



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

2011-12-13

FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-FIFTH PARLIAMENT

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

No. 176

WEDNESDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 2013

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. 166 (Including Question Nos 4256 to 4288)	17 September 2013
Q & A No. 167 (Including Question Nos 4289 to 4315)	18 September 2013
Q & A No. 168 (Including Question Nos 4316 to 4352)	19 September 2013
Q & A No. 169 (Including Question Nos 4353 to 4375)	24 September 2013
Q & A No. 170 (Including Question Nos 4376 to 4383)	25 September 2013
Q & A No. 171 (Including Question Nos 4384 to 4425)	26 September 2013
Q & A No. 172 (Including Question Nos 4426 to 4446)	01 October 2013
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- 4501 EARLY EDUCATION FUNDING—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Education—
- 4502 DISABILITY TRAIN CARRIAGES—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Transport—
- 4503 LENNOX BRIDGE REDEVELOPMENT—Mrs Barbara Perry to ask the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Infrastructure NSW, Leader of the House—
- 4504 PLANNING WHITE PAPER—Mrs Barbara Perry to ask the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Infrastructure NSW, Leader of the House—
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4506 HOME CARE REFERRAL AND ASSESSMENT CENTRE WAITING TIMES—Mrs Barbara Perry to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women representing the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for the Illawarra—

4507 VINTAGE HERITAGE VEHICLES—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—

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4508 UNIVERSITY INTERNS IN THE HUNTER REGION—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—

- (1) How many university interns did the Department of Family and Community Services recruit for unpaid placements in the Hunter Region in 2012-13?
- (2) How long were the unpaid placements?
- (3) Did these interns do the work of caseworkers, including removing children from unsuitable homes?

4509 PUBLIC HOUSING MAINTENANCE WAITING TIME IN WALLSEND ELECTORATE—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—

What is the average waiting time for the resolution of maintenance issues in public housing properties in the Wallsend electorate?

4510 HUNTER TRANSPORT PLAN—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Transport—

- (1) When will the Hunter Transport Plan be released?
- (2) Will the new timetable include an express train service between Newcastle and Sydney?

4511 SPEED CAMERAS IN THE WALLSEND ELECTORATE—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—

Where are operational speed cameras located in the Wallsend electorate?

4512 WORKCOVER INDEPENDENT REVIEW OFFICE BUDGET—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Finance and Services—

- (1) What was the 2012-13 budget provided to the WorkCover Independent Review Office to review compensation cases?
- (2) How much of this budget was spent on the review of compensation cases?

4513 BALMAIN HOSPITAL HOMEOPATHY CLINIC COST—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

In the 2012-13 financial year;

- (1) How many full time equivalent staff were employed by the homeopathy clinic at Balmain Hospital?
- (2) How many patients were seen at the clinic?
- (3) What was the total cost of the clinic?
- (4) What was the total cost of the clinic to NSW Health?

4514 BALMAIN HOSPITAL HOMEOPATHY CLINIC—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

- (1) What conditions are treated by the homeopathy clinic at Balmain Hospital?
- (2) How are patients referred to the homeopathy clinic?
- (3) What oversight of clinical care at the homeopathy clinic is performed by the Central Sydney Local Health District?
- (4) Does this clinic support NSW Health policies regarding:
 - (a) Fluoridation of the water supply?
 - (b) Immunisation?

4515 SYDNEY SOUTH WEST AREA HEALTH SERVICE COMMUNITY PAEDIATRICS STAFFING—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

How many full time equivalent employees are currently employed in the combined area department of

Community Paediatrics are;

- (a) Staff specialists?
- (b) Career medical officers?
- (c) Registrars?

4516 CENTRAL SYDNEY AND SOUTH WESTERN SYDNEY COMMUNITY PAEDIATRICS STAFFING—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

With regards to the division of Sydney South West Area Health Service into separate districts:

- (1) How many full time equivalent staff will be employed in Community Paediatrics in the Central Sydney Local Health District as:
 - (a) Staff specialists;
 - (b) Career medical officers;
 - (c) Registrars?
- (2) How many full time equivalent staff will be employed in Community Paediatrics in the South Western Sydney Local Health District as:
 - (a) Staff specialists;
 - (b) Career medical officers;
 - (c) Registrars?

4517 SYDNEY SOUTH WEST AREA HEALTH SERVICE COMMUNITY PAEDIATRICS—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

- (1) When is the Sydney South West Area Health Service Department of Community Paediatrics being divided between two separate local health districts?
- (2) Has the Minister considered keeping the Department of Community Paediatrics combined across the two local health districts and managing it as a single department?

4518 OUT OF HOME CARE PROVIDERS REPORTING—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—

- (1) What is the average ratio of caseworker to clients at Out of Home Care (OOHC) providers?
- (2) What data are OOHC providers required to report to Family and Community Services?
- (3) Are OOHC providers required to report on:
 - (a) Stability of placements;
 - (b) Time spent with clients;
 - (c) Number of case workers per client?
- (4) What feedback has the Government received from out of home care providers regarding the OOHC transition?
- (5) Has the Government received any correspondence from OOHC providers regarding the inadequacy of the unit cost process for out of home care?

4519 OUT OF HOME CARE PROVIDERS ACCOUNTABILITY—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—

- (1) What oversight and accountability mechanisms are in place for Out of Home Care (OOHC) providers?
- (2) How does the Department ensure the quality of OOHC provision?
 - (a) How is the quality of carer provision measured?
- (3) Is there an independent group within Family and Community Services (FACS) responsible for OOHC oversight and accountability?
 - (a) If yes, how many full time equivalent employees are in this group?
 - (b) Does this group or any other group undertake unannounced visits to foster care providers as an oversight mechanism?
- (4) What investigations did FACS undertake following the drowning of a toddler in a pool at his foster home as reported in the Sydney Morning Herald on 13 June 2013?
 - (a) Is the carer who was responsible for this child still a foster carer?
 - (b) If so, how many children are in their care?
 - (c) Have there been any sanctions placed on the OOHC provider who placed or supervised the placement of this child?
- (5) How many New South Wales OOHC providers are not accredited?

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- 4520 LIQUOR LICENCING IN CHIPPENDALE—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Tourism, Major Events, Hospitality and Racing, and Minister for the Arts—
- (1) How many liquor licences have been issued to premises in Chippendale?
 - (a) How many of these premises are considered high impact?
 - (b) How many of these premises are late trading?
 - (2) How many liquor licence applications are currently pending for premises in Chippendale?
 - (a) How many of these premises are considered high impact?
 - (b) How many of these premises are late trading?
 - (3) How many complaints against liquor outlets in Chippendale have been made over the past 12 months?
 - (a) What is the trend in these complaints?
 - (4) What liaison has the Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing had with Redfern Police and City Central Police about licensing complaints in Chippendale?
 - (5) What assessment has the Government made of the cumulative impacts of these licenced premises in Chippendale?
 - (6) What conditions have been imposed on Chippendale licenced premises in response to community impacts?
 - (7) What further action will the Government take to ensure protection of residential amenity and safety?
- 4521 FREE RANGE EGG LABELLING AUDITS—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Small Business—
- (1) How many egg producers in New South Wales were audited in the 2012-13 financial year ?
 - (2) Does the NSW Food Authority inform egg producers of audits in advance or are they unannounced?
 - (3) How many egg producers were found to have incorrectly labelled their eggs as free range?
 - (4) What action has been taken against egg producers found to have incorrectly labelled eggs?
 - (5) What standard does the NSW Food Authority use to determine whether eggs are produced in free range conditions?
- 4522 ANTI-DISCRIMINATION TAFE NSW REQUIREMENTS—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Education—
- (1) What legal requirements do TAFE NSW colleges have to prevent or address discrimination under the Anti-Discrimination Act?
 - (2) What legal requirements do private education providers have to prevent or address discrimination under the Anti-Discrimination Act?
 - (3) What resources does the Government provide to enable TAFE NSW to meet these responsibilities?
 - (4) What assessment has been made of non-discriminatory access to adult and vocational education under reforms to TAFE NSW?
 - (5) What further action will the Government take to ensure non-discriminatory access to adult and vocational education?
- 4523 PEDESTRIAN SAFETY IN OXFORD STREET PADDINGTON—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Roads and Ports—
- (1) What is the estimated number of pedestrians who use the signalised pedestrian crossing outside the Sydney electorate office in Oxford Street Paddington each day?
 - (2) What data does the Government have about accidents and pedestrian deaths or injuries at this crossing?
 - (3) What evidence does the Government have of motorists driving through red signals or performing illegal U-turns at this crossing?
 - (4) What assessment has the Government made of pedestrian safety at this crossing?
 - (5) What action has been taken in response to concerns for pedestrian safety at this crossing?
 - (6) What further action will the Government take to protect pedestrian safety at this crossing?
- 4524 LOBBYIST CODE OF CONDUCT—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Premier, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- (1) To what extent has the Government assessed changes in Queensland earlier this year that strengthen transparency of contact between government decision makers and lobbyists?
 - (2) What consideration will the Government give to extending the Lobbyist Code of Conduct to the Leader of the Opposition, the Deputy Leader of the Opposition and their staff?

- (3) What consideration will the Government give to requiring all government representatives subject to the Lobbyist Code of Conduct to provide periodic reports to the Information Commissioner with details of all meetings with lobbyists?
- (4) What consideration will the Government give to mandatory publication of details on meetings between government representatives and lobbyists either on the agency's website, as is currently the requirement for the Department of Planning and Infrastructure, or on a central website?

4525 PUBLIC PASSENGER SERVICES SAFETY—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Transport—

- (1) Has the Minister had any requests to meet with the Public Service Association regarding concerns about public passenger services?
 - (a) If so, how many requests has the Minister received?
 - (b) If so, has the Minister met with the Public Service Association?
 - (i) If not, why not?
- (2) Will passenger safety be compromised by dividing public passenger services between three general managers within Roads and Maritime Services?
- (3) Are these new roles more generic in nature rather than being specific roles dealing with the Passenger Transport Act 1990 and Passenger Transport Regulation 2007?
- (4) Why were experts who act to protect and enhance passenger safety moved from Transport for NSW to Roads and Maritime Services?
- (5) Why have you retained the Wollongong and Newcastle offices within Transport for NSW, given that they carry out passenger safety functions?