



PARLIAMENT OF NEW SOUTH WALES  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

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FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-FOURTH PARLIAMENT

# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

**No. 203**

TUESDAY 1 JUNE 2010

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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<b>Publication of Questions</b>	<b>Answer to be lodged by</b>
Q & A No. 191 (Including Question Nos 9803 to 9855)	25 May 2010
Q & A No. 192 (Including Question Nos 9856 to 9900)	26 May 2010
Q & A No. 193 (Including Question Nos 9901 to 9934)	27 May 2010
Q & A No. 194 (Including Question Nos 9935 to 10068)	28 May 2010
Q & A No. 195 (Including Question Nos 10069 to 10108)	15 June 2010
Q & A No. 196 (Including Question Nos 10109 to 10180)	16 June 2010
Q & A No. 197 (Including Question Nos 10181 to 10250)	17 June 2010
Q & A No. 198 (Including Question Nos 10251 to 10336)	18 June 2010
Q & A No. 199 (Including Question Nos 10337 to 10363)	22 June 2010
Q & A No. 200 (Including Question Nos 10364 to 10422)	23 June 2010
Q & A No. 201 (Including Question Nos 10423 to 10490)	24 June 2010
Q & A No. 202 (Including Question Nos 10491 to 10561)	25 June 2010
Q & A No. 203 (Including Question Nos 10562 to 10598)	06 July 2010

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20 APRIL 2010

(Paper No. 191)

\*9803 CAGE SIZE REGULATIONS—Mr Richard Amery asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

- (1) What percentage of New South Wales caged egg producers have complied with the latest cage size regulations?
- (2) When is it expected that all egg producers will meet these requirements?

Answer—

- (1) As of January 2010, over 90% of the state's layer flock were housed in cages compliant with the layer hen regulation.
- (2) The RSPCA is in the process of serving section 24N notices to comply with the regulation on several producers with non-compliant cages. The legislation allows producers 90 days to comply, after which, the RSPCA may prosecute them if they still do not comply with the regulation. The timeframe for compliance of all egg producers will depend on non-compliant producer responses to this process.

\*9804 INFRINGEMENT NOTICES ISSUED—Mr Mike Baird asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Special Minister of State—

For each of the past three years, how many infringements have been issued relating to improper use of the T3 lane along:

- (a) Burnt Bridge Creek Deviation;
- (b) Spit Road;
- (c) Military Road?

Answer—

I am advised:

The following table provides the number of fines issued relating to the improper use of the T3 lane for the requested areas:

	Infringements issued by year	Infringements issued by year	Infringements issued by year
	2007	2008	2009
Burnt Bridge Creek Deviation	65	46	7
Spit Road	416	228	530
Military Road	225	212	177

\*9805 PROTECTION OF SEAGRASS—Mr Mike Baird asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

- (1) How is legislation regarding the protection of seagrass, under the Fisheries Management Act Section 205, being enforced?
- (2) What education strategies are in place to promote awareness in the community regarding the legislation, particularly among yacht owners?
- (3) What strategies are in place to support and protect seagrass?
- (4) How many infringements have been issued over the last year and in the last 5 years regarding the protection of seagrass under the Fisheries Management Act Section 205?
- (5) What strategies are in place to prevent the spread of the introduced species of seagrass, *Calerpa Taxifolia*?

Answer—

- (1) Seagrass protection legislation is enforced via two main approaches. Firstly, Industry & Investment NSW assesses any development or permit applications for proposals to harm seagrasses using the policies and guidelines in the Department's Habitat Protection Plan No.2 – Seagrasses and Policy and Guidelines for Aquatic Habitat Management and Fish Conservation (1999). Secondly, Industry & Investment NSW undertakes both proactive and reactive compliance action to either detect or follow up on reports of harm to seagrasses.

- (2) Industry & Investment NSW has in place web-based information and hard copy publications aimed at a range of stakeholders to inform them of the importance of key fish habitats, such as seagrasses. Yacht owners applying for boating infrastructure, such as moorings, jetties, boat ramps etc are directed to the Department's website to access the relevant Habitat Protection Plan No.2 - Seagrasses, policies and guidelines and other information to assist in providing the required environmental assessment information to support their application.
- (3) Industry & Investment NSW has in place legislation, a gazetted plan (Habitat Protection Plan No.2 – Seagrasses), associated policies and guidelines and prosecution guidelines to guide development assessment and compliance action to protect seagrasses. The Department has also developed a range of advisory material to improve awareness of the importance of key fish habitats, including seagrasses.
- (4) In 2009 Industry & Investment NSW issued two Cautions and two Infringement Notices for harm to seagrass under Section 205 of the Act. From 2005 to 28 April 2010 eight cautions and nine Infringement Notices for harm to seagrasses under Section 205 of the Act were issued.
- (5) In 2009 Industry & Investment NSW released an updated NSW Control Plan for the Noxious Marine Alga *Caulerpa taxifolia* (*Caulerpa*). The plan aims to limit further spread of *Caulerpa* and reduce the impacts of existing populations through vector management, compliance and ongoing education, as well as the control and treatment of high priority areas and continued monitoring and research. The Department will also continue to implement fishing closures as required to minimise the risk of *Caulerpa* being spread to new locations from both recreational and commercial netting activities.

\*9806 SOLAR BONUS TARIFF—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform—

- (1) Why did the NSW Government discontinue the Solar Bonus Net Feed-in Tariff system?
- (2) How many people signed up to the Solar Bonus Net Feed-in Tariff system?
- (3) How many of those people will now have to transfer to the Solar Bonus Gross Feed-in Tariff system?
- (4) What is the estimated cost to an individual and/or household forced to transfer to the Solar Bonus Gross Feed-in Tariff system?

Answer—

- (1) to (4) I am advised that customers who were receiving net credits prior to the commencement of the Solar Bonus Scheme on 1 January 2010 and who meet all requirements for eligibility under the Solar Bonus Scheme (other than having gross meters installed), and who prefer to install or remain on net metering, may choose to receive net credits for their generation at the rate of 60 cents per KW hour. Customers are encouraged to contact their distributor or accredited service provider to discuss their metering options before making a final decision.

\*9808 KINGS CROSS TUNNEL FIRE HAZARD—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

In relation to the Kings Cross Tunnel fire hazard:

- (1) How long has the Government known of the inadequate fire protection of the Kings Cross Tunnel?
- (2) What is the expected completion date for tunnel repairs?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) The Roads and Traffic Authority has an ongoing program for renewal and upgrade of tunnel services. As part of this program, a ventilation and fire safety study was commissioned in 2006. The study contained recommendations for the enhancement of existing fire and ventilation services.

The Roads and Traffic Authority has been progressively implementing these recommendations.

\*9809 SUICIDE PREVENTION MEASURES AT THE GAP—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

- (1) What funding has been provided to Woollahra Council since July 2008 for suicide prevention measures at The Gap in Watsons Bay?
- (2) What further funding will the Government provide to Woollahra Council to assist with the Gap Park Masterplan?

Answer—

I am advised:

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In relation to funding provided to Woollahra Council for the Gap Park Masterplan, the Member is referred to the answer provided in response to Question 7357. I am advised that future applications for funding can be made by Woollahra Council under either the Metropolitan Greenspace Program or the Sharing Sydney Harbour Access Program.

\*9811 MALICIOUS DAMAGE AND GRAFFITI CHARGES—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health representing the Attorney General, Minister for Citizenship, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

How many people were charged with malicious damage or graffiti offences in (i) 2008 and (ii) 2009 in the electorates of:

- (a) Terrigal;
- (b) Gosford;
- (c) Wyong;
- (d) The Entrance?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) does not record crime according to electorate.

\*9812 F3 SPEEDING INFRINGEMENTS—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Special Minister of State—

For each of the past three years, how many speeding infringements have been issued on the F3 Freeway:

- (a) by police;
- (b) by fixed speed cameras?

Answer—

I am advised:

The following table provides the number of speeding fines issued on the F3 Freeway:

	Infringements issued by year	Infringements issued by year	Infringements issued by year
	2007	2008	2009
By police	8,957	8,375	8,864
By fixed speed camera	2,336	1,930	2,628

\*9813 REQUEST FOR VIEWS FROM NEWSPAPER EDITORS—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

In relation to your media release of 18 May 2009 when you said "I will also ask newspaper editors to provide me with their views on whether or not the Government needs to move legislation in this regard, and note that our interagency Brothels Taskforce is considering ICAC's recommendation right now, with a view to reporting to Government shortly":

- (1) In what way did you "ask newspaper editors" and will you table copies of the correspondence sent to newspaper editors?
- (2) How many newspaper editors responded to your requests?
- (3) Will you table their correspondence to you including any comments or recommendations?
- (4) What action have you taken since to follow through on their recommendations?

Answer—

I wrote to newspaper editors and members of the NSW Parliamentary Press Gallery seeking their views on the Independent Commission Against Corruption's recommendation concerning sex industry advertisements. A copy of the letter is attached and available to view in the Legislative Assembly Procedure Office or Questions and Answers website.

I am advised that discussions were held between the Australian Publishers' Bureau and representatives of sex workers on advertising for adult services where a development consent is not required under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979. I understand that a position was agreed between the parties.

The response of the Interagency Brothels Taskforce to the recommendations of the Independent Commission Against Corruption is currently being finalised for consideration by the Government.

\*9814 BAYS PRECINCT TASKFORCE—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

Why are community representatives only allowed to report to the Bays Precinct Taskforce and not allowed to sit on the actual taskforce?

Answer—

The NSW Government Bays Precinct Taskforce is comprised of State Government agencies that are either landholders or have an interest in infrastructure issues relating to the future of the precinct. The Government has considered requests for other party representation on the Taskforce and the decision has been taken that membership of the Taskforce should remain as it is.

\*9816 FEDERAL LABOR HEALTH PLAN—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

- (1) What measures is the Premier going to put in place to ensure that the economic base of smaller country towns is maintained in situations where the implementation of the Federal Labor Health Plan requires the closure of a local hospital?
- (2) Will the Premier give a guarantee that the hospitals located at Yass, Harden-Murrumburrah, Gundagai, Cootamundra, Young, Grenfell, Cowra, Crookwell and Boorowa will not be closed or have their services downgraded as a result of the implementation of the Federal Labor Health Plan?

Answer—

I am advised:

The National Health and Hospitals Network Agreement signed by the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) on 20 April 2010 (with the exception of Western Australia) will provide a more secure funding base for Australia's health care system into the future.

I note that the Prime Minister has indicated that no hospital in rural and regional Australia will be required to close as a result of the introduction of the new National Health and Hospital Network.

Under the Agreement, the Commonwealth will provide the majority of the funding for public hospital services. Small regional and rural public hospitals with functions and services and community service obligations recognised by COAG will be block funded, reflecting the higher costs associated with delivering services in these areas.

Detailed planning has commenced for implementation of all elements of the National Health and Hospitals Network Agreement, including the establishment of Local Hospital Networks across NSW. Regional and rural public hospitals will operate as part of these Networks, which will be established under State legislation and comprise single or small groups of public hospitals with a geographic or functional connection. These arrangements will help to support small regional and rural hospitals in NSW to continue providing essential health services for local communities.

\*9817 RURAL GENERAL PRACTITIONERS—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) Given that Cowra now only has six General Practitioners working in the town, the smallest number for several decades; the rural community of Quandialla has not had a visit from a General Practitioner for at least eight months; and the Grenfell MPS is still without the services of a permanent full-time Visiting Medical Officer, what actions is the Minister taking to encourage more general practitioners to work in regional towns?
- (2) Why have these plans not yet succeeded in the three situations referred to in part (1) of this question?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Cowra currently has the services of 8 General Practitioners (GPs), in addition, there are 2-3 GP registrars (depending upon their rotation) and 1 super-numerary Junior Medical Officer under the Pre-Vocational General Practice Placement program.

At Grenfell MPS there is an active recruitment process currently being undertaken to attract additional GPs to the town. This process is being conducted in concert with the local Central West Division of General Practice and the local Shire Council.

A GP at West Wyalong has a private arrangement where he visits Quandialla once a month. The last visit by the practitioner was on Wednesday 28 April 2010.

- (2) Recruitment of GPs to small regional and remote centres remains a national challenge and

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recruitment activities for GPs in rural settings in NSW is an ongoing process.

\*9818 DNA TESTING—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

In the light of there being one pathologist to 270 police officers in NSW for DNA testing, with other States having a much higher ratio of pathologists, when will the low ratio of pathologists to police in NSW be addressed?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me that the Division of Analytical Laboratories, the primary service provider for DNA analysis in NSW, is part of NSW Health. The Member's question should therefore be directed to the Minister for Health.

\*9819 INCREASES IN SOCIAL HOUSING—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) In relation to increases in social housing, how many of the promised 900 residences for Sydney Coastal Region (Regional Action Plan) will be located in the Hornsby electorate?
- (2) How much funding will be allocated to provide services to this housing?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) The delivery of around 900 new homes in Sydney, referred to in the Sydney Local Action Plan of the State Plan, consists of properties under the National Building Economic Stimulus Plan. As previously advised, there are no stimulus sites within the Hornsby electorate.

\*9820 WARINNA HOUSE—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Local Government, Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

- (1) What supported accommodation is available to people with a mental illness in the Hornsby electorate?
- (2) What criteria is needed for admission into Warinna House in Wahroonga?
- (3) How many residents live in Warinna House, Wahroonga?
- (4) How many staff care for the residents across the 24-hour roster?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Hornsby Mental Health Service provides supported accommodation to clients at two houses in the Hornsby electorate: seven bedrooms at Warrina House, Wahroonga and five bedrooms at Wells Street, Thornleigh.

Ten properties are provided via the Office of Community Housing and Garrigul Housing in the Hornsby Ku-ring-gai area. Comprising 33 beds, they receive clinical support via the Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Assertive Outreach and Residential Support Service.

In addition, the Housing and Accommodation Support Initiative (HASI), which is a partnership program between NSW Health and Housing NSW, provides housing and support for people with a mental illness. There are currently 31 packages available to residents of the Hornsby Ku-ring-gai area.

- (2) Admission to Warrina House is based on a number of criteria including, but not limited to:
  - Having a major mental health condition.
  - Requiring assistance and skill development in daily living skills and improving quality of life.
  - A history of prolonged or frequent admission to hospital.
  - A history of being unable to maintain stable accommodation.
- (3) Warrina House has six permanent residents and one respite bed.
- (4) 14.3 Full Time Equivalent staff provide the required care and treatment for consumers living in these homes, in addition to a growing number of consumers who have progressed to their own public or private housing. Their duties include the provision of 24 hour support to Warrina House residents.

\*9821 LAND TAX COLLECTED—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Special Minister of State—

What was the total amount of land tax collected from land owners in the Hornsby Shire Council area during:

- (a) 2004-05;

- (b) 2005-06;
- (c) 2006-07;
- (d) 2007-08;
- (e) 2008-09;
- (f) 2009-10 to date?

Answer—

I am advised:

Land tax is assessed by calendar year.

The following table shows the value of land tax assessments issued to owners of liable properties in the Hornsby Shire Council area for the 2005 to 2010 calendar years:

Year	Total land tax assessed
2005	\$27,266,573
2006	\$27,133,811
2007	\$26,265,813
2008	\$22,772,399
2009	\$23,566,998
2010	\$22,564,045

\*9822 GARRAWARRA HOSPITAL CEMETERY—Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Minister for Local Government, Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

- (1) Why has the Garrawarra Hospital Cemetery, with 2,000 recorded burials, been allowed to become neglected and vandalised?
- (2) What plans does the Government have for the future of Garrawarra Hospital Cemetery?

Answer—

I provide the following details in response to your questions:

I note the Minister for Health, in a response to Question 9163, advised that the trusteeship, care, control and management of the Garrawarra Hospital Cemetery was transferred to Wollongong City Council on 1 October 1967.

Accordingly, these questions should be directed to Wollongong City Council.

\*9823 ELECTRICITY COMPANY BUDGETS—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform—

Given up to half of electricity price increases identified by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal are due to network expansions:

- (1) What action, such as demand management programs, is the NSW Government taking to reduce the need for "poles and wires" development by NSW electricity distribution and transmission companies?
- (2) What consideration has the NSW Government given to requiring a minimum proportion of electricity companies' budget expenditure on energy efficiency and demand management to help slow the need for network expansions, given that EnergyAustralia proposes to spend only 0.5 per cent of its budget on energy saving measures?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) The NSW Government has a strong history of commitment to energy efficiency and demand management to delay the need to construct infrastructure for generation, transmission and distribution of energy. This commitment is evident in conditions imposed on network businesses, as well as Government programs including the Energy Efficiency Strategy and the Energy Savings Scheme, and through reviews to improve energy efficiency in energy markets.

The NSW Government has had in place a requirement for electricity distributors to carry out Demand Management since the NSW Electricity Supply Act (the Act) was amended in 1995. This is mirrored in the National Electricity Law which also covers transmission companies such as TransGrid.



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Distributors are obliged to investigate and report on demand management options when it "would be reasonable to expect that it would be cost-effective to avoid or postpone the expansion [of a distribution system] by implementing such strategies". This is a requirement of: the Act, operating licences; and compliance is given further guidance by the Demand Management for Electricity Distributors NSW Code of Practice (the Code).

Where NSW distributors identify a projected constraint on their networks they examine alternative proposals in accordance with the procedures contained in the Code. Where cost-effective alternatives to network expansion are identified the distributor carries out the demand management alternative. However it is frequently the case that the required load reduction cannot feasibly be achieved in order to avoid the need for network expansion or upgrade.

TransGrid has elected to follow a similar process to that described in the Code to seek alternative cost-effective non network alternatives which are then submitted to the Australian Energy regulator and costs passed through if appropriate.

Regulation of demand management is moving to the Australian Energy Regulator (AER) who will incorporate strengthened requirements for distributors to engage with non-network providers to meet their upgrading needs.

The AER has responsibility for determining the amount of money that network service providers can recover for expenditure on demand management and upgrading the network. Expenditure on demand management can be recovered through the NSW d-factor financial incentive arrangements and the Demand Management Innovation Allowance. The AER also recently provided TransGrid with an annual allowance of \$1 million to investigate demand management further.

Additionally, the Australian Energy Market Commission is currently conducting a Review of Demand Side Participation (demand side participation is another term for demand management). The review suggests that the National Electricity Rules and market frameworks do not materially bias against the use of demand side participation, and suggested that the main bias comes from consumers having limited information on which to base their consumption decisions.

The NSW Government, through the Energy Savings Scheme, requires electricity retailers to pursue energy efficiency measures in households and businesses. Retailers are required to meet an energy savings target, which ramps up to 4% of electricity sales by 2014. In the first four years of the Scheme, it is estimated that eight and a half million megawatt-hours of electricity will be saved. This is expected to translate to saving an average of \$50 each year on a household electricity bill, create or protect up to 1,000 jobs and stimulate our growing energy efficiency industry by up to \$1 billion.

\*9824 ANIMAL WELFARE—FLYING FOXES—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

Given a recent Flying Fox Licensing Review Panel found that shooting operations of flying foxes are legally and ethically unacceptable, noting, amongst other factors, that young orphaned flying foxes are being left to starve to death, and that conservation and welfare groups say the Standard Operating Procedure for shooting flying foxes is inadequate:

- (1) What action is the Department of Primary Industries taking to ensure breaches of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979 (POCTA) do not occur as a consequence of the shooting of flying foxes for crop protection?
- (2) What assistance does the Government give to the RSPCA so that it can enforce breaches of POCTA associated with the shooting of flying foxes for crop protection?
- (3) What negotiations have occurred between the Department of Primary Industries and the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water about reporting POCTA breaches associated with the shooting of flying foxes for crop protection?
- (4) What consideration is the NSW Government giving to the NSW Farmers Association's proposal for a compensation scheme that will bring an end to the shooting of this vulnerable species?

Answer—

Industry & Investment NSW is not an enforcement agency of POCTA. Licences to control flying foxes for damage mitigation are issued under Section 120 of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974. The Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (DECCW) is the Department responsible for administering and enforcing this legislation. DECCW commissioned the Flying Fox Licensing Review Panel, and is responsible for determining whether a compensation scheme will be introduced to industry.

\*9825 PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT COMMISSION BULLI SEAM HEARINGS—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

With regard to public hearings by the Planning and Assessment Commission (PAC) about BHP Billiton's proposed Bulli Seam Operations:

- (1) Is it true that BHP Billiton presented to the PAC in private prior to the public hearings?
- (2) Why wasn't BHP Billiton required to also present its proposals in public to give community, environment and indigenous groups the opportunity to respond to arguments and proposals?
- (3) To what extent will the NSW Government develop public hearing protocols for the PAC that ensure community groups and developers are treated equally?

Answer—

- (1) Yes.
- (2) The proponent, BHP was invited to present at the hearings but declined, instead relying on the public exhibition and the environmental assessment for the proposal which was publicly exhibited from 20 October 2009 to 2 December 2009.
- (3) The Planning Assessment Commission is finalizing protocols for public hearings. The existing procedures for public hearings are similar to those applied for the Independent Hearing and Assessment Panels which provided expert advice/review on major developments to the Minister prior to the establishment of the Planning Assessment Commission.

\*9826 METHODOLOGY USED—CALCULATION OF DWELLING NUMBERS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

- (1) Given that the Department of Planning reviewed and agreed to the methodology used by Ku-ring-gai Council in calculating initial new dwelling numbers projected under the draft Town Centres LEP, why was Treadstone appointed to conduct an "independent" review?
- (2) Why did the Government, under the previous Planning Minister, request Treadstone to consult with only local developers and development industry professionals, when it was local community groups and MPs who had raised concerns about the previous methodology?

Answer—

- (1) I am advised that the Department of Planning commissioned the independent review of the methodology used to calculate dwelling yields in Ku-ring-gai not only to assess the reasonableness of the methodology adopted by Ku-ring-gai Council officers, but also the veracity of the data applied to this methodology; and any risks that might be associated with the achievement of Ku-ring-gai Council's Metropolitan Strategy dwellings target.
- (2) I am advised that the method proposed by the consultant, to undertake the assessments required by the Department of Planning, included discussions with experts with local knowledge relating to the achievability of the draft LEP outcomes. These experts included those who have direct experience in preparing development applications, those involved in assessing development applications, and those involved in implementing development applications.

\*9829 PREPARATION OF TENDER DOCUMENTATION—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Ports and Waterways, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) Did one or more of NSW Maritime's Senior Managers assist in the preparation of the tender documentation for the successful Joe Elias Company bid for the Maritime site at Blackwattle Bay?
- (2) If so, who provided such assistance and why?
- (3) Who decided on the successful tenderer?

Answer—

- (1) to (3) I am advised the preparation of tender documentation is a matter for the proponent. I am further advised NSW Maritime's tender review process for Blackwattle Bay was overseen by an Independent Probity Auditor and the decision was approved by the Chief Executive.

\*9830 RELEASE OF CALICIVIRUS—Mr Barry O'Farrell asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

- (1) Has NPWS released rabbit haemorrhagic virus (calicivirus) into the (a) Lane Cove or (b) Ku-ring-gai Chase national parks to control rabbit numbers?
- (2) If so, when was the virus released?

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- (3) What is the estimate of the numbers of rabbits in each park?
- (4) Are alternative methods of controlling (a) rabbits and (b) other feral fauna used in each park?
- (5) If so, what are the alternative methods?
- (6) Have any residents expressed concerns about the release of the virus to control rabbits?
- (7) Were alternative, more humane, methods considered before settling on the calicivirus?
- (8) If so, on what grounds were they rejected?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

- (1) (a) and (b) Yes. This was part of a 'booster' release of the virus across northern Sydney which was co-ordinated by the Cumberland Livestock Health and Pest Authority in collaboration with the northern Sydney Feral Action Animal Group. Co-ordinated, multi-tenure programs are critical for the success of this rabbit control technique.
- (2) 1 March and 2 March 2010.
- (3) It is not possible to provide a definitive estimate of rabbit numbers in these parks or within the local area. What is clear is that the numbers and impacts of rabbits in these areas have increased as the effectiveness of previous biological controls has declined over recent years. Monitoring has shown a decrease in the amount of rabbit activity post the calicivirus release.
- (4) (a) and (b) Yes. Like most land managers the National Parks and Wildlife Service uses an integrated program of humane and safe controls for all pest animals to achieve the maximum benefits for conservation values.
- (5) The range of methods used to control impacts of feral animals include trapping, baiting, and shooting where appropriate.
- (6) One resident has expressed concern and there have been a few general inquiries about vaccinating pet rabbits.

The Cumberland Livestock Health and Pest Authority publicised the release of the virus in the local newspaper, the Daily Telegraph and interviews on ABC and local radio. Veterinarians were informed by letter so as to advise rabbit owners to vaccinate pets. Local rabbit breeders and societies were also informed by email.

- (7) Yes. All available methods are assessed for efficacy, target specificity and humaneness during the planning process. The Industry & Investment NSW Model Code of Practice for the Humane Control of Rabbits is used as a guideline for assessing humaneness. This document has been approved by industry experts including the RSPCA.
- (8) Methods are rejected if they are not applicable for the scenario or are unlikely to be effective in limiting the impacts of rabbits or other vertebrate pests, or are rated "inhumane" under the NSW Department of Industry and Investment Codes of Practice.

\*9831 ROAD FATALITIES—Mr Donald Page asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) How many fatal accidents have occurred on NSW roads in 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009?
- (2) How many of these fatal accidents occurred in these years at:
  - (a) Easter;
  - (b) June long weekend;
  - (c) October long weekend; and
  - (d) Christmas/New Year?
- (3) (a) On a per vehicle movement basis, are there more fatal accidents occurring at the above-mentioned times than at other times?
  - (b) If so, how many more fatalities are occurring at these times on a per vehicle basis compared to the other normal times of the year?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) There were 459 fatal crashes in 2005, 449 in 2006, 405 in 2007, 353 in 2008 and 415 in 2009. Data for 2009 is provisional and subject to change.
- (2) The following public holiday period fatal crash statistics are based on the official holiday periods as defined in the RTA crash database. All data for 2009 is provisional and subject to change.
  - (a) During the Easter public holiday period there were four fatal crashes in 2005, six in 2006, eight in 2007, none in 2008 and nine in 2009.
  - (b) During the June long weekend holiday period there were five fatal crashes in 2005, four in 2006, three in 2007, four in 2008 and six in 2009.

- (c) During the October long weekend holiday period there were three fatal crashes in 2005, seven in 2006, three in 2007, six in 2008 and four in 2009.
- (d) The number of days for the Christmas New Year period varies depending on which day of the week Christmas Day falls. During the Christmas New Year holiday period there were ten fatal crashes in 2005/06 (11 days), fifteen in 2006 (11 days), five in 2007 (9 days), five in 2008 (9 days), and eight in 2009 (11 days).
- (3) (a) and (b) There is no comprehensive vehicle movement data available for the whole State road network for holiday versus non holiday periods.

\*9832 SPEECH PATHOLOGISTS—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked the Minister for Education and Training—

- (1) How many speech pathologists are currently employed/contracted by DET in NSW Government schools?
- (2) For (1) above, what is the figure for each NSW DET region?

Answer—

Speech pathologists are not employed by the Department of Education and Training. School principals have the flexibility to use school resources to purchase a wide range of services to facilitate students' access to education. This includes specialist services such as speech pathology. Data about specialist personnel contracted by individual schools is not available.

\*9833 LAND AT 98 JOHNSTON STREET, BASS HILL—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked the Minister for Education and Training—

What will be the cost to the NSW Department of Education and Training to purchase the land at 98 Johnston Street, Bass Hill?

Answer—

Compensation will be determined by the Valuer-General in accordance with the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act, 1991.

\*9834 HALF-DAY HEALTH SEMINAR—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

In relation to the NSW Government's half-day Health Seminar held on 15 March:

- (1) How many delegates were invited to the Premier's half-day Health Seminar?
- (2) How many delegates attended the Premier's half-day Health Seminar?
- (3) Who was the convenor of the Premier's half-day Health Seminar?
- (4) (a) Was the Premier's half-day Health Seminar convenor provided with financial remuneration for convening the summit?
- (b) If yes, what was the total amount provided to the convenor?
- (5) How much did the summit cost and what was the cost breakdown of:
- (a) venue hire
- (b) catering
- (c) AV equipment hire
- (d) stationery;
- (e) staff hire; and
- (f) other miscellaneous costs?

Answer—

I'm advised:

An invitation from the Premier and Deputy Premier was extended to 70 delegates regarding the half-day Seminar held on Monday 15 March, 2010 at the Royal Prince Alfred (RPA) Hospital Education Centre with the objective of assisting NSW develop its response to the Commonwealth's National Health Reform Proposals.

The Seminar was attended by approximately 60 doctors, nurses, allied health professionals, consumers, academics, administrators, and commentators.

The Seminar was co-chaired by the Rt Hon Ian Sinclair AC, and Prof Judith Whitworth AC.

The cost expended on the seminar was \$13,655 which includes venue, equipment, stationary, staff hire, travel, accommodation costs, the preparation of a background discussion paper and reimbursement of one of the co-chairs of the Seminar. The other co-chair is yet to submit an invoice.

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\*9836 POLICE REFERRALS TO FAMILY SUPPORT AGENCIES—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

In relation to the number of police referrals to family support agencies since the State's revamped child protection regime began on 24 January 2010:

How many police referrals have been made to family support agencies from:

- (a) 24 January 2010 to date;
- (b) 1 January 2009 to 24 January 2010?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me that the Child Wellbeing Unit was established on 24 January 2010 and has made 414 referrals to date. Prior to the Unit's establishment this data was not collected.

\*9837 CARS WEIGHING MORE THAN 975 KG—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

How many cars registered in the Tweed Local Government Area weigh more than 975 kg?

Answer—

I am advised:

The total number of cars over 975 kg registered in the Tweed Local Government Area as at 31 December 2009 was 34,219.

\*9838 WRITS OF POSSESSION—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health representing the Attorney General, Minister for Citizenship, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

(1) How many residential properties have been subject to the Writs of Possession from the Tweed Heads Court House in the following years:

- (a) 2008;
- (b) 2009;
- (c) 2010?

(2) How many commercial properties have been subject to the Writs of Possession from the Tweed Heads Court House in the following years:

- (a) 2008;
- (b) 2009;
- (c) 2010?

Answer—

I am advised:

The member should refer to my answer to Written Question 9182.

\*9839 AVAILABLE BEDS—TWEED HEADS HOSPITAL—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

What is the total number of available beds in all sections of the Tweed Heads Hospital in the following years:

- (a) 2009;
- (b) year to date?

Answer—

I am advised:

Average available beds for each hospital in NSW are reported in the NSW Health Services Comparison Data Book (the Yellow Book) which can be found on NSW Health's website at [www.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au)

\*9840 NIMBIN ENVIRONMENTAL CENTRE—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

(1) When will the Nimbin Environmental Centre's move to have cattle farming declared a "key threatening process" under the NSW Fisheries Act go before the expert panel of the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water?

(2) Is the Minister aware that the Nimbin Environmental Centre's media representative is Mr Peace

Freeborn?

Answer—

- (1) Nominations to list key threatening processes go directly to the Fisheries Scientific Committee from the nominator. I am advised that to date, the Fisheries Scientific Committee has not received a key threatening process nomination from the Nimbin Environment Centre concerning cattle farming.
- (2) No.

\*9841 NEIGHBOURHOOD SAFER PLACES—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

- (1) Why are there no Neighbourhood Safer Places in the mid Blue Mountains area?
- (2) Why is there only one NSP in the Lower Mountains?

Answer—

NSW has led the nation in implementing the Neighbourhood Safer Place (NSP) program which identifies "places of last resort" for people during a bush fire emergency. Over the past six months, 740 NSPs have been identified by the NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS), emergency management partners and local councils.

The nine NSPs located in the Blue Mountains local government area, have been identified in accordance with set guidelines, and are listed on the NSW RFS website ([www.rfs.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au)).

The NSW RFS will continue to work cooperatively with Council and other emergency management partners to try and identify additional suitable Neighbourhood Safer Places in the Blue Mountains Local Government Area.

\*9842 EMISSIONS REDUCTION TARGET FOR 2025—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

- (1) On what date did the government decide to axe the emissions reduction target for 2025?
- (2) Where and when was this decision publicised?
- (3) With the Government giving planning approval to two power stations producing 22 million tonnes of carbon dioxide each year, is it still committed to reducing emissions by 60 per cent by 2050?
- (4) What plans has the Government put in place to cut emissions by 60 per cent by 2050?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

- (1) The Government decided on 28 October 2009 to remove the emissions reduction target for 2025 from the State Plan, in order to align the NSW target with the Australian Government target for emissions reduction.
- (2) The NSW emissions reduction target for 2025 was not included in the State Plan that was released on 29 October 2009.
- (3) Yes.
- (4) The NSW Government has a suite of initiatives aimed at cutting emissions and tackling climate change, including:
  - the Energy Savings Scheme, which will provide up to \$1 billion of incentives for energy savings projects by 2020;
  - the Climate Change Fund which funds a wide range of emissions reducing projects for homes, industry, schools and public facilities;
  - Australia's most generous feed-in tariff for domestic scale solar power generation of 60 cents per kilowatt-hour returned to the grid;
  - six renewable energy precincts across the state with streamlined planning requirements, to encourage regional wind farm development;
  - a \$150 million Energy Efficiency Strategy to deliver energy savings, create jobs and reduce greenhouse emissions.

We are also pursuing opportunities in smart power distribution grids and expanding sustainable transport options, including more public transport, cleaner motor vehicles and a NSW Bike Plan to make cycling safer and easier.

\*9843 YEARLY RATE OF SEA LEVEL RISE—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

- (1) What is the average yearly rate of sea level rise measured at Fort Denison?

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- (2) How long has this data been recorded for?
- (3) What is the average yearly rate of sea level rise measured at Newcastle?
- (4) How long has this data been recorded for?
- (5) What is the average yearly rate of sea level rise measured at the first of the gauges at Port Kembla?
- (6) What is the average yearly rate of sea level rise measured at the second gauge at Port Kembla?
- (7) How long has this data been recorded for?
- (8) Are the sea level rises measured in Port Kembla readily transferable to the rest of the state?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

- (1) The average yearly rate of relative sea level rise measured at Fort Denison is estimated to be 1.4 millimetres per year.
- (2) Since 11 May 1866.
- (3) Records of sea levels recorded at the Newcastle tidal gauge facility are considered unreliable for measuring long term trends. The gauge and its records are currently managed by Newcastle Port Corporation. Queries regarding these records should be made to the Port Corporation.
- (4) Since April 1925.
- (5) Records of sea levels at the first Port Kembla tide gauge are considered unreliable for measuring long term trends. The gauge and its records are archived by the National Tidal Facility at the Bureau of Meteorology. Queries regarding these records should be made to the Bureau of Meteorology.
- (6) The average yearly rate of relative sea level rise measured at the second tidal gauge, or Commonwealth SEAFRAME station, at Port Kembla is 1.9 millimetres per year.
- (7) Since June 1991.
- (8) No.

\*9846 CONSUMER, TRADER AND TENANCY TRIBUNAL (CTTT) HEARINGS—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Minister for Fair Trading, Minister for the Arts—

In regard to Consumer, Trader and Tenancy Tribunal (CTTT) hearings at Coffs Harbour Court House:

- (1) How many CTTT matters are currently waiting for a hearing date to be scheduled at Coffs Harbour Court House?
- (2) How many CTTT matters have been heard in the past 12 months, broken down month by month?
- (3) How many hearing days/hours are allocated to Coffs Harbour Court House for CTTT hearings each month?
- (4) Will the Minister consider increasing the hearing days/hours per month to meet demand?

Answer—

- (1) As at 30 April 2010, two matters were waiting for a hearing date at the Coffs Harbour Court House.
- (2) Number of hearings held in Coffs Harbour Court House between May 2009 and April 2010.

Month	Number of Hearings
MAY-2009	120
JUN-2009	58
JUL-2009	79
AUG-2009	90
SEP-2009	57
OCT-2009	95
NOV-2009	52
DEC-2009	70
JAN-2010	0
FEB-2010	58
MAR-2010	71
APR-2010	111
TOTAL	861

(3) and (4) Coffs Harbour Court House is a once weekly venue for Tribunal hearings. However, hearing days at this venue are routinely adjusted according to demand. In the last eight weeks the Tribunal Registrar has approved four additional days to accommodate increased applications.

\*9847 PACIFIC HIGHWAY RESURFACING—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

In relation to the Pacific Highway at Nambucca Heads:

- (1) On Sunday 7 March 2010 at approximately 9.30 am, did Boral lay "hotmix" on the Pacific Highway just south of the Nambucca Heads Shopping Plaza, involving several trucks loaded with hotmix and an entire hotmix crew?
- (2) If so, what is the estimated cost of such an operation, including materials and Sunday rate wages?
- (3) If so, and given that hotmix, like concrete, has a rapid setting rate and will not stick to a wet surface, how could these roadworks have been allowed to go ahead in the rain?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) The work was undertaken at an estimated contract cost of \$50,000. This work did not incur any additional costs due to work being undertaken on a Sunday.
- (3) Though there was some rain at the site, the Roads and Traffic Authority has been assured that the completed work conforms to specified technical standards. The pavement is being monitored and a warranty period exists should any rectification work be required.

\*9848 BELLS LINE OF ROAD UPGRADE PLANNING—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) What is the total amount of funding that has become available for the planning of an upgrade of the Bells Line of Road, broken down by the relevant financial year (including forward budget estimates)?
- (2) How much of the funding in (1) has been set aside for:
  - (a) community consultations;
  - (b) administration;
  - (c) consultants (internal and external to the RTA);
  - (d) other?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) \$1 million.
- (2) (a) to (d) A break down of the funding into categories will be available following the engagement of the consultants.

\*9849 DRUGS POSTCARD—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) With respect to the drugs postcard (authorised by NSW Health officials) that describes hard drugs as "nose candy", how much has NSW Health and/or the NSW Government spent on this pamphlet:
  - (a) as a total figure;
  - (b) printing;
  - (c) designing;
  - (d) distributing;
  - (e) marketing;
  - (f) any other related matters?
- (2) How much has NSW Health and/or the NSW Government spent on other drug-related materials aimed at teenagers and young people for each financial year from 2004-2005 to date?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) NSW Health funds the State Library of NSW \$150,000 annually to deliver the 'drug info at your library' project. This amount includes funding to promote the project along with other related initiatives.
- (2) NSW Health provides a range of education and prevention programs targeting both drugs and alcohol to young people, which contributes to the NSW State Plan target of holding illicit drug use in NSW to below 15%.

NSW Health currently receives \$1.142 million annually for drug education campaigns as part of the dedicated Drug Budget 3. This funding is used for a range of drug prevention and education campaigns.



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\*9850 VOCATIONAL EDUCATION TRAINING ADVISORY BOARD—Mr Richard Torbay asked the Minister for Education and Training—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the dissatisfaction that small businesses and Registered Training Organisations (RTO) have when dealing with NSW Vocational Education Training Advisory Board (VETAB)?
- (2) Is the Minister aware of the financial implications that VETAB places on its customers by not fulfilling its requirements?
- (3) What accountability measures are in place to ensure VETAB staff at all levels are held responsible for their decisions and actions when processing customer information and applications?
- (4) Given that an opportunity exists for customers to lodge a complaint, what systems are in place when VETAB fails to meet its own standards?
- (5) (a) Why does the criteria differ from one RTO to another in the same field of training?  
(b) Can standard requirements be put in place for both RTO registration and extensions of the scope of registration?
- (6) Is there a timeframe for audits to be processed and if so, what is the timeframe for processing any amendments that may arise?
- (7) When an applicant has suffered financial loss due to VETAB's lengthy processing period, is there a mechanism to compensate for an applicant's loss?
- (8) What can NSW expect from VETAB's functionality under its transition to the Commonwealth level of operation?

Answer—

- (1) Formal complaints are reported in the Vocational Education and Training Accreditation Board's annual report. In 2009 one formal complaint was received.
- (2) The VETAB website provides comprehensive information about what is required under the Standards in an effort to encourage RTOs to meet the Standards before they make their applications. RTOs unable to meet the Standards are given ample opportunity to rectify non-compliances in their applications and operations.
- (3) Actions of staff are part of the Management Reports, which are a standing item on Board meeting agendas.

VETAB reports annually on its performance against the quality indicators to the National Quality Council of the Ministerial Council of Tertiary Education and Employment. VETAB is also subject to ongoing monitoring and periodic independent audit of its performance against these standards as determined by the National Quality Council.

Decisions made by VETAB can be challenged in the Administrative Decisions Tribunal.

- (4) VETAB follows the standards and principles set down in the Australian Quality Training Framework Standards for State and Territory Registering Bodies. VETAB is subject to periodic independent audits.

Decisions made by VETAB may be challenged in the Administrative Decisions Tribunal. Complaints about failure to meet performance or operational standards can be lodged with the NSW Ombudsman.

- (5) (a) The criteria are set out in the Australian Quality Training Framework Essential Standards for Registration and apply to all RTOs.  
(b) VETAB requirements are set down by the Australian Quality Training Framework Essential Standards for Registration which are national requirements.
- (6) VETAB audit timeframes are outlined in the VETAB Service Charter which is published on its website at: <http://www.vetab.nsw.gov.au/>
- (7) RTOs are encouraged to meet the Essential Standards for Registration before they submit an application to prevent processing issues related to non-compliance of the Standards.
- (8) All activities are to be transferred to the national regulator at an appointed date in 2011. Until then VETAB will continue to operate.

\*9851 ALLOCATION OF FREIGHT—Mr Richard Torbay asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) Can the Minister advise who allocates freight to operators on the Country Rail Network/Sydney Metropolitan Network?
- (2) Is there an organisational focus for this process within RIC, RailCorp or elsewhere located?
- (3) What is the extent of the ARTC's role in rail freight in NSW and has ARTC'S role been increasing?
- (4) How are operators for rail freight selected and are the processes compatible for RIC, RailCorp and

ARTC?

- (5) Are rail freight operations in NSW actively promoted and is there a NSW rail freight target for the next 10-20 years to appreciably lift the proportion of rail in the freight tasks for the overall system, country and Sydney metropolitan?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) and (2) Rail freight operators compete in the commercial marketplace. As such, the choice of rail operator is a commercial decision of private industry. Customers may choose to use a freight forwarder (a forwarding agent) to arrange shipment.

No allocation by RailCorp or RIC takes place.

(3) Since 2004, ARTC has leased and maintained the NSW interstate and Hunter Valley rail network. It also manages the country branch network. These arrangements are governed by agreements between the ARTC and the NSW Government, which also include arrangements for the eventual transfer of the Metropolitan Freight Network.

ARTC is also undertaking construction of the Southern Sydney Freight Line, and in conjunction with NSW Government agencies, the planning of the Northern Sydney Freight Corridor.

(4) Access by freight operators to the NSW rail network is governed by the NSW Rail Access Undertaking.

Freight operators must be accredited by the Independent Transport Safety and Reliability Regulator, and then must enter into an access agreement with the relevant track owner (RailCorp, RIC and/or ARTC).

(5) Rail freight is promoted by the relevant industry association (Australasian Railway Association) and private freight operators.

The NSW Government policy target related to rail freight is to increase the proportion of container freight movement by rail out of Port Botany to 40% by 2016.

As per the NSW State Plan and the Metropolitan Transport Plan - Connecting the City of Cities, the Department of Transport and Infrastructure is currently developing a 25 year Freight Strategy for NSW, which will be multi-modal, including rail freight.

\*9852 INVERELL, GLEN INNES, TENTERFIELD AND ARMIDALE HEALTH SERVICES—Mr Richard Torbay asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) Where on the priority list are capital upgrades for the Inverell, Glen Innes, Tenterfield and Armidale health services?
- (2) What are the current capital works maintenance requirements for the Inverell, Glen Innes, Tenterfield and Armidale health services?

Answer—

All capital works proposals are subjected to careful analysis and evaluation and an objective prioritisation process. There are requests for a very large number of projects across the state, and each year difficult choices have to be made about which projects are undertaken within the available budget.

I am advised that the Hunter New England Area Health Service has implemented a computerised maintenance management system that assists in the management of maintenance needs of individual hospitals, including Inverell, Glen Innes, Tenterfield and Armidale. This system allows the Area Health Service's Facility Management Unit to identify and attend to issues in a controlled and planned approach, having considered the relevant risks and the availability of funding.

\*9853 SMITHS LAKE FISH KILL—Mr John Turner asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

- (1) Have fish been dying in Smiths Lake?
- (2) If so, has the Department of Fisheries carried out any testing as to the fish kills?
- (3) If so, what testing?
- (4) If so, what is the result of such testing?
- (5) If so, will the department make the result of the tests public?
- (6) If so, when?
- (7) If not, why not?

Answer—

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I am advised as follows:

- (1) There have been unconfirmed/anecdotal reports of a small number of fish deaths, but to date Industry and Investment NSW advises that there have been no reports/investigations into fish kills involving numbers of fish dying within the lake.
- (2) 5 fish were submitted to Industry and Investment NSW for testing.
- (3) Industry and Investment NSW advises that they have undertaken pathology testing of 5 live fish sampled from the lake (consisting of bream, mullet and flathead) and also undertaken salinity testing within the lake.
- (4) Fish sampling pathology results were inconclusive and did not indicate any clear causes or diseases affecting the health of the fish. Salinity testing was within the normal range for an estuary of 24-29 parts per thousand.

Industry and Investment NSW and the Marine Parks Authority are working with the Estuary Management Committee to look further at potential causes of the poor condition of the fish.

- (5) and (6) Industry and Investment NSW advises that it provided a copy of the fish sampling results to Great Lakes Council in early May, prior to their recent Estuary Management Committee meeting on 5 May 2010. Salinity results were also provided by Industry and Investment NSW at this meeting.

- (7) Not applicable.

\*9854 CONCESSIONS FOR PENSIONERS—Mr Ray Williams asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

Why there are inconsistencies between the rates of concessions for pensioners travelling on trains, between Queensland and New South Wales?

Answer—

I am advised:

Each State and Territory is responsible for determining the level of concession benefits that will apply on their transport services for different groups.

NSW currently has more generous entitlements in place than Queensland – which allow Queensland pensioners to access a half fare concession on CountryLink services.

In contrast, NSW pensioners visiting Queensland are only eligible for a 25% discount.

However, under reciprocity arrangements negotiated between the Commonwealth and State and Territory Governments in 2009, aged pensioners who also hold a NSW Seniors Card are entitled to the same level of discount on Queensland's transport services as the holder of a Queensland Seniors Card.

This means they can access a half fare concession on Queensland long distance rail services.

\*9855 POTENTIAL BREACHES OF PROTECTED DISCLOSURES ACT—Mr Ray Williams asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

In relation to dismissed TAFE teacher Mr Richard Gibbs and given your advice that "It would not be appropriate to comment on the details of particular allegations of corruption or matters that are alleged to be the subject of a protected disclosure" (Question 9257):

As the Premier is the Minister responsible for protected disclosure and given that the dismissal of Mr Gibbs may constitute a breach of the Protected Disclosures Act, have you referred these matters of potential maladministration and breaches of the Protected Disclosures Act to the NSW Ombudsman?

Answer—

It would not be appropriate to comment on the details of particular allegations of corruption or matters that are alleged to be the subject of a protected disclosure.

Any person may make a complaint to the Ombudsman or otherwise provide information to the Ombudsman that they consider to be relevant to the Ombudsman's functions.

**21 APRIL 2010**

(Paper No. 192)

\*9856 CHILDREN (PROTECTION AND PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY) ACT 1997—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

In relation to the Children (Protection and Parental Responsibility) Act 1997:

Given the Attorney General's advice courts make use of the legislation where appropriate in the circumstances (Question 7797) but the number of times the provision has been used, when and where since January 1998 cannot be determined from the computer system in the Local and Children's Courts (Question 8330), will the Premier take action to obtain the requested information and publish it?

Answer—

I refer the Member to the answers previously provided on this issue.

I am advised this information cannot be determined from the computer system used in the Local and Children's Courts.

\*9857 RENEWABLE ENERGY GENERATION—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform—

In relation to renewable energy generation:

- (1) Since the Minister was appointed Minister for Energy in September 2009, what visits has the Minister made to sites of wind, solar, wave or geothermal generation within Australia?
- (2) If so, when and where were the site visits?

Answer—

I was appointed as Minister for Energy on May 21, 2010. As such, I am not able to respond to this question.

\*9859 CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN OUT-OF-HOME CARE—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—

- (1) How many children and young people were permanently removed from their parents care in:
  - (a) 2005-06;
  - (b) 2006-07;
  - (c) 2007-08;
  - (d) 2008-09?
- (2) Of the children and young people that were permanently removed in 2008-09, how many were aged:
  - (a) 0-1 year old;
  - (b) 2-4 years old;
  - (c) 5-9 years old;
  - (d) 10-13 years old;
  - (e) 14-17 years old?
- (3) As of 2008-09 how many children and young people in Out-Of-Home Care (who have not been permanently removed) have been in Out-Of-Home Care cumulatively for:
  - (a) one month or less;
  - (b) more than one month and up to six months;
  - (c) more than six months and up to twelve months;
  - (d) more than one year and less than two years;
  - (e) more than two years and less than three years;
  - (f) more than three years?
- (4) How many children and young people, who had been restored to their parents from Out-Of-Home Care have subsequently, at any stage, been again placed in Out-Of-Home Care in:
  - (a) 2005-06;
  - (b) 2006-07;
  - (c) 2007-08;
  - (d) 2008-09?

Answer—

- (1) Children and young people (CYP) who entered into a statutory care arrangement and who also had a finalised Care and Protection Order until the age of 17 years for each of the respective years is as follows:
  - (a) 2005-06 - 739
  - (b) 2006-07 - 1,005
  - (c) 2007-08 - 943
  - (d) 2008-09 - 984

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- (2) The age breakdown of CYP who entered a statutory care arrangement and who also had a finalised Care and Protection Order until the age of 17 years during 2008/09 is as follows:
- (a) 0-1 year old - 274
  - (b) 2-4 years old - 169
  - (c) 5-9 years old - 222
  - (d) 10-13 years old - 146
  - (e) 14-17 years old -173
- (3) This information is contained in the Annual Statistical Report which is available at [www.community.nsw.gov.au](http://www.community.nsw.gov.au)
- (4) At present, these data are not analysed for reporting purposes.

\*9861 EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—

In reference to the \$10.2 million being spent by the Commonwealth on early childhood education in New South Wales, under the National Partnership Agreement on Early Childhood Education in 2008-09:

- (1) What is the money being spent on?
- (2) By how much have pre-school enrolments increased or decreased in 2008-09 compared to 2007-08 as both a percentage and an absolute number?
- (3) What is the current rate of enrolment in pre-schools in New South Wales, compared to the total New South Wales population of:
  - (a) three-year olds;
  - (b) four year olds;

who are eligible for pre-school placement?

Answer—

(1) and (2) This information is available at [www.community.nsw.gov.au](http://www.community.nsw.gov.au)

(3) 2008-2009 is the baseline year for data collection and reporting on access to preschools under the Commonwealth and NSW State Governments Bilateral Agreement. The figures for 2008/2009 baseline are published in the Bilateral Agreement. Comparable data will be available when the first Annual Reports, from the States and Territories, against the Universal Access Bilateral are published. This will be at the discretion of the Australian Government.

\*9862 SHARING OF INFORMATION—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—

With the amendments under section 16A of the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998 which came into force at the end of January 2010 and which authorise agencies and NGOs to share information:

- (1) How long does it take to process an information application?
- (2) Is an application able to be made over the telephone?
- (3) If not, how much paperwork is involved?
- (4) Has the Minister received any feedback from NGOs?

Answer—

The relevant amendments to the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998, which came into force at the end of January 2010 authorise agencies and NGOs to share information. These are found under Chapter 16A of the Act, and not section 16A.

Agencies and NGOs can now exchange information independently of Community Services. It is planned that the process will be evaluated but insufficient time has elapsed for the evaluation to have commenced. As there is flexibility in how different agencies and NGOs can share information any comment should be informed by the outcome of the evaluation.

\*9863 LIFTS AT BOWRAL STATION—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

Since installation, how many times have the lifts at the Bowral train station broken down or experienced a form of mechanical failure that has temporarily rendered them inoperable?

Answer—

I am advised:

Since installation in December 2007, the lifts have been unavailable for passenger service 28 times.

\*9865 PORTABLE SOCCER GOALPOSTS—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Fair Trading, Minister for the Arts—

With reference to the death of a three-year-old child in Moss Vale on 28 June 2003, due to a portable soccer goalpost falling on her:

- (1) On how many occasions and on what dates has the Interdepartmental Working Group, established by the Minister of Fair Trading following the Deputy State Coroner's report of 27 August 2004, met?
- (2) How many goalposts have actually been removed from service for not complying with the guidelines as a result of the work of the Interdepartmental Working Group?
- (3) Did the proposed new safety standard for soccer goalposts come into effect on 1 March 2008 as stated in the Legislative Council by the Minister on 5 December 2007?
- (4) On how many occasions, on what dates and in which areas has the Office of Fair Trading audited compliance with the new safety standards?

Answer—

- (1) The Interdepartmental Working Group met formally on three separate occasions on 1 October 2004, 1 November 2004 and 14 December 2004 in response to the Coroners report. The agencies continued to work together informally in 2005 to ensure a properly co-ordinated approach as part of the education and awareness campaign for the safety standard.
- (2) As part of the government response to the Deputy Coroner's Report the Working Group approached soccer authorities, local councils and schools to promote awareness of the safety issues involved and to establish a commitment to ensure that existing goals are properly anchored and secured in accordance with the current Guidelines. This also involved voluntary removal of goals that do not comply with the Guidelines.

An audit of existing soccer goals was negotiated with the soccer authorities and local councils in NSW. Results indicated that around 200 goalposts were identified as being metal moveable goalposts. The owners of these goalposts were provided with details of the hazards and guidelines to address those concerns.

The guidelines call for voluntary removal and Fair Trading has not collected statistics in relation to how many goalposts have been voluntarily removed.

- (3) The new safety standard for soccer goalposts took effect on 1 March 2005.
- (4) Fair Trading is responsible for over 60 product safety laws and conducts compliance programs targeting a range of products which include portable soccer goalposts. Since 1 July 2009, Fair Trading inspectors have visited over 1000 stores and markets in over 240 towns throughout New South Wales.

Since the introduction of the regulation, Fair Trading has not identified any non compliant moveable soccer goalposts being supplied in the marketplace.

\*9866 NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION RED GUM REPORT—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

- (1) Given that the Natural Resources Commission has recently "revised" their assessment of the long-term sustainable yield of red gum forests in the Riverina upwards to between 6,300 to 13,600 cubic metres per year of quota sawlogs and new information coming to light that the approximately 10,000 hectares of the Barooga and Wakool forests were not included in the NRC sustainability calculations, will the Minister seek a new assessment of sustainability of red gum forestry?
- (2) Given that the amount of water that the Minister has allocated for use in the red gum forests is only 22% of the amount of water recommended by the National Resources Commission in its first and most important recommendation, does he assess this amount of water to be sufficient?
- (3) On what scientific data does the Minister base this assessment?
- (4) Will the Minister provide me with a copy of this data?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

- (1) No.
- (2) The Government supports increasing the availability of water for the River Red Gum forests. The amount of water currently available to the environment has been set through water sharing plans and the result of water recovery programs, including Riverbank (NSW) and the Living Murray (Commonwealth and NSW).

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This water is required to meet a range of environmental needs, including the River Red Gum forests, and is constrained by water availability, which has been low during the extended drought.

Any increases to environmental water entitlements will be set by the Murray-Darling Basin Plan and the Sustainable Diversion Limit assessment currently being carried out by the Murray-Darling Basin Authority. The NSW Government will work with the Australian Government through these programs to support increased water for the environment.

- (3) The report of the Natural Resources Commission outlines the current extent, condition and environmental values of River Red Gum forests in the Riverina Bioregion, showing there has been a decline in ecosystem health due to a range of factors including a reduction in the frequency, duration and size of floods. Increasing overall water availability will be important to address this decline, particularly in light of climate change projections.

Once it is released, the Murray-Darling Basin Plan will provide a comprehensive assessment of environmental water needs for the whole Basin, including the River Red gum forests, and will account for this in determining sustainable diversion limits.

- (4) The Natural Resources Commission Assessment can be found on the Commission's website at [www.nrc.nsw.gov.au](http://www.nrc.nsw.gov.au). The draft Murray-Darling Basin Plan will be available at [www.mdba.gov.au](http://www.mdba.gov.au), once it has been released.

\*9867 POLICE BIKE UNITS—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

With respect to police bicycle units that allow police officers to have high visibility, be mobile and work effectively within the electorate of Hornsby:

- (1) What police bike units currently operate in the Kuring-gai Local Area Command and how many officers are involved?
- (2) What evaluation has the Government carried out into the effectiveness of police bicycle units?
- (3) Are there plans for training and more equipment for bike units in the Hornsby area?
- (4) How does the Government ensure that police bicycle units can continue to operate when officers are transferred and promoted?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me:

- (1) There is one bicycle unit at Kuring-gai Local Area Command, with twelve officers qualified as riders.
- (2) Commanders report that bicycle patrol units can be highly effective and useful policing tools that provide a significant contribution to high visibility policing operations and major events.
- (3) The NSW Police Force provides bicycle training to all Local Area Commands in NSW via the Bicycle Training and Coordination Unit (BTAC), which currently offers 120 training positions a year for Certificate III Bicycle Patrol Operators, involving 130 hours initial training over 12 months. BTAC is also planning to replace 130 mountain bikes at the end of 2010.
- (4) The relevant Local Area Commander evaluates the need for bicycle operatives and activates a succession plan when appropriate to ensure that vacancies are filled. The Commander nominates and releases officers for training as required.

\*9868 NSW COUNTRY RAIL MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT—Mr Kevin Humphries asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

In relation to the NSW Country Rail Maintenance Agreement:

- (1) Can the Minister detail NSW Government funding allocations for each main and branch line across the state?
- (2) When will this work be undertaken?
- (3) Who will undertake the work?
- (4) Which branch lines will be upgraded as per previous taskforce recommendations?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) In 2009-10 Government funding of \$156.5 million is allocated for the maintenance of the Country Regional Network. Rail Infrastructure Corporation maintains the network based on an asset management plan which allocates funding to support annual work programs. These works programs vary from year to year for each line.
- (2) Work is carried out over the whole year. For example in 2008-09 works on the Country Regional Network included:

- upgrade of three level crossings from passive to active protection;
  - installation of 304,731 steel sleepers;
  - installation of 104,600 concrete sleepers;
  - 1,076 kilometres of track resurfaced;
  - 200 kilometres of rail grinding;
  - 97,060 tonnes of new ballast;
  - 24.4 kilometres of new fencing;
  - 444 bridge transoms were replaced;
  - 90.5 kilometres of track was continuously welded;
  - replacement of 21 underbridges and repairs to 161 others; and
  - major maintenance to 58 level crossings.
- (3) Currently the Australian Rail Track Corporation is contracted to deliver maintenance services on the Country Regional Network.
- (4) The NSW Government has released its preliminary response to the Review. It is available on the NSW Transport and Infrastructure website.

\*9869 MINISTERIAL TASK FORCE—CENTRAL WEST BRANCH LINES—Mr Kevin Humphries asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

In relation to five central west branch lines:

- (1) Given that the Minister has agreed to set up a Ministerial task force to look into the case of reopening five central west branch lines, when will this occur?
- (2) What individuals/organisations are represented on this taskforce?
- (3) With respect to meetings of this taskforce, on how many occasions has the taskforce met; where has it met; and for what duration?
- (4) When will the survey on the tunnel on the line between Blayney and Harden commence?
- (5) Who will be undertaking this survey?
- (6) When will the survey be completed?
- (7) How much will this survey cost?
- (8) Will the survey be released to the public and/or the Parliament?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) to (3) On 22 March 2010, the former Minister for Transport and Roads met with representatives of the Shires of Blayney, Cowra, Harden, Young and Weddin, and agreed to the establishment of a Ministerial Taskforce within three months. The former Minister for Transport and Roads also agreed that the joint councils would be represented on the Taskforce.

The former Minister for Transport and Roads invited the councils to make submissions on the composition of the Taskforce and its terms of reference.

(4) to (8) The survey of Carcoar Tunnel will be completed by the Australian Rail Track Corporation during May 2010 for less than \$10,000 and results will be made available to interested stakeholders.

\*9870 HAEMODIALYSIS IN WAGGA WAGGA AND TUMUT—Mr Daryl Maguire asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) What is the long-term plan for haemodialysis in Wagga Wagga and Tumut?
- (2) Is the "Home in Hospital" with buddy/patient operated dialysis unit going to be the model across the Greater Southern Area Health Service (GSAHS)?
- (3) If so:
  - (a) why has Bega a fully staffed unit, which began 2 years ago with only 3 patients;
  - (b) why has Forbes a "real" unit started in 2006 with 2 patients;
  - (c) why has Bathurst a "real" unit also started in 2004 with 2 patients;
  - (d) why has Dubbo in the Greater Western Area Health Service (GWAHS) 7 nurse-assisted units under its care;
  - (e) why has Griffith also a "real" unit?
- (4) If renal specialists are difficult to attract to Wagga can video consulting overcome this problem?
- (5) Why are country people in the GSAHS being disadvantaged compared to GWAHS?
- (6) What is going to be done to enable the two most recent patients in Tumut to have access to treatment?
- (7) As there are now 5 haemodialysis patients in Tumut, when will a stand alone facility in Tumut be



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established?

Answer—

I am advised that:

Greater Southern Area Health Service Satellite Renal Dialysis Units are situated in Moruya, Griffith, Goulburn, Bega and Wagga Wagga.

The Haemodialysis service at Wagga Wagga Base Hospital has received funding to expand its service. This expansion will provide dialysis for an additional 16 patients.

In order to meet the clinical requirements of all renal patients, there needs to be a number of different haemodialysis models offered. These include facility-based services such as the one at Wagga Wagga and the outreach service supporting Home Dialysis.

A third model, the "Self Care Haemodialysis in a Hospital Setting" is already operating in Cooma. GSAHS is considering expanding the "Self Care Haemodialysis in a Hospital Setting" model, to other smaller centres including Tumut, Deniliquin and Temora, when clinically suitable patients are identified.

The Bega Renal Unit was established two years ago to reduce travelling times of almost three hours (one way) for those patients living south of Bega. The predicted growth in population within the age group of 55 years and over indicated a greater need for a satellite unit at Bega.

Griffith is a regional centre with a Nephrologist visiting on a monthly basis, with 100 patients attending the Nephrology clinic. Renal services commenced in Griffith with 6 patients, 5 years ago to reduce travelling times, as patients had to travel at least two hours (one way) for dialysis in Wagga Wagga. In addition, there was no other haemodialysis service in the Western Sector of Greater Southern Area Health Service. The Griffith Renal Unit now has 7 dialysis chairs, treating 15 patients.

The Greater Southern Area Health Service is currently reviewing its local renal services and is considering the demand for renal dialysis centres in smaller communities.

The needs of the two patients at Tumut are yet to be clinically determined. The patients will receive the required level of care, as outlined by their Specialist. The option of establishing a self care haemodialysis service in Tumut will continue to be explored by Greater Southern Area Health Service

The Greater Western Area Health Service also offers a form of facility-based, self or limited care - "Home in the Hospital" services. The Dubbo Renal Network supports 9 facility-based self and/or limited care renal services located in Brewarrina, Cobar, Coonabarabran, Gulargambone, Mudgee, Narromine, Warren and Wellington with a total of 14 machines currently treating 14 people. The service targets people who would otherwise dialyse at home but are fragile, do not have a carer or their home environment is unsuitable. These services are supported by specialist medical, nursing and allied health staff from Dubbo.

The Forbes unit is a satellite unit of the Orange in-centre unit. The unit was established in response to demand from residents of the Forbes catchment area travelling to Orange for dialysis. The Bathurst unit is also a satellite service supported by the Orange in-centre unit. Currently the unit operates at maximum capacity treating 16 patients at 12 shifts per week. The Bathurst renal unit was established to offset the increasing demand for treatment at the Orange unit from people travelling from the Bathurst catchment area.

The use of videoconferencing as part of a Telemedicine service has a wide range of uses in rural NSW and has proved to be very beneficial where specialist medical staff are not always available. However this technology has limitations, especially when a detailed physical examination is required for renal patients with highly complex needs.

The NSW Government continues to provide funding so that highly experienced medical staff can fly into regional centres each month to provide detailed examination and advice regarding these patients.

\*9871 STREET LIGHTING—Mr Daryl Maguire asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) Why is there no street lighting at the junction of Red Hill Road and the Olympic Highway, Wagga Wagga?
- (2) How much will it cost to install street lighting at that intersection?
- (3) Who is responsible for:
  - (a) funding lights;
  - (b) operational costs of lights?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) As a rural road intersection with no raised traffic island, street lighting is not considered warranted.
- (2) It is estimated that street lighting at that intersection would cost \$100,000 plus the ongoing cost of electricity supply.
- (3) (a) This is dependent on the individual project.  
(b) Councils are usually responsible for the operational costs of street lighting, however, the Roads and Traffic Authority does pay most councils a traffic route lighting subsidy.

\*9876 NEW UNIT DWELLINGS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

- (1) How many new unit dwellings are allowed for under the draft Ku-ring-gai Town Centres LEP?
- (2) How many new town houses or villas are allowed for?
- (3) How many other new dwellings are allowed for?
- (4) Why are the following sites excluded in calculations of potential new dwellings:
  - (a) the SAN site;
  - (b) council owned sites;
  - (c) the formerly deferred sites in Turramurra and Lindfield?
- (5) Is the Minister aware of the Ku-ring-gai Council survey that found only about 700 of 3,900 respondents indicated they would not want to live in a unit dwelling or multi-storey apartment?

Answer—

- (1) I am advised that the independent review of dwelling yields in Ku-ring-gai found that the draft Ku-ring-gai Town Centres LEP is expected provide for around 4,454 additional dwellings over the next 20 years. Under the LEP a range of dwelling types are permissible. As such, the proportion of different types of dwellings that result from the LEP will be determined by the development choices of individual land owners and developers responding to the local market.
- (2) See answer to question (1).
- (3) See answer to question (1).
- (4) (a) I am advised that potential new dwellings arising from the redevelopment of the SAN hospital site were not included in the dwelling yield calculations under the independent review (the Treadstone review), as the review had been finalised prior to finalisation of the concept plan for the SAN hospital site.  
(b) Council-owned sites were included in the maximum development scenario yield estimates prepared by Ku-ring-gai Council officers. These sites were not included in the minimum and mid-range scenarios by Ku-ring-gai Council officers.  
(c) It is understood the formerly deferred sites in Turramurra and Lindfield were included in the dwelling yield calculations prepared by Ku-ring-gai Council officers.
- (5) No.

\*9877 NSW METROPOLITAN STRATEGY—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

- (1) Why is St Ives designated as a Town Centre under the NSW Metropolitan Strategy when it is not near a railway line?
- (2) What plans are there to substantially improve public transport for St Ives?

Answer—

- (1) I am advised St Ives is a local centre, not a strategic centre, and as such it is not designated in the Metropolitan Strategy (City of Cities) 2005. St Ives is recognised in the Draft North Subregional Strategy (2007) as a village.
- (2) There are two strategic bus routes that cross St Ives (Route 36 Mona Vale Macquarie Park and Route 8 Hornsby Chatswood). These routes are being implemented.

\*9878 2009 DRAFT SECTION 94 CONTRIBUTIONS PLAN—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

- (1) Has the Minister's department been requested to investigate an alleged abuse of Ku-ring-gai Council's legal powers or council's adoption of improper procedures in considering the 2009 Draft Section 94 Contributions Plan?
- (2) If so, what are the results of any investigation or consideration of this matter?

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Answer—

- (1) No.
- (2) N/A

\*9879 CARRAMAR AGED CARE FACILITY—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

In relation to Carramar Aged Care Facility:

Given the concern in the Leeton community over the proposed privatisation of Carramar, would the Minister confirm that all current beds in the facility will remain in the facility in the event that the facility remains in NSW Government hands?

Answer—

I am advised:

Should a proposal to transfer the Carramar Aged Care Facility to the non-government sector be accepted, licences for all current aged care beds in the facility would be transferred to the new provider. Transfer proposals will only be accepted if they deliver positive outcomes for residents, their families, staff and the health system.

\*9880 EMERGENCY PLANS—GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked the Minister for Education and Training—

In relation to emergencies on NSW Government school grounds:

- (1) Does each NSW Government school have an emergency plan?
- (2) Does each local police station and/or Local Area Command have information regarding each NSW Government school's emergency plan?
- (3) With the rollout of the BER program in full swing in NSW Government schools, do local police stations and/or Local Area Commands have up-to-date information regarding each school's updated emergency plans with respect to the rapid changes occurring to each school's layout?
- (4) What would be the appropriate response if an emergency occurred in NSW Government school that does not have an updated emergency response plan in light of the school layout changes occurring under the rollout of the BER program?

Answer—

- (1) Under the NSW Department of Education and Training's Emergency Planning and Response Policy and supporting Emergency Management Guidelines, all NSW government schools are required to have an emergency management plan in place. The plan is to be reviewed at a minimum of every 12 months and government schools are required to conduct appropriate evacuation drills at least every six months.
- (2) It is recommended that schools develop their emergency management plan in consultation with local authorities and emergency services.
- (3) In accordance with the Department's Emergency Management Guidelines, NSW government schools are required to review and update where required, their emergency management plan following any emergency or when any major change occurs, for example, new buildings, major construction work or any other factors that could affect access to evacuation assembly areas.
- (4) All NSW government schools are required to have an emergency management plan in place. In the event of an emergency, schools will contact emergency services and respond as required, implementing their evacuation or other emergency response as appropriate.

\*9881 LEETON PUBLIC SCHOOL—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked the Minister for Education and Training—

- (1) Given that the classrooms that Leeton Public School has built with BER funds are now complete and ready for use, why can the school not yet use them?
- (2) Which part of the BER contracts would preclude the busy school from utilising these classrooms as soon as possible?
- (3) Are all NSW Government schools also unable to use any completed buildings/rooms until their full BER schedule of works are finally completed?
- (4) When will Leeton Public School's BER works be fully completed?

Answer—

- (1) to (4) As of 1 May 2010 the managing contractor reported that the project to construct new classrooms at Leeton Public School was 70 per cent complete. Managing contractors endeavour to

hand over works to schools as soon as they are fit for use. The managing contractor anticipates that this work will be completed by the end of June.

\*9882 PORTABLE OXYGEN—Mr Greg Piper asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

Will the Government consider subsidising portable oxygen to those requiring it to maintain their life-style out of the home while attending meetings, doing volunteer work, attending medical/hospital appointments etc?

Answer—

I am advised:

The NSW Government funds the Home Respiratory Program that provides respiratory equipment, such as oxygen concentrators and portable oxygen cylinders, ventilators, continuous positive airway pressure devices and related respiratory equipment and consumables to assist people manage their respiratory condition at home.

The type of home oxygen equipment provided depends on the findings of a thorough clinical assessment by a respiratory specialist.

All applications for home oxygen equipment are assessed in accordance with the guidelines of the Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand. Under these guidelines, portable oxygen is indicated for people who fulfil the criteria for continuous oxygen therapy and whose oxygen saturation levels drop significantly during exercise, such as walking.

\*9883 INCREASE IN ELECTRICITY PRICES—Mr Greg Piper asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform—

With the Australian Energy Regulator approving the Government's plan to increase distribution costs to \$14 billion and the resulting increases in domestic and commercial electricity prices, why was this 80% increase over the next five years not foreseen?

Answer—

The actual level of expenditure undertaken by NSW distribution network businesses is regulated by the Australian Energy Regulator (AER).

The AER indicated that the real end use price impacts, that is the impact on customer bills, would range between -2% to +9.5% per annum for each of the businesses for the period 2009-14.

The NSW Government understands some households will find energy price rises difficult to meet and has a range of programs to help eligible customers stay connected to these essential services.

\*9884 CATARACT SURGERY—MURWILLUMBAH DISTRICT HOSPITAL—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

What is the total number of Tweed Shire patients receiving cataract surgery at the Murwillumbah District Hospital during:

- (a) 2007;
- (b) 2008;
- (c) 2009;
- (d) 2010?

Answer—

I am advised:

Cataract surgery in the Tweed Shire is undertaken at the Murwillumbah District Hospital. Emergency ophthalmic surgery only is performed at The Tweed Hospital.

The number of Tweed Shire patients receiving cataract surgery at Murwillumbah District Hospital during the periods in question is as follows:

- (a) 424 in 2006-07
- (b) 460 in 2007-08
- (c) 349 in 2008-09
- (d) 285 in 2009-10 (to 15 April 2010)

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\*9885 NSW LOTTERY PRODUCTS—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Special Minister of State—

In relation to the sale of NSW lottery products:

- (1) What is the total number of NSW lottery products sold in outlets in the Tweed in the following years:
  - (a) 2008;
  - (b) 2009;
  - (c) year to date?
- (2) What is the total value of NSW lottery products sold in outlets in the Tweed in the following years:
  - (a) 2008;
  - (b) 2009;
  - (c) year to date?

Answer—

I am advised that there are seven lottery products on sale. These are: lotto (Monday/Wednesday/Saturday), lotto strike (Monday/Wednesday/Saturday), instant scratchies, lucky lotteries (\$2 & \$5 jackpot lotteries), 6 from 38 pools, oz lotto and powerball.

I am further advised that:

- (1) The total number of lottery coupons or tickets sold in outlets covered by the Tweed Council for the calendar year are as follows:
  - (a) 2008 - 2,494,320
  - (b) 2009 - 2,698,615
  - (c) year to date 31 March 2010 - 693,335
- (2) The total value of these lottery coupons are as follows:
  - (a) 2008 - \$14,989,954
  - (b) 2009 - \$17,277,929
  - (c) year to date 31 March 2010 - \$4,482,370

\*9886 TAX REVENUE FROM SALE OF NSW LOTTERY PRODUCTS—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Special Minister of State—

In relation to the collection of duty from the sale of NSW lottery products:

What is the tax value to the Government from the sale of NSW lottery products?

Answer—

I refer the Member to the NSW Government Budget Papers, where this information is publicly available.

\*9887 CUMBERLAND PLAIN WOODLAND—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

- (1) Why does the draft Recovery Plan claim that 24,972 hectares of Cumberland Plain Woodland remains?
- (2) When the NSW Scientific Committee says only 10,612 hectares remain and has upgraded it to "critically endangered status" under the NSW Threatened Species Conservation Act, does the source of the 24,972 hectares figure have greater credibility than the NSW Scientific Committee?
- (3) Which estimate is correct?
- (4) When will the draft Recovery Plan be finalised?
- (5) Why didn't the Government intervene to protect "critically endangered" Cumberland woodland before Blacktown Council began clearing recently for playing fields?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

- (1) The draft Cumberland Plain Recovery Plan placed on public exhibition from November to December 2009 referenced the area of remaining Cumberland Plain Woodland from the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (DECCW) publication "Native Vegetation Maps of the Cumberland Plain, Western Sydney - Interpretation Guidelines. Final Edition". The figure is derived from Table 3 of that publication by adding the total extent of larger, better condition remnants (11,054 hectares mapped as classes A, B and C) and the extent of remnants comprising scattered trees (13,917 hectares mapped as classes Cmi, TX and TXR).
- (2) In its final determination for the listing of Cumberland Plain Woodland as 'critically endangered', the NSW Scientific Committee referenced a 2003 article published by Mark Tozer titled "The native

vegetation of the Cumberland Plain, western Sydney: a systematic classification and field identification of communities". This publication used the same source data as the DECCW (2002) report. The difference in figures related to definitions and whether or not to include the extent of scattered tree classes in describing Cumberland Plain Woodland. The NSW Scientific Committee reviewed this extent in 2008, based on 2007 aerial photography, and published its revised figure of 10,612 hectares in its recent final determination.

- (3) Both figures are estimates of the current extent of Cumberland Plain Woodland derived from the same source. In mid-2009, when writing the draft Cumberland Plain Recovery Plan, DECCW interpreted the 'endangered' NSW Scientific Committee determination as likely to encompass a broad range of condition classes, which included a significant proportion of the scattered tree classes. DECCW therefore included this class in the area of Cumberland Plain Woodland described in the draft recovery plan. However, the recent 'critically endangered' NSW Scientific Committee determination of Cumberland Plain Woodland has clarified that it considers the mapped scattered tree classes to be generally of low condition, with a low probability of containing native vegetation that would meet the definition as the critically endangered ecological community. As a result, DECCW will update the final recovery plan to be consistent with the figures published by the Committee.
- (4) The Cumberland Plain Recovery Plan will be finalised in mid-2010.
- (5) The recent clearing of Cumberland Plain Woodland by Blacktown Council at Glenwood for playing fields was assessed by Council as a local planning matter. DECCW does not have the statutory power to review the decisions of councils. However, given the significant concerns raised by residents about the proposal, Council agreed to stop work to allow DECCW officers to visit the site and review Council's assessment procedures. From the information provided, DECCW was satisfied that Council had followed the relevant assessment and approval processes for these works and had included the community in the decision-making process.

\*9888 DWARF MOUNTAIN PINES—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

- (1) Is the Minister aware there are only around 300 Dwarf Mountain Pines left in the wild?
- (2) What is the department doing to safeguard Dwarf Mountain Pines?
- (3) How much money has been allocated to safeguard the Dwarf Mountain Pine?

Answer—

- (1) I am advised that: The dwarf mountain pine is listed as an endangered species under both State and Commonwealth legislation. It occurs only within a very restricted habitat - the spray zone of waterfalls on the Blue Mountains escarpment between Katoomba and Wentworth Falls. In 2004, a systematic plant survey of this area found a total population of 602 individual plants. Routine inspections of the area since then indicate that plant numbers have been maintained.
- (2) The Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water has undertaken a wide range of planning and management actions over more than 20 years to protect this species. In 2005, 25 Priority Actions were identified to help the recovery of the species. Full details of these actions can be found on the Threatened Species website at [www.threatenedspecies.environment.nsw.gov.au](http://www.threatenedspecies.environment.nsw.gov.au).

Recent actions undertaken by the Department to safeguard dwarf mountain pines include:

- working with Blue Mountains Council and the Hawkesbury Nepean Catchment Management Authority on a new weed control program, Weeding on the Edge, to control invasive weeds near dwarf mountain pine populations, particularly in urban areas adjoining national park;
  - co-ordinating and supporting two volunteer bushcare groups in Leura and Wentworth Falls;
  - hazard reduction burning, which helps reduce erosion, sedimentation and weed expansion risks; and
  - preventing rock-climbing and abseiling in the habitat areas and maintaining the walking track network to direct people away from sensitive areas.
- (3) Departmental planning and management actions to protect the dwarf mountain pine are funded from regional fire and pest program budgets. These programs include \$15,000 per year funding for the volunteer bushcare groups working in Leura and Wentworth Falls. In addition, Blue Mountains Council funds sediment and urban runoff control programs that help protect the species within the park and the Hawkesbury Nepean CMA provides funds for contract weed control, for example \$13,000 in 2009-2010.

\*9889 ERADICATION OF RATS—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

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- (1) Has there been any communication between the Lord Howe Island Board and the South Georgia Heritage Trust?
- (2) If so, what was the nature of that communication?
- (3) Is it an acceptable risk to lose some native animals to brodifacoum distributed by helicopter if it can be shown that rats kill more native animals than this each year?
- (4) Given that The Sunday Times reported in March that rodents have been eradicated from 300 islands worldwide, what other methods have been used to clear islands of rats besides distributing poison from a helicopter?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) In February 2010 a Lord Howe Island Board representative met the Project Manager for the South Georgia rat eradication program at the "Island Invasives: Eradication and Management Conference" in Auckland, New Zealand. Logistical and operational issues relevant to the South Georgia operation were discussed at a meeting of the Conference's Island Eradication Advisory Group.
- (3) The decision to proceed with an eradication program is not based on a simplistic analysis of one risk and benefit. However, evidence collected during previous rodent eradications has clearly demonstrated that non-target mortalities resulting from eradication operations are rapidly offset by increased productivity of native species once threats of predation and competition by rodents are removed. The draft Lord Howe Island Eradication Plan details measures to minimise the risks to the island's endemic species.
- (4) A range of methods have been used in the more than 300 successful rodent eradications, including trapping, bait stations, bait distribution by hand, and aerial baiting. The Australian Government's Threat Abatement Plan to reduce the impacts of exotic rodents on biodiversity on Australian offshore islands of less than 100,000 hectares, and eradication practitioners worldwide, recognise that aerial broadcast of bait is the only practical method of delivering baits on islands with steep topography, such as Lord Howe Island.

\*9890 ANZAC MEMORIAL—HYDE PARK—Mr Anthony Roberts asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

- (1) Since 1 January 2007, what funding has been provided to upgrading the ANZAC Memorial in Hyde Park?
- (2) Did the upgrades include:
  - (a) CCTV;
  - (b) air-conditioning;
  - (c) lift to provide disabled access;
  - (d) repairs to the Great Doors?

Answer—

I am advised:

Since 1 January 2007, \$4.005 million has been provided to upgrade the ANZAC Memorial Building in Hyde Park.

The upgrades have included CCTV, air conditioning, a lift to provide disabled access and repairs to the Great Doors, among a range of significant works to fully refurbish the Building.

\*9891 UPGRADING EXISTING WAR MEMORIALS—Mr Anthony Roberts asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

- (1) How many grants have been provided to upgrading existing war memorials in the following financial years:
  - (a) 2006-2007;
  - (b) 2007-2008;
  - (c) 2008-2009;
  - (d) 2009-2010?
- (2) How much has been spent on grants to upgrading existing war memorials in the following financial years:
  - (a) 2006-2007;
  - (b) 2007-2008;
  - (c) 2008-2009;

(d) 2009-2010?

Answer—

I am advised from the 2006-2007 financial year to the present, 63 grants worth \$635,905 have been provided to upgrade existing war memorials.

\*9892 CURRENT ASSETS, LIABILITIES AND CREDITORS—Mrs Jillian Skinner asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

What is the balance of NSW Health Department "current assets", "current liabilities" and "creditors", broken down by Health Service - including all Area Health Services, The Children's Hospital at Westmead, Ambulance Service, Justice Health and Health Support Services - as at:

- (a) 31 March 2009;
- (b) 30 June 2009;
- (c) 30 September 2009;
- (d) 31 December 2009;
- (e) 31 March 2010?

Answer—

I am advised:

The NSW Health Annual Report 2008/09 provides audited financial statements for values as at June 2009 for current assets, current liabilities and payables. Payables includes all creditors including taxation and other payroll deductions but excludes accrued salaries and wages. These values have been independently audited by the NSW Auditor-General. Data for other quarters has not been subject to independent audit.

Health Service	Current Assets June 2009 \$000	Current Liabilities June 2009 \$000	Payables June 2009 \$000
Sydney South West Area Health Service	280,728	620,900	91,487
South Eastern/Illawarra Area Health Service	167,497	573,766	134,195
Sydney West Area Health Service	187,641	489,606	102,727
Northern Sydney/Central Coast Area Health Service	133,120	395,645	76,557
Hunter/New England Area Health Service	163,630	426,389	75,586
North Coast Area Health Service	34,272	220,898	58,605
Greater Southern Area Health Service	29,703	185,994	42,477
Greater Western Area Health Service	33,090	192,322	60,841
Royal Alexandra Hospital	82,485	99,059	13,791
Justice Health	8,954	33,748	8,167
Ambulance Service	74,195	182,219	36,698
Health Support Services	133,828	148,672	56,352
Total	1,329,143	3,569,218	757,483

\*9893 GREATER WESTERN AREA HEALTH SERVICE—PATHOLOGY VACANCIES—Mrs Jillian Skinner asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) What are the total pathology collections by facility by month within Greater Western Area Health Service in the 12 months to 31 March 2010?
- (2) What is the total of "staff vacancies" and "positions actively being recruited" by facility for all staffing levels in pathology departments within Greater Western Area Health Service as at 31 March 2010?
- (3) What challenges are preventing the Greater Western Area Health Service from filling pathology vacancies, and what strategies and plans are in place to overcome these?

Answer—



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I am advised:

Sydney West Area Health Service provides pathology services within hospitals and collection facilities across Sydney West, Greater West and Greater Southern Health Services.

Staff vacancies currently exist at Bathurst, Mudgee and Orange pathology departments and recruitment action is underway.

Each hospital and collection facility has strategies in place to ensure that staffing levels are adequate to meet patient needs.

Nevertheless it should be noted that there is an Australia-wide shortage of medical laboratory scientists and it is difficult to attract qualified staff to work in rural and regional laboratories.

\*9894 STROKE UNIT—ROYAL NORTH SHORE HOSPITAL—Mrs Jillian Skinner asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) Are there any plans to close the stroke unit at Royal North Shore Hospital?
- (2) What strategies and plans are in place at Royal North Shore Hospital to ensure stroke patients have adequate access to services for care and rehabilitation now and in the future?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) There are no plans to close the Stroke Unit at Royal North Shore Hospital.
- (2) Rehabilitation for stroke patients is provided by a range of service models. Early inpatient rehabilitation, including physiotherapy and speech therapy, is commenced in the Neurology Unit at the Royal North Shore Hospital (RNSH) well prior to discharge. Subsequent rehabilitation is provided for RNSH patients, including through Hope Healthcare at Greenwich Hospital. Patients with private health insurance can be referred to various private rehabilitation services within the region.

A 60 bed purpose built rehabilitation facility is scheduled for construction in late 2010 on the Ryde Hospital site in Eastwood. On completion, rehabilitation beds from both Greenwich Hospital and Royal Rehabilitation Centre, including beds for stroke rehabilitation, will be relocated to this facility, consistent with a recommendation from the 2007 Review of Rehabilitation and Related Services, Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Health Service.

Planning for this service has taken into account future demand for a range of rehabilitation needs, including stroke care.

\*9897 ACQUISITION AND DISPOSAL NOTICES FOR VEHICLES—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

In relation to maintaining accurate records for tollway notices:

- (1) When NSW cars have been on-sold to other businesses/drivers, and the Acquisition and Disposal notice for a registered vehicle has been successfully lodged with the RTA, why would the original owners continue to receive fines and toll notices from the vehicle?
- (2) Is the RTA responsible for providing accurate car registration information to the private tollway companies?
- (3) How frequently is car registration information provided to private tollway companies for fines/toll notices?
- (4) If no to (2), who is responsible?
- (5) How often does the RTA update its databases, particularly for the Acquisition and Disposal of registered vehicles?
- (6) What section of the RTA is responsible for maintaining accurate records, particularly for the Acquisition and Disposal notices of registered vehicles?
- (7) Does the RTA keep records of how many previous owners of vehicles have had issues regarding toll/fine notices for car that they no longer own?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Timelines for the recording of acquisition and disposal information is dependent on timely and accurate information provided from both buyer and seller, as well as on the channel by which information is submitted (in person, by mail or online).
- (2) No, but selected information is provided daily by the RTA via "disputes" (queries) received from motorway operators and FOI requests.

- (3) See above.
- (4) See (2).
- (5) See (1).
- (6) Sections responsible for maintaining accurate records are motor registries, Parkes Processing Centre, Dealer On-Line, and MyRTA, by entering either notice of disposals or transferring vehicles to the new registered operator.
- (7) No.

\*9898 MOTOR VEHICLE WEIGHT CHARGES—Mr Ray Williams asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) In relation to the increase in motor vehicle weight charges from 1 July 2010, will financial compensation, a rebate or an exemption be given to those who require a vehicle for transport, such as the disabled or families of the disabled?
- (2) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) Persons with disabilities who are in receipt of a Pensioner Concession Card are entitled to registration concessions and are fully exempt from the following:
  - registration fees (including heavy vehicle inspection station inspection fees);
  - motor vehicle tax;
  - stamp duty and transfer fee (only pensioners who meet the disability, totally and permanently incapacitated or extreme disablement adjustment pension criteria); and
  - conditional registration fee (pensioner concessions are granted for one vehicle only, either fully or conditionally-registered).

Carers or guardians of persons with disabilities are also entitled to a registration concession provided that:

- a pensioner concession card in the name of the person with the disability is provided to the Roads and Traffic Authority; and
- legal documents, including Power of Attorney, or an order made by the Supreme Court or the Guardianship Tribunal under the NSW Trustee & Guardian Act 2009, must be provided to the Roads and Traffic Authority. Where no legal document exists, a statutory declaration may be provided.

\*9899 EQUINE INFLUENZA—Mr Ray Williams asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

With respect to the strong scientific evidence which has been produced by eminent authorities including the Callinan Commission of Inquiry, the Beale Expert Review Panel, Principal Scientists at Animal Health Australia, the State Chief Veterinary Officers, and the Australian Veterinary Association regarding the issue of Equine Influenza in this country:

- (1) Does the evidence strongly support strengthening our quarantine measures to ensure diseases such as Equine Influenza never enter our country again, as opposed to compulsory vaccinations of horses against this disease?
- (2) Has the disease been eradicated from Australia?
- (3) Is the Minister supporting the introduction of equine influenza vaccine to this country and the compulsory vaccination of all thoroughbred racing horses against Equine influenza?
- (4) Has the Minister considered the strong evidence that Equine Influenza will eventually be endemic in this country following compulsory vaccination, given only those horses vaccinated will not contract the disease but will still transmit the disease to the other 600,000 horses in this country outside the racing industry?
- (5) What is the projected direct and indirect cost to the collective horse industry if the disease becomes endemic in this country?
- (6) What measures will the Minister take to compensate the other 600,000 horses in Australia and NSW outside the racing industry, such as Arabs, Quarter horses, Shetlands, Clydesdales, endurance horses and many others who will not be required to compulsory vaccinate their horses and therefore will be subjected to the disease?

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- (7) Has the Minister considered the likely implications which introduction of vaccine would have on Australia's international disease status, particularly with respect to our most significant trading partner, New Zealand?

Answer—

- (1) Yes. The Primary Industries Ministerial Council (PIMC) Expert Panel on Equine Influenza strongly supported the strengthening of our quarantine requirements as recommended by Commissioner Beale in his report.
- (2) Yes, the last known case was in December 2007 and Australia regained its internationally recognised free status in December 2008.
- (3) Without a levy in place to fund exotic horse disease emergencies the question on the vaccination of horses against Equine Influenza remains open. If vaccination is introduced it will be for a voluntary vaccination programme. However, if it is incorporated in the rules of racing then vaccination will become compulsory for that sector. PIMC has given the horse industry until 1 December 2010 to agree appropriate levy mechanisms and sign the Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement. If no agreement or signatures are forthcoming further consideration to permit voluntary vaccination will be canvassed.
- (4) I have considered the scientific evidence. Vaccination will not prevent infection or shedding of the virus, but will minimise clinical signs. A horse with no or only mild signs could spread the virus without alerting veterinary authorities to its presence.
- (5) The Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics' 20 year model indicated that the cost of endemicity is expected to be a net present total of \$2.4 billion. This is an aggregation of mitigation, management and damage costs.
- (6) In an emergency disease management situation there is no compensation for consequential losses. The compensation is generally only payable for those things and animals destroyed as part of any control and eradication programme. In the current situation without an Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement (EADRA) between jurisdictions and the Australian Horse Industry, the government will not be paying any compensation in the event of an outbreak.
- (7) I am aware of the possibility of increased export requirements with the introduction of an Equine Influenza vaccination programme into any sector of the Australian horse population, particularly with the cross-Tasman New Zealand trade.

\*9900 SOLICITOR JOHN BRADFIELD—Mr Ray Williams asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

In relation to the "struck off" solicitor John Bradfield and the appointment by the Parramatta fraud squad of an officer to be in charge of investigating all 200 victims who have had their life savings stolen:

- (1) Did John Bradfield hand out forged mortgages to clients who believed they had a legal document, and yet now find that this was not the case?
- (2) Did several victims take out caveats on the properties believing they had genuine mortgages to protect their investments?
- (3) Given these victims had to pay thousands of dollars in stamp duty on these caveats, will these victims be compensated for the loss of stamp duty incurred?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me that it is unable to comment on ongoing investigations. The Member's questions also call for findings of fact, which are matters for the courts to determine and not part of the role of police.

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(Paper No. 193)

\*9901 RATE PEGGING—Mr Richard Amery asked the Minister for Local Government, Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

- (1) How many councils in the Sydney metropolitan area applied for a rate increase in excess of the Government's regulated rate pegging policy?
- (2) Which councils made this application?

Answer—

I provide the following details in response to your questions:

- (1) A total of twelve councils in the Sydney metropolitan area have made application to increase their rate revenue above the 2.60% limit set by the Government for 2010-11. Of those applications, Canada Bay City Council has since withdrawn its application.
- (2) The following Sydney metropolitan councils submitted applications for special variations for 2010-11:

Canada Bay City Council (Withdrawn)  
Camden Council  
Campbelltown City Council  
Hornsby Shire Council  
Kogarah Municipal Council  
Ku-ring-gai Municipal Council  
North Sydney Council  
Parramatta City Council  
Randwick City Council  
Rockdale City Council  
Sutherland Shire Council  
Woollahra Municipal Council.

\*9902 BLACKTOWN-MOUNT DRUITT RADIOLOGY DEPARTMENT—Mr Richard Amery asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) How many patients underwent a procedure at the Blacktown-Mount Druitt Radiology Department for the three-month period ending 31 March 2010?
- (2) How does this activity compare with the same period in 2009?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) A total of 18,358 patients underwent a procedure at the Blacktown-Mount Druitt Radiology Department for the three-month period ending March 2010. In the same period in 2009 18,414 patients underwent procedures.

While the 2009 figures are slightly higher than for the same period in 2010, the weighted activity (weighted for complexity of the radiology procedure) was higher in 2010. (58,727 in 2010, compared to 53,434 in 2009).

\*9903 OYSTER INDUSTRY—Mr Andrew Constance asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

- (1) Will the Minister provide \$15,000 grants to primary industry producers, particularly oyster farmers, recently affected by the natural disaster in the Eurobodalla and Bega Valley Shires?
- (2) Why were grants offered to North Coast farmers last year following flooding and not South Coast farmers?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) The NSW Government has made available all assistance normally provided following a Natural Disaster declaration following flooding in the Eurobodalla and Bega Valley Shires. For all eligible primary producers, including oyster growers, this is provided in the form of long term low interest loans of up to \$130,000. The loans involve an interest-free and repayment-free period of two years, after which the loan interest rate is fixed at 2.56%. The loan funds can be used for flood clean-up and restoration costs, replacement of stock, and for operating capital to meet seasonal operating costs.

The normal assistance available under Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements can be supplemented where damage from a specific natural disaster results in a widespread and severe impact on a whole community or in particular on the farming or small business sectors. This additional assistance can include grants to primary producers and small businesses or a Community Recovery Package.

The flooding in the Eurobodalla and Bega Valley Shires did not result in a widespread and severe impact to the whole community or the farming or small business sectors. As a result, grants to primary producers will not be part of assistance available following this disaster.

Grants were made available after flooding in Northern NSW in March and May 2009 resulted in widespread and severe damage to primary producers, small businesses, individuals, public infrastructure, and other community assets in up to 16 local government areas.

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\*9904 REMOVAL OF TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICE—Mr Andrew Constance asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) Why has the traffic calming device been removed in the residential portion of the coast road south from Bermagui?
- (2) Is the Minister aware of the annually increasing traffic and the adverse affect of this removal on the residents?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Main Road 272 is a regional classified road and as such, it is the responsibility of Bega Valley Shire Council to fund, determine priorities and carry out works on the road.

The Roads and Traffic Authority has no recent record of traffic calming devices being removed on Main Road 272.

- (2) The average Annual Daily Traffic Counts on Main Road 272 indicate it is operating well within its capacity.

\*9905 BERMAGUI SURF CLUB—Mr Andrew Constance asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister for Sport and Recreation—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that the Bermagui Surf Club is \$120,000 short to complete their new building?
- (2) Is the Minister aware that this funding is for disability access?
- (3) Has the Minister approached the Federal Government for funding support to complete this project?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) Refer to my answer to Written Question 9407

- (3) No.

\*9906 OFFICE FOR WOMEN'S POLICY—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for Tourism, Minister for the Hunter, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister for Women—

- (1) How many staff are currently employed at the Office for Women's Policy within the Department of Premier and Cabinet?
- (2) Of the ten committees that the office sits on, identified in the 2009 General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2 Budget Estimates, how many of these are inter-departmental and which ones are they?
- (3) Why, specifically, does the Office for Women's Policy not chair the following committees:
  - (a) The Premier's Council on Preventing Violence Against Women;
  - (b) The Premier's Council for Women;
  - (c) The Staying Home Leaving Violence Executive Committee?
- (4) Of the staff currently employed at the Office for Women's Policy, how many are currently employed specifically under the Violence Prevention Coordination Unit?
- (5) Do staff members within the Office for Women's Policy employed specifically in the Violence Prevention Coordination Unit sit on the following Committees:
  - (a) The Domestic Violence Senior Officers Group;
  - (b) The Premier's Council on Preventing Violence Against Women;
  - (c) The Premier's Council for Women;
  - (d) The Council of Australian Governments Officials Working Party to Develop a National Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women;
  - (e) The Staying Home Leaving Violence Executive Committee;
  - (f) The Domestic Violence Standardised Information Package Steering Committee;
  - (g) The Apprehended Violence Legal Issues Coordination Committee;
  - (h) The Intersectoral Domestic and Family Violence Education and Training Reference Group?
- (6) Which committees have Office for Women staff on them and which committees have an Office for Women staff member as chair of the committee?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Office for Women's Policy has a staff complement of 17. Six officers work within the Violence Prevention Coordination Unit in the Office for Women's Policy. As a discrete unit in the Office for Women's Policy, the Executive Director oversees the work of the Violence Prevention Coordination Unit.

Office for Women's Policy staff members are members of:

- Domestic Violence Senior Officers Group (Executive Director of the Office for Women's Policy is Chair)
- Premier's Council on Preventing Violence Against Women (the Executive Director is an ex officio member)
- Premier's Council for Women (the Executive Director is an ex officio member)
- Council of Australian Governments Officials Working Party to Develop a National Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women (Executive Director of the Office for Women's Policy and the Manager of the Violence Prevention Coordination Unit sit on this working party)
- Housing and Human Services Senior Officers Group (Violence Prevention Coordination Unit Manager/Executive Director of the Office for Women's Policy sit on this group)
- Staying Home Leaving Violence Executive Committee (Staff member of Violence Prevention Coordination Unit is a member)
- Homelessness Working Group (Violence Prevention Coordination Unit Manager/Executive Director of the Office for Women's Policy sit on this group)
- Domestic Violence Standardised Information Package Steering Committee (Staff member of Violence Prevention Coordination Unit is a member)
- Apprehended Violence Legal Issues Coordination Committee -(Member of Violence Prevention Coordination Unit is a member)
- Intersectoral Domestic and Family Violence Education and Training Reference Group (Member of Violence Prevention Coordination Unit is a member)

The Minister for Women chairs the Premier's Council for Women and Premier's Council on Preventing Violence Against Women.

Community Services NSW is the lead agency for the Staying Home Leaving Violence program. It convenes and chairs the Staying Home Leaving Violence Executive Committee. The Office for Women's Policy is a member of this Committee.

All of the Committees identified in General Purpose Standing Committee No.2 Budget Estimates are inter-departmental apart from the Council of Australian Governments Officials Working Party to Develop a National Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women which is cross-jurisdictional.

\*9907 REVIEW OF NATION BUILDING AND JOBS PLAN—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

- (1) How many submissions has the Government received to date on the review of implementation of the Nation Building and Jobs Plan in NSW and potential applications for other projects?
- (2) Will the Minister make all such submissions public?
- (3) What criteria will the Minister apply in determining the outcome of the review?
- (4) What weight will the Minister give to community concern in Maitland, Swansea, Charlestown, Kiama, Dubbo and other Labor/Independent held electorates who have publicly declared they want to have developments properly considered by their local councils as Consent Authorities?

Answer—

- (1) Submissions closed on Friday 14 May 2010. 31 submissions were received by the closing date. Some short extensions have been sought from the Review Panel by several organisations.
- (2) Submissions are being made to the Review which has been appointed by the Premier pursuant to Section 30 of the Act (Nation Building and Jobs Plan (State Infrastructure Delivery) Act 2009). The Chair of the Review has advised that submissions will be made public on the Review website [www.more.nsw.gov.au/nationbuildingtaskforce](http://www.more.nsw.gov.au/nationbuildingtaskforce) unless the submitter wishes the submission to be treated as confidential information.
- (3) The Review reports to the Premier by 31 July 2010.
- (4) The Review reports to the Premier by 31 July 2010.

\*9908 COOGEE BAY HOTEL REDEVELOPMENT—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

- (1) When will the Minister or his department determine whether to include the redevelopment of the Coogee Bay Hotel under Part 3A?
- (2) What weight will the Minister give to the concerns of thousands of residents who oppose considering this application under Part 3A?
- (3) What weight will the Minister give to the community view that the local council will better reflect concerns of the community than he?

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Answer—

- (1) The Department is currently considering a request from the Oakstand Property Group to declare the proposed redevelopment of the Coogee Bay Hotel site a Major Project. A decision is likely to be made shortly.
- (2) The proposal will be considered against the criteria of the Major Development SEPP under Clause 13(1), being a residential, commercial or retail project with a Capital Investment Value of more than \$100 million.
- (3) I am advised Department has consulted with Randwick Council during its consideration of the Part 3A request, and will continue to liaise with Council during the processing of any Major Project application on this site. Any application will be subject to full and rigorous merit assessment and community consultation.

\*9909 PLANNING ASSESSMENT COMMISSION—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

Noting that the former Planning Minister Frank Sartor said 80% of major projects would be determined by the Planning Assessment Commission, what percentage of major projects does the Minister intend to send to the PAC for determination?

Answer—

The major projects that will be referred to the PAC for determination will be consistent with the delegation.

All projects referred to the PAC for determination and advice can be found at [www.pac.nsw.gov.au](http://www.pac.nsw.gov.au)

\*9910 WYANGALA DAM—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—

With reference to the proposal by State Water to close the road across the Wyangala Dam wall:

- (1) Has an assessment been conducted about the amount of traffic that will use that part of Trout Farm Road which is connected to the proposed bridge to be located, approximately 400 metres downstream of the Wyangala Dam wall?
- (2) Has any consideration be given to constructing an alternate route via a road and low-level bridge from Darby's Falls Road to Trout Farm Road approximately 5.2 kilometres downstream of the dam wall?
- (3) If this option was taken up and the low-level crossing closed due to flooding, would State Water reopen the road over the dam wall until the flooding subsided?
- (4) If a high-level bridge about 400 metres downstream of the dam wall is constructed, will the Minister consider compensation for the property owners on that part of Trout Farm Road which will see a significant increase in traffic?

Answer—

I have advised Council and the community no works will be carried out at the dam until a suitable alternative access is agreed upon.

For this reason, I commissioned the Hon Ian Armstrong to conduct an independent review of the proposal and instructed State Water to establish a Working Group comprising the Mayors of Cowra Shire and Boorowa Councils and their respective General Managers, together with representatives of State Water and their engineering consultants, to work on a suitable alternative road access prior to a final decision being made.

I am advised by State Water that the points raised in the Member's question have been considered and that, as the entity undertaking the Wyangala project, it will give full consideration to any claims of compensation arising, and determine such claims on their merit.

\*9912 COUNTRYLINK COACH SERVICES—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) Why was the payment for Loaders Coaches, by their invoice number CL01-10 on RailCorp's order number J62015, not paid by the due date of 14 February?
- (2) Was the company further told that they would not receive the payment until the end of March, some six weeks late?
- (3) Given that this invoice was finally paid on 24 March, what action has the Minister taken to ensure that this situation does not reoccur?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) RailCorp has reviewed its records which show that it received Loader's invoice on 19 February 2010 and this was subsequently paid on 11 March, fourteen working days after the receipt of the invoice.
- (2) No.
- (3) Invoice number CL01-10 was paid on 11 March 2010. Improvements in the new Procurement Transformation Project have been implemented, and will improve the way RailCorp sources, procures and processes invoices for payment of goods and services.

\*9913 URGENT RESPONSE POLICE CARS—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

- (1) How many urgent response police cars are available in the Kuring-gai Local Area Command (LAC) during a day shift (including weekends)?
- (2) How many urgent response police cars are available in the Kuring-gai LAC during an afternoon shift (including weekends)?
- (3) How many urgent response police cars are available in the Kuring-gai LAC during a night shift (including weekends)?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me that the Kuring-gai Local Area Command has 31 vehicles. All are available for urgent duty response.

\*9914 "BETWEEN THE FLAGS" INITIATIVE—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) Regarding the "Between the Flags" initiative, how much funding was provided for its implementation?
- (2) How is this funding itemised?

Answer—

I am advised:

\$2.2 million has been allocated in 2009/10 to implement Between the Flags which includes training for 65,000 staff across more than 220 health facilities.

\*9915 INSTALLATION OF TRAFFIC LIGHTS—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) Given it is about two and a half months until the end of the 2009-10 financial year, when will the traffic lights installation at the intersection of Excelsior Road and Pacific Highway, Mount Colah, be commenced (with Black Spot funding)?
- (2) Will the median strip along the Pacific Highway at Foxglove Road be blocked off when these lights are installed?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The design phase for the installation of traffic lights at the Pacific Highway and Excelsior Road intersection at Mt Colah is complete. The building work is scheduled to begin in June, 2010.
- (2) The median strip along the Pacific Highway at Foxglove Road will not be closed.

\*9916 RESPONSE TIMES FROM LAKE MACQUARIE LOCAL AREA COMMAND—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

What are the response times from the Lake Macquarie Local Area Command (LAC) from Toronto to:

- (a) Glendale;
- (b) Edgeworth;
- (c) Cardiff; and
- (d) West Wallsend?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me that response times from one location to another cannot be determined as police vehicles are generally either conducting mobile patrols, based on current crime trends, or attending other incidents when calls for assistance are received.



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I am advised that, at present, Lake Macquarie Local Area Command is exceeding its target response times with over 80% of Priority 1 and 2 incidents responded to in less than 20 minutes.

\*9917 GARRAWARRA HOSPITAL CEMETERY—Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Minister for Local Government, Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

- (1) Why has the Garrawarra Hospital Cemetery, with 2,000 recorded burials, been allowed to become neglected and vandalised?
- (2) What plans does the Government have for the future of Garrawarra Hospital Cemetery?

Answer—

I refer the Member to my previous answer to LA Question 9822.

\*9918 COMMUTER PARKING—Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

What commuter parking shortfalls have been identified at the following railway stations:

- (a) Caringbah;
- (b) Woolooware;
- (c) Cronulla?

Answer—

The provision of commuter parking is a key priority of the Government.

I am advised the Government is delivering 7,000 extra car spaces at rail stations across Sydney, the Blue Mountains, the Central Coast and Illawarra over the next 18 months. These spaces are being provided where they are most needed.

\*9919 TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS—Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

How many traffic accidents occurred in the Cronulla electorate in:

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

Answer—

I am advised:

- (a) There were 321 recorded crashes in the Cronulla electorate during 2008.
- (b) There were 340 recorded crashes in the Cronulla electorate during 2009 (note that the 2009 data is preliminary and subject to change).

\*9920 BUILDING THE EDUCATION REVOLUTION—Mr Daryl Maguire asked the Minister for Education and Training—

- (1) Have all projects under the Building the Education Revolution Stage 3 been tendered and let?
- (2) If so, will the Minister provide a list of these projects?

Answer—

Briefs for all Round 3 projects in the Primary Schools for the 21st Century component of Building the Education Revolution were issued to Managing Contractors within one week of their approval by the Commonwealth Government.

Further details of all projects, their costings, and status can be found on the dedicated NSW Building the Education Revolution website, [www.ber.nsw.gov.au](http://www.ber.nsw.gov.au)

\*9921 SALE OF PUBLIC HOUSING—Mr Daryl Maguire asked the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Transport and Roads—

How many Wagga Wagga public housing properties have been sold since the NSW Government came to power?

Answer—

Housing NSW sells a very small number of properties each year. Independent market valuations are used to set prices for disposal. All proceeds from the sale of properties are re-invested into providing housing assistance.

\*9923 ZONING OF CROWN RESERVES—Mr Donald Page asked the Minister for Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that there are large areas of Crown reserves across the State, especially in coastal areas, that are currently zoned environmental protection where development cannot take place?
- (2) Is the Minister aware that under the new LEP zoning template designed by the State Government, there are only three environmental protection zones E1, E2 and E3?
- (3) Is the Minister aware that only land currently in a national park or nature reserve can be zoned E1 leaving the highest protection available for Crown reserves being E2 where a wide range of developments can occur subject to council consent?
- (4) Given the population pressure both now and in future, particularly in coastal areas of NSW, is the Minister concerned that councils will be under serious pressure to allow development on these Crown reserves?
- (5) Is the Minister prepared to introduce a new zoning category which will protect these Crown reserves from development of the type currently permitted under the E2 zoning, i.e. bed and breakfast, extractive industry, dwelling houses, helipads etc.
- (6) If not, will the Minister allow Crown reserves to be included in the current E1 zoning?
- (7) Is the Minister aware that many councils and coastal communities are very concerned about what is permitted within the E2 zoning with consent and the absence of proper environmental protection of Crown reserves that are not national parks or nature reserves?
- (8) Is the Minister aware that the Crown reserve south of Lennox Head between the sea and the coast road is a good example of environmentally sensitive land which is to be zoned E2 when it should be zoned E1 but cannot be because its not a national park or nature reserve?

Answer—

- (1) There are numerous Crown reserves across the State, some of which are zoned for environmental protection. While the environmental protection zones seek to protect areas of environmental significance, limited development is permissible within these zones.
- (2) Under the Standard Instrument (Local Environmental Plans) Order 2006, there are in fact four environmental protection zones:
  - E1 National Parks and Nature Reserves, which is generally intended to cover existing national parks and nature reserves.
  - E2 Environmental Conservation, is generally intended to protect land that has high conservation value.
  - E3 Environmental Management, is generally intended to be applied to land that has environmental or scenic value or hazard risk, but where a limited range of development including dwelling houses and other uses could be permitted.
  - E4 Environmental Living, which is generally intended for land with special environmental or scenic values where residential development could be accommodated.
- (3) Yes.
- (4) The Department has a number of guidelines and strategies to assist in managing coastal population pressures, whilst protecting environmentally significant and reserved lands. The strategies guide local landuse zoning decisions.
- (5) No new environmental conservation zone is being considered at this time.
- (6) The E1 National Parks and Nature Reserves zone, is applied to National Parks and Nature Reserves and is administered by the National Parks and Wildlife Service. Crown reserves would be required to be reserved as a nature reserve or national park in order to be zoned E1.
- (7) The E2 Environmental Conservation Zone prohibits a number of land uses considered to be inappropriate for the zone.
- (8) The E2 Environmental Conservation zone is applied to land which has high environmental or cultural values. Given that this land is not included within a National Park or Nature Reserve, the E2 zoning is appropriate.

\*9924 SPEEDING INFRINGEMENTS—Mr Anthony Roberts asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Special Minister of State—

How many speeding infringements have been incurred by individuals in vehicles owned/leased by the NSW Government:

- (a) for the years 2007 to date?
- (b) by department/organisation?

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Answer—

I am advised:

The following table provides the number of speeding fines issued to individuals in vehicles owned or leased by NSW Government, by year and current Super Department grouping:

Super Department	Number of Speeding Fines Issued	Number of Speeding Fines Issued	Number of Speeding Fines Issued	Number of Speeding Fines Issued
	2007	2008	2009	2010*
Communities NSW	13	11	16	3
Education & Training	8	6	5	0
Environment, Climate Change & Water	82	60	57	16
Health	444	407	350	111
Human Services	207	195	165	79
Industry & Investment	19	14	14	9
Justice & Attorney General	110	117	94	31
Planning	4	4	7	1
Police & Emergency Services NSW	361	344	236	75
Premier & Cabinet	7	5	5	1
Services, Technology & Administration	70	77	65	16
Transport & Infrastructure	31	170	103	34
Treasury	74	52	66	15

\* to date.

\*9925 LAND TAX REVENUE—LANE COVE—Mr Anthony Roberts asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Special Minister of State—

What was the total amount of land tax collected from land owners in the Lane Cove local government area for the periods:

- (a) 2004-05;
- (b) 2005-06;
- (c) 2006-07;
- (d) 2007-08;
- (e) 2008-09;
- (f) 2009-10 year to date?

Answer—

I am advised:

Land tax is assessed by calendar year.

The following table shows the value of land tax assessments issued to owners of liable properties in the Lane Cove Local Government Area for the 2005 to 2010 calendar years.

Year	Total land tax assessed
2005	\$12,184,954
2006	\$15,034,849
2007	\$14,445,819
2008	\$13,932,505
2009	\$14,915,796
2010	\$14,516,779

\*9926 LAND TAX REVENUE—HUNTERS HILL—Mr Anthony Roberts asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Special Minister of State—

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What was the total amount of land tax collected from land owners in the Hunters Hill local government area for the periods:

- (a) 2004-05;
- (b) 2005-06;
- (c) 2006-07;
- (d) 2007-08;
- (e) 2008-09;
- (f) 2009-10 year to date?

Answer—

I am advised:

Land tax is assessed by calendar year.

The following table shows the value of land tax assessments issued to owners of liable properties in the Hunters Hill Local Government Area for the 2005 to 2010 calendar years.

Year	Total land tax assessed
2005	\$4,570,433
2006	\$5,550,447
2007	\$5,348,845
2008	\$5,266,246
2009	\$5,849,970
2010	\$5,350,290

\*9927 LAND TAX REVENUE—RYDE—Mr Anthony Roberts asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Special Minister of State—

What was the total amount of land tax collected from land owners in the Ryde local government area for the periods:

- (a) 2004-05;
- (b) 2005-06;
- (c) 2006-07;
- (d) 2007-08;
- (e) 2008-09;
- (f) 2009-10 year to date?

Answer—

I am advised:

Land tax is assessed by calendar year.

The following table shows the value of land tax assessments issued to owners of liable properties in the Ryde Local Government Area for the 2005 to 2010 calendar years.

Year	Total land tax assessed
2005	\$30,390,979
2006	\$33,119,244
2007	\$33,726,160
2008	\$33,137,805
2009	\$38,317,574
2010	\$37,408,672

\*9928 WHEEL CLAMPING—Mr Greg Smith asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health representing the Attorney General, Minister for Citizenship, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

How many offences have been committed due to tampering with wheel clamping in the following years:

- (a) 2006;
- (b) 2007;
- (c) 2008;
- (d) 2009?

Answer—

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I am advised:

(a) and (b) The offence of tampering with a wheel clamp was not recorded as a specific offence by the NSW Police Force until the commencement of section 219G (1) of the Road Transport (General) Act 2005 in September 2008, following the passage of the Road Transport Legislation Amendment (Car Hoons) Bill 2008.

(c) and (d) Between September 2008 and December 2009, the NSW Police Force have not commenced legal proceedings against any people of interest for the offence of tampering with a wheel clamp.

\*9929 BURNOUT OFFENCES—Mr Greg Smith asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health representing the Attorney General, Minister for Citizenship, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

How many offences have been committed due to "burnout" offences in the following years:

- (a) 2006;
- (b) 2007;
- (c) 2008;
- (d) 2009?

Answer—

This question is unintelligible.

\*9930 EFFECT OF COAL EMISSIONS ON HEALTH IN THE UPPER HUNTER—Mr George Souris asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

In relation to the adverse effects of emissions from coal mines and coal-fired power stations on human health, and the many requests for attention to these in the Upper Hunter:

- (1) For how long has the Minister and her department been aware of the research evidence linking these?
- (2) What is the Minister doing to protect residents of the Upper Hunter from the increasing quantity of 37 dangerous pollutants in the air of the Upper Hunter?
- (3) When will the Minister commission the independent health study requested in the submission prepared by the Singleton Shire Healthy Environment Group and made on 9 November 2009?
- (4) Will the Minister appoint a committee of community members, mining and power generation interests, and health experts to oversee the study?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Government is committed to understanding the potential health risks faced by Hunter Valley residents.

NSW Health has released a detailed review of health data on all Hunter Valley residents, which is available on the NSW Health website. This report has been referred to NSW Health's Independent Expert Panel on Air Quality.

The panel, chaired by Professor Guy Marks, a leading epidemiologist at the Woolcock Institute of Medical Research in Sydney, will advise the Government on the appropriate next steps.

NSW Health also continues to work with the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water on the establishment of a sophisticated monitoring array to accurately assess the level of air pollution in the region. Planning for the array is well advanced.

Measurements from the monitoring array will in time be referred to the Independent Expert Panel on Air Quality, and NSW Health will be advised on the type and feasibility of a causative health study.

Community consultation will be undertaken in the development of any investigations recommended by the Expert Panel.

\*9931 COAL EMISSIONS IN THE UPPER HUNTER—Mr George Souris asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

In relation to the widely publicized concerns of Upper Hunter communities about the effects of emissions from coal mines and coal-fired power stations on their health, the longstanding research evidence which justifies their concerns, and the history of litigation about the effects of tobacco and asbestos:

- (1) What has the Government done to protect the citizens of NSW from bearing the costs of future litigation arising from the Government's failure to protect the people of the Upper Hunter from these emissions?

- (2) What is the Government now doing to address the State planning arrangements to minimize and manage the individual and cumulative effects of coal mining and coal-fired power generation on health?
- (3) What is the Government now doing to address the State planning arrangements to minimize and manage the individual and cumulative effects of coal mining and coal-fired power generation on the environment?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Government's principal concern is protecting the health and welfare of the community in the Upper Hunter, and a range of monitoring systems have been established to help ensure that we achieve this.

Proponents of new coal mines and power stations in NSW are required to assess the potential cumulative impacts of their proposals. Once coal mines and power stations are operational, they are required to monitor, measure and publicly publish emissions data. The results of this monitoring are subject to review and audit by the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water.

The Government also announced the establishment of the Upper Hunter Air Quality Monitoring Network in October 2009. The Network will provide accurate and long term records, identify trends in air particle levels and allow the Government to take action to reduce exposure if levels exceed the appropriate standard.

Establishing the Network and making data easily accessible to Government agencies, the community, industry and research institutions will be an important tool to ensure the air quality of the Upper Hunter.

\*9932 COAL TRAIN EMISSIONS IN THE UPPER HUNTER—Mr George Souris asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

In relation to the expansion of coal exports from the Port of Newcastle and the increasing tonnages of coal being transported by rail through the Upper Hunter:

- (1) What are the current and projected amounts of pollutants contributed by the exposed coal in the wagons, and by the diesel locomotives hauling them?
- (2) Have full-scale assessments been made of the impact of these emissions on the health of residents of the Upper Hunter?
- (3) What are you doing to protect residents of the Upper Hunter from the risks to their health posed by these emissions?

Answer—

- (1) to (3) I am advised that the Australian Rail Track Corporation holds the environmental licence over the Hunter Valley Rail Network.

\*9934 GREEN STREET PROJECT—Mr John Turner asked the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) Has the Minister and his department approved a project known as the Green Street Project?
- (2) If so:
  - (a) What does the project involve?
  - (b) What is the total cost of the project?
  - (c) How is the project being funded?
  - (d) What level of consultation has occurred and will occur with:
    - (i) State Government;
    - (ii) Local Government?
  - (e) Neighbouring landholders of affected properties?
  - (f) Is there a priority list for the allocation of resources under the project?
  - (g) In which electorates have resources under the project been allocated?
  - (h) (i) Will resources under the project be allocated to the Myall Lakes electorate?  
(ii) If so, where and when?

Answer—

- (1) Yes.
- (2) (a) and (b) Information concerning the Green Street Program is available on Housing NSW's website.  
(c) Housing NSW is funding the project.

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- (d) Housing is partnering with the Royal Botanic Gardens to provide advice on community gardens and selection of tree species. A number of local councils are also involved.  
(e) Information on participation in the program is available on Housing NSW's website.  
(f) Yes.  
(g) A number of metropolitan and rural electorates.  
(h) No.

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\*9935 APPLICATION FOR INCREASE IN WASTE TO TARAGO SITE—Mr Richard Amery asked the Minister for Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

- (1) Is the Department of Planning currently processing an application from Veolia Environmental Services to increase waste to their Tarago site from 500,000 tonnes per year to 1,200,000 tonnes per year?
- (2) If approved, will this result in an extra number of trains travelling through the village of Tarago?
- (3) How many trains per day will travel through Tarago to take the increased waste to the Veolia site?
- (4) Will there be a requirement to install gates at the Tarago level rail crossing?
- (5) Will the rail tracks going through Tarago be fenced off to protect local residents, especially children from the increased rail traffic through this village?

Answer—

- (1) Yes.

A Draft Environmental Assessment is undergoing an adequacy review by the Department, in consultation with other relevant government authorities.

Once deemed adequate, the Environmental Assessment will be placed on public exhibition and interested parties will be invited to comment on the proposal.

- (2) Under the existing approval, Veolia is permitted to operate 2 freight trains entering and 2 freight trains leaving the facility per day (or 4 in total).

While the application does not seek to increase the number of train deliveries, the proposal does however seek to increase the number and size of the carriages on each train.

- (3) Refer to the answer provided to question (2) above.
- (4) This issue will be considered during the assessment of the proposal, and will include the consideration of relevant advice from other government authorities.
- (5) Refer to the answer provided to question (4) above.

\*9936 MOUNT DRUITT IMAGING DEPARTMENT—Mr Richard Amery asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) Does the Blacktown Mount Druit Imaging Department operate on a policy known as 'Open Access'?
- (2) What are the benefits of this policy?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) and (2) The Blacktown Mount Druit Imaging Department has been operating on a policy of "Open Access" for CT and general x-rays since March 2003.

Benefits of this policy include:

- Allows patients to come or be sent to the Imaging Department without the need to make a booking, calling ahead or sending a request prior to the patient's arrival.
- Patients can proceed directly to the Imaging Department from any ward within the hospital, or from a private GP, Specialists or medical centres, for CT and General x-ray examinations.
- Eliminates duplicate and cancelled requests since the examination occurs in a timely manner.
- Examinations are performed as soon as they are requested, which better distributes the workload across the 24 hour period and increases the productivity of staff.

- The "Open Access" policy has also contributed to increased productivity, which was recognised by the Department of Health in 2005, when the Blacktown Mt Druitt Imaging Department was awarded the Baxter 2005 NSW Health Awards for Access.

"Open Access" has been adopted by other hospitals since its inception at Blacktown Mt Druitt Imaging Department.

\*9937 SURGICAL PROCEDURES—ALBURY BASE HOSPITAL—Mr Greg Aplin asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

How many elective surgical procedures were conducted at Albury Base Hospital in the 12 months to 30 June 2009?

Answer—

I am advised:

2,407 patients were admitted for an elective surgical procedure at Albury Base Hospital in the 12 months to 30 June 2009.

\*9938 ALBURY LAC POLICE RESOURCES—EASTER 2010—Mr Greg Aplin asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

- (1) How many Highway Patrol car hours were recorded as worked on roads within the Albury Local Area Command during the Easter 2010 double demerit period?
- (2) How many Highway Patrol vehicles were operative during this period?
- (3) How many general duties vehicles were operative in (a) Albury City and (b) Corowa Shire during this period?
- (4) How many trail bikes were operative in the Albury LAC during this period?
- (5) How many licensing inspection personnel were operative during this period?

Answer—

- (1) 510.25 hrs.
- (2) Nine.
- (3) Three general duties vehicles in Albury City and four in the Corowa sector.
- (4) None.
- (5) None. However, 48 inspections of licensed premises were carried out in the Albury Local Area Command by general duties staff over the period.

\*9939 ELECTRICITY CHARGES FOR FARMERS—Mr Greg Aplin asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform—

- (1) Why was the threshold for demand based electricity tariffs reduced from 750 MWhrs/year to 160MWhrs with no sliding scale?
- (2) Is the Minister aware this forced move from regulated tariff to demand based tariff has resulted in a doubling of electricity costs for many farmers and country businesses?
- (3) What consideration is being given to ensuring small country businesses and farming operations remain viable following the newly-imposed tariff regime?

Answer—

- (1) to (3) Contestable supply was introduced for customers who consume between 750 MWh and 160 MWh per year in July 1998. These customers may choose to enter a commercial contract with any retailer. A contract will cover both network charges, which may include demand based tariffs, as well as wholesale and retail costs. Regulated tariffs apply to customers who use 160 MWh a year or less.

The network demand based tariff allows customers some flexibility to reduce their energy bill by changing their consumption patterns through energy efficiency measures, for example, by running irrigation pumps during shoulder or off peak periods.

Country Energy has advised that many farmers, small industries and other large customers have achieved a saving by moving to a demand based tariff.

I understand that Country Energy has asked the Australian Energy Regulator to approve a transitional demand tariff to assist customers who may recently have moved to demand based tariffs. A transition tariff has specific criteria and time frame (usually 12 months) to allow customers to adjust.



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If approved and implemented from 1 July this year, a transitional tariff may assist farmers and country businesses.

Businesses across NSW can access support to save energy through the Department of Environment Climate Change and Water's efficiency programs. These programs are part of a suite of measures under the \$700 million Climate Change Fund to help business, households, schools, communities and government save water and energy and cut greenhouse gas emissions.

Country Energy also supports customers in hardship including drought affected farmers, residential customers and agriculture-dependent small businesses through its customer hardship assistance scheme, Country Support.

\*9940 ODOURS FROM NORTH HEAD SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT—Mr Mike Baird asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—

- (1) What was the cause of the strong odours being emitted from the North Head Sewage Treatment Plant (NHSTP) in early March?
- (2) What caused this problem and when was it fixed?
- (3) What measures have been taken to prevent this occurring again?
- (4) Was an inspection of the NHSTP that was scheduled for March postponed?
- (5) If so, why?
- (6) When will the inspection now occur?
- (7) Is there concern that recent wet weather events may be causing an overload in the NHSTP?
- (8) Have emergency by-passes been considered to clear overloads?

Answer—

- (1) There were a number of possible odour sources associated with testing and commissioning of new equipment at North Head STP in late February/ early March, coupled with poor meteorological conditions. There were no odour control equipment failures during this period.
- (2) Potential odour sources included new biosolids conveying and loading equipment, primary sedimentation tanks and grit removal systems. Major commissioning activities were completed and cleaning of areas was carried out at the time.
- (3) Sedimentation and grit tank modifications have been completed and are now commissioned. Necessary modifications to the biosolids conveyor are now being implemented.
- (4) There was a Community Open Day planned for 20 February 2010. The community was notified in late January 2010 that the Open Day would be postponed until May. This was before any odour complaints had been received.
- (5) The Community Open Day was postponed due to a delay in the installation of the Mini-Hydro generator. As this is the first of its kind in Australia and one of the showpieces for the Open Day it was considered appropriate to delay the Open Day until after completion in late April. The Mini-Hydro generator captures energy from treated wastewater falling down a 60 metre shaft and the power it generates combined with the green energy generated by the onsite methane gas cogeneration unit is enough to meet 40 per cent of the North Head Sewage Treatment Plant's energy needs.
- (6) The North Head Open Day was held on Saturday 1 May 2010.
- (7) North Head Sewage Treatment Plant has not been overloaded by recent storm events. The Sewage Treatment Plant is designed to accept all flows that it receives from the incoming sewerage system.
- (8) Emergency bypasses are not normal operation, as the hydraulic capacity of the Sewage Treatment Plant has not been exceeded. If required, the North Head Sewage Treatment Plant is able to access the Northside Storage Tunnel to store flows in an emergency event, such as a power failure.

\*9941 STATE SUPER DEFINED BENEFITS SCHEME—Mr Mike Baird asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Special Minister of State—

- (1) Do CPI increases in the State Super defined benefits scheme meet the needs of retirees in NSW?
- (2) Has the Treasurer considered adopting any other formula to calculate increases as part of this scheme?
- (3) Have any complaints been received from retirees in the scheme in relation to the CPI increases?

Answer—

I'm advised:

CPI indexation is designed to allow defined benefit pensions to keep pace with inflation, as measured by the Sydney CPI.

The Government considers annual CPI indexation to be most appropriate. This policy was introduced in

1974 by the Askin Liberal government.

\*9942 DRINK DRIVING INCIDENTS—NORTHERN BEACHES—Mr Mike Baird asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

What additional measures have been put in place to combat the rise in drink driving incidents on the Northern Beaches?

Answer—

I am advised:

Each year the Roads and Traffic Authority delivers a drink drive campaign across Sydney, including the Northern Beaches.

The Roads and Traffic Authority works in partnership with local councils through their road safety officers to deliver the local road safety programs. The Roads and Traffic Authority has worked with Pittwater and Manly Councils to deliver campaigns working with local licensed venues to promote alternative transport options for patrons. Drink drive resource materials are also distributed to patrons to remind them of the consequences of police enforcement.

Pittwater and Manly Council Road Safety Officers attend Liquor Accord meetings and have supported Regional Roads and Traffic Authority Operation Roadsafe campaigns.

The Roads and Traffic Authority also supports NSW Police through the enhanced enforcement program 'Operation Burgundy' that has been running for the past 2 years.

As part of the Government's recently announced Hassle Free Nights Initiative, trial arrangements to support a late night shuttle bus service, operating in Manly between 12am and 4am on Saturday and Sunday mornings and on public holidays, have been extended, improving late night transport options.

\*9943 T3 LANE INFRINGEMENTS—Mr Mike Baird asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Special Minister of State—

For each of the past three years, how many infringements have been issued relating to improper use of the T3 lane along:

- (a) Burnt Bridge Creek Deviation;
- (b) Spit Road;
- (c) Military Road?

Answer—

I am advised:

Please see the answer tabled in response to Question 9804.

\*9944 139 BUS SERVICES—Mr Mike Baird asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

Has Sydney Buses considered increasing the frequency of the 139 bus, particularly on Sundays, to cater for the rising population in the area?

Answer—

I am advised:

A major review of Northern Beaches bus services was conducted prior to the introduction of the new bus network for the Northern Beaches region in August 2009. As part of the review there was wide public consultation about the existing network and the changes proposed. After carefully considering the community's feedback, no changes were made to Route 139 services. State Transit plans for growth and will continue to keep a close watch on any increasing demand for services on this route.

\*9945 NORTHERN BEACHES CYCLE ROUTES—Mr Mike Baird asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

(1) Is the Minister aware the RTA has not completed any of the following cycle routes for the Northern Beaches despite it being promised in the NSW Government's "Action for Transport 2010 and integrated transport plan for NSW" more than 10 years ago:

- (a) Route No. 11 Chatswood to Warringah Mall (supposed to be completed in 2009);
- (b) Route No. 14 Harbour Bridge to Warringah Mall (supposed to be completed in 2009);
- (c) Route No. 36 Gordon to Mona Vale (supposed to be completed in 2010)?

(2) What is the reason for the delay in completing these projects?

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(3) What are the revised dates for completion?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) to (3) The NSW Government has committed \$158 million of new funds to complete the missing links in the Metropolitan Sydney Bike Network outlined in the Metropolitan Transport Plan. Cycling infrastructure will be delivered where and when it is needed and carefully matched to Sydney's growth.

The NSW BikePlan identifies key missing links in the Metro Sydney Bike Network and in the River Cities of Parramatta, Penrith and Liverpool. The NSW BikePlan is a plan to improve cycling for the whole of NSW, creating quality cycle networks in local communities across the State.

The Government has already started the process to deliver these cycling infrastructure initiatives. Priority links have been identified in consultation with local councils, and concept design has been completed or is now being prepared so that construction of the highest priority links can get underway in 2010.

\*9946 PHOTOS TAKEN TO RECORD TRAFFIC INFRINGEMENTS—Mr Mike Baird asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Special Minister of State—

(1) Is the Office of State Revenue aware of any privacy concerns from motorists relating to the fact that people (including children) are identifiable in photos taken to record traffic infringements?

(2) If so, have any alternatives been considered that protect the identity of children in these photos?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Office of State Revenue is not aware of any privacy concerns from motorists regarding the publishing on its website the images taken at the time a driving offence occurred.

The service has been well received, as it provides car owners with transparency about how their fine was incurred. It is also convenient because it allows immediate access to the photos, free of charge.

Privacy NSW was consulted extensively before the service was introduced in August 2008. This involved reviewing test images and security arrangements on how clients access the images. The images focus on identifying a vehicle's registration number rather than its occupants, and can only be viewed by people who have access to both the penalty notice and vehicle registration numbers for a particular infringement.

I understand Privacy NSW was satisfied with the process, and fully supported the initiative.

The OSR takes privacy concerns seriously. Any person who has concerns about photos published on the website is encouraged to contact the State Debt Recovery Office.

\*9947 REVENUE FROM CLUBS—Mr Mike Baird asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Special Minister of State—

How much of the revenue collected from clubs across NSW has been invested in hospitals from 2004 to 2009?

Answer—

I am advised:

Information regarding the additional appropriation for health related services is outlined in the Appropriation Bills.

\*9948 MOTORBIKE RIDERS USING E-TAGS—Mr Mike Baird asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

(1) Is the RTA aware of any problems experienced by motorbike riders in using the E-tag?

(2) Has the Government considered making motorcycles exempt from the Harbour Bridge toll?

(3) Is the Minister aware of any other States that have made motorcycles exempt from tolls?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) There have been no recorded problems reported by motorcyclists who use the Roads and Traffic Authority electronic tag when travelling on toll roads.

(2) No.

(3) The majority of tolled motorways in Australia require toll payment from motorcycles.

\*9949 GRAFFITI VANDALS PROSECUTED—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health representing the Attorney General, Minister for Citizenship, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

How many graffiti vandals have been caught and prosecuted in the Port Stephens Local Government Area in the last 12 months?

Answer—

I am advised:

In the Port Stephens Local Government Area, the only data available between January 2009 and December 2009, which does not represent all graffiti-related prosecutions, is from the NSW Police Force which indicates it proceeded against seven persons of interest for incidents of graffiti. Of these, one was proceeded against to court.

\*9950 TOMAREE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) How will new health reforms implemented by the Federal Government specifically affect Tomaree Community Hospital?
- (2) Will the budget for Tomaree Community Hospital be increased as a result of the new reforms?
- (3) If so, by how much?
- (4) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (4) The National Health and Hospitals Network Agreement signed off by COAG on 20 April 2010 (with the exception of Western Australia) will provide a more secure funding base for Australia's health care system into the future.

Under the Agreement, the Commonwealth will provide the majority of the funding for public hospital services. The funding arrangements will differ according to the size and location of the hospital.

Small regional and rural public hospitals that have community service obligations recognised by COAG will be block funded, reflecting the higher costs associated with delivering services in these areas. The Commonwealth Government will contribute 60% of the block funding, paid against a COAG-agreed funding model for these hospitals. The State's funding contribution will be a responsibility of the State Government.

Detailed planning has already commenced for implementation of all elements of the National Health and Hospitals Network (NHHN) Agreement, including the establishment of Local Hospital Networks (LHNs) across NSW. There will be thorough consultation as part of this process. Regional and rural public hospitals will operate as part of LHNs to be established under state legislation and comprising single or small groups of public hospitals with a geographic or functional connection.

These arrangements will help to support small regional and rural hospitals in NSW to continue providing essential health services for local communities.

\*9951 SOLAR BONUS NET FEED-IN TARIFF—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform—

- (1) Why did the NSW Government scrap the Solar Bonus Net Feed-in Tariff system?
- (2) How many people signed up to the Solar Bonus Net Feed-in Tariff system?
- (3) How many of those are in the Port Stephens electorate?
- (4) How many of those people will now have to transfer to the Solar Bonus Gross Feed-in Tariff system?
- (5) What is the estimated cost to an individual and/or household forced to transfer to the Solar Bonus Gross Feed-in Tariff system?
- (6) How many complaints has the Minister and/or Department received about this program since its inception?

Answer—

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- (1) to (6) The NSW Government designed the Solar Bonus Scheme (the Scheme) so customers who already had systems installed, that met the new Scheme eligibility requirements, could also join up and be rewarded with the generous gross tariff rate of 60 cents per kilowatt hour.

New South Wales customers benefit from the most generous tariff rate in Australia which demonstrates the NSW Government's commitment to supporting the growth of the renewable energy industry.

To receive higher gross payments, customers with a net meter need to switch to a gross meter. In most cases, the switch to a gross meter can be undertaken at a relatively low cost. However, in some cases, switching to gross metering can be more expensive.

I am advised that people have indicated a desire to participate in the Scheme without switching their net meter. In recognition of this, eligible customers will be able to receive the generous Scheme rate of 60 cents per kilowatt hour on a 'net' basis for electricity exported to the grid in excess of that used at the premises.

It is up to individual customers to decide what metering arrangement will best suit their property, system and budget and I recommend customers contact their electricity distributor and weigh up all the costs and benefits before making their final decision. Customers can still switch to a gross meter at any time during the course of the Scheme.

The NSW Government provides general information and advice via our website and telephone services. The government does not determine the eligibility of individual customers. Network operators are responsible for administering the scheme for their customers.

\*9952 RTA TRUCK INSPECTION STATION—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

In relation to the RTA Truck Inspection Station north of Raymond Terrace:

- (1) How many hours is the Inspection Station open per week and what are the operating hours?
- (2) How many inspections were carried out in:
  - (a) 2006-2007;
  - (b) 2007-2008;
  - (c) 2008-2009;
  - (d) year to date?
- (3) How many infringement notices were there in:
  - (a) 2006-2007;
  - (b) 2007-2008;
  - (c) 2008-2009;
  - (d) year to date?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The inspection station is operational 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- (2) (a) 18,104.  
(b) 15,003.  
(c) 16,191.  
(d) 7,572 - to March 2010.
- (3) (a) 3,228.  
(b) 2,380.  
(c) 2,773.  
(d) 1,403 - to March 2010..

\*9953 WILLIAMTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Minister for Education and Training—

Given your advice that the Department of Education and Training was to advise on the future of educational provision at Williamtown Public School in the near future (Question 9468):

- (1) Has the Minister received such advice?
  - (a) If not, why not?
  - (b) If so, has the Minister made a decision on the future of the site?

- (i) If so, what is the Minister's decision?
  - (ii) If not, why not?
  - (iii) When will the Minister make a decision?
- (2) Has the Minister conducted any investigations into the feasibility of using the site as a training school related to Williamtown RAAF, RAAF contractors and the Aerospace Park the site adjoins?
- (3) If so, what was the outcome of those investigations?

Answer—

I expect to receive advice from the Department of Education and Training on the future of educational provision at Williamtown Public School for my consideration in the near future.

\*9954 WIDENING OF NELSON BAY ROAD—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) Can the Minister provide an update on the planning of the widening of Nelson Bay Road between Anna Bay and Bob's farm?
- (2) When are the road works expected to begin?
- (3) What is the current expected cost of the project?
- (4) Will land acquisition be necessary?
  - (a) If so, when will land acquisition take place?
  - (b) How much of the Budget for the project is allocated to land acquisition?
- (5) When are the road works expected to be completed?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Widening of stage 1 and 2 has already been completed. Detailed design for Stage 3 of the widening of Nelson Bay Road between Anna Bay and Bob's Farm is currently underway and is expected to be completed by July 2010.
- (2) The construction timetable for the project has not yet been determined. This project, along with other State-wide priorities will be considered for inclusion in future budgets.
- (3) An estimate for the project will be developed as part of the design process.
- (4) (a) and (b) Yes, however, the property boundaries for the project are being revised as part of the design process.
- (5) See (2).

\*9955 NELSON BAY AMBULANCE STATION—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) Why has construction not begun on the Nelson Bay Ambulance Station?
- (2) When is construction of the Nelson Bay Ambulance Station expected to begin?
- (3) When is construction of the Nelson Bay Ambulance Station expected to be completed?
- (4) When is the Nelson Bay Ambulance Station expected to open?
- (5) What is the current expected cost of the Nelson Bay Ambulance Station?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (5) Construction of the new Nelson Bay Ambulance Station is expected to commence in July 2010. Some delay was caused by the need to resolve the Development Application approval through Port Stephens Council. This was approved on 30 March 2010 and the tender documentation was then amended accordingly.

Construction is expected to be completed, and the new facility opened, by mid 2011.

The cost of the new ambulance facility will be determined through a competitive tender process, that has already commenced.

\*9956 HEALTHONE CLINIC—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

Given your advice that an alternative proposal was developed for construction of the HealthOne facilities (Question 9397):

- (1) What is the chosen site for the Raymond Terrace HealthOne clinic?
- (2) What is the current expected cost of the HealthOne clinic?
- (3) When is construction of the HealthOne clinic expected to begin?
- (4) Who will staff the HealthOne clinic?

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Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (4) A block of land, adjacent to the local Bowling Club and near the CBD, has been purchased for the proposed HealthOne facility.

The estimated cost of the HealthOne facility will be determined in the current phase of planning.

Construction is expected to commence around mid 2011. Once completed, the HealthOne facility will be staffed by a range of public community health staff and general practitioners and their staff.

- \*9957 ELECTRICITY RATES AND PRICING STRUCTURE—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform—

In relation to electricity rates and the electricity pricing structure in the Port Stephens electorate:

- (1) Do residents in the Port Stephens electorate pay a higher electricity rate than Sydney residents?  
(2) If so, what is the formula that is used to calculate these rates?  
(3) What is the per kilowatt charge for Port Stephens residents?  
(4) What is the per kilowatt charge for Sydney residents?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (4) Small retail customers have the option to choose regulated prices determined by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) or market prices negotiated with a retailer. Standard retailers publish tariff information on their websites. A complete list of retailers (standard and non-standard) supplying small customers is available on IPART's website [www.ipart.nsw.gov.au](http://www.ipart.nsw.gov.au)

There are a number of energy retailers competing in the NSW market. Electricity tariffs for individual customers may vary depending on their electricity retailer, and whether they have entered into a negotiated contract.

I would encourage households to shop around for the best deal available to them.

- \*9958 LIFE SUPPORT MACHINES—Mr Steve Cansdell asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform—

In regards to people living on life support machines:

- (1) Why is there such a huge disparity between the Victorian and NSW Life Support Concession Scheme?  
(2) Under the proposed electricity price rises, will people living on life support machines be rebated?  
(3) If yes, then how much?

Answer—

- (1) to (3) The amount paid to each customer who receives the NSW Life Support Rebate varies according to the amount of electricity used by the different types of machines. This is based on expert advice from NSW Health. There is no means test applied to the NSW Life Support Rebate.

The NSW Life Support Rebate was updated on 1 October 2009. This saw payments increased for some machines. The Rebate is worth up to \$600 each year for some machines. Two new machines were also approved for the Rebate. This means there are now eight life support machines that qualify for the Rebate.

The NSW Life Support Rebate compares well to other states. For example, South Australia has no similar rebate. Queensland's life support rebate is only available for two machines.

Victoria pays its life support rebates for only four machines. In addition, Victoria requires customers to satisfy a means test before they can be paid a life support rebate.

- \*9959 NET METERED SOLAR SYSTEMS—Mr Andrew Constance asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform—

- (1) What is the position for an individual who retains a net metered solar system, instead of installing a gross meter, at the end of the transitional period and the premium tariff on 30 June 2010?

- (2) What options are available to an individual who has a contract with Country Energy for a net-metered solar system, which is not rescinded, and where they not have been formally advised to submit a new gross metering contract?
- (3) What action can an individual take if the cost of installing gross metering is prohibitive because the underground wiring between the meter board is 100m from their house and installation costs will be in the order of \$10,000?
- (4) What options are available to an individual who has a non-operational solar system for which there is no metering solution?
- (5) Will net and gross metering be permitted under the Government's feed-in tariff legislation?
- (6) Does the feed-in tariff legislation exclude a net tariff in NSW?
- (7) What tariff will apply to a second solar system in cases where the owner of a business installs solar systems on two buildings, owned by another individual, and can only receive the gross feed-in tariff for one system?
- (8) What is the position of owners of multiple rental properties who wish to install solar systems on their properties and would such owners be in breach of the legislation, in the event that they were to claim a gross feed-in tariff for more than one system?
- (9) What is the process for claiming a tariff in the absence of a feed-in tariff application form, as distinct from the form for applications to connect to the grid, being produced by Country Energy?
- (10) In the absence of a tariff application form how is responsibility for the payment of the tariff to be verified and what would be involved in establishing a breach of the legislation?
- (11) (a) Will the Government's review of the existing 60 cent tariff take place after the 50 MW target has been reached and will this occur as early as July 2010?  
(b) If so, will electricians who are unable to access gross meters, due to their short supply, be eligible to receive the existing tariff if it is subject to review?
- (12) (a) Will individuals who upgrade from a grid connected solar system by getting more panels with their present inverter, still be eligible to receive the 60 cent tariff?(b) Will such individuals be required to obtain a second inverter to handle the extra capacity and would this be included within the existing grid-connect capacity i.e. will such individuals still be eligible to received the 60c on all power sold?
- (13) Has a date been set to end or review the 60c tariff and will this date apply from:
  - (a) the day on which an order is made and deposit paid;
  - (b) the day on which installation of the solar system occurs;
  - (c) the day on which the gross meter is installed; or
  - (d) the day on which connection to the grid occurs?
- (14) When will the present 60c gross tariff be reviewed and what changes are anticipated to the tariff?
- (15) Can the Minister specify a date on which the transition to a solar system will occur in order to ensure that:
  - (a) the community has adequate time to prepare for the transition to the new solar system and meters;
  - (b) consumers are not unfairly treated or disadvantaged;
  - (c) there is no danger to consumers from rushed installation; and
  - (d) consumers can obtain the 60c gross feed in tariff?

Answer—

- (1) to (15) The NSW Solar Bonus Scheme commenced on 1 January 2010 and will run for seven years. Eligible customers will receive the Scheme's credit from the start of the Scheme or from the date the meter is installed, whichever is later.

A seven year design for the Scheme provides certainty to customers in a changing environment and takes account of the fact that the price of renewable energy technology is widely anticipated to fall over time.

The Scheme's regulatory framework is set out in the Electricity Supply Act 1995 (the Act) and the Electricity Supply (General) Regulation 2001.

The NSW Government designed the Solar Bonus Scheme (the Scheme) so customers who already had systems installed, that met the new Scheme eligibility requirements, could also join up and be rewarded with the generous gross tariff rate of 60 cents per kilowatt hour.

New South Wales customers benefit from the most generous tariff rate in Australia which demonstrates the NSW Government's commitment to supporting the growth of the renewable energy industry.



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To receive higher gross payments, customers with a net meter need to switch to a gross meter. In most cases, the switch to a gross meter can be undertaken at a relatively low cost. However, in some cases, switching to gross metering can be more expensive.

I am advised that people have indicated a desire to participate in the Scheme without switching their net meter. In recognition of this, eligible customers will be able to receive the generous Scheme rate of 60 cents per kilowatt hour on a 'net' basis for electricity exported to the grid in excess of that used at the premises.

It is up to individual customers to decide what metering arrangement will best suit their property, system and budget and I recommend customers contact their electricity distributor and weigh up all the costs and benefits before making a final decision. Customers can still switch to a gross meter at any time during the course of the Scheme.

In order to receive benefits from the Scheme, eligible customers must install and connect to the national electricity grid eligible generators at premises that they own or occupy in NSW. Each eligible small electricity customer is entitled to receive the Scheme's credit for one eligible generator only.

Each customer has the responsibility for ensuring that their generator installation meets all requirements of the Scheme including complying with the metering and connection requirements of their distribution network. Network operators are responsible for administering the Scheme for customers in their distribution district.

Electricity distributors are required under the Act to provide the Minister for Energy with reports on the Scheme's uptake on a six monthly basis with the first report being due in mid 2010. There are early indications that there has been strong interest in the Scheme from consumers. The feedback is indicative only at this stage but very encouraging.

\*9960 STRONGER TOGETHER—Mr Andrew Constance asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—

In relation to the figures reported for "Stronger Together" in June 2008:

- (1) Of the 900 new intensive accommodation and support places:
  - (a) How many are 24-hour accommodation places, excluding day program/transition/work programs?
  - (b) What has been the decrease in support places, in terms of the average number of hours provided?
- (2) Of the more than 3,600 new skill development and day program places, in excess that have been reported:
  - (a) What is the name of each service provider?
  - (b) What is the number of new places that have been made available?
  - (c) What is the number of hours per year on average provided to the clients of each of the 3,600 places?
- (3) Of the 4,000 respite places:
  - (a) What is the number of centre based beds being provided?
  - (b) How many of the places are for flexible respite and what is the average annual hour allocation provided for flexible respite packages?
  - (c) How many additional beds have been provided for the 4,000 respite places?
  - (d) What is meant by the term a "new" respite place?
- (4) Of the more than 6,500 new therapy, case management and behaviour support places:
  - (a) What is the estimated average number of hours, in a 12-month period, to be provided per client in each type of place?
  - (b) How many therapists, case managers and behavioural support therapists have been employed to provide these places?
  - (c) How many of the therapist, case managers and behavioural support therapists positions provide regional services and in what local government areas?
  - (d) What is meant by the term "place"?

Answer—

- (1) to (4) The delivery of 990 new accommodation places under Stronger Together will result in an increase in support places provided.

As at 30 June 2009, there were 151 service providers providing the new skill development and day

program places and a total of 3,623 new places had been made available.

Both ADHC funded and ADHC provided services seek to be responsive to client need. The type and level of support that is required is determined through the assessment process. There is a significant range in the number of hours provided per client depending on individual support needs of the person with a disability and their carer and therefore the number of hours per client is not predetermined.

Under Stronger Together, centre based respite has been allocated as places rather than beds.

The number of staff recruited by ADHC funded services is not available.

Therapist, case management, and behaviour support therapist positions were created across all ADHC Regions.

\*9961 MR BOB ELLIS—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

Given your advice Mr Bob Ellis (through Boban Services) undertook work commissioned by Premier Rees that was delivered to the Premier's office and paid for (Question 9238), what was that work and at what cost to taxpayers?

Answer—

The Member is referred to the response to Written Question 8333 that the former Premier provided.

\*9962 LIDDELL SOLAR GENERATOR—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

In relation to the Liddell Solar Generator:

- (1) Given your advice the Government has a number of commitments and programs in place to reduce carbon emissions and encourage the uptake of renewable energy, including solar thermal electricity generators (Question 9545), has the Premier visited any solar thermal electricity generators?
- (2) When will the Premier visit the Liddell solar generator?

Answer—

I am advised that:

An answer was provided to your previous question on 15 April 2010, which remains current.

\*9963 MAROUBRA PUBLIC HOUSING—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Transport and Roads—

In relation to Maroubra public housing:

Given your advice recent representations have been received about residents' concerns with the management of public housing (Question 8970):

- (1) How many representations have been received from the Member for Maroubra?
- (2) When were the representations received?

Answer—

(1) and (2) Recent representations have been received.

\*9964 ELECTRIC CARS—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

Given the advice the Government is involved in various trials of electric vehicles and a NSW Electric Vehicles Taskforce has been established to review this emerging technology and will consider the suitability of electric vehicles for the Government's fleet (Question 5831):

- (1) What are the trials and what is their status?
- (2) What progress has been made by the taskforce?

Answer—

I am advised:

A trial of SWITCH, Australia's first vehicle-to-grid (V2G) plug-in hybrid electric vehicle, was launched by the then Minister for the Environment and Climate Change, Carmel Tebbutt, in 2009. The SWITCH prototype was developed by researchers at the University of Technology Sydney Institute for Sustainable Futures, with funding from the NSW Government. The car is being trialled as part of the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (DECCW) vehicle fleet to test fuel efficiency, electricity use, greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution savings.

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The NSW Government has also recently trialled a Mitsubishi iMiEV, a fully electric vehicle which is being tested prior to commercial release. StateFleet and DECCW had use of the vehicle from 3 to 17 May 2010.

The NSW Electric Vehicles Taskforce has been established to explore opportunities and barriers to electric vehicle uptake in NSW. The key responsibilities of the Taskforce include reviewing the technology, infrastructure, policy, and legislation to support the uptake of electric vehicles by NSW motorists. A report on modelling on the economic viability of vehicles in the Sydney Greater Metropolitan Region is available at [www.environment.nsw.gov.au/cleancars/index.htm](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/cleancars/index.htm)

\*9966 TOURIST JET BOATS ON SYDNEY HARBOUR—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Minister for Ports and Waterways, and Minister for the Illawarra—

In relation to tourist jet boats on Sydney Harbour, given your advice regular survey inspections are conducted and all complaints and incidents are investigated by NSW Maritime (Question 9542):

- (1) Has NSW Maritime received any complaints or reports of incidents since January 2009?
- (2) If so, what were those complaints and reports of incidents and when were they received?
- (3) What proactive measures are taken by NSW Maritime to check the jet boats' operating procedures and instructions to boat captains?

Answer—

- (1) Three complaints and three reported incidents were received during the period 1 January 2009 to 30 April 2010.

- (2) Incidents:

The engine room flooding of a jet boat on Sydney Harbour on 4 August 2009.

Two injuries after a high speed turn on 13 September 2009.

A near miss between a jet boat and another vessel in Middle Harbour on 27 March 2010.

Complaints:

On 9 March 2009, one complaint was received in relation to speed.

Two complaints were received in relation to a noise. One was received on 13 July 2009 and the other on 15 December 2009.

- (3) All incidents and complaints were investigated by NSW Maritime, including the respective operating procedures and Safety Management Systems (SMS). Further, SMS audits of Commercial Adventure Vessels (CAVs) are to be a priority for 2010 and 2011. Complaints and incidents into CAVs have been raised with the National Marine Safety Committee (NMSC) as an emerging issue that requires monitoring by Australian maritime regulators.

I am advised, it is a condition of operation of CAVs on Sydney Harbour that operators require any Master who is engaged to navigate the CAV to sign a copy of the Code of Conduct for the Operation of Commercial Adventure Vessels on Sydney Harbour and lodge it with NSW Maritime before they undertake CAV operations involving irregular manoeuvres.

\*9967 HOUSING NSW DEVELOPMENTS—WEST RYDE—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Transport and Roads—

In relation to the Major Projects Directorate of Housing NSW - MPD 122-024508 published on 19 September 2008:

- (1) Does the department still intend to develop eight lots in the locality of West Ryde?
- (2) Where will the next four social housing complexes be built?
- (3) When are these developments scheduled to occur?
- (4) What consultation process will the department undertake to inform West Ryde residents of the next four developments?

Answer—

- (1) to (4) Housing NSW is proceeding to develop eight consecutive lots at 63 – 77 West Parade, West Ryde. Housing NSW has made a Part 3A Major Projects concept application to the NSW Department of Planning for the redevelopment of the whole site to create private, affordable and social housing, as well as commercial space. The proposal is still under consideration by the Department of Planning.

Housing NSW has previously consulted with Ryde City Council and other stakeholder agencies in addition to advising local residents of its proposal and the process by which submissions can be made to the Department of Planning.

\*9968 NEW WEST RYDE DEVELOPMENT—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Transport and Roads—

In relation to the NSW Department of Housing developments in the West Ryde area:

- (1) On Friday 16 April why were surveyors conducting work on behalf of the Department of Housing along Darvall Road?
- (2) When approached by a local constituent, why did contractors evade questions about the purpose of the work they were undertaking?
- (3) What plans does the Government have for further developments on Darvall Road and surrounding streets?
- (4) What plans exist for advising local residents of future developments?

Answer—

(1) and (2) Any surveys carried out on behalf of Housing NSW on 16 April 2010 pertain to projects in the Ryde LGA approved for construction under the Nation Building Economic Stimulus Plan.

(3) As previously advised, Housing NSW is developing 12 sites in the Ryde LGA under the Nation Building Economic Stimulus Plan. Housing NSW is also developing a site at 63 - 77 West Parade West Ryde and has made a Part 3A application to the Department of Planning.

(4) No other developments are currently planned. Local residents will be consulted on any future developments.

\*9969 INTERSECTION OF MARSDEN AND VICTORIA ROADS, MELROSE PARK—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

In relation to my representations of 18 February, 13 April and 16 April 2010 to your office requesting your department take action to ensure the safety of school children using the Victoria/ Marsden Roads crossing:

- (1) Given that your office advised me in an email on 18 March 2010 that this matter had been filed as "extremely urgent", when will you respond to my letters and take action to fix the problem?
- (2) Given that on 18 March 2010 Ryde Traffic Committee moved a resolution to refer this matter to the Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA), what findings has the RTA made about the safety of this intersection?
- (3) What measures will the Government now undertake to ensure the safety of pedestrians using this crossing?
- (4) When will these measures be introduced?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (4) The former Minister for Transport and Roads provided a response to representations on 4 May 2010.

Following a recent site inspection, the Roads and Traffic Authority is investigating the provision of a pedestrian fence, and reviewing the traffic light phasing at this intersection.

The Roads and Traffic Authority will also request the Road Safety Officer of Ryde Council to provide behavioural awareness resources to the school community.

\*9970 537 BUS SERVICE—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

In relation to the discontinuation of this service in the Ryde district in October 2009 due to poor patronage:

- (1) What were the changes to patronage numbers this decision was based on?
- (2) Did the Department take into account the construction and re-opening of Top Ryde Shopping Centre during 2009 and 2010 in its decision to discontinue this service?
- (3) What alternative services are available for patrons in North Ryde?
- (4) Has the Department conducted a study of patronage numbers for the old 537 bus route in lieu of the opening of Top Ryde Shopping Centre?

Answer—

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I am advised:

- (1) The number of passengers using the 537 bus service had fallen so low that the service was no longer sustainable. On more than 1 in 3 trips, the service picked up no passengers at all in the East Ryde section.
- (2) Yes.
- (3) There are a number of alternative services available for residents of the North Ryde area, including services on bus routes 533, 534, 506, X06, 507, 459, 286, 287, 288, 290, and 297.
- (4) State Transit plans for passenger growth on the bus network. State Transit will keep a close watch and respond to any future increases in demand for services to and from Top Ryde, and for other areas previously serviced by Route 537.

\*9971 DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING DEVELOPMENT—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) How many new Department of Housing developments were completed statewide during the financial year 2008-09?
- (2) How many new Department of Housing developments are due to be completed statewide during 2009-10?
- (3) As a percentage, what is the proportion of new developments in NSW due to be completed within the electorate of Ryde during 2009-10?
- (4) Where does this rank the electorate of Ryde in terms of the number of new developments compared to other electorates?

Answer—

- (1) This information is contained in Housing NSW's Annual Report.
- (2) Housing NSW will complete a number of projects during 2009/10 including projects under the Nation Building Economic Stimulus Plan and projects under its Capital Supply program
- (3) 0.5% of the completed projects.
- (4) There are no ranking systems. In the financial years 2008-09 and 2009-10, new developments were completed from opportunities identified in over 80% of the State Electorates.

\*9972 HUNTINGTON DISEASE ASSOCIATION OF NSW—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) What funding did NSW Health provide to the Huntington Disease Association (NSW) Inc in the following financial years:
  - (a) 2006-07;
  - (b) 2007-08;
  - (c) 2008-09;
  - (d) 2009-10 to date?
- (2) Are there any plans to increase the level of funding provided in the future?
- (3) What assistance, other than funding, does NSW Health provide to the Huntington Disease Association (NSW) Inc?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (3) Under the Ministerially approved Non-Government Organisation Program (NGO), the Australian Huntington's Disease Association (NSW) Inc received funding from the Department of Health of \$55,000 in 2006-07; \$56,800 in 2007-08; \$29,596 in 2008-09 and \$59,151 in 2009-10.

The Sydney West Area Health Service Huntington's Disease Service and the Huntington's Disease Association have a close working relationship that includes training and consultation. The Area Health Service has provided funding of \$43,200 in 2006-07; \$43,550 in 2007-08; \$47,150 in 2008-09; and \$47,200 in 2009-10.

Future funding arrangements will be determined as part of the overall NGO fund programs.

\*9973 CHILDREN IN OUT-OF-HOME CARE—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—

- (1) Of all children currently in out-of-home care, how many were first removed:
  - (a) within one month of Community Services receiving its first report in relation to the family;
  - (b) more than one month after Community Services received its first report in relation to the family but less than three months after that report;

- (c) more than three months after Community Services received its first report in relation to the family but less than six months after that report;
  - (d) more than six months after Community Services received its first report in relation to the family but less than one year after that report;
  - (e) more than one year after Community Services received its first report in relation to the family?
- (2) Of all children currently in out-of-home care, how many were removed prior to a Children's Court order?

(If these figures are not available for all children currently in out-of-home care, please provide available figures in each of those categories).

Answer—

- (1) The most recent analysis of this issue relates to 2006-07 data.

The time between first Child Protection report and first entry into OOHC was as follows:

- Less than 6 months - 610
- 6 months to less than 1 year - 328
- 1 year to less than 2 years - 394
- 2 years to less than five years - 877
- 5 years or more - 866

- (2) In 2008-09 - 2,089.

\*9975 ACCIDENT ON F3 INVOLVING FUEL TANKER—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

In relation to the fuel tanker involved in a major accident on the F3 on the morning of 12 April:

- (1) Was the tanker en route to Tamworth when it was involved in the crash?
- (2) Has there been an increase in the level of road-haulage fuel tankers heading to Tamworth, Dubbo and Canberra since the Government increased the costs of hauling fuel by rail?
- (3) If so, has the increase in road-haulage fuel tankers now reached a level that poses a threat to motorists?
- (4) Is it known to the Minister whether the fuel tanker involved in the incident was being used due to the increased costs of rail fuel haulage?
- (5) If not, will the Minister ask the company responsible for hiring/utilising the fuel tanker whether this was the case?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) This is a matter for the Minister for Police.
- (2) The NSW Government has discontinued a temporary subsidy that was available on a targeted route that did not include the F3.
- (3) No.
- (4) See (2).
- (5) No.

\*9976 EMPLOYMENT IN COMMUNITY SERVICES—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—

- (1) How many casuals are employed in Community Services in:
  - (a) front line positions;
  - (b) administrative positions?
- (2) How many contractors in Community Services are employed in:
  - (a) front line positions;
  - (b) administrative positions?

Answer—

- (1) (a) 7 Casual Caseworkers are employed in the Domestic Violence Line based with the Helpline. 139 people have been employed from time to time as contact workers, who escort children and young people to court, access visits, etc.
- (b) Nil.
- (2) (a) Nil.
- (b) 88 contractors are employed in administrative positions within the agency, mostly to backfill

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temporary vacancies.

\*9977 TRANSIT OFFICERS—Mrs Shelley Hancock asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) How many transit officers were there as at:
  - (a) 1 January 2007;
  - (b) 1 January 2008;
  - (c) 1 January 2009;
  - (d) 1 January 2010?
- (2) How much money was spent in the following financial years on high visibility vests and uniforms for RailCorp's Transit Officer Unit:
  - (a) 2006-2007;
  - (b) 2007-2008;
  - (c) 2008-2009;
  - (d) 2009-2010?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The number of RailCorp Transit Officers as at:
  - (a) 585.
  - (b) 638.
  - (c) 622.
  - (d) 580.
- (2) Cost of Transit Officer Uniforms:
  - (a) Approximately \$420,000.
  - (b) Approximately \$490,000.
  - (c) Approximately \$780,000.
  - (d) The actual expenditure for 2009-10 is not yet available, however the Budget for 2009-10 is \$490,000.

These are costs associated with providing all components required for Transit Officer Uniforms, including the actual uniform as well as sundry items such as belts, torch holders and vests. The increased cost in 2008-09 was mainly due to the introduction of a new transit officer uniform.

\*9978 PARKING OFFENCES IN SCHOOL ZONES—Mrs Shelley Hancock asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

Why do parking offences in school zones not attract a demerit point penalty?

Answer—

I am advised:

A number of parking offences in school zones attract demerit points, and in fact attract higher fines when compared with offences that occur outside a school zone.

\*9979 CONNECTED CLASSROOMS PROGRAM—Mrs Shelley Hancock asked the Minister for Education and Training—

In relation to the Connected Classrooms Program:

- (1) How many interactive white boards have been installed in NSW schools?
- (2) What schools have had an interactive whiteboard installed?
- (3) How many video conferencing and interactive whiteboards have been installed in NSW Schools?
- (4) What schools have had a video conferencing and interactive whiteboard installed?

Answer—

- (1) to (4) Under the Connected Classrooms Program, video conferencing facilities and interactive whiteboards have been installed in 1,571 NSW schools as of 30 April 2010.

A list of all schools is available from the Legislative Assembly Procedure Office.

\*9980 NSW LAND AND HOUSING CORPORATION—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) Has the Minister called for an investigation into the purchasing practices and policies of the NSW Land and Housing Corporation given recent allegations that the Corporation overpaid \$500,000 for a property on the Central Coast in Walmsley Road, Ourimbah?
  - (a) If so, when will the investigation be completed?
  - (b) If not, why not?
- (2) Did the initial building report conducted by the NSW Land and Housing Corporation on townhouses on the Central Coast in Walmsley Road, Ourimbah, suggested that the maintenance cost for each of the 11 townhouses would be approximately \$5,000?
- (3) Did the second building report conducted on the properties in Ourimbah, after settlement, state that the building maintenance would be approximately \$50,000 to \$70,000 per unit?
- (4) Is the protocol of the NSW Land and Housing Corporation to send a junior building inspector to assess maintenance costs to possible property acquisitions before settlement?
- (5) Is it the protocol of the NSW Land and Housing Corporation to send senior building inspectors to assess maintenance costs after settlement of newly acquired properties?
- (6) In relation to the acquisition of properties located in Walmsley Road, Ourimbah, did the Minister refer matters relating to this to the Department of Fair Trading?
  - (a) If so, when?
  - (b) Was this before or after the settlement date?
  - (c) Will the Minister table that correspondence?
- (7) If the Minister did refer the matter of the NSW Land and Housing Corporations purchase of property located in Walmsley Road, Ourimbah to the Department of Fair Trading before the settlement date, why did he allow the settlement to go ahead?

Answer—

- (1) (a) and (b) Housing NSW had already referred the matter to the Office of Fair Trading in August 2009 for investigation.
- (2) Yes.
- (3) Yes. The second report included costs for additional items.
- (4) and (5) Housing NSW appoints appropriately qualified private industry firms to provide technical reports. In the case of the Ourimbah acquisition, Housing NSW engaged a firm to undertake various aspects of the acquisition process, including the provision of technical reports.
- (6) (a) Housing NSW referred the matter to the Office of Fair Trading in August 2009.
  - (b) Before the settlement date.
  - (c) No.
- (7) Housing NSW had a legally binding contract and was required under the terms of this contract to proceed to settlement.

\*9981 TAIL-GATING OFFENCES—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

- (1) How many drivers of heavy vehicles received infringement notices from police for offences relating to tail-gating on the F3 Freeway in:
  - (a) 2006-07;
  - (b) 2007-08;
  - (c) 2008-09;
  - (d) 2009-10 (to date)?
- (2) Does the Highway Patrol unit responsible for the F3 Freeway have any enforcement or education programs to reduce the number of tail-gating incidents, especially in relation to heavy vehicles?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me:

- (1) The State Debt Recovery Office within the Office of State Revenue deals with traffic infringement notices. I suggest the Honourable Member's question is more appropriately addressed to the Treasurer, within whose portfolio the Office of State Revenue resides.
- (2) The NSW Police Force actively enforces all traffic laws on NSW roads including the F3 Freeway, however it does not conduct driver education programs. As the RTA is the agency responsible for driver education, I suggest this part of the Member's question be addressed to the Minister for Roads.



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\*9982 FISHING INSPECTIONS AT THE ENTRANCE—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

- (1) What areas are included in the Central Coast as indicated in answer to Question 9148?
- (2) How many Central Coast fishing inspectors are there?
- (3) How many bases are there for inspectors on the Central Coast?
- (4) How many boats are used for fishing inspections on the Central Coast?
- (5) What records are maintained covering the individual locations of fishing inspections?
- (6) Which areas on the Central Coast record the greatest number of breaches of illegal fishing?
- (7) Which areas on the Central Coast record the greatest number of breaches of size and bag limits?

Answer—

- (1) The complete administrative and operational boundary of the Central Coast district is described below. The inspections data provided in answer to Question 9148 arise within this boundary.

From Wybung Head south along the coastline to the northern tip of Barrenjoey Headland (crossing Broken Bay). Then west along an imaginary line that excludes Pittwater and Cowan Creek to the south and then follows the southern bank of the Hawkesbury River up to the junction of the Hawkesbury and Colo rivers. Follows the Colo River to the point where it meets the Wolgan River and the Capertee River. From this point north westerly to the township of Kandos to Mudgee, then following north east to Denman, easterly to Yarramalong then easterly to the junction of the F3 and Sparkes Road then to the most direct route to Wybung Head.

- (2) There are 4 fisheries officer positions responsible for the Central Coast Fisheries District along with a zone supervising fisheries officer who works from the Gosford facility. In addition there are 2 fisheries officers in the Recreational Fisheries Mobile Squad - Central, which is based on the Central Coast.
- (3) The administrative and main operational base for Central Coast Fisheries District is at Narara (Gosford) and the Central Coast district staff are based there. There are also operational bases at The Entrance and Woy Woy. The Central Coast fisheries officers also share an operational base at Brooklyn, with the officers from Sydney North District.
- (4) There are presently three boats used by Central Coast fisheries officers; in addition, a replacement for a fourth (decommissioned) boat is due to be delivered in May 2010. As well as the boats allocated to the Central Coast District, the Fisheries Patrol Vessel "Sydney Swan" and the State-wide Operations and Investigations Group provide patrol platforms when required.
- (5) When Fisheries Officers detect and report non-compliance identified during inspections, the full details of that offence and location are recorded including a description of the location, nearest locality and waterway if relevant. In some circumstances the latitude and longitude is also recorded. Where persons are found in compliance with fisheries legislation during inspections, then the number of persons complying are recorded but not the specific location.
- (6) An analysis of offences detected in the Central Coast area since January 2008 has identified the offences occurred in 85 different localities. Of these localities The Entrance and The Entrance North comprised about 35% of all offences detected.
- (7) An analysis of bag and size limit offences detected in the Central Coast area since January 2008 has identified the offences occurred in 41 different localities. Of these localities The Entrance and The Entrance North comprised about 49% of all bag and size limit offences.

\*9983 THE ENTRANCE ROAD—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) What action has the Minister taken to address the concerns of residents on The Entrance Road who have asked that redevelopment plans for the road be amended to move a u-turn bay?
- (2) Will the RTA consider residents' concerns when determining final plans for the road redevelopment?
- (3) Will residents be further consulted about the road redevelopment in light of these concerns?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) As a result of community input, adjustments were made to the design, including changes to the locations of the u-turn bays.
- (2) Residents' concerns have assisted the Roads and Traffic Authority to refine the design of the project to better meet their needs.
- (3) Consultation is continuing with the local community.

\*9984 LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE FUND—LITHGOW CITY COUNCIL—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Minister for Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

- (1) Is the Local Infrastructure Fund targeted to areas of high population growth where new developments are underway or planned for construction, triggering the construction of housing, providing a secondary economic stimulus and a boost to the NSW housing market?
- (2) If so, why was Lithgow City Council's Wallerawang Sewerage Plant project, one of only 37 projects selected to receive a Local Infrastructure Fund grant, from some 100 applications?
- (3) What evidence is available to suggest that there is significant demand for housing in Wallerawang?

Answer—

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Lithgow Council was given a \$4.9 million interest free loan, not a grant, from the Local Infrastructure Fund (LIF). The loan is to be repaid over 10 years, with annual repayments. This represents just over half the cost of the Wallerawang Sewage Treatment Plant project.

There was considerable interest in the LIF with over 100 applications being received, seeking in excess of \$500 million.

The local council applications were assessed by an independently chaired Assessment Panel strictly in accordance with the funding criteria set out in the LIF Funding Guidelines. A Probity Advisor oversaw the process to ensure transparency and fairness.

Only those projects that met the funding criteria and were considered to have merit in relation to those criteria were recommended and approved for funding.

Many applications were not successful in receiving funding because they did not meet a key selection criterion of enabling urban development.

- (3) Lithgow Council completed the funding application form to a satisfactory standard. The Council indicated that the facility would service a 130 lot residential subdivision.

\*9985 EUCUMBENE WASTE TRANSFER STATION—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Minister for Local Government, Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

- (1) What was the outcome of the request made to the Division of Local Government to investigate the decision by the Snowy River Shire Council to close the Eucumbene Waste Transfer Station, which had been in operation for over 50 years?
- (2) Will the Minister review council's failure to allow the community to have meaningful input into its draft waste strategy by cutting short the consultation process by exhibiting their Plan of Management, which stated that the transfer station would close?

Answer—

I provide the following details in response to your questions:

- (1) I can confirm that the Division of Local Government received correspondence regarding the Eucumbene Waste Facility. As the provision of waste services is however an independent council function, an investigation, on the material as provided by the correspondent, was not considered warranted.
- (2) How councils consult with their community is a matter for each council to determine.

The Local Government Act 1993 requires that each council prepare a draft management plan annually, which discloses the council's proposed activities for at least the next three years and the council's revenue policy for the next year. Each council must also publicly exhibit the draft management plan for a period of not less than 28 days. During this period the community has the opportunity to make submissions to their council regarding the content of the draft plan. The council must consider any submissions made by the public prior to adopting the plan.

\*9986 BURNT CREEK BYPASS TRANSIT LANE—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) What research was undertaken to justify the proposal to change the Burnt Creek bypass transit lane to a 24-hour dedicated bus lane?
- (2) Who undertook the research?
- (3) What aspects of the research justified this decision?
- (4) Is the Minister aware of community opposition to the Burnt Creek bypass transit lane being

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converted to a 24-hour dedicated bus lane?

- (5) Will the Minister respond to community concerns and cancel the proposed changes to the transit lane?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (5) To date, the Roads and Traffic Authority has indicated it has not concluded its investigations. When all investigations are complete, a decision will be made that will provide the best outcome for the community.

- \*9987 CLOSURE OF BEDS AT MANLY HOSPITAL—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

What action will the Minister take to respond to the concerns of Dr Michelle Franks expressed in the Manly Daily on 22 April 2010 regarding the imminent closure of 10 beds at Manly Hospital?

Answer—

I am advised:

Following extensive consultation the Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Health Service has announced a service model change to co-locate all aged care rehabilitation inpatient beds from Manly Hospital to the dedicated purpose built Mona Vale Hospital Aged Care Rehabilitation Unit.

The rehabilitation ward at Mona Vale Hospital has modern rehabilitation facilities such as dedicated therapy and socialisation spaces including a modern gymnasium and dining room spaces and close access to a hydrotherapy pool facility.

Under this model the rehabilitation unit at Mona Vale Hospital will increase from 24 to 30 beds effective 17 May 2010, with contingency planning being considered to enable expansion to 35 beds depending on demand for such services.

- \*9988 TRAVEL TIMES—NORTHERN BEACHES TO SYDNEY CBD—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) What studies has the Minister's department undertaken to review travel times from the Northern Beaches to the Sydney CBD over the last few years?  
(2) What action is the Minister taking to reduce travel times?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) A review of bus travel times for services along the main Northern Beaches bus corridor was part of the comprehensive review of services, undertaken for the introduction of a new bus network for the Northern Beaches in August 2009.  
(2) To reduce travel times, State Transit is working with the Roads and Traffic Authority to improve bus priority measures for the Northern Beaches. A five year \$48 million program of bus priority works is being rolled out along this corridor.

- \*9989 CBD ROZELLE METRO—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

- (1) How many Department of Planning staff hours were spent assessing the development application for the CBD Rozelle Metro?  
(2) How many Department of Planning staff were employed specifically working on the CBD Rozelle Metro?  
(3) How many Department of Planning Staff will be required to take redundancy after cancellation of the CBD Rozelle Metro?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) The CBD Metro project was assessed by the Infrastructure Projects team which is comprised of 16 planners. During the period in which the CBD Metro project was assessed this team was also working on approximately 34 other projects. The CBD Metro project was assessed in 67 days.  
(3) None.

- \*9990 PORT MACQUARIE MARINA PROPOSALS—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

- (1) What steps will the Minister take to ensure the concerns of Port Macquarie Foreshore Protection Association are taken into account regarding the Port Macquarie marina proposals?
- (2) (a) Will the Minister agree to allow a representative of the association to have a role on the consultative committee?  
(b) If not, why not?

Answer—

- (1) There is no application with the Department of Planning for a proposed marina at Port Macquarie.
- (2) See response to question (1).

\*9991 STUDENTS REFERRED TO BEHAVIOUR SCHOOLS—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Education and Training—

- (1) How many students have been referred to behaviour schools in each of the last 3 years?
- (2) How long did each student spent at the behaviour schools?
- (3) How many of such students re-entered mainstream schools after completion of their time at behaviour schools?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) Data on the number of student referrals and length of time in behaviour schools is not collected centrally.
- (3) There is no data collected centrally on students who have re-entered mainstream schools after completion of their time in a behaviour school as students placed in these schools are recorded as a shared enrolment with their home school.

\*9992 ENERGY VOUCHERS—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

- (1) In view of the substantial number of residents of low socio-economic circumstances and/or resident in public housing in Wakehurst, is the Minister increasing the number of energy vouchers available to assist residents suffering from the increasing costs of electricity in Wakehurst?
- (2) If so, what number of vouchers were distributed through NGOs in Wakehurst in each of the last 5 years?
- (3) What will be the increase in the number of vouchers?
- (4) What will be the total additional value of the vouchers in each of the next 3 years?

Answer—

I am advised:

The NSW Government has committed \$800 million over five years to a range of measures to help families and businesses across NSW cope with rising energy costs.

This includes a \$48 million expansion of the Energy Rebate program. From 1 July 2010, the Energy Rebate will increase from \$130 to \$140 per year. From 1 July 2011, it will increase to \$161 per year in line with the average rise in regulated retail prices. From 1 July 2010, eligibility for the Energy Rebate will also be extended to all Commonwealth Health Care Card holders.

Other customer assistance measures available to all eligible energy customers in NSW include:

- a \$130 Medical Energy Rebate for people who cannot control their core body temperature and therefore require heating and cooling year round;
- Life Support Rebates for people who rely on electricity to stay alive;
- New regulations requiring retailers to ensure customers who need help are identified early and provided with appropriate assistance to pay their bills; and
- Financial counselling services for customers in need of assistance.

The Government will also launch an Energy Price Comparison website later this year to help energy customers find the best energy deals on offer.

In addition to these measures, any NSW energy customer experiencing financial crisis, including residents of Wakehurst, may apply to a participating community welfare organisation for vouchers under the Energy Accounts Payment Assistance scheme. Vouchers are distributed through participating community welfare organisations. A list of these organisations and their locations can be accessed on the Industry and Investment NSW website at: <http://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/energy>.

\*9993 HUNTER WATER SLUDGE CAKE—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—

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- (1) Which sewerage treatment plants, operated by Hunter Water, produce de-watered sludge cake or biosolids for distribution to commercial organisations?
- (2) How many tonnes of this product are produced by each of these sewerage treatment plants annually?
- (3) Of these biosolids, how many tonnes are distributed to commercial organisations for use in agriculture, composting or land rehabilitation?
- (4) How much income does Hunter Water receive from the distribution of biosolids to commercial organisations?

Answer—

(1) Hunter Water operates 15 wastewater treatment plants which produce dewatering sludge cake or biosolids. Eight plants that undertake permanent de-watering activities are located at Belmont, Edgeworth, Morpeth, Boulder Bay, Toronto, Cessnock, Kurri Kurri, and Raymond Terrace and seven plants that undertake periodic de-watering activities are located at Farley, Shortland, Dora Creek, Tanilba Bay, Karuah, Paxton and Branxton.

(2) and (3) The total amount of biosolids produced at Hunter Water wastewater treatment plants for the 2008-09 financial year was 5,763 tonnes. Hunter Water reused 88 percent (or 5,091 tonnes) of biosolids produced from its wastewater treatment plants during 2008-09. The remaining 12 percent was stockpiled for later reuse.

(4) Due to a lack of demand from commercial organisations within the Hunter region and issues with public perceptions of biosolids generated from wastewater treatment facilities, Hunter Water has historically found it difficult to generate revenue from the sale of biosolids. No income is currently generated from biosolids reuse programs. Hunter Water generally has to transport biosolids considerable distances, at its expense, to mine and agricultural sites where biosolids can be beneficially reused.

Hunter Water is currently undertaking a significant upgrade program of its wastewater treatment assets. Several plants are scheduled for upgrades to their secondary treatment processes, which will further improve the stability and grade of the biosolids generated from the plants.

\*9994 SIGNPOSTING ON OLYMPIC HIGHWAY—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

With reference to the Minister's earlier correspondence on behalf of Young North Public School, regarding a signposting on the Olympic Way (his references MIN09/3346 and M09/2713 refer), why does the RTA allow the signposting of a golf course, a vineyard and a prune factory on the Olympic Highway, within four blocks of Young North Public School, but not allow a signpost indicating the presence of a school?

Answer—

I am advised:

A number of signs advertising facilities such as a golf course, winery and prune factory have been set up without the approval of the Roads and Traffic Authority. The Roads and Traffic Authority has since written to Young Shire Council requesting the removal of the illegally erected signs.

\*9995 MAMMOGRAMS IN YOUNG—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) Does either the Department of Health or the Greater Southern Area Health Service mandate a time period within which requests for appointment for a mammogram must be met?
- (2) If so, what is this timeframe?
- (3) Why was a patient, with an existing history of breast cancer, seeking an appointment on 3 March 2010 unable to obtain an appointment in Young?
- (4) Is the mammogram x-ray machine in Young again unserviceable?
- (5) Is this the same mammogram x-ray equipment that was unserviceable for more than two months between April and June 2008?
- (6) What action has the Minister taken to ensure that patients needing mammograms are referred to another centre that is able provide this service?
- (7) Why was this patient not referred to another service?

Answer—

I am advised:

BreastScreen NSW operates according to National Accreditation Standards which state that 90% or more women attend for a screening appointment within 28 calendar days of their booking date at fixed sites.

Recent delays in Young were a result of Breast Screen equipment issues. The equipment has now been repaired. The Breast Screen machine at Young Hospital is serviced regularly and meets all quality assurance standards.

Where appropriate, patients are offered appointments at alternate BreastScreen locations.

\*9996 MYZONE TICKETS—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) What impact will MyZone tickets have on private bus operators e.g. Hills Bus and Transdev (Shorelink)?
- (2) Do all these private bus operators have the proper equipment to adequately validate tickets?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) MyZone has been operating successfully across all private bus operators including Hills Bus and Transdev since Sunday 18 April, 2010.

MyZone is being implemented using current ticketing equipment.

\*9997 HCCC—REFER TO CORONER—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

Under what circumstances would the HCCC refer a case to the Coroner?

Answer—

I am advised:

Reporting requirements imposed on medical practitioners and police under Section 38 of the Coroners Act mean that, in practice, the Coroner is usually promptly notified of cases where a medical practitioner considers the death was a reportable death under the Act.

If it came to the attention of the HCCC that a matter was not reported to the Coroner, and the HCCC considered on the material before it, that the death was a 'reportable death', then the HCCC would report the death to the Coroner. The HCCC has to-date not encountered such a situation, and anticipates that it is unlikely to do so.

\*9998 PEDESTRIAN OVERBRIDGE—GEORGE STREET, HORNSBY—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Local Government, Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

Regarding the pedestrian overbridge in George Street, Hornsby:

- (1) Was there a "full load" and "high vehicle" risk assessment done after the temporary repair?
- (2) Was there a risk assessment done before the engineer's report?
- (3) Is the Minister aware that the bridge does not meet RTA standards?
- (4) Will the Minister ensure that early warning signs are installed regarding height issues above George Street?

Answer—

I provide the following details in response to your questions:

This is a matter for Hornsby Shire Council to deal with as a roads authority under the Roads Act 1993. The questions should therefore be directed to Hornsby Shire Council and the Minister for Roads.

\*9999 NEW WARD—HORNSBY HOSPITAL—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

In relation to the new ward created on level 2 Lumby Unit at Hornsby Hospital:

- (1) Has a Nursing Unit Manager been appointed?
- (2) What is the function of the new ward?
- (3) How many patients are now being accommodated on level 2 and how many beds were present before the change?
- (4) What refurbishments have been undertaken?

Answer—

I am advised:

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- (1) The recruitment process for a second Nursing Unit Manager position for the Surgical Unit on level 2 at Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Hospital is progressing. Applications for this position have closed and interviews scheduled as soon as practicable.
- (2) to (4) The two wards on level two have become one Surgical Unit comprising 43 beds, with the capacity to open a further seven if required, and a Transit Area containing 12 bed equivalents. Previously there were a total of 56 beds.

All 12 bathrooms on level 2 have now been refurbished. In addition, the nurses' station and transit lounge have also been repainted in the Surgical Unit.

\*10000NORTHERN SYDNEY CENTRAL COAST AREA HEALTH SERVICE—OUTSTANDING CREDITORS—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

Regarding the Auditor General's finding that Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Health Service had the most creditors outstanding totalling \$15.2 million over 45 days in 2008-09:

- (1) What is the current position?
- (2) If there are outstanding monies owed, what measures are being undertaken to correct this?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) All Area Health Services are required to manage their budgets and pay creditors within established timeframes. Where that has not occurred, NSW Health is assisting Health Services to improve their processes and meet the payment timeframes which have been set.

Paying bills on time is an ongoing process and the situation regarding the number and value of invoices changes on a day-to-day basis.

I am advised the most recent end of month data for Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Health Service indicates that as at the end of April 2010 the value of trade invoices for payment over 45 days was approximately \$13 million.

\*10001PREMIER'S COUNCIL FOR ACTIVE LIVING—Mr Kevin Humphries asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

In relation to the Premier's Council for Active Living:

- (1) Why is the Premier providing misleading information on the <http://www.pcal.nsw.gov.au> website which states that the council has an independent chair, Libby Darlison who has long left the organisation?
- (2) How long has the Premier's Council for Active Living been without an independent chair?
- (3) How long has the Premier's Council for Active Living been without a chair?
- (4) Detailing specific dates, what key decision makers, and from what agencies, attended each Premier's Council for Active Living meeting to date?
- (5) (a) As the <http://www.pcal.nsw.gov.au> website states "economic costs of inactivity are in the billions for NSW alone", how was this quantified and has there been a quantification measure applied since the inception of the council in 2004?  
(b) If so, how much money has been saved as a result of the council's work hence, and what is the quantifiable impact it has had on the community?

Answer—

I am advised:

A new independent chair for the Premier's Council for Active Living will be announced shortly. The Council membership includes representatives of NSW Government Departments and the Heart Foundation.

The Premier's Council for Active Living has published on its website the Why Active Living Statement, which summarises the key evidence relating to the costs of inactivity and the benefits of active living.

\*10002MENTAL HEALTH PATIENTS—Mr Kevin Humphries asked the Minister for Local Government, Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

In relation to mental health:

- (1) What is the funding discrepancy of \$7,541,000 between NSW Health and SSWAHS for 2009-10 in simplistic terms?

- (2) What was the total number of mental health beds available for each year over the past five years?
- (3) What was the percentage of mental health patients in the past 2 years that have waited in emergency departments for access to a bed for over:
- 4 hours and under 8 hours;
  - 8 hours and under 12 hours;
  - 12 hours and under 16 hours;
  - 16 hours and under 20 hours;
  - more than 20 hours?
- (4) What was the percentage of mental health patients that received community care before being admitted into hospital each year for the past five years?
- (5) What was the percentage of mental health patients that received community care after being discharged by a hospital each year for the past five years?
- (6) What was the percentage of mental health patients that were re-admitted to hospital within a one-month period each year for the past five years?
- (7) What was the overnight staff roster of the Bank Unit attached to Bankstown Hospital for the month of November 2009 with allowances made to protect the privacy of roster staff?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) It is normal practice to revise budget estimates as the financial year progresses based on additional information provided such as added project funding, changes in staffing profile, increases to Staff Awards or changes in revenue streams. This principle applies to the amount identified by the Member.

(2) This data is published in the NSW Department of Health Annual Report 2008-09 (p. 261) available on the NSW Health website: [www.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au)

(3) The time period mental health patients waited in Emergency Departments for access to a mental health bed after having received initial treatment, on a statewide basis, for the past two financial years, was as follows:

Waiting Period	2007/08	2008/09
Less than 4 hours	77.5%	80.0%
Between 4 to less than 8 hours	3.6%	3.5%
Between 8 to less than 12 hours	2.0%	2.0%
Between 12 to less than 16 hours	2.4%	1.9%
Between 16 to less than 20 hours	1.8%	1.4%
Longer than 20 hours	2.8%	2.1%
Unknown	9.9%	9.1%

(4) The NSW Department of Health does not currently collect data on mental health patients that received community care before being admitted into hospital.

(5) NSW Department of Health data on post-discharge community care within seven days is available for a 4 year period and has been reported to the Council of Australian Governments as:

- 42% in 2005/06
- 36% in 2006/07
- 34% in 2007/08
- 33% in 2008/09

It should be noted that the above data is likely to be an under-estimate of the true rate of follow-up due to limits in the ability to uniquely identify all patients linked to ambulatory care settings following an inpatient admission.

(6) I refer the Member to the NSW State Plan Annual Performance Report 2010 - Health Communities (p. 4) for data on "Re-admissions within 28 days to any mental health unit in NSW following a mental health separation". This Performance Report is publicly available from the NSW State Plan website at [www.nsw.gov.au/stateplan](http://www.nsw.gov.au/stateplan)

(7) Four nursing staff were rostered for night duty in Banks House at Bankstown Hospital for each day in November 2009, except for 27 November when there were 5 nursing staff and 29 November when there were 3 registered nurses rostered for night duty.

\*10003LIFTS AT CARINGBAH AND WOOLLOOWARE TRAIN STATIONS—Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—



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Since installation how many times have the lifts at the following train stations broken down or experienced a form of mechanical failure that has temporarily rendered them inoperable:

- (a) Caringbah;
- (b) Woollooware?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (a) The lift at Caringbah was installed in July 2001. Since records have been kept (2004) the lift has been unavailable for passenger service 100 times.
- (b) Since installation in April 2009 the lifts at Woollooware have been unavailable for passenger services 8 times.

\*10004DISADVANTAGED ATHLETES PROGRAM—Mr Daryl Maguire asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister for Sport and Recreation—

- (1) Does the disadvantaged athletes program still exist?
- (2) If not, when was it discontinued?
- (3) How many grants were given under the Scheme in the past 10 years?
- (4) From what areas did the athletes come?
- (5) How many students were from disadvantaged backgrounds?
- (6) What program was installed to replace the disadvantaged athletes program?
- (7) How much funding is available to assist disadvantaged athletes and from where is the money made available?

Answer—

- (1) (7) NSW Sport and Recreation has not administered a program by this name. Information on sport and recreation grant programs is available in departmental annual reports.

\*10005MIDWIFERY CARE AT WAGGA WAGGA BASE HOSPITAL—Mr Daryl Maguire asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) Has a Project Officer been appointed at Wagga Wagga Base Hospital to assess an introductory midwifery led care options program within the maternity services?
- (2) When was the Officer appointed?
- (3) (a) Have any reports been delivered to Greater Southern Area Health Service (GSAHS) and when?
- (b) If not, why not?
- (c) When will it be available?
- (4) Is a copy of the Report available to the public?
- (5) Who was consulted in the assessment of the introductory program?
- (6) Please name the interest groups interviewed?
- (7) Other major hospitals have midwifery led care programs operating in NSW, why is it necessary to examine and assess a program for Wagga Wagga Base Hospital that already exists elsewhere?
- (8) How much money is available through the Federal Government midwifery package for NSW?
- (9) (a) Has GSAHS applied for funds from the Federal package for midwifery care?
- (b) If no, why not?
- (10) When can the public expect a midwifery led care program to commence in Wagga Wagga Base Hospital?

Answer—

I am advised that:

A current shortage of midwives nationally and including at Wagga Wagga Base Hospital has affected the implementation of changes to the midwifery continuity of care models for Wagga Wagga and deferred the appointment of a project officer.

At the request of Greater Southern Area Health Service, representatives from the NSW Department of Health provided support to identify reforms of the maternity services at Wagga Wagga in mid April 2010. This included consultation with local Midwives, GP/Obstetricians and the Riverina Division of General Practitioners. The report is being finalised.

A Wagga Wagga Base Hospital Maternity Access Committee has been formed to discuss the implementation of the Caring Together: the Health Action Plan for NSW recommendations, which includes the introduction of caseload models of maternity care. The Committee is committed to working

with local interest groups including the Local Health Advisory Council, Australian Breastfeeding Association, local Maternity Coalition members and Babies and Birth Support. Once the report from NSW Health has been received, this group will assist with implementation of recommendations in line with the Caring Together: the Health Action Plan for NSW.

All midwifery continuity of carer models in NSW have been shaped to reflect the local context of service delivery.

As part of the Australian Government approach to maternity services reform, the Department of Health and Ageing coordinated the review of Australian maternity services, culminating in the February 2009 report: Improving Maternity Services in Australia: The Report of the Maternity Services Review.

These reforms include the introduction of rebates in the Medical Benefits and Pharmaceutical Benefits Schemes (MBS/PBS) for services provided by eligible midwives. These will become available in November 2010.

Greater Southern Area Health Service is currently developing a draft implementation plan for the introduction of midwifery-led models of care at Wagga Wagga Base Hospital that will take into account both the Department of Health's report and Caring Together recommendations.

\*10006 INNER CITY COMMUNITY TRANSPORT—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

With respect to inner city shuttle buses that provide cost-effective transport for people with a disability, frail aged people, and those with limited mobility or without private transport for shopping and recreation:

- (1) What inner city shuttle bus services does the Government fund;
- (2) What changes have been made in these services over the past year and what impact has this had on service levels and the needs of different groups;
- (3) What evidence does the Government have about demand or need for inner city community transport, particularly shuttle buses; and
- (4) What plans does the Government have to expand community transport funds to allow expanded shuttle bus services?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (4) The South Sydney Community Transport Service is presently running two shuttle bus services:
- the Northcott Shuttle which runs four times each Thursday from Northcott Public Housing Estate to Surry Hills; and
  - the Eastlakes Service that runs four times each Wednesday from Redfern Public Housing Estate to Eastlakes Shopping Centre.

These services are only a small component of the services that South Sydney Community Transport provides under funds allocated from the Home and Community Care program and the Community Transport Program.

The CBD Shuttle bus (Route 555) operates seven days a week around Sydney CBD, and is a high frequency service running every 10 minutes between Central Station to Circular Quay via Elizabeth and George Streets. The service runs from 9.30 am to 3.30 pm weekdays, with a late finish of 9.00 pm on Thursday evenings. Weekend services run from 9.30 am to 6.00 pm.

The South Sydney Community Transport has recently increased service levels to meet increased demand in the inner city.

\*10007 ELECTRONIC WASTE—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

Given over 16 million televisions and computers reach their end-of-life in Australia every year, only 10 per cent of televisions are recycled, analogue television is currently being phased out, and a national Product Stewardship program for television and computer waste could be over a year away:

- (1) How many television units are expected to be dumped in NSW between now and the commencement of the national electronic waste Product Stewardship program?
- (2) What action will the NSW Government take to increase television recycling rates above current levels before the program commences?

Answer—

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I am advised that:

- (1) There are no specific figures on the number of television units disposed of to landfill. According to the quarterly Digital Tracker Report produced by the Australian Government Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy, on average only 18 per cent of households purchasing a digital television throw out their existing analogue television. Around 50 per cent keep the analogue and the remainder are largely given away or sold.
- (2) The NSW Government has been a national leader in electronic waste reform. Having built a consensus among governments, NSW is now a member of the Implementation Working Group negotiating the national television and computer recycling scheme. The roll out of the digital switch over is a key consideration in this work.

The Government is currently supporting several local councils to implement e-waste schemes prior to the commencement of the national program. NSW is also working with industry to reduce the number of televisions going to landfill prior to the national scheme's commencement.

\*10008FIVEWAYS BUSES—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

With respect to cross regional bus services between the Paddington Fiveways and Edgecliff, and given your advice that State Transit will continue to monitor user demand and make adjustments to bus routes where need exists (Question 7531):

- (1) How has the Government assessed the need for north-south bus services since the closure of the local Fiveways supermarket which was after the Eastern Suburbs Bus Review?
- (2) What destination studies have been carried out to assess the transport needs of Paddington residents and whether the current bus services go where they wish to travel?
- (3) How does the State Transit Authority monitor demand for services that are not currently provided, as suggested in answer to Question 7531?
- (4) What response has Woollahra Municipal Council given to the Government about the need for bus services between the Fiveways and Edgecliff?
- (5) What assessment has the Government made of the demand for a small shuttle bus service between these centres?
- (6) What plans does the Government have to investigate demand for these bus services?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (6) Residents of the Fiveways Paddington can easily access the major shopping centre of Bondi Junction via Route 389 services. For those residents who do wish to travel to Edgecliff, they can take the 389 service at the Fiveways a short distance to Ocean Street, Woollahra, and then catch a Route 200 service directly to Edgecliff. The major review of bus services in the Eastern Suburbs for the new bus network of April 2009, looked carefully at the Eastern Suburbs route network and services, and found that there was not a sustainable level of demand for a service between the Fiveways Paddington and Edgecliff.

\*10009NOISE CAMERAS—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

With respect to the RTA trial of noise cameras, which the 2009 Annual Report states has been operating since March 2009:

- (1) What evaluation has been carried out of this trial?
- (2) What plans does the Government have to use noise cameras in other locations?
- (3) Has the Government considered using noise cameras to identify noisy vehicles in inner city areas like Potts Point, Elizabeth Bay, Rushcutters Bay and Darlinghurst?
- (4) Will the Government trial use of noise cameras in these precincts to help address amenity impacts from noisy vehicles late at night?
- (5) What other action can the RTA take to act on vehicles emitting high levels of noise in densely populated urban areas, particularly late at night?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) An analysis has been undertaken which indicates the fixed noise camera technology has been successful.
- (2) The Roads and Traffic Authority is currently conducting field trials of these technologies.

(3) and (4) Once a regulatory framework is implemented and the new heavy vehicle system is fully operational the Roads and Traffic Authority will investigate whether the system can be used at other locations.

(5) The Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water is responsible (along with the NSW Police) for the enforcement of the Protection of the Environment Operations (Noise Control) Regulation 2008.

\*10010 EFFICIENCY IN PRIVATE RENTAL PROPERTIES—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Fair Trading, Minister for the Arts—

Given 26 per cent of residential dwellings in NSW are privately rented and there is an urgent need to improve residential sustainability:

- (1) What plans does the Government have to legislate minimum energy and water efficiency standards for residential rental properties?
- (2) What consideration has the Government given to requiring private residential landlords to make 'Energy and Water Performance Certificates' available to prospective tenants for their properties, so that tenants have an indication of potential energy and water usage and costs, as done in the ACT and the European Union?
- (3) As part of the Residential Tenancies Act review, what assessment has the Government made on the potential increases in tenants investing in energy and water saving retrofits if security of tenure was improved through removal of landlords' right to terminate a tenancy?

Answer—

(1) and (2) These questions relate to matters that are the responsibility of the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment and the Minister for Energy.

(3) The exposure draft Residential Tenancies Bill contains a number of measures to encourage more long-term leases. One of the benefits of longer leases is greater security of tenure for tenants. It would be expected that tenants under a long-term lease would be more inclined to invest in energy and water saving measures than those on short-term leases. However, the Government does not propose to remove a landlord's right to terminate a tenancy after the fixed term of the lease has expired.

\*10011 SECTION 79 COMPLAINTS—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister for Sport and Recreation—

With respect to complaints made under Section 79 of the Liquor Act:

- (1) How many complaints have been lodged under this provision within the City of Sydney and Woollahra Municipal Council areas?
- (2) Of these complaints, how many:
  - (a) were conciliated, and with what outcome;
  - (b) were mediated, and with what outcome;
  - (c) were resolved through voluntary measures, and with what outcome;
  - (d) had conditions imposed under s.54;
  - (e) had orders made under s.75?
- (3) How many of these complaints related to late trading licensed premises and what was the outcome of those complaints?
- (4) How many of these complaints were initiated by police?
- (5) How many of these complaints were initiated by residents affected by noise and disturbance?
- (6) What is the average time taken to process a s.79 complaint from lodgment to final findings?
- (7) How does this compare with past complaint processing times?
- (8) What evaluation has the Government made of the operation of s.79 complaints and any need for changes to this system?
- (9) What plans does the Government have to improve s.79 complaints procedures or powers?

Answer—

(1) Since 1 July 2008, there have been:

- Twelve complaints received within the City of Sydney Council area
- No complaints received within the Woollahra Council area

(2) The Liquor Act 2007 does not formally distinguish between conciliation, mediation and other measures that the Director-General may utilise in responding to a complaint. A combination of measures

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may be used to effectively resolve the complaint, including regulatory tools provided for under the Act and non-regulatory measures.

The outcomes of the complaints are as follows:

- Shellbourne Hotel - resolved after negotiation between the parties
  - Bank Hotel - resolved after negotiation between the parties
  - Daltone House - voluntary undertakings accepted
  - 77 Nightclub - conditions imposed under section 81 of the Liquor Act
  - Picadilly - conditions imposed under section 81 of the Liquor Act
  - Havana Bar - conditions imposed under section 81 of the Liquor Act and will be subject to a further review
  - Gaff Restaurant - voluntary undertakings accepted and will be subject to a further review
  - First Empire/Moulin Rouge/Sapphire Lounge/Picadilly/
  - Sugarmill Hotel/The Bank/The Bourbon/The Crest Hotel/The Elk Kings Cross/ Trademark Hotel/ Tunnel Nightclub/Vegas Hotel - Complaint withdrawn
  - Ivy - Awaiting further information from complainant
  - Foresters Hotel - In progress
  - Boathouse on Blackwattle Bay Restaurant - Resolved after agreement reached between parties
  - Australian Hotel - Complaint withdrawn
- (3) All of the licensed premises referred to above trade after midnight with the exception of Daltone House. The outcome of complaints relating to those licensed premises is stated above.
- (4) Two complaints were initiated by police.
- (5) Nine complaints were initiated by residents and one complaint was initiated by an affected business.
- (6) The amount of time varies and is highly dependent on the circumstances and nature of the complaint, on the provision of key information by complainant and stakeholders, and on the availability of parties. An average figure would not accurately reflect these variabilities in the complaint process.
- (7) Refer to answer to question (6).
- (8) The disturbance complaint framework was amended in December 2009 to ensure it operates quickly and effectively to address neighbourhood problems by clarifying that the Director-General can deal with a complaint through written submissions without having to hold a conference. The amendments also ensured the Director-General is able to make necessary changes to liquor licence conditions when determining a complaint, and clarified that the full suite of liquor regulatory tools can be used to address problems identified in a complaint.
- Under the Government's Hassle Free Nights Action Plan, it is proposed that the powers of the Director-General to vary trading hours across NSW, and to vary licence conditions in precinct and community event liquor accord areas, be enhanced.
- Further, it is proposed to improve understanding of the disturbance complaint process by providing better guidance to the community and licensees relating to the making and resolution of complaints.
- (9) Refer to answer to question (8).

\*10012ULTIMO PUBLIC SCHOOL—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Education and Training—

With respect to Ultimo Public School:

- (1) What is the total student capacity of this school and how many vacancies are there?
- (2) How many classes at this school are full and how many student places are available in those classes that are not full?
- (3) How many students are on waiting lists for enrolment at this school?
- (4) Does the Government still expect that total enrolments of up to 270 students are expected to 2012, as indicated in the response to Question 0786, and if not, what is the current estimate?
- (5) What changes have been made to the school's catchment area since 2007?
- (6) How will the Government manage the demand for student places at the Ultimo Public School?

Answer—

- (1) The current total capacity of Ultimo Public School is 340 students based on the spread of enrolments across the school. There are currently 34 vacancies.
- (2) Ultimo Public School has 13 classes. Classes at Ultimo Public School are based on stages of learning due to the uneven spread of enrolments across Year groups.

The current vacancies are:

Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten) - No vacancies

Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) - 2 vacancies

Stage 2 (Years 3 and 4) - 7 vacancies

Stage 3 (Years 5 and 6) - 24 vacancies

- (3) Ultimo Public School does not have a waiting list.
- (4) The anticipated enrolment in 2012 is 338 students.
- (5) There have been no changes to the school's catchment area during that time.
- (6) In accordance with current policy, the Department of Education and Training provides demountable accommodation to schools to meet additional demand as required.

\*10013 ANIMAL WELFARE CODE REVIEWS—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

- (1) When was the last public review of the NSW Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals used in Rodeo Events (Rodeo Code), given the code states a review should occur at intervals of no longer than two years?
- (2) Given these Model Codes state they should be revised every five years, when was the last public review of the Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals for:
  - (a) Farmed Buffalo;
  - (b) Land Transport of Cattle;
  - (c) Land Transport of Horses;
  - (d) Land Transport of Pigs;
  - (e) Livestock at Slaughtering Establishments;
  - (f) The Camel?
- (3) Which of these Model Codes of Practice for the Welfare of Animals will undergo a public review process this year, given reviews are due in 2010:
  - (a) Domestic Poultry;
  - (b) Cattle;
  - (c) Farming of Ostriches;
  - (d) Husbandry of Captive-Bred Emus;
  - (e) Land Transport of Poultry;
  - (f) The Sheep?
- (4) For those that will not undergo a public review, why not?
- (5) For animal welfare codes that do not include a set timeframe for reviews, such as the NSW Animal Welfare Code of Practice for "Keeping and Trading of Birds" or "Animals in Pet Shops", what criteria does the Government use to determine when a public review is required?

Answer—

(1) The welfare of animals used in rodeo events is important to the NSW Government. To this end, a revised Animal Welfare Code of Practice - Animals Used in Rodeo Events has been drafted, and Industry and Investment (I & I) NSW is in the process of conducting a targeted consultation with key stakeholders and the enforcement agencies. In addition to the revision of the Code, in November 2009 staff from I & I NSW and the RSPCA participated in a meeting with industry and other enforcement agencies aimed at furthering animal welfare in rodeo events.

(2) The Model Codes were produced by the Commonwealth to support the welfare of livestock. While each jurisdiction has had the capacity to recognise the Codes, the responsibility for their currency remains with the Federal Government. At the Federal level, through the Primary Industries Ministerial Council (PIMC), an agreed process is now under way to move from Model Codes of Practice to Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines, following an agreed priority. The first endorsed by PIMC is Standards and Guidelines for the Land Transport of Livestock. Standards and Guidelines for sheep and for cattle are now being developed. An extensive consultation process is included in development of these new documents. The new documents incorporate both national welfare standards and industry 'best practice' guidelines for each species or enterprise. NSW is party to this process.

(3) and (4) See answer to (2).

(5) There are currently nine Animal Welfare Codes of Practice enforceable in NSW under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979. The NSW Government is committed to working with industry and animal welfare organisations to deliver practical animal welfare reforms, and to this end is systematically

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reviewing each of the Codes of Practice. The Animal Welfare Code of Practice - Animals in Pet Shops was published in August 2008 and the Animal Welfare Code of Practice - Breeding Dogs and Cats in August 2009. This ongoing review process will ensure the situation of the animals of NSW will be further enhanced.

\*10014 PADDINGTON GATES—CENTENNIAL PARK—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister for Sport and Recreation—

With regard to the Paddington Gates entrance of Centennial Park, which has high levels of pedestrian, cyclist and motor vehicle traffic entering and exiting on the same large bitumen-surfaced area, and that safety concerns have previously been raised with the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust:

- (1) How many times a year are motor vehicle speeds recorded when entering Centennial Park at this entrance?
- (2) On what date were speeds last recorded?
- (3) How many times a year are pedestrian and cyclist safety assessed at this entrance, given that near misses and minor incidents are rarely reported to police?
- (4) What do these assessments involve?
- (5) What assessment has been done on children's safety when they try to cross the large bitumen area within the park adjacent to the gates to access the playground?
- (6) What discussions has the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust had with the Police, the Roads and Traffic Authority and Randwick Council about pedestrian and cycling safety at this intersection?
- (7) When did these discussions occur?
- (8) What consideration has been given to pedestrian safety measures such as a landscaped pedestrian refuge or line marking to separate pedestrians from traffic at this entrance?

Answer—

- (1) Motor vehicle speeds are not recorded when entering Centennial Park.
- (2) N/A
- (3) The Trust engaged a traffic management consultant in 2009 to review and assess traffic and pedestrian safety and access in the Parklands including this area. Trust Rangers also regularly patrol this area, and reports of any incidents are recorded by Rangers and other Trust staff.
- (4) The traffic management consultant observed motor vehicle, cyclist and pedestrian behaviour in the area and assessed the effectiveness of the existing traffic management infrastructure in guiding the safety of these park visitors. The risk assessment was low.
- (5) The assessment conducted in 2009 reviewed and assessed all visitor access, including children and their carers accessing the playground area.
- (6) This issue has not been raised with these agencies.
- (7) N/A
- (8) While the risk assessment from the traffic management consultant was low, the Trust is implementing line marking as recommended by the consultants.

\*10015 KU-RING-GAI PLANNING PANEL—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

- (1) Who are the government-appointed members of the Ku-ring-gai Planning Panel?
- (2) Was there a period this year when the panel had no membership?
- (3) If so, for how long and why did this situation occur?

Answer—

- (1) Appointment letters have been issued to Ms Janet Thomson, Mr Vince Berkhout, Mr Stuart McDonald and Mr Lindsay Fletcher as the alternate member.
- (2) Yes.
- (3) The membership of the Panel has been vacant since 3 March 2010 and these positions will be filled upon receipt of acceptance letters from the proposed members. The period of vacancy corresponds to the time elapsed since previous Panel members' terms expired and the time taken to identify and invite new members to the Panel.

\*10016 PAYMENT OF EXPENSES—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Local Government, Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

- (1) Is there a "model" code for payment of expenses for local government councillors?
- (2) If not, has departmental issuing of a relevant directive been considered?

- (3) Does the department regard it as appropriate that councils use such a code to expressly forbid a councillor who has won a court case against code of conduct breach allegations from recovering any compensation from the council for legal costs incurred?

Answer—

I provide the following details in response to your questions:

- (1) The Local Government Act 1993 requires local councils to develop and adopt a policy on councillor expenses incurred, or to be incurred, in relation to carrying out civic functions. Councillor expenses must be provided in accordance with a council's policy, which must comply with the Act, the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 and the Division of Local Government's Guidelines for the Payment of Expenses and the Provision of Facilities to Mayors and Councillors. The policy must be reviewed on an annual basis and publicly exhibited for 28 days prior to adoption.
- (2) See answer to question (1).
- (3) A councillor's entitlement to reimbursement of expenses incurred in legal proceedings is a matter to be determined by the individual council in accordance with its councillor expenses and facilities policy.

\*10018POLICE WATER CANNON AND BUSES—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

- (1) Regarding the water cannon purchased for use at APEC in Sydney during 2007:
  - (a) Where is it currently located?
  - (b) What are its current and proposed uses?
- (2) Regarding the police buses used for APEC in Sydney during 2007, how many are sitting idle?
- (3) Why has at least one been sitting in a yard at Zetland rusting with the APEC sign still in the window?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me:

- (1) The water cannon was not purchased for APEC. It is housed by the Public Order & Riot Squad and remains a tactical option available to Police Commanders to restore order in situations of extreme public disorder.
- (2) and (3) 33 buses were gifted to the NSW Police Force by the Federal Government following APEC. Seven of these buses are currently maintained for operational deployment to locations around the state. The remaining buses are past their effective use by date, including the inoperable vehicle at Zetland, and their disposal is currently being considered.

\*10019SYDNEY FERRIES—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) In light of the recent decision to keep ferry services with Sydney Ferries, does the Minister stand by his statement in Parliament on 11 November 2008 that "if a private operator can deliver better quality services more efficiently than Sydney Ferries, then they will be awarded the new service contract"?
- (2) What explanation has the Minister given for not following recommendations of Bret Walker SC in his report on Sydney Ferries?
- (3) Without disclosing names, what were the various ratings out of 100 for the various parties who expressed interest in running Sydney Ferries?
- (4) What was the range of ratings for the various tenderers?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) In December 2009, the NSW Government announced it made the policy decision that Sydney Ferries should run ferry services as a NSW Government agency rather than a private operator.
- (3) and (4) This information is confidential.

\*10020CANCELLATION OF CBD METRO PROJECT—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

What compensation and alternative work arrangements has the Minister made for the:

- (a) many companies who were working on or had tendered for work on the now aborted CBD Metro project;
- (b) two thousand NSW people and families (referred to by you in Parliament on 7 May 2009) who will now lose job opportunities from the CBD Metro project cancellation?



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Answer—

I am advised:

- (a) The Government has established a process to assess the reimbursement of reasonable costs to tenderers and has put in place appropriate governance arrangements to ensure the claims process is dealt with fairly and quickly.

An Independent Reviewer has been appointed to assess claims. It is expected that the process will be completed by 30 June 2010.

- (b) The Metropolitan Transport Plan includes a 10 year, fully funded package of transport infrastructure - \$50.2 billion over 10 years. The delivery of these projects will create many new job opportunities.

\*10021 CLOSURE OF NSW GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked the Minister for Education and Training—

How many NSW Government schools have closed since 2004, broken down by:

- (a) school type, (i.e. primary/central/high schools);  
(b) DET region;  
(c) calendar year from 2004 to date?

Answer—

The number of NSW Government schools closed per calendar year by school type is:

Region	School Type	2004	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Total
Hunter/ Central Coast	Primary	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Illawarra and South East	SSP	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
North Coast	Primary	1	1	1	0	0	0	3
Riverina	Primary	3	0	1	0	0	0	4
Western NSW	Primary	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
	Total	4	2	2	1	1	0	10

\*10022 INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS UNIT—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked the Minister for Education and Training—

In relation to the International Business Unit at TAFE NSW Northern Sydney Institute:

- (1) Given that in 2008 the NSW International Business Unit was restructured, will the Minister advise what this new structure is, and who is now responsible for the day-to-day management of the unit?  
(2) Were staff required to reapply for their positions after this restructure was approved?  
(3) Are TAFE staff that are on the redeployment list able to apply for positions at the NSI International Business Unit?  
(4) What is the criteria for appointment to positions such as Senior Education Officer within this unit?  
(5) Are vacant positions from within the unit advertised internally and externally?

Answer—

- (1) The International Business Unit consists of the following positions:

- 1 x Manager at Institute Manager 3 level
- 2 x Managers at Institute Manager 1 level
- 2 x TAFE Chief Education Officers
- 2 x TAFE Senior Education Officers
- 1 x Executive Officer at Clerk Grade 5/6 level
- 3 x Customer Service Officers at Clerk Grade 3/4 level
- 2 x Customer Service Support Officers at Clerk Grade 1/2 level

The Manager, International Business, which is the Institute Manager 3 level position, is responsible for the day-to-day management of the Unit.

- (2) In line with the policy of the Department of Education and Training, staff whose positions were unchanged, or not significantly changed, were directly appointed. Where the roles and responsibilities changed significantly, staff were required to apply for these positions when they were advertised.
- (3) Yes.
- (4) Copies of the selection criteria for the two TAFE Senior Education Officer positions are available from the Clerk's Office.
- (5) Educational positions are advertised internally in the NSW TAFE Commission Gazette. If no suitable applicant is selected, these positions are then advertised in both the Gazette and on the NSW Government jobs website, JobsNSW.

The clerical positions are advertised internally and externally.

\*10023 WARNERS BAY PUBLIC SCHOOL—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked the Minister for Education and Training—

- (1) How many separate vandalism incidents have occurred at Warners Bay Public School for each calendar year from 2006 to date?
- (2) What were the total damages to Warners Bay Public School for vandalism for each calendar year from 2006 to date?
- (3) What is the estimated timetable for repairs by the NSW Government for the latest vandalism, including vandalism in the canteen and fire in the playground on the temporary fencing in March 2010?
- (4) With the latest fire on the temporary fence, is arson suspected in this case?
- (5) If it is selected for a security fence upgrade, how much will it cost to install security fencing at Warners Bay Public School?

Answer—

- (1) Warners Bay Public School reported eight incidents of vandalism in 2006, 12 in 2007, six in 2008, five in 2009 and three so far in 2010.
- (2) I am advised vandalism costs to the school were \$12,881.78 in 2006, \$16,184.13 in 2007, \$4,678.27 in 2008, \$11,007.37 in 2009 and \$7,427.18 to date in 2010.
- (3) Repairs that were necessitated by the fire in March 2010 were initially completed on 17 March 2010. I am advised that some additional work has recently been organised to improve the quality of the repairs and to ensure that they meet the Department's quality standards. I have been advised that work to replace the damaged canteen door commenced on 17 May 2010.
- (4) The cause of the fire in March is the subject of a police investigation.
- (5) The estimated cost of a security fence for Warners Bay Public School is between \$250,000 and \$350,000.

\*10024 PARENTS BANNED FROM GOVERNMENT SCHOOL GROUNDS—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked the Minister for Education and Training—

In relation to parents and NSW Government school grounds:

- (1) How many parents are currently banned from entering NSW Government school grounds?
- (2) From the figure in (1), what is the breakdown of this figure into DET regions?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) The Department of Education and Training does not hold information on parents who are banned from entering school grounds centrally.

To ban a parent from school grounds is a serious step and one not taken lightly. Sometimes, however, a parent may behave in a violent, threatening, indecent or offensive manner. In such cases it may become necessary to prevent the parent coming to a school for child protection reasons, or in the interests of the school's duty of care to students and staff.

Such decisions in relation to parents are relatively rare and are subject to periodic review. They are also subject to the Department's complaints policy or review by the Ombudsman.

\*10025 BROKEN HILL JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTRE—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked the Minister for Juvenile Justice—

In relation to the Broken Hill Juvenile Justice Centre:

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- (1) While the Broken Hill Juvenile Justice Centre remains temporarily closed following the escape of three juveniles on 17 January 2010, are staff continuing to work at the facility?
- (2) If yes to (1), what are their total wages to date since the centre was closed temporarily?
- (3) (a) How many trips have been made transporting juveniles after court appearances to either Orana Juvenile Justice Centre or to other juvenile justice centres since the centre closed temporarily?  
(b) How many kilometres in total have these transportation trips required?
- (4) What are the costs associated with Broken Hill police holding young offenders during the temporary closure of the centre?

Answer—

- (1) Yes. One staff member is located at the Broken Hill Juvenile Justice Centre (JJC), overseeing work at the centre and the provision of casual staff to supervise detainees in police cells.
- (2) For the period 18 January 2010 to 9 May 2010, salaries for the one staff member located at the Broken Hill JJC and for the Casual Youth Officers, who are called to work on a needs basis to supervise any young people held in the police cells at Broken Hill Police Station, was approximately \$107,950 - this sum includes on-costs.
- (3) (a) While it is not possible to identify which trips would not have occurred if Broken Hill JJC was open, there have been 24 trips between Broken Hill, Orana and other juvenile justice centres, to transport detainees remanded in custody.  
(b) 33,391 kilometres.
- (4) There are no costs to the Broken Hill Local Area Command associated with young offenders being held in police cells, as Juvenile Justice provide all supervisory staff, meals, clothing and activity materials.

\*10026 HURLSTONE AGRICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOL—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked the Minister for Education and Training—

In relation to Hurlstone Agricultural High School:

- (1) Does Hurlstone have adequate wheelchair access?
- (2) Why did the NSW Government refuse the Federal Government's offer to apply for Commonwealth funding to make Hurlstone wheelchair friendly?
- (3) How much funding would Hurlstone have been eligible for from the Commonwealth Government?
- (4) Given that Mal Peters' report into Hurlstone recently suggested that the NSW Government should sell a parcel of Hurlstone in order to make the school more wheelchair friendly, why would the NSW Government continue to refuse to take up the Commonwealth's offer of funding instead of selling the school's land?

Answer—

The Department of Education and Training's highest funding priority for the provision of disability access in established schools is to those schools with either students enrolling, or a staff member, who will require those facilities. As no disabled students or staff currently attend Hurlstone Agricultural High School, the school has not yet been provided with wheelchair accessible facilities. Should a disabled student or staff member be accepted to attend the school in the future, the Department will allocate funding to provide disability access as a priority.

The Federal Government has not made an offer of a specific funding allocation for wheelchair access at Hurlstone Agricultural High School. In response to representations, the Federal Minister noted that through the Federal Government's Capital Grants Program, State education departments can apply for funding for capital priorities at any school.

\*10027 AIR QUALITY RESULTS—Mr Greg Piper asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

How can air quality results for PM2.5 obtained at Beresfield and Wallsend be accepted as representative of the Hunter and Central Coast?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

Beresfield and Wallsend air quality results are representative of the Lower Hunter region. They are not representative of the Upper Hunter or Central Coast.

14 monitoring sites measuring PM10 will be installed in the Upper Hunter over the next two years. The sites in Singleton and Muswellbrook will also measure PM2.5. These two sites will be commissioned by the end of 2010.

\*10028 KILOMETRES TRAVELLED—CENTRAL COAST TO THE TWEED—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

What is the total number of kilometres travelled by highway patrol police on the Pacific Highway from the Central Coast to the Tweed in the following years:

- (a) 2007;
- (b) 2008;
- (c) 2009;
- (d) year to date?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me that there are currently 79 Highway Patrol vehicles assigned to the region in question, however the number of kilometres travelled on specific roads is not recorded.

\*10029 RECREATIONAL ANGLING—TWEED COAST—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

- (1) Are there areas on the Tweed Coast that have been identified for further assessment in terms of declaring them as off limits to recreational anglers?
- (2) If so, which areas?

Answer—

- (1) No, not in State waters. I note that on 24 March 2010 the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment announced the Tweed Area for Further Assessment in Commonwealth waters adjacent to NSW.
- (2) The Tweed Area for Further Assessment is adjacent to the northern part of the NSW Cape Byron Marine Park and Tweed Heads. It extends from three to around 44 nautical miles off the shore at its widest point. Further information is available at the Commonwealth Department of Environment, Heritage and the Arts website: [www.environment.nsw.gov.au](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au)

\*10030 SURGICAL PROCEDURES—TWEED HEADS HOSPITAL—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

What is the total number of surgical procedures that took place at the Tweed Heads Hospital in the following years:

- (a) 2007;
- (b) 2008;
- (c) 2009;
- (d) year to date?

Answer—

I am advised:

The latest available information indicates that the number of patients having a surgical procedure at the Tweed Heads Hospital was as follows:

- (a) 4,226 in 2006-07;
- (b) 4,169 in 2007-08;
- (c) 4,353 in 2008-09;
- (d) 2,245 in 2009-10 (year-to-date to January 2010).

\*10031 PREVENTION OF GAZUMPING—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Fair Trading, Minister for the Arts—

In relation to the prevention of gazumping in NSW:

- (1) What is the current legislation in NSW for gazumping?
- (2) Has the Minister considered further regulation of the industry to prevent gazumping during real estate transactions?

Answer—

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- (1) and (2) "Gazumping" usually refers to circumstances where a potential purchaser has a verbal agreement with an agent or vendor to buy a property at an agreed price, but the property is then sold to another person. However, it is not until signed contracts are exchanged that the purchaser has secured the property.

Any questions about the process for the sale of real property should be raised with the Minister for Lands, the Hon Tony Kelly MLC, who administers the Conveyancing Act 1919.

Real estate agents generally assist vendors and purchasers in property sales, and they are regulated by NSW Fair Trading under the Property Stock and Business Agents Act 2002, which falls under my portfolio responsibilities.

The Act contains strong protections that ensure the transparency of property transactions. Among other things, agents must:

- make potential purchasers aware that a fully refundable "expression of interest" deposit on a property does not obligate the vendor to sell;
- inform potential purchasers who have made an "expression of interest" deposit when any further offer is made to the vendor; and
- inform the vendor of all offers of purchase, as soon as practicable after receiving the offer, up until exchange of contracts has taken place, unless the vendor has instructed to the contrary in writing.

\*10032KINGSCLIFF RESORT DEVELOPMENT—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

In relation to the Kingscliff Resort development located at Lot 490 Casuarina Way and consultation between the community and stakeholders:

- (1) Will the Minister detail the communication that has taken place between the community and stakeholders over the last 12 months?
- (2) Who attended these meetings to discuss the development?
- (3) When and where were the meetings held?
- (4) Will the Minister provide a copy of the minutes from previous meetings?

Answer—

- (1) As Minister for Planning, Infrastructure and Lands, I regularly meet with government and non-government Members, community groups and stakeholders, to discuss a range of issues across my portfolios.
- (2) to (4) Refer to the answer in question (1).

\*10033"REJECTED INCIDENTS"—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

What is the total number of "rejected incidents" in the Tweed/Byron Area Command in the following years:

- (a) 2008;
- (b) 2009;
- (c) year to date?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me its Crime Recording Standard specifies that any incident should be accepted at face value and rejected only if it can be shown that the incident did not occur. Rejected incidents represent less than 1% of total incidents recorded in the Tweed/Byron Local Area Command in the years nominated.

\*10034PENNANT HILLS ROAD TRAFFIC—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) How many vehicles a day travelled on Pennant Hills Road, West Pennant Hills/Beecroft, in the following years:
  - (a) 2005;
  - (b) 2006;
  - (c) 2007;
  - (d) 2008;
  - (e) 2009?

- (2) How many trucks a day travelled on Pennant Hills Road, West Pennant Hills/Beecroft, in each of these years?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) (a) 63,030.  
(b) 62,884.  
(c) 63,933.  
(d) 62,976.  
(e) 62,346.  
(f) 63,197.
- (2) There is no available data concerning the number of trucks that travelled on Pennant Hills Road for the years 2005 to 2008. In 2009, 7,552 trucks travelled on Pennant Hills Road.

\*10035NEW LINK BETWEEN F3 AND M2 EXPRESSWAYS—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) What progress has been made on building a new link between the F3 and M2 expressways?  
(2) Does the Government support the tunnel under Pennant Hills Road proposed by the former Howard Federal Government or is it considering another option?  
(3) When is work likely to commence on the new link?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (3) The Metropolitan Transport Plan has a 10 year fully funded roads program that concentrates on major highways, state and regional roads and Sydney road upgrades. Should further funding become available, there are a range of important works which would be brought forward, and this includes the F3 to M2 link.

The NSW Government will continue to discuss funding opportunities with the Federal Government.

\*10037RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

- (1) What specific projects have been funded under the Renewable Energy Development Program since July 2007 (please list)?  
(2) How much money was invested in each specific project (please list)?  
(3) How much carbon was saved by each specific project (please list)?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

- (1) The following projects are funded under the Renewable Energy Development Program:
- (a) The Aerogenesis Urban Windfarm - Aerogenesis Australia Pty Ltd;
  - (b) Wagga Wagga Biogas Project - Cargill Australia Limited;
  - (c) Hunter Valley Geothermal Project - Geodynamics Pty Ltd;
  - (d) Charlestown Square Solar Thermal Cooling Project - The GPT Group;
  - (e) Liddell Power Station Solar Plant - Macquarie Generation; and
  - (f) UltraBattery Smart Storage Systems for Wind Energy Applications - Smart Storage Pty Ltd.
- (2) Totals of funding allocated to these projects are:
- (a) The Aerogenesis Urban Windfarm - \$750,884;
  - (b) Wagga Wagga Biogas Project - \$2.9 million;
  - (c) Hunter Valley Geothermal Project - \$10 million;
  - (d) Charlestown Square Solar Thermal Cooling Project - \$500,000;
  - (e) Liddell Power Station Solar Plant - \$9.25 million; and
  - (f) UltraBattery Smart Storage Systems for Wind Energy Applications - \$1.425 million.
- (3) No carbon savings have been realised yet as these projects are all still in the implementation stage.

\*10038DELTA ELECTRICITY—POLLUTION LICENCE—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

- (1) Why has the DECC tightened the pollution licence of Delta's Wallerawang power plant near

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- (2) What extra heavy metals and pollutants must Delta Electricity now monitor for?
- (3) Why did the Government not tighten Delta's pollution requirements back in 2008 when it was first made aware of the problem?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

- (1) In July 2009, the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water varied Delta Electricity's environment protection licence in order to obtain monthly monitoring data for selected metals and elements in cooling tower discharge.
- (2) Copper, zinc, boron, nickel, aluminium, arsenic and fluoride.
- (3) In 2008, in response to new information about pollutants in the upper Coxs River, the Department obtained available existing data for the catchment above Lake Lyell, and then collected its own additional data in July 2008 and February 2009. This enabled the Department to assess the issue and inform a variation to Delta Electricity's licence.

\*10039 GARDEN ISLAND HAMMERHEAD CRANE—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

- (1) What plans does the Heritage Office have to conserve the hammerhead crane at the Garden Island naval depot?
- (2) When was the crane last used?
- (3) What level of protection does the Heritage Office currently apply to the hammerhead crane?
- (4) Does the Heritage Office have the authority to intervene if the Federal Government sought to demolish it?

Answer—

- (1) The Heritage Branch, NSW Department of Planning, has no management role over the item, it being a Navy (Commonwealth) asset. The Heritage Branch however has identified the crane as being of State heritage significance, and probably of national heritage value.
- (2) The Hammerhead crane, built in 1944, was last in operation in 1988.
- (3) The "Sydney Harbour Naval Precinct", including the hammerhead crane, was symbolically listed on the State Heritage Register under the NSW Heritage Act 1977 in 2004.
- (4) The State Government has no statutory authority over the item or the island as it is Commonwealth Defence property. The NSW legislation does not have any legal affect over Commonwealth owned property.

Management of the item is subject to the provisions of the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (the EPBC Act) as the "Garden Island Precinct" is included in the Commonwealth Heritage List under that Act.

\*10040 NEW TAX LEVY ON CARS—Mr Anthony Roberts asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Special Minister of State—

In relation to the new tax levy on cars weighing more than 975 kg (Question 9518), are statistics available on the number of cars affected by the levy by postcodes?

Answer—

I am advised:

Treasury does not have this information.

\*10041 NSW AMBULANCES—Mrs Jillian Skinner asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

What are the total hours, broken down by week, for the year to 31 March 2010 that all NSW ambulances are:

- (a) on route to an incident;
- (b) at an incident;
- (c) on route to a hospital;
- (d) at a hospital;
- (e) on route to station;
- (f) on station;
- (g) on air local area?

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Answer—

I am advised:

(a) to (d) The average time that ambulance vehicles were on activities related to incidents, both emergency and non-emergency, from 28 December 2009 to 4 April 2010, is as follows:

Week ending	Average time on route to an incident (minutes)	Average time at scene of an incident (minutes)	Average time on route from scene of incident to hospital destination (minutes)	Average time from arrival at hospital destination to the time the case is cleared (minutes)
03-Jan-10	11.2	14.3	16.9	32.2
10-Jan-10	12.4	14.8	17.0	31.7
17-Jan-10	12.5	14.7	17.1	31.3
24-Jan-10	12.4	14.7	17.1	31.1
31-Jan-10	12.0	14.7	17.2	32.0
07-Feb-10	12.9	14.6	17.7	32.0
14-Feb-10	13.0	14.6	18.0	32.9
21-Feb-10	13.1	14.8	18.1	33.3
28-Feb-10	12.7	14.6	17.5	33.2
07-Mar-10	12.9	14.9	18.0	33.4
14-Mar-10	12.8	14.8	18.0	32.9
21-Mar-10	13.0	14.9	18.0	33.9
28-Mar-10	13.0	14.7	17.7	34.3
04-Apr-10	12.6	14.9	18.0	32.1
Total	12.6	14.7	17.6	32.6

This data includes ambulance vehicles (including non-urgent transportation) as follows: General Duty ambulances, Patient Transport Service vehicles, Rapid Responder and single crew vehicles, Extended Care Paramedic vehicles, and Rescue vehicles.

(e) to (g) These figures are not routinely reported and to provide the level of detail requested by the Member would substantially and unjustifiably divert the resources of the Ambulance Service of NSW from the exercise of its core functions.

\*10042NORTH SYDNEY BOYS HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY—Mrs Jillian Skinner asked the Minister for Education and Training—

- (1) What is the NSW Department of Education's floor space per square metre standard for library facilities at schools like North Sydney Boys High School who have an enrolment of approximately 924 students?
- (2) On what grounds, if any, were capital works funding submissions between 2001 and 2006 to expand the size of the North Sydney Boys High School library not approved or delayed by the Department?
- (3) When can North Sydney Boys High School expect a decision on their 2007 capital works funding submission to expand the size of the library from a floor space of 248 square metres to 750 square metres?
- (4) When can North Sydney Boys High School expect funding to commence on-the-ground project work for their expanded library?

Answer—

- (1) Facilities standards change over time, are generally not retrospective and apply only to new construction works. Under the current Secondary Schools Facilities Standard, a new high school being built to accommodate enrolments equivalent to North Sydney Boys High School would be provided a library that includes entry, main area, seminar spaces, library administration, senior study and offices with a total area of 559 square metres. North Sydney Boys High School's library has a main area, library administration and adjacent seminar spaces and a total area of 364 square metres.
- (2) School regions develop prioritised lists of Major Capital Works projects for consideration in the development of the Department of Education and Training's Capital Works program. Projects identified on these lists are ranked and weighted against defined criteria. As a result of this process, when ranked against other projects, a library upgrade at North Sydney Boys High School was not recommended as a priority.



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- (3) The library upgrade has not been identified as one of the region's high priority projects. Based on the formula used to calculate accommodation needs, the school has 58 permanent teaching spaces with a space demand for 44 based on enrolments of 930 students. The school has excess capacity. Decisions regarding the funding of Major Capital Works projects are made annually from identified statewide priorities. The project to upgrade the library at North Sydney Boys High School will continue to be assessed using this process.
- (4) Decisions regarding the funding of Major Capital Works projects are made annually from identified statewide priorities. It is not possible to determine future budget allocations and, as a result, it is not possible to give a timeframe for a funding decision.

\*10043 PAYMENT OF NSW HEALTH CREDITORS—Mrs Jillian Skinner asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) What strategies and plans are in place to guarantee NSW Health creditors formerly paid by the Accounts Payable function in Wagga Wagga will be paid their debts on time from the HSS Service Centre in Parramatta?
- (2) What is the progress to date on finding new positions for the staff from the Accounts Payable function in Wagga Wagga who's positions have been transferred to the HSS Service Centre in Parramatta?
- (3) How much extra Full Time Equivalent salary will it cost NSW Health to perform the Accounts Payable function in the HSS Service Centre in Parramatta instead of Wagga Wagga?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) New technologies are being implemented within the Health Support Service's Parramatta Service Centre to further increase efficiencies in processing account invoices for both Greater Southern Area Health Service and their creditors.

These changes are designed to improve the turnaround time for processing payments.

- (2) Affected staff will be redeployed to other positions within NSW Health, in line with NSW Health policy. There will be no forced redundancies.

Health Support Services is working with the Greater Southern Area Health Service to place affected staff in suitable roles. To-date, a number of staff have already been placed on temporary secondment to Greater Southern Area Health Service.

- (3) No extra costs will be incurred.

\*10044 "ACTUAL" FINANCIAL RESULT AND "BUDGET" OF NSW HOSPITALS—Mrs Jillian Skinner asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

Broken down for each individual hospital in NSW (see list below from NSW Department of Health website):

- (1) What was the "actual" financial result and "budget" for the financial year ended 30 June 2009?
- (2) What was the financial year-to-date "actual" financial result and "budget" as at 31 March 2010?
- (3) What is the financial "budget" for the financial year ended 30 June 2010?

NSW Hospitals per NSW Department of Health website:

Albury Base Hospital  
 Auburn Hospital & Community Health Services  
 Ballina District Hospital  
 Balmain Hospital  
 Balranald District Hospital  
 Barham Koondrook Soldiers Memorial Hospital  
 The Barraba & District Hospital  
 Bateman's Bay District Hospital  
 Bathurst Base Hospital  
 Batlow District Hospital  
 Bega District Hospital  
 Bellingen River District Hospital  
 Belmont District Hospital  
 Berrigan War Memorial Hospital  
 Bingara Health Service  
 Blacktown Hospital  
 Blayney District Hospital

Blue Mountains District ANZAC Memorial Hospital  
Bodington Red Cross Hospital  
Boggabri District Hospital & Community Health Services  
Bombala Hospital  
Boorowa District Hospital  
Bourke District Hospital  
Bowral and District Hospital  
Braeside Hospital - Hope Healthcare Limited  
Braidwood Multi-Purpose Service  
Brewarrina District Hospital & Health Services  
Broken Hill Base Hospital & Health Services  
Bulahdelah District Hospital  
Bulli Hospital Dental  
Byron District Hospital  
Camden Hospital  
Campbell Hospital, Coraki  
Campbelltown Hospital  
Canowindra Soldiers' Memorial Hospital  
Canterbury Hospital  
Carrington Centennial Hospital for Convalescents  
Casino & District Memorial Hospital  
Cessnock District Hospital  
Cobar District Hospital  
Coffs Harbour & District Hospital  
Coledale District Hospital  
Collarenebri District Hospital  
Concord Repatriation Hospital  
Condobolin District Hospital  
Coolah District Hospital  
Coolamon-Ganmain Health Service  
Cooma Hospital & Health Service  
Coonabarabran District Hospital  
Coonamble District Hospital  
Cootamundra Hospital  
Corowa Hospital  
Crookwell District Hospital  
Cudal War Memorial Hospital  
Culcairn Health Service  
Cumberland Hospital  
Dame Edith Walker Hospital  
David Berry Hospital  
Delegate Multi-Purpose Service  
Deniliquin Hospital  
Denman Hospital  
Dorrigo Multi-Purpose Service  
Dubbo Base Hospital & Health Service  
The Dungog & District Hospital  
Eugowra Memorial Hospital  
Finley Hospital  
The Forbes District Hospital  
Gilgandra District Hospital  
Glen Innes District Hospital  
Gloucester Soldiers Memorial Hospital, The  
Goodooga District Hospital  
Gosford Hospital  
Goulburn Health Service  
Grafton Base Hospital & Health Service  
Greenwich Hospital - Hope Healthcare Limited  
Grenfell Multi-Purpose Service  
Griffith Base Hospital

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Gulargambone Hospital  
Gulgong District Hospital  
Gundagai District Hospital  
The Guyra District War Memorial Hospital  
Hay Hospital  
Henty Hospital  
Hillston District Hospital  
Holbrook District Hospital  
Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Hospital  
Ivanhoe Health Service  
James Fletcher Hospital  
Jerilderie Health Service  
John Hunter Hospital  
June Hospital & Health Services  
Kempsey District Hospital  
Kiama Hospital and Community Health Service  
King George V Memorial Hospital  
Kurri Kurri District Hospital  
Kyogle Memorial Health Service  
Lake Cargelligo Multi-Purpose Service  
Leeton District Hospital  
Lightning Ridge A&E and Health Service  
Lismore Base Hospital  
Lithgow District Hospital  
Liverpool Hospital  
The Lockhart & District Hospital  
Lottie Stewart Hospital  
Lourdes Hospital and Community Health Service  
Macksville & District Hospital  
Maclean District Hospital  
Maitland Hospital Dental Clinic  
Manilla District Hospital  
Manly Hospital  
Manning Base Hospital  
Mercy Hospital  
Merriwa District Hospital  
Milton-Ulladulla Hospital  
Molong District Hospital  
Mona Vale Hospital & Community Health Services  
Morisset Hospital  
Moruya District Hospital  
Mount Druitt Hospital Dental Unit  
Mullumbimby & District War Memorial Hospital  
Murrumburrah-Harden District Hospital  
Murwillumbah District Hospital  
Muswellbrook District Hospital  
Narrabri District Hospital & Health Service  
Narrandera District Hospital  
Narromine District Hospital  
Nepean Hospital  
Neringah Hospital - Hope Healthcare Limited  
Newcastle Mater Misericordiae Hospital  
Nyngan District Hospital  
Oberon Multi-Purpose Service  
Orange Health Service (c/- Orange Base Hospital)  
Pambula District Hospital  
Parkes District Hospitals  
Peak Hill District Hospital  
Port Kembla Hospital  
Port Macquarie Base Hospital

Portland District Hospital  
Prince Albert Memorial Hospital  
Prince of Wales Hospital  
Queanbeyan Hospital & Community Health Service  
Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital  
Quirindi Hospital & Health Service  
Rachel Forster Hospital  
Royal Hospital for Women  
Royal Newcastle Hospital Dental Clinic  
Royal North Shore Hospital  
Royal Prince Alfred Hospital - RPA  
Royal Rehabilitation Hospital  
Rozelle Hospital  
Ryde Hospital & Community Health Services  
Rylstone District Hospital & Community Health Service  
Scott Memorial Hospital  
Shellharbour Hospital  
Shoalhaven District Memorial Hospital  
Singleton District Hospital  
Springwood Hospital  
St George Hospital  
St John of God Hospital  
St Josephs Hospital  
St Vincents Hospital  
St Vincent's Hospital (Bathurst)  
Sutherland Hospital & Community Health Service  
Sydney Childrens Hospital  
Sydney Hospital & Eye Hospital  
Temora & District Hospital  
The Bankstown Lidcombe Hospital  
The Dunedoo War Memorial Hospital  
The Urbenville & District Multi-Purpose Service  
Tibooburra District Hospital  
Tingha Hospital  
Tocumwal Hospital  
Tottenham Hospital, The  
Trangie Multi-Purpose Service  
Tresillian Family Care Centres - Belmore  
Trundle Multi-Purpose Service  
Tullamore District Hospital  
Tumbarumba Hospital Child Dental Clinic  
Tumut Hospital  
Tweed Heads District Hospital  
Vegetable Creek Hospital  
Wagga Wagga Hospital Dental Clinic  
Walcha District Hospital  
Walgett District Hospital  
War Memorial Hospital  
Warialda District Hospital  
Warren Multi-Purpose Service  
Wauchope District Memorial Hospital  
Wee Waa District Hospital & CHS  
Wellington District Hospital  
Wentworth District Hospital  
Werris Creek District Hospital  
West Wyalong Hospital and Health Service  
Westmead Hospital  
Wilcannia Multi-Purpose Service  
Wilson Memorial Hospital  
Wingham and District War Memorial Hospital

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Wollongong Hospital  
Wolper Jewish Hospital  
Woy Woy Hospital  
Wyangong Hospital  
Yass District Hospital & Health Service  
Young District Hospital & Community Health Services.

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (3) Area Health Services manage their financial year accounts on a whole of area basis for hospitals under their control. As such, the tabled 2008-09 NSW Health Financial Statements of Public Health Organisations provide audited financial statements on an annual basis only for each Health Service which have been independently audited by the NSW Auditor-General.

\*10045HEALTH PROJECTS—Mrs Jillian Skinner asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

Broken down for each of the individual health projects listed below from the NSW Government website:

- (a) Radiotherapy services - replacement linear accelerator
  - (b) Breast Cancer Screening - Digital
  - (c) Implementing electronic medical record
  - (d) IT upgrade
  - (e) New electronic patient management tool
  - (f) New medical imaging system
- (1) Has the project been completed in every electorate?  
 (2) If completed, broken down by individual electorate, what was the final cost of the project - expressed in total dollars and as a percentage of the original budget?  
 (3) If not completed, broken down by individual electorate, when will it be completed; what is the reason for any delays; and how much has the project cost to date - expressed in total dollars and as a percentage of the original budget?

Answer—

I am advised:

These programs represent initiatives aimed at improving medical services and information technology infrastructure across the whole of the health system.

NSW Health does not allocate funding on the basis of electorates, however, the status of these initiatives is as follows:

- (a) Projects that have been completed to-date include Coffs Harbour Hospital; Prince of Wales; Wollongong Hospital; and St George Hospital. The Central West Radiotherapy Services at Bloomfield is expected to be completed by mid-2011.
- (b) Digital equipment has been supplied and installed at a number of sites across the state in metropolitan Area Health Services at Northern Sydney/Central Coast, South Eastern Sydney/Illawarra, Sydney South West and Sydney West; and rural Area Health Services at Greater Southern, Greater Western, Hunter/New England and North Coast.
- (c) Program commenced in early 2008 and is anticipated to be completed by the end of 2010.
- (d) and (e) The Program commenced in mid-2008 and is anticipated to be completed by the end of 2010.
- (f) The Program commenced in mid-2008 and is anticipated to be completed by mid-2011.

\*10046ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF COAL EMISSIONS IN THE UPPER HUNTER—Mr George Souris asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

In relation to the widely publicized concern of Upper Hunter communities about the effects of emissions from coal mines and coal-fired power stations on their health:

- (1) How many times in the past twelve months has the Minister's department recorded levels of airborne pollutants from coalmines and power stations in the Hunter Valley, which exceed known dangerous levels?
- (2) How many times in the past twelve months has the Minister's department recorded dangerous blasts outside required standards at Hunter Valley coalmines?
- (3) What action was taken against the offenders and what was done to ensure individual and public

safety in the aftermath?

(4) What is the Minister doing to protect the community against repeat offences?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

- (1) The Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water licenses the operators of coal mines and power stations. The licences require the licensees to monitor the level of particulate matter at sites around their operations and to provide a summary of this monitoring in annual returns. This monitoring measures dust from all sources and does not differentiate between sources. Non-compliances with license conditions are publicly reported on the Department's website.
- (2) The Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water does not regulate safety issues associated with blasting. Licences issued to most coal mines by the Department require the licensee to monitor blasts and also to limit the noise and vibration from any blast. In the last 12 months, the Department received nine reports of non-compliance relating to blasting from Upper Hunter Valley mines.
- (3) Three \$1500 Penalty Notices and six formal warning letters were issued by the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water to Hunter Valley coal mines for exceeding blast noise limits between May 2009 and April 2010.
- (4) The NSW Government is implementing an air quality monitoring network in the Upper Hunter, which will improve community access to air quality information. In relation to repeat offences, the Department has clear guidelines and action may vary from pollution reduction programs to prosecution.

\*10047 PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS IN RELATION TO COAL MINES AND COAL POWER STATIONS IN THE UPPER HUNTER—Mr George Souris asked the Minister for Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

In relation to the widely publicised concern of Upper Hunter communities about the cumulative effects of emissions from coalmines and coal-fired power stations on their health, and the longstanding research evidence in support of their concerns:

- (1) What measures are being taken to ensure the cumulative effects of all coalmines and power stations are considered in proposals for new mines and power stations?
- (2) What assessments of risks to human health in current applications for new mines and power stations are currently required and, if such assessments are not done, why not?
- (3) What is the Minister doing to address deficiencies in State planning arrangements to minimize and manage the individual and cumulative effects of coal mining and coal-fired power generation on health and the environment?

Answer—

- (1) For well over a decade, it has been standard practice in NSW to require the proponents of new coal mines and power stations to assess the potential cumulative impacts of their proposals.
- (2) In NSW, the potential health risks of proposals are generally assessed as a subset of the broader impact assessment (dust, noise, water, etc), rather than in a stand-alone health impact assessment. This assessment considers the potential impacts of a proposal against the relevant health-based criteria.
- (3) The Government is pursuing a range of initiatives to manage coal mining and its impacts on health and the environment including implementing a regional air quality monitoring network in the Hunter Valley, commissioning a study into international best practice of dust management at mines, and considering the findings of the Camberwell cumulative impact study.

\*10048 FORMULA 1 GRAND PRIX—Mr George Souris asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

Given your statement on Saturday 27 March on Ten News that "What we have to do is have skin in the game and that's precisely what this Government is doing. We're going down and putting ourselves in front of the promoters of the Grand Prix and we're saying Sydney's here and we're interested":

- (1) Did you meet with promoters of this event?
- (2) If not, did Minister Macdonald or anybody else from Events NSW meet with the promoters?

Answer—

The NSW Government is serious about establishing Sydney and NSW as global events destinations. The Government supports numerous events large and small in a variety of ways in recognition of the

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significant economic, strategic and community benefits events can generate. From boosting tourism and increasing jobs in a range of industries—such as hospitality, retail and travel—to showcasing our competitive strengths in staging internationally recognised events, NSW can attract millions of dollars in investment, tourism and business to the state through the successful staging of major events.

\*10049 RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAJOR EVENTS—Mr George Souris asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

In view of conflicting announcements that:

- the Minister for Major Events would be responsible for major events, while you retain Events NSW within the Premier's portfolio; and
- the article entitled, "We want Victoria's Events" published in the Sunday Telegraph on 14 March, which reports the Minister for Major Events to have said that he "took control of a restructured Events NSW",

can you advise who is in charge of major events - the Minister for Major events, yourself, the newly created Major events Cabinet Committee or the ministers for Tourism, Sport and Recreation, the Arts and Housing?

Answer—

Events play an important role in the economy and cultural life of New South Wales. The establishment of a new, dedicated events portfolio at Cabinet level will help to ensure that New South Wales maintains and further develops its status as a leading events destination globally.

To support the new Minister for Major Events, a new Cabinet Standing Committee on Major Events has been established. The Committee is chaired jointly by the Premier and the Minister for Major Events, and includes key portfolio Ministers including the Minister for Tourism, the Minister for Gaming and Racing and Sport and Recreation, the Minister for Arts and the Minister for Western Sydney.

\*10051 BED OCCUPANCY RATES—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) What was the average bed occupancy rate of Mona Vale Hospital during:
  - (a) 2006-07;
  - (b) 2007-08;
  - (c) 2008-09;
  - (d) 2009-10 year to date?
- (2) What was the average bed occupancy rate of Manly Hospital during:
  - (a) 2006-07;
  - (b) 2007-08;
  - (c) 2008-09;
  - (d) 2009-10 year to date?

Answer—

Annual bed occupancy days for each hospital in NSW are reported in the NSW Health Services Comparison Data Book (the Yellow Book) which can be found on NSW Health's website at [www.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au). Occupancy rates will vary according to the type of clinical service, time of the year, geographical location and models of clinical care for the particular service.

\*10052 ABORIGINAL LAND CLAIMS—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

- (1) How many Aboriginal land claims are currently under consideration in the Pittwater LGA?
- (2) What are the details of each of these claims?
- (3) How many Aboriginal land claims are currently under consideration in the Warringah LGA?
- (4) What are the details of each of these claims?

Answer—

- (1) There are sixty Aboriginal land claims under consideration in the Pittwater LGA.
- (2) All but nine of the claims in the Pittwater LGA are over lands that are reserved for various purposes. The status of the remaining claimed lands will be revealed during the investigation of the claims.
- (3) There are 299 Aboriginal land claims under consideration in the Warringah LGA.
- (4) All but 51 of the claims in the Warringah LGA are over lands that are reserved for various purposes. The status of the remaining claimed lands will be revealed during the investigation of the claims.

\*10053 COUNCIL RATE VARIATIONS—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Local Government, Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

- (1) How many council rate variations did the Minister approve and gazette during:
  - (a) 2008-09;
  - (b) 2009-10 year to date?
- (2) How many applications for council rate variations did the Minister receive during:
  - (a) 2008-09;
  - (b) 2009-10 year to date?
- (3) What was the highest approved council rate variation during:
  - (a) 2008-09;
  - (b) 2009-10 year to date?
- (4) What was the highest council rate variation applied for during:
  - (a) 2008-09;
  - (b) 2009-10 year to date?

Answer—

I provide the following details in response to your questions:

- (1) (a) During 2008-09, a total of 18 special rate variations were approved. These approvals relate to the 2009-10 financial year.  
(b) In 2009-10, no special rate variations have been finalised to date for the 2010-11 financial year, as they are still under assessment.
- (2) (a) During 2008-09, a total of 30 special rate variation applications were received. These applications relate to the 2009-10 financial year.  
(b) In 2009-10, a total of 29 special rate variation applications have been received to date. These applications relate to the 2010-11 financial year.
- (3) (a) During 2008-09, the highest approved special rate variation percentage increase was 13.5% (including 3.5% rate peg). This application relates to the 2009-10 financial year.  
(b) In 2009-10, no special rate variations have been finalised to date for the 2010-11 financial year, as they are still under assessment.
- (4) (a) The highest special rate variation percentage increase applied for during 2008-09 was 13.5% (including 3.5% rate peg). This application relates to the 2009-10 financial year.  
(b) The highest special rate variation percentage increase applied for during 2009-10 is 12% (including 2.6% rate peg). This application relates to the 2010-11 financial year.

\*10054 SCHOOLS PRODUCING SOLAR ENERGY—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Education and Training—

Given your advice that there are 236 government schools that produce solar energy (Question 9253):

- (1) How many of the 236 solar energy producing schools in NSW meet the NSW Solar Bonus Scheme's criteria of being a "small site energy customer"?
- (2) How many of NSW's solar energy producing schools, which meet the criteria of being a "small site energy customer", also meet the scheme's criteria of having a renewable energy system under a 10 kW capacity?

Answer—

- (1) As at 10 May 2010 there are now 262 schools that produce solar energy. Of these, 97 schools are "small site energy customers" but are subject to the participation rules.
- (2) All 97 schools meet the scheme's criteria of having a renewable energy system under a 10kW capacity.

\*10055 MONA VALE HOSPITAL MATERNITY WARD—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) When will the NSW Government provide the additional funds needed to complete the maternity ward renovations at Mona Vale Hospital?
- (2) What is the latest information regarding an expected date for the reopening of the maternity ward?

Answer—

I am advised:



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- (1) and (2) The Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Health Service is currently in the process of finalising the extent, duration, cost and funding of the proposed renovations to Mona Vale Hospital's Maternity Ward, and will advise the local community when the approved timeline and funding for these future works is known.

\*10056 ASBESTOS REMOVAL—MONA VALE HOSPITAL—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) What is the current status of the asbestos removal program being carried out at Mona Vale Hospital?
- (2) Which wards have been completed as part of this program?
- (3) Which wards are yet to be completed as part of this program?
- (4) What was the total amount of funding allocated to undertake the removal of asbestos at Mona Vale Hospital?
- (5) How much of this allocated funding had been spent as at 22 April 2010?
- (6) What is the expected completion date of the asbestos removal program?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (6) The asbestos removal program at Mona Vale Hospital relating to the maternity ward is almost complete with a target date of the end of May 2010. The extent, cost and funding of a further program of works is currently being finalised by the Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Health Service.
- (2) The Emergency Department, Renal Dialysis Unit, Children's Ward have been completed; the Intensive Care Unit and Aged Care Rehabilitation Unit were built free of asbestos material.
- (3) Wards Level 2, Level 3, Level 5,
- (4) \$500,000 was allocated in 2009-10 to remove asbestos from the maternity ward.
- (5) \$431,848 as at 30 April 2010.

\*10057 FOREST COACH LINES—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

When will Forest Coach Lines be provide with the necessary ticket machines required to administer the new "My Zone" bus tickets?

Answer—

I am advised:

MyZone has been operating successfully across all private bus operators including Forest Coach Lines since Sunday 18 April 2010.

MyZone is being implemented using current ticketing equipment.

\*10059 ADDITIONAL NORTHERN BEACHES BUSES—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) Have 16 extra buses been provided to the northern beaches on a permanent basis?
- (2) Has the timetable been changed to reflect the addition of extra buses?
- (3) What information has been provided to local commuters outlining where and when these additional 16 buses are operating?
- (4) How many of these additional 16 buses are stationed at the Mona Vale bus depot?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) to (3) Yes, in fact 20 extra buses have been added to the Northern Beaches fleet since October 2009. Timetable changes were made to support the new bus network for the Northern Beaches and associated service changes. Full details of all the timetable changes were extensively advertised to the community.

(4) The Mona Vale Depot has recently gained five additional buses.

\*10060 INPATIENT REHABILITATION BEDS—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

When will the Minister implement the recommendations concerning inpatient rehabilitation beds on the northern beaches made in the Review of Rehabilitation and Related Services, Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Health Service, Final Report, May 2007, page 39, namely to provide a "20 bed rehab ward at Manly" and "24 beds in designated unit at Mona Vale"?

Answer—

I am advised:

Following extensive consultation the Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Health Service has announced a service model change to co-locate all aged care rehabilitation inpatient beds from Manly Hospital to the dedicated purpose built Mona Vale Hospital Aged Care Rehabilitation Unit.

The rehabilitation ward at Mona Vale Hospital has modern rehabilitation facilities such as dedicated therapy and socialisation spaces including a modern gymnasium and dining room spaces and close access to a hydrotherapy pool facility.

Under this model the rehabilitation unit at Mona Vale Hospital will increase from 24 to 30 beds effective 17 May 2010, with contingency planning being considered to enable expansion to 35 beds depending on demand for such services

\*10061 ADDITIONAL LIVE CAMERAS—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

In relation to the F3 Freeway:

- (1) When will the additional two live cameras, the images from which are supposed to be available to the public, be accessible on the RTA website?
- (2) Given the introduction of these additional cameras was announced some time ago, what has been the cause of the significant delay?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) Since the announcement of additional F3 webcams, the Roads and Traffic Authority began work on a new enhanced 'Traveller Information' webpage to provide a better quality service to the public. Software changes are required to allow the cameras to be added to this webpage.

\*10062 DRIVERS DECLARED UNFIT TO DRIVE—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) How many NSW drivers were declared unfit to drive in each financial year from 2004-2005 to date?
- (2) How many NSW drivers have a medical condition but have been declared fit to drive according to their treating doctor for each financial year from 2004-2005?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1)

2004/05	3,840
2005/06	4,151
2006/07	4,136
2007/08	4,360
2008/09	4,737
2009 - 31 March 2010	4,713

(2)

2004/05	106,141
2005/06	147,548
2006/07	160,625
2007/08	181,281
2008/09	201,424
2009/10	312,071

(Figures are as at 31 December each year.)

\*10063 ELDERLY DRIVERS—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) How many NSW drivers were 75 years or older in 2007-2008, 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 (to date)?
- (2) How many NSW drivers over the age of 75 have failed the annual medical checkups since 1 December 2008?
- (3) How many elderly NSW drivers have been placed on modified driving licences for each financial year from 2004-2005?

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- (4) How many people have completed an "Unsafe Driving Report" with the RTA about elderly drivers for each financial year from 2004-2005?
- (5) How many NSW drivers have been found guilty of bribery of an RTA officer for driving tests?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) As at 30 June 2008, there were 232,096 drivers aged 75 or over. As at 30 June 2009, there were 235,132 drivers aged 75 or over. As at 31 March 2010, there were 236,273 drivers aged 75 or over.
- (2) The onus is on the licence holder to submit a satisfactory medical report from their doctor. There may be many reasons for an older driver not submitting a satisfactory medical report including that they have simply decided to discontinue driving. Accordingly, it is not possible to provide accurate figures on the number of 'failed' annual medical checkups.
- (3) Modified licences were introduced in December 2008 as part of the reforms to the older driver licensing system.
- (4) In 2008-09, 4007 older drivers opted for a modified licence. In the period 1 July 2009 to 30 April 2010, 5001 older drivers have opted for a modified licence.
- (5) The Roads and Traffic Authority does not currently have data on the age of drivers who are subject to Unsafe Driving Reports.
- (6) This question should be referred to the Minister for Police.

\*10064BAN ON RE-REGISTRATION OF "REPAIRABLE WRITTEN-OFF" VEHICLES—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Minister for Transport and Roads—

Regarding the 8 April 21 announcement about new laws to ban the re-registration of all "repairable written-off" vehicles:

- (1) Which vehicles will be covered by the legislation (trailers, caravans, motorcycles)?
- (2) Will there be exceptions?
- (3) If so, will there be an exception for licensed motor dealers and repairers?
- (4) If not, has the Minister looked into what affect this will have on businesses?
- (5) If so how many jobs will be lost?
- (6) Is this move expected to reduce stolen vehicles?
- (7) How will it affect insurance prices for the average person?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The legislation will cover all light motor vehicles.
- (2) Limited exemptions will be available to allow the re-registration of some written-off vehicles including specified enthusiasts' and collectors' vehicles, vehicles of high personal value, specified high value vehicles and some hail-damaged vehicles.
- (3) No.
- (4) There has been support for the Government's reforms as they will support the industry by helping to eliminate the current practices of "unsafe backyard repairers" and returning work to the legitimate repair industry.
- (5) As above.
- (6) The written-off vehicle reforms will help circumvent criminal activity by denying registration of repairable write-offs which could otherwise be involved in vehicle rebirthing.
- (7) The Roads and Traffic Authority understands that the revenue forgone by insurers due to reduced returns for statutory write-offs will be offset by a reduction in the rate of insurance claims for vehicle theft.

\*10065WARRELL CREEK TO URUNGA PROJECT—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Minister for Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

In relation to the Warrell Creek to Urunga Project:

- (1) Why is the route for this project to pass so close to Macksville?
- (2) Is the bridge abutment on land rated as urban residential?
- (3) Has this resulted in noise impacts on the 45 adjacent residential properties?
  - (a) Has the RTA considered these impacts at the route selection stage in accordance with the requirements of ECRTN?
  - (b) How many and what complaints has the Government and the RTA received about his noise impact?

- (c) What assessment has been made of noise levels?
- (d) (i) Has this site been qualified for the NSW Government's Noise Abatement Program?  
(ii) If not, why not?
- (e) What measures has the Government investigated that could reduce the noise impacts on residents living near this route?
- (f) (i) Are those measures currently in place?  
(ii) If not, why not?
- (4) Why was it decided to build a highway across a flood plain that provides a major expansion area for floodwaters from the Nambucca River during large flood events?
  - (a) Does this flood plain contain a large area of SEPP 14 wetland?
  - (b) In what way will this wetland be impacted by the road both during the construction period and, once completed, in use?

Answer—

The Environmental Assessment for the Warrell Creek to Urunga project was recently publicly exhibited (from 28 January 2010 until 29 March 2010). The Roads and Traffic Authority is currently preparing a Submissions Report to respond to all issues raised in Submissions.

The questions listed above have been addressed in the Environmental Assessment (available on the Department of Planning's website, at [www.planning.nsw.gov.au](http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au)) and will be further considered as part of the Department of Planning's assessment of the project and recommendations to me.

\*10066 PROHIBIT CAMPING AT SHOWGROUNDS—Mr John Turner asked the Minister for Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

- (1) Does the Minister intend to prohibit camping at showgrounds?
- (2) If so, when?
- (3) If so, why?
- (4) Is the Minister aware that showgrounds derive significant funds from camping fees for the upkeep and administration of the showgrounds?
- (5) If the Minister intends to prohibit camping at showgrounds, will he fund the showgrounds for any loss sustained from the cessation of camping at showgrounds?
- (6) If not, why not?

Answer—

No. I do not intend to prohibit camping at showgrounds. I am a strong supporter of authorised camping in NSW and along with the Land and Property Management Authority am committed to sustainable tourist destinations that cater for caravans, campervans, motorhomes, tents and other moveable dwellings.

\*10067 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING—FORMER EMPLOYEE—Mr Ray Williams asked the Minister for Education and Training—

With respect to the request by Tracey Bowman, previously employed by the Department of Education and Training, for return of her personal property:

- (1) What evidence did the Department of Education and Training provide to NSW Police with respect to Mrs Bowman's character or behaviour to substantiate the letter to the NSW Police, delivered to Mrs Bowman's residence?
- (2) What evidence was provided to NSW Police requiring them to cause considerable disturbance to the Bowman residences at 10.45 pm on a Thursday night?
- (3) What section of the Inclosed Lands Protection Act gives an officer of the Department of Education and Training the authority to issue a written direction to a person?
- (4) On what advice was a written direction issued to Mrs Bowman with an indication that the direction was made by a person claiming to have authority provided to them by the Inclosed Land Act?
- (5) What authority does the Inclosed Lands Protection Act give officers of the Department of Education and Training to deny a person the right to collect their personal belongings, particularly in this case given the owner of the belongings had never nominated a time in school hours and was given only seven (7) days advanced notice?
- (6) Under what authority can the Department of Education and Training have the personal belongings of a person packed and moved without any consultation as to what that person owned, or if they were happy to have it packed and then not provide an inventory of what was packed after having denied the person access on numerous previous occasions?

Answer—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
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(1) The Department of Education and Training did not provide evidence to the NSW Police as to Mrs Bowman's character or behaviour. The Department endeavoured to serve an Inclosed Lands Protection Act letter on Mrs Bowman however she refused to accept it. The police agreed to deliver it to Mrs Bowman.

(2) The timing and circumstances of when the letter was delivered to Mrs Bowman was a matter for the NSW police.

(3) Section 4(1) of the Inclosed Lands Protection Act states:

4(1) Any person who, without lawful excuse (proof of which lies on the person), enters into inclosed lands without the consent of the owner, occupier or person apparently in charge of those lands, or who remains on those lands after being requested by the owner, occupier or person apparently in charge of those lands to leave those lands, is liable to a penalty . . . .

A written direction was issued to Mrs Bowman making it clear that she did not have the "consent of the owner, occupier or person apparently in charge of those lands" to enter on to the grounds of the school site.

This followed 11 occasions on which Mrs Bowman was directed to meet relevant supervisors and did not do so, and a disciplinary process leading to her dismissal. Following her dismissal she has sought to return to the school on numerous occasions. The Department of Education and Training believes that this would not be in the best interest of students.

(4) The written direction was issued on the authority of the Regional Director of Western Sydney Region.

(5) The Inclosed Lands Protection Act regards entry on to particular sites and behaviour while on those site. It does not relate to the collection of personal belongings.

(6) The premise of this question is false. Mrs Bowman was communicated with at least 12 times with regards to her material at the school. The action referred to occurred after Mrs Bowman repeatedly failed to make arrangements to take delivery of her belongings at a reasonable time consistent with the operations of the school.

\*10068MOBILE BREAST CLINIC—Mr Ray Williams asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

With respect to the mobile breast clinic, previously stationed at Richmond every year, but now stopped:

- (1) Are local residents required to travel many kilometres further to Penrith or other areas to access this vital service?
- (2) Given this has the potential to increase the occurrence of breast cancer if people do not undertake these important yearly examinations, will the Mobile Breast Screening Clinic be returned to Richmond for the local residents of the Londonderry electorate?

Answer—

I am advised:

In 2007-08 the BreastScreen NSW Program commenced the rollout of digital mammography equipment across NSW. Digital mammography provides faster results and better early detection.

This new technology enables high quality breast screen images to be transmitted electronically from screening centres to well resourced central x-ray reading rooms for analysis by experienced radiologists.

The Westmead Breast Cancer Institute has recently completed the construction and commissioning of eight new digital fixed sites across the Sydney West Area Health Service.

Four of these new fixed clinics, known as BCI Sunflower Clinics, are located in Sydney West Hospitals (Lithgow, Katoomba, Mount Druitt, and Auburn). The other four are located within major regional shopping centres (Myer stores in Penrith, Blacktown, Castle Hill, and Parramatta). These regional shopping centre locations provide 7 days per week services (Monday to Sunday plus Thursday night), increasing available screening capacity and providing greater choice for the women in the region.

**11 MAY 2010**

(Paper No. 195)

10069 CAT SCAN MACHINES—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

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- 10070 IMAGING SERVICES AT TOMAREE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10071 TILLEGRA DAM—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—
- 10072 TILLEGRA DAM—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—
- 10073 TANGARA FLEET MAKEOVER—Ms Gladys Berejiklian to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10074 SMOKING POLICY—ROYAL NORTH SHORE HOSPITAL—Ms Gladys Berejiklian to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10075 SYDNEY PORTS—NEW PREMISES—Ms Gladys Berejiklian to ask the Minister for Ports and Waterways, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 10076 CHILD AND FAMILY HEALTH SERVICES—Mr Steve Cansdell to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10077 RADIOTHERAPY MACHINE—NORTH COAST CANCER INSTITUTE—Mr Steve Cansdell to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10078 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT—WILLIAM STREET, EAST SYDNEY—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10079 WAVE ENERGY—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 10080 INDIGENOUS EMPLOYMENT SCHEME—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 10081 EASY ACCESS—WATERFALL TRAIN STATION—Mrs Shelley Hancock to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10082 TILLEGRA DAM—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—
- 10083 BOOROWA HOSPITAL—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10084 SCHOOL BUS ROUTE CHANGE—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10085 DRUG AND ALCOHOL CENTRES CLOSURES—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10086 ABORIGINAL POLICE OFFICERS—Mr Kevin Humphries to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—
- 10087 FUTURE WORKS PROGRAMS—GOCUP ROAD—Mr Daryl Maguire to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10088 STREET LIGHTING—JUNCTION OF RED HILL ROAD AND OLYMPIC HIGHWAY—Mr Daryl Maguire to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10089 COUNTER-FLOW TRAFFIC MEASURES—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- \*10090 CBD METRO PROJECT—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

Given that the mismanagement of \$28 million of public infrastructure for contra flow traffic measures on the F3 resulted in a senior bureaucrat being stood down and an independent investigation, what special measures are being implemented in relation to the waste of about half a billion dollars on the CBD Metro Project?

Answer—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 1 JUNE 2010

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I am advised:

On 21 February 2010, the NSW Government decided to stop work on the Metro Stage 1 and reallocate resources and funding to a range of other transport projects and plans. The Government listened to the community and made a tough decision.

The Government is putting in place the Metropolitan Transport Plan - a comprehensive transport strategy for Sydney. This fully funded package, which will provide \$50 billion over 10 years, includes a number of important projects - the Western Express, the South West Rail Link, which is under construction right now, the North West Rail Link, 1000 new buses, new rolling stock on our trains, cycleways and commuter car parks. This plan will deliver net benefits for western Sydney and the entire metropolitan area.

- 10091 YABBRA STATE FOREST—Mr Donald Page to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 10092 SCIENCE LABORATORIES—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10093 SECURITY FENCING—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10094 TOILET UPGRADES—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10095 REGISTERED FINANCIAL ADVISORS—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Fair Trading, Minister for the Arts—
- 10096 HOSPITALS IN THE NORTHERN RIVERS AREA—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10097 TWEED HEADS HOSPITAL BED NUMBERS—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10098 NORTHERN LINE AND NORTH WEST RAIL LINK—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10099 STANDARDS FOR MOTORCYCLE HELMETS—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10100 POLICE RESPONSE TIMES—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—
- \*10101 NEW VIDEO LINK—Mr Greg Smith asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—

- (1) Has the operation of a new video link commenced at Emu Plains Correctional Centre?
- (2) If so, what date did it commence?
- (3) If not, on what date will it commence?
- (4) How much has been spent on a new video link?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The video link at Emu Plains Correctional Centre has been operational for over three years.
- (2) January 2007.
- (3) Not applicable.
- (4) Approximately \$136,000 was spent on building works, communications, infrastructure and video conferencing equipment.

- 10102 COAL SEAM GAS FEASIBILITY ASSESSMENT IN THE HUNTER VALLEY—Mr George Souris to ask the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services representing the Minister for State and Regional Development, Minister for Mineral and Forest Resources, Minister for Major Events, Minister for the Central Coast—
- 10103 KEMPSEY BYPASS—PACIFIC HIGHWAY—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10104 PERI-URBAN AREAS—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

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- 10105 PORT OF NEWCASTLE CRUISE FACILITIES—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Ports and Waterways, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 10106 TICKET COSTS FOR PENSIONERS IN WESTERN SYDNEY—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10107 WEBBS CREEK FERRY—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- \*10108 EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES—Mr Ray Williams asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—

How much money has been spent on early intervention services for families with young children in the Nepean in the following years:

- (a) 2006-07;
- (b) 2007-08;
- (c) 2008-09;
- (d) 2009-10?

Answer—

Information relating to early intervention services funded by Community Services is contained in the Annual Report which is available at [www.community.nsw.gov.au](http://www.community.nsw.gov.au)

**12 MAY 2010**  
(Paper No. 196)

- 10109 NSW TOURISM—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Tourism, Minister for the Hunter, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister for Women—
- 10110 MOUNT DRUITT HOSPITAL IMAGING DEPARTMENT—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10111 INSTALLATION OF TRAFFIC LIGHTS—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10112 LICENSED GUN OWNERS—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—
- 10113 GST REVENUE—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Special Minister of State—
- 10114 PAST HSC PAPERS—Ms Gladys Berejiklian to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10115 SYDNEY FERRIES CONTRACT—Ms Gladys Berejiklian to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10116 LAW ENFORCEMENT OF PUBLIC DRUNKENNESS—Mr Steve Cansdell to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—
- 10117 FORESTS NSW STAFF—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services representing the Minister for State and Regional Development, Minister for Mineral and Forest Resources, Minister for Major Events, Minister for the Central Coast—
- 10118 SPEED LIMITS FOR HEAVY VEHICLES—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10119 SOLAR BONUS SCHEME—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 10120 RTA ROADS FUNDING—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10121 CATTLE TICK OUTBREAKS—Mr Thomas George to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 1 JUNE 2010

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- 10122 COMMUNITY SERVICES HELPLINE AND KIDS SYSTEM—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—
- 10123 STRUCTURED DECISION MAKING TOOL—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—
- 10124 REPORTS TO COMMUNITY SERVICES HELPLINE—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—
- 10125 FOSTER CARE—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—
- 10126 CASEWORKER POSITIONS—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—
- 10127 FORMAL MONTHLY CASEWORKER SUPERVISION—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—
- 10128 UNANSWERED CORRESPONDENCE—Mrs Shelley Hancock to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10129 UNQUALIFIED TEACHERS—Mrs Shelley Hancock to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10130 FUNDING FOR PRINCES HIGHWAY—Mrs Shelley Hancock to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10131 BUILDING THE EDUCATION REVOLUTION FUNDING—Mrs Shelley Hancock to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10132 FLASHING SCHOOL ZONE LIGHTS—Mrs Shelley Hancock to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10133 INTERAGENCY BROTHELS TASKFORCE—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 10134 CHAFFEY DAM AUGMENTATION—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—
- 10135 NSW PREMIER'S STUDENT VOLUNTEERING AWARDS—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 10136 GREATER SOUTHERN AREA HEALTH SERVICE STAFF PAYMENT—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10137 GRAFFITI VANDALS—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health representing the Attorney General, Minister for Citizenship, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 10138 RENAL DIALYSIS CENTRE—SUTHERLAND HOSPITAL—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- \*10139 EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES—Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—

How much money has been spent on early intervention services for families with young children in South East Sydney in the following years:

- (a) 2006-07;
- (b) 2007-08;
- (c) 2008-09;
- (d) 2009-10?

Answer—

Information relating to early intervention services funded by Community Services is contained in the Annual Report which is available at [www.community.nsw.gov.au](http://www.community.nsw.gov.au)

\*10140 MENAI YOUTH ACTION PROJECT—Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—

How much money has been given to the Menai Youth Action Project in the following years:

- (a) 2006-07;
- (b) 2007-08;
- (c) 2008-09;
- (d) 2009-10?

Answer—

Funding information for Menai Youth Action Project is contained in the Annual Report which is available at [www.community.nsw.gov.au](http://www.community.nsw.gov.au)

10141 WOOD INQUIRY—CHANGES INSTITUTED BY DOCS—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—

10142 WORKS AT LIVERPOOL HOSPITAL—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

10143 CLINICAL SUPPORT OFFICERS—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

10144 INTEREST FREE LOAN TO LIVERPOOL COUNCIL—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

10145 WOMEN'S HEALTH AND NEWBORN CARE CENTRE—Mr Wayne Merton to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

10146 RIVERSTONE RAIL OVERPASS—Mr Wayne Merton to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—

10147 BEDS AT AUBURN HOSPITAL—Mr Wayne Merton to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

10148 DELIVERY OF NEW BUSES—Mr Wayne Merton to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—

\*10149 NSW MARITIME WEBSITE—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Ports and Waterways, and Minister for the Illawarra—

In the interest of open Government:

- (1) Why does the NSW Maritime website not publish full applications submitted for "Permission to Lodge a Development Application"?
- (2) Why does the NSW Maritime website not publish full determinations with associated reports for the final outcome of a determination to approve or refuse "Permission to Lodge a Development Application"?
- (3) What consideration has the NSW Government given to publishing more information on applications for "Permission to Lodge a Development Application" and final determinations?
- (4) Within what time frame is NSW Maritime required to publish a decision to approve or refuse an application for "Permission to Lodge a Development Application" on its website?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (3) NSW Maritime publishes summary information regarding applications for Permission to Lodge a Development Application (PTL). These include applicant name, property location, summary of details, determination outcomes and relevant dates. NSW Maritime does not routinely publish more comprehensive details of PTL applications, as some may contain commercial-in-confidence material, or matters relating to the private financial affairs of individuals.
- (4) Determinations are routinely published within a week of the determination being made.

10150 FORGOTTEN AUSTRALIANS—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—

10151 BOARDERS AND LODGERS—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 1 JUNE 2010

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- 10152 RTA HANDBOOKS—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10153 BIODIVERSITY PROTECTION—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 10154 NANOTECHNOLOGY ACTION—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Tourism, Minister for the Hunter, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister for Women—
- 10155 SALE OF RTA LAND—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10156 INTERVENTION SUPPORT PROGRAM—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10157 MANAGING CONTRACTORS—BER PROJECTS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10158 NAPLAN TESTS—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10159 LKJ COLLEGE, DARLINGHURST—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10160 UNFAIR DISMISSAL CASES—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10161 NEW METERING SYSTEM—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform—
- 10162 ELECTRICITY REBATE—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform—
- 10163 ELECTRICITY PRICES—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform—
- 10164 LAW ENFORCEMENT OF PUBLIC DRUNKENNESS—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—
- 10165 TAXI TRANSPORT SUBSIDY SCHEME—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10166 COUNTRYLINK BUS SERVICE—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10167 HOUSING NSW PROPERTIES—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10168 NORTH WEST RAIL LINK—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10169 CASTLE HILL SHOWGROUND—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—
- 10170 COST OF ACUTE AND SUB-ACUTE BEDS—Mrs Jillian Skinner to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10171 BLACKTOWN HOSPITAL—NEW HOSPITAL BEDS—Mrs Jillian Skinner to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10172 “NOT READY FOR CARE” PATIENTS—Mrs Jillian Skinner to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10173 NURSE REDUNDANCY NUMBERS—Mrs Jillian Skinner to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10174 SYDNEY WEST AREA HEALTH SERVICE POSITIONS—Mrs Jillian Skinner to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

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- 10175 ALCOHOL-RELATED ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR—Mr George Souris to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—
- 10176 MEDIAN BARRIERS ON PICTON ROAD—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10177 NSW FOOD AUTHORITY—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—
- 10178 CHILD RESTRAINT LAWS—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10179 SCHOOL SECURITY FENCES—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- \*10180 EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES—Mr Ray Williams asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—

How much money has been spent on early intervention services for families with young children in the Hawkesbury in the following years:

- (a) 2006-07;
- (b) 2007-08;
- (c) 2008-09;
- (d) 2009-10?

Answer—

Information relating to early intervention services funded by Community Services is contained in the Annual Report which is available at [www.community.nsw.gov.au](http://www.community.nsw.gov.au)

**13 MAY 2010**

(Paper No. 197)

- 10181 CAT AND X-RAY MACHINES—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10182 FLASHING LIGHTS FOR IRRAWANG HIGH SCHOOL—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10183 CRITERIA FOR DIALYSIS UNIT—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10184 COUNTRY HALLS RENEWALS FUND—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—
- 10185 PROPERTIES ON THE SALES LIST PROGRAM—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10186 COMMUTER PARKING SHORTFALLS AT RAILWAY STATIONS—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10187 INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10188 GRAFFITI OFFENCES—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health representing the Attorney General, Minister for Citizenship, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 10189 CLOSURE OF DRUG AND ALCOHOL CENTRES—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10190 MY ZONE TICKETING—FARES—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10191 MY ZONE TICKETING—FARES—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 1 JUNE 2010

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- 10192 WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 10193 CUSTOMER SERVICE SURVEYS—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 10195 COLONOSCOPY PROCEDURES—SHOALHAVEN DISTRICT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL—Mrs Shelley Hancock to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10196 PRINCES HIGHWAY AT EAST LYNNE—Mrs Shelley Hancock to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10197 PLATFORM 7—STRATHFIELD STATION—Mrs Shelley Hancock to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10198 ENDOSCOPY CENTRES—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10199 ROADS TO PROPOSED WARNERVALE TOWN CENTRE—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10200 TRAIN STATION AT PROPOSED WARNERVALE TOWN CENTRE—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10201 MATERNITY UNIT AT MONA VALE HOSPITAL—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10202 STATE OF INFRASTRUCTURE AT MANLY AND MONA VALE HOSPITALS—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10203 NORTHERN BEACHES HOSPITAL—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10204 FRENCHS FOREST ROAD EAST AND WAKEHURST PARKWAY INTERSECTION—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10205 AIR MONITORING STATIONS—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 10206 DAM UPGRADES—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—
- 10207 EMU WARD AT HORNSBY HOSPITAL—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10208 ROADWORKS—OLD PACIFIC HIGHWAY, BROOKLYN—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10209 ROADWORKS—GALSTON (GORGE) ROAD—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10210 PETROL SNIFFING—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10211 "UNFLUED" HEATERS—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10212 CLOSURE OF GALSTON ROAD—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10213 MENTAL HEALTH BY AREA HEALTH SERVICE—Mr Kevin Humphries to ask the Minister for Local Government, Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- 10214 CASEWORKER POSITIONS—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—
- 10215 GEORGES RIVER NATIONAL PARK—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

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- 10216 BEDS IN NON-ACUTE MENTAL HEALTH UNIT—SUTHERLAND HOSPITAL—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10217 BEDS IN NON-ACUTE MENTAL HEALTH UNIT—ST GEORGE HOSPITAL—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10218 PSYCHIATRIC DRUGS—Mr Daryl Maguire to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10219 SUICIDES CAUSED BY ANTIDEPRESSANTS—Mr Daryl Maguire to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10220 DEATHS DUE TO ZYPREXA AND RISPERDAL—Mr Daryl Maguire to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10221 SUICIDE WARNINGS—Mr Daryl Maguire to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10222 EDUCATION IN PHARMACOGENETICS AND GENETIC PHARMACOLOGY—Mr Daryl Maguire to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10223 LENGTH OF STAY IN PUBLIC HOSPITALS—Mr Wayne Merton to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10224 BED NUMBERS IN PUBLIC HOSPITALS—Mr Wayne Merton to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10225 ADMISSIONS TO PUBLIC HOSPITALS—Mr Wayne Merton to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10226 IMPROVING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10227 ASTHMA SUPPORT—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10228 CHINESE COMMUNITY ALCOHOL AND DRUGS PROGRAMS—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10229 BUS SERVICE BETWEEN BELROSE AND WARRINGAH MALL—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10230 PROPERTY AT 4 KIERA LANE, ALISON—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—
- 10231 OFFICE PREMISES AT 242 BEECROFT ROAD, EPPING—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—
- 10232 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION ADMINISTRATIVE FEES—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10233 YOUTH HOMELESSNESS—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Education and Training representing the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Volunteering, Minister for Youth, Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs—
- 10234 REPORT BY NOETIC SOLUTIONS—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Juvenile Justice—
- 10235 GROSS FEED IN TARIFF—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform—
- 10236 DEMAND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—
- 10237 WATER EFFICIENCY MEASURES—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—
- 10238 MAIN ROAD 217—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 1 JUNE 2010

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- 10239 RADIOTHERAPY SERVICES FOR TWEED RESIDENTS—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10240 CROSS-BORDER POLICING—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—
- 10241 RALLY REVIEW—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 10242 INCIDENT AT HAWKS NEST—Mr Anthony Roberts to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 10243 BREASTSCREEN NSW SERVICES—Mrs Jillian Skinner to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10244 RETENTION OF NURSES—Mrs Jillian Skinner to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10245 FUNDED FTE NURSE POSITIONS—Mrs Jillian Skinner to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10246 UNFILLED FTE NURSE POSITIONS—Mrs Jillian Skinner to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10247 "NO LEFT TURN" SIGN—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10248 MARLEE AND DUFFS BRIDGES—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10249 NOXIOUS GAS EVACUATIONS AT THE RTA—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10250 MARTIN BRIDGE CORROSION—Mr John Turner to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—

**14 MAY 2010**

(Paper No. 198)

- 10251 TOURISM—WESTERN SUBURBS OF SYDNEY—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Tourism, Minister for the Hunter, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister for Women—
- 10252 POLICE STATION SECURITY—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—
- 10253 AUDIT OF DRIVETRAIN SYSTEMS INTERNATIONAL (DSI)—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Special Minister of State—
- 10254 INCREASES TO THE NEGOTIATED RETAIL ELECTRICITY SUPPLY AGREEMENT (NRESA)—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform—
- 10255 LOCUST PLAGUE—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—
- 10256 ACCESS TO SERVICES—ALBURY ELECTORATE—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—
- 10257 CROSS-BORDER POLICING AGREEMENT—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—
- 10258 PENALTIES UNDER THE PROPERTY, STOCK AND BUSINESS AGENTS ACT 2002—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Fair Trading, Minister for the Arts—
- 10259 BREACHES OF THE PROPERTY, STOCK AND BUSINESS AGENTS ACT 2002—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Fair Trading, Minister for the Arts—
- 10260 PHOENIX UNIT—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

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- 10261 NORTH HEAD SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—
- 10262 E70 BUS SERVICE—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10263 GLASSES FOR CHILDREN—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—
- 10264 CYCLING TO WORK—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10265 ILLEGAL FISHING IN AQUATIC RESERVES—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—
- 10266 SPECIAL TRANSPORT SCHEME—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10267 T2 AND T3 LANES—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10268 PRIVACY OF TAXPAYERS—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Special Minister of State—
- 10269 DOWLING STREET SITE—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10270 CONTROL OF TRAFFIC LIGHTS—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10271 ROOF INSULATION—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10272 272 AND 273 BUS SERVICES—Ms Gladys Berejiklian to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10273 WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE BUSES—Ms Gladys Berejiklian to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10274 ELECTRICITY BLACKOUTS—Ms Gladys Berejiklian to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform—
- 10275 ABORIGINAL EDUCATION OFFICER—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10276 KINGS CROSS INJECTING CENTRE—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10277 OSMOTIC POWER PLANT—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 10278 PUBLIC DISORDER AT THE MAROUBRA HOUSING ESTATE—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 10279 LIDDELL SOLAR GENERATOR—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 10280 SYDNEY METRO PROJECT—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 10281 BOARDING HOUSES—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Minister for Local Government, Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- 10282 BOARDERS AND LODGERS—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Minister for Local Government, Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- 10283 PARKING RESTRICTIONS AT PUBLIC HOSPITALS—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 1 JUNE 2010

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- 10284 HEADER AGREEMENTS—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—
- 10285 ORDERS AND NOTICES MADE AND GRANTED—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—
- 10286 GOVERNMENT MEDIA RELEASES—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 10287 QX PARASITE—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—
- 10288 RESURFACING OF GALSTON ROAD—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10289 OAKLEIGH GARDENS—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—
- 10290 BUILDING THE EDUCATION REVOLUTION PROJECTS—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10291 JOINT INVESTIGATIVE RESPONSE TEAMS—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—
- 10292 JOB COMPACTS—Mr Kevin Humphries to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—
- 10293 PRIORITY F1: STRENGTHENING ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES—Mr Kevin Humphries to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—
- 10294 SECURITY FENCING—CRONULLA PUBLIC SCHOOL—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10295 INSTALLATION OF TRAFFIC LIGHTS—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10296 UNQUALIFIED TEACHERS—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10297 ALLIANCE AGREEMENTS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10298 PROPOSED PARTIAL REMOVAL OF THE HEALTH INSURANCE REBATE—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 10299 UNATTACHED/DISPLACED EMPLOYEES—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 10300 SYDNEY METRO PROJECT—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 10301 FOOTWEAR PRODUCTION COURSES—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10302 TEACHER'S AIDES—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10303 MACQUARIE BOYS HIGH SCHOOL SITE—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10304 COUNTRY TOWN WATER AND SEWERAGE PROGRAM—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—
- 10305 BLACK SPOT AREAS—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10306 UPGRADE OF SCHOOL SECURITY FENCE—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Education and Training—

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- 10307 CUMBERLAND PLAIN WOODLAND—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 10308 SYDNEY'S WATER SUPPLY—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—
- 10309 WOLLEMI PINES—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 10310 DRINKING WATER WELLS—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—
- 10311 CONTAMINATED SITES—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 10312 PART 3A PROJECTS—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—
- 10313 CRIME PREVENTION GRANTS—Mr Allan Shearan to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health representing the Attorney General, Minister for Citizenship, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 10314 NEPEAN HOSPITAL VACANCIES—Mrs Jillian Skinner to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10315 WAITING TIME AND ELECTIVE PATIENT MANAGEMENT POLICY—Mrs Jillian Skinner to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10316 PLANNED AND UNPLANNED SURGICAL ACTIVITY—Mrs Jillian Skinner to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10317 BUILDING THE EDUCATION REVOLUTION—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10318 TRANSFER OF CROWN LAND—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—
- 10319 WARRIEWOOD SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—
- 10320 ASSISTANCE FOR WOMEN IN LABOUR—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10321 BIRTHS AT MANLY HOSPITAL—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10322 NORTHERN BEACHES HOSPITAL—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10323 RESEARCH INTO TRAFFIC VOLUMES—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10324 ADDITIONAL AMBULANCES AND PARAMEDICS—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10325 REPOSSESSION ORDERS—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health representing the Attorney General, Minister for Citizenship, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 10326 POTABLE WATER INFRASTRUCTURE—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—
- 10327 NSW AMBULANCE STAFF—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10328 MONA VALE HOSPITAL MIDWIVES—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 1 JUNE 2010

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- 10329 MAINTENANCE OF THE OXLEY HIGHWAY—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10330 HARDWARE ITEMS REQUIRED BY SCHOOLS—Mr John Turner to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10331 BELLS LINE OF ROAD ACCIDENT—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10332 SPEEDING IN SCHOOL ZONES—MAROOTA PUBLIC SCHOOL—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10333 PROCEDURES FOR STAFF MAKING FORMAL DISCLOSURES—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10334 CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS RECEIVED—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10335 WILBERFORCE BUS SERVICES—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10336 PROTECTED DISCLOSURES GUIDELINES—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Education and Training—

**18 MAY 2010**

(Paper No. 199)

- 10337 WOODLAWN WASTE DISPOSAL FACILITY—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 10338 PHASING OUT OF UNLEADED PETROL—Mr Steve Cansdell to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—
- 10339 MICK YOUNG SCHOLARSHIP TRUST—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister for Sport and Recreation—
- 10340 BOSTON CONSULTING REPORT INTO OUT-OF HOME CARE—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—
- 10341 STAFF TO CHILD RATIO—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—
- 10342 ALLEGATIONS OF PREFERENTIAL COMMERCIAL ARRANGEMENTS—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—
- 10343 RTA E-TAGS—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10344 RTA E-TAGS—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Special Minister of State—
- 10345 NATIONAL REGISTRATION—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10346 REPORT OF INVESTIGATION—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 10347 DAVIDSON HIGH SCHOOL—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10348 NEW PROPERTY FEE/TAX—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 10349 TRACKING OF JUVENILE JUSTICE VEHICLES—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Juvenile Justice—
- 10350 SANDON PUBLIC SCHOOL—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Education and Training—

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- 10351 CHELTENHAM GIRLS HIGH—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10352 STATE-WIDE EYESIGHT PRESCHOOLER SCREENING PROGRAM—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10353 WINTERSUN FESTIVAL—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services representing the Minister for State and Regional Development, Minister for Mineral and Forest Resources, Minister for Major Events, Minister for the Central Coast—
- 10354 NAPLAN TESTING—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10355 CONTAMINATED SITES—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 10356 CARLINGFORD LINE—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10357 PLANNED AND UNPLANNED SURGICAL ACTIVITY—Mrs Jillian Skinner to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10358 PREVENTION OF CANCER AND MANAGEMENT OF MENTAL ILLNESS—Mrs Jillian Skinner to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10359 KEMPSEY POLICE STATION—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—
- 10360 SCHEDULED TUNNEL CLOSURES—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10361 UNSCHEDULED TUNNEL CLOSURES—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10362 PURCHASE OF GOLD THROUGH THE MAIL—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—
- 10363 PINCH POINTS—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—

**19 MAY 2010**

(Paper No. 200)

- 10364 HOUSING BONDS—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10365 AMBULANCE COVER FOR SCHOOL STUDENTS ON EXCURSIONS—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10366 VEHICLES OVER 975 KG—Mr Steve Cansdell to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10367 BUS PATRONAGE AND REVENUE—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10368 BETTER SERVICES AND VALUE TASKFORCE—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 10369 MENTAL ILLNESS AND HOMELESSNESS—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 10370 WIND FARM ELECTRICITY GENERATION—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 10371 GOVERNMENT USE OF ENERGY—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 1 JUNE 2010

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- 10372 DRUNK AND DISORDERLY OFFENCE—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health representing the Attorney General, Minister for Citizenship, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 10373 FEMALE UNEMPLOYMENT—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Tourism, Minister for the Hunter, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister for Women—
- 10374 CRIME WITHIN THE GOULBURN-MULWAREE COUNCIL AREA—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—
- 10375 BOWRAL PUBLIC HOSPITAL—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10376 CLINIC AT SHOALHAVEN HOSPITAL—Mrs Shelley Hancock to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10377 COUNTRY AND COAST HEALTH CARE STRATEGY—Mrs Shelley Hancock to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10378 HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS IN ULLADULLA—Mrs Shelley Hancock to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10379 SHOALHAVEN LOCAL AREA COMMAND—Mrs Shelley Hancock to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—
- 10380 MENTAL HEALTH UNIT AT SHOALHAVEN DISTRICT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL—Mrs Shelley Hancock to ask the Minister for Local Government, Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- 10381 MENTAL HEALTH FUNDING—Mrs Shelley Hancock to ask the Minister for Local Government, Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- 10382 GREEN SPACE CORRIDOR—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10383 WIDENING OF PACIFIC HIGHWAY—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10384 CRIME IN NARARA—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—
- 10385 PROPOSED ORCHARD HILLS WASTE FACILITY—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 10386 PROPOSED ORCHARD HILLS WASTE FACILITY—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—
- 10387 PROPOSED ORCHARD HILLS WASTE FACILITY—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—
- 10388 GOOGONG PIPELINE—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—
- 10389 FATAL ACCIDENT AT BOOKHAM—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10390 LOGGING LICENCES—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services representing the Minister for State and Regional Development, Minister for Mineral and Forest Resources, Minister for Major Events, Minister for the Central Coast—
- 10391 NSW OFFICE OF WATER STAFFING—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—
- 10392 COWRA HOSPITAL VMO—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

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- 10393 FRAMES—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services representing the Minister for State and Regional Development, Minister for Mineral and Forest Resources, Minister for Major Events, Minister for the Central Coast—
- 10394 DEPARTMENT OF ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS—Mr Kevin Humphries to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—
- 10395 “GREEN BUS” SERVICE—Mr Kevin Humphries to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10396 ASSISTANCE FOR WOMEN IN LABOUR—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10397 BUILDING THE EDUCATION REVOLUTION—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10398 COMPENSATION FOR LOSS OF BUSINESS—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—
- 10399 PSYCHIATRIC EMERGENCY CARE CENTRE—Mr Wayne Merton to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10400 NEPEAN HOSPITAL—REFURBISHMENT TO NORTH BLOCK—Mr Wayne Merton to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10401 DESIGNS FOR FLASHING LIGHT INSTALLATIONS IN SCHOOL ZONES—Mr Jonathan O’Dea to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10402 INCIDENT INVOLVING A PEDESTRIAN AND A HEAVY METAL GATE—Mr Jonathan O’Dea to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10403 PARK AND RIDE FACILITY—Mr Jonathan O’Dea to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10404 AUSTECH INSTITUTE FOR FURTHER EDUCATION—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10405 KINGSCLIFF HIGH SCHOOL—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10406 FRENCHS FOREST PUBLIC SCHOOL—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10407 PARKING UPGRADE—MORISSET STATION—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10408 CRIME PREVENTION GRANTS—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health representing the Attorney General, Minister for Citizenship, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 10409 “PLANNED” AND “UNPLANNED” SURGICAL ACTIVITY—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10410 SURFSIDE BUS SERVICES—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10411 BIOBANK SITE AT DOUGLAS PARK—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 10412 ECO-SYSTEM CREDITS—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 10413 LAND EARMARKED AS POTENTIAL OFFSETS—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 10414 EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT PATIENT RECORDS—Mrs Jillian Skinner to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10415 COST OF NURSING OVERTIME—Mrs Jillian Skinner to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
TUESDAY 1 JUNE 2010

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- 10416 SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS RENAL APPEAL—Mrs Jillian Skinner to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10417 HEALTH CARE DIFFICULTIES FOR ADULTS—Mrs Jillian Skinner to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10418 SELF EXCLUSION FROM LICENSED PREMISES AGREEMENT—Mr George Souris to ask the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister for Sport and Recreation—
- 10419 VEHICLE BREAKDOWNS REQUIRING TOW TRUCK RESPONSE—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10420 ELECTRICITY CHARGES—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform—
- 10421 DANGEROUS INTERSECTIONS—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10422 BATS IN WINGHAM BRUSH—Mr John Turner to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

**20 MAY 2010**

(Paper No. 201)

- 10423 HEART FOUNDATION FUNDING—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Tourism, Minister for the Hunter, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister for Women—
- 10424 VALUE OF INTRA-STATE TOURISM—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Tourism, Minister for the Hunter, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister for Women—
- 10425 REGIONAL TOURISM GENERATED BY VINTAGE CAR AND MOTORCYCLE CLUBS—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Tourism, Minister for the Hunter, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister for Women—
- 10426 GRAFFITI CLEANING UNDER COURT ORDERS—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Juvenile Justice—
- 10427 144 AND 143 BUS SERVICES—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10428 PRIVATE RENTAL BROKERAGE SPECIALISTS—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10429 REVENUE RECEIVED FROM ENERGY COMPANIES—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform—
- 10430 HEALTHONE CLINIC—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10431 PUBLIC HOUSING PROPERTIES—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10432 REVENUE RECEIVED FROM HUNTER WATER—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—
- 10433 COMMUNITY TRANSPORT PORT STEPHENS—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10434 FUNDING ALLOCATED FOR PUBLIC HOUSING—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10435 FUNDING ALLOCATED TO TOMAREE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

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- 10436 PEOPLE PRESENTED TO EMERGENCY WARDS—FEBRUARY—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10437 PEOPLE PRESENTED TO EMERGENCY WARD—MARCH—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10438 SOLAR FLAGSHIPS PROGRAM—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 10439 GRAFFITI OFFENDERS—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health representing the Attorney General, Minister for Citizenship, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 10440 BUS SERVICE CUTBACKS—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10441 TEACHER NUMBERS—Mr Thomas George to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10442 DOCS CASEWORKER POSITIONS—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—
- 10443 MICK YOUNG SCHOLARSHIP TRUST—FUNCTION EXPENSES—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 10444 SOUTH COAST AND ILLAWARRA RAIL LINES—Mrs Shelley Hancock to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10445 SCHOOL ZONES DRAGON'S TEETH INITIATIVE—Mrs Shelley Hancock to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10446 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AMALGAMATIONS—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Local Government, Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- 10447 HERITAGE ESTATES, WORROWING HEIGHTS—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 10448 WASTEWATER HYDRO ELECTRIC PROJECT—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—
- 10449 RENOVATED WARD—LUMBY UNIT—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10450 EXTENDED TRADING HOURS FOR LICENSED PREMISES—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 10451 NOISE TESTING ALONG THE F3—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10452 NEW PROPERTY FEE/TAX—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 10453 CONTAMINATED SITES—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 10454 DAMAGE TO THE HORNSBY HOSPITAL MHICU—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Local Government, Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- 10455 STUDENT NON-ATTENDANCE—Mr Kevin Humphries to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10456 DETOXIFICATION UNITS—Mr Kevin Humphries to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10457 "WESTVIEW" COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH FACILITY—Mr Kevin Humphries to ask the Minister for Local Government, Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—



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- 10458 NAPLAN TESTING—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10459 PROGRESS OF ROADWORKS—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10460 MACQUARIE FIELDS HIGH SCHOOL—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10461 LURNEA PUBLIC SCHOOL—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10462 CASULA HIGH SCHOOL—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10463 MACQUARIE FIELDS TAFE—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10464 BUS “CLUSTERING”—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10465 DEPARTMENTAL LIAISON OFFICERS—Mr Jonathan O’Dea to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 10466 DOSSIERS KEPT BY NSW POLICE—Mr Jonathan O’Dea to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—
- 10467 AERIAL SURVEILLANCE—Mr Jonathan O’Dea to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—
- 10468 INCORRECT RELEASE FROM JUVENILE JUSTICE DETENTION CENTRES—Mr Barry O’Farrell to ask the Minister for Juvenile Justice—
- 10469 COST PAID TO WORKCOVER—Mr Barry O’Farrell to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—
- 10470 INTENSIVE SUPERVISION PROGRAM—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Juvenile Justice—
- 10471 NSW SCHOOL CERTIFICATE—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10472 LIVESTOCK HEALTH AND PEST AUTHORITIES—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—
- 10473 KINGSCLIFF TAFE COLLEGE—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10474 TWEED HOSPITAL—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10475 STAMP DUTY COLLECTED FROM HOUSE PURCHASES—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Special Minister of State—
- 10476 CHILD HEALTH CARE DIFFICULTIES—Mrs Jillian Skinner to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10477 PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION REPORT—Mrs Jillian Skinner to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10478 NURSING STAFF MANAGERS AT NEPEAN HOSPITAL—Mrs Jillian Skinner to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10479 WARRIEWOOD SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—
- 10480 EXTENSION OF PEDESTRIAN SAFETY BARRIERS—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10481 COMPLAINTS BY MONA VALE HOSPITAL STAFF—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10482 WATER MAIN RENEWAL PROJECT—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—
- 10483 STAFF RESIGNATIONS FROM MONA VALE AND MANLY HOSPITALS—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

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- 10484 UNFLUED GAS HEATERS—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10485 BURNT BRIDGE CREEK DEVIATION—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10486 WAKEHURST PARKWAY AND PITTWATER ROAD ROADWORKS—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10487 BIRTHS AT MANLY AND MONA VALE HOSPITALS—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10488 WARRELL CREEK TO URUNGA PROJECT—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—
- 10489 COMMUNITY HALL RENEWAL GRANTS—Mr John Turner to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—
- 10490 TEACHER RESIGNATIONS—Mr John Williams to ask the Minister for Education and Training—

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(Paper No. 202)

- 10491 DRUNK AND DISORDERLY OFFENCES—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—
- 10492 PEOPLE PRESENTED TO EMERGENCY WARDS—APRIL—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10493 PEOPLE PRESENTED TO EMERGENCY WARDS—MAY—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10494 PEOPLE PRESENTED TO EMERGENCY WARDS—JUNE—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10495 BIOMASS GENERATOR—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—
- 10496 PAMBULA HOSPITAL—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10497 EDEN AND SOUTHERN REGIONAL FOREST AGREEMENT—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 10498 MARINE RESERVES IN COMMONWEALTH WATERS—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—
- 10499 STRICKLAND HOUSE ESTATE—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—
- 10500 PUBLIC SECTOR REFORM—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 10501 NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE SCHEME—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 10502 STAFF EMPLOYED—ENFORCEMENT OF SMOKE-FREE AREAS—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10503 INFRINGEMENTS ISSUED—SMOKE-FREE AREAS—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10504 SMOKE FREE WORKPLACE POLICY DIRECTIVE—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

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- 10505 SMOKE FREE WORKPLACE POLICY DIRECTIVE—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10506 REVENUE RAISED FROM FINES—SMOKE-FREE AREAS—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10507 SMOKE FREE WORKPLACE POLICY DIRECTIVE—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10508 GOVERNMENT ANTI-SMOKING CAMPAIGNS—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10509 JUVENILE DETENTION CENTRES—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Minister for Juvenile Justice—
- 10510 JUVENILE DETENTION FACILITIES—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Minister for Juvenile Justice—
- 10511 POSITIVE AGEING GRANT 2009 APPLICATIONS—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—
- 10512 COST OF ADMINISTERING THE YOUTH DRUG AND ALCOHOL COURT—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health representing the Attorney General, Minister for Citizenship, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 10513 SMOKE FREE WORKPLACE POLICY DIRECTIVE—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10514 OUT-OF-HOME CARE PLACEMENTS—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—
- 10515 CASEWORKERS—NSW POLICE—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—
- 10516 CASEWORKERS—NSW DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10517 CASEWORKERS—NSW HEALTH—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10518 GOVERNMENT PROVIDED VEHICLE—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 10519 DISUSED MUNITIONS DEPOT—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 10520 CLIENTS OF DOCS IN WAKEHURST ELECTORATE—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—
- 10521 MAINTENANCE AND SERVICE STAFF—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10522 MANLY HOSPITAL AND MONA VALE HOSPITAL—ASBESTOS—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10523 MONA VALE HOSPITAL AND MANLY HOSPITAL VISITS—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10524 MEETING WITH CHAIRPERSONS OF MEDICAL STAFF COUNCILS—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10525 ILLEGALLY DUMPED ASBESTOS—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—
- 10526 PROPOSED ORCHARD HILLS WASTE FACILITY—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

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- 10527 FORESTS NSW JOBS—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services representing the Minister for State and Regional Development, Minister for Mineral and Forest Resources, Minister for Major Events, Minister for the Central Coast—
- 10528 NSW SOLAR BONUS SCHEME—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform—
- 10529 LACHLAN RIVER—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—
- 10530 PAYMENT OF RENT FOR IMPRISONED TENANTS—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10531 HOUSING FOR HOMELESS PEOPLE—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 10532 PEOPLE DETAINED—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—
- 10533 BUILDING THE EDUCATION REVOLUTION—TOTTENHAM CANTEEN—Mr Kevin Humphries to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10534 PLANNING ASSESSMENT COMMISSION—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—
- 10535 GARDENS OF STONE—MINING—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services representing the Minister for State and Regional Development, Minister for Mineral and Forest Resources, Minister for Major Events, Minister for the Central Coast—
- 10536 GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION TARGET—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 10537 ASTHMA SUPPORT—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10538 CYCLING SAFETY—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—
- 10539 KIDNEY DISEASE—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10540 ACTING LESSONS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 10541 IT-RELATED PROJECTS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, and Minister for Public Sector Reform—
- 10542 PARKING FINES—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Local Government, Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- 10543 UNANSWERED REPRESENTATION—Mr Barry O'Farrell to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10544 CENTRE FOR TROPICAL HORTICULTURE RESEARCH—Mr Donald Page to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—
- 10545 AMBULANCE COVER FOR STUDENTS—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 10546 TWEED-BYRON LOCAL AREA COMMAND VACANCIES—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—
- 10547 TWEED-BYRON LOCAL AREA COMMAND—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—
- 10548 HAIRY GEEBUNG—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

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- 10549 AMPEREA XIPHOCLADA VAR. PEDICELLATA—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 10550 ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURES—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, and Minister for Public Sector Reform—
- 10551 ENERGY EFFICIENCY SCHEME—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform—
- 10552 TANGLED BEDSTRAW—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 10553 AUSTRAL PILLWORT AND SQUARE RASPWORT—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 10554 BIOBANK CREDITS—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 10555 STAFF BULLYING AT NEPEAN HOSPITAL—Mrs Jillian Skinner to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10556 CONCORD REPATRIATION GENERAL HOSPITAL FORESHORE ACCESS—Mrs Jillian Skinner to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10557 COAG HEALTH REFORMS—Mrs Jillian Skinner to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10558 DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING PROPERTIES—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- 10559 MONA VALE HOSPITAL PAEDIATRIC WARD—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 10560 HAZARD REDUCING BURNING AND CLEARING—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—
- 10561 TRUCK ACCIDENT ON THE HUME HIGHWAY—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Transport and Roads—

**1 JUNE 2010**

(Paper No. 203)

- 10562 RESIDENTIAL BUILDING INSPECTIONS—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Fair Trading, Minister for the Arts—
- Over the 2008-09 financial year, how many residential building inspections were undertaken by officers of the Office of Fair Trading?
- 10563 HOME WARRANTY INSURANCE MANAGED SERVICE PROVIDERS—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Minister for State and Regional Development, Special Minister of State—

In respect of the proposed home warranty insurance scheme due to commence on 1 July 2010:

- (1) How many members or businesses will be on the proposed panel of managed service providers?
- (2) How many licensed builders does the Minister expect will require the assistance of a managed service provider in order to obtain home warranty insurance?
- (3) Will the Government require that each panel member/business has professional indemnity insurance?
- (4) What level of professional indemnity insurance will be required of a member/business on this panel?

- (5) Can a licensed builder commence a residential building project with one managed service provider and then, unilaterally, end that arrangement and carry on the same project with a different managed service provider?
  - (6) Will the Government guarantee payment to a managed service provider who undertakes a project with a builder referred by the Government or SICorp?
  - (7) Under the rules governing this panel, for how many building inspections on a particular building project can the panel member/business demand payment in advance?
  - (8) Will panel members/businesses be able to choose the geographical areas of NSW in which they will work?
  - (9) Can the Government or SICorp compel panel members/businesses to provide managed building services in any part of the State of NSW?
  - (10) How many panel members have confirmed they will provide these management services in the Albury region?
  - (11) How many panel members have confirmed they will provide these management services in the Dubbo region?
  - (12) How many panel members have confirmed they will provide these management services in the Broken Hill region?
  - (13) Should a panel member go into receivership or liquidation, does the scheme guarantee that another panel member will complete the management services obligations of the previous member?
- 10564 RECREATIONAL FISHING LICENCES—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—
- Given the statement at the Cross-Border Forum held in Albury in September 2009 that the issue of reciprocal recognition of recreational fishing licences between NSW and Victoria along the Murray River needed to be resolved as a cross-border priority:
- (1) What progress has been achieved in resolving this matter?
  - (2) Has there been any progress on the proposal to enable NSW recreational fishing licences, or the equivalent Victoria licence, to be valid for recreational fishing anywhere along the Murray River?
- 10565 CUTTAGEE LAKE FISH STOCKS—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—
- (1) What scientific data and studies have been undertaken at Cuttagee Lake into fish stocks in the past 10 years?
  - (2) Will the Minister agree to provide additional resources into the science behind fisheries in this lake and others throughout the region?
- 10566 EFFECTS OF LANDFILL ON WATER QUALITY—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- (1) Will the Government undertake a study into the effects of landfill on water quality for nearby adjoining residents who are dependent on tank water for domestic purposes?
  - (2) Has such a study ever been undertaken in NSW?
  - (3) Will the Minister assist residents near the proposed waste facility at Wolumla on the Far South Coast connect to water through the main?
- 10567 PENRITH DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTRE—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Education and Training representing the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, Minister for Volunteering, and Minister for Youth—
- In light of the demands on the Penrith Disability Resource Centre, will the Minister agree to fund an additional two advocates for people with disability in the Nepean Region?
- 10568 TRAUMA SERVICES—LISMORE BASE HOSPITAL—Mr Thomas George to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- (1) How much of the money allocated through ITIM for trauma services has been spent in rural NSW?
  - (2) Which area health services have received that money?
  - (3) Specifically, what positions in trauma have been funded in rural NSW in the last five years with money allocated either through ITIM or directly through the area health service with NSW State Government money?
  - (4) Does the Minister have a mechanism for ensuring that money allocated to trauma services actually ever reaches the target for which the targeted funding is provided?

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10569 BULLYING AT STATE HIGH SCHOOLS—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Education and Training—

- (1) What advice is given by the department to parents who complain about bullying at State High Schools?
- (2) Is the advice reportedly given by the Member for Wyong to the parents of a student to "leave the school" sanctioned by the Department of Education?
- (3) What action has the Minister taken to disassociate the department from the reported comment by the Member for Wyong?

10570 F3 SPEEDING INFRINGEMENTS—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Special Minister of State—

For each of the past three years, how many speeding infringements have been issued on the F3 Freeway:

- (a) by police;
- (b) by fixed speed cameras?

10571 BULLYING AT WADALBA COMMUNITY SCHOOL—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Education and Training—

- (1) How many complaints have been lodged with the Minister about bullying at Wadalba Community School?
- (2) Have parents from the school made representations to the Minister or her office about allegations of bullying at the school?

10572 RED GUM NATIONAL PARKS—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

- (1) Will the Minister confirm reports from the Riverina area that the National Parks and Wildlife Service recently purchased five utility vehicles and several items of heavy machinery to be used in the newly formed Red Gum National Parks?
- (2) What specific items of equipment and how many of each of these items were purchased by NPWS for use in the new National Parks?
- (3) From which businesses and in which towns were these vehicles/equipment purchased?

10573 NSW SOLAR BONUS SCHEME—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—

With reference to the NSW Solar Bonus Scheme that came into force on 1 January 2010:

- (1) Did Country Energy have available the required meters to allow measurement of the gross feed-in tariff when it was first introduced?
- (2) As of 20 May 2010, how many customers have applied to Country Energy for the installation of these meters?
- (3) As of 20 May 2010, how many of these meters have been installed?

10574 BETHUNGRA DAM—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

- (1) Given that a recommendation has now been made to the NSW Land and Property Management Authority to strengthen the Bethungra Dam wall, will the Minister approve this project in line with the recommendation?
- (2) When will this work commence, and what is its scheduled completion date?
- (3) What is the estimated cost of this project?
- (4) What was the estimated cost of the alternative of lowering the dam wall by 14 metres?

10575 IMM AND SAC EVENTS—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) How many IMMs were recorded in Hornsby Hospital in 2008 and 2009?"
- (2) How many SAC 1, 2 and 3 events occurred in 2008 and 2009?

10576 COMPUTER ROLL OUT FOR TEACHERS AND STUDENTS—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Education and Training—

What is the update on the computer roll out in the Hornsby electorate for teachers and students as at 31

May 2010?

10577 CLOSED-CIRCUIT TELEVISION—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Local Government, Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

- (1) When was closed-circuit television installed into Hornsby Hospital?
- (2) Which areas are included in CCTV?
- (3) How many days has CCTV been non-functioning over this time?

10578 PEOPLE FIRST PROGRAM—INDEPENDENT REVIEW—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—

- (1) Who has the Department of Services, Technology and Administration engaged to undertake an independent review of the savings, benefits and avoided costs achieved by the People First program since 2006-07?
- (2) When is this report due to be released?
- (3) Does the review extend to consider or review the direct and indirect program costs?

10579 PROPOSED NEW DWELLINGS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

Between now and 2031, how many new dwellings are estimated to be built in the Ku-ring-gai Council area from or on:

- (a) the SAN site;
- (b) dual occupancies;
- (c) SEPP Seniors Living;
- (d) the Masada Lindfield site;
- (e) reclassified council-owned sites;
- (f) new single dwellings;
- (g) the previously deferred sites at Lindfield and Turramurra;
- (h) isolated sites with site areas less than 1,200 square metres;
- (i) strata/company/community title properties where there are no development plans currently known of through discussions with landowners;
- (j) sub-station sites and service stations?

10580 DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

- (1) Why was the relevant draft Development Control Plan (DCP) not reviewed and approved for gazettal at the same time as the Ku-ring-gai Town Centres LEP or in the week thereafter?
- (2) What will be Ku-ring-gai Council's legal position if development applications (DAs) are lodged before the relevant DCP is approved?
- (3) How will the Regional Planning Panel deal with assessment of any DAs lodged before the relevant DCP is approved?

10581 DNA TESTING—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

In the light of there being one pathologist to 270 police officers in NSW for DNA testing, with other States having a much higher ratio of pathologists, when will the low ratio of pathologists to police in NSW be addressed?

10582 PEDESTRIAN OVERBRIDGE—GEORGE STREET, HORNSBY—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

Regarding the pedestrian overbridge in George Street, Hornsby:

- (1) Was there a "full load" and "high vehicle" risk assessment done after the temporary repair?
- (2) Was there a risk assessment done before the engineer's report?
- (3) Is the Minister aware that the bridge does not meet RTA standards?
- (4) Will the Minister ensure that early warning signs are installed regarding height issues above George



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Street?

10583 FRIDGE BUYBACK PROGRAM—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

In relation to the NSW Climate Change Fund for the Fridge Buyback program in metropolitan Sydney and Wollongong and given your advice that the scheme will expand to a number of regional centres including the Tweed (Question 6988):

When will the collection and rebate program be extended to regional residents of the State, in particular the Tweed?

10584 NSW IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 2009-2013—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Small Business, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs—

In relation to the NSW Partnership Agreement on Homelessness—NSW Implementation Plan 2009-2013:

(1) Has a detailed proposal for Year 2 been provided and if so how much funding has been allocated for Year 2?

(2) How much funding has been allocated to the Tweed Local Government Area for Year 2?

10585 HOMELESS RATES IN THE TWEED—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Small Business, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs—

In relation to homeless rates in the Tweed and given that the Tweed has the second highest homeless rate in NSW of 67 per 10,000 homeless as opposed to Sydney with 39 per 10,000 and Hunter and Illawarra with a rate of 34 per 10,000:

During Year 1, how much of the \$69 million funding for homelessness (NSW Implementation Plan 2009-2013) was allocated to Tweed Heads and how much to Sydney/Hunter/Illawarra?

10586 CARBON SAVINGS—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

(1) How much carbon will be saved each year by each specific project under the Renewable Energy Development Program since July 2007 (please list)?

(2) How much carbon does the Capital Wind Farm at Bungendore save each year?

10587 ROAD LINK BETWEEN THE M7 AND THE F3—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

(1) What plans does the Government have to reserve a corridor for a road link between the M7 at Dean Park and the F3 at Kariong?

(2) What impact will the rezoning of the Riverstone and Alex Avenue precincts in the Blacktown Local Government Area have on the creation of this corridor?

10588 ECOSYSTEMS AT CAMDEN AND YABBRA—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

(1) Why did the department pay \$1.7 million to protect 80 hectares at Camden, and yet fine Forests NSW only \$1,200 for destroying 1.7 hectares at Yabbra State Forest?

(2) Is the Minister aware that under these figures, ecosystems at Camden are worth 30 times more than at Yabbra?

(3) Did the department pay too much for the site at Camden?

(4) Was the fine at Yabbra inadequate?

10589 ASTHMA-RELATED DEATHS—Mrs Jillian Skinner to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

What has the Deputy Premier and Minister for Health done about NSW having one of the largest increases in asthma-related deaths in the 70+ years age group between 2005 and 2006?

10590 CRIMINAL RECORDS CHECKS—Mrs Jillian Skinner to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

Have criminal records checks been completed for all employees in the NSW Health System who, as a condition of employment, require such checks, including those employees of the Health Care Complaints Commission?

10591 BURNOUT OFFENCES—Mr Greg Smith to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health representing the Attorney General, Minister for Citizenship, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

How many offences have been committed due to "burnout" offences in the following years:

- (a) 2006;
- (b) 2007;
- (c) 2008;
- (d) 2009?

10592 AIR QUALITY—BROKE/SINGLETON HUNTER VALLEY—Mr George Souris to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

In relation to a reported blast that occurred on Friday 28 May at the Xstrata/Beltana coal mine at approximately 1.00 pm:

- (1) (a) Did the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (DECC) supervise this blast?  
(b) If not, what report has been given to the department relating to the blast?
- (2) Which coal mining company was responsible for the blast?
- (3) What are the conditions in relation to blasting and air quality contained within the licence?
- (4) (a) Was the fallout from the blast within the licence conditions of the coal mining company?  
(b) If not, what action is being taken?
- (5) What was the chemical make-up of that toxic looking cloud?
- (6) What were the prevailing weather conditions at the time?
- (7) Where is it anticipated that the majority of the particulates in the cloud would have landed?
- (8) Is there any further information that the Minister can provide to inform the local community?

10593 POLICE NUMBERS AT SOUTH WEST ROCKS—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

- (1) How many police officers are currently stationed at South West Rocks?
- (2) How many police officers will be stationed at South West Rocks following the opening of the new police station at Kempsey?
- (3) Are there any plans to close the police station at South West Rocks?

10594 STRAWBERRY ROAD BUS STOP—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Transport—

- (1) Given the dangerous pickup/drop off point for school children at Strawberry Road, Upper Warrell Creek Road intersection, will the Minister reconsider the bus stop for safety issues and move it to the purpose built bus shelter on Strawberry Road?
- (2) What impact does Busways have on the decision?

10595 ALLYN RIVER ROAD, ALLYNBROOK—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) What is the total cost of the damage to Allyn River Road following the floods in June 2007?
- (2) Why has it taken so long to repair the road?
- (3) Is the natural disaster funding from the NSW State Government?
- (4) Is the 3-year delay in delivering the natural disaster funding for this road a normal occurrence?
- (5) What is the estimated timetable for these repairs by the RTA/NSW Government/Dungog Shire Council?
- (6) When was the last safety report undertaken on this section of road?

10596 1995 NATIONAL COMPETITION POLICY—Mr Richard Torbay to ask the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister for Sport and Recreation—

- (1) In regard to the 1995 National Competition Policy, has the Minister and his department engaged in any anti-competitive and discriminatory practices to exclude private e-learning providers delivering RSA and RCG courses in NSW?

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- (2) Have any private sector submissions for accreditation for any e-learning course for RSA or RSG been approved by the Minister or his department?

10597 UNFLUED GAS HEATERS—Mr Richard Torbay to ask the Minister for Education and Training—

- (1) When will the report about the affects of unflued gas heaters in school classrooms be published?
- (2) How many schools in the Northern Tablelands electorate currently use unflued gas heaters in classrooms?
- (3) What steps are being taken to address health concerns arising from the use of unflued gas heaters in classrooms?

10598 CHEMOTHERAPY SERVICES—Mr John Turner to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) Are there any plans to provide chemotherapy services for public patients at the Forster Private Hospital?
- (2) If so, when will those services be available for public patients?