



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

**QUESTIONS
AND
ANSWERS**

No. 53

FRIDAY 19 JULY 2019

(The Questions and Answers Paper published for the first sitting day in each week will contain, by number and title, all unanswered questions, together with questions to which answers have been received on the previous sitting and any new questions. On subsequent days, new questions are printed, as are questions to which answers were received the previous day. Consequently the full text of any question will be printed only twice: when notice is given; and, when answered.)

Notice given on date shown

Legislative Council Questions and Answers No. 53— Friday 19 July 2019

Publication of Questions	Answer to be lodged by
Q & A No. 38 (Including Question Nos 0249 to 0254)	19 July 2019
Q & A No. 39 (Including Question Nos 0255 to 0255)	22 July 2019
Q & A No. 40 (Including Question Nos 0256 to 0259)	23 July 2019
Q & A No. 41 (Including Question Nos 0260 to 0271)	24 July 2019
Q & A No. 42 (Including Question Nos 0272 to 0272)	25 July 2019
Q & A No. 43 (Questions—Nil)	-
Q & A No. 44 (Including Question Nos 0273 to 0275)	29 July 2019
Q & A No. 45 (Including Question Nos 0276 to 0276)	30 July 2019
Q & A No. 46 (Questions—Nil)	-
Q & A No. 47 (Questions—Nil)	-
Q & A No. 48 (Questions—Nil)	-
Q & A No. 49 (Including Question Nos 0277 to 0278)	05 August 2019
Q & A No. 50 (Including Question Nos 0279 to 0280)	06 August 2019
Q & A No. 51 (Including Question Nos 0281 to 0286)	07 August 2019
Q & A No. 52 (Questions—Nil)	-
Q & A No. 53 (Including Question Nos 0287 to 0298)	09 August 2019

28 JUNE 2019

(Paper No. 38)

*249 HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH—DRINKING WATER QUALITY MONITORING—Ms Faehrmann asked the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

- (1) How many breaches of the guideline values for microbial (including bacteria, protozoa, cyanobacteria and viruses), chemical and physical characteristics specified in the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines have been recorded in the NSW Drinking Water Database since 2010?
 - (a) Where have these breaches occurred?
 - (b) On what dates did these breaches occur?
 - (c) For each breach, what substances were detected, and in what amounts?
- (2) What information is provided to authorities, councils and the community in the event of a breach of the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines?
- (3) What information has been given to residents in communities when the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines have been breached?

Answer—

(1)-(3)

The NSW Drinking Water Database holds data for a number of regional water utilities, which are mostly local councils. Each water utility is responsible for management of the safety of the drinking water supply.

Each water utility is responsible for providing information to communities in the event of water contamination that poses a risk to health. Since 2013, NSW Health has posted online information provided by water utilities to communities in the event of water contamination and other incidents. Sydney Water Corporation and the Hunter Water Corporation publish summaries of their drinking water monitoring online.

*250 EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING—ASHBURY PUBLIC SCHOOL—Ms Jackson asked the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) Why three years after it was first announced in the 2016-17 Budget has no money been allocated in any State Government budget for the classroom upgrade at Ashbury Public School, including the current 2019-2020 budget?

Answer—

An upgrade project is underway at Ashbury Public School and is scheduled for completion in early 2020.

The project will provide four new permanent innovative learning spaces to meet increasing enrolment demand in the local area. Early investigations uncovered challenges in renovating existing infrastructure. Consequently a revision of the proposed scope of works was required before construction could begin.

The construction tender has been awarded and it is anticipated that construction will commence by the end of July 2019.

*251 EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING—NSW SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES—Ms Jackson asked the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) Given that the NSW School of Languages opened at its new Petersham location in 2018, why has \$1.098 million been allocated to the relocation of the school in the 2019-2020 State budget?
 - (a) What activities and projects will this fund?
 - (b) What work is outstanding in relation to the relocation of the school and is any of this work not funded in the amount allocated to the project in this year's budget?

Answer—

For completed projects like the NSW School of Languages, the Government has an ongoing liability until the defect period ends. Funds remaining after this period are relocated to other projects.

*252 HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH—ROYAL PRINCE ALFRED HOSPITAL—Ms Jackson asked the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

(1) Of the \$5 million allocated in the 2019-2020 State Budget for "Planning Future New Works," how much will be apportioned to Royal Prince Alfred Hospital?

Answer—

In March 2019 the NSW Government announced \$750 million for the Stage 1 redevelopment of Royal Prince Alfred Hospital. The Stage 1 redevelopment will include an expansion of the Emergency and Imaging departments, reconfiguration and expansion of operating theatres and integration of ambulatory care services.

*253 TRANSPORT AND ROADS—BUS PRIORITY INFRASTRUCTURE—Ms Jackson asked the Special Minister of State, Minister for the Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs, and the Arts, Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Transport and Roads—

(1) Is any of the \$20 million allocated in the 2019-2020 State Budget to Bus Priority Infrastructure (including Rapid Transit Planning) to fund planning or any other works associated with proposed rapid bus transit along Parramatta Road?

Answer—

I am advised:

Transport for NSW has been boosting bus services on Parramatta Road between Burwood and the City in recent years, including additional services on routes such as the 461 between Burwood and the City.

No funds are currently allocated from the \$20 million from the 2019-20 State Budget allocated to the Bus Priority Infrastructure Program (BPIP) to planning or works associated with rapid bus transit along Parramatta Road.

The BPIP program to date has focused efforts on identifying opportunities to improve access to centres in close proximity to Parramatta Road to support local community access to and from transport hubs and local town centres.

Detailed planning work will be undertaken during 2019-20 to identify further bus service enhancements and any infrastructure works required to support Parramatta Road as a future rapid bus corridor, in alignment with Future Transport 2056 priorities. Any opportunities to introduce this as a rapid bus corridor sooner will be identified as part of this work.

*254 TRANSPORT AND ROADS—LIGHT RAIL VEHICLES FOR THE INNER WEST LINE—Ms Jackson asked the Special Minister of State, Minister for the Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs, and the Arts, Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Transport and Roads—

I refer to the answer to Question 25 in the Legislative Assembly Question and Answer paper that states "further work is underway to increase capacity (of the Inner West Light Rail) in the short term. This includes consideration of procuring four additional light rail vehicles for the Inner West Light Rail".

(1) Why has no money been allocated to procuring more light rail vehicles for the Inner West Line in the 2019-2020 State Budget?

Answer—

I am advised:

Funding for the procurement of the four additional light rail vehicles for the Inner West Light Rail will be sought once the final business case is finalised.

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- 287 AGRICULTURE AND WESTERN NEW SOUTH WALES—FERAL DEER—Mr Field to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—
- (1) In regards to the estimated number of deer:
 - (a) What is the current population estimate for NSW?
 - (b) What is the current population estimate for the South East Local Land Services region?
 - (2) Under the Regional Strategic Pest Animal Management Plans developed for each of the local land service regions, what specific actions and funding has been allocated to achieve deer containment and eradication targets? Please provide a breakdown in the following regions:
 - (a) Central Tablelands?
 - (b) Central West?
 - (c) Greater Sydney?
 - (d) Hunter?
 - (e) Murray?
 - (f) North Coast?
 - (g) North West?
 - (h) Northern Tablelands?
 - (i) Riverina?
 - (j) South East?
 - (k) Western?
- 288 AGRICULTURE AND WESTERN NEW SOUTH WALES—NSW MARINE ESTATE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2018-2028—Mr Field to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—
- (1) In regards to funding under the NSW Marine Estate Management Strategy 2018-2028:
 - (a) How much money has been allocated under this strategy in total?
 - (b) How much money has been spent to date?
- 289 WATER, PROPERTY AND HOUSING—WATER DIVIDENDS IN THE NSW BUDGET 2019-20—Mr Field to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—
- (1) In the 2019-20 Budget Statement, dividends from water are predicted to decline from \$1,282 million for 2018-19 down to \$435 million in 2022-23.
 - (a) What is the reason for this decline in dividend?
 - (b) What proportion of the dividend comes from Sydney Water?
- 290 AGRICULTURE AND WESTERN NEW SOUTH WALES—FERAL HORSES IN KOSCIUSZKO NATIONAL PARK AND SOUTH EAST REGION—Mr Field to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—
- (1) Are feral horses in and around Kosciuszko National Park considered a biosecurity risk under the Biosecurity Act 2015?
 - (2) Does the National Parks and Wildlife Service have a 'biosecurity duty' under section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 2015 in regards to feral horses?
 - (3) In regards to the number of feral horses on private land:
 - (a) What is the current population estimate for NSW?
 - (b) What is the current population estimate for the South East Local Land Services region?
 - (4) What action is the Government taking to reduce the impact and spread of feral horses on private property, particularly in the South East Local Land Services region?

- 291 JOBS, INVESTMENT, TOURISM AND WESTERN SYDNEY—WARRAGAMBA DAM FUNDING—Mr Field to ask the Minister for Finance and Small Business representing the Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney—
- (1)
 - (a) How much money has been spent on the proposal to raise the Warragamba Dam to date?
 - (b) How much of this has come from the Climate Change Fund?
 - (c) What specific project elements for example preparation of the Environmental Impact Assessment, has this funding been spent on?
 - (d) What are the specific costs of each element?
- 292 ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT—RAINFOREST REMAPPING—Mr Field to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Energy and Environment—
- The Natural Resource Commission states that the NSW Government has ruled out reassessing rainforest mapping on coastal state forests.
- (1) Can you confirm that this has been ruled out?
 - (2) If so, why was reassessment of rainforest mapping ruled out but not reassessment of old growth remapping?
- 293 PLANNING AND PUBLIC SPACES—RAINFOREST REMAPPING—Mr Field to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—
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 - (2) If so, why was reassessment of rainforest mapping ruled out but not reassessment of old growth remapping?
- 294 AGRICULTURE AND WESTERN NEW SOUTH WALES—BIOSECURITY REPORTING—Mr Field to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—
- (1) Consistent with the Natural Resources Commission 2016 State-wide Review of Pest Animal Management, is the Government considering re-establishing the NSW Biosecurity Advisory Committee?
 - (a) If not, why not?
 - (b) If so, when?
 - (2) Is the Government maintaining its commitment to release a State of Biosecurity Report every four years noting that the last report was released in late 2017?
 - (a) If so, who will produce this report if the NSW Biosecurity Advisory Committee is not re-established?
- 295 AGRICULTURE AND WESTERN NEW SOUTH WALES—LOCAL GOVERNMENT BIOSECURITY OFFICERS—Mr Field to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—
- (1) How many local government staff are currently 'authorised officers' under the Biosecurity Act 2015?
 - (a) What specific local government areas are they from?
- 296 ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT—OLD GROWTH FOREST REMAPPING PROCESS—Mr Field to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Energy and Environment—

- (1) Has the Government commenced remapping work in any new areas of state forest currently classified as old growth, other than the 13 areas remapped as part of the original Natural Resources Commission pilot study?
 - (a) If so, was the remapping protocol for private forests used?
 - (b) If not, what criteria was used for remapping?
 - (c) Which state forest compartments have been remapped?
 - (d) For each compartment that has been remapped:
 - (i) When was remapping commenced and when did it conclude?
 - (ii) What percentage of old growth forest was found to be incorrectly mapped?
 - (iii) What is the total increase in the net harvestable area?
 - (iv) How many new hectares of old growth forest were identified?
 - (v) Was on ground surveying conducted?
 - (vi) Why was this areas chosen for remapping?
- (2) Has any work been conducted to verify the wood supply shortfall identified in the Natural Resource Commission Supplementary Advice?
 - (a) If so, what is the process and what is the conclusion or when is it expected to conclude?
 - (b) If not, why not?

297 PLANNING AND PUBLIC SPACES—OLD GROWTH FOREST REMAPPING PROCESS—Mr Field to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

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 - (b) If not, why not?

298 PLANNING AND PUBLIC SPACES—NSW CLEAN COAL INNOVATION FUND—Mr Field to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

- (1) How many projects were provided funding under the Clean Coal Innovation Fund for the financial years 2018-19 and 2019-20?
 - (a) What are the name and descriptions of the projects?
 - (b) Who were the recipients of the funding?
 - (c) How much money was provided to each project?

David Blunt
Clerk of the Parliaments

Authorised by the Parliament of New South Wales