide active play and sporting opportunity to school aged children.
- Healthy Outback Kids Program in Bourke and Walgett primary schools established school kitchen gardens to be used in Science and Food Tech classes with the guidance from the Stephanie Alexandra Kitchen Gardens program and the Healthy Kids Association.
- The Western NSW Local Health District Health Promotion unit support physical activity leader training and support programs across the WNSW and free classes are held in Bourke, Walgett and Forbes with access open to community members over the age of 16yrs.
- NSW Health Challenge - Walgett has participated in 2013 & 2014. Bourke participated in 2013.
- NSW Health Activity Challenge- Walgett Public School was in the pilot in 2013 and participated in 2014. This involved students being engaged in a virtual challenge around the world with distance covered tied to class daily pedometer readings.
- Healthy People and Places competitive grant process encourages local health facilities to work in partnership with local communities to design, implement and evaluate a HP project and Bourke was successful in 2014 to increase access to fruit and vegetables in Enngonia. Forbes was successful in 2013. Their project was in partnership within the local preschool on planting fruit trees.
- Marang Dhali - Eating Well Project (MDEWP) is a food and cooking program for Aboriginal Communities. Aboriginal Health workers are trained to deliver this program locally and have run it in both Bourke and Forbes.
- Sales to Minors is a program aimed at reducing the access to cigarettes to minors. Compliance testing has been run in Forbes and Bourke in the last 12 months.
- Stepping On program is a prevention program for people identified as high risk of falling and sustaining injury. Local health staff are trained to run this program locally and is run in Bourke and Forbes. Walgett staff are trained and will commence classes in 2015.
- Health Promotion Capacity Building training aims to teach local health workers to undertake effective project planning, implementation and evaluation. Training has been undertaken at Bourke and is scheduled for Walgett in 2015.
- Housing for Health is a Public Health initiative to improve lifestyle and living conditions. Programs have been run at Bourke and Walgett in the last 12 months.
- Traditional Indigenous games are coordinated from Bourke providing access to traditional forms of sport. There is also a strong indigenous bowls competition between towns in the North West of NSW including Bourke and Walgett.

*6542 ROADS AND MARITIME SERVICES FAIRFIELD EMPLOYEES—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Finance and Services—

How many individuals are employed at Roads and Maritime Services in Fairfield?

Answer—

Fairfield Motor Registry has 20 employees.

*6543 ROADS AND MARITIME SERVICES FAIRFIELD—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Finance and Services—

Who owns the Roads and Maritime Services site in Fairfield?

Answer—

The Roads and Maritime Services site in Fairfield is owned by Government Property NSW.

*6544 DRIVER LICENSING FEES—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter representing the Minister for Roads and Freight, Minister for the North Coast, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

- (1) Have driver licensing examination fees in New South Wales increased since 2011?
 - (a) If so, how much have these fees increased?
- (2) Have driver licensing renewal fees in New South Wales increased since 2011?
 - (a) If so, how much have these fees increased?

Answer—

I am advised:

Fees are increased annually in line with the Consumer Price Index.

*6545 MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEES—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter representing the Minister for Roads and Freight, Minister for the North Coast, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

- (1) Have the motor vehicle registration fees in New South Wales increased since 2011?
 - (a) If so, how much have these fees increased?

Answer—

I am advised:

Fees are increased annually in line with the Consumer Price Index.

*6546 DRIVING TEST WAITING TIMES—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Finance and Services—

What is the current waiting time to sit a driving test at Roads and Maritime Services Fairfield?

Answer—

The average wait time for driver testing for the Fairfield Motor Registry is 15 days which meets the accepted standards.

*6547 DRIVING TESTS—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Finance and Services—

How many driving tests were conducted at Roads and Maritime Services Fairfield in each of the years from 2011 to 2013?

Answer—

Roads and Maritime Services Fairfield conducted 7,273 tests in 2011, 7,706 tests in 2012 and 8,203 tests in 2013.

*6548 DRIVING EXAMINERS—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Finance and Services—

How many driving examiners were employed at Roads and Maritime Services Fairfield for each of the years from 2011 to 2014?

Answer—

Fairfield Motor Registry has employed four full-time driver testers for each of the years 2011 to 2014.

*6549 REDEPLOYMENT OF ROADS AND MARITIME SERVICES STAFF—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Finance and Services—

How many staff members from the Roads and Maritime Services Fairfield Registry will be redeployed to Service NSW centres in the local area?

Answer—

Service NSW gives priority consideration to directly affected staff from agencies such as Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) and Fair Trading. Since 2013, more than 75 per cent of those recruited to Service NSW are from the affected agencies.

The recruitment process was signed off by the Public Service Association in the Industrial Relations Commission.

Service NSW and partner agencies provide considerable support to assist staff who are applying for Service NSW positions.

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*6550 ROADS AND MARITIME SERVICES FAIRFIELD REGISTRY—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Finance and Services—

When will the Roads and Maritime Services Fairfield Registry cease operation?

Answer—

The Fairfield Motor Registry continues to deliver Roads and Maritime services.

Service NSW will continue to plan the network design to best meet customer needs and value for money.

*6551 TRAIN NOISE—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

- (1) What are the trends in train and rail noise complaints in the inner city?
- (2) How will the Government prevent noise from Eastern Suburbs Line trains impacting on adjacent Edgecliff and Woolloomooloo residents?
- (3) How will the Government prevent train noise from impacting on residents adjacent to the City Circle railway lines at Circular Quay?
- (4) How will the Government prevent noise from train horns impacting on residents adjacent to tunnels?
- (5) What noise reduction programs are currently being trialled?
 - (a) What action is the Government taking to inform affected communities about these trials?
- (6) What further action will the Government take to reduce rail noise impacts?

Answer—

I am advised:

All practical measures are taken to reduce noise from trains, the tracks and other structures across the rail network. This includes rail and train wheel profile grinding and the removal of track surface irregularities to reduce noise.

*6552 OXFORD STREET TRAFFIC—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter representing the Minister for Roads and Freight, Minister for the North Coast, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

- (1) What assessment has the Government made of The Paddington Society and BIKEast March 2013 collaboration entitled "Oxford Street, Paddington: Proposal to Redesign a Thoroughfare Consistent with Paddington as a Village"?
- (2) What action has been taken since community representatives presented this proposal to senior officers at Roads and Maritime Services?
- (3) What determination has the Government made of the redeveloped Kensington High Street, London, where changes were designed to improve safety and access while maintaining traffic flow?
- (4) What changes are being considered for Oxford Street traffic?
- (5) What changes are planned to reduce speed limits and clearway hours following the successful reduction during afternoon peak hours?
- (6) What changes are planned to improve pedestrian safety and access?
- (7) What changes are planned to improve cycling safety and access?
- (8) What changes are planned to improve bus travel times?
- (9) What further action will the Government take to improve Oxford Street traffic conditions?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Paddington Society and BIKEast proposal to reduce Oxford Street to a single traffic lane with a wide central median and bus lane is not in line with current Government plans.

Oxford Street forms part of three strategic bus corridors, and traffic volumes along this route indicate at least two traffic lanes are required in peak periods.

When Roads and Maritime Services carries out an independent strategic review of the corridor in the 2015-16 financial year it will seek City of Sydney Council's input.

*6553 KINGS CROSS VENUES WITH A STRIKE—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Trade and Investment, Minister for Regional Infrastructure and Services, Minister for Tourism and Major Events, Minister for Hospitality, Gaming and Racing, and Minister for the Arts—

- (1) How many of the 19 licensed premises in the Kings Cross Precinct that have a strike against them under the Kings Cross Plan of Management:
 - (a) Have an on-premises licence that relates to a restaurant;

- (b) Close at or before midnight each day;
 - (c) Are deemed high risk venues; and
 - (d) Have been issued a strike for breaches of additional conditions for the Kings Cross Precinct that would not have been issued elsewhere in New South Wales?
- (2) Of the venues in Kings Cross that have an on-premises licence that relates to a restaurant and have a strike against them:
 - (a) How many received strikes for failing to provide alcohol sales data; and
 - (b) How many received strikes for other breaches, and what were these breaches?
 - (3) What assessment has the Government made of the benefit of requiring the provision of alcohol sales data from restaurants that close at or before midnight?
 - (4) What assessment has the Government made on the impost of providing alcohol sales data on restaurants that close at or before midnight?
 - (5) Excluding the infringement charge for the strike, what costs will these restaurants incur if the strike given affects risk based licensing which commences next year, including additional fees for having a strike, capacity based fees and the Kings Cross Precinct loading?
 - (6) For how many years will the strike issued to these restaurants result in increased fees under the risk based licensing scheme?
 - (7) What information has the Government provided to restaurants with a strike about how it will affect risk based licensing costs so that these restaurants can make an informed decision on whether to challenge the strike in court?
 - (8) What consideration will the Government give to removing the requirement on restaurants in the Kings Cross Precinct to provide alcohol sales data?

Answer—

- (1) As at 28 November 2014:
 - (a) 16, including four restaurants holding an on premises licence that also relate to catering, accommodation and a public entertainment venue.
 - (b) 11.
 - (c) 6.
 - (d) 18.
- (2) The Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing publishes a Three Strike Register on its website, which is updated quarterly, containing information on Kings Cross venues with strikes recorded against them.
- (3) The Government introduced alcohol sales data reporting requirements from 1 January 2014 for licensed venues in Kings Cross to help inform the ongoing development of regulatory policy and enforcement strategy for that precinct. Insufficient time has passed to properly assess the utility of having a complete data set available from all licensed venues across all alcohol sales time periods in Kings Cross versus having a subset available which does not include data relating to restaurants.
- (4) The collection of alcohol sales data is ongoing. However, the Government has responded to concerns that some restaurants are experiencing difficulty in complying with hourly data recording requirements. The Government is amending the Liquor Regulation 2008 to limit hourly alcohol sales data recording in the Kings Cross precinct to high risk venues only, with all other premises in the precinct to be subject to a requirement to record daily alcohol sales.
- (5) Licensed premises will pay a base fee and a trading hours risk loading in 2015 under the risk based licence fee scheme. The compliance history risk loading, patron capacity risk loading and location risk loading commence in 2016.

The compliance history risk loading for a licensed venue will be:

- \$3,000, if one strike is in force;
- \$6,000 if two strikes are in force; and
- \$9,000 if three strikes are in force.

A patron capacity risk loading will be incurred if a venue has a compliance history risk loading. This loading will be as follows:

- \$1,000 for venues with a capacity of 60 patrons or less;
- \$3,000 for venues with a capacity of 61-120 patrons;
- \$5,000 for venues with a capacity of 121-300 patrons; and
- \$8,000 for venues with a capacity of 301 + patrons.

Licensed premises in a prescribed precinct, including Kings Cross, that are subject to compliance loading will also be subject to a \$2,000 location risk loading.

- (6) A strike remains in force for three years. Venues that have incurred a strike since 15 March 2013 will

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incur a compliance loading in 2016.

- (7) The incurrence of a strike relies upon the commission of a prescribed offence. Licensees are entitled to argue their case before the courts where an offence is alleged to have been committed.

In September 2014, the Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing wrote to all licensed premises in New South Wales to inform them of their licence fee estimate for 2015, and to provide them with information to assist with any decisions they need to make in relation to their licence and the risk based licence fee payable. The Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing has also been liaising with Restaurant and Catering NSW and other peak bodies to provide their members with information about the scheme.

The Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing has also published information about the risk based licence fee scheme on its website, and provides updates via its e-news service to industry stakeholders. Further written advice to industry will be provided in the first quarter of 2015.

- (8) Refer to answer to question (3).

*6554 METHAMPHETAMINE USE—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

- (1) What data does the Government have regarding the use of methamphetamine in the wider community and the trends in its use?
- (2) What data does the Government have regarding the use of methamphetamine in the inner city?
- (3) What inner city programs does the Government provide to:
 - (a) Address the prevention of methamphetamine use;
 - (b) Educate users about minimising harms; and
 - (c) To intervene or treat problematic use?
- (4) What further action will the Government take to address increasing use of methamphetamine?

Answer—

I am advised that:

(1) and (2) The National Drugs Strategy Household Survey (NDSHS) 2013 report yields detailed information on alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use within Australia. The Alcohol and Other Drug Treatment Services (AODTS) in Australia 2012-13 report presents the latest annual snapshot of information about publicly funded alcohol and other drug treatment service agencies.

(3) and (4) The Government continues to intervene and treat methamphetamine use through:

- 24 hour state-wide telephone services, including the Alcohol and Drug Information Service and the Drug and Alcohol Specialist Advisory Service.
- Local Health Districts provide inpatient and outpatient withdrawal management services and psychosocial intervention.
- The Stimulant Treatment Program is a specialised treatment option located at St Vincent's Hospital in Darlinghurst.
- Hospital Drug and Alcohol Consultation Liaison services are located in major hospitals across New South Wales.
- NSW Health provides treatment for people who have entered the criminal justice system.
- Non-government organisations deliver a large proportion of drug and alcohol treatment services in New South Wales through a series of grants managed both through the Ministry and by the Local Health Districts.
- The Government provides funding to support over 1000 treatment places in non-government service types.

*6555 DRAFT MASTER PLAN FOR THE ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, SYDNEY AND THE DOMAIN—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, Minister for the Central Coast, and Assistant Minister for Planning—

- (1) How many submissions were made in response to the Draft Master Plan for the Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney and the Domain exhibited in April?
 - (a) What concerns were raised in these submissions?
 - (b) What assessment has the Government carried out of this feedback?
- (2) How will the Government ensure that plans maintain these unique environs without alienation and commercialisation?
- (3) How will the Government ensure that plans maintain priority for botanic science purposes and passive recreation?

- (4) Will the Draft Master Plan:
- Retain all the site in public ownership;
 - Ensure the current levels of green open space are retained;
 - Increase the tree canopy and ensure that trees are not removed to provide views;
 - Preclude hotels and other inconsistent development;
 - Ensure public transport facilities do not intrude on open space;
 - Retain the Domain's open space without permanent structures; and
 - Retain the natural headland at Mrs Macquarie's Point without structures?
- (5) What other priorities will be included in the Draft Master Plan?
- (6) When will a final Master Plan be made available to the community?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

- 113 submissions were received.
 - The public feedback covered a broad range of issues including the impact of potential construction on the Gardens and surrounding sites, the need for greater public transport access and the number of events in Domain.
 - The Trust is reviewing all submissions.
- The Trust remains committed to its Vision, which includes "to protect and nourish a much-loved institution so that it can thrive and evolve, and continue to provide the people of Sydney and tourists from around the world with beautiful gardens and parks to enjoy for a further 200 years".
- The Government continues to support botanic science purposes and passive recreation at the Royal Botanic Gardens through a recurrent budget allocation. In addition the Royal Botanic Gardens is bound by its Act to maintain priority for systematic botany and plant conservation.
- (a) to (g) These issues will be addressed as part of the Conservation Management Plan and the final review of the public consultation and finalisation of the Master Plan process.
- All priorities of the Draft Master Plan were opened for discussion as part of the public consultation process.
- The Draft Master Plan and the outcomes of the community consultation are currently being considered.

*6556 VOLUNTEERS AT MOUNT DRUITT HOSPITAL—Mr Richard Amery asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for Sport and Recreation, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Western Sydney—

- What changes, if any, are being planned by the management of Mount DrUITT Hospital that would affect the current role of volunteers raising funds for the hospital?
- Are there plans to stop volunteers from accessing the current kiosk and gift shop at the hospital?

Answer—

This question should be directed to the Minister for Health.

*6557 METHADONE CLINIC IN MOUNT DRUITT—Mr Richard Amery asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for Sport and Recreation, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Western Sydney—

- Were any complaints made to the local Police concerning the operations of the the former methadone clinic in Queen Street, St Marys?
 - If so, what plans are in place to ensure that the operation of the new methadone clinic, near the entrance to Mount DrUITT Hospital, is carried out with safety to neighbouring homes and passers-by in mind?
 - Did officials from Mount DrUITT hospital hold discussions with Police concerning this matter?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me:

Mount DrUITT Local Area Command has confirmed that local police did not receive any complaints about the former methadone clinic in St Marys.

Police are conducting regular patrols in the vicinity of the new clinic, in line with normal operational policing procedures, and are liaising with NSW Health and staff of the Mount DrUITT/Blacktown Drug and Alcohol Service with regard to security at the clinic.

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*6558 CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS IN ROOTY HILL—Mr Richard Amery asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

- (1) Does the Government have information about the increased unit construction around Rooty Hill?
- (2) Does this information advise that there will be an increase in residents living in units near Rooty Hill Railway Station?
 - (a) If so, will the Government ensure that access to the Rooty Hill Railway Station is upgraded to cater for this increased use of the station?
 - (b) If so, when will this upgrade commence?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) and (2) This is a matter for the Minister for Planning.

(2) (a) and (b) The Government's Transport Access Program is delivering accessible, modern, secure and integrated transport infrastructure where it is needed most. This includes station upgrades, better interchanges and commuter car parks. This program includes more than \$770 million for improvements over four years.

More planning and design work will now occur to see which projects will come next. Rooty Hill Station will be considered as part of this process.

The Transport Access Program is part of the Government's commitment to improve public transport services and provide a world-class transport system people want to use.

*6559 AFFORDABLE HOUSING—Mr Robert Furolo asked the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) What is the status of the Affordable Housing Taskforce's report into affordable housing in New South Wales?
- (2) What action has the Government taken in response to the Taskforce's Draft Report and any subsequent report(s)?
- (3) What is the status of the State Environmental Planning Policy, affordable housing Choice that was identified in the Affordable Housing Taskforce's Draft Report?

Answer—

I am advised by the Department of Family and Community Services that this matter falls within the portfolio responsibilities of the Hon Pru Goward MP, Minister for Planning.

*6560 CHEMOTHERAPY SERVICES—Mr Jamie Parker asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

- (1) Which NSW Health chemotherapy services charge a chemotherapy co-payment for each original script, and what does this represent as a proportion of all chemotherapy services in New South Wales?
- (2) How many different chemotherapy drugs are prescribed, on average, to a patient in their first cycle of chemotherapy?
- (3) How many chemotherapy patients were charged a chemotherapy co-payment?
- (4) What percentage of the total number of chemotherapy patients were charged a chemotherapy co-payment?
- (5) What percentage of the total number of chemotherapy patients were admitted as outpatients?
- (6) What percentage of the total number of chemotherapy patients were admitted as "privately referred non-admitted" patients?
- (7) Why did the Government refrain from signing the Federal Government's Public Hospital Pharmaceutical Reforms when they were introduced nationally?
- (8) Why won't the Government sign onto the Federal Government's Public Hospital Pharmaceutical Reforms now?
- (9) Why aren't chemotherapy patients admitted as inpatients in New South Wales?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (9) Modern chemotherapy treatment practice does not usually require admission to a hospital. This approach is preferred by the majority of patients who would rather go home at the end of each treatment.

Most patients would be prescribed between one and three chemotherapy agents in their first course of chemotherapy. Data on patients who did, or did not pay a co-payment are not collected centrally.

The previous Government declined to sign up to the Commonwealth Government's pharmaceutical reforms.

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*6561 **ROADS AND MARITIME SERVICES OFFICE AT WALLSEND**—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Finance and Services—

Are there plans to convert the Roads and Maritime Services office at Wallsend into a Service NSW centre?

Answer—

The Wallsend Motor Registry continues to deliver Roads and Maritime services.

Service NSW will continue to plan the network design to best meet customer needs and value for money.

*6562 **BEAUMONT STREET, HAMILTON, LEVEL CROSSING**—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

(1) Was a risk assessment conducted regarding the new signal box at the Beaumont Street, Hamilton, level crossing in light of the proposed truncation of the Newcastle Rail Line?

(a) If not, why not?

(2) Was a risk assessment conducted regarding the addition of up to 200 buses at the Beaumont Street, Hamilton, level crossing?

(a) If not, why not?

(3) Have any risk assessments conducted for the Beaumont Street, Hamilton, level crossing been made public?

(a) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

Transport for NSW considers all known risks and opportunities throughout the planning and delivery of its projects.

*6563 **UBER**—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

(1) What is the Government doing to investigate the impact and legality of the Uber app on the taxi industry?

(2) Is it legal for an individual without a taxi or other transport licence to transport a person via a request from the Uber app?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Government's position is clear. Taxi and hire car services in New South Wales must be provided in a licensed taxi or hire car by an accredited operator and a driver authorised by Roads and Maritime Services.

*6564 **HAEMOCHROMATOSIS PATIENTS**—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

How many patients were diagnosed with haemochromatosis in the Hunter New England Local Health District in the financial years 2012-13 and 2013-14?

Answer—

I am advised:

In 2012-13 72 patients were admitted to facilities across the Hunter New England Local Health District with a diagnosis of haemochromatosis. In 2013-14, there were 58 patients.

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*6565 PUBLIC HOSPITAL X-RAY AND IMAGING DEPARTMENTS—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

- (1) Is the Government planning to privatize the X-ray and imaging departments in New South Wales public hospitals?
 - (a) If so, when is this likely to occur?

Answer—

I refer the Member to my response to Legislative Assembly Question on Notice LA6412.

*6566 GLENDALE TAFE—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Education—

- (1) Will Glendale TAFE be affected by the Government's decision to reduce funding to TAFE NSW Outreach programs?
 - (a) If so, will staffing positions be affected by this reduction in funding?

Answer—

- (1) In 2015, Outreach programs at Glendale College will focus on individuals with an entitlement to training and programs will be delivered from the 2015 Skills List.
 - (a) No.

*6567 REGISTERED TRAINING ORGANISATIONS—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Education—

- (1) How will the Government ensure that, under the Smart and Skilled program, new successful training organisations will be able to meet the demand for employers who require customised training with a registered training organisation in light of the cuts to funding support to registered training organisations?
- (2) How many jobs will be lost following the unsuccessful bids by many existing registered training organisations?

Answer—

- (1) Employers and students will be surveyed to obtain feedback on their training experience and outcomes.
- (2) All training providers need to ensure that they have a sustainable business model, with a variety of funding sources. Providers can deliver training to subsidised students alongside commercial fee students.

*6568 NEW POLICE RECRUITS—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for Sport and Recreation, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Western Sydney—

- (1) When will the next round of new police recruits in New South Wales graduate?
- (2) How many recruits will be allocated to police stations in the Hunter?
 - (a) Which stations will these recruits be allocated to?

Answer—

I am advised:

The allocation of police resources is determined by the Commissioner and officers are allocated to Local Area Commands rather than specific police stations.

The most recent attestation was on 12 December 2014 and seven recruits were allocated to the Hunter region including Central Hunter, Hunter Valley, Lake Macquarie and Port Stephens Local Area Command.

*6569 SUICIDE RATES IN THE NSW POLICE FORCE—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for Sport and Recreation, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Western Sydney—

- (1) How many police officers in New South Wales took their own lives in the period from:
 - (a) October 2013 to October 2014; and
 - (b) October 2012 to October 2013?
- (2) What additional support is being implemented to support New South Wales police officers suffering from mental health disorders and their families?

Answer—

I am advised that the NSW Police Force now has over 79 activities and initiatives in place to promote

wellbeing and prevent injury, improve injury management, and rehabilitate and redeploy injured officers. Specific programs focused on preventing and supporting officers with Post-traumatic stress disorder include:

- Mental Health Intervention Team.
- 24 hour trauma support and a peer support program managed by a psychologist.
- Beyond Blue mental health training.
- The NSW Police Force and the NSW Police Association jointly sponsored the recent [late October and early November 2014] speaking tour on "Emotional Survival for Law Enforcement" by Dr Gilmartin.
- Statewide leadership training for supervisors on injury management, prevention and support.
- Regular programs such as RU OK Day and Mental Health Month.
- Monitoring traumatic incidents at Region, Local Area Command, rank and officer level.
- Implementation of recommendations from project evaluations, such as expanding Wellcheck.
- Mobile nursing services, physiotherapy services and follow up fitness programs.
- New deployment guidelines and psychological job analysis tools for injured officers.

We have also formed the Self-Harm Prevention Partnership, with members representing the NSW Police Force, the Police Association of NSW, the NSW Coroner, and Ministry for Police and Emergency Services.

The group is examining the causes of death, including suicide, of serving and former police officers. This work will help us get the fullest picture possible of the numbers affected, triggers for suicide and preventative strategies to be adopted.

*6570 MENTAL HEALTH WARDS—Mr Nick Lalich asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

- (1) How many beds are currently available in the mental health wards at Liverpool and Braeside Hospitals?
- (2) How many beds were available in the mental health wards at Liverpool and Braeside Hospitals in January 2011?
- (3) Are there plans to increase the number of beds available in the mental health wards at Liverpool and Braeside Hospitals?
- (4) How many staff are employed in the mental health wards at Liverpool and Braeside Hospitals?
- (5) How many staff were employed in the mental health wards at Liverpool and Braeside Hospitals in January 2011?

Answer—

I am advised that:

- (1) to (5) Advice on mental health beds in the District is available in the NSW Health Annual Report 2013-14.

Local Health District Chief Executives and Boards are responsible for managing budgets and determining the right composition of the workforce to meet the health needs of the local community.

*6571 FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY NURSING—Mr Nick Lalich asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

- (1) What amount of funds has the Government allocated to community nursing in the Fairfield and Cabramatta areas in the 2014-15 NSW Health budget?
- (2) What amount of funds did the Government allocate to community nursing in the Fairfield and Cabramatta areas in the 2013-14 NSW Health budget?

Answer—

I am advised that:

- (1) and (2) Local Health District Chief Executives and Boards are responsible for managing budgets in accordance with requirements of the Service Agreement between the Ministry of Health and the District.

*6572 ELECTRICITY SUPPLY TO THE CABRAMATTA ELECTORATE—Mr Nick Lalich asked the Minister for Resources and Energy, and Special Minister of State—

- (1) How many electricity blackouts occurred in the Cabramatta electorate between 1 January 2014 and

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18 November 2014?

- (a) On what date and at which times did each of these blackouts occur?
 - (b) What was the duration of each of these blackouts?
 - (c) What were the causes of these blackouts?
- (2) What is the Government doing to ensure a more reliable electricity supply to the Cabramatta electorate?
 - (3) Will the sale of the New South Wales electricity network improve or reduce the reliability of electricity supply for the Cabramatta electorate?

Answer—

I am advised by Endeavour Energy, as follows:

- (1) Endeavour Energy does not record the number of unplanned interruptions based on State or federal electoral boundaries. However, it does collect this data by local government area (LGA). The Cabramatta electorate is largely encompassed within the Fairfield LGA.

There were a total of 167 unplanned interruptions between 1 January and 18 November 2014 in Fairfield LGA, resulting in an average interruption duration of 40 minutes without supply per customer. This compared favourably to the average interruption duration of 56 minutes across the whole Endeavour Energy network for the same period. This level of supply reliability in the Fairfield LGA is similar to that in Blacktown, Liverpool and Parramatta LGAs over this period.

The unplanned interruptions in the Fairfield LGA were caused by either: adverse weather conditions; interference with powerlines from trees, birds, animals and vehicles; switching errors; defective equipment; as well as a small number of unknown causes.

- (2) To provide a safe, reliable and efficient electricity supply for customers, Endeavour Energy invested \$22.9 million to improve the overall condition of its network, cater for growth in electricity demand and replacement of ageing assets in the LGAs that comprise the Cabramatta electorate.

This investment has included redevelopment of Canley Vale Zone Substation and the refurbishment of Cabramatta and Bonnyrigg Zone Substations, as well as augmentation of the transmission and distribution network supplying the Cabramatta electorate.

Cabramatta customers have also benefited from Endeavour Energy's ongoing maintenance programs that keep its network in good working order, such as routine line inspections, streetlight upkeep and other condition-based maintenance.

- (3) The Government is responsible for setting reliability standards for the electricity distribution networks. This responsibility will not change as a consequence of the proposed partial lease of the network businesses.

The reliability standards applying to Endeavour Energy are set out as a condition of its licence, determined by the Minister for Resources and Energy. Endeavour Energy is required to publicly report on its performance against the standard in its Network Performance Report, which is available on Endeavour's website.

*6573 PUBLIC HOUSING IN CABRAMATTA AND FAIRFIELD—Mr Nick Lalich asked the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) How many applications did the Government receive for public housing in the Cabramatta and Fairfield areas in 2013?
- (2) How many applications did the Government receive for public housing in the Cabramatta and Fairfield areas from 1 January 2014 to 18 November 2014?

Answer—

Information relating to social housing by allocation zone is available on the Housing Pathways website at <http://www.housingpathways.nsw.gov.au/>.

Details about the number of social housing applications is available in the FACS Annual Report which is available at <http://www.facs.nsw.gov.au/>.

*6574 PRIVATISATION OF DISABILITY SERVICES—Mr Nick Lalich asked the Minister for Family and Community Services representing the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) Has the Government conducted any analysis or review of the impact that the privatisation of disability services will have on people living with disabilities in the Cabramatta electorate?
- (2) Will the Government publicly release any analysis or reports relating to the privatisation of disability

services?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) The Government is committed to a disability service system that increases choice and control for people with disability. For this reason, in December 2012 the NSW Government became the first state to sign a historic agreement with the Commonwealth to implement the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

The NDIS will provide all participants with an individual funding package, based on an assessment of what is reasonable and necessary support to meet their needs, goals and aspirations. Each person with disability will have full choice and control over their funding and the supports they choose to access.

The NDIS will give individuals, with help from family members, flexibility to design a package of supports tailored to their specific needs, goals and preferences. Their Support Plan will ensure all their needs are met; that supports are delivered in the way that best suits them and their family; and they can change the plan or provider if they are not happy with the support provided or their needs or goals change.

The Government will work closely with people with disability, their families and carers, and the Commonwealth Government to ensure a smooth transition to the NDIS.

*6575 MR FLUFFY ASBESTOS INSULATION—Mr Nick Lalich asked the Minister for Finance and Services—

- (1) Has the Government uncovered any Mr Fluffy asbestos insulation installed in the Cabramatta electorate?
(2) Are there any plans to include the Fairfield Local Government Area in the free technical assessment eligibility testing?

Answer—

There has been no evidence that Mr Fluffy asbestos insulation has been installed in the Fairfield Local Government Area (LGA).

However, if a resident in the Fairfield LGA suspects that loose fill asbestos is installed in the ceiling space, WorkCover recommends they contact a Licensed Asbestos Assessor to undertake a sample and testing of the material in the ceiling space.

A listing of Licensed Asbestos Assessors is available on the WorkCover website at www.workcover.nsw.gov.au.

*6576 CABRAMATTA AND BONNYRIGG HEIGHTS FIRE STATIONS—Mr Nick Lalich asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for Sport and Recreation, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Western Sydney—

Will the Government ensure that permanent staff at the Cabramatta and Bonnyrigg Heights Fire Stations are rostered on this summer instead of temporarily relocating staff from other stations to staff the Cabramatta and Bonnyrigg Heights Fire Stations?

Answer—

Fire and Rescue NSW has advised me:

Cabramatta and Bonnyrigg Heights areas continue to be protected by permanent firefighters at all times. Like all firefighters, those based at Cabramatta and Bonnyrigg Heights may be called upon to assist in emergencies in different locations or may take part in training that may be conducted elsewhere.

Firefighters and their trucks are mobile resources and on any given day, the greater Sydney area is protected by between 96 and 106 permanently staffed fire trucks. The Government has recently boosted the resources of Fire and Rescue NSW, with an additional five water tankers and extra 40 firefighters.

*6577 PUBLIC ART FUNDING—Mr Nick Lalich asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Trade and Investment, Minister for Regional Infrastructure and Services, Minister for Tourism and Major Events, Minister for Hospitality, Gaming and Racing, and Minister for the Arts—

How much funding has the Government committed to fund public art in the Cabramatta electorate for 2014-15?

Answer—

The Government provides a range of funding opportunities to arts and cultural organisations and

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individuals through the Arts and Cultural Development Program.

Information about the program and recipients is available on the Arts NSW website www.arts.nsw.gov.au.

*6578 COUNCIL AMALGAMATIONS—Mr Nick Lalich asked the Minister for Local Government—

Will the Government rule out forcing Liverpool City Council and Fairfield City Council to amalgamate?

Answer—

The Government has announced record funding for Local Government reform in the Fit for the Future package.

The Government expects councils to submit a proposal on how they will become Fit for the Future by 30 June 2015.

*6579 CREDIT PROGRAM—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—

- (1) What is the status of the Court referral of eligible defendants into treatment (CREDIT) program?
- (2) What plans, if any, does the Attorney General or his Department have for the expansion of the CREDIT program?
- (3) What changes, if any, are proposed for the CREDIT program arising out of the Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research reviews?
- (4) Are there any proposals to outsource the CREDIT program to any faith based organisations or to any non-government organisations?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (4) CREDIT is a trial program and is being assessed in conjunction with other options. The Department of Justice is committed to cost effective services which encompass evidence based best practice to reduce reoffending. At present the Department is working to determine the best way to achieve this outcome.

*6580 JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTRE AT KARIONG—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—

- (1) Has the Juvenile Justice Centre at Kariong now completely closed?
- (2) When is it proposed that adult offenders will be held at the facilities at Kariong?
- (3) What was the cost of alterations, additions, or necessary changes to the facilities at Kariong to detain adult offenders?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) From early 2015, adult inmates will be held at Kariong. Any associated costs were covered by the annual minor works allocations.

*6581 DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—

- (1) Which functions were the subject of requests under s.29 of the Director of Public Prosecutions Act 1986 by the Director of Public Prosecutions to the Attorney General in 2013-14, as referred to in the Annual Report of the Office of Director of Public Prosecutions?
 - (a) Which matters did these requests relate to?

Answer—

(1) The functions that were the subject of the request were:

- Conduct of a prosecution;
- Conduct of an interlocutory matter where a recent High Court authority indicated it is appropriate that prosecutors with conduct of the trial be quarantined.

(a) The matters relate to:

- R v Braimah-Mahamah.
- The name of the matter is subject to a non-publication order.

*6582 VICTIMS RIGHTS AND SUPPORT ACT 2013—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—

- (1) What is the estimated cost of meeting all proper claims lodged under the Victims Support and Rehabilitation Act 1996 up until the introduction of the Victims Rights and Support Act 2013?
- (2) What is the estimated cost of meeting proper economic loss claims by victims of criminal injury who were injured before the introduction of the Victims Rights and Support Act 2013 but whose claims under that 2013 Act are restricted by Schedule 2 Clause 5 of the Act?

Answer—

I am advised that:

- (1) The estimated cost is \$430,000,000.
- (2) The estimated cost is \$118,490,000.

*6583 OFFICE OF THE LEGAL SERVICES COMMISSIONER—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—

How many and which positions were vacant at the Office of the Legal Services Commissioner in the period from 1 July 2013 to 20 June 2014?

Answer—

Vacancies are not indicative of positions not being filled.

*6584 MISS EARTH AUSTRALIA PAGEANT—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Minister for Finance and Services representing the Minister for Fair Trading—

- (1) Why did Fair Trading refuse to accept and pursue the complaint made by Ruben Grageda against Roselyn Singh and Miss Earth Australia that in the 2014 Miss Earth Australia Pageant Dayana Grageda was declared the winner on 14 September 2014 but was subsequently unilaterally and without justification replaced by the third runner up?
- (2) What other complaints have been received by Fair Trading concerning Roselyn Singh or the Miss Earth Australia organisation?
- (3) Is the Minister aware of any charitable status attached to the Miss Earth Australia organisation?
 - (a) If so, what are the details of that status?

Answer—

Complaints of this nature do not fall within the legislative responsibilities of NSW Fair Trading.

*6585 FUTURE PLANS FOR THE LIVERPOOL ROADS AND MARITIME SERVICES BUILDING—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Minister for Finance and Services—

What does the Government propose as to the future of the old Roads and Traffic Authority/Roads and Maritime Services Building on the Hume Highway at Liverpool?

Answer—

The Motor Registry building located at 359 Hume Highway, Liverpool, was vested in Government Property NSW's name on 15 December 2014. No decision has yet been made in terms of its program for disposal.

*6586 REMEDIAL WORK ON PROPERTIES IN NELSON PARADE, HUNTERS HILL—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Women—

- (1) When will the Department of Planning and Environment's assessment of the major project application, or other development applications, concerning remedial work on properties in Nelson Parade, Hunters Hill be completed?
- (2) Once the Department's assessment has been completed, how long will it take for the Planning Assessment Commission to make a final determination on those applications?

Answer—

I am advised:

In due course.

*6587 FUTURE PLANS FOR THE LIVERPOOL ROADS AND MARITIME SERVICES BUILDING—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Minister for Finance and Services—

What does the Government propose as to the future of the old Roads and Traffic Authority/Roads and Maritime Services Building on the Hume Highway at Liverpool?

Answer—

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The Motor Registry building located at 359 Hume Highway, Liverpool, was vested in Government Property NSW's name on 15 December 2014. No decision has yet been made in terms of its program for disposal.

*6588 PERITONECTOMY SURGERY—Dr Andrew McDonald asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

- (1) Will the Ministry of Health submit Professor David Morris' application to the Nationally Funded Centres (NFC) Reference Group regarding peritonectomy surgery and the NFC program?
 - (a) If so, when?
 - (b) If not, why not?
- (2) Will the Minister raise the issue of peritonectomy surgery with the NFC Reference Group in light of the growth in the amount of research into the issue?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) The Government is continuing to support the provision of peritonectomy surgery at St George Hospital.

*6589 HEALTH SERVICES IN GOULBURN—Dr Andrew McDonald asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

- (1) Has the Government committed to building a new health facility to replace Goulburn Base Hospital?
- (2) Will the Minister guarantee that the new facility in Goulburn will remain in the "C1" peer group as a regional hospital?
- (3) How much is a replacement hospital or health facility in Goulburn expected to cost?
- (4) Over what period is the \$600,000 provided for a feasibility study going to be spent?
 - (a) Will the feasibility study be released to the public?
 - (i) If so, when?
- (5) Will the completed business case for this hospital be released to the public?
 - (a) If so, when?

Answer—

I am advised that:

- (1) to (5) In January 2014, the Government committed \$600,000 to progress planning for the next stage of the Goulburn Base Hospital Redevelopment.

Further detailed planning will be undertaken to canvas different health service models, capital and operational requirements.

Documents associated with this planning phase are not released publicly due to commercial-in-confidence issues.

*6590 SENIOR CLINICIAN AT LISMORE BASE HOSPITAL—Dr Andrew McDonald asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

Has the Minister, her office, or the Ministry of Health been made aware of the standing down of a senior clinician from Lismore Base Hospital in January 2013?

Answer—

Yes.

*6591 NORTHERN NEW SOUTH WALES LOCAL HEALTH DISTRICT BOARD MEETINGS—Dr Andrew McDonald asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

- (1) On what date or dates did the Board of the Northern New South Wales Local Health District discuss the standing down of a senior clinician at Lismore Base Hospital in 2013?
 - (a) What conclusion was reached at these board meetings?
 - (b) Were the minutes of these board meetings made available to affected parties?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Northern NSW Local Health District Board considered correspondence from the Chairs of the Lismore and Grafton Hospital Medical Staff Councils concerning the standing down of a senior Lismore Base Hospital clinician at the 31 July 2013 Local Health District Board Meeting.

The minutes of Northern NSW Local Health District Board meetings are publically available.

*6592 PETITION SIGNED BY SENIOR CLINICIANS AT LISMORE BASE HOSPITAL—Dr Andrew McDonald asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

(1) Has the Minister, her office, or the Ministry of Health received or been made aware of a petition of 84 senior clinicians requesting the resignation of the chief executive of the Northern New South Wales Local Health District in May 2013?

(a) If so, what response was given to the petition?

Answer—

I am advised:

Yes, the petition will be responded to by the Ministry of Health.

*6593 BUS ROUTES IN MOUNT DRUITT—Mr Richard Amery asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

(1) Is the Government considering changing bus routes in the Mount Druitt area to allow clients who do not have access to a motor vehicle to access the new methadone clinic at the entrance to the Mount Druitt Hospital?

(a) If not, which of the bus routes currently in use are recommended for clients using this facility?

Answer—

I am advised:

Route 754 bus services stop at the entrance to Mount Druitt Hospital on Luxford Road, 7 days per week.

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*6594 BUS SERVICES FOR BELMONT CHRISTIAN COLLEGE STUDENTS—Ms Jodie Harrison asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

(1) How many requests for a bus service for Belmont Christian College students living in the Kahibah, Redhead, Dudley and Charlestown East areas have been made?

(2) How many students would patronise a service if it were offered?

(3) How many patrons use the existing 322 service, also used by Belmont Christian College students, during school travel times?

(4) Is the existing 322 service public route, which results in students having to cross Woomara Avenue unsupervised, considered safe?

(5) How many formal reports of injury to children using the 860 service have been received?

(6) How many patrons use the 860 service during school travel times?

Answer—

I am advised:

Two requests were received by Transport for NSW in two years.

As you would be aware, any decision to amend a bus stop on a local road is a matter for Council's Local Traffic Committee.

State Transit Authority has received no formal reports of injury.

*6595 HILLSBOROUGH ROAD AND CHADWICK STREET INTERSECTION—Ms Jodie Harrison asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter representing the Minister for Roads and Freight, Minister for the North Coast, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

(1) How many of the accidents on Hillsborough Road between Warners Bay and Charlestown occurred at the intersection of Hillsborough Road and Chadwick Street?

(2) What steps have Roads and Maritime Services taken to reduce motor vehicle accidents at this intersection?

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- (3) What funding has been allocated for upgrades to this intersection?
(4) When will the upgrades to this intersection commence and conclude?

Answer—

I am advised :

(1) In the five year period to December 2013, there were three recorded crashes resulting in one person being injured at or within 10 metres of the intersection of Hillsborough Road and Chadwick Street, Hillsborough.

(2) to (4) Roads and Maritime Services is currently preparing a route strategy along the course of Hillsborough Road and Medcalf Street between Newcastle Inner City Bypass and The Esplanade.

The strategy will identify issues along the route and provide options for improving both safety and traffic efficiency. Cost and feasibility of duplicating Hillsborough Road and upgrading the Chadwick Street intersection will also be assessed.

Any projects arising from the investigation will be considered for future funding.

*6596 HILLSBOROUGH ROAD AND CROCKETT STREET INTERSECTION—Ms Jodie Harrison asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter representing the Minister for Roads and Freight, Minister for the North Coast, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

- (1) What data does Roads and Maritime Services possess on the frequency of motor vehicle accidents on Hillsborough Road between Warners Bay and Charlestown?
(2) How many of these accidents occurred at the intersection of Hillsborough Road and Crockett Street?
(3) What steps have Roads and Maritime Services taken to reduce motor vehicle accidents at this intersection?
(4) What funding has been allocated for upgrades to this intersection?
(5) When will the upgrades to this intersection commence and conclude?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) In the five year period to December 2013, there were 69 recorded crashes resulting in 35 persons injured on Hillsborough Road, east of King Street/Macquarie Road and west of Charlestown Road.

(2) In the five year period to December 2013, there were 11 recorded crashes resulting in four persons injured at or within 10 metres of the intersection of Hillsborough Road and Crockett Street, Hillsborough.

(3) to (5) Roads and Maritime Services is currently preparing a route strategy along the course of Hillsborough Road and Medcalf Street between Newcastle Inner City Bypass and The Esplanade.

The strategy will identify issues along the route and provide options for improving both safety and traffic efficiency. Cost and feasibility of duplicating Hillsborough Road and upgrading the Chadwick Street intersection will also be assessed.

Any projects arising from the investigation will be considered for future funding.

*6597 DUBBO BASE HOSPITAL—Ms Linda Burney asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

- (1) Will land be identified on the Dubbo Base Hospital site for the provision of child care?
(2) How much funding will be available to construct child care facilities on the Dubbo Base Hospital site?
(3) Will any site or facility on the Dubbo Base Hospital site be available to Playmates Child Care Centre?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) to (3) An offer of assistance has been accepted by Playmates Cottage to obtain a list of appropriate Crown and Shire Council lands that may be considered for a new site.

The Government has allocated \$91.3 million towards Dubbo Hospital redevelopment stages one and two, with further funding of \$600,000 to plan stages three and four.

*6598 NSW LAND AND HOUSING CORPORATION PROPERTIES—Ms Linda Burney asked the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) How many of the properties owned by the NSW Land and Housing Corporation are currently being

- leased for use by not-for-profit organisations to deliver social services?
- (2) Will all of these properties transfer to market based rent upon the expiration of the current lease?
 - (a) If so, what are the estimated revenues for these rent increases?
 - (3) Will Government funding to lease holding organisations be adjusted to compensate for the increase in rent?

Answer—

I am advised by the Department of Family and Community Services that there are a number of properties owned by the NSW Land and Housing Corporation which are leased to not-for-profit organisations as community or neighbourhood leases. These leasing arrangements commenced up to two decades ago.

*6599 PESTICIDES TO CONTROL THE FRUIT FLY POPULATION—Mr Richard Amery asked the Minister for Primary Industries—

- (1) When did the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority determine that a product called Dimethoate, sold under the name of Rogor, was not to be used on edible crops such as citrus?
- (2) Has the Department of Primary Industries received complaints from citrus growers objecting to the removal of this product because they considered it to be an effective weapon against fruit flies?
- (3) Is there any evidence that the fruit fly population has increased since Rogor was removed as a product to control them?

Answer—

- (1) In October 2011, the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority suspended the use of dimethoate on a number of food crops due to potential dietary risks. Dimethoate was nominated for review in January 1994.
- (2) Any complaints or submissions regarding the removal of dimethoate should be directed to the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority because the federal government has governance of this matter.
- (3) There is no research or other scientific evidence to support the claim that fruit fly populations have increased in NSW due to the removal of dimethoate.

*6600 MICHELLE MCILQUHAM—Dr Andrew McDonald asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—

- (1) Is the Attorney General aware of the death of Michelle McIlquham in 2009 and the subsequent Coroner's investigation?
- (2) Was the Coroner's report from 2012 removed from the Internet?
 - (a) If so, why?
 - (b) If so, will the Coroner's report be made publicly available and when will this occur?

Answer—

I am aware that Deputy State Coroner Dillon held an inquest into the very sad and sudden death of this young lady and my sincerest sympathies go out to Michelle's family. The loss of a daughter or son is a tragedy that no family should ever have to face.

The NSW State Coroner is committed to providing families and the community with easily accessible information regarding inquests. The NSW State Coroner website has recently undergone an upgrade of its search functions to include catchwords and phrases to enable the searching for a particular type of death to be more readily detectable. For the upgrade to be undertaken all findings, including Ms McIlquham's, were required to be temporarily taken off the website in order for them to be modified.

I am pleased to advise that as at 21 November 2014, the findings into the death of Michelle McIlquham has again been posted to the NSW State Coroners website.

20 NOVEMBER 2014

(Paper No. 21)

*6601 CALVARY RETIREMENT COMMUNITY CESSNOCK—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

- (1) Has the land on which the former Allandale Hospital is situated been sold to the current operator or is it on a long term lease?
- (2) Is any of the land at this facility still under the care and control of Hunter New England Health?

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- (a) If so, which parts of the site?
- (3) Does Hunter New England Health have any annual ongoing costs related to this site?
 - (a) If so, what is the extent or value of these ongoing expenses?
- (4) Is the agreement for the care, maintenance and upkeep of the site and its various buildings in a publicly listed document?
 - (a) If so, where can that document be found?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (4) Hunter New England Local Health District sold approximately 44.5 hectares of land of the former Allandale Hospital to the current operator and 14.3 hectares of land has been retained by the District. The District owns the land to the right hand side of the Allandale Road entry.

The Local Health District has an ongoing annual cost of \$20,000 per annum related to land owned by the District.

Care, maintenance and upkeep of the divested land is a matter for the operator.

*6602 MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELLING SERVICES—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

- (1) Does the Minister stand by her public statements that the Hunter's Medicare Local would provide the necessary care and service following the 30 June 2014 termination of Hunter New England Health (HNEH) Community Health Psychology and Social Work services?
- (2) Is the Minister aware that the Federal Government has announced the termination of Hunter Medicare Local?
- (3) What work or investigations have been made by NSW Health to re-assess the provision of mental health services across the HNEH area since the announcement by the Federal Government to terminate the Hunter Medicare Local?
- (4) How many social workers and psychologists were employed by HNEH in the Community Health Psychology and Social Work teams as at 1 January 2014?
 - (a) How many of these same Social Workers and Psychologists were employed by HNEH in the Community Health Psychology and Social Work teams as at 1 November 2014?
 - (b) Were any of these same Social Workers and Psychologists still employed by HNEH in any other Departments as at 1 November 2014?
 - (i) If so, how many?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (4) The Hunter Medicare Local is just one of a wide range of locally-based funded organisations that provide counselling services in locations across Newcastle and the Lower Hunter.

There were 36 staff members in January 2014 that were affected by the change. Consultation occurred with the Health Services Union who worked one-on-one with each staff member to identify suitable redeployment opportunities within the District.

Information on the establishment of Primary Health Networks that will continue to oversee the provision of primary healthcare services, including general counselling, is publically available.

*6603 SURGICAL TREATMENT OF CEREBRAL ANEURISMS—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

- (1) Which hospitals in the Hunter New England Health (HNEH) Area have the capacity to perform surgery on cerebral aneurisms?
- (2) How long is the average post-surgery stay in an Intensive Care Unit (ICU) in a HNEH facility?
- (3) How many ward beds are available for patients with cerebral aneurisms across HNEH, post-surgery and ICU?
 - (a) What is the average length of ward stay, post-surgery, for patients with this condition?
 - (b) What is the ratio of ward beds per HNEH capita for this condition?
- (4) Which hospitals in the Sydney region have the capacity to perform surgery for cerebral aneurisms?
- (5) How long is the average post-surgery stay in an Intensive Care Unit (ICU) in a Sydney based facility?
- (6) How many ward beds are available for cerebral aneurisms across the Sydney region, post-surgery

and ICU?

- (a) What is the average length of ward stay, post-surgery, for patients with this condition?
- (b) What is the ratio of ward beds per Sydney Region capita for this condition?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (6) Sydney metropolitan and Hunter New England hospitals with capacity to perform surgery for patients with cerebral aneurysms are: John Hunter Hospital; Liverpool Hospital; Nepean Hospital; Prince of Wales Hospital; Royal North Shore Hospital; Royal Prince Alfred Hospital; St Vincent's Hospital; Westmead Hospital; Sydney Children's Hospital and The Children's Hospital at Westmead.

Ward and intensive care beds are not allocated or determined for specific surgeries, but allocated depending on clinical need.

The length of time a patient remains in intensive care or on a ward post-surgery is dependent on their clinical need.

*6604 CESSNOCK CORRECTIONAL CENTRE—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—

- (1) Is Cessnock Correctional Centre now fully operational with all areas of the Centre opened and staffed?
 - (a) If so, how many inmates can the Centre incarcerate in the Minimum Security Section?
 - (b) If so, how many inmates can the Centre incarcerate in the Maximum Security Section?
 - (c) If so, how many full time equivalent (FTE) staff are employed at the Centre?
 - (d) If so, how many of these FTE staff are allocated to the Minimum Security Section?
 - (e) If so, how many of these FTE staff are allocated to the Maximum Security Section?
 - (f) If not, when will the Centre be fully operational?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The existing minimum and maximum security sections of Cessnock Correctional Centre are fully operational. A new section for minimum security inmates participating in a transitional program has recently been proclaimed. This section is expected to be fully operational in early 2015. Staff perform duties in the minimum or maximum security sections of Cessnock, as required. They are not assigned to a specific section.

*6605 REMOVAL OF THE NEWCASTLE RAIL LINE AT WICKHAM—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

- (1) What will be the total cost to remove the Newcastle Rail Line at Wickham?
- (2) Has any core sampling been done to measure and determine the level of asbestos contaminants in the soil under the existing rail line?
- (3) Has any core sampling been done to measure and determine the level of any other contaminants in the soil under the existing rail line?
- (4) Will the asbestos under the existing rail line be removed as a part of the proposed works?
- (5) How much funding has been allocated to the removing or dealing with the asbestos along the rail corridor?
- (6) What steps will be put into place to ensure that asbestos contaminants do not become airborne affecting the broader community?
- (7) When did the practice of using asbestos in the train braking systems begin and when did it conclude?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The total cost of removing the Newcastle Rail Line is being confirmed along with plans for reuse of rail infrastructure in the corridor.

(2) Yes.

(3) Yes.

- (4) to (6) A contamination remediation strategy will be developed in accordance with the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act.

The cost of any remedial actions required will be determined once this strategy has been determined.

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(7) Development of the first composite braking materials, which contained asbestos, began in NSW in about 1963.

The change over to non-asbestos composite braking materials on the suburban and freight fleets commenced in 1983 and was completed in 1984. The XPT fleet was changed over by mid-1988.

*6606 AUSTRALIA-CHINA FREE TRADE AGREEMENT—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Trade and Investment, Minister for Regional Infrastructure and Services, Minister for Tourism and Major Events, Minister for Hospitality, Gaming and Racing, and Minister for the Arts—

What industries in New South Wales are expected to benefit from the Federal Government's free trade agreement between Australia and China?

Answer—

The proposed China-Australia Free Trade Agreement (ChAFTA) provides for immediate improvement in access for New South Wales services, most manufacturing sectors and certain resources and agricultural sectors.

New South Wales agricultural industries that are expected to benefit from the reduction or removal of tariffs, typically over 4 to 9 year period, are sheep meat, wine, beef, horticultural and dairy industries.

New South Wales's resources sector is expected to benefit from the removal of tariffs on coal and other mineral commodities. These will be phased out over a period of up to 4 years.

Some of New South Wales's advanced manufacturing industry is expected to benefit from the removal of tariffs on entry into force or phased out over four years. Based on limited details released by the Federal Government, this includes pharmaceuticals, vitamins, health products, and certain medical devices and appliances.

New South Wales service providers are expected to benefit from improved market access, improved temporary work visa access and recognition of qualifications, particularly in education, but also financial and professional services.

*6607 IMPACT OF FREE TRADE AGREEMENT ON PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Primary Industries—

What primary industries in New South Wales are expected to benefit from the Federal Government's free trade agreement between Australia and China?

Answer—

Department of Primary Industries is working to increase awareness of the potential benefits of the China Australia Free Trade Agreement (FTA) to farmers and primary industry associations and is exploring ways to make best use of all three FTA's announced this year to maximise benefits to New South Wales.

The China-Australia Free Trade Agreement (ChAFTA) is expected to give Australia a significant advantage over major competitors in the Chinese agriculture market the US, EU and Canada.

Examples of New South Wales primary industries that will potentially benefit from ChAFTA include:

- The beef industry, which set new export records to China in 2013.
- The sheepmeat industry, which will see tariffs reduced from 12-23 per cent to zero within eight years, and the removal of the 18 per cent tariff on frozen sheep meat within seven years.
- The dairy industry, which will benefit from the removal of the 15 per cent tariff on baby formula within four years and tariffs being reduced or removed from processed products such as ice cream, cheese, butter and yoghurt, as well as reductions on liquid milk and milk powders. All of these tariff reductions or removals achieved in under 11 years.
- The wool industry will benefit through a country specific quota of 30,000 tonnes of clean wool, in addition to the existing WTO quota and to the benefit of New South Wales wool producers, this quota allocation is growing at five per cent per year to 2024.
- The wine industry will benefit from the elimination of tariffs between 14-20 per cent within four years, making New South Wales's great wines competitive in the Chinese market.
- A range of horticulture industries benefit from the removal of tariffs, some as high as 30 per cent within four to eight years.
- Seafood tariffs will be reduced within four years and some of these, such as oysters, scallops and mussels, are as high as 14 per cent.
- The Grains industry will benefit with the removal of tariffs in this very competitive segment of the world market with measures within the FTA also covering cotton seeds, malt and gluten barley.
- The pork industry is a beneficiary through the elimination of tariffs as high as 20 per cent within the

next four years.

- The food manufacturing and processing sectors are also beneficiaries with tariffs on a large number of processed foods being removed over the next four to eight years. Again, some of these tariffs are as high as 30 per cent.

*6608 NEW SCHOOLS IN CESSNOCK—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Education—

- (1) Are there plans to construct any new primary schools in the Cessnock electorate in the next 10 years to cater for the increase in housing development in the area?
 - (a) If so, where?
- (2) Are there plans to construct any new secondary schools in the Cessnock electorate in the next 10 years to cater for the increase in housing development in the area?
 - (a) If so, where?

Answer—

The Department of Education and Communities will continue to monitor and review student enrolment demand at primary and secondary schools in the electorate of Cessnock.

*6609 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTERS—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Women—

- (1) How many domestic violence shelters are located in New South Wales?
- (2) Are any domestic violence shelters funded by the Government?
 - (a) If so, are these shelters partially or fully funded by the Government?
- (3) What is the maximum number of domestic violence victims that are able to be housed at shelters across New South Wales on any given night?

Answer—

I am advised:

The operation and funding of homelessness services, including women's refuges in New South Wales, falls under the portfolio of The Hon. Gabrielle Upton, Minister for Family and Community Services.

*6610 REMEDIATION OF THE EXISTING HEAVY RAIL CORRIDOR ON THE NEWCASTLE RAIL LINE—Mr Tim Crakanthorp asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

What is the projected cost of remediating the existing heavy rail corridor on the Newcastle Rail Line which is required to eradicate the identified RailCorp pollutants which were identified in the 2010 AECOM study carried out on behalf of Transport NSW?

Answer—

I am advised:

A contamination remediation strategy will be developed in accordance with the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act.

The cost of any remedial actions required will be determined once this strategy has been finalised.

*6611 NEWCASTLE RAIL LINE REMOVAL—Mr Tim Crakanthorp asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

Will the Government defer the Newcastle Rail Line's removal until after the March 2015 election?

Answer—

No.

*6612 OPAL CARD ROLL-OUT IN NEWCASTLE—Mr Tim Crakanthorp asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

- (1) What are the reasons for the incomplete Opal card roll-out prior to the proposed disruptions to rail facilities in Newcastle?
- (2) Can the Minister explain why the closest place to purchase an Opal card for commuters at Hamilton Railway Station is over a kilometre away?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Opal rollout is complete on all modes of transport in the Hunter, Sydney, the Blue Mountains,

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Central Coast, and the Illawarra. Over 1.5 million Opal cards have been issued.

Opal retail contracts have been approved with three retail outlets in Hamilton:

Beaumont Street and Lucky Charm newsagencies (both approximately 700m from Hamilton Station) and The Transit Store at Hamilton Station.

*6613 SMART AND SKILLED TRAINING PROVIDERS—Mr Tim Crakanthorp asked the Minister for Education—

- (1) Will the Minister review the Smart and Skilled program funding allocation for 2015 given the confusion surrounding the decision process?
- (2) What are the reasons for the current situation where many employers can no longer access the providers that they have successfully worked with in the past?

Answer—

- (1) No, there is no confusion.
- (2) Employers can choose from a range of over 300 providers contracted to deliver Smart and Skilled training. The Provider Application process was highly competitive and not all providers could be approved or funded to the level they applied for within the available budget.

*6614 EDUCATION CONTRIBUTION TO GALLIPOLI CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS—Mr Tim Crakanthorp asked the Minister for Education—

Will the Minister honour the undertaking given by the former Member for Newcastle to the Newcastle and Hunter Combined Schools ANZAC Service Committee to provide \$5,000 from the Minister's portfolio budget for the centenary of the Gallipoli landing celebrations?

Answer—

I am advised that no commitment to financially support the Newcastle and Hunter Combined Schools ANZAC Service Committee has been made by the Government.

New South Wales has a comprehensive program to commemorate the Centenary of Anzac 2014 – 2018.

The Government encourages all communities across New South Wales to get involved with the Centenary and has provided an online guide and events portal to help communities plan and promote their local commemorative activities.

*6615 RENEW NEWCASTLE—Mr Tim Crakanthorp asked the Premier, Minister for Infrastructure, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Will the Government continue to provide \$50,000 from Trade and Investment's Enterprising Regions Program for Renew Newcastle?
 - (a) If not, why not?
- (2) Will the Government reinstate the \$50,000 that Arts NSW provided as annual program funding to Renew Newcastle?
 - (a) If not, why not?
- (3) Will the Premier continue to provide \$50,000 from the Premier's Rural and Regional Grants Fund for Renew Newcastle?
 - (a) If not, why not?
- (4) Will UrbanGrowth NSW provide core funding of \$200,000 to Renew Newcastle to ensure their on-going contribution to Newcastle's renewal?
 - (a) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised that:

Since (and including) 2011 Renew Newcastle has received a financial support from the Government totalling \$350,000.

In addition, the Hunter Development Corporation (HDC) is sponsoring Renew Newcastle for \$90,000 in total over the next three years, subject to annual review.

The Government is currently reviewing Renew Newcastle's application for additional financial support and will notify it of the outcome.

*6616 VETERANS AFFAIRS CONTRIBUTION TO GALLIPOLI CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS—Mr Tim Crakanthorp asked the Minister for Citizenship and Communities, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Veterans Affairs, and Assistant Minister for Education—

Will the Minister honour the undertaking given by the former Member for Newcastle to the Newcastle and Hunter Combined Schools ANZAC Service Committee to provide \$5,000 from the Minister's portfolio budget for the centenary of the Gallipoli landing celebrations?

Answer—

I am advised that no commitment to financially support the Newcastle and Hunter Combined Schools ANZAC Service Committee has been made by the Government.

New South Wales has a comprehensive program to commemorate the Centenary of Anzac 2014 – 2018.

The Government encourages all communities across New South Wales to get involved with the Centenary and has provided an online guide and events portal to help communities plan and promote their local commemorative activities.

*6617 SOCIAL HOUSING IN NEWCASTLE—Mr Tim Crakanthorp asked the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) Is the NSW Land and Housing Corporation currently reviewing its Community Housing Portfolio Strategy?
 - (a) If so, what is the mechanism for tenant and community input?
 - (b) When will the revised Strategy be released?
- (2) What are the reasons for the active move away from the provision of three bedroom housing stock towards one and two bedroom stock in the Newcastle area?
- (3) Has the demand for social housing and the increasing cost of living in Newcastle resulted in families having to accept housing in suburbs that have minimal infrastructure and have lower employment prospects?

Answer—

I am advised by the Department of Family and Community Services that the NSW Land and Housing Corporation has an ongoing program to review its public housing assets to ensure that they meet the needs of public housing tenants and to provide a sustainable housing system.

*6618 NEWCASTLE CBD SUBSIDENCE ISSUES—Mr Tim Crakanthorp asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Women—

- (1) How much of the Newcastle CBD is undermined?
- (2) How much funding is available to the Mine Subsidence Board?
- (3) Has the Minister, or the Board, developed a plan to remediate the Newcastle CBD subsidence issues?
 - (a) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

This question is more appropriately considered by the Hon. Anthony Roberts MP, Minister for Resources and Energy, as the responsible Minister.

*6619 RISK BASED LOADING FEES—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Trade and Investment, Minister for Regional Infrastructure and Services, Minister for Tourism and Major Events, Minister for Hospitality, Gaming and Racing, and Minister for the Arts—

- (1) To what extent has the Government accounted for discrepancies in permissible hours for licensed venues between development approval and liquor licences for risk based loading fees?
- (2) Will the Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing base the risk based loading fee criteria on the hours of operation permitted by the liquor licence even if a venue is not permitted to operate during those hours under its development approval?
 - (a) If so, why are such venues required to pay the \$5,000 annual fee when they are not operational during later trading hours?
- (3) What action will the Government take to ensure that risk based loading fees reflect the true risk of a venue based on actual permitted trading hours?

Answer—

- (1) The Government is aware of the situation. See response to question 2(a).

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(2) Yes.

(a) Licensed venues whose development consent does not permit them to trade late can avoid paying the trading hours risk loading by relinquishing their late trading authorisation. An application form is available on the Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing's website.

(3) See response to Question 2(a).

*6620 GREYHOUND RACING—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Trade and Investment, Minister for Regional Infrastructure and Services, Minister for Tourism and Major Events, Minister for Hospitality, Gaming and Racing, and Minister for the Arts—

- (1) Will the Government require Greyhound Racing NSW (GRNSW) to collect and report on:
 - (a) The number of litters registered;
 - (b) The number of greyhound pups born;
 - (c) The number of greyhound pups microchipped and ear marked;
 - (d) The number of greyhound pups registered;
 - (e) The number of greyhounds named;
- (2) What happens to all greyhounds from registered litters, including greyhounds that are not named?
- (3) From which date can GRNSW track every greyhound from a registered litter at each stage of their entire lifecycle through the OzChase system?
- (4) What data related to the lifecycle tracking of a greyhound, including retirement and euthanasia, does the OzChase system record?
- (5) Are all of the greyhounds currently eligible for racing in New South Wales recorded in the OzChase database?
 - (a) If so, how many greyhounds does this apply to?
 - (b) If not, how many greyhounds are currently eligible for racing in New South Wales and how is this figure established?
- (6) How many litters were registered with GRNSW in 2012 and 2013?
- (7) In 2012 and 2013, how many greyhound pups were:
 - (a) Born in litters registered with GRNSW?
 - (b) Microchipped, tattooed and registered with GRNSW?
 - (c) Named with GRNSW?
- (8) In 2012 and 2013, how many greyhounds did GRNSW receive a Notification of Retirement form notifying that the greyhound had been:
 - (a) Retired as a pet or a GAP greyhound;
 - (b) Been transferred to another adoption program;
 - (c) Retired as a breeding animal;
 - (d) Exported;
 - (e) Surrendered to another agency;
 - (f) Euthanised by a veterinary surgeon; and
 - (g) Deceased?
- (9) What action will the Government take or require from GRNSW to prevent greyhounds being euthanised after:
 - (a) They sustain treatable injuries;
 - (b) They are deemed unsuitable for racing; and
 - (c) They are deemed too old for racing?
- (10) Will the Government require GRNSW to record and report on track injury and euthanasia information from all registered New South Wales racing tracks?
- (11) Will the Government require non-TAB tracks in New South Wales to make stewards' reports publicly accessible, including information on injuries and euthanasia?
- (12) How many greyhounds found homes through the RSPCA NSW and Animal Welfare League NSW in each of the years from 2011 to 2013?
- (13) How many greyhounds were registered with GRNSW's Greyhounds As Pets (GAP) program in each of the years from 2011 to 2013?
- (14) How many greyhounds were successfully rehomed by GRNSW's GAP program in each of the years from 2011 to 2013?
- (15) How many of the greyhounds registered with GRNSW's GAP program failed the behavioural assessment for suitability and safety as a pet in each of the years from 2011 to 2013?
- (16) How many of these greyhounds were euthanised and how many were returned to the owner?
- (17) How many greyhounds are anticipated to be rehomed annually by GRNSW's GAP program when

the Wyee facility is fully operational?

- (18) What new initiatives and funding will the Government require of GRNSW to increase the number of greyhounds rehomed through the Greyhounds As Pets program?

Answer—

- (1) I am advised that GRNSW already collects and reports such data through its OzChase system.
 (2) I am advised that greyhounds can undertake careers in racing, be kept as pets or for breeding purposes, or re-homed through an adoption program such as GRNSW's GAP program.
 (3) GRNSW's OzChase system has been capable of capturing the data since 1 July 2014.
 (4) Service date.

Service state.

Whelp date.

Whelp state.

Any changes in location for other reasons (i.e. rearing and education).

Litter registration date.

Litter inspection address.

Ownership transfer of un-named pup.

Ownership transfer of named pup.

Trainer transfer I kennel notification.

Retired.

Deceased.

- (5) Yes.
 (a) I am advised by GRNSW that this is impossible to answer without a specified time frame. However, for guidance there are 9,857 greyhounds eligible for racing in financial year 2014.
 (b) See above.
 (6) 2012 -1,069.
 2013- 1,148.
 (7) (a) 2012- 6,906.
 2013 -7,471.
 (b) 2012- 11,349.
 2013 -7,538.
 (c) 2012 -6,141.
 2013- 5,689.

It should be noted that racing greyhounds are not named in the same year that they are born. Any correlation made between figures in (a) and (c) would be somewhat misleading.

- (8) I am advised by GRNSW that the requirement to notify a controlling body about the retirement of a racing greyhound has only been a national rule for a short period of time. As a result, the figures GRNSW and any other jurisdiction's controlling body has would be not be accurate enough to answer this question. See also the answer to Question (3).
 (9) The National Greyhound Welfare Strategy currently being implemented by GRNSW and Greyhound Racing Victoria is aimed at establishing national standards of excellence in animal welfare and includes among other initiatives the provision of end of racing career opportunities for greyhounds. The Government will monitor the implementation of these reforms and initiatives and GRNSW will be asked to provide a quarterly report to Government on the roll out of the National Greyhound Welfare Strategy and its application to the NSW greyhound racing industry.
 (10) I am advised that GRNSW already records and reports track injury and euthanasia information from TAB tracks, when identified at the time of occurrence. Injuries may be identified later away from the racecourse.
 (11) The Government will explore this issue with GRNSW during the implementation of the supported recommendations of the Legislative Council Select Committee on greyhound racing in NSW.
 (12) This question should be directed to the RSPCA NSW and Animal Welfare League NSW.
 (13) Greyhounds are not registered with GRNSW's Greyhounds As Pets program. They remain registered with GRNSW until they are re-homed.
 (14) 2011-33.

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- 2012-28.
2013-56.
(15) 2011-75.
2012-44.
2013-27.
(16) 2011 Euthanised -65, returned to owner-10.
2012 Euthanised-30, returned to owner-14.
2013 Euthanised-16, returned to owner-11.
(17) 400.
(18) In July 2014 GRNSW launched its \$1.4 million 3.5 acre facility at Wyee. This facility operates as a boarding establishment and can house up to 120 dogs, of which approximately one-third will be greyhounds at any point in time. The Government considers that the acquisition of the facility and the ongoing work of the Greyhounds As Pets program demonstrates GRNSW's continued commitment towards greyhound rehoming in New South Wales.

*6621 VACANT LAND AND HOUSING CORPORATION PROPERTIES—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) How many Land and Housing Corporation properties, identified by postcode, were:
(a) Vacant and waiting for maintenance and repairs as at 31 October 2014;
(b) Vacant and in leasable condition as at 31 October 2014;
(c) Vacant and waiting for sale as at 31 October 2014; and
(d) Not in leasable condition, unable to be repaired and not identified for sale as at 31 October 2014?
(2) How long have each of these properties been vacant?

Answer—

I am advised by the Department of Family and Community Services (FACS) that the NSW Land and Housing Corporation has an ongoing program to review its public housing assets to ensure that they meet the needs of public housing tenants and to provide a sustainable housing system.

I am further advised by FACS that the number of public housing properties that are vacant in any area changes on a daily basis as properties are vacated by tenants, cleaned and repaired ready for the next tenant, as is required under the Residential Tenancies Act and are then re-occupied.

*6622 LAND AND HOUSING CORPORATION SALES—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) How many Land and Housing Corporation residential properties have been sold, by postcode, since 1 January 2013?
(2) How many individual homes were lost from the Land and Housing Corporation portfolio, by postcode, since 1 January 2013?
(3) How many Land and Housing Corporation commercial properties have been sold, by postcode, since 1 January 2013?
(4) How many individual public housing homes have been built or purchased, by postcode, since 1 January 2013?

Answer—

I am advised by the Department of Family and Community Services that the NSW Land and Housing Corporation has an ongoing program to review its public housing assets to ensure that they meet the needs of public housing tenants and to provide a sustainable housing system.

Information about sales and supply is available in the NSW Land and Housing Corporation's Annual report at:

[http://](http://www.facs.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/file0011/279038/FACS_AR_2012-13_Land_and_Housing_WEB_FACS.pdf)

www.facs.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/file0011/279038/FACS_AR_2012-13_Land_and_Housing_WEB_FACS.pdf.

*6623 BARANGAROO PUBLIC WORKS—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Premier, Minister for Infrastructure, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Does the Government remain committed to all of the approved public works at Barangaroo including the headland park and cultural facilities?
- (2) What action is the Government taking to ensure these public works and remediation are self-funded under the development agreement?
- (3) Will the Government assess other development applications on the site while it negotiates with Lend Lease?
- (4) What assessment has the Government made about the terms of the public works contracts at the Barangaroo site?
- (5) What changes will be made to future major project approvals to ensure the public benefits in the future?

Answer—

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Barangaroo Delivery Authority (BDA) and Lend Lease remain in discussion with respect to the valuation of the site and other commercial issues.
- (3) The Government will assess development applications received for Barangaroo in accordance with legislative and planning requirements.
- (4) BDA is responsible for ensuring the obligations in the contract to deliver the public infrastructure are met.
- (5) BDA has committed to the delivery of various public works. Public benefit will remain a key criteria in the assessment of future major project applications.

*6624 ULTIMO PUBLIC SCHOOL—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for Education—

- (1) What advice has the Government been provided about the cost of remediation of the former council depot site at Wattle Street as the location for a new public school in Ultimo?
- (2) What is the Environment Protection Authority's (EPA) advice about the cost of remediation of this site for school purposes?
- (3) Did the Department of Education and Communities estimate that the remediation of this site will cost \$14.6 million above the estimated cost in order to meet EPA standards?
- (4) Is the Government committed to providing a new larger school for Ultimo?
- (5) What other options does the Government have for a larger school to replace the current Ultimo Public School that is at capacity?
- (6) What action will the Government take to ensure prompt agreement on this sale and approval for a new school?

Answer—

The Department of Education and Communities and City of Sydney have reached an agreement about the City's Wattle, Fig and Jones Streets, Ultimo, site for a new school for the Ultimo/Pymont community.

The final terms of the sale are yet to be confirmed.

*6625 TRANSGENDER STUDENT SUPPORT—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for Education—

- (1) What data is collected about students in New South Wales schools who identify as transgender?
- (2) What policies apply in New South Wales schools to address the needs of transgender students?
- (3) What training and professional development is provided for teachers about transgender identity?
- (4) What support does the Government provide to schools where students who identify as transgender are initiating or undertaking transition?
- (5) What resources on transgender concerns does the Government provide to:
 - (a) Government schools; and
 - (b) Non-government schools?
- (6) What protections apply to address abuse, discrimination and vilification of transgender students?
- (7) What plans does the Government have to expand or update resources, training and policies in relation to transgender students?
- (8) What further action will the Government take to improve support and protection for transgender students?

Answer—

- (1) to (8) The New South Wales Department of Education and Communities does not collect data centrally related to students in New South Wales schools who identify as transgender.

The Department of Education and Communities' Student Welfare Policy and the Bullying: Preventing and Responding to Student Bullying in Schools Policy address the needs of transgender

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students. These policies are guided by relevant legislation including the NSW Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998 which aims to protect students from foreseeable risk of harm and provide guidance regarding what is reasonably practicable to ensure their safety.

The NSW Sexual Health in Schools project is a partnership between the NSW Department of Education and Communities and the NSW Ministry of Health. This professional learning explicitly addresses inclusive practices and strategies to support students from diverse backgrounds including students who are same sex attracted and/or gender questioning.

The school counsellor has an important role to play in supporting the student and their family. School counsellors also assist in organising appropriate referrals for students to relevant local services.

Schools work closely with the student and their parents or carers to ensure the needs of students are met in a timely and supportive way.

The Government is strongly committed to ensuring schools are safe, supportive and productive learning environments for all students. Schools play a very important role supporting, enhancing and building wellbeing.

*6626 TRANSGENDER RECOGNITION—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—

- (1) What are the current provisions for legal recognition of people of transitioned gender?
- (2) What provisions apply to sex reassignment, or gender affirmation, surgery as part of this process?
- (3) What consideration has the Government given to removing the requirement for surgical intervention as a condition of legal transgender recognition?
- (4) What conditions relating to surgical intervention apply in other jurisdictions?
- (5) What further action will the Government take to improve the process for legal recognition of gender transition?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (5) The Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act 1995 enables people to register a change of their sex with the Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages, provided certain conditions are met. A sex affirmation procedure is defined in the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act 1995. NSW, along with all other States and Territories except the Australian Capital Territory, have similar requirements, in their respective births, deaths and marriages registration legislation, for surgical intervention before a change of sex can be registered.

*6627 SYDNEY HARBOUR FORESHORE AUTHORITY—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Women—

- (1) What is the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority's (SHFA) policy regarding conditions applying to use publicly accessible land such as roads, footpaths and walkways?
- (2) Does the SHFA policy in (1) exclude activities such as:
 - (a) Discussing public policy matters;
 - (b) Providing information to members of the public;
 - (c) Holding meetings or touring the area; and
 - (d) Collecting signatures on petitions?
- (3) Are SHFA Rangers directed to prevent the activities in (2) from taking place on SHFA land?
 - (a) If not, what is the process for registering complaints about such activities?
- (4) Is CCTV used to identify where these activities take place?
 - (a) If so, what is the SHFA policy regarding the use of surveillance to prevent political activity?
- (5) What signage is provided to alert citizens of the prohibited activities on SHFA land, or that they may be monitored by CCTV and that SHFA rangers are permitted to remove them from the area?
- (6) What protections apply to allow the use of SHFA land for non-violent political expression?
- (7) Will the Government ensure that citizens can use public SHFA land for legitimate political expression?

Answer—

I am advised:

Information regarding the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority's policy on the use of publically accessible spaces can be found at www.shfa.nsw.gov.au.

*6628 FAIR TRADING COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Finance and Services representing the Minister for Fair Trading—

- (1) Has Fair Trading investigated a complaint made by Ms Grace Kostopoulos regarding the repairs undertaken on her Audi A4 motor vehicle?
- (2) When was Fair Trading first notified of Ms Kostopoulos' complaint?
- (3) When did Fair Trading conduct the investigation into the complaint?
- (4) What was the outcome of or recommendation arising from the investigation?

Answer—

NSW Fair Trading received a complaint from Ms Grace Kostopoulos on 12 November 2014 regarding repairs to her vehicle following an accident in 2013.

During November, Fair Trading contacted the parties involved with a view to achieving a resolution. The parties were unable to agree on a resolution and Ms Kostopoulos was advised of her option to apply to have the matter determined by the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal.

*6629 PRODUCT SAFETY WARNINGS—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Finance and Services representing the Minister for Fair Trading—

- (1) Have there been any other delays in the issuing of product safety warnings by Fair Trading in the last three years, aside from the delay involving faulty USB chargers that followed the death of Sheryl Aldeguer in April 2014?
 - (a) Is so, what were the details of these warnings?

Answer—

NSW Fair Trading takes a proactive approach to public warnings and acts promptly when issues are raised.

*6630 MOTOR VEHICLE REPAIR INDUSTRY REFORMS—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Finance and Services representing the Minister for Fair Trading—

Since the tabling of the report of the Select Committee on the Motor Vehicle Repair Industry on 2 July 2014, how many formal submissions has the Minister, his office or Fair Trading received from individuals, groups and associations with regard to further reforms of the motor vehicle repair industry?

Answer—

I have met with numerous stakeholders including individual smash repair business owners across New South Wales in relation to the Motor Dealers and Repairers Act 2013 and the Motor Dealers and Repairers Regulation 2014 and also in relation to the report of the Select Committee on the Motor Vehicle Repair Industry. The Government tabled its response to the Select Committee's report on Friday, 19 December 2014.

*6631 SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE MOTOR VEHICLE REPAIR INDUSTRY REPORT—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Finance and Services representing the Minister for Fair Trading—

- (1) Since the tabling of the report of the Select Committee on the Motor Vehicle Repair Industry on 2 July 2014, on how many occasions has the Minister or a representative from his office met with a representative from each of the following organisations regarding the implementations of the report's recommendations:
 - (a) Motor Traders Association of New South Wales;
 - (b) Australian Association of Progressive Repairers; and
 - (c) Suncorp Insurance Group?

Answer—

The Ministerial diary has been and will continue to be released in accordance with Premier's Memoranda M2014-07 – Publication of Ministerial Diaries.

*6632 INTERNAL AUDIT UNIT REVIEW—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Finance and Services representing the Minister for Fair Trading—

- (1) What were the outcomes of the Internal Audit Unit's review of Fair Trading's processes for administering product safety notices?
- (2) Will the outcomes of this review be made publicly available?

Answer—

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As is the case for all Internal Audit reports of this nature, the outcomes are for internal use only and will not be made publicly available.

*6633 ENFORCEMENT OF NO SMOKING BAN—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

On how many days have NSW Health inspectors attempted to enforce the no smoking ban under the Smoke-free Environment Act 2000 near the entrance to Bankstown-Lidcombe Hospital in each of the years 2013 and 2014?

Answer—

I am advised that:

Bankstown-Lidcombe Hospital has implemented a number of strategies to address the issue of smoking at the facility.

*6634 BREACHES OF THE SMOKE-FREE ENVIRONMENT ACT 2000—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

How many enforcement actions have been issued by NSW Health Inspectors for breaches of the Smoke-free Environment Act 2000 near the entrance of Bankstown-Lidcombe Hospital in each of the years 2013 and 2014?

Answer—

I refer the Honourable member to my response to LA6633.

*6635 TRAIN TIMETABLE COMPLAINTS—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

(1) Of the 4804 train timetable complaints noted in the report of the Auditor-General of New South Wales, can the Minister specify how many of the complaints were from residents who live in each of the following suburbs:

- (a) Chester Hill;
- (b) Sefton;
- (c) Villawood;
- (d) Yagoona; and
- (e) Birrong?

Answer—

I am advised:

Customer feedback is appreciated. We will continue to closely monitor performance of the timetable.

Since the introduction of the October 2013, data shows that patronage is up and crowding is easing.

*6636 MAINTENANCE WORKS ON AUBURN ROAD—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter representing the Minister for Roads and Freight, Minister for the North Coast, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

(1) What repair and maintenance works have been completed on the Hume Highway between Yagoona Railway Station and Auburn Road in each of the years 2013 and 2014?

(2) Do any of these works require further repair or maintenance?

- (a) If so, when will they be completed?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) The last maintenance resurfacing work was completed in 2010.

(2) Minor repairs may be carried out if defects are identified from routine inspections.

*6637 2013 MULTICULTURAL POLICY AND SERVICES PROGRAM REPORT—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Education—

(1) Did the Department of Education and Communities produce a Multicultural Policy and Services Program Report for 2013?

- (a) If not, why not?

Answer—

No. Under the Multicultural Policies and Services Program requirements the department was not required to submit a report in 2013.

*6638 2014 MULTICULTURAL POLICY AND SERVICES PROGRAM REPORT—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Education—

(1) Did the Department of Education and Communities produce a Multicultural Policy and Services Program Report for 2014?

(a) If not, why not?

Answer—

Yes.

*6639 MULTICULTURAL ACTION ADVANTAGE PLAN FOR 2015—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Education—

Is the Department of Education and Communities committed to developing a new Multicultural Action Advantage Plan following the expiration of the current plan in 2015?

Answer—

Yes.

*6640 MULTICULTURAL POLICY AND SERVICES PROGRAM REPORT—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Education—

Does the Department of Education and Communities intend to produce a Multicultural Policy and Services Program Report in 2015, in accordance with the Multicultural Action Advantage Plan 2012-2015?

Answer—

Yes.

*6641 EFFECTIVENESS OF THE MULTICULTURAL POLICY AND SERVICES PROGRAM—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Citizenship and Communities, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Veterans Affairs, and Assistant Minister for Education—

(1) Has an evaluation of the effectiveness of the Multicultural Policy and Services Program ever been conducted?

(a) If so, what were the outcomes of this evaluation?

(b) If not, why not?

Answer—

(1) An external review of the effectiveness of the Multicultural Policy and Services Program (MPSP) was conducted in 2008-09.

(a) The review concluded that MPSP is the most effective example of multicultural governance reviewed internationally and within Australia (p.62, 25 Years of EAPS: Review of EAPS Operation in New South Wales)

Following on from the review, resources were developed to support agencies to put the Multicultural Principles into best practice.

(b) N/A.

*6642 MULTICULTURAL POLICY AND SERVICES PROGRAM—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Citizenship and Communities, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Veterans Affairs, and Assistant Minister for Education—

How has the Minister's 2012 reform of the Multicultural Policy and Services Program strengthened accountability reporting of multicultural policies and services in Government agencies?

Answer—

Premiers Memorandum M2012-19 Multicultural Policies and Services Program Endorsement of Multicultural Plans, issued 19 December 2012 states that:

The Multicultural Policies and Services Program (MPSP) assists agencies to implement the principles of multiculturalism and to report on their public sector accountabilities.

Departmental Secretaries must provide an account of the performance of the key agenc(ies) within their

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Cluster to the relevant Minister(s).

This is to occur within three months of receipt of feedback on agencies' Multicultural Policy and Services Program reports from Multicultural NSW.

Multicultural planning clearly has visibility at the highest levels of government.

*6643 MONITORING AND PUBLIC REPORTING PROCESSES OF GOVERNMENT AGENCIES—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Citizenship and Communities, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Veterans Affairs, and Assistant Minister for Education—

What processes have been put in place by the former NSW Community Relations Commission or the new Multicultural NSW to ensure effective monitoring and transparent public reporting by Government agencies under the Multicultural Policy and Services Program?

Answer—

The Harmony in Action Strategic Plan 2014-17 the Multicultural Policy and Services Program will be reviewed and strengthened to ensure continued focus on key performance indicators.

Under the new Multicultural NSW Act 2000 (amended 2014) government agencies are required to implement a multicultural plan under the Multicultural Policies and Services Program.

Under the Annual Reports Regulation 2010, departments are required to report publicly on multicultural implementation progress through their Annual Reports.

Multicultural NSW prepares a Community Relations Report for each financial year on the state of community relations in New South Wales as affected by cultural diversity, including an assessment of the effectiveness of public authorities in observing the multicultural principles in the conduct of their affairs.

*6644 COMPLAINTS REGARDING SOUTH LINE SERVICES—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

(1) How many complaints were received by Sydney Trains in each of the following categories by commuters using South Line services in 2013-14:

- (a) Timetables;
- (b) Ticketing;
- (c) Information;
- (d) Environment;
- (e) Security;
- (f) Service;
- (g) On-time Running;
- (h) Facilities; and
- (i) Staff?

Answer—

I am advised:

Customer feedback is appreciated. We will continue to closely monitor South Line services.

Since the introduction of the October 2013, data shows that patronage is up and crowding is easing.

*6645 ROADS AND MARITIME SERVICES FIVE DOCK—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Finance and Services—

- (1) When will Roads and Maritime Services cease operating out of its current premises in Five Dock?
- (2) How many people are employed at Roads and Maritime Services Five Dock?

Answer—

- (1) The Five Dock Motor Registry continues to deliver Roads and Maritime services. Service NSW will continue to plan the network design to best meet customer needs and value for money.
- (2) Five Dock Motor Registry has 17 employees.

*6646 REPLACEMENT FIREFIGHTER DEPLOYMENT—Mr Barry Collier asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for Sport and Recreation, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Western Sydney—

(1) How many times were the following fire stations taken offline due to staff absences from 21 December 2013 to 21 November 2014:

- (a) Miranda Fire Station;

- (b) Sutherland Fire Station; and
 - (c) Menai Fire Station?
- (2) In each case, from which fire station(s) were firefighters deployed to replace firefighters from the station taken offline?

Answer—

Fire and Rescue NSW has advised me:

- (1) (a) 5 shifts out of 670 shifts.
 - (b) 13 shifts out of 670 shifts.
 - (c) 11 shifts out of 670 shifts.
- (2) Firefighters from Leichhardt, Mascot, The Rocks and Newtown fire stations were deployed to replace fire crews at Miranda fire station. Firefighters from Botany, Maroubra, The Rocks, Redfern, Concord, Glebe, Leichhardt and Mascot fire stations were deployed to replace fire crews at Sutherland fire station. Firefighters from City of Sydney, Redfern, Woollahra, Balmain, Ashfield, Mascot and Botany fire stations were deployed to replace fire crews at Menai fire station.

The Government has recently announced funding for Fire and Rescue NSW to recruit an additional 40 firefighters and to commission five state-of-the-art tankers. The new tankers provide additional capability on Total Fire Ban days, during bush fires and severe weather events. A new tanker was delivered to Miranda fire station on 24 November 2014 and will be staffed by additional firefighters. The additional firefighters will also be used to help ensure that full-time fire stations in Sydney are online and available to respond to fires and other emergencies.

*6647 MIRANDA FIRE STATION—Mr Barry Collier asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for Sport and Recreation, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Western Sydney—

- (1) Given the recent large redevelopment of Westfield Miranda, is the Minister confident that Miranda Fire Station has sufficient specialised equipment to deal with a fire at such a large centre?
- (2) When the Miranda Fire Station is taken offline, will the Minister take steps to ensure that replacement fire crews are trained in the use of such specialised equipment?

Answer—

Fire and Rescue NSW has advised me:

- (1) Fire and Rescue NSW has specialised equipment to respond to fires or other emergencies at large structures such as the Westfield Miranda shopping centre.
- (2) Commissioner Mullins of Fire and Rescue NSW advises that firefighters who operate specialised equipment are suitably trained and certified. If firefighters from Miranda require specialised support, they request this by radio.

*6648 OYSTER BAY CONTAMINATION—Mr Barry Collier asked the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, Minister for the Central Coast, and Assistant Minister for Planning—

- (1) What is the extent of the contamination of soil and groundwater, in terms of area, caused by the operation of the Shell Service Station in Carvers Road, Oyster Bay?
- (2) Why has it taken four years for Shell to begin the clean-up of such contamination, which includes known carcinogens?
- (3) What oversight has the Environment Protection Agency undertaken of the voluntary clean-up of the site and surrounding area by Shell?
- (4) Will the Minister commission and make publicly available a full report of the contamination and clean-up by Shell?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

The contamination referred to is limited to the service station site and a number of adjacent properties. The affected properties have been purchased by Shell to facilitate remediation.

The remediation by Shell is regulated by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) under the Contaminated Land Management Act 1997. The remediation is an iterative process, involving the purchase of the residential properties, tank replacement, delineation of contamination and remediation of the plume.

Reports in relation to the contamination and remediation are publically available from the EPA.

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*6649 RAIL TIMETABLE REVIEW—Mr Barry Collier asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

- (1) Will the Minister undertake a full review of the Sydney rail timetable before 28 March 2015?
 - (a) If so, will the Minister consider restoring all morning peak hour train services cut from Jannali and Como Station by the 20 October 2013 timetable?
 - (b) If so, will the Minister restore direct morning peak hour services from the Shire stopping at Kogarah Station between 7:30am and 9:50am?

Answer—

I am advised:

Load data and Transport for NSW's independent Customer Satisfaction Index shows that, since the introduction of the October 2013 timetable, there has been an increase in customer satisfaction, an increase in patronage and crowding is easing.

*6650 COAL SEAM GAS EXPLORATION—Mr Barry Collier asked the Minister for Natural Resources, Lands and Water, and Minister for Western NSW—

- (1) Can the Minister assure the people of the Sutherland Shire that there will be no coal seam gas exploration or mining in the catchment area of the Woronora Dam?
- (2) How many applications have been made and/or approved for coal seam gas exploration or mining in the Woronora catchment area?

Answer—

Questions relating to the approval process for coal seam gas exploration or mining should be directed to the Minister for Resources and Energy.

The Government is committed to protecting New South Wales water resources, and has established the most comprehensive regulatory regime for natural gas extraction in the Commonwealth in order to do so. The following measures have been taken to institute this regime:

- Introduced a new Water Monitoring Framework to map, monitor and protect groundwater resources across New South Wales. For the first time in Australia, computer modelling will be used, in conjunction with groundwater baseline data, to map and protect underground water resources in New South Wales.
- Introduced the Aquifer Interference Policy to protect our water supplies.
- Introduced the Strategic Land Use Policy to safeguard the environment and balance co-existence.
- Established the Office of Coal Seam Gas to properly regulate and oversight natural gas operations.
- Conducted an audit of all existing licences and applications to ensure companies are abiding by the conditions of their licences.
- Issued 'Show Cause' notices to companies that have failed to comply with those conditions, have failed to use the title area in good faith for the purpose in which it was granted, or for contravening the Act.
- Banned the use of BTEX chemicals in coal seam gas fracture stimulation fluids.
- Introduced 2 kilometers exclusion zones around residential areas.
- Introduced the Well Integrity Code of Practice to ensure world's best practice drilling techniques are used.

*6651 REZONING OF UNIVERSITY ROAD, MIRANDA—Mr Barry Collier asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Women—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the proposal by Sutherland Shire Council to rezone University Road, Miranda, from 1 and 2 storey dwellings to 8 storey flats as part of its 2013 Local Environment Plan?
- (2) Will the Minister consult the Miranda Public School community regarding the negative impacts that such a proposal will have on the special needs children of Miranda Public School, and their programs and therapy?
- (3) Will the Minister seek a report on the impacts of the proposal as referred to in (2) and consider such a report with a view to retaining the present zoning of University Road, Miranda?

Answer—

I am advised:

Council has passed a resolution to defer the site from the Draft Local Environment Plan.

*6652 ADAMSTOWN LEVEL RAIL CROSSING—Ms Jodie Harrison asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

- (1) What efforts have been made to reduce waiting times at the Adamstown level rail crossing over the past 4 years?
- (2) What is the current average wait time for traffic when a commuter train passes?
- (3) What is the current average wait time for traffic when a freight train passes?
- (4) What plans does the Government have to fix this congestion point?

Answer—

I am advised:

Closure times vary depending on train type and length, the direction of travel and train stopping patterns.

Roads and Maritime Services is undertaking an Inner Newcastle Traffic Study to investigate options to address congestion, which includes the Adamstown Railway Level Crossing and surrounding road network.

The Government will continue to work with Council to deliver improvements to traffic congestion at this location.

*6653 MANUFACTURING JOBS—Ms Jodie Harrison asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

- (1) Was the impact on local jobs considered when assessing tenders for Government contracts to build train, bus or ferry fleets?
- (2) What predictions of job losses have been made by the Department?
- (3) What support services will be provided to any manufacturing worker who loses their job due to tenders going interstate or offshore?

Answer—

I am advised:

Procurement is undertaken in line with NSW Government Procurement Guidelines.

Australian-based companies are given every opportunity to tender for NSW Government contracts through a fair and transparent process.

*6654 HEXHAM-FASSIFERN FREIGHT BYPASS—Ms Jodie Harrison asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter representing the Minister for Roads and Freight, Minister for the North Coast, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

- (1) What effect has QR National's construction of the Hexham rail hub had on the future construction of a Hexham to Fassifern freight bypass?
 - (a) Who was consulted as part of this construction?
- (2) What plans does the Government currently have to progress the construction of a Hexham-Fassifern freight bypass?

Answer—

I am advised:

A Lower Hunter Freight Corridor can complement investments by Aurizon and the Australian Rail Track Corporation at Hexham.

The major projects register on the Department of Planning and Environment website lists key stakeholders consulted regarding the approved Aurizon Train Support Facility at Hexham.

The 2014 State Infrastructure Strategy recommends the allocation of \$100 million toward corridor identification and preservation, which includes the Lower Hunter Freight Corridor. Consultation with the community, local councils and industry will be a key priority before a decision is made regarding a future corridor.

*6655 HUNTER SPORTS HIGH SCHOOL—Ms Jodie Harrison asked the Minister for Education—

- (1) What was the original budget figure announced for the upgrading of Hunter Sports High School in June 2014?
- (2) What is the current financial commitment from the Government to the upgrade?
- (3) What planning has been undertaken and who is being consulted on the upgrade of Hunter Sports High School?

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- (4) What parts of Hunter Sports High School will be upgraded?
- (5) When will construction commence?
- (6) When will construction of the upgrade be completed?

Answer—

- (1) to (6) A project to upgrade the facilities at Hunter Sports High School was announced in the 2014-15 State Budget. The budget figure for the project has not been announced as the project has not gone to tender.

The masterplan for the school is currently being finalised as part of the first stage of the design process.

*6656 VIOLENCE IN SCHOOLS—Ms Jodie Harrison asked the Minister for Education—

- (1) How many incidents of violence and drug use was there in schools in the Charlestown electorate in each year from 2011 to 2014?
 - (a) What was the nature of these incidents?
- (2) How many counsellors are currently employed in schools in the Charlestown electorate?
- (3) How many counsellors were employed in schools in the Charlestown electorate in 2011?
- (4) What arrangements are in place to ensure that students attending schools in the Charlestown electorate can attend appointments with a school counsellor in a confidential manner, without other students knowing about the appointment?
- (5) What support is available for teachers and support staff in schools in the Charlestown electorate to deal with incidents of violence, drug use and bullying?
- (6) Has the nature of the support available to teachers and support staff to deal with incidents of violence, drug use and bullying in schools in the Charlestown electorate changed over the last four years?

Answer—

(1) Serious incident data collected by the Department is available on the Department website, broken down by region.

(2) and (3) Annual allocations of school counsellor days are based on student enrolments, equity loadings, number of support classes and number of students on funding support.

(4) Each school determines the most appropriate processes to assist students to attend appointments with the school counsellor in a confidential manner. This takes into account the school's context and physical layout, and student age.

(5) and (6) The Department of Education and Communities' Safety and Security Directorate provides support to schools through a 24 hour a day, 7 days a week incident support hotline. Schools receive expert advice and support from seconded police officers and incident support officers to assist with the management of incidents. The Directorate also provides specialised incident management training to school staff to enable them to deal effectively with incidents that may occur.

*6657 FIRE STATION CLOSURES—Ms Jodie Harrison asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for Sport and Recreation, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Western Sydney—

- (1) How many staff are currently employed in fire stations across the Charlestown electorate?
- (2) On how many occasions have stations had to be temporarily closed due to lack of staff and/or funding in the past four years?
- (3) Was the community notified when these fire stations were closed?
- (4) What arrangements have been made to prevent such closures in the future?

Answer—

Fire and Rescue NSW has advised me:

- (1) 81 staff, comprising Permanent and Retained (on-call) firefighters, are employed across the Charlestown electorate.
- (2) There are no occasions that a fire station has been temporarily closed in the Charlestown Electorate in the past four years due to lack of staff and/or funding.

Primary fire engines, staffed by permanent firefighters, are always online. However, secondary fire engines, staffed by retained firefighters, have been off line at Tingara Heights, Charlestown and Cardiff fire stations, for periods ranging from 30 minutes to 24 hours due to unavailability of retained firefighters. All fire engines are fully staffed on days of Total Fire Ban or severe weather events, even if this involves working of overtime.

- (3) No. Fire stations in the Charlestown electorate have not been closed.
 (4) Fire and Rescue NSW has not closed fire stations in the Charlestown electorate. Fire and Rescue NSW has strategies in place to maintain a full complement of firefighters.

*6658 ASSISTANCE FOR PEOPLE UNDER 65 WITH A DISABILITY—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

- (1) Following the introduction of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), what services will be available to people under 65 who are not classified as having a disability under the Act but who are unable to look after themselves after being discharged from hospital?
 (2) What services will be available to provide assistance to these people with showering, house cleaning and transportation to and from appointments?

Answer—

I am advised:

NSW Health provides short term health services after a person is discharged from public hospital based on the person's clinical need, including Community Packages (ComPacks), community nursing and allied health services.

*6659 AMBULANCE STATION STAFFING SHORTAGES—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

- (1) Will the Government employ additional paramedics at Belmont, Cessnock, Nelson Bay and Birmingham Gardens Ambulance Stations to address the shortfall in staffing levels?
 (a) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

There is no shortfall in staffing levels at these stations.

*6660 SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH FUNDING—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Trade and Investment, Minister for Regional Infrastructure and Services, Minister for Tourism and Major Events, Minister for Hospitality, Gaming and Racing, and Minister for the Arts—

What steps is the Deputy Premier taking to ensure that there is adequate funding for scientific research in New South Wales?

Answer—

In 2014-15 Budget, the Government committed \$14 million to support innovation and investment in the state's Research and development capacity under the Research Attraction and Acceleration Program, which is administered by the Office of Science and Research.

*6661 THE COMMONWEALTH SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ORGANISATION IN NEW SOUTH WALES—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Trade and Investment, Minister for Regional Infrastructure and Services, Minister for Tourism and Major Events, Minister for Hospitality, Gaming and Racing, and Minister for the Arts—

- (1) Can the Deputy Premier outline the Government's commitment to science research in New South Wales?
 (2) What is the Deputy Premier's vision for the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) in New South Wales?
 (3) How does the Government intend to support the CSIRO in relation to the organisation's contribution to New South Wales?

Answer—

- (1) The Government has committed to and supported a number of programs to drive investment in Research and development and achieve those goals.

In the 2014-15 Budget, the Government committed \$14 million to support innovation and investment in the state's Research and development capacity via the Research Attraction and Acceleration Program.

- (2) The Government recognises the importance of Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) maintaining a continued presence here, and values the significant opportunities that provides in terms of Research and development collaboration.
 (3) The CSIRO is Australia's national science agency. It is a Commonwealth Government organisation

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and, as such, it is not the Government's responsibility to support CSIRO.

*6662 NEW INNER CITY HIGH SCHOOL—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Education—

When will the Government respond to calls arising from community consultation to establish a new high school in the inner city of Sydney?

Answer—

The Inner City Schools Working Party will deliver its recommendations as part of the Inner Sydney Primary and Secondary School Asset Strategy.

*6663 REGIONAL CONSERVATORIUMS—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Education—

(1) What are the reasons for the delay in regional conservatoriums receiving funding that was due in early November 2014?

(a) Are directors being forced to go into overdraft to pay their staff as a result of this delay?

(b) Could this delay result in some conservatoriums potentially facing insolvency?

(2) What action is the Minister taking to ensure funding is being expedited?

(3) Can the minister provide assurances that processes will be in place to ensure that this situation will not occur again?

Answer—

(1) Regional Conservatoriums received their funding on 25 November 2014. State Government funding accounts for, on average, less than 50 percent of the total income of the Regional Conservatoriums.

(2) N/A.

(3) The Department is currently finalising an audit process for Regional Conservatoriums to commence in 2015.

*6664 SCHOOL FUNDING IN KEIRA—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Education—

How much additional funding from the Gonski funding agreement will be allocated to each individual high school and primary school in the Keira electorate in 2015?

Answer—

Funding for all public schools in the Keira Electorate can be found on the Department of Education and Communities website.

*6665 XSEL VIRTUAL SELECTIVE HIGH SCHOOL—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Education—

(1) How many students attended the Xsel Virtual Selective High School in 2014?

(2) How much funding did the Government allocate to the Xsel Virtual Selective High School in 2014?

(3) How many students will attend the Xsel Virtual Selective High School in 2015?

(4) How much funding has been allocated by the Government to the Xsel Virtual Selective High School for 2015?

(a) If the amount of funding has decreased from 2014 levels, what are the reasons for this?

Answer—

(1) 100 students were enrolled in the Xsel program in 2014.

(2) In the 2014-15 financial year an operational budget of \$669,478 was allocated to support Xsel. In addition, 14.4 teaching positions were allocated.

(3) None. All students in Years 7 to 9 enrolled in the Xsel program have been offered a place in 2015 at Aurora College, the state's first virtual high school for all rural and remote students.

(4) At the end of 2014, the Xsel program will be integrated with Aurora College.

*6666 CANCER COUNCIL—Mr Richard Amery asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

(1) Has the Government been advised that the Cancer Council will be running a campaign in the lead up to the 2015 State Election?

(2) Will this campaign focus on many issues, such as tobacco advertising, Aboriginal cancer services, the impact of co-payments on chemotherapy treatment palliative care services and other cancer related issues?

(3) What is the Government's reaction to this campaign?

(4) Will the Government be holding discussions with the Cancer Council regarding this campaign?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) These details are currently publicly available.
- (3) and (4) I refer to the answer provided under question LA6372.

*6667 HEALTH LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2014—Dr Andrew McDonald asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

- (1) When was the decision made to not proceed with the Health Legislation Amendment Bill 2014 which was introduced in the Legislative Assembly on 10 September 2014?
- (2) Why was the Health Legislation Amendment Bill 2014 not proceeded with and, if elected, does the Minister plan to re-introduce this Bill in the next parliamentary term?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) If the Government is re-elected, it will seek advice from the Ministry of Health regarding miscellaneous amendments to Health portfolio legislation.

*6668 CONSTRUCTION AND CEREMONY AT NORTHERN BEACHES HOSPITAL—Dr Andrew McDonald asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

What is the Minister's response to community concerns about whether you will be personally attending the commencement of construction work and related ceremonies by Healthscope at the Northern Beaches Hospital after 1 April 2015?

Answer—

Yes, I will be attending.

9 DECEMBER 2014

(Paper No. 22)

*6669 REVENUE FROM PRIVATELY OWNED RADARS—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter representing the Minister for Roads and Freight, Minister for the North Coast, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

- (1) Are privately owned radar operators permitted to set up on the side of a road without displaying the signage that is required by law?
 - (a) If so, why?
- (2) How much revenue does the State collect from fines generated by privately owned radars?
- (3) How much revenue does the operator make from each fine generated by a privately owned radar?

Answer—

I am advised :

- (1) Roads and Maritime Services requires independent contractors to display signage when conducting operations.

All mobile speed camera vehicles in New South Wales are clearly marked, with two warning signs around 250 metres and 50 metres before the vehicle and another up to 50 metres after the vehicle.

Procedures are in place to ensure that signage is placed in the most visible location, and regular audits are conducted.

Signage is part of our high visibility approach to speed camera enforcement and is advisory, and not required by law.

- (2) Fines from speed and red-light cameras are directed into the Community Road Safety Fund for road safety programs, including the new Safer Drivers Course for learner drivers and funding the roll-out of school zone flashing lights to all schools in the State, as well as initiatives such as enhanced high visibility police enforcement operations and engineering works.

Information on the number of penalty notices issued and their value is published on the Office of State Revenue website.

- (3) Private operators of mobile speed cameras are paid per enforcement hour and receive no payment or incentive for infringements issued.

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*6670 SHORT TERM LETTING AND OVERCROWDING IN APARTMENTS—Mr Alex Greenwich asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Women—

- (1) Which councils have met with the Government to discuss barriers to preventing short term letting and overcrowding in apartments?
- (2) What barriers have been identified by the Government that would prevent councils from accessing apartments in order to obtain sufficient evidence to prove the illegal use of an apartment through short term letting or overcrowding?
- (3) Will the Government give powers to local councils to access apartments where there is evidence of short term letting or overcrowding?

Answer—

If a council has evidence of any illegal activity occurring in a residence, they can seek a search warrant to enter the residential premises.

Ministers' diary disclosures can be found at www.dpc.nsw.gov.au.

*6671 HUNTER REGIONAL TRANSPORT PLAN—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter representing the Minister for Roads and Freight, Minister for the North Coast, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

- (1) What is the current status and cost of the project in the Newcastle Local Government Area (LGA) with the description "Griffiths Road and Lloyd Road, Lambton", listed in the 2014 Hunter Regional Transport Plan under the Traffic Management and Road Safety Program with the status "commenced July 2013" and a cost of \$1,000,000?
- (2) What is the current status and cost of the project in the Newcastle LGA with the description "Install incident response shed Hexham on Pacific Highway", listed in the 2014 Hunter Regional Transport Plan under the Traffic Management and Road Safety Program with the status "commenced August 2013" and a cost of \$100,000?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) \$2,000 was spent in 2012-13 and \$236,000 in 2013-14 on development and design of the Griffiths Road and Lloyd Road, Lambton intersection upgrade.
Construction is expected to start in April 2015 and the total project cost is expected to be \$2 million.
- (2) A manned incident response facility has been established on the New England Highway at Hexham. In April 2014, after refurbishment costing \$152,000, the Newcastle based Roads and Maritime Services Traffic Operations staff relocated to the new facility.

*6672 ROOTY HILL ROADWORKS—Mr Richard Amery asked the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Women—

Are there plans for a large commercial development at Eastern Creek between Rooty Hill Road South, Church Lane, and the Great Western Highway?

Answer—

I am advised:

A State significant development application for a new retail centre has been lodged by the Western Sydney Parklands Trust and is currently being considered.

*6673 ENTERTAINMENT QUARTER AT FOX STUDIOS—Mr Ron Hoenig asked the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, Minister for the Central Coast, and Assistant Minister for Planning—

Will the sale of the Entertainment Quarter at Fox Studios result in a change in the nature and use of the site that will impact on surrounding residential communities?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

There is no sale of the Entertainment Quarter at Fox Studios.

(Paper No. 23)

6674 CHILDCARE IN GAMBLING VENUES—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Education—

- (1) What data does the Government have about childcare in gambling venues?
- (2) What data relating to childcare in gambling venues applies specifically to the inner city?
- (3) What data does the Government have regarding trends in this provision of childcare over time?
- (4) How does the Government ensure appropriate child protection standards and procedures apply for onsite childcare in gambling venues?

6675 DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION ADVERTISEMENT IN THE DAILY TELEGRAPH—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter—

Did the Daily Telegraph or News Corporation pay for the use of a New South Wales train carriage to film the digital subscription advertisement?

6676 FLASHING SCHOOL ZONE SIGNS—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Hunter representing the Minister for Roads and Freight, Minister for the North Coast, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

- (1) Will the Government erect flashing school zone signs outside any schools in the Bankstown electorate within the next 12 months?
 - (a) If so, at which schools will the flashing school zone signs be erected?
 - (b) If not, why not?

6677 PORT OF NEWCASTLE AND PORT BOTANY LEASES—Mr Tim Crakanthorp to ask the Treasurer, and Minister for Industrial Relations—

- (1) Did the Government advise the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) of a cap on container numbers at the Port of Newcastle prior to leasing the Port of Newcastle and Port Botany?
- (2) Did the Government agree to compensate NSW Ports for container numbers in excess of the cap at the Port of Newcastle?
- (3) Did the Government advise bidders for the ports leases to obtain regulatory approval from the ACCC in relation to the cap on container numbers at the Port of Newcastle?
- (4) Will the cap on container numbers at the Port of Newcastle reduce competition between ports in New South Wales for the container trade?
- (5) Has the ACCC advised the Government that the cap on container numbers at the Port of Newcastle may be unlawful and could be unenforceable?

8 JANUARY 2015

(Paper No. 23)

6678 VOLUNTEERS AT MOUNT DRUITT HOSPITAL—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

- (1) What changes, if any, are being planned by the management of Mount Druitt Hospital that would affect the current role of volunteers raising funds for the hospital?
- (2) Are there plans to stop volunteers from accessing the current kiosk and gift shop at the hospital?

6679 AFFORDABLE HOUSING—Mr Robert Furolo to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Women—

- (1) What is the status of the Affordable Housing Taskforce's report into affordable housing in New South Wales?
- (2) What action has the Government taken in response to the Taskforce's Draft Report and any subsequent report(s)?
- (3) What is the status of the State Environmental Planning Policy, affordable housing Choice that was identified in the Affordable Housing Taskforce's Draft Report?

6680 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTERS—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) How many domestic violence shelters are located in New South Wales?

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- (2) Are any domestic violence shelters funded by the Government?
 - (3) If so, are these shelters partially or fully funded by the Government?
 - (4) What is the maximum number of domestic violence victims that are able to be housed at shelters across New South Wales on any given night?
- 6681 NEWCASTLE CBD SUBSIDENCE ISSUES—Mr Tim Crakanthorp to ask the Minister for Resources and Energy, and Special Minister of State—
- (1) How much of the Newcastle CBD is undermined?
 - (2) How much funding is available to the Mine Subsidence Board?
 - (3) Has the Minister, or the Board, developed a plan to remediate the Newcastle CBD subsidence issues?
 - (4) If not, why not?
- 6682 COAL SEAM GAS EXPLORATION—Mr Barry Collier to ask the Minister for Resources and Energy, and Special Minister of State—
- Can the Minister assure the people of the Sutherland Shire that there will be no coal seam gas exploration or mining in the catchment area of the Woronora Dam?