



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

No. 77

TUESDAY 27 MARCH 2012

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. 65 (Including Question Nos 1478 to 1511)	20 March 2012
Q & A No. 66 (Including Question Nos 1512 to 1541)	21 March 2012
Q & A No. 67 (Including Question Nos 1542 to 1578)	22 March 2012
Q & A No. 68 (Including Question Nos 1579 to 1600)	27 March 2012
Q & A No. 69 (Including Question Nos 1601 to 1608)	28 March 2012
Q & A No. 70 (Including Question Nos 1609 to 1645)	29 March 2012
Q & A No. 71 (Including Question Nos 1646 to 1669)	10 April 2012
Q & A No. 72 (Including Question Nos 1670 to 1693)	11 April 2012
Q & A No. 73 (Including Question Nos 1694 to 1731)	12 April 2012
Q & A No. 74 (Including Question Nos 1732 to 1757)	17 April 2012
Q & A No. 75 (Including Question Nos 1758 to 1765)	18 April 2012
Q & A No. 76 (Including Question Nos 1766 to 1812)	19 April 2012
Q & A No. 77 (Including Question Nos 1813 to 1841)	01 May 2012

14 FEBRUARY 2012

(Paper No. 65)

*1478 SECURITY AUDIT OF DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING UNITS IN WILLMOT—Mr Richard Amery asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Services, and Minister for the Illawarra—

In relation to the Department of Housing aged units in Van Dieman Avenue, Willmot:

- (1) Has a security audit been carried out?
- (2) What improvements to the security have been recommended?
- (3) What action is the department taking to improve the security for residents?

Answer—

- (1) Yes.
- (2) The audit recommended:
 - A review of lighting;
 - removal of graffiti;
 - repairs to fencing;
 - consideration of removal of some brick walls surrounding; and
 - trimming of bushes and shrubs
- (3) The NSW Land and Housing Corporation has undertaken the following actions:
 - arrangements have been made to have the lighting reviewed;
 - removal of existing graffiti and monitoring and removing any new graffiti;
 - repair of the perimeter fencing;
 - examining the feasibility of removing the brick walls around the clothes drying areas; and
 - investigation of the extent to which bushes and shrubs need to be trimmed prior to engaging gardeners to undertake the required work.

*1479 DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING MAINTENANCE LINE—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—

In relation to the Department of Housing's Maintenance Line:

- (1) How many operators are available to answer calls to the Maintenance Line?
- (2) Are all operators specifically dedicated to answer calls to the Maintenance Line?
- (3) (a) Does the number of operators who answer Maintenance Line calls vary depending on the day of the week and the time of the day?
(b) If so how?

Answer—

(1) and (2) Staff may deliver a number of different services offered through Housing Contact Centre by Housing NSW.

(3) (a) and (b) Housing NSW's Housing Contact Centre forecasts the workload of the Centre. Staff are then scheduled to work according to the expected volume of calls.

*1480 REJUVENATION OF CARDIFF CBD—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Infrastructure NSW—

When will the Government commence the \$2.5 million rejuvenation of Cardiff CBD, a March 2011 election commitment?

Answer—

This is a matter for the Minister for Roads and Ports.

*1481 SCHOOL TRANSPORT FOR DISABLED CHILDREN—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Education—

As a result of the unresolved contract dispute between the State Government and drivers of children with disabilities, making short runs for drivers uneconomical, how many Hunter children were unable to go to school during the first week of the school term?

Answer—

Seventeen.

*1482 HUNTER MEDICAL ONCOLOGY SERVICES—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

What steps are being taken by the Minister to ensure that the Hunter is receiving the same level of services, and funding for medical oncology services as metropolitan Sydney, in order to achieve performance benchmarks?

Answer—

I am advised:

A Review of Medical Oncology Services was recently undertaken in the Hunter New England Local Health District to examine service provision and make recommendations.

The Hunter New England Local Health District has accepted 21 of the 24 recommendations of the Review and is developing an implementation plan to ensure the recommendations are addressed.

The recommendations will feed into the new Cancer Services Strategic Plan that is currently being developed. The Plan will prioritise service requirements for the next five years and will form the basis for funding allocations over that time.

I refer the Member to the Hunter New England Local Health District's media release of 10 February 2012 regarding "Improvements for cancers services underway" available at:

http://www.hnehealth.nsw.gov.au/news/media_releases/media_releases_current_year/Feb2012/improvements_for_cancer_services_underway

*1483 NATIONAL GUIDELINES FOR HANDLING OF DNA SAMPLES—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

- (1) Does the Minister support calls by Dr Anne Smith, Medical Director of the Victorian Forensic Paediatric Medical Centre for national guidelines for all laboratories and hospitals in their handling of DNA samples?
- (2) If not, why not?
- (3) If so, what has the Minister done in this regard?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (3) Whilst there are laboratory guidelines for the handling of forensic samples at the Division of Analytical Laboratories, NSW Health would consider any proposals for the development of National Guidelines to standardise the collection and handling of forensic DNA samples by hospitals and laboratories.

*1486 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION FOR WORK ON NELSON PARADE PROPERTIES—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Infrastructure NSW—

- (1) Has a development application for remedial work on properties in Nelson Parade, Hunters Hill been lodged?
- (2) If so, when?

Answer—

See answer to Written Question 1485.

*1487 ISRAELI TRAINING AND ADVICE FOR NSW POLICE—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

- (1) Has the NSW Police Force received training or advice on operational matters or techniques from any Israeli State agency from 1 September 2009 to date?
- (2) If so, what was the nature of the training or advice and when was it received?

Answer—

No.

*1488 DATES OF PRISON ESCAPES TO 30 JUNE 2011—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—

Of the prisoners who escaped from Corrective Services custody in the year ending 30 June 2011, what were the dates of escapes?

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Answer—

I am advised:

5 and 30 July 2010
6, 7, and 30 August 2010
26 October 2010
21, 27 and 28 November 2010
12 and 23 December 2010
17, 19 and 27 January 2011
3, 20 and 22 March 2011
12, 25 and 28 April 2011.

*1489 FUNDING FOR SOUTH WESTERN REGIONAL TENANTS ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—

- (1) Do you propose to continue funding to the South Western Regional Tenants Association Incorporated?
- (2) If not, why not?
- (3) When, if at all, do you propose to make an announcement in relation to this?

Answer—

All organisations funded under the Tenant Participation Resource Services program, including the association, are currently funded.

*1491 COMMUNITY GROUPS AND STAKEHOLDERS—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—

- (1) Have you decided not to meet community groups or stakeholders in your portfolio areas?
- (2) Have you or your office advised anyone that you have decided not to meet community groups or stakeholders in your portfolio area?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) No.

*1492 TRANSIT OFFICERS—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Minister for Transport—

- (1) What proposals or plans are you considering in relation to the future of Transit Officers?
- (2) Why have you not discussed these proposals with representative of the Transit Officers?
- (3) When will you announce the results of your consideration?

Answer—

- (1) to (3) The media release below was issued 14 February 2012:

The NSW Police Force will take over security for the entire public transport network under a new dedicated Police Transport Command, NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell, Minister for Police Michael Gallacher, Minister for Transport Gladys Berejiklian and Commissioner of Police Andrew Scipione announced today.

The new command will see 610 dedicated police officers allocated to patrol trains, buses and ferries. Transit officers will focus on detecting fare evasion and minor compliance offences and their patrols will be expanded to cover buses and ferries.

"The NSW Government is getting on with the job of making our community safer and improving security on public transport is a key plank of that task," Mr O'Farrell said.

"As I travel on public transport and speak with commuters, safety is one of the main concerns, particularly at night," he said.

"There is nothing more reassuring than a high visibility, high profile police presence on trains, buses and ferries."

Mr Gallacher said the NSW Government is committed to improving safety and security as well as driving down crime on the public transport network.

"Police will be responsible for safety and security on our trains, buses and ferries to reduce crime," Mr Gallacher said.

"Police are trained to patrol in pairs, rather than transit officers who are routinely deployed in groups of three to five for safety reasons. Providing a strong police presence is the best way to prevent crime.

"Improving safety and security requires a fundamentally different approach, and a well-led dedicated police command with the full complement of police powers will increase our ability to combat crime on the public transport network.

"The NSW Liberals & Nationals Government is determined to give police the powers, the resources and the backing they need to keep our community safe, and that includes protecting public transport passengers." Mr Gallacher said.

Ms Berejiklian said commuters wanted a strong police presence on the transport network as it was the best deterrent against crime.

"We are committed to making our public transport network as safe as possible," she said.

"We understand that feeling safe and secure is important to our customers, and that it is crucial to attracting more people to use public transport.

"Just as a police car on our roads puts drivers on their best behaviour, police officers patrolling our public transport network will serve as a deterrent against crime.

"While police will take the lead, transit officers will have their roles expanded to focus on fare evasion on buses and ferries as well as trains.

"Having police take over security and increase their presence on the public transport network is a win for customers," Ms Berejiklian said.

Existing transit officers and STA revenue protection officers can either apply to be trained as a police officer, apply to be retained as a transit officer, apply for voluntary redundancy or apply for redeployment.

Commissioner Scipione said the new police command will be created to bolster the state's public transport network.

"The creation of the Police Transport Command will allow police to work more closely with the community to target those areas within our transport system where anti-social and criminal behaviour occurs," Commissioner Scipione said.

"We are focused on completing the recruitment processes by the end of 2014 when the PTC's ranks will have grown to more than 600 officers, while 300 existing police officers currently attached to the Commuter Crime Unit will be available immediately.

"The great value of this new command is that police officers will come into contact with people who may have committed other more serious crimes.

"It will enable the police to take into custody a lot of people wanted on other offences."

"Public transport, whether it's rail, buses or ferries, are well-known as crime corridors used by criminals to go to commit a crime or to return from a crime," Commissioner Scipione said.

Ms Berejiklian said the increased police presence will build on the existing security measures.

Across the rail network alone there are:

- 9,300 CCTV cameras targeting crime and commuters safety;
- 750 customer help points visible on CCTV which allow a person to communicate directly with CityRail staff, and
- 7,000 high intensity lights.

The NSW Government also created a \$40 million Park and Travel Safety fund to further improve CCTV on station platforms, on trains and in car parks; improve lighting in and around train stations; and increase help point reliability.

*1493 INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS—Ms Clover Moore asked the Premier, and Minister for Western Sydney—

Noting the increasing warnings that the number of international students coming to study in NSW may drop substantially, and independent assessment that access to transport concessions is a factor in student decisions:

- (1) What assessment has the NSW Government made of projected numbers of international students coming to NSW for 2012 and the future;
- (2) What recommendations has the Premier's Council on International Education made about transport concessions for international students;
- (3) What action has the Government taken to improve transport access for international students;
- (4) What other action has the Government made to improve safety, housing and amenity for international students;
- (5) What other plans does the Government have to better help international students with transport;?
- (6) What other plans does the Government have to better support international students?

Answer—

I am advised:

Due to the strength of the Australian dollar and changes to Commonwealth Visa requirements, international student enrolments across Australia declined in 2011 and 2012. Recent projections predict an increase in the number of international student numbers arriving in Australia in 2013, with this trend expected to continue into 2014 and beyond.

Commonwealth initiatives arising out of the Knight Review of Student Visa Program, including post-study work Visas and streamlined Visa processing, are expected to assist in lifting international student numbers.

The NSW Government recognises the need to do more to make NSW, and Australia, more attractive for international students.

The majority of international students studying in Australia are based in NSW and Victoria. Given the importance of this sector to both States, the Premiers met in December 2011 and agreed to include international education in the Interstate Reform Partnership aimed at accelerating economy-based reforms between Australia's two largest states.

NSW and Victoria are committed to maximising opportunities for high-quality education providers and to supporting the highest possible quality education experience for international students.

The NSW and Victorian Governments will work together with the Commonwealth to extend streamlined visa processing and post-study work rights to international students at a broader range of high-quality, low-risk education providers, including VET providers.

In November 2011, the NSW Government announced an International Education and Research Industry Taskforce to develop, promote and address international student education industry issues, such as how to increase exports from the vocational education and training, university and secondary school sectors. This Taskforce has replaced the Premier's Council on International Education and has been provided the work undertaken by that former body to include in their development of an International Education and Research Industry Action Plan which will outline a vision and strategy for the international education and research industry over the next decade in NSW.

In continuing to support International Students, the NSW Government held the NSW International Student Festival on Sunday 4 March 2012 at Victoria Park, Broadway. The festival provided important information and assistance for international students as well as incorporating the NSW International Student Awards. The Festival and awards sought to recognise and celebrate international students and the contribution they make to communities in NSW.

*1495 PYRMONT AND ULTIMO ROAD SAFETY AND TRAFFIC—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—

With respect to major traffic junctions linking the ANZAC Bridge/ Western Distributor with Fig Street, Harris Street, Pyrmont Bridge Road, Pyrmont Street, and noting residents' concerns about safety and amenity impacts of through traffic on Pyrmont and Ultimo:

- (1) What requests has the Government received for improvements to safety and traffic management on State roads and at signalised intersections in Pyrmont over the past three years;
- (2) What assessment has Roads and Maritime Services made of traffic and road safety in this precinct over the past three years;
- (3) What traffic accidents have been reported in this precinct over the past three years;
- (4) Which signalised intersections are the location of most traffic accidents in this precinct;
- (5) What traffic counts has Roads and Maritime Services carried out on traffic in this precinct over the past three years and what results were obtained;
- (6) What action has Roads and Maritime Services taken in response to concerns and road safety over the past three years;
- (7) What assessment has been made of the need for red light cameras at signalised intersections and what action has been taken based on these assessments; and
- (8) What further action will the Government take to improve road safety and traffic in this precinct?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) is aware that local residents in this precinct, as with other locations throughout Sydney and NSW, have provided comments on and suggestions about safety and traffic management over the past three years. Given the time constraints in providing an answer

to this question, to collate and provide specific details of all requests has not, unfortunately, been practical as it would need too large an allocation of RMS resources.

- (2) RMS has monitored the performance of the road network, including traffic signals in this precinct, and considers the network is operating efficiently given the physical constraints of the road network.
- (3) From 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2011, 77 crashes were recorded for the precinct.
- (4) The signalised intersection at Fig Street and Harris Street had 23 reported crashes from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2011. This was the highest number for all signalised intersections within the Pyrmont and Ultimo area. However, from January to June 2011 there were only two crashes reported at the intersection.
- (5) Traffic counts conducted by RMS in this precinct over the last three years have obtained the following average vehicles per day:
 - Pyrmont at Anzac Bridge: 2009 - 132,981; 2010 - 131,822; 2011 - 133,839.
 - Pyrmont-Fig Street on/off ramps: 2009 - 29,467; 2010 - 29,416; 2011 - 29,431.
 - Pyrmont west of Allen Street: 2009 - 50,526; 2010 - 48,730; 2011 - 37,297.
- (6) RMS has not implemented any safety improvement works in the precinct in the last three years.
- (7) Red light speed (safety) cameras are deployed across NSW at intersections that need them most. The selection criteria developed by the NSW Centre for Road Safety includes the number and severity of crashes at a location and suitable site conditions.

The identification of locations is based upon a Statewide review of crashes at signalised intersections, with locations based on the cost of crashes to the community. All signalised intersections in Pyrmont and Ultimo were assessed in the process of selecting the first 91 intersections where safety cameras have been installed.

One of the first 91 intersections to have a safety camera installed was the intersection of Wattle Street and William Henry Street, Ultimo which is in close proximity to the area in question.

- (8) RMS will continue to monitor the performance of the road network in this precinct and will take remedial action as considered appropriate. RMS will also continue to monitor and evaluate the traffic signals in this precinct to ensure they are operating as safely and efficiently as possible.

*1496 VOLUNTEER OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY—Ms Clover Moore asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Services, and Minister for the Illawarra—

With regard to community concern about the impact of new nationally aligned occupational health and safety requirements on volunteers working with community groups, charities and other organisations for community benefit:

- (1) What assessment has the Government made of the impact of new occupational health and safety requirements relating to volunteers;
- (2) What assessment has the Government made of the impact on NSW-based organisations that send volunteers on overseas aid projects;
- (3) What information, training and support about the new requirements is the Government providing to organisations that have volunteers;
- (4) What action has the Government taken to ensure that community organisations do not suffer additional insurance and administrative costs as a result of the new requirements;
- (5) What other support is planned; and
- (6) What further action will the Government take to support community organisations affected by occupational health and safety changes?

Answer—

- (1) The work health and safety laws, which came into effect on 1 January 2012, maintain the same objective of the previous laws of ensuring health and safety while at work. If an organisation was complying with the previous New South Wales occupational health and safety laws then it will be largely complying with the new work health and safety laws.

For example, under the previous Occupational Health and Safety Act 2000, a volunteer organisation that employed staff was considered to be an employer for the purposes of the Act. The previous laws imposed a general duty on employers to ensure as far as is reasonably practicable that all persons at their workplaces, as well as their employees, were not exposed to risks arising out of the conduct of the employer's undertaking. This protection was extended to volunteers who may have been engaged in activities at a workplace for which an employer was responsible.

Under the new laws, where an organisation engages both paid employees and volunteers, that organisation has the same responsibilities for the health and safety of its volunteers as it does for its

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employees. The only difference between the previous laws and the new work health and safety laws is that protection of these volunteers is now explicitly stated.

It is important to note that volunteer associations, that is, those community groups of volunteers who employ no-one, are excluded from all duties under the work health and safety laws.

- (2) The obligations under the New South Wales Work Health and Safety Act 2011 do not apply outside Australia. Organisations that engage volunteers to work overseas may have their own arrangements for safety, security and insurance for such workers.
- (3) To assist volunteers and volunteer organisations, the New South Wales Government has an extensive education program to inform volunteers and volunteer organisations of their obligations.

Specific assistance provided to volunteer groups includes:

- Public information seminars hosted by WorkCover.
 - A webinar on the WorkCover website explaining how the new legislation will apply to volunteers.
 - A web page and fact sheet on the work health and safety legislation and volunteers is available on the WorkCover website
 - A presentation to the State's peak volunteering body, the New South Wales Centre for Volunteering.
 - The provision of a substantial grant to the Surf Life Saving Association to provide training on the new legislation.
 - Meetings with government agencies that deal with volunteers.
 - Meetings with non-government organisations to provide information about volunteers under the new work health and safety legislation.
- (4) It is important to note that compliance by individual volunteers will not be onerous and the duty imposed upon volunteers is not onerous in itself. Volunteers will not have to come up with safe systems of work and will not be weighed down with paper work.

Organisations that engage volunteers, as with all businesses or undertakings in New South Wales, have 12 months to review their consultation mechanisms and policies and procedures to ensure they are updated in line with the new laws. The Government does not expect this to be an onerous administrative burden, just a commonsense approach to ensuring the organisation makes any necessary changes.

Where there is an organisation of volunteers which does not engage anyone in any paid work, but rather relies solely on volunteer labour, such an organisation is exempt from the provisions of the work health and safety laws.

- (5) In addition to the comprehensive assistance outlined above, WorkCover will continue to work closely with this sector, and with all workplaces, to ensure workers are protected and policies comply with the new legislation.
- (6) In recognition of timeframes and concerns raised by stakeholders, the Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011 includes transitional arrangements for implementing and complying with some parts of the new legislation. These arrangements are currently being communicated widely through public forums across New South Wales.

WorkCover will continue to provide information, guidance, education and advice to assist customers to achieve compliance with new requirements contained in the work health and safety laws.

*1497 INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION RECOMMENDATIONS—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Infrastructure NSW—

In response to Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) recommendations following findings that former Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority (SHFA) executive director Andrew Kelly engaged in corrupt conduct dealing with the Kazal family and tenancies at 91, 99, 100 and 135 George Street The Rocks:

- (1) What action has the Government taken in response to ICAC recommendation that SHFA should locate authority and accountability for heritage protection within a single independent role with a commensurate level of seniority?
- (2) To what extent does SHFA record the factors considered and the reasons for heritage decisions? How has SHFA improved the transparency of heritage decisions?
- (3) To what extent does SHFA now include heritage considerations in board papers and executive memoranda for property and leasing matters?
- (4) To what extent has SHFA established a formal process for tenants to follow when they apply for

compensation for work carried out on SHFA properties and to what does this process require?

- (5) To what extent will recommendations to the general manager and board of SHFA that provide significant benefits to clients require a comprehensive written business case by the responsible director?
- (6) To what extent are processes within SHFA different to those prior to the ICAC's investigations?

Answer—

- (1) In 2010, the Authority structurally separated its commercial and heritage protection interests by assigning responsibility for the property and leasing function to the General Manager. The heritage and protection function remains under the responsibility of the Director, Asset Management Services.

- (2) In February 2012, the Authority's Lease Expiry Policy was strengthened to ensure each lease renewal proposal complies with heritage conservation and maintenance requirement

For heritage buildings, the determination to renew a lease must now be consistent with advice contained in the relevant Conservation Management plan for that property and other relevant statutory obligations.

The Heritage and Design Manager will also evaluate/consider and provide comment on the heritage impact of any proposed change of use for a building. The Authority will not accept any proposed change of use that would result in non-compliance with a Conservation Management Plan.

- (3) The Board paper template has been updated to require commentary on heritage issues in any property-related paper.

These measures are in addition to existing procedures which require heritage consideration and approval by the Heritage and Design Manager of all statutory approvals through the landowner's consent process. There is no record of landowner's consent having been granted contrary to significant heritage-related concerns about the proposed development.

- (4) In February 2012, the Lease Concessions and Compensation for Works Policy was updated to include a comprehensive process for tenants to follow when seeking compensation for works on the Authority's properties. Based on legal advice obtained by the Authority, the policy notes that tenants who carry out repairs without notifying the Authority have no automatic right to recover costs from the Authority.

The policy establishes criteria under which the Authority will consider claims for compensation and for claims in excess of \$50,000, as noted by the ICAC in its corruption prevention recommendations. It requires tenants to provide independent reports from qualified professionals, including legal advice, to justify the quantum of the claim.

- (5) The Lease Concessions and Compensation for Works Policy establishes criteria under which the Authority will consider claims by tenants for lease concessions and repayment plans, and compensation for building works.

All claims up to \$50,000 are to be approved by the Director, Business and Financial Services. Any claims in excess of \$50,000 must be submitted to the General Manager for approval, and claims in excess of \$100,000 must be submitted to the Board.

The policy has been updated to require all submissions for claims in excess of \$50,000 to be accompanied by a comprehensive written business case from the responsible director.

- (6) Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority had already implemented a number of ICAC's recommendations before the report was released, and has now implemented changes to meet all four recommendations.

*1499 HANDYMAN SERVICE—Mr Ryan Park asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Services, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) Given the answer to Question 0564, what options is the Minister considering to make permanent the "Handyman Service" available to seniors in New South Wales housing properties in the Illawarra?
- (2) When will this be finalised?

Answer—

- (1) Future locations for the Handy Persons Program are under consideration in conjunction with other maintenance and employment programs.
- (2) New tenders are currently being considered, including for the Illawarra.

*1500 REGIONAL RELOCATION GRANT—Mr Ryan Park asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Services, and Minister for the Illawarra—

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- (1) How many people from the Wollongong Local Government area have taken up the Regional Relocation Grant?
- (2) When will the Government make changes to this scheme to make it more effective?

Answer—

- (1) 35.
- (2) I refer the Honourable Member to the Treasurer's answers to previous Written Questions Nos 1301 and 0458.

*1501 DATA CENTRE IN THE ILLAWARRA—Mr Ryan Park asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Services, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) Given the Department has been evaluating tenders for the establishment of a Data Centre in the Illawarra since June 2011, when will this evaluation process be completed?
- (2) Will you guarantee that a Data Centre will be constructed in the Illawarra?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) The evaluation of tenders is underway and a decision by the Government will be made as soon as that process has been completed.

*1502 WOONONA HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE LABORATORY UPGRADES—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Education—

- (1) Given that planning work was underway in October 2011, where is the planning up to for the upgrades to science laboratories at Woonona High School?
- (2) Approximately when will the construction works begin?
- (3) Approximately how long will construction take?

Answer—

- (1) I am pleased to advise that work to upgrade 2 science laboratories and an adjoining preparation room at Woonona High School will soon commence. Planning work is continuing with project specifications due to be agreed with the Principal in early March 2012.
- (2) It is anticipated that the upgrade of the science laboratories and preparation room will commence in late March 2012.
- (3) It is anticipated that the project will be completed by 30 June 2012.

*1503 WOONONA EAST PRIMARY SCHOOL BUILDING UPGRADES—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Education—

- (1) Is the Master planning for the building upgrades to Woonona East Primary School complete?
- (2) Given the condition of the classrooms and administration block, when will this urgent building work commence?
- (3) What is the approximate cost involved for this project?
- (4) What is the estimated timeline for the completion of construction?

Answer—

- (1) Yes. A concept master plan for Woonona East Public School was completed and presented to the school in late 2008.
- (2) to (4) The project to upgrade facilities at Woonona East Public School has not been assessed as one of the top capital works priorities by the Illawarra and South East Region for 2012/13. I am unable to provide a specific timeframe for the project. Funding will be considered as part of future capital works programs. Cost estimates are not announced prior to the tender process due to their commercially sensitive nature.

*1504 ALLOCATION OF TEACHERS IN ILLAWARRA—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Education—

Given the Coalition made a commitment in 2010 to allocate an additional 60 teachers to the Illawarra to improve literacy and numeracy:

- (1) When will these teachers be allocated?
- (2) Approximately when will they commence in schools?
- (3) What schools will they be going to?
- (4) What selection criteria will be used to determine where these teachers will be allocated?

Answer—

- (1) The Ministerial Advisory Group on Literacy and Numeracy is due to submit its report on a proposed strategy for the implementation of the Government's Literacy and Numeracy Action Plan in March. Decisions regarding when the teachers will be allocated will be made after this report has been reviewed.
- (2) Decisions regarding the commencement of the additional teachers will be made on advice from the Ministerial Advisory Group.
- (3) Schools participating in the first year of the Literacy and Numeracy Action Plan, including those in the Illawarra area, will be identified following the submission of the report from the Ministerial Advisory Group.
- (4) Additional teachers will be allocated to schools so that those students most at risk of not reaching minimum standards in literacy and numeracy benefit.

*1505 ALLOCATION OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS UPGRADE FUND IN KEIRA ELECTORATE—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Education—

For schools in the electorate of Keira:

- (1) What schools applied for funding under the \$40 million Public Schools Upgrade Fund?
- (2) What schools were successful in securing funding?
- (3) What specific projects will be funded under this program for each school?

Answer—

- (1) All schools in the Keira electorate, except for Fairy Meadow Public School, made applications for funding in Round one of the Public Schools Upgrade Program.
- (2) and (3) Bellambi, Corrimal and Mount Ousley Public Schools and Figtree and Keira High Schools submitted and were approved for replacement of floor coverings; Corrimal High School for internal and external painting; Woonona High School for toilet replacement and renovation.

*1506 MOUNT OUSLEY ROAD REST STOP UPGRADE—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—

- (1) In relation to the Mount Ousley Road rest stop upgrade, has this planning work now been completed?
- (2) What is the next stage of this project?
- (3) When will funds be allocated to carry out this important work?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The situation as outlined in my answer to Written Question 1217 remains unchanged. In 2011-12, no further funds are available to progress this work.
- (2) The next stage of the project is to finalise the concepts and obtain planning approval.
- (3) This project will continue to be assessed and to compete for funding on a Statewide priority basis.

*1507 PRINCES HIGHWAY AND BELLEVUE ROAD UPGRADE AT FIGTREE—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—

Will the upgrade to the Princes Highway and Bellevue Road at Figtree be complete by the end of 2012?

Answer—

I am advised:

The project to upgrade key intersections on the Princes Highway at Figtree is expected to be completed by the end of 2012, weather permitting.

*1508 BULLI PCYC IMPROVEMENTS—Mr Ryan Park asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

- (1) In relation to improvements to Bulli PCYC, given that a contract was expected to be in place by the end of 2011, can you now inform me when this work will commence?
- (2) What will this work involve and how long will it take?

Answer—

A commitment was made by the NSW Liberals and Nationals prior to the 2011 State Election to fund this much needed upgrade to Bulli PCYC.

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Since the election, the Government has been working closely with PCYC, including providing them with \$20.25 million over four years in funding and support to implement what will be one of largest upgrading and expansion programs ever undertaken by PCYC which has struggled in previous years to attract enough Government funding to continue their work in communities across the State.

I am advised that preliminary work to replace the asbestos roof and guttering system at the Bulli PCYC is scheduled to commence on 24 April 2012. The PCYC anticipates work will be completed by the end of July 2012.

*1509 MAINTENANCE OF PROPERTIES IN KEIRA ELECTORATE—Mr Ryan Park asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Services, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) In relation to your previous answer to question 1467 can you please provide me a list of the addresses of the 270 properties in the Keira electorate that will undergo maintenance this financial year?
- (2) For each property, can you provide me with a description of works that will be undertaken?

Answer—

- (1) Housing NSW has a policy of not releasing specific property addresses to protect the privacy of tenants.
- (2) Major work to be undertaken includes external and internal painting; roofing replacement; and full or part timber boundary fence replacement.

Minor works could include replacement of electrical fittings and/or tap washers; and repairs to individual walls, doors and windows.

*1510 SPORT AND RECREATION FACILITY GRANT SCHEME IN ILLAWARRA—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Sport and Recreation—

- (1) What projects in the Illawarra region were funded under the Sport and Recreation Facility Grant Scheme last year?
- (2) When will the scheme be open for applications in 2012?

Answer—

(1) All applications in this grant program were independently assessed against pre-determined criteria. The successful applications in the Illawarra were:

Thirroul Junior Football Club	Upgrade lighting to playing fields and training field at Gibson Park
Wollongong Tennis Courts Administration Inc.	Upgrade of four tennis court surfaces at Bulli Tennis Centre
Helensburgh Thistle Football Club	Installation of solar hot water system and irrigation of playing field at Rex Jackson Park
Gerringong RLFC Inc.	Provision of a disability access lift in Clubhouse at Michael Cronin Oval
Illawarra Canoe Club	Installation of secure storage racks at Illawarra Canoe Club
Illawarra Hockey Incorporated	Upgrade surface of synthetic hockey field at Lindsay Maynes Park
Wollongong United Football Club Incorporated	Installation of lighting on Main Ground at Macedonia Park

(2) An announcement regarding the next round of Sport and Recreation grant programs will be made at the appropriate time.

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*1512 GREY NURSE SHARK PROTECTION REVIEWS—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Small Business—

Following revocation last April of grey nurse shark protections at Fish Rock and Green Island on the New South Wales mid North Coast:

- (1) Did the State Government carry out its promised three month community consultation on the

protections?

- (2) When did the consultation begin and end?
- (3) What was involved in the consultation?
- (4) When will results from the consultation be released?
- (5) Where will results from the consultation be available?
- (6) Did the State Government carry out its promised scientific review to ensure that conservation needs of the grey nurse shark are met well into the future?
- (7) When did the review begin and end?
- (8) What was involved in the review?
- (9) When will results from the review be released?
- (10) Where will results from the review be released?

Answer—

The NSW Government is committed to ensuring the conservation needs of the Grey Nurse Shark are met well into the future.

The Department of Primary Industries received a large number of submissions; however the views surrounding grey nurse shark protection measures remain highly polarised.

The summary of submissions on the Discussion Paper for Grey Nurse Shark Protection is available on the NSW DPI website.

While the majority of respondents supported Grey Nurse Shark protection, there remains a diverse and often diametrically opposed range of views about how this should be best achieved.

It is important to ensure that we get future management arrangements right through consultation and involvement of affected stakeholders.

A facilitated workshop took place recently which engaged and involved key stakeholders in the development of stakeholder-supported options for the future management of fishing and scuba diving activities at Grey Nurse Shark aggregation sites.

This Government is about long term, science-based, true triple bottom line outcomes - which we will achieve in partnership with the community.

*1513 INCREASED COST OF RAIL SERVICES—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Transport—

What impact will a 6% increase in fares have on the numbers of commuters using public transport in the Hunter?

Answer—

I am advised that given this was the first increase in public transport fares since early 2010 and that the 5.4% increase is in line with CPI increases over the period there is not likely to be an impact on the number of commuters using public transport.

*1514 POLICE ACTION IN WILLMOT DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING UNITS—Mr Richard Amery asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

- (1) Has the NSW Police been involved in the Security Audit for Department of Housing units in Van Dieman Avenue, Willmot?
- (2) Did this action follow complaints of anti social behavior by youths against the aged residents of this complex?
- (3) What issues have been identified by the Security Audit?
- (4) How many persons have been detected by Police at this complex?
- (5) Of the persons referred to in Question 4, how many of these persons were:
 - (a) Arrested and charged with an offence?
 - (b) Cautioned?
 - (c) Summoned to appear at court?
 - (d) Any other action?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me:

- (1) Police conducted a Safety Audit at this location on 9 November 2011 in the presence of Department of Housing personnel.
- (2) Yes.

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- (3) The Audit identified a number of issues including poor lighting, graffiti, vandalism, fencing, poor property maintenance and overgrown foliage.
(4) and (5) Police records indicate that since 1 July 2011, 13 persons have been detected at the complex with five persons being charged with 15 offences and a number of others given warnings.

*1515 CARDIFF RAIL LIFTS—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Transport—

Why has the Government stalled for a year the building of the Cardiff Rail easy access facilities?

Answer—

As part of this Government's commitment to improve the safety and accessibility of Cardiff Station, Transport for NSW is combining the planned station accessibility upgrade with works to lengthen the platform so that it can accommodate eight-car trains. This required a redesign of the originally planned accessibility upgrade.

Early works for the project are now underway. The project is scheduled for completion in 2013. The previous Labor Government had 16 years to deliver this project. All Labor left the long suffering commuters of Cardiff with was rough costings, a rough timeline, and a sign. The NSW Liberals & Nationals have been in Government less than 12 months, and work has commenced.

*1517 NEWCASTLE INNER CITY BYPASS—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—

Will the Government commence building the Newcastle Inner City bypass in 2012 to alleviate road traffic chaos?

Answer—

I am advised:

Stage 4 of the Newcastle Inner City Bypass between Shortland and Sandgate is currently being built and is expected to open to traffic by the end of 2013.

A route corridor for Stage 5 of the Newcastle Inner City Bypass has been identified and has been protected in the Newcastle City Council Local Environmental Plan.

Priority is being given to completing the Hunter Expressway and intersection upgrades between the F3 Freeway and Newcastle, as well as the planning of the duplication of Cormorant Road and Tourle Street in the longer term.

The NSW Government is also funding the Hunter Infrastructure and Investment Fund in the amount of \$350 million.

This represents a large investment in the Hunter Region over the first term of this government.

Funding for future road projects, like stage 5 of the Newcastle Inner City Bypass between Rankin Park and Jesmond, will be considered along with other infrastructure projects across the State.

*1518 FIXED SPEED CAMERA AT JESMOND—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—

What is the status of the fixed speed camera that was installed at Newcastle Road, Jesmond? Was it decommissioned? If so, will it be switched back on?

Answer—

I am advised that the fixed speed camera on Newcastle Road, Jesmond was decommissioned on 27 July 2011 following the release of the NSW Auditor-General's Performance Audit - Improving Road Safety: Speed Cameras.

The audit identified that overall the NSW fixed speed camera program has significantly reduced crashes. These results varied at some locations and 38 locations were identified where there had not been a consistent reduction in crashes, injuries and fatalities.

Newcastle Road, Jesmond is one of the 38 locations where it was found that the speed camera had not delivered the expected road safety benefits because crashes and injuries at the camera location increased after the camera was installed.

A safety review has been undertaken at this location to find alternative safety measures for the existing road safety risks that were not being addressed by the camera. The review findings and proposed program of works will be developed by the end of March 2012.

*1519 ROADSIDE LITTER IN THE HUNTER—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—

What steps are the Government taking to reduce roadside litter in the Hunter?

Answer—

I am advised:

Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) regularly collects litter along State roads. Priority is given to the removal of litter that is hazardous to vehicular traffic, cyclists or pedestrians or litter that produces an offensive smell or attracts pests. Local councils are generally responsible for litter control outside the road pavement along State roads.

RMS provides opportunities for motorists to dispose of litter with rubbish bins provided at rest areas.

*1520 NURSE POSITIONS IN THE HUNTER—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

Will the Minister make a commitment to provide the 49 nurse positions needed in the Hunter in addition to the 101 new graduate nurses to be provided (Minister's statement 31 January 2012)?

Answer—

I am advised:

In 2012, 201 new graduates were offered employment across the Hunter New England Local Health District, with 135 in the Hunter region.

In implementing the new staffing arrangements provisions of the Public Health System Nurses' and Midwives' (State) Award 2011, for the period up to 30 June 2012, approximately 94 full time equivalent nurses have been allocated to facilities in the Hunter geographic area (inclusive of John Hunter, Maitland, Belmont, and the Calvary Newcastle Mater Hospitals). This is part of the progressive rollout of the equivalent of an estimated 1,400 additional nurses across the State by 30 June 2013.

*1521 ASSISTED SCHOOL TRAVEL PROGRAM IN CABRAMATTA—Mr Nick Lalich asked the Minister for Education—

How many special needs school children use the Assisted School Travel Program in the electorate of Cabramatta?

Answer—

As at 22 February 2012, 120 students use the Assisted School Travel Program to attend schools in the Cabramatta electorate.

*1522 CARERS IN THE CABRAMATTA ELECTORATE—Mr Nick Lalich asked the Minister for Ageing, and Minister for Disability Services—

How many full-time and part-time carers operate in the electorate of Cabramatta?

Answer—

Ageing Disability and Home Care (ADHC) does not collate data on employment by electorate.

ADHC do not hold data on carer workforce from non-government organisations (NGOs).

*1523 CABRAMATTA FIRE STATION—Mr Nick Lalich asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

(1) What is the proposed finishing date of the new Cabramatta Fire Station?

(2) Has the adverse weather created any delay?

Answer—

Fire & Rescue NSW has advised me that the new Cabramatta Fire Station is scheduled for completion in November 2012. The project is currently ahead of schedule and this timetable should not be affected by any adverse weather.

*1524 CANCER SERVICES IN THE HUNTER—Dr Andrew McDonald asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

With regards to cancer services in the Hunter:

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- (1) When was the Hunter cancer report commissioned?
- (2) Who were the principal authors?
- (3) What did the report cost?
- (4) When was the Report received by HNE LHD?
- (5) When was this report made public?
- (6) What plans does the Minister have to address the issues raised?
- (7) In what time frame?

Answer—

(1) to (7) The member is referred to the response to Legislative Assembly Written Question No 1482.

*1525 BUDGET POSITION OF NSW HEALTH—Dr Andrew McDonald asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

- (1) What is the budget position for NSW Health as of 31 December 2011?
- (2) Is this under or over the allocated budget?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) and (2) NSW Health is on-budget as of 31 December 2011.

*1526 HOSPITAL BEDS IN THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL WESTMEAD—Dr Andrew McDonald asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

Of the 507 Hospital Beds opened between 1 July 2010 and 22 November 2011 (Written Question 1316):

- (1) How many of these beds were at The Children's Hospital Westmead?
- (2) What type of beds are they? (i.e. acute/subacute/other).
- (3) In which unit(s) are these beds located?
- (4) At what date were they first made available for patient care?
- (5) Are these beds funded by COAG or by the NSW Government?
- (6) How many beds were/are available at The Children's Hospital Westmead on:
 - (a) 1 July 2010;
 - (b) 22 November 2011;
 - (c) 31 January 2012?
- (7) How many additional beds are planned to be opened at The Children's Hospital Westmead by 30 June 2012?

Answer—

(1) to (7) The 2010-11 NSW Health Annual Report contains more comprehensive reporting of beds than in previous years, with specific categories for ED beds; other hospital beds; other beds including Hospital in the Home and Residential/Community Aged Care and Respite Beds; and treatment spaces, which include bassinets, transit lounges, same day therapy/dialysis. This is found on page 216.

Bed numbers also appear on the Federal Government's "My Hospital" website.

A fact sheet on hospital beds is located on the NSW Health website at

http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/resources/minister/pdf/facts_about_hospital_beds.pdf.

*1527 GLEN INNES RESEARCH AND ADVISORY STATION—Mr Richard Torbay asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Small Business—

- (1) When will the vacant Manager's position at the Glen Innes Research and Advisory Station be filled?
- (2) With staff numbers and projects at the Glen Innes Research and Advisory Station continuing to decline, what steps will the NSW Government take to ensure the future viability of this facility?
- (3) Will the Genetic Improvement of Beef Cattle for Green House Gas Outcomes project continue to be based at the Glen Innes Research and Advisory Station and if not, why not?
- (4) What future projects will be based at the Glen Innes Research and Advisory Station?
- (5) What steps are being taken to establish new projects at the Glen Innes Research and Advisory Station?
- (6) With at least seven vacant offices in the Glen Innes Research and Advisory Station why were approaches from two Government funded projects (Rural Financial Counseling Service and Regional Landcare Facilitator) to rent space in the premises not negotiated by the Department of Primary Industries?

- (7) Will the Department of Primary Industries consider a reduction in rent to encourage utilisation of the vacant office space?
- (8) Why has the White Clover Breeding Program at the Glen Innes Research and Advisory Station been stalled for the past four years despite an overseas partner willing to be involved in the future commercialization of new clover varieties?

Answer—

- (1) In the next few months.
- (2) The Research and Advisory Station has a wide range of pasture and livestock research and extension projects with some funded until 2014.
- (3) The Genetic Improvement of Beef Cattle for Greenhouse Gas Outcomes is being transferred to Trangie Research Station but the Beef Cattle Muscling Selection and Animal Welfare project will be based at the Station. Relocation of the Greenhouse gas (GHG) herd will not compromise the project.
- (4) Projects to be based at the Station include:
- the above mentioned beef muscling project;
 - the development of better adapted perennial grasses for the inland northern slopes;
 - investigation of improved white clover cultivars for the Tableland areas of NSW; and
 - research into the adaptation and use of tropical grasses and legumes.
- (5) Research and extension personnel actively seek locally relevant research projects and additional external funds within the pasture and livestock sectors.
- (6) The department is willing to rent surplus accommodation space to appropriate organisations on a cost recovery basis.

The department offered office accommodation to the Regional Landcare Facilitator on a cost recovery basis in December 2011. The Regional Landcare Facilitator has not responded to the offer at this point in time.

- (7) The department is willing to rent surplus accommodation space to appropriate organisations on a cost recovery basis.
- (8) Discussions are occurring with MLA on commercialisation but these have been delayed by Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA,) a major partner, reassessing their research direction. A new white clover project is to be started this autumn.

*1528 HOSPITAL BEDS AT CALVARY MATER HOSPITAL—Dr Andrew McDonald asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

Of the 507 Hospital Beds opened between 1 July 2010 and 22 November 2011 (Written Question 1316):

- (1) How many of these beds were at Calvary Mater Hospital?
- (2) What type of beds are they? (i.e. acute/subacute/other).
- (3) In which unit(s) are these beds located?
- (4) At what date were they first made available for patient care?
- (5) Are these beds funded by COAG or by the NSW Government?
- (6) How many beds were/are available at Calvary Mater Hospital on:
- (a) 1 July 2010;
 - (b) 22 November 2011;
 - (c) 31 January 2012?
- (7) How many additional beds are planned to be opened at Calvary Mater Hospital by 30 June 2012?

Answer—

- (1) to (7) The 2010-11 NSW Health Annual Report contains more comprehensive reporting of beds than in previous years, with specific categories for ED beds; other hospital beds; other beds including Hospital in the Home and Residential/Community Aged Care and Respite Beds; and treatment spaces, which include bassinets, transit lounges, same day therapy/dialysis. This is found on page 216.

Bed numbers also appear on the Federal Government's "My Hospital" website.

A fact sheet on hospital beds is located on the NSW Health website at

http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/resources/minister/pdf/facts_about_hospital_beds.pdf.

*1529 CHILD DEATHS—Dr Andrew McDonald asked the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—

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Given the Child Deaths 2010 Annual Report showed that 139 of 589 children who died in 2010 were "known to DOCS", using the definition of a report being received about a child or his/her siblings in the previous three years, or who was in care at the time of death:

- (1) What was the child population of NSW in 2010?
- (2) How many, and what percent, of this population, were "known to DOCS" using the above definition?

Answer—

- (1) This information is available in the Population by Age and Sex, Estimated Resident Population by single year of age, New South Wales, published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics in 2010.
- (2) The definition of "known to DOCS" relates to deaths in any one year of these children (and their siblings) where the child was reported to Community Services over the previous three years.

This information is available in the Child Deaths 2010 Annual Report.

*1530 HOSPITAL BEDS IN LIVERPOOL HOSPITAL—Dr Andrew McDonald asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

Of the 507 Hospital Beds opened between 1 July 2010 and 22 November 2011 (Written Question On Notice 1316):

- (1) How many of these beds were at Liverpool Hospital?
- (2) What type of beds are they (i.e. acute/subacute/other)?
- (3) In which unit(s) are these beds located?
- (4) At what date were they first made available for patient care?
- (5) Are these beds funded by COAG or by the NSW Government?
- (6) How many beds were/are available at Liverpool Hospital on:
 - (a) 1 July 2010
 - (b) 22 November 2011
 - (c) 31 January 2012?

- (7) How many additional beds are planned to be opened at Liverpool Hospital by 30 June 2012?

Answer—

- (1) to (7) The 2010-11 NSW Health Annual Report contains more comprehensive reporting of beds than in previous years, with specific categories for ED beds; other hospital beds; other beds including Hospital in the Home and Residential/Community Aged Care and Respite Beds; and treatment spaces, which include bassinets, transit lounges, same day therapy/dialysis. This is found on page 216.

Bed numbers also appear on the Federal Government's "My Hospital" website.

A fact sheet on hospital beds is located on the NSW Health website at

http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/resources/minister/pdf/facts_about_hospital_beds.pdf.

*1531 REDFERN RAILWAY STATION—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Transport—

Following the response to Written Questions On Notice 12098/541, 7311/541, 7311/541, 0686/532 and 4670/531 about the long-awaited redevelopment of Redfern Railway Station, and noting that this station is the seventh busiest in the network but does not have disability access:

- (1) What community consultation was carried out in 2011; When will the approved station upgrade plans be public;
- (2) What action will be taken to provide disability access;
- (3) How will station capacity be expanded;
- (4) What pedestrian and bicycle access across the rail corridor will be provided;
- (5) How will links to precincts east and west of the railway lines be improved;
- (6) What public domain improvements will be included;
- (7) How will safety in the station precinct be improved;
- (8) How will the built, social and Indigenous heritage of the railway station precinct be protected;
- (9) What changes will be made to station entrance and concourse;
- (10) When will construction begin;
- (11) When will an accessible station be completed and in use?

Answer—

- (1) to (11) The Government is in the process of determining where future upgrades to stations will take place and Redfern Station will be considered as part of this review.

1532 WILD GOAT RACES—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

*1533 POLICE STATION PHONE SYSTEM AT WOLLONGONG—Mr Ryan Park asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

- (1) Will the NSW Police Force install a phone system at unmanned stations in the Wollongong Local Area Command that automatically redirects callers to the Wollongong Police Station?
- (2) If so, when will this change take place to improve the service to local residents?
- (3) If not, why not?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me that all of its facilities in the Wollongong Local Area Command are equipped with telephone diversion systems that redirect incoming calls to the Wollongong police station when stations are unattended. Eagle Phones at the stations also direct calls to the Wollongong police station.

*1534 MAGISTRATES EARLY REFERRAL INTO TREATMENT—Mr Ryan Park asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—

- (1) Are there any plans to expand the Magistrates Early Referral Into Treatment (MERIT) Program to include offenders under the age of 18?
- (2) If yes, can you detail these plans including the timing of when such a program will commence?
- (3) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

Currently, there are no plans to expand the MERIT program to include offenders under the age of 18. This is due to a number of factors including the issue of consent to treatment for children aged under 16, resource implications and the suitability of the MERIT program for young people.

*1535 INTERSECTION AT F6 AND OLD MOUNT OUSLEY ROAD—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—

Can you advise of any plans to improve the intersection of the F6 and Old Mount Ousley Road for traffic turning right from Old Mount Ousley Road onto the F6 (Mount Ousley Road)?

Answer—

I am advised:

At this stage, Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) has no plans to upgrade this intersection.

RMS will continue to monitor the existing traffic movements and characteristics at the intersection to determine what, if any, action would be required in the future.

*1536 PEDESTRIAN SAFETY IN THORNE STREET TORONTO—Mr Greg Piper asked the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—

Would traffic and pedestrian safety in Thorne Street, Toronto, be better served by encouraging vehicles to use The Boulevarde and discouraging the common use of Thorne Street as an arterial route?

Answer—

I am advised:

Lake Macquarie City Council is responsible for Thorne Street as it is a local road. Traffic management on Thorne Street is a council matter.

The council would need to undertake a traffic study if changes are proposed on Thorne Street, to assess any impacts on traffic on Cary Street (a State road).

Roads and Maritime Services is available to assist council if a study is undertaken.

*1537 PERMANENT TEACHER ALLOCATION IN SCHOOLS—Ms Carmel Tebbutt asked the Minister for Education—

At the commencement of the school year 2012, how many classes in NSW did not have a permanent teacher allocated and in which schools are these classes located?

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Answer—

There are a number of temporary teachers in NSW classrooms. This is not new. Where positions are not yet permanently filled principals engage suitable casual or temporary teachers.

Temporary or casual teachers may also be engaged when permanent teachers are on approved leave, including maternity leave, sick leave and leave without pay.

The Department of Education and Communities implements a year-round rolling staffing process to ensure that all NSW public schools are staffed with quality teachers.

*1538 DEMOUNTABLE BUILDINGS ON SCHOOL SITES—Ms Carmel Tebbutt asked the Minister for Education—

How will demountable buildings on school sites be replaced now that the Demountable Replacement program has been axed?

Answer—

Replacement of long-term demountable buildings with permanent facilities will be considered for inclusion in future Statewide major and minor capital works programs based on regional priorities.

*1539 DEMOUNTABLE SCHOOL BUILDINGS OVER 5 YEARS—Ms Carmel Tebbutt asked the Minister for Education—

Which Government schools in NSW have had demountable buildings for more than:

- (1) 5 years;
- (2) 10 years;
- (3) 15 years?

Answer—

(1) to (3) The Department of Education and Communities has advised that at the end of January 2012, there were 4549 demountable buildings located on school sites.

Demountable buildings are removed from, and installed at, schools according to accommodation need, based on changing enrolment patterns, among other factors.

To provide a detailed list of which NSW government schools have had demountable buildings for more than 5, 10 and 15 years would involve considerable time and the diversion of resources away from the core responsibilities of the Department that cannot be justified.

*1540 TOTAL AMOUNT OF DEMOUNTABLE BUILDINGS IN NSW SCHOOLS—Ms Carmel Tebbutt asked the Minister for Education—

As at the end of January 2012, how many demountable buildings are there in NSW schools?

Answer—

At the end of January 2012, there were 4549 demountable buildings located on school sites.

*1541 WASTE AND ENVIRONMENT LEVY—Mr Richard Torbay asked the Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—

- (1) What is the Government's position on the future of the Waste and Environment Levy?
- (2) What is the cost of this levy to communities where it has been introduced?
- (3) Are there any plans to expand the Waste and Environment Levy to rural and regional areas?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

International consultancy firm KPMG has been commissioned to undertake an independent and comprehensive review into the operation of the Waste and Environment Levy.

The Government will carefully consider KPMG's recommendations on the future operation for the Levy in NSW.

Revenue from the Levy is detailed in the 2011-12 Budget.

*1542 MOTORWAY TRAFFIC LEVELS—Mr Richard Amery asked the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—

- (1) Has traffic volume on the M5 doubled over the past ten years?
- (2) Has there been a corresponding increase in the traffic volume for:
 - (a) The M4 Motorway
 - (b) The M2 Motorway?
- (3) In relation to the question above, what was the daily traffic flow for the M4 and M2 Motorway in the year 2001?
- (4) What was the daily traffic flow for the M4 and M2 during 2011?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Traffic volumes for the M5 South West Motorway were published in quarterly releases to the Australian Stock Exchange (ASX) by Macquarie Infrastructure Group until 2005, Sydney Roads Group in 2006 and Transurban since 2007.
- (2) (a) and (b) No. Each corridor is subject to differing growth factors.
- (3) Traffic volumes for the M4 Western Motorway were published in quarterly releases to the ASX by Macquarie Infrastructure Group until 2005, Sydney Roads Group in 2006 and Transurban since 2007. Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) annual average daily traffic data for the M4 Western Motorway is published on the RMS website.

Transurban have published the traffic volumes for the M2 in quarterly releases to the ASX since 2007. Previously the M2 was operated by a private company and traffic information was not published and is not available.

- (4) The average daily traffic count for the M4 in 2011 was 93,155 at Homebush. Transurban have published the traffic volumes for the M2 in quarterly releases to the ASX since 2007.

*1543 HOSPITALITY COURSES AT CESSNOCK TAFE AND KURRI KURRI TAFE—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Education—

With regard to the subject area of Hospitality at Cessnock TAFE and Kurri Kurri TAFE:

- (1) What courses were offered for delivery in 2012 at Cessnock TAFE?
- (2) What were the opening/closing dates for enrolments in these courses at Cessnock TAFE?
- (3) As a result of enrolments at Cessnock TAFE, what courses are proceeding?
- (4) What are the student numbers in each of the courses that are proceeding at Cessnock TAFE?
- (5) What were the enrolment numbers in each of the courses that will not proceed at Cessnock TAFE?
- (6) Are any of the courses offered duplicated by both Cessnock TAFE and Kurri Kurri TAFE?

Answer—

- (1) The courses offered for delivery in 2012 at Cessnock TAFE are:
 - (a) Certificate II in Health Support Services;
 - (b) Certificate II Hospitality (Kitchen Operations);
 - (c) Certificate III in Events;
 - (d) Certificate III Hospitality (Commercial Cookery) to Non-Trade students;
 - (e) Certificate IV in Hospitality;
 - (f) Statement of Attainment Food Safety Supervisor;
 - (g) Statement of Attainment Responsible Conduct of Gambling;
 - (h) Statement of Attainment Responsible Service of Alcohol;
 - (i) Statement of Attainment Introduction to Cake Decorating;
 - (j) Statement of Attainment Intermediate Cake Decorating.
- (2) Enrolments opened on 6 November and closed on 10 February 2012 for all Certificate qualifications. Enrolments opened on 12 January 2012 for all commercial Statements of Attainment and will close 3 business days prior to the advertised course start date on the Institute's website.
- (3) No Certificate qualifications are proceeding in 2012. Enrolments remain open for all Statements of Attainment advertised.
- (4) Nil student enrolments for Certificate qualifications. Enrolments for Statements of Attainment remain open and will be delivered if sufficient demand exists.
- (5) The enrolment numbers for each course not proceeding include:
 - (a) 0 enrolments - Certificate II in Health Support Services;
 - (b) 7 enrolments - Certificate II Hospitality (Kitchen Operations);

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- (c) 0 enrolments - Certificate III in Events;
 - (d) 0 enrolments - Certificate III Hospitality (Commercial Cookery);
 - (e) 0 enrolments - Certificate IV in Hospitality.
- (6) Five courses offered were duplicated at both Cessnock and Kurri Kurri TAFE. They include:
- (a) Certificate III in Events;
 - (b) Certificate III Hospitality (Commercial Cookery)
 - Cessnock - non-trade students,
 - Kurri Kurri - trade (apprentice) students;
 - (c) Statement of Attainment Food Safety Supervisor;
 - (d) Statement of Attainment Responsible Conduct of Gambling;
 - (e) Statement of Attainment Responsible Service of Alcohol.

*1544 MAITLAND HOSPITAL AND SECURITY STAFFING—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

With regard to Maitland Hospital and security staffing:

- (1) What is the minimum security presence/detail in any 24hr period?
- (2) Are some or any of the Security staff also employed at the hospital as orderly/ward staff?
- (3) Have there been any security breaches or significant security related incidents during February 2012?
- (4) What actions have been taken to ensure security of the Maitland Hospital?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) There are three shifts over a 24 hour period. Current rostering provides for two security licensed staff on each shift.
- (2) Health and Security Assistants and Security Officers are employed at Maitland Hospital. The Health and Security Assistant role under the Public Hospital (State Award) incorporates ward functions.
- (3) No security breaches or significant security related incidents have occurred during February 2012.
- (4) Security processes in place at Maitland Hospital include:
 - a deck phone system that is implemented throughout the facility, and which includes a phone communication and duress service.
 - Code Black procedures, a formal escalation process used to respond to aggression and other serious safety incidents, are in place at the facility.
 - a formal lock down procedure which is activated according to specific criteria outlined within facility policies.
 - a closed circuit television system, which covers a number of critical areas throughout the hospital and its grounds.

*1545 GREYHOUND RACING—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Tourism, Major Events, Hospitality and Racing, and Minister for the Arts—

With regard to greyhound racing in NSW:

- (1) Has a new governing body recently been appointed?
- (2) If so, what is the name of the new body?
- (3) If not:
 - (a) Will a new governing body soon be appointed?
 - (b) What will be the name of this new body?
 - (c) Who is/are responsible for the selection of this new body?
 - (d) (i) Has the person(s) responsible for the selection of the new body been recently involved in greyhound racing?
 - (ii) If so, in what capacity?
- (4) (a) Has the Minister travelled with any person(s) that has/will be appointed to the governing body?
 - (b) If so, for each person, what were the dates of travel, the destination and purpose of each trip?

Answer—

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Greyhound Racing NSW.
- (3)
 - (a) See (1) above.
 - (b) See (2) above.

- (c) A selection panel appointed by the Minister, assisted by a probity adviser.
 (d) (i) Yes, Professor Percy Allan AM and Mr Richard Zammit.
 (ii) Professor Allan is the outgoing chairperson of Greyhound Racing NSW. Mr Zammit is a member and former president of the NSW National Coursing Association, a former vice-president of the Australian Greyhound Racing Association and a former member of Greyhound Racing NSW.

- (4) (a) No.
 (b) See (4) (a) above.

*1546 PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT BREACHES IN PRISONS—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—

In the past 12 months, how many breaches of professional conduct related to intimate contact between staff-prisoners have there been at:

- (1) Parklea Prison;
- (2) Junee Prison;
- (3) All other State run Corrective Services Prisons?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Three investigations into suspected breaches of professional conduct arising from improper personal relationships between staff and inmates at Parklea Correctional Centre were conducted in the period in question. In one matter, the investigation found no evidence to support an allegation of an improper personal relationship; in a second matter, the investigation resolved to monitor the placement of an officer and an inmate; while the third matter remains with the Corrective Services NSW Investigations Branch for formal investigation.
- (2) One investigation into a suspected improper personal relationship between a staff member and an inmate at Junee Correctional Centre was commenced, however the staff member resigned before the investigation could be finalised, and it was discontinued.
- (3) One suspected improper personal relationship between a staff member and an inmate has been investigated. This matter is currently subject to a disciplinary process.

*1547 HUNTER TAFE ELECTROTECHNOLOGY ELECTRICIAN COURSE—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Education—

With regard to the subject of Electrotechnology Electrician (Stages 1, 2 and 3) offered through Hunter TAFE:

- (1) Does Cessnock or Kurri Kurri TAFE have the physical capacity to deliver this course?
- (2) Does Cessnock or Kurri Kurri TAFE have the human resources to deliver this course?
- (3) How many students currently studying this course at either Glendale TAFE or Tighes Hill TAFE reside in postcodes of 2325, 2326 and 2327?

Answer—

- (1) No.
- (2) No.
- (3) The number of students currently studying this course at Glendale TAFE from the postcode of 2325 is 15 students; from the postcode of 2326 is 5 students and from the postcode of 2327 is 7 students.

The number of students currently studying this course at Tighes Hill TAFE from the postcode of 2325 is 12 students; from the postcode of 2326 is 1 student and from the postcode of 2327 is nil students.

*1548 TRANSPORT FOR SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS IN CESSNOCK—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Education—

With regard to the transport of special needs students at Cessnock High School:

- (1) Were 4 taxis offered for the daily transport of these students in 2011?
- (2) How many taxis are offered for the daily transport of these students in 2012?
- (3) Have the students transported in these taxis been late to school at any stage thus far in 2012? Have any students been required to travel in conditions or the company of other students, contrary to the express transport and travel needs prescribed by their condition?

Answer—

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- (1) Yes.
- (2) Four taxis are currently engaged to provide assisted school travel services for students attending Cessnock High School in 2012.
- (3) There were 3 days where 1 taxi with 3 students was late arriving at school.
- Students are allocated to runs according to their individual travel support needs, and adjustments are sometimes made to best suit their circumstances. For the 3 students on this particular run, an adjustment was made to better meet their particular travel requirements.
- *1549 LOCAL ART AND CULTURAL EVENT SPONSORSHIP—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Tourism, Major Events, Hospitality and Racing, and Minister for the Arts—
- What capacity is there within the Ministry to offer support and sponsorship of local art and cultural events and how would an interested community group apply for this funding?
- Answer—
- The Government's Art Funding Program, provides funding opportunities to support the arts and cultural organisations in NSW on an annual basis. Information on funding opportunities can be found under the 'Funding and Support' section of the Arts NSW website www.arts.nsw.gov.au
- Applications for projects taking place in 2012 closed in June 2011. Applications for the 2013 Arts Funding Program will open in early 2012 and will be made available on the Arts NSW website.
- Destination NSW also offer support and sponsorship for cultural events. These can be found at the Destination NSW website www.destinationnsw.com.au
- *1550 SWEETWATER ACTION GROUP CAMPAIGN—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- How much money and how many hours of work have been expended by Legal Aid in pursuing the Sweetwater Action Group (SWAG) campaign to defeat the proposed Huntlee (nee Sweetwater) Development scheduled for North Rothbury/Branxton?
- Answer—
- I am advised:
- Legal Aid NSW approved two limited grants of aid totalling \$36,325 to the Environmental Defender's Office (EDO) to represent the Sweetwater Action Group in legal proceedings. The work was carried out by the EDO and not by Legal Aid NSW.
- *1551 HYDRO ALUMINIUM—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Minister for Resources and Energy, Special Minister of State, and Minister for the Central Coast—
- With regard to the financial difficulties being experienced by Hydro Aluminium in Kurri Kurri:
- (1) When did you last meet with representatives of Hydro?
- (2) Which of the currently Government owned and run Power Stations has the capacity to provide the electricity necessary to run Hydro Kurri Kurri?
- (3) Are you aware that a long term decision on the future of the plant to remain open, or, to shut down with the loss of 550 jobs is imminent?
- (4) What steps are you taking to prevent the complete shutdown of this facility?
- Answer—
- (1) I met with representatives of Hydro last year.
- (2) This information is commercial in confidence.
- (3) and (4) The Government has been kept informed of developments by the company and by the relevant generating companies and is providing assistance when it is requested.
- *1552 CAMPSIE FIRE STATION—Ms Linda Burney asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- Does the NSW Government have plans to close Campsie Fire Station and other stations across NSW?
- Answer—
- Fire & Rescue NSW has advised me that there are no plans to close Campsie Fire Station.
- *1553 NOISE BARRIER IN RIVERWOOD—Mr Robert Furolo asked the Minister for Transport—

With regards to the noise barrier in William Road, Riverwood:

- (1) Is the Minister aware that my constituent, Ms Lesley Roberts, was given an assurance in writing by a representative of the Kingsgrove to Revesby Quadruplication project that a 2.5 metre high noise wall would be installed?
- (2) Is the Minister aware that contrary to the written advice a 1 metre wall was constructed?
- (3) Does the Minister think that this is an acceptable practice?
- (4) What will the Minister do to ensure that what was promised to my constituent is delivered?
- (5) When will the noise wall be fixed so that it is 2.5 metres high as promised?

Answer—

- (1) to (5) I am advised that Ms Roberts was mistakenly advised by a member of the Kingsgrove to Revesby Quadruplication Alliance project team that the noise barrier at her property would be 2.5 metres high. While this is regrettable, I understand Ms Roberts was advised of the correct height in subsequent correspondence.

Construction of the Kingsgrove to Revesby Quadruplication Project is ongoing. Once the project is operational, noise levels will be monitored to ensure the noise goals outlined in the project's Operational Noise and Vibration Review are being met. If the noise levels exceed the criteria outlined, further noise mitigation measures will be considered.

*1554 FREIGHT TRAIN NOISE IN BELMORE—Mr Robert Furolo asked the Minister for Transport—

With regards to the noise from freight trains in Paxton Avenue, Belmore:

- (1) Is the Minister aware that noise monitoring reports conducted by RailCorp show that noise levels generated from freight trains regularly exceed the Government's own standards?
- (2) In light of this, can the Minister give an update on what progress has been made in providing noise attenuation measures for my constituents who have been affected by ongoing freight noise?
- (3) Has the Belmore area been identified for the Noise Abatement Program?
- (4) If so, when will this work be completed?
- (5) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised that despite Mr Furolo's letters to previous Transport Ministers on March 25 2009, 19 May 2009 and 9 September 2010, no action was taken by the previous Government except to request noise monitoring in January 2011, almost two years later.

The Government recognises that freight moved by rail plays an important role in supporting the NSW economy, reducing the number of trucks on our road, and improving the movement of goods and services.

We will continue to work with stakeholders to minimise the impact of rail noise on the community.

*1555 ACCIDENT SITE ON PACIFIC HIGHWAY AT URUNGA—Mr Robert Furolo asked the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—

With regards to the Pacific Highway at Urunga and the accident that occurred there on 8 January 2012:

- (1) What alternative road safety treatments were installed following the deactivation/ removal of the speed cameras at this site?
- (2) How many accidents were reported within 500 metres of the site following the deactivation/ removal of the speed camera?
- (3) How many accidents were reported within 500 metres of the site following the reactivation of the speed camera?
- (4) What advice did you or your office receive from the Roads and Maritime Services or the Centre for Road Safety about the site where this speed camera was removed?
- (5) What action was taken following receipt of this advice?
- (6) Given that it has been reported that alcohol appears to be a factor in the accident, what plans are there to reinforce the "don't drink and drive" message and improve safer driving practices?

Answer—

- (1) Since the deactivation of the speed camera at Urunga, the speed camera location has been thoroughly reviewed and investigated by the Centre for Road Safety, TfNSW, to identify residual safety risks and alternative treatments.

Safety works at Urunga, as recommended by the safety review, have been accelerated and commenced early this year because of the high community concern. The works include the reactivation of the speed

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camera to "warning mode", undertaking a speed zone review, updating the signage and markings on approaches to Urunga, and updating advisory signage throughout the review length of road.

A detailed assessment was carried out by the Centre for Road Safety to determine the suitability of point-to-point enforcement for heavy vehicles along a longer stretch of the Pacific Highway around Urunga. The assessment looked at the crash history and speed compliance in the area and the results showed point-to-point enforcement would be beneficial between Valla (Oyster Creek) and north of Urunga on the Pacific Highway. The point-to-point cameras will be installed by Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) by September 2012.

(2) and (3) I am advised that the requested data are not available as the Centre for Road Safety crash data base for recent periods is incomplete, owing to the general 6 to 9 months required to finalise information from police investigations.

(4) The Centre for Road Safety, TfNSW, in collaboration with Roads and Maritime Services, NSW Police Force, NRMA Motoring & Services and local government have formed an inspection team led by an independent accredited lead safety auditor to conduct a safety review of the decommissioned fixed speed camera location at Pacific Highway, Urunga. The inspection team also met with the local community to listen to their concerns.

I am advised that significant road improvement works were previously completed in this area addressing some of the road safety concerns. Continuing road work is expected to further improve the safety of the Pacific Highway near Urunga and that the safety review length is programmed to be bypassed within the next few years.

The Centre for Road Safety developed a program of works for Urunga, which are being implemented and are detailed in the response to question (1).

(5) I have approved the proposed safety works arising from the Centre's review of the Urunga camera location and the works have been accelerated and commenced in January 2012.

I also approved that the speed camera at Pacific Highway Urunga be switched back to "warning mode" in January 2012 whilst monitoring the effectiveness of the alternative road safety measures.

(6) I am advised that road safety marketing campaigns are an integral component of the government's approach to addressing drink driving.

I am also advised that in and around the Urunga area on the Pacific Highway, Roads and Maritime Services is putting in place visual message signs to promote road safety messages relating to speed, drink driving and seatbelt use. Radio advertising will be rolled out in the area in the last three months of 2011-12 financial year to reinforce drink driving messages and permanent breathalysers are installed at various venues in the area to raise awareness and provide a way for patrons to check their blood to alcohol levels.

Further, in partnership with the NSW Police Force, Transport for NSW funds the Enhanced Enforcement Program. This program enhances the level of visible police enforcement activity over and above normal operating requirements and targets road user behaviour known to contribute to road trauma. An Enhanced Enforcement operation called "National Route One" is planned from March to June 2012 for the whole Pacific Highway which will target speed, drink driving, occupant restraints and fatigue. This will see an additional police presence in targeted locations. This operation will be supported by local media advertising. The Coffs-Clarence Local Area Command, where Urunga is situated, will also be running an operation called "Coffs Roads" to target speed, alcohol and restraints.

*1556 NATURAL DISASTER RELIEF PROGRAM FUNDING APPLICATION—Mr Robert Furolo asked the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—

With regards to the Greater Taree City Council's application for funding under the Natural Disaster Relief Program for floods that occurred in June 2011:

- (1) What is the value of repairs to roads, bridges and other infrastructure that was applied for?
- (2) How much has been approved for payment to the Council as of 1 February 2012?
- (3) What will be the total amount approved and paid to the Council for the repair of roads, bridges and other infrastructure for this flood event?
- (4) When will payments be finalised?
- (5) What representations has the Minister received on this issue?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) \$19.1 million.
- (2) \$1.82 million.
- (3) The total amount approved and paid to council will be dependent on the outcomes of geotechnical investigations and the designs required for the more significant items. Based on council estimates, it is expected that the total amount eligible for Natural Disaster funding assistance will be approximately \$10 million to \$11 million.
- (4) As soon as possible.
- (5) Representations have been received from the Member for Myall Lakes along with members of the local community.

*1557 REPORT ON SPEED CAMERAS—Mr Robert Furolo asked the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—

With regards to the Auditor General's report Improving road safety: Speed cameras, released in 2011:

- (1) What progress is being made on implementing the recommendation that by March 2012, an overarching strategy is developed for speed cameras incorporating all camera types which:
 - (a) Includes criteria to determine the appropriate camera type for each road with a high safety risk;
 - (b) Prioritises potential sites based on death or serious injury;
 - (c) Defines how the effectiveness of each camera type will be assessed, including the analysis timeframe, and key performance indicators on vehicle speed, infringements, and crash severity;
 - (d) Includes its new focus on reducing speed across the network, as well as at specific locations?
- (2) What progress is being made on implementing the recommendation that by December 2011 existing site locations are annually reviewed to check if the speed cameras are still appropriate?
- (3) What progress is being made on implementing the recommendation that by September 2011:
 - (a) An assessment is made of the crash impact of existing fixed cameras for a minimum of five years post installation;
 - (b) Where there has been no significant impact consider an alternative camera site and other road safety treatments for that site?
- (4) What progress is being made on implementing the recommendation that by March 2012 the effectiveness of individual speed cameras should be annually monitored?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) (a) to (d) The NSW Centre for Road Safety is developing an overarching speed camera strategy incorporating all components of the NSW Auditor-General's recommendation. This strategy will be developed by the end of March 2012. An initial stakeholder consultation workshop was held in December to discuss key stakeholders' issues to be considered in the strategy.
- (2) A re-analysis of all fixed speed camera locations using five years of data has been completed.
- (3) (a) In September 2011 the NSW Centre for Road Safety completed a re-analysis of all speed camera locations using five years of data.
 - (b) Safety reviews and community engagement activities have been completed at the 38 locations where fixed speed cameras were deactivated. The review findings are currently being finalised and a proposed program of works will be developed by the end of March 2012.
- (4) The initial analysis of speed cameras was completed in March 2011 and it is proposed to repeat the analysis in March 2012, with results published in June 2012, as per the Auditor-General's recommendation to annually publicise trends in crashes, revenue and speeding or infringement data for each speed camera. This will provide a consistent annual comparison for fixed speed cameras.

*1558 REMOVAL OF 38 SPEED CAMERAS—Mr Robert Furolo asked the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—

With regards to the decision to switch off and/or remove 38 speed cameras in NSW:

- (1) How many accidents have occurred within 500 metres of sites where cameras have been switched off and/or removed, since July 2011?
- (2) How many injuries have been recorded from accidents that have occurred within 500 metres of sites where cameras have been switched off and/or removed, since July 2011?
- (3) How many fatalities have been recorded from accidents that have occurred within 500 metres of sites where cameras have been switched off and/or removed, since July 2011?
- (4) Of the 38 sites where speed cameras were switched off and/or removed, how many of these sites have had alternative safety measures implemented?
- (5) If alternative safety measures have been implemented at any of the 38 sites, what are the safety

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measures that have been implemented at each of the sites?

- (6) Of those that have not had safety measures implemented, how many accidents have occurred within 500 metres of the site since the cameras were switched off and/or removed?
- (7) Of those that have not had safety measures implemented, how many fatalities and injuries have been recorded from accidents within 500 metres of the site since the cameras were switched off and/or removed?
- (8) Will all 38 sites where speed cameras have been switched off and/or removed have alternative safety measures implemented?
- (9) When will all 38 sites where speed cameras have been switched off and/or removed have alternative measures implemented?

Answer—

(1), (2) and (6) I am advised that the requested data are not available as the Centre for Road Safety crash data base for recent periods is incomplete, owing to the general 6 to 9 months required to finalise information from police investigations.

(3) I am advised by the Centre for Road Safety that there have been no fatalities recorded within 500 metres of either side of the fixed speed camera where cameras have been switched off and/or removed since July 2011.

(4) I refer you to my answer in the Legislative Council on 15 March 2012.

(5) Police presence at these locations has been occurring as part of enhanced enforcement program operations on the major routes the cameras were located on. The NSW Government has long stated its preference for visible marked highway patrol cars.

Major works and road upgrades have been completed at Coolac, Alstonville, Tarcutta, Banora Point, Herons Creek, Bundagen.

At four sites (Epping, Gymea, Clunes and Urunga) the fixed speed cameras are operating in warning mode due to community concerns.

Implementation of additional safety works at decommissioned speed camera sites at Urunga and Clunes have commenced.

(7) I refer you to my response to question (1) to (4).

(8) Yes.

(9) I am advised that the findings of safety inspections and community engagement activities will be reported and a program of works for all locations will be developed by the end of March 2012.

Due to high community concerns, some locations have had their additional safety works accelerated. I am advised that four speed cameras have already been switched back to warning mode (Epping, Gymea, Urunga and Clunes) and the safety works for Urunga and Clunes have also been approved and commenced.

Roads and Maritime Services and local councils will be responsible for delivery of safety works.

*1559 NORTHERN BEACHES HOSPITAL PATIENT ADMISSION—Dr Andrew McDonald asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

As of 1 February 2012, what is the estimated date of the first patient admission to the planned Northern Beaches Hospital?

Answer—

I am advised:

Planning is currently underway and information on the project scope and timeframe will be provided once formal budget allocations have been provided and the project progresses.

*1560 BEGA BASE HOSPITAL—Dr Andrew McDonald asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

(1) With regards to Bega base Hospital:

(2) How many beds were available as of 30th June 2011?

(3) How many of these beds were:

- (a) Acute adult inpatient (excluding Obstetrics/Psychiatry/Emergency)?
- (b) Non-acute inpatient?
- (c) In total?

- (4) What was the total expenditure for the year 2010-11?
- (5) What is the allocated budget for 2011-12?
- (6) What capital expenditure was allocated in 2010-11?
- (7) What capital expenditure is planned for 2011-12?
- (8) What new services were commenced in 2010-11?
- (9) Are any services being opened in 2011-12?
- (10) Were any services closed or transferred in 2010-11?
- (11) Are any services planned for closure in 2011-12?
- (12) How many staff were employed as of 30th June 2011 in:
 - (a) Nursing?
 - (b) Medical?
 - (c) Allied health?
 - (d) In total?
- (13) How many separations were there in 2010-11?
- (14) How many Emergency Department attendances were there in 2010-11?

Answer—

The Member is referred to the responses to Written Question Nos 940 and 944 in the Legislative Council.

*1561 EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT WAITING TIMES WEBSITE—Dr Andrew McDonald asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

With regards to the Emergency Department waiting times website:

- (1) How many "hits" were recorded on the website in:
 - (a) July 2011;
 - (b) August 2011;
 - (c) September 2011;
 - (d) October 2011;
 - (e) November 2011;
 - (f) December 2011;
 - (g) January 2012?
- (2) On what date was the "average waiting time" (based on historical data) component of the site removed from display?
- (3) On whose direction?
- (4) Is there an estimate of the total cost to NSW Health of the site to date?
- (5) What is the annual cost of this website?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) (a) to (g) Between 4 July 2011 to January 2012 there were a total of 33,377 visits to the RTED website, as recorded by Google Analytics

(2) and (3) All changes to the website were subjected to formal change management processes and approved by the Project Steering Committee and executive sponsor of the project (Deputy Director General, Health System Quality, Performance and Innovation).

(4) The website development costs came out of the existing budget of the Health System Quality, Performance and Innovation Division.

(5) There has been no ongoing cost, as support has been provided utilising existing resources within Health Support Services and the Ministry's Web Support Services Unit.

*1562 MANDATORY WINDOW SAFETY DEVICES—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Fair Trading—

In reference to the decision by the Australian Building Codes Board to introduce mandatory window safety devices May 2013 in new homes and apartments with windows more than two metres above the ground:

- (1) Will you now amend the Residential Tenancies Act 2010 and the Strata Schemes Management Act 1996 to keep children and families in older buildings safe by making window safety devices mandatory?
- (2) If not, why not?

Answer—

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NSW Fair Trading advises me that:

- (1) The NSW Government is currently considering its response to the recommendations of the report from The Children's Hospital at Westmead Working Party for the Prevention of Children Falling from Buildings.
- (2) Please refer to the above response.

*1563 WARATAH TRAINS ON BANKSTOWN LINE—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Transport—
When will Waratah train carriages commence operation on the Bankstown line?

Answer—

I am advised:

The deployment of Waratah trains is not defined by a specific line, but operational sectors.

*1564 DEMOUNTABLE REPLACEMENT FUNDING—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Education—

Given your Government's decision to end the Demountable Replacement Program what funding, if any, will be available for schools to replace old demountables?

Answer—

Replacement of long-term demountable buildings with permanent facilities will be considered for inclusion in future State wide major and minor capital works programs based on regional priorities.

*1565 DEMOUNTABLE CLASSROOMS IN BANKSTOWN ELECTORATE—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Education—

How many schools in the Electorate of Bankstown have demountable classrooms?

Answer—

There are 11 schools in the Bankstown electorate with demountable classrooms.

*1567 CLOSURE OF PARAMATTA AND LIVERPOOL CTTT OFFICES—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Fair Trading—

- (1) What role did your office take in the decision to close the Parramatta and Liverpool Offices of the Consumer, Trader and Tenancy Tribunal?
- (2) What advice did your office receive regarding the impact of this decision on the availability of CTTT services in Western Sydney?

Answer—

- (1) The Treasurer's Office played no role in the decision to close the Consumer, Trader and Tenancy Tribunal's Parramatta office. The NSW Government never had plans to close the Tribunal's Liverpool office.
- (2) Not applicable.

*1568 SCHOOL ZONE FINES—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—

- (1) Why were motorists fined for driving in School Zones above the School Zone limit (but below the normal limit) on Friday 27 January when the school term had not yet commenced?
- (2) Will you commit to refunding fines and removing penalty points for anybody driving at the appropriate limit, as posted, during this time?
- (3) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) School zones were in operation on Friday 27 January 2012 as this date was a gazetted school day. RMS used a wide range of media to make the public aware of this. Flashing lights were operating on this day, including all school zones with a fixed speed camera.

School zones operate on all gazetted school days because not all motorists will know if the school they are driving past is having a school development day or if students are at school. Government schools are obliged to accept students who may attend school on school development days and advice from the Department of Education and Communities is that these days may not be consistent across all schools. There may also be schools within the one school zone that have different holiday

times. Aligning school zone operation dates with gazetted school days ensures consistency across NSW.

(2) and (3) No, as this date was a gazetted school day.

*1569 STRATA COMMUNITY AUSTRALIA NSW MEETINGS—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Fair Trading—

(1) What meetings has your office had with Strata Community Australia NSW?

(2) What was the outcome of these meetings?

(3) Will you commit to publicly releasing the details of any correspondence, teleconferences or future meetings with Strata Community Australia NSW?

Answer—

(1) My staff and I meet regularly with various stakeholders on a range of issues.

(2) An understanding of the Strata Community Australian (NSW), its membership and its policy priorities over the coming 12 months.

(3) All meetings are conducted in compliance with the Code of Conduct.

*1570 STRATA TITLE ASSOCIATION NSW—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Fair Trading—

Are any of the Minister's Staff former employees of the organisation now known Strata Community Australia NSW, previously known as the Strata Title Association NSW?

Answer—

No.

*1571 TRACING AMMUNITION SALES—Mr Greg Piper asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

With regard to the Firearms Amendment (Ammunition Control) Bill 2012:

(1) How is the ammunition to be traced, once purchased, if a licensed shooter were to sell or give the ammunition criminals and it was used in a crime?

(2) How would ammunition be traced back to its source if used in a crime?

(3) How will the details of ammunition purchases be kept from falling into criminals' hands and subsequently resulting in further firearms theft?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me:

(1) and (2) The aim of the proposed legislation is to ensure that sales of ammunition from licensed dealers are recorded. That provision may assist police in criminal investigations, whereas in the past, no such avenue to commence inquiries existed. Further inquiries relating to the on-selling of ammunition by the original purchaser would require disclosure from that purchaser.

(3) Any system developed as a result of the proposed legislation will contain security measures consistent with the sensitivity of the information contained within it. The existing provisions of section 45 of the Firearms Act 1996 require that a similar register is kept for firearms transactions. The security requirements for both registers will be detailed as per the current guidelines issued to dealers by the NSW Police Force, which can be viewed on the Police website at

www.police.nsw.gov.au/services/firearms/sale_storage.

*1572 CARERS IN THE FAIRFIELD ELECTORATE—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Ageing, and Minister for Disability Services—

How many full-time and part-time carers operate in the Fairfield electorate?

Answer—

Ageing Disability and Home Care (ADHC) does not collate data on employment by electorate.

ADHC do not hold data on carer workforce from non-government organisations (NGOs).

*1573 DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING TRANSFERS IN FAIRFIELD—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—

In the last 6-month period ending 31 January 2012, how many Department of Housing tenant transfers in the Fairfield GW10 area were transfers originating from outside the GW10 catchment area?

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Answer—

I am advised that several Housing NSW tenants transferred from outside the Fairfield GW10 area.

*1574 POLICE NUMBERS FOR FAIRFIELD LOCAL AREA COMMAND—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

- (1) What is the recommended "authorised strength" police personnel numbers for the Fairfield Local Area Command?
- (2) How has the number of operational police officers in the Fairfield Local Area Command changed in the last 6 months?
- (3) For how many weeks, if any, in the six-month period ending 31 January 2012, did Fairfield Local Area Command operate with "actual strength" police numbers, below their "authorised strength" operational police figures?
- (4) Can the Minister detail what plans the Government has to close any disparity between "actual strength" police numbers and "authorised strength" police numbers at Fairfield Local Area Command?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me:

- (1) to (4) Information about police numbers - both authorised and actual strength - is available on the NSW Police website: www.police.nsw.gov.au

*1575 DEMOUNTABLE SCHOOL BUILDINGS IN FAIRFIELD—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Education—

- (1) Which Fairfield Schools use demountable buildings to teach students?
- (2) What is the range in age of the demountables located in each of those schools?
- (3) Now that the Government has scrapped the School Demountables Replacement program are there any provisions/program that will be made available to schools to replace old demountables?

Answer—

- (1) The following schools use demountable buildings to teach students:

- Chester Hill High School
- Fairfield Heights Public School
- Fairfield High School
- Fairfield Public School
- Fairvale High School
- Fairvale Public School
- Guildford West Public School
- Verona School
- Villawood East Public School
- Villawood North Public School
- Westfields Sports High School

- (2) Demountable buildings are removed from, and installed at, schools according to accommodation need, based on changing enrolment patterns, among other factors. The current demountable classrooms on schools sites in the Fairfield Electorate were placed at various times from 1995 to 2011. Demountable classrooms are refurbished prior to placement and maintained to provide teaching spaces which are consistent with contemporary educational requirements.

To provide a detailed list of the range in ages of the demountable classrooms located on each of the school sites listed above would involve considerable time and the diversion of resources away from the core responsibilities of the Department of Education and Communities that cannot be justified.

- (3) Each region prioritises their major and minor capital works according to the needs of their region. Projects to replace demountables in schools will be considered by each region as part of this prioritisation process. Replacement of long-term demountable buildings with permanent facilities will be considered for inclusion in future State wide major and minor capital works programs based on the regional priorities.

*1576 FAIRFIELD TRANSPORT INTERCHANGE PROJECT—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Transport—

Has the Government made progress in the planning or delivery of the Fairfield Transport Interchange

project?

Answer—

The Interchange Program is being reviewed to ensure the appropriate prioritisation and alignment of work and associated funding. The NSW Government wants to ensure upgrade works are determined from an evidence based criteria and where they are most needed. Progress has been made in this area and Fairfield Interchange is being assessed and reviewed.

*1577 **ROUNDBOUT UPGRADE AT CUMBERLAND HIGHWAY AND POLDING STREET**—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Transport—

Has the Government made progress on their \$3 million election promise to upgrade the roundabout at the intersection of the Cumberland Highway and Polding Street?

Answer—

Yes.

*1578 **ASSISTED SCHOOL TRAVEL PROGRAM**—Mr Guy Zangari asked the Minister for Education—

- (1) How many school students with a disability, in the Fairfield Electorate, were affected by the cancellation and failure to tender of the Assisted School Travel Program?
- (2) What provisions were made available to students affected by the failure to send out contracts for the delivery of transport services under the Assisted School Travel Program?

Answer—

- (1) No students who attend schools in the Fairfield electorate were affected.
- (2) To assist families affected by the delays in allocating travel assistance at the beginning of Term 1, the Department of Education and Communities coordinated with its regional offices to arrange temporary travel support. Temporary arrangements were put in place based upon the individual needs for each student. To further assist parents, I directed the Department to establish a Parent Emergency Hotline. The Parent Emergency Hotline commenced operation on 6 February 2012 and has been operating every day to provide parents with emergency assistance.

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*1579 **HOUSING NSW WAITING TIMES**—Mr Ryan Park asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Services, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) What was the average waiting time between the reporting of maintenance issues to Housing NSW and case closure in the 2011 calendar year?
- (2) What was the average waiting time in the 2010 calendar year?
- (3) What was the average waiting time in the 2009 calendar year?

Answer—

- (1) In 2011, an average of 89.4% of responsive work orders were completed and closed on time under the NSW Land & Housing Corporation maintenance contract.
- (2) In 2010, an average of 87.14% of responsive work orders were completed and closed on time under the NSW Land & Housing Corporation maintenance contract.
- (3) In 2009, an average of 85.27% of responsive work orders were completed and closed on time under the NSW Land & Housing Corporation maintenance contract.

*1580 **ILLAWARRA GOVERNMENT CO-ORDINATION GROUP**—Mr Ryan Park asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Services, and Minister for the Illawarra—

In relation to the new Illawarra Government Co-ordination Group:

- (1) When will nominations be open?
- (2) When will they close?
- (3) What are the terms of reference for this group?
- (4) When will they first meet?

Answer—

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On 11 February the Minister for the Illawarra announced the establishment of the Illawarra Government Co-ordination Group for the Illawarra community, businesses and public sector agencies to provide a direct community link and a place to put forward ideas to government.

The Illawarra Government Co-ordination Group includes meetings between the Minister for the Illawarra and regional senior managers of public sector agencies and also includes the establishment of a new Illawarra Community Advisory Panel which will be chaired by the Minister.

The Illawarra Community Advisory Panel (ICAP) was announced on 20 February to seek 'grass roots' information about how the NSW Government can work with the Illawarra community to advance community interest and improve services and infrastructure.

- (1) Applications for the ICAP opened on 20 February 2012.
- (2) Applications for the ICAP closed 9 March 2012.
- (3) Terms of Reference can be found on the Department of Premier and Cabinet Website.
- (4) The ICAP will meet in late April.

*1581 COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER GROUPS—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—

Which community groups and stakeholder groups have you met with in your portfolio areas for the periods:

- (a) 1 July 2011 to 30 December 2011;
- (b) 1 January 2012 to date?

Answer—

I have met with a variety of community groups and stakeholders about issues relevant to my portfolio areas.

*1582 TRAIN STATION STAFFING NUMBERS—Mr Ryan Park asked the Minister for Transport—

- (1) Are there currently any plans to reduce staffing numbers for the following train stations:
 - (a) Fairy Meadow;
 - (b) Towradgi;
 - (c) Corrimal;
 - (d) Bellambi;
 - (e) Woonona;
 - (f) Bulli?
- (2) If there are planned reductions:
 - (a) Will staff be relocated to other areas?
 - (b) How will security for passengers be assured?
 - (c) Where will any financial savings made from this plan be redirected?
- (3) When will this decision be made available to the wider public?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) No.
- (2) n/a
- (3) n/a

*1583 BURRINJUCK DAM ELECTRICITY GENERATION—Mr Richard Amery asked the Minister for Resources and Energy, Special Minister of State, and Minister for the Central Coast—

- (1) How much hydro electricity is currently produced from generators on the Burrinjuck Dam?
- (2) Are all generators in working order?
- (3) Have any of the generators been decommissioned?
- (4) When did electricity generation reach its peak at this facility?
- (5) How does the level referred to in (4) above compare to the current situation?
- (6) Are there any plans to increase electricity generation from Burrinjuck Dam in the future?

Answer—

- (1) The generation of the station for calendar year 2011 was 58,380 MWh.
- (2) and (3) Station 1 was decommissioned in 1974. Station units 2, 3 and 4 have been generating as State Water releases and operating restrictions allow.

- (4) December 2011.
- (5) Generation is dependent on releases by the State Water Corporation.
- (6) No increases in large unit capacity are anticipated.
- *1584 LIVERPOOL COUNCIL CHAMBERS FIRE INVESTIGATION—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- What is the status of the investigation into the fire at Liverpool Council Chambers that destroyed those Chambers?
- Answer—
- The NSW Police Force has advised me that this matter remains a current police investigation and it would not be appropriate to provide further details.
- *1585 DEPARTMENTAL MEETING WITH JOSEPH SANT—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Minister for Education—
- Will the Minister authorise a meeting by departmental representatives with Mr Joseph Sant of Jardine Road, Edmonson Park concerning a proposed claim for loss of profits under s59(f) of the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991?
- Answer—
- I am advised that Mr Sant has instructed legal counsel in relation to lodging a claim for compensation. In the circumstances it would not be appropriate for Department of Education and Communities officers to meet with Mr Sant in relation to this matter.
- *1586 UTILISATION OF ACTING JUDGES IN DISTRICT COURTS—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- Has the Attorney General or his department issued any direction not to utilise or to reduce utilisation of acting judges in the District Court for the financial year ending 30 June 2012?
- Answer—
- I am advised:
- No such direction has been issued.
- *1587 NSW TRUSTEE AND GUARDIAN—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- Do you propose to reply to the letter to you dated 14 February 2012 from Sandra Headland concerning the NSW Trustee and Guardian and Paul Adrian Ingham?
- Answer—
- I am advised:
- A reply to this letter was sent on 6 March 2012. Further advice from the NSW Trustee and Guardian will be sent to Ms Headland as a matter of priority.
- *1588 INMATE BUY-UP SERVICES—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- (1) Are private contractors who provide inmate buy-up (consumable purchasing) services to various corrective centres being replaced?
- (2) If so, by which agency are they being replaced?
- (3) What cost/benefit analysis has been done of this change?
- Answer—
- I am advised:
- (1) Yes.
- (2) External contractors are being replaced by Corrective Services Industries, which will be providing an in-house Grocery and Activity Buy-Up Service to Corrective Services NSW (CSNSW). New correctional centres commissioned after 2003 already receive an in-house buy-up service; while the roll-out to other correctional centres commenced in 2009 and is expected to be completed in mid-2012.

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- (3) The transfer to an in-house buy-up system was based on a security analysis, however a cost analysis has confirmed that inmates will receive product at generally lower pricing; product pricing (based on a generic buy-up list) will be the same for correctional centres throughout the state; and, based on a full cost recovery model, savings will be realised for CSNSW in terms of staff resources required to provide the buy-up service.

*1589 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION IN HUNTERS HILL—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Services, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) Has a development application been lodged in respect of state owned land in Nelson Parade, Hunters Hill?
 (2) If so:
 (a) When was it lodged?
 (b) Where may it be inspected?
 (3) If not, why not?

Answer—

- (1) to (3) The State Property Authority has instructed its environmental consultants to finalise the planning application for lodgement with the Department of Planning and Infrastructure.

The application will include the ANSTO testing procedures to identify and separate any hazardous material.

The planning submission will be exhibited publicly as part of the approval process.

*1590 ACTING JUDGES IN DISTRICT COURTS—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—

- (1) How many acting judges have been retained in the District Court in the following periods:
 (a) 1 July 2010 to 31 December 2010;
 (b) 1 January 2011 to 30 June 2011;
 (c) 1 July 2011 to 31 December 2011;
 (d) 1 January 2012 to 20 February 2012?
 (2) How much expenditure was made on acting judges in the District Court in the following periods:
 (a) 1 July 2010 to 31 December 2010;
 (b) 1 January 2010 to 30 June 2011;
 (c) 1 July 2011 to 31 December 2011;
 (d) 1 January 2012 to 20 February 2012?
 (3) What expenditure is projected to be spent by the Government on acting judges in the District Court for the period 21 February 2012 to 30 June 2012?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Acting judges, including those acting in the Drug Court and the Dust Diseases Tribunal (DDT) were retained as follows:
 (a) 16
 (b) 16
 (c) 22
 (d) 20
 (2) Expenditure for acting District Court judges, including the Drug Court and the DDT was as follows:
 (a) In the six months to 31 December 2010 - \$394,140.
 (b) In the 18 months to 30 June 2011 - \$1,106,560.
 (c) In the six months to 31 December 2011 - \$897,810.
 (d) From 1 January 2012 to 16 February 2012 (the pay date closest to 20 February 2012) - \$27,450.
 (3) Acting judges are used to cover sick leave and extended leave and it is therefore not possible to accurately provide a projection of spending.

*1591 CONSUMER, TRADER AND TENANCY TRIBUNAL REGISTRY OFFICE—LIVERPOOL—Mr Paul Lynch asked the Minister for Fair Trading—

Will you close the Consumer, Trader and Tenancy Tribunal registry office at Liverpool during the term of this Parliament?

Answer—

No.

*1592 POWER BLACKOUTS—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Resources and Energy, Special Minister of State, and Minister for the Central Coast—

- (1) Has the Government given permission to energy companies to allow more power blackouts as part of a strategy to reign in electricity prices?
- (2) If so, when will the blackouts begin and where?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) No.

*1593 DEDICATED OFF ROAD CYCLEWAYS IN THE HUNTER—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—

- (1) What steps are the Government taking to increase a network of dedicated off-road cycleways in the Hunter and therefore reduce car use on Hunter roads?
- (2) What are the details and how much funding will be provided for the project?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) is currently assisting Newcastle City Council with the development of Regional Cycle Route R6, which has been identified as a council and community priority.

Route R6 is 11 kilometres long and includes on-road and off-road cycleways from Newcastle West to Wallsend in the western suburbs. The route passes along Newcastle Harbour foreshore, through Honeysuckle, Wickham, Newcastle TAFE at Tighes Hill and through suburbs of Mayfield, Waratah, Waratah West, Callaghan (Newcastle University), Jesmond and Wallsend.

- (2) During 2011-12, \$275,000 has been allocated to install traffic control signals for the Throsby Creek section's crossing of Hannell Street, Wickham. This was identified by both council and bicycle user groups as a high priority. At present, pedestrians and cyclists have to cross four lanes of traffic on Hannell Street, and these traffic control signals will improve safety for path users.

Also on R6, RMS is investigating with Newcastle City Council and the Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC) the feasibility of an off-road cycleway within the rail corridor at Mayfield West.

During 2011-12, RMS has also allocated \$100,000 towards investigations into an Adamstown to Lake Macquarie route and the extension of the Fernleigh Track from Belmont to Marks Point.

RMS will continue to work with councils in the development and implementation of bicycle networks.

*1594 CAR USE ON HUNTER ROADS—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—

What steps are the Government taking to reduce car use on Hunter roads?

Answer—

The Government continues to improve public transport following 16 years of under-investment by the previous Government.

The Government recently delivered an additional 20,000 seats a week on trains servicing Newcastle and the Hunter.

*1595 SPEED CAMERAS IN THE HUNTER—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—

- (1) How many new fixed speed cameras will be located in the Hunter and where will they be located?
- (2) When will they be installed?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) The Government has no plans for any new fixed speed cameras in the Hunter region?

*1596 GRAFFITI IN NEWCASTLE AND LAKE MACQUARIE CITY COUNCIL AREAS—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—

- (1) What funds were allocated to Newcastle City Council and Lake Macquarie City Council in the last financial year to help reduce graffiti?

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- (2) What steps are being taken to apprehend the culprits?
(3) What funds have been allocated this financial year?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (3) In the 2010-11 financial year, Newcastle City Council received \$149,137 and Lake Macquarie City Council received \$84,600 under the Graffiti Hotspot Grants Program.

No additional funding was provided to these councils in the 2011-12 financial year as the funding provided in 2010-11 has not yet been fully expended.

The apprehension of offenders falls within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for Police and Emergency Services. Members of the public can report crimes by calling the Police Assistance Line. Also, Lake Macquarie is one of the locations in which the Graffiti Offender Education Program "De-Tag" is available for the court to refer juveniles who are known graffiti offenders. The program is funded by my Department and is being implemented by the NSW Police Community Youth Clubs around NSW.

*1597 NURSES IN THE HUNTER—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

- (1) What methods are the Government using to attract local nurses back to work in Hunter hospitals?
(2) Will prospective nurses be forced to pay for a compulsory refresher course?
(3) How much will the course cost?
(4) Will this be available as a low interest loan?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) With the increased nursing staff levels arising from the new Nursing Hours Award, a range of strategies have been employed to attract nurses and midwives back to work in Hunter hospitals, including:

- A broad scale print and electronic media advertising campaign for nurses and midwives in mid 2011.
- Promotion of nursing and midwifery opportunities by attending expos and conferences, such as the Royal College of Nursing Expo.
- Participation in NSW Health's Overseas Recruitment Campaign, successfully recruiting nurses from Ireland.
- Targeted strategies for recruitment of specific classifications of nurses, successfully increasing the number of registered nurse positions by 10% between 2011 and 2012.
- Offering cadetships to increase the number of Aboriginal nurses and midwives.
- Successful participation in a Statewide Scholarship Program for Nurses to re-enter the workforce after being out of nursing for 5-10 years.

(2) to (4) There is no such program as a compulsory refresher course offered by the NSW public health system.

NSW Health offers the Nursing Re-Connect initiative to assist and support currently registered nurses and midwives re-join the workforce. Re-Connect is available to nurses who have not practiced for 1-5 years and is provided at no cost to the individual. Information about Re-connect is available at

<http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/nursing/employment/reconnect.asp>

Nurses who have been away from their profession for 5-10 years and do not meet the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia's recency of practice standard are required to complete a Board approved re-entry to nursing program in order to regain their registration.

The Government recently announced 60 \$10,000 scholarships over 2 years to cover the cost of nurses undertaking a re-entry program. Information about re-entry scholarships is available at

<http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/nursing/scholarships>

*1598 HUNTER WATER—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Services, and Minister for the Illawarra—

Why has the Government allowed Hunter Water to allocate expensive repair bills to property owners in the Hunter?

Answer—

Hunter Water remains responsible for its wastewater assets and the customer remains responsible for their private services, including sewer inspection shafts. There has been no shift of responsibility in relation to sewer maintenance and repairs, however in cases of genuine hardship, Hunter Water will continue to exercise discretion and contribute to the repair of a damaged sewer inspection shaft.

*1599 PATIENT LIAISON OFFICERS AT JOHN HUNTER HOSPITAL—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

- (1) How many patient liaison officers are currently at the John Hunter Hospital?
- (2) Are there any plans to increase this number?
- (3) If so, when?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) One Full Time Equivalent Patient Advisor, Customer Service Unit.
- (2) and (3) No.

*1600 AGREEMENT BETWEEN NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY AND NAVITAS—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Education—

What business or contractual agreement exists between the University of Newcastle and Navitas, the operators of the Newcastle International College?

Answer—

Business or contractual agreements between NSW universities and partner institutions are matters for the governing body of each university.

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(Paper No. 69)

1601 MEDIAN STRIP AND CORRIDOR MAINTENANCE IN BLACKTOWN—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—

*1602 MANLY HOSPITAL BEDS—Dr Andrew McDonald asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

Of the 507 hospital beds opened between 1 July 2010 and 22 November 2011 (Written Question 1316):

- (1) How many of those beds were at Manly Hospital?
- (2) What type of beds were they (i.e. acute/subacute/other)?
- (3) In which unit(s) were those beds located?
- (4) At what date were they first made available for patient care?
- (5) Were those beds funded by COAG or by the NSW Government?
- (6) How many beds were/are available at Manly Hospital on:
 - (a) 1 July 2010;
 - (b) 22 November 2011;
 - (c) 31 January 2012?
- (7) How many additional beds are planned to be opened at Manly Hospital by 30 June 2012?

Answer—

- (1) to (7) Bed numbers are reported on NSW Health's "Your Health Service" website at <http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/hospitals/search.asp>

They also appear on the Commonwealth's "My Hospital" website.

In addition, the 2010-11 NSW Health Annual Report contains more comprehensive reporting of beds than in previous years, with specific categories for ED beds; other hospital beds; other beds including Hospital in the Home and Residential/Community Aged Care and Respite Beds; and treatment spaces, which include bassinets, transit lounges, same day therapy/dialysis. This is found on page 216.

Finally, a fact sheet on hospital beds is located on the NSW Health website at

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http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/resources/minister/pdf/facts_about_hospital_beds.pdf

*1603 RYDE HOSPITAL BEDS AND SERVICES—Dr Andrew McDonald asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

With regards to Ryde Hospital:

- (1) How many beds were available as of 30 June 2011?
- (2) How many of these beds were:
 - (a) acute adult inpatient (excluding obstetrics/psychiatry/emergency);
 - (b) non-acute inpatient;
 - (c) in total?
- (3) What was the total expenditure for the year 2010 to 2011?
- (4) What is the allocated budget for 2011 to 2012?
- (5) What capital expenditure was allocated in 2010 to 2011?
- (6) What capital expenditure is planned for 2011 to 2012?
- (7) What new services were commenced in 2010 to 2011?
- (8) Are any new services being opened in 2011 to 2012?
- (9) Were any services closed or transferred in 2010 to 2011?
- (10) Are any services planned for closure in 2011 to 2012?
- (11) How many staff were employed as of 30 June 2011 in:
 - (a) nursing;
 - (b) medical;
 - (c) allied health;
 - (d) in total?
- (12) How many separations were there in 2010 to 2011?
- (13) How many non-admitted patient services were there in 2010 to 2011?
- (14) How many Emergency Department attendances were there in 2010 to 2011?

Answer—

I refer the Member to responses to Written Questions 940 and 975 in the Legislative Council.

1604 HOUSING NSW MAINTENANCE CALLS—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—

1605 CHILDCARE SERVICES IN KEIRA ELECTORATE—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Education—

*1606 HOSPITAL BEDS AT ST VINCENT'S HOSPITAL—Dr Andrew McDonald asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

Of the 507 hospital beds opened between 1 July 2010 and 22 November 2011 (Written Question 1316):

- (1) How many of those beds were at St Vincent's Hospital?
- (2) What type of beds were they (i.e. acute/subacute/other)?
- (3) In which unit(s) were those beds located?
- (4) At what date were they first made available for patient care?
- (5) Were those beds funded by COAG or by the NSW Government?
- (6) How many beds were/are available at St Vincent's Hospital on:
 - (a) 1 July 2010;
 - (b) 24 March 2011;
 - (c) 22 November 2011;
 - (d) 31 January 2012?
- (7) How many additional beds are planned to be opened at St Vincent's Hospital by 30 June 2012?

Answer—

- (1) to (7) The 2010-11 NSW Health Annual Report contains more comprehensive reporting of beds than in previous years, with specific categories for ED beds; other hospital beds; other beds including Hospital in the Home and Residential/Community Aged Care and Respite Beds; and treatment spaces, which include bassinets, transit lounges, same day therapy/dialysis. This is found on page 216.

Bed numbers also appear on the Federal Government's "My Hospital" website.

A fact sheet on hospital beds is located on the NSW Health website at

http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/resources/minister/pdf/facts_about_hospital_beds.pdf

*1607 HOSPITAL BEDS IN NEPEAN HOSPITAL—Dr Andrew McDonald asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

Of the 507 hospital beds opened between 1 July 2010 and 22 November 2011 (Written Question 1316):

- (1) How many of those beds were at Nepean Hospital?
- (2) What type of beds were they (i.e. acute/subacute/other)?
- (3) In which unit(s) were those beds located?
- (4) At what date were they first made available for patient care?
- (5) Were those beds funded by COAG or by the NSW Government?
- (6) How many beds were/are available at Nepean Hospital on:
 - (a) 1 July 2010;
 - (b) 24 March 2011;
 - (c) 22 November 2011;
 - (d) 31 January 2012?
- (7) How many additional beds are planned to be opened at Nepean Hospital by 30 June 2012?

Answer—

- (1) to (7) The 2010-11 NSW Health Annual Report contains more comprehensive reporting of beds than in previous years, with specific categories for ED beds; other hospital beds; other beds including Hospital in the Home and Residential/Community Aged Care and Respite Beds; and treatment spaces, which include bassinets, transit lounges, same day therapy/dialysis. This is found on page 216.

Bed numbers also appear on the Federal Government's "My Hospital" website.

A fact sheet on hospital beds is located on the NSW Health website at

http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/resources/minister/pdf/facts_about_hospital_beds.pdf

*1608 HOSPITAL BEDS FUNDING—Dr Andrew McDonald asked the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

Of the 152 beds that have been opened by the NSW Government since the March 2011 election, of which 25 were NSW Government funded (Sydney Morning Herald 23 December 2011):

- (1) In which hospitals are these beds located?
- (2) Which are the 25 that are NSW Government funded?
- (3) Which are the 127 that are Commonwealth Government funded?

Answer—

- (1) to (3) The 2010-11 NSW Health Annual Report contains more comprehensive reporting of beds than in previous years, with specific categories for ED beds; other hospital beds; other beds including Hospital in the Home and Residential/Community Aged Care and Respite Beds; and treatment spaces, which include bassinets, transit lounges, same day therapy/dialysis. This is found on page 216.

Bed numbers also appear on the Federal Government's "My Hospital" website.

A fact sheet on hospital beds is located on the NSW Health website at

http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/resources/minister/pdf/facts_about_hospital_beds.pdf

23 FEBRUARY 2012

(Paper No. 70)

1609 REPORTS BY CONSULTANTS—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

1610 OUTSTANDING CREDITORS OF NSW HEALTH—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

1611 HOUSING NSW MAINTENANCE—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Services, and Minister for the Illawarra—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
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- 1612 PARTY BUSES—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Tourism, Major Events, Hospitality and Racing, and Minister for the Arts—
- 1613 INNER CITY POLICING—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- 1614 BALCONY SAFETY—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Fair Trading—
- 1615 INFORMATION COMMISSIONER REPORTS—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- 1616 DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Education—
- *1617 311 BUS SERVICE—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Transport—
- (1) What are the monthly patronage numbers for this bus service since August 2011?
 - (2) What patterns does State Transit report in patronage since changes were introduced in March 2011?
 - (3) What patronage has been reported for the taxi shopper service introduced for Billyard Avenue, Ithaca Road and Onslow Avenue Elizabeth Bay residents unable to get to mainstream public transport since March 2011?
 - (4) What assessment has the Government made of the impact of removing the 311 terminus from Circular Quay, particularly for less mobile passengers?
 - (5) What options has the Government considered for allowing 311 passengers to alight at Circular Quay with buses parked in Gresham Street?
 - (6) What other options could improve access to Circular Quay for 311 passengers?
 - (7) What changes have been made to the 311 bus service since September 2011?
 - (8) What plans does the Government have for improving the 311 bus service, including running to timetable and access to Circular Quay?
- Answer—
- I am advised:
- (1) Monthly patronage figures reported by State Transit Authority for route 311 since August 2011 (not including SSTS program) are:
September 2011 - 48,928
October 2011 - 49,557
November 2011 - 52,152
December 2011 - 47,643
January 2012 - 48,358
 - (2) After previous declines in patronage, annual patronage increased from approximately 582,000 boardings in 2010 to 590,000 in 2011.
 - (3) Since March 2011, 92 trips have been provided under this scheme as administered by Kings Cross Community and Information Centre.
 - (4) This will be considered as part of the CBD Access Study.
 - (5) See response to question (4).
 - (6) Passengers wishing to travel to Circular Quay rather than Gresham Street may transfer to any of the frequent bus services operating along Elizabeth Street. Otherwise, they could walk 200 metres from Gresham Street to Circular Quay.
 - (7) No changes have been made since September 2011.
 - (8) See response to question (4).
- 1618 SKILLS TRAINING IN THE NORTHERN BEACHES—Ms Carmel Tebbutt to ask the Minister for Education—
- 1619 SCHOOL BANK ACCOUNTS—Ms Carmel Tebbutt to ask the Minister for Education—
- 1620 SCHOOL CERTIFICATE FUNDS—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Minister for Education—
- 1621 HAZARD REDUCTION BURNING—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Small Business—
- 1622 CESSNOCK GAOL—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—

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- 1623 GLENDALE POLICE STATION—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- 1624 KURRI KURRI POLICE STATION—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- *1625 HYDRO ALUMINIUM KURRI KURRI—Mr Clayton Barr asked the Premier, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- With regard to Hydro Aluminium Kurri Kurri:
- (1) Have you ever given an undertaking or commitment to the Management of Hydro that you would ensure an electricity contract?
- (2) In what form or context was that commitment delivered?
- Answer—
- I am advised that Hydro has received an offer of a long-term electricity sales contract from Macquarie Generation. Macquarie Generation is awaiting Hydro's response to its offer.
- 1626 WATER INFRASTRUCTURE—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Services, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 1627 CLEANING STAFFING HOURS IN NULKABA PRIMARY SCHOOL—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Minister for Education—
- 1628 SEAFORTH TAFE—Ms Carmel Tebbutt to ask the Minister for Education—
- 1629 MONTHLY AVERAGE HOSPITAL OCCUPANCY RATES—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- 1630 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION FOR WASTE CLEANUP—Mrs Barbara Perry to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Services, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 1631 WASTE SEPARATION AND STORAGE—Mrs Barbara Perry to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Services, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 1632 REMOVAL OF WASTE FROM NELSON PARADE—Mrs Barbara Perry to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Services, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 1633 SUPERVISION OF CHILDREN AT PUBLIC FACILITIES—Mrs Barbara Perry to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—
- 1634 FACS NOTIFICATION OF CHILDREN WITHOUT PARENTAL SUPERVISION—Mrs Barbara Perry to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—
- 1635 JUSTICES OF THE PEACE—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- 1636 BANKSTOWN LOCAL AREA COMMAND—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- 1637 MANDATORY WINDOW SAFETY DEVICES—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Fair Trading—
- 1638 VOLUNTEERING IN 2012—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Citizenship and Communities, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—
- 1639 BANKSTOWN HOSPITAL UPGRADES AND MAINTENANCE WORKS—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- *1640 FOSTER CARER'S ALLOWANCE—Ms Tania Mihailuk asked the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—
- (1) Why did the Minister overturn the reduction in the Foster Carer's Allowance?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
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- (2) Will the Minister apologise to foster parents who have experienced unnecessary heartache?
Answer—
- (1) This Government is working to better support adolescents in out-of-home care, including through supporting young people to finish school and training to improve their prospects after care.
(2) Only real reforms like the Teenage Education Payment can improve services and outcomes for vulnerable children, young people and families.
- 1641 PARRAMATTA CONSUMER TRADER AND TENANCY TRIBUNAL—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Fair Trading—
- 1642 SMOKING PROHIBITION IN PUBLIC PLACES—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- 1643 HEALTHY LIFESTYLES PRIORITIES—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Healthy Lifestyles, and Minister for Western New South Wales—
- 1644 CONSUMER, TRADER AND TENANCY TRIBUNAL OFFICE CLOSURES—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Fair Trading—
- 1645 SUPERVISION OF CHILDREN AT PUBLIC FACILITIES—Mrs Barbara Perry to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

6 MARCH 2012

(Paper No. 71)

- 1646 MOUNT DRUITT COMMAND—AUTHORISED STRENGTH—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- 1647 RESURFACING OF CONCRETE ROADS—Mr Robert Furolo to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—
- 1648 WALLSEND DEMOUNTABLE SCHOOL BUILDINGS—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Education—
- 1649 STAFFING AT TRAIN STATIONS—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Transport—
- 1650 HUNTER PUBLIC TRANSPORT OUTCOMES—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Transport—
- 1651 REMOVAL OF SPEED CAMERAS IN HUNTER—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—
- 1652 ASSISTED SCHOOL TRAVEL PROGRAM IN WALLSEND—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Education—
- 1653 SCHOOL CANTEEN SUPERVISORS IN WALLSEND—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Education—
- 1654 CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES SUPPORT—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—
- *1655 CENTRAL COAST EXPRESS SERVICES—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Transport—
When will the express train services from Sydney to the Central Coast commence?
Answer—
Transport for NSW is currently undertaking a wholesale review and re-write of the CityRail timetable.
- *1656 GAS AND ELECTRICITY PRICES—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Resources and Energy, Special Minister of State, and Minister for the Central Coast—
(1) Over the next 5 years:

- (a) will gas bills double;
 (b) will electricity prices continue to increase above CPI increases?
 (2) If not, how much will gas and electricity prices rise over the next five years?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) The AEMC has published its report, Future Possible Retail Electricity Price Movements: 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2013, and is available on the AEMC website at www.aemc.gov.au. This report includes predictions on the future price of electricity in NSW.

Price rises from 1 July 2012 are largely expected to be as a result of Federal Labor's Carbon Tax and the Renewable Energy Target, both of which NSW Labor have publically expressed its support.

- 1657 FULL TIME CUSTODY PRISONERS—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- 1658 ESCAPES AND INCORRECT RELEASES FROM JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTRES—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- 1659 DETENTION IN JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTRES—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- 1660 BAIL ACT REVIEW—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- 1661 BUSINESS LINK VOLUNTARY REDUNDANCIES—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—
- 1662 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO GARARD PTY LTD—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Treasurer—
- 1663 GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE TO GARARD PTY—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Premier, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 1664 AUSTRAL PUBLIC SCHOOL FENCING—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Minister for Education—
- 1665 POLICE FORCE EQUIPMENT PURCHASES—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- 1666 WAGGA WAGGA HOSPITAL BEDS—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- 1667 SICK RELIEF AT WESTMEAD HOSPITAL—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- 1668 NOISE ABATEMENT IN CASULA—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Transport—
- 1669 SCHOOL ZONE FLASHING LIGHTS—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—

7 MARCH 2012

(Paper No. 72)

- 1670 DISCONNECTION OF ELECTRICITY SUPPLY—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Resources and Energy, Special Minister of State, and Minister for the Central Coast—
- 1671 REGIONAL RELOCATION GRANTS—Mr Michael Daley to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Services, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 1672 WARATAH BONDS—Mr Michael Daley to ask the Treasurer—
- 1673 RANDWICK CITY COUNCIL GRANT—Mr Michael Daley to ask the Treasurer—
- 1674 NEW LIFE NSW CAMPAIGN—Mr Michael Daley to ask the Treasurer—

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- 1675 MAROUBRA BEACH DROWNING—Mr Michael Daley to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- 1676 MALABAR POLICE STATION SITE—Mr Michael Daley to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- 1677 PORT BOTANY STEVEDORES—Mr Michael Daley to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—
- 1678 GOSFORD HOSPITAL BEDS—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- 1679 SHOALHAVEN DISTRICT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- 1680 MANNING BASE HOSPITAL (TAREE)—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- 1681 NSW PAIN MANAGEMENT PLAN—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- 1682 SOCIAL HOUSING APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—
- 1683 MOORE PARK PEDESTRIAN ROUTES—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—
- 1684 LAND CLEARING—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—
- 1685 HOUSING NSW MAINTENANCE ORDER CANCELLATIONS—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Services, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 1686 SUN PROTECTION IN NSW SCHOOLS—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Education—
- 1687 ILLAWARRA REGIONAL INFORMATION SERVICE—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Trade and Investment, and Minister for Regional Infrastructure and Services—
- 1688 APPOINTMENTS TO ABORIGINAL HOUSING OFFICE—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—
- 1689 KANWAL PUBLIC SCHOOL DEMOUNTABLE CLASSROOMS—Ms Carmel Tebbutt to ask the Minister for Education—
- 1690 LITERACY AND NUMERACY ACTION PLAN—Ms Carmel Tebbutt to ask the Minister for Education—
- 1691 ASSISTED STUDENT TRANSPORT SCHEME—Ms Carmel Tebbutt to ask the Minister for Education—
- 1692 NATIONAL ART SCHOOL—Ms Carmel Tebbutt to ask the Minister for Education—
- 1693 INNER WEST LIGHT RAIL CORRIDOR SOIL TESTING—Ms Carmel Tebbutt to ask the Minister for Transport—

8 MARCH 2012

(Paper No. 73)

- 1694 HEART SURGERY IN WESTERN SYDNEY—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- 1695 PRISONER WORK CREWS—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—

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- 1696 POLICE STATION OPERATING CRITERIA—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- 1697 SPORT AND RECREATION FACILITY GRANT PROGRAM APPLICANTS—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Minister for Sport and Recreation—
- 1698 COMMUNITY HOUSING PROVIDERS AND ASSETS—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—
- 1699 FUNDING FOR FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRAMS—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—
- 1700 VISIONCARE NSW—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—
- 1701 GREEN SLIP PRICES—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Services, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 1702 HUNTER VALLEY RESEARCH FOUNDATION—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- 1703 HYDRO ALUMINIUM—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Premier, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 1704 SPORTING FACILITIES GRANTS—Ms Linda Burney to ask the Minister for Sport and Recreation—
- 1705 RYDE CITY COUNCIL LEP—Ms Linda Burney to ask the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Infrastructure NSW—
- 1706 BELMONT HOSPITAL—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- 1707 FAIRFIELD HOSPITAL—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- 1708 KEMPSEY HOSPITAL BEDS—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- 1709 SUPPORT FOR LOCAL CHARITABLE ORGANISATIONS—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—
- 1710 BANKSTOWN AND CAMPSIE LOCAL AREA COMMAND—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- 1711 POLICE RESOURCES IN BANKSTOWN LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- 1712 NSW VOLUNTEERING STRATEGY—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Citizenship and Communities, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—
- 1713 M5 ROAD TOLLS—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—
- 1714 PARSON'S REVIEW—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- 1715 BANKSTOWN TRAIN STATION UPGRADE—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Transport—
- 1716 FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE TO QUICKSTEP—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Trade and Investment, and Minister for Regional Infrastructure and Services—
- 1717 THE PORTRAIT PROJECT—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Education—

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- 1718 PUBLIC HOUSING PROPERTIES—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—
- 1719 ILUKA GLADE—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—
- 1720 COAL SEAM GAS FRACKING IN THE ILLAWARRA—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Infrastructure NSW—
- 1721 GOVERNMENT INQUIRIES AND REVIEWS—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Premier, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 1722 FIREARM AMENDMENT (AMMUNITION CONTROL) BILL—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- 1723 GOVERNMENT PRESCHOOL ENROLMENT VACANCIES—Ms Carmel Tebbutt to ask the Minister for Education—
- 1724 NSW PUBLIC SCHOOL UPGRADE FUND—Ms Carmel Tebbutt to ask the Minister for Education—
- 1725 PRIORITY ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS AT FAIRFIELD—Mr Guy Zangari to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—
- 1726 FAIRFIELD SPORT AND RECREATION FUNDING—Mr Guy Zangari to ask the Minister for Sport and Recreation—
- 1727 OPERATION SPARTAN—Mr Guy Zangari to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- 1728 POLICE GRADUATES IN 2011—Mr Guy Zangari to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- 1729 POLICE GRADUATES IN 2012—Mr Guy Zangari to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- 1730 CANLEY VALE PUBLIC SCHOOL DEMOUNTABLE CLASSROOM—Mr Guy Zangari to ask the Minister for Education—
- 1731 NSW HEALTH MINISTRY DIRECTIVE—Mr Guy Zangari to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

13 MARCH 2012

(Paper No. 74)

- 1732 MOUNT DRUITT HOSPITAL DENTAL CT SCANNER—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- 1733 GLENDALE POLICE STATION—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- 1734 CARERS IN THE ELECTORATE OF WALLSEND—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—
- 1735 DAVID GONSKI REVIEW OF SCHOOL FUNDING—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Education—
- 1736 PATIENT LIAISON OFFICERS AT CALVARY MATER HOSPITAL—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

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- 1737 HUNTER STADIUM TRANSPORT—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Sport and Recreation—
- 1738 HUNTER VALLEY RESEARCH FOUNDATION FUNDING—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Trade and Investment, and Minister for Regional Infrastructure and Services—
- 1739 HUNTER RAIL STATIONS—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Transport—
- 1740 REGULATION NO. 596—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- 1741 NSW DENTAL TASKFORCE REPORT—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Healthy Lifestyles, and Minister for Western New South Wales—
- 1742 FELONY MURDER—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- 1743 ABOLITION OF STRIKWERDA PRINCIPLE—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- 1744 LICENSING OF SEX WORKERS AND BROTHELS—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- 1745 LEGAL AID—CIVIL LITIGATION SECTION—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- 1746 SPENDING ON LEGAL SERVICES—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- 1747 JAMES HARDIE FUNDING AGREEMENT—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- 1748 EMAIL FROM SAM EKERMAWI—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- 1749 NEW BEDS OPENED—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- 1750 SECURITY OFFICERS EMPLOYED BY NSW HEALTH—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- 1751 EMERGENCY WAITING TIMES WEBSITE—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- 1752 ASSURANCES TO SUBCONTRACTORS—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Services, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 1753 JOBS CREATED—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Premier, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 1754 CLIENT SERVICE OFFICER AND TEAM LEADER TRAINING—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—
- 1755 CONFUCIUS CLASSROOMS—Mr Jamie Parker to ask the Minister for Education—
- 1756 GLOVER STREET PLAYING FIELD DEVELOPMENT FUNDING—Mr Jamie Parker to ask the Minister for Sport and Recreation—
- 1757 MOBILITY PARKING SCHEME PERMITS—Mr Jamie Parker to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—

14 MARCH 2012

(Paper No. 75)

- 1758 IMAGING SERVICES IN PUBLIC HOSPITALS IN WESTERN SYDNEY—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

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- 1759 COOKS RIVER RAW SEWAGE—Ms Linda Burney to ask the Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—
- 1760 PREMIER'S EXPERT ADVISORY GROUP ON WOMEN—Ms Linda Burney to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—
- 1761 GOVERNMENT PRESCHOOL ENROLMENT VACANCIES IN THE HUNTER—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Education—
- 1762 JOB CREATION IN NEWCASTLE AND LAKE MACQUARIE—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- 1763 BEDS AND TREATMENT SPACES—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- 1764 AUSTRALIAN TERTIARY ADMISSION RANK—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Education—
- 1765 MOUNT DRUITT HOSPITAL—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

15 MARCH 2012

(Paper No. 76)

- 1766 MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING MACHINE—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- 1767 FIREARMS REGISTRY—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- 1768 PRISONER AND WEEKEND DETENTION WORK CREWS—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- 1769 BELLBIRD PUBLIC SCHOOL SECURITY FENCING—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Minister for Education—
- 1770 ATTENDANCES AT TAFE COLLEGES—TIGHES HILL AND GLENDALE—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Minister for Education—
- 1771 PATIENTS AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Healthy Lifestyles, and Minister for Western New South Wales—
- 1772 PLANNING DECISIONS BY LOCAL COUNCILS—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Infrastructure NSW—
- 1773 FUNDING FOR HUNTER VALLEY RESEARCH FOUNDATION—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Trade and Investment, and Minister for Regional Infrastructure and Services—
- 1774 2011-12 BUDGET—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Treasurer—
- 1775 INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY AWARDS—Ms Kristina Keneally to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—
- 1776 DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING OFFICES—STAFFING LEVELS—Mr Nick Lalich to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—
- 1777 DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING—FAIRFIELD—Mr Nick Lalich to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—
- 1778 ALLOCATION OF STAFF—Mr Nick Lalich to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—

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- 1779 FAIRFIELD DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING—BUDGET ALLOCATION—Mr Nick Lalich to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—
- 1780 ROLE OF PHARMACISTS—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Healthy Lifestyles, and Minister for Western New South Wales—
- 1781 ROLE OF PHARMACISTS—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- 1782 LICENSING OF SUBCONTRACTORS—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Fair Trading—
- 1783 RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES ACT 2010—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Fair Trading—
- 1784 M5 EAST WIDENING—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—
- 1785 HOUSING NSW MAINTENANCE ISSUES—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—
- 1786 CAP ON PUBLIC SECTOR PAY—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- 1787 MANAGING EXCESS EMPLOYEES POLICY—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Premier, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 1788 MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT—DUAL ROLES—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Premier, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 1789 FOODBANK—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—
- 1790 174 DOWLING STREET WOOLLOOMOOLOO—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Services, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 1791 GRAZING IN NATIONAL PARKS—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—
- 1792 INNER CITY HIGH SCHOOLS—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Education—
- 1793 UNPAID STRATA LEVIES FROM OVERSEAS INVESTORS—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Fair Trading—
- 1794 HOUSING PROVIDERS ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Services, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 1795 ULTIMO AND PYRMONT BUSES—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Transport—
- 1796 PROBLEM GAMBLING—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Tourism, Major Events, Hospitality and Racing, and Minister for the Arts—
- 1797 OVER ESTABLISHMENT TEACHERS—Ms Carmel Tebbutt to ask the Minister for Education—
- 1798 SCHOOLS PLACED ON RECESS—Ms Carmel Tebbutt to ask the Minister for Education—
- 1799 LOCAL SCHOOLS, LOCAL DECISIONS POLICY—FUNDING—Ms Carmel Tebbutt to ask the Minister for Education—
- 1800 LOCAL SCHOOLS, LOCAL DECISIONS POLICY—CLASS SIZES—Ms Carmel Tebbutt to ask the Minister for Education—
- 1801 CLOSURE OR AMALGAMATION OF SCHOOLS—Ms Carmel Tebbutt to ask the Minister for Education—
- 1802 SCHOOL CLOSURES OR PENDING CLOSURES—Ms Carmel Tebbutt to ask the Minister for Education—

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- 1803 PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM—Ms Carmel Tebbutt to ask the Minister for Education—
- 1804 CARRAMAR RAILWAY STATION STAFF—Mr Guy Zangari to ask the Minister for Transport—
- 1805 VILLAWOOD RAILWAY STATION STAFF—Mr Guy Zangari to ask the Minister for Transport—
- 1806 YENNORA RAILWAY STATION STAFF—Mr Guy Zangari to ask the Minister for Transport—
- 1807 RAILCORP TRANSIT OFFICERS—Mr Guy Zangari to ask the Minister for Transport—
- 1808 COMMUTER CRIME UNIT—Mr Guy Zangari to ask the Minister for Transport—
- 1809 PRIVATE SECURITY GUARDS ON CITYRAIL NETWORK—Mr Guy Zangari to ask the Minister for Transport—
- 1810 POLICE COMMUTER TRANSIT UNIT—Mr Guy Zangari to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—
- 1811 PUBLIC SCHOOLS WITH DECLINING ENROLMENTS—Mr Guy Zangari to ask the Minister for Education—
- 1812 VISIONCARE PROGRAM—Mr Guy Zangari to ask the Minister for Ageing, and Minister for Disability Services—

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- 1813 INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION—BUDGET ALLOCATION—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Premier, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- (1) What is the current budget allocation for the running of the Independent Commission Against Corruption?
 - (2) How does this budget compare to each of the past five years?
 - (3) (a) Has the Independent Commission Against Corruption applied for extra funding for the coming financial year?
(b) If so, what is the basis for this request?
- 1814 HURSTVILLE PRIMARY SCHOOL BUILDING WORKS—Ms Cherie Burton to ask the Minister for Education—
- (1) What is the current status of the Hurstville Primary School building works?
 - (2) What is the estimated total cost of the project?
 - (3) What is the total number of buildings to be built?
 - (4) When will these works be completed?
- 1815 KOGARAH INTERCHANGE PROJECT—Ms Cherie Burton to ask the Minister for Transport—
- (1) What is the current status of the Kogarah Interchange project?
 - (2) When will the Kogarah Interchange project be completed?
- 1816 ST GEORGE HOSPITAL EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT REDEVELOPMENT—Ms Cherie Burton to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- (1) What is the current status of the \$30 million St George Hospital Emergency Department redevelopment?
 - (2) When will this project begin?
 - (3) When is this project due to be completed?
- 1817 WARRELL CREEK TO URUNGA PACIFIC HIGHWAY UPGRADE—Mr Robert Furolo to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—
- With regards to the review of an alternative route for the 8-kilometre section of the Warrell Creek to Urunga Pacific Highway upgrade:

- (1) Why was the original February deadline for the release of the report changed?
- (2) Has the report been completed?
- (3) When will the report on the review be publically released?
- (4) What was the cost of the review?
- (5) How much money has been spent, to date, on land acquisitions for this section of the Pacific Highway upgrade?

1818 FAIR GO FOR SAFE DRIVERS STRATEGY—Mr Robert Furolo to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—

With regards to the Coalition's election promise to introduce a "Fair Go For Safe Drivers" strategy:

- (1) When will the strategy be publicly released?
- (2) When will drivers who have a driving record free of an offence for at least five years have their licence renewal discounted?
- (3) By how much will licence renewal be discounted?
- (4) What other measures are in the "Fair Go for Safe Drivers" strategy to reward good behavior?
- (5) What measures are proposed in the strategy to punish bad behaviour?
- (6) How much does the strategy cost to implement?
- (7) If the strategy has not been released, when will it be released?
- (8) If the "Fair Go for Safe Drivers" strategy has not been developed, when will it be completed?

1819 IMPROVING ROAD SAFETY FOR YOUNG DRIVERS—Mr Robert Furolo to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—

With regards to the recommendations in the NSW Auditor-General's Report "Improving road safety: Young drivers" to further reduce risk-taking among young drivers:

- (1) What consultation has been undertaken in relation to recommendation (10) to investigate options to further strengthen sanctions for serious and repeat offenders?
- (2) What work has been done to implement the recommendation to research the feasibility of using psychological testing for novice drivers, particularly in respect to serious and repeat offenders?
- (3) What progress has been made in relation to recommendation (12) to provide more resources for speed and alcohol enforcement in regional and remote areas; enhance and extend speed enforcement activity in regional areas on light passengers and light commercial vehicles through use of point to point camera technology and mobile units; and increasing education and advertising campaigns in country areas to address the dangers of alcohol, speeding, fatigue and not wearing seat belts?

1820 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PROVISIONAL YOUNG DRIVERS—Mr Robert Furolo to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—

With regards to the recommendations for provisional licence drivers in the NSW Auditor-General's Report "Improving road safety: Young drivers":

- (1) What stakeholder organisations and groups will be consulted in relation to recommendation (6) to consider introducing night-time curfew driving restrictions for P1 drivers between 11pm and 5am on Friday and Saturday evenings and investigate the benefits of a similar curfew at other times?
- (2) Who will be consulted in relation to recommendation (7) to consider extending the current passenger restriction for P1 drivers so that they can carry no more than one peer passenger at any time?
- (3) In relation to recommendation (8) what measures have the RMS taken to advocate for all NSW Government agencies to only purchase light passenger vehicles with a five star ANCAP rating and light commercial vehicles with the best available ANCAP rating and specified safety features including Electronic Stability Control and head protecting airbags?
- (4) In relation to recommendation (8), how will the Government assess if there is improved access to safer second-hand vehicles?
- (5) What stakeholders have been consulted in relation to recommendation (9) that by June 2012 consider adding further safe driving elements to the Driver Knowledge Hazard Perception and Driver Qualification Tests?

1821 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEARNER DRIVERS—Mr Robert Furolo to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—

With regards to the recommendations for learner drivers in the NSW Auditor General's Report "Improving road safety: Young drivers":

- (1) What progress has been made in relation to recommendation (1) that by June 2012 determine if the

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- requirement 120 hours of supervised practical experience remains appropriate?
- (2) Which organisations and stakeholder groups have been or will be consulted in relation to recommendation (1)?
 - (3) Since October 2011, by how much has the attendance at educational workshops for learner driver supervisors increased?
 - (4) How has the educational workshops for learner driver supervisors been extended?
 - (5) How has the educational workshops for learner driver supervisors been extended?
 - (6) How has communication and advertising initiatives for the educational workshops been improved?
 - (7) What progress has been made in relation to recommendation (2) that by 2013 additional support is provided to learner drivers from low socio-economic status communities and remote areas including subsidised professional instruction, access to mentors and suitable vehicles?
 - (8) Which organisations and stakeholder groups will be consulted during the review of the speed restriction for learner drivers?
 - (9) Will the Minister commit to following the advice of Centre for Road Safety in relation to the review of the speed restriction for learner drivers?
 - (10) What progress is being made in relation to recommendation (5) to investigate variations in licence test pass rates between testing centres and by June 2013 address contributing factors?
- 1822 LITERACY AND NUMERACY TEACHERS IN THE HUNTER—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Education—
- (1) How many new literacy and numeracy teachers, as promised in the Government's Literacy and Numeracy Action Plan, have been appointed to schools in the Hunter?
 - (2) Which schools in the Hunter have received them?
- 1823 NSW TAFE SYSTEM—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Education—
- (1) Is the Government planning to privatise the NSW TAFE system?
 - (2) If so:
 - (a) When will this occur and why?
 - (b) How will it benefit TAFE students and the community?
- 1824 PUBLIC FUNDING OF NAVITAS—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Education—
- (1) How much public funding is the Government providing to Navitas, the operators of the Newcastle International College?
 - (2) If the Minister will not provide this information, why not?
- 1825 FOSTER CARERS IN THE HUNTER—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—
- (1) How many families in the Hunter are foster carers?
 - (2) By how much will their foster carer's allowance be reduced?
- 1826 SPORT AND RECREATION FUNDING IN WALLSEND—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Sport and Recreation—
- What is the allocated funding for Sport and Recreation in the electorate of Wallsend for 2011-12?
- 1827 SILVERWATER CORRECTIONAL FACILITY VISITATION BOOKINGS SYSTEM—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- (1) Will the Attorney General respond to the email sent to him on 18 March 2012 by Pete Hancock concerning his attempt to visit an inmate at Silverwater Correctional Facility and his dealings with the visitation bookings system on 14 March 2012?
 - (2) If not, why not?
- 1828 RESTRUCTURE IMPLEMENTATION TEAM—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- How many meetings have been held of the restructure implementation team for Correctional Services NSW?
- 1829 AMENDMENT TO MOTOR ACCIDENTS (LIFELINE CARE AND SUPPORT) ACT 2006—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance and Services, and Minister for the Illawarra—

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- (1) Will the Minister introduce an amendment to section 45 of the Motor Accidents (Lifeline Care and Support) Act 2006 to include two participant representatives on the Lifetime Care and Support Advisory Council?
- (2) If so, when?
- (3) If not, why not?
- 1830 JOHN MORONEY CORRECTIONAL COMPLEX DRUG AND ALCOHOL TREATMENT PROGRAM—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- Has the Intensive Drug and Alcohol Treatment Program promised at the John Morony Correctional Complex for February 2012 commenced?
- 1831 YOUTH ON TRACK PLANNING PROJECT—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- (1) What progress has been made on the production of the Youth on Track planning project?
- (2) (a) Is it publically available?
- (b) If so, where?
- (c) If not, why not?
- 1832 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES TASKFORCE—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Premier, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- (1) How many meetings have been held of the Government's professional services taskforce?
- (2) With whom have those meetings been held?
- 1833 RETAIL LEASES ACT—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Small Business—
- What action will the Minister take to overcome the consequences for the Retail Leases Act of the decision of the Court of Appeal in *Kim-Po Sor v. Fordham Laboratories Pty Ltd*?
- 1834 DRAFT ENERGY WHITE PAPER—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Minister for Resources and Energy, Special Minister of State, and Minister for the Central Coast—
- (1) Did the Government make a submission on the Federal Government's draft Energy White Paper?
- (2) (a) If so, is it publically available?
- (b) If not, why not?
- 1835 LIVERPOOL COUNCIL PLANNING COURT APPEALS—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Infrastructure NSW—
- (1) Does the Minister's department monitor the number of court appeals against planning decisions of Liverpool Council?
- (2) Does the Minister's department monitor the number of court appeals against planning decisions of Liverpool Council in which council merely lodges a submitting appearance and does not defend the appeal?
- (3) Does the Minister or his department approve the practice of council regularly merely filing a submitting appearance on planning appeals and not defending their decision?
- 1836 APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTIVE CLINICAL DIRECTOR—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—
- (1) Who is the qualified medical practitioner who has been appointed as the Executive Clinical Director?
- (2) What was the date of appointment in the:
- (a) Central Coast LHD;
- (b) Illawarra Shoalhaven LHD;
- (c) Nepean Blue Mountains LHD;
- (d) Northern Sydney LHD;
- (e) South Eastern Sydney LHD;
- (f) South Western Sydney LHD;
- (g) Sydney LHD;
- (h) Western Sydney LHD;
- (i) Far West LHD;
- (j) Hunter New England LHD;

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- (k) Mid North Coast LHD;
- (l) Murrumbidgee LHD;
- (m) Northern NSW LHD;
- (n) Southern NSW LHD;
- (o) Western NSW LHD;
- (p) St Vincent's Health network;
- (q) Children's Hospitals network?

1837 NSW ABORIGINAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING FORUM—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

With regards to the Minister's commitment to convene a NSW Aboriginal Health and Wellbeing Forum in her first year of office;

- (1) On what date was the forum held?
- (2) In what location?
- (3) How many people attended?
- (4) How were the delegates chosen?
- (5) Was this forum by invitation only?

1838 EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

- (1) How many patients attended emergency departments in NSW in February 2012?
- (2) How many individual hits were recorded on the "Emergency Waiting Times" website in February 2012?
- (3) Have emergency department staff been given any directions as to how to answer patient questions about;
 - (a) this site;
 - (b) projected waiting times if they wish to come to an emergency department?

1839 RENTAL BOND BOARD—Mr Jamie Parker to ask the Minister for Fair Trading—

- (1) How much is the Rental Bond Board currently holding in money paid by tenants as rental bonds?
- (2) How much interest did the Rental Bond Board earn on this money in the year ended 30 June 2011?
- (3) What is the interest rate earned on rental bonds?
- (4) Does the Board pay interest to tenants when they redeem their bonds?
- (5) What is the interest rate currently paid on rental bonds?
- (6) (a) Does the interest paid on rental bonds cover the increase in CPI over the period the bond was held?
 - (b) If no, does this mean that the tenant receives less in real terms than the amount of the original bond lodged?
- (7) How much money did the Board spend on administrative services in the year ended 30 June 2011?
- (8) How much money did the Board spend on grants in the year ended 30 June 2011?
- (9) What were these grants allocated to?

1840 LEAF BLOWERS—Mr Jamie Parker to ask the Minister for Local Government, and Minister for the North Coast—

- (1) Are leaf blowers widely used by local councils and strata cleaners to clear rubbish and other refuse from the streets?
- (2) Are there any regulations around the operating hours when these machines can be used?
 - (a) If yes, what are these regulations?
 - (b) If none, has there been any consideration given to introducing regulations around the operating hours of these machines?
- (3) Are there any regulations around noise limits on these machines?
 - (a) If yes, what are these regulations?
 - (b) If none, has there been any consideration given to introducing regulations around noise limits on these machines?
- (4) Are there any regulations around the purposes for which these machines can be used?
 - (a) If yes, what are these regulations?
 - (b) If none, has there been any consideration given to introducing regulations around the purposes for which these machines can be used?

1841 STRATEGIC REGIONAL LAND USE PLAN—Mr Richard Torbay to ask the Minister for Resources and Energy, Special Minister of State, and Minister for the Central Coast—

- (1) Why does farmland surrounding Armidale not qualify as Strategic Agricultural Land in the draft Strategic Regional Land Use Plan (SRLUP) for New England North West despite the fact that it is renowned for producing some of the best fine wool in Australia?
- (2) Why have vineyards been recognised as a critical industry cluster in the Hunter SRLUP but not in the New England North West SRLUP, thus excluding the merging cool climate wine growing area around Armidale from recognition as Strategic Agricultural Land?
- (3) Is the Minister aware of the application for a Petroleum Special Prospecting Authority under the Petroleum (Onshore) Act 1991 (PSPAPP56) which has recently been lodged over the electorate of Northern Tablelands?
- (4) Who has submitted the application and what other partners are associated with it?
- (5) What are the details of the application, including its size, scope, nature and location?
- (6) If this application has been granted, what type of prospecting activities would be allowed by such an authorisation?
- (7) (a) What analysis has been conducted of this application prior to it being accepted?
(b) Will the Minister provide a copy of any report submitted to him by the department in regard to this application?
- (8) What provisions are currently available for the public to comment on this application and what is the closing date for any such comment?
- (9) Will the new Community Consultation Guidelines for the Exploration of Coal and Petroleum be applied prior to any decision in respect of this application?
- (10) (a) What assessments would the Minister and/or his department conduct prior to approving any such application?
(b) What guidelines do the Minister and/or his department apply in making such a decision?