



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

2019-20-21

FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

No. 579

TUESDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 2021

(The Questions and Answers Paper published on Monday to Friday of each week will contain, by number and title, all questions to which answers have been received the previous day and any new questions asked that 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.

Publication of Questions	Answer to be lodged by
Q & A No. 564 (Questions—Nil)	-
Q & A No. 565 (Including Question Nos 7192 to 7196)	8 September 2021
Q & A No. 566 (Including Question Nos 7197 to 7206)	9 September 2021
Q & A No. 567 (Including Question Nos 7207 to 7212)	10 September 2021
Q & A No. 568 (Including Question Nos 7213 to 7218)	13 September 2021
Q & A No. 569 (Including Question Nos 7219 to 7272)	14 September 2021
Q & A No. 570 (Including Question Nos 7273 to 7275)	15 September 2021
Q & A No. 571 (Including Question Nos 7276 to 7278)	16 September 2021
Q & A No. 572 (Including Question Nos 7279 to 7289)	17 September 2021
Q & A No. 573 (Including Question Nos 7290 to 7342)	20 September 2021
Q & A No. 574 (Including Question Nos 7343 to 7345)	21 September 2021
Q & A No. 575 (Including Question Nos 7346 to 7349)	22 September 2021
Q & A No. 576 (Including Question Nos 7350 to 7359)	23 September 2021
Q & A No. 577 (Including Question Nos 7360 to 7375)	24 September 2021
Q & A No. 578 (Including Question Nos 7376 to 7390)	27 September 2021
Q & A No. 579 (Including Question Nos 7391 to 7402)	28 September 2021

19 AUGUST 2021

(Paper No. 566)

* 7202 CUSTOMER SERVICE—SUPPORT PACKAGES—The Hon. Daniel Mookhey to ask the Minister for Finance and Small Business representing the Minister for Customer Service, and Minister for Digital—

- (1) For the COVID-19 Disaster Payment, please provide:
 - (a) Number of successful recipients for each Local Government Area?
 - (b) Total dollar amount provided for each Local Government Area?
 - (c) Number of successful recipients for each State Electorate?
 - (d) Total dollar amount provided for each State Electorate?
- (2) For the COVID-19 Micro Business Grants, please provide:
 - (a) Number of successful recipients for each Local Government Area?
 - (b) Total dollar amount provided for each Local Government Area?
 - (c) Number of successful recipients for each State Electorate?
 - (d) Total dollar amount provided for each State Electorate?
- (3) For the COVID-19 Business Grants, please provide:
 - (a) Number of successful recipients for each Local Government Area?
 - (b) Total dollar amount provided for each Local Government Area?
 - (c) Number of successful recipients for each State Electorate?
 - (d) Total dollar amount provided for each State Electorate?
- (4) For the JobSaver program, please provide:
 - (a) Number of successful recipients for each Local Government Area?
 - (b) Total dollar amount provided for each Local Government Area?
 - (c) Number of successful recipients for each State Electorate?
 - (d) Total dollar amount provided for each State Electorate?
- (5) For the payroll tax reduction measure, please provide:
 - (a) Number of successful recipients for each Local Government Area?
 - (b) Total dollar amount provided for each Local Government Area?
 - (c) Number of successful recipients for each State Electorate?
 - (d) Total dollar amount provided for each State Electorate?

Answer—

On behalf of the Minister, I can advise you that:

- (1) This data is held by Services Australia, the Commonwealth Agency that collects and administers the Scheme for the Commonwealth government.
- (2-5) These questions are best directed to me as the Minister for Finance and Small Business.

* 7203 FINANCE AND SMALL BUSINESS—SUPPORT PACKAGES—The Hon. Daniel Mookhey to ask the Minister for Finance and Small Business—

- (1) For the COVID-19 Disaster Payment, please provide:
 - (a) Number of successful recipients for each Local Government Area?
 - (b) Total dollar amount provided for each Local Government Area?

- (c) Number of successful recipients for each State Electorate?
- (d) Total dollar amount provided for each State Electorate?
- (2) For the COVID-19 Micro Business Grants, please provide:
 - (a) Number of successful recipients for each Local Government Area?
 - (b) Total dollar amount provided for each Local Government Area?
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 - (a) Number of successful recipients for each Local Government Area?
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 - (a) Number of successful recipients for each Local Government Area?
 - (b) Total dollar amount provided for each Local Government Area?
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 - (a) Number of successful recipients for each Local Government Area?
 - (b) Total dollar amount provided for each Local Government Area?
 - (c) Number of successful recipients for each State Electorate?
 - (d) Total dollar amount provided for each State Electorate?

Answer—

- (1) This data is held by Services Australia, the Commonwealth Agency that collects and administers the Scheme for the Commonwealth government.
- (2) As at 6 September 2021, payments totalling \$195 million had been made to 33,081 applicants for the 2021 COVID-19 Micro-business Grant had been approved. A breakdown by LGA is set out in Attachment A.
Data is not collected by electorate.
- (3) As at 6 September 2021, payments totalling \$1.6 billion had been made to 129,540 applicants for the 2021 COVID-19 Business Grant. A breakdown by LGA is set out in Attachment B.
Data is not collected by electorate.
- (4) As at 6 September 2021, payments totalling \$1.8 billion had been made to 133,544 applicants for JobSaver. A breakdown by LGA is set out in Attachment C.
Data is not collected by electorate.
- (5) Payroll tax customers whose total grouped Australian wages for the 2021/22 financial year are \$10 million or less, and who are eligible for the 2021 COVID-19 Business Grant or for JobSaver, will have their annual tax liability automatically reduced by 50 per cent.
No data on the number of businesses which have benefited will be available until after the 2021/22 annual reconciliation which is scheduled for 28 July 2022.
Please see the Parliament's website for attachments.

* 7204 TREASURER—SUPPORT PACKAGES—The Hon. Daniel Mookhey to ask the Minister for Finance and Small Business representing the Treasurer—

- (1) For the COVID-19 Disaster Payment, please provide:
 - (a) Number of successful recipients for each Local Government Area?
 - (b) Total dollar amount provided for each Local Government Area?
 - (c) Number of successful recipients for each State Electorate?
 - (d) Total dollar amount provided for each State Electorate?
- (2) For the COVID-19 Micro Business Grants, please provide:
 - (a) Number of successful recipients for each Local Government Area?
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 - (c) Number of successful recipients for each State Electorate?
 - (d) Total dollar amount provided for each State Electorate?
- (3) For the COVID-19 Business Grants, please provide:
 - (a) Number of successful recipients for each Local Government Area?
 - (b) Total dollar amount provided for each Local Government Area?
 - (c) Number of successful recipients for each State Electorate?
 - (d) Total dollar amount provided for each State Electorate?
- (4) For the JobSaver program, please provide:
 - (a) Number of successful recipients for each Local Government Area?
 - (b) Total dollar amount provided for each Local Government Area?
 - (c) Number of successful recipients for each State Electorate?
 - (d) Total dollar amount provided for each State Electorate?
- (5) For the payroll tax reduction measure, please provide:
 - (a) Number of successful recipients for each Local Government Area?
 - (b) Total dollar amount provided for each Local Government Area?
 - (c) Number of successful recipients for each State Electorate?
 - (d) Total dollar amount provided for each State Electorate?

Answer—

On behalf of the Treasurer, I can advise you that:

- (1) This data is held by Services Australia, the Commonwealth Agency that collects and administers the Scheme for the Commonwealth government.
- (2-5) These questions are best directed to me as the Minister for Finance and Small Business.

7 SEPTEMBER 2021

(Paper No. 579)

7391 AGRICULTURE AND WESTERN NEW SOUTH WALES—NSW MAINLAND MARINE PARK NETWORK DRAFT—The Hon. Mark Banasiak to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—

- (1) Have the Marine Park Advisory Committees been updated on the NSW Mainland Marine Park Network Draft Management Plan?

- (a) If so, when did this happen?
- (b) Has the Minister endorsed and approved this Draft Plan?
- (c) When will community consultation begin?
 - (i) How long will it go for?
- (2) Will this Draft Management Plan contain lines on maps when it comes to Sanctuary Zones?
 - (a) Will it be completed by the end of the year?
- (3) Have the 5 Marine Park Advisory Committees seen the actual Draft Management Plan including any zoning maps before being publicly released?
 - (a) If no, why not?
- (4) Have the 5 Marine Park Advisory Committees made any recommendations to increase or decrease the size of Sanctuary Zones as part of the Draft Plan?
- (5) Has the Minister sought any input or advice for this Draft from any non-government appointed recreational fishing representatives or peak bodies?
 - (a) If so, which ones?
- (6) Have all the positions for recreational fishing and spearfishing members and alternate members been filled on these Marine Park Advisory Committees?
 - (a) If not, what positions have not been filled?
 - (i) In which Marine Park Advisory Committees are these vacancies?
- (7) How will this Draft Management plan be resourced?
 - (a) How much money will be allocated to each marine park?
- (8) Will all proposed lockouts of recreational anglers be scientific evidence based with regards to Sanctuary Zones in the Draft Plan?
 - (a) Can you explain the role of a Sanctuary Zone?
 - (b) Will Sanctuary Zones be used to manage user conflict – e.g. Fishers / SCUBA divers?
 - (c) Will fishers be expected to trade off anything under this Draft Plan?
- (9) Can you define low and minimal fishing practices that might be included in the Draft Plan?
- (10) What localised baseline data will be provided as part of the Draft Management Plan to support the existing Sanctuary Zones in these 5 NSW Mainland Marine Park Network?

7392 AGRICULTURE AND WESTERN NEW SOUTH WALES—DPI FISHERIES—The Hon. Mark Banasiak to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—

- (1) The Recreational Fishing NSW Advisory Council, the Recreational Fishing Saltwater Trust Expenditure Committee and the Recreational Fishing Freshwater Trust Expenditure Committee comprise Department of Primary Industries (DPI) fisheries managers and ministerially-appointed representatives from the recreational fishing community. They are funded by New South Wales recreational fishing licences, receiving about \$15 million per year which is then distributed to applicants such as recreational anglers, fishing organisations, universities, councils, community groups and other individuals.

There has been notable delays in getting reports, minutes and application approvals (or rejections) approved by the minister's office and therefore published, in some cases over a year before this information is made public:

- (a) What is the reason for the repeated delays?
- (b) When is the minister's office expected to catch up with approving recommendations?
- (c) What is the number of applications that are caught in this backlog?

- (d) What is the dollar value of those projects?
- (e) What effect does the backlog of approvals have on the operations of DPI Fisheries, who fund more than 60 staff from these Trust Funds?
- (f) How are applications by DPI Fisheries for funds handled, compared to applications from other organisations and individuals?
 - (i) Are they fast-tracked or considered separately so that DPI Fisheries work is not interrupted?

7393 PLANNING AND PUBLIC SPACES—AEROTROPOLIS PENRITH AREA—The Hon. Mark Banasiak to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

- (1) As the Minister with direct responsibility for the Aerotropolis.

In July 2019, residents in the Local Government Area (LGA) of Aerotropolis Penrith area received supplementary Notices of Assessment that was issued by the Valuer General of NSW for the period 01/07/2019. The Supplementary Notice also amended the zoning for the property as Enterprise, instead of Rural Landscape for the 2019 period.

The Supplementary Notice was issued under s60A(1)A of the Valuation of Land Act 1916 No 2, which holds that a Supplementary Notice may be issued if Council notifies that a change in Zoning has occurred.

Given that no such change in zoning occurred until the 1 October when under s2(1) of the State Environment Planning Policy (Western Sydney Aerotropolis) 2020 NSW the policy commenced:

- (a) Why were these supplementary notices issued citing a zoning change that hadn't occurred?
- (b) Who instructed the Valuer General to reflect a zoning change in supplementary notices that had not yet occurred?
- (c) What calculations/estimates were made by your department on the increase in land tax and council rates to be gained by this pre-emptive change?
- (d) Was this pre-emptive change designed to increase rates, therefore encouraging residents within the area of the proposed western Sydney airport to sell their properties?
- (e) Why were larger landholders within the LGA of Aerotropolis Penrith given discounted land valuations compared to smaller landholders up to 2018?
- (f) Why in 2019 after the sale of some of these larger landholdings did the land valuation rapidly increase in some cases by 700 per cent?

7394 WATER, PROPERTY AND HOUSING—AEROTROPOLIS PENRITH AREA—The Hon. Mark Banasiak to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

- (1) As the minister with direct responsibility for the Valuer General.

In July 2019, residents in the Local Government Area (LGA) of Aerotropolis Penrith area received supplementary Notices of Assessment that was issued by the Valuer General of NSW for the period 01/07/2019. The Supplementary Notice also amended the zoning for the property as Enterprise, instead of Rural Landscape for the 2019 period.

The Supplementary Notice was issued under s60A(1)A of the Valuation of Land Act 1916 No 2, which holds that a Supplementary Notice may be issued if Council notifies that a change in Zoning has occurred.

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- (a) Why were these supplementary notices issued citing a zoning change that hadn't occurred?
- (b) Who instructed the Valuer General to reflect a zoning change in supplementary notices that had not yet occurred?

- (c) What calculations/estimates were made by your department on the increase in land tax and council rates to be gained by this pre-emptive change?
- (d) Was this pre-emptive change designed to increase rates, therefore encouraging residents within the area of the proposed western Sydney airport to sell their properties?
- (e) Why were larger landholders within the LGA of Aerotropolis Penrith given discounted land valuations compared to smaller landholders up to 2018
- (f) Why in 2019 after the sale of some of these larger landholdings did the land valuation rapidly increase in some cases by 700 per cent?

7395 BETTER REGULATION AND INNOVATION—RENT REDUCTIONS FOR TENANTS—The Hon. Rose Jackson to ask the Minister for Finance and Small Business representing the Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation—

- (1) In relation to the Residential Tenancy Support Package:
 - (a) What checks and processes are being put in place to determine that rent reductions for tenants have taken place?

7396 BETTER REGULATION AND INNOVATION—RESIDENTIAL TENANCY SUPPORT PACKAGE COMPLAINTS—The Hon. Rose Jackson to ask the Minister for Finance and Small Business representing the Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation—

- (1) Have you received any formal complaints in relation to the Residential Tenancy Support Package?
 - (a) If so, how many?

7397 BETTER REGULATION AND INNOVATION—RESIDENTIAL TENANCY SUPPORT PACKAGE LANDLORD APPLICATION—The Hon. Rose Jackson to ask the Minister for Finance and Small Business representing the Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation—

- (1) What was the average time for a Residential Tenancy Support Package landlord application to be processed and approved?

7398 BETTER REGULATION AND INNOVATION—RESIDENTIAL TENANCY SUPPORT PACKAGE—The Hon. Rose Jackson to ask the Minister for Finance and Small Business representing the Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation—

- (1) In total how many applications have been made by landlords to access the Residential Tenancy Support Package?
 - (a) How many of these applications were:
 - (i) Approved?
 - (ii) Provided with a land tax concession?

7399 EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING—STEM SCHOOL—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) How did the Government respond to representations from the Sydney Science Park in September 2017 to the then Minister for Education to limit the use of the term ‘Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) School’ in New South Wales schools to protect the value of that terminology as used by the developers Celestino in their proposed Parramatta Catholic Diocese STEM School, which they planned to open in 2021?
 - (a) Are there any restrictions on the use of the term ‘STEM School’ in the New South Wales education system?

7400 TREASURER—HEAD OF REGULATORY AFFAIRS—The Hon. Daniel Mookhey to ask the Minister for Finance and Small Business representing the Treasurer—

- (1) Has icare hired a new Head of Regulatory Affairs?
 - (a) If so:

- (i) Who was the successful candidate?
 - (ii) What was the process used to identify this candidate?
 - (iii) Who does the head of Regulatory Affairs report to?
 - (iv) Who in iCare authorised the hiring decision?
 - (v) Who were the successful candidate's references?
 - (vi) What is their fixed remuneration?
- (2) Has iCare's board agreed KPIs with the iCare Head of Regulatory Affairs?
- (a) If so:
 - (i) Please list the KPIs
 - (ii) When will they be next assessed?
- (3) Is the Head of Regulatory Affairs entitled to any bonus or incentive payment?
- (a) If so, what is the maximum amount they can earn in a year?

7401 HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH—WORKFORCE OF JUSTICE HEALTH AND FORENSIC MENTAL HEALTH NETWORK—The Hon. Tara Moriarty to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

- (1) How many people work with and for the Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network in New South Wales as of 7 September 2021?
- (a) Broken down by:
 - (i) Permanent staff?
 - (ii) Full-time staff?
 - (iii) Part-time staff?
 - (iv) Casual staff?
 - (v) Contractors?
- (2) Please provide a breakdown of the Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network workforce by their geography?

7402 HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH—MEDICAL EXEMPTION CRITERIA FOR COVID-19 VACCINATION—Reverend the Hon. Fred Nile to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

- (1) We have received correspondence from a concerned constituent who has been diagnosed with chronic immunocompromised medical condition for over ten years. This constituent does not want to take a COVID-19 vaccine out of concerns for her pre-existing medical condition. The current medical exemption criteria only allows for those who have had a serious allergic reaction to a dose of vaccination to be exempt from the Covid-19 requirement. This constituent is also a dedicated employee of NSW Health:
- (a) Will the Minister consider broadening the medical exemption criteria for COVID-19 vaccination?

David Blunt
Clerk of the Parliament