



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

No. 166

TUESDAY 13 AUGUST 2013

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

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Tuesday 13 August 2013

Publication of Questions	Answer to be lodged by
Q & A No. 166 (Including Question Nos 4256 to 4288)	17 September 2013

13 AUGUST 2013

(Paper No. 166)

4256 INNER CITY SOCIAL HOUSING ALLOCATION—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—

With regard to the social housing allocations in Millers Point, Dawes Point and The Rocks:

- (1) Is Housing NSW not allocating empty homes in this precinct, including homes that are in letting condition?
- (2) What assessment has the Government given to providing homes that are in letting condition to those on the waiting list such as:
 - (a) temporary accommodation for homeless people;
 - (b) emergency accommodation for those at risk in their current home;
 - (c) rehousing local tenants whose homes are unsafe and need major repairs?
- (3) What action will the Government take to increase the effective use of vacant properties and allow current tenants to remain in this precinct?

4257 NEEDLE AND SYRINGE PROGRAMS IN PRISONS—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—

Noting that the rate of infectious blood borne diseases of Australian prisoners is several times higher than the general population and the 2009 Health Inmate Survey found that 43 per cent of prisoners had used illicit drugs and nearly all those who injected reported sharing needles:

- (1) What progress has the Government made on considering a trial of a needle and syringe program in prisons?
- (2) What plans does the Government have to provide needle and syringe programs in prisons?

4258 BANKSTOWN ELECTORATE PUBLIC HOUSING—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—

What is the breakdown of public housing dwellings by number of:

- (a) bed sitters;
- (b) units (with bedroom composition);
- (c) duplexes;
- (d) villas;
- (e) free-standing houses?

4259 REGIONAL RELOCATION GRANT—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Finance and Services—

Since the Regional Relocation Grant was established, how many people have taken up the grant from:

- (a) Metropolitan Sydney;
- (b) Newcastle;
- (c) Wollongong;
- (d) The Electorate of Bankstown?

4260 HOUSING NSW MAINTENANCE—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—

Over the past 6 months, how many outstanding Housing NSW maintenance issues have there been in the Bankstown Electorate?

4261 LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL SCHEME—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Minister for Local Government, and Minister for the North Coast—

With regard to the Local Infrastructure Renewal Scheme (LIRS):

- (1) When did the LIRS begin?
- (2) What is the annual funding budget?
- (3) Since April 2011, what funding has been provided to the:
 - (a) Cessnock City Council;
 - (b) Lake Macquarie City Council;
 - (c) Newcastle City Council;

(d) Singleton Council?

4262 NSW NOW: WELCOME TO THE NEW STATE OF BUSINESS CAMPAIGN—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Premier, and Minister for Western Sydney—

With regard to the 'NSW NOW: Welcome to the new state of business' campaign:

- (1) What businesses is the campaign being aimed at?
- (2) Are there incentives being offered to entice businesses to NSW?
 - (a) If so, will these incentives be available to existing businesses?
- (3) What is being done to retain businesses in NSW who are offered opportunities interstate and overseas?
- (4) Are you aware that previous decisions, such as the removal of the cellar door subsidy, led directly to the interstate move of Cellar Masters from Sydney to South Australia, costing 300 NSW jobs?

4263 LEGAL ASSISTANCE FOR CHILDREN AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES—Mr Guy Zangari to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—

How will the Government help children and people with disabilities to secure legal assistance in compensation matters in light of funding cuts to Legal Aid NSW?

4264 CYCLISTS ROAD SAFETY—Ms Linda Burney to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

- (1) What are the current statistics for prosecution/enforcement for motorists who do not overtake safely, and do not leave enough space when overtaking a bicycle rider?
- (2) How do current statistics compare with the previous year?

4265 DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING MODIFICATIONS—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—

How many public housing properties in the Hunter Region have modifications for people with mobility problems?

4266 PUBLIC HOUSING SHORTFALL—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—

How does the Government plan to address the Auditor-General's estimate of a shortfall of 20,000 public housing properties in the Lower Hunter by 2021?

4267 GIPA APPLICATION BACKLOG—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

- (1) In the last 12 months, what percentage of applicants under the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA) have had their payment refunded because the decision of the NSW Police Force was not within 20 working days as stipulated by the act?
- (2) Is there an approximate 12 month backlog on GIPA requests within the NSW Police Force Information Access Unit & Subpoena Unit?
 - (a) If so, what are the reasons that led to this backlog?
 - (b) If so, what is the Minister doing to rectify this problem?

4268 UNMANNED RAILWAY STATIONS—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Transport—

- (1) Which railway stations in New South Wales are unmanned for part of the day?
- (2) How long are these stations unmanned?

4269 REVIEW OF COUNSELLING SERVICES—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

- (1) Is there a review of generalist health services within Hunter New England Area Health Service?
 - (a) If so, is there a review of counselling services?
 - (b) If so, are there any plans to reduce counselling services currently operating from Wallsend Community Health Centre or from any other Community Health Centre?

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4270 SUNFLOWER CENTRE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Healthy Lifestyles, and Minister for Western New South Wales—

Why did the Newcastle based Sunflower Centre not have its Community Development Program grant rolled over following the closure of NSW Health's NGO Grant Program in July 2013?

4271 FISHERIES NEW SOUTH WALES STAKEHOLDER COMMENT—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Small Business—

In the recently released discussion paper 'Review of NSW recreational saltwater and freshwater fishing rules', the following statement is included on page 1 of the submission form:

"Fisheries NSW is interested in the quality, type and nature of stakeholder comments not just the number of submissions expressing a particular view on an issue."

- (1) What criteria does Fisheries NSW use to classify the quality of a stakeholder comment?
- (2) Does Fisheries NSW take into account the quantity of submissions expressing a view as well as the quality of submissions when reviewing stakeholder comments?

4272 COAL DUST ANALYSIS—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—

Has the Environmental Protection Agency contracted a statistical expert to re-analyse the data collected by the Australia Rail and Track Corporation in regards to coal dust levels from freight trains in the Hunter Region, as the original analysis of the data was found to be flawed?

- (a) If not, why not?

4273 CHILDREN AT RISK OF ABUSE—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Women—

- (1) In 2012, how many children in the Hunter Region were reported to the Department of Community Services as being at serious risk of abuse?
- (2) Of those children reported, how many were visited by a government caseworker?

4274 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT LEVIES—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Treasurer, and Minister for Industrial Relations—

How much, and in respect of which developments, have community development levies, been paid by Local Aboriginal Land Councils from 1 April 2011 to date?

4275 HOXTON PARK BP SERVICE STATION—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Minister for Finance and Services—

- (1) How often has Workcover inspected the BP Service Station on Hoxton Park Road, Liverpool since 1 January 2013?
- (2) Has the Improvement Notice issued by Workcover for this site, with an expiry date of 10 June 2013, been complied with?
 - (a) If not, why not?
- (3) What prosecutions, if any, resulted from earlier fires and explosions on this site?
 - (a) If there were no prosecutions, why not?

4276 FIRE STATION CLOSURES—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

Since 1 July 2013 on which dates and for how long have the following been closed:

- (1) Macquarie Fields Fire Station;
- (2) Cabramatta Fire Station;
- (3) Liverpool Fire Station?

4277 FIRE STATION CLOSURES—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

Since 26 February 2013 on which dates and for how long have the following been closed:

- (a) Busby Fire Station;

- (b) Horningsea Park Fire Station;
- (c) Bonnyrigg Heights Fire Station?

4278 TEACHERS AIDES—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Minister for Education—

- (1) What financial allocation is made to the Liverpool electorate for teachers' aides in Government schools?
- (2) Has this allocation decreased or increased in the last three financial years?
- (3) Does the Government have a policy of using parental volunteers rather than employing teachers' aides in schools in New South Wales or in the Liverpool electorate?
- (4) If so, how much money was not spent in the last financial year in the Liverpool electorate by using parental volunteers rather than employing teachers' aides?

4279 FUNDING FOR TRAINING—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Minister for Education—

- (1) Have State Government grants or funding been paid to the following entities since 1 July 2011:
 - (a) Precision Training Australia;
 - (b) Insight Training Group;
 - (c) Precision Industries and Employment?
- (2) If so, how much and in what periods?

4280 SHARED CELLS IN CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—

How many inmates in correctional facilities shared cells with another inmate or inmates as at:

- (a) 1 January 2013;
- (b) 1 July 2013;
- (c) 1 August 2013?

4281 CORRECTIVE SERVICES—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—

- (1) Has Corrective Services New South Wales completed the future plan, with an outlook of up to 2030?
- (2) If so,
 - (a) Where may it be viewed;
 - (b) Which facilities are identified for closure if prisoner numbers reduce further?
- (3) If not, when will it be completed?

4282 1 HOXTON PARK ROAD—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research—

What proposals does the Government have for 1 Hoxton Park Road, Liverpool?

4283 JOBS AT YETTA DHINNAKKAL—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—

- (1) How many jobs were advertised for positions at Yetta Dhinnakkal in the period 1 December 2010 to 27 March 2011?
- (2) How many of these positions were filled?
- (3) How many jobs have been advertised for positions at Yetta Dhinnakkal in the period from 27 March 2011 to 13 August 2013?

4284 MOTORING OFFENCES DETECTED BY POLICE—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—

How many cars have been confiscated and forfeited to the Crown in the current financial year?

4285 NUMBER OF MOTORING OFFENCES SINCE JULY 2012—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Finance and Services—

- (1) Since 1 July 2012, how many motorists have been caught exceeding the speed limit by more than 45 kilometres per hour?
- (2) How many motorists referred to in question (1) have had their number plate confiscated?
- (3) Since 1 July 2012, how many motorists have been convicted for burnout offences?

4286 CENTRAL STATION AVENUE OF HONOUR—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Transport—

In relation to the 'Avenue of Honour' in remembrance of the service and sacrifice of railwaymen that

existed along the western wall of the concourse above platforms 24 and 25 at Central Station:

- (1) When was the 'Avenue of Honour' removed and replaced with commercial advertisements?
- (2) Why was it replaced?
- (3) Who approved the replacement?
- (4) Where are the honour boards now located?
- (5) Will the Minister order that they be reinstated?

4287 WORKERS COMPENSATION BENEFITS—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Treasurer, and Minister for Industrial Relations—

- (1) Since the introduction of the new workers compensation laws, how many workers in New South Wales have been notified that their workers compensation benefits are to be reduced or removed?
- (2) How many of these workers reside in the following postcodes:
 - (a) 2770;
 - (b) 2766;
 - (c) 2761?

4288 CYCLIST FATALITIES AND INJURIES—Mr Jamie Parker to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Minister for the Hunter, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

- (1) Regarding cycling fatalities for the calendar year ending 2012 and the 2013 calendar year to date:
 - (a) Of the fatalities that were a result of motorist error, how many of these were subsequently the subject of police investigation?
 - (b) Of the fatalities that were a result of motorist error, how many of these were subsequently charged?
 - (i) What was the nature of the charges?
 - (ii) What, if any, penalty was issued?
- (2) Regarding cycling injuries for the calendar year ending 2012 and the 2013 calendar year to date:
 - (a) Of the injuries that were a result of motorist error, how many of these were subsequently the subject of police investigation?
 - (b) Of the injuries that were a result of motorist error, how many of these were subsequently charged?
 - (i) What was the nature of the charges?
 - (ii) What, if any, penalty was issued?