



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

2019-20-21

FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

No. 593

MONDAY 27 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. 578 (Including Question Nos 7376 to 7390)	27 September 2021
Q & A No. 579 (Including Question Nos 7391 to 7402)	28 September 2021
Q & A No. 580 (Including Question Nos 7403 to 7417)	29 September 2021
Q & A No. 581 (Including Question Nos 7418 to 7425)	30 September 2021
Q & A No. 582 (Including Question Nos 7426 to 7435)	1 October 2021
Q & A No. 583 (Including Question Nos 7436 to 7443)	4 October 2021
Q & A No. 584 (Including Question Nos 7444 to 7455)	5 October 2021
Q & A No. 585 (Including Question Nos 7456 to 7459)	6 October 2021
Q & A No. 586 (Including Question Nos 7460 to 7489)	7 October 2021
Q & A No. 587 (Including Question Nos 7491 to 7519)	8 October 2021
Q & A No. 588 (Including Question Nos 7490 to 7538)	11 October 2021
Q & A No. 589 (Including Question Nos 7539 to 7560)	12 October 2021
Q & A No. 590 (Including Question Nos 7561 to 7571)	13 October 2021
Q & A No. 591 (Including Question Nos 7572 to 7600)	14 October 2021
Q & A No. 592 (Including Question Nos 7601 to 7602)	15 October 2021
Q & A No. 593 (Including Question Nos 7603 to 7621)	18 October 2021

6 SEPTEMBER 2021

(Paper No. 578)

* 7376 POLICE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES—QR DATA—The Hon. Robert Borsak to ask the Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—

- (1) In regards to the revelations in today's *Sydney Morning Herald* that police in other jurisdictions have used QR data for purposes other than the intended purpose:
- (a) Will the Minister categorically confirm that NSW Police have not used QR codes for any reason other than the intended purpose, that is, contact tracing of COVID-19 patients?
- (b) Has the NSW Firearms Registry ever relied on data obtained from QR codes to suspend, revoke or refuse a firearms licence?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (a) In accordance with Clause 17 of the Public Health (Covid-19 Safety) Order 2021, the NSW Police Force has not accessed or utilised contact tracing QR data.
- (b) No.

* 7377 ATTORNEY GENERAL—VACCINATION STATUS—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans representing the Attorney General, and Minister for Prevention of Domestic and Sexual Violence—

- (1) Given that under Federal law and the administration of the Australian Immunisation Register, citizens of New South Wales have a legal right to complete a 'Ceasing correspondence and release of information' declaration prohibiting any third party from knowing their vaccination status:
- (a) How can the Government legally police its proposed Vaccine Passport system?

Answer—

Questions about the COVID-19 vaccination program should be directed to the Minister for Health and Medical Research.

* 7378 CUSTOMER SERVICE—VACCINATION STATUS—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Finance and Small Business representing the Minister for Customer Service, and Minister for Digital—

- (1) Given that under Federal law and the administration of the Australian Immunisation Register, citizens of New South Wales have a legal right to complete a 'Ceasing correspondence and release of information' declaration prohibiting any third party from knowing their vaccination status:
- (a) How can the Government legally police its proposed Vaccine Passport system?

Answer—

Questions in relation to the COVID-19 vaccination program should be directed to the Minister for Health and Medical Research.

* 7379 CUSTOMER SERVICE—VACCINE PASSPORTS—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Finance and Small Business representing the Minister for Customer Service, and Minister for Digital—

- (1) How will the Government's system of vaccine passports regulating entry to certain premises in NSW comply with the Privacy Principles issued by the NSW Privacy Commissioner Samantha Gavel (and others) on 2 September 2021, namely:
- (a) The information held will be limited to the purpose required?
- (b) Consideration will be given to alternative solutions that "do not require personal information to be collected into a record"?

- (c) The information collected “should generally not be used for other purposes”?
- (d) Personal information should be stored in Australia?
- (e) "Personal information should be destroyed once it is no longer needed for the purpose for which it was collected"?

Answer—

Service NSW is currently considering options to provide evidence of vaccination.

As part of this process, a Privacy Impact Assessment is being prepared. The Privacy Impact Assessment will address NSW privacy law and the National COVID-19 Privacy Principles, agreed to with the NSW Privacy Commissioner.

* 7380 REGIONAL NEW SOUTH WALES, INDUSTRY AND TRADE—VACCINATION STATUS—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning representing the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade—

- (1) Given that under Federal law and the administration of the Australian Immunisation Register, citizens of New South Wales have a legal right to complete a ‘Ceasing correspondence and release of information’ declaration prohibiting any third party from knowing their vaccination status:
 - (a) How can the Government legally police its proposed Vaccine Passport system?

Answer—

Questions about the COVID-19 vaccination program should be directed to the Minister for Health and Medical Research.

* 7381 ATTORNEY GENERAL—VICTIMS SUPPORT—The Hon. Peter Primrose to ask the Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans representing the Attorney General, and Minister for Prevention of Domestic and Sexual Violence—

- (1) Changes to Victims Support took effect from 1 July 2020. Victims Services undertook a review of these changes with feedback due 5 March 2021:
 - (a) How many submissions/feedback were made to this review?
 - (i) Which organisations and agencies provided feedback?
 - (ii) When will the submissions to this review be published?
 - (iii) When will the report of the outcome of the review be published?
- (2) The Victims Advisory Board is chaired by the Commissioner Victims Rights and functions to advise the Minister on policies and reforms to meet the needs of victim-survivors:
 - (a) On what issues were the Victims Advisory Board consulted in the following financial years:
 - (i) 2018-19?
 - (ii) 2019-20?
 - (iii) 2020-2021?
 - (b) How many times did the Victims Advisory Board meet in the following financial years:
 - (i) 2018-19?
 - (ii) 2019-20?
 - (iii) 2020-2021?
- (3) Every year between 1999 – 2010 the Victims Advisory Board published a report of activities:
 - (a) Will a Victims Advisory Board report be published in 2020-21?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1)
- (a) Feedback was received from 19 organisations:
- (i) Clayton Utz, Domestic Violence NSW, KnowMore, Muslim Women Australia, People with Disability Australia, Mission Australia, Survivors and Mates Support Network, Victims of Crime Assistance League, Women's Safety NSW, and community legal centres (Elizabeth Evatt CLC, Illawarra LC, Kingsford LC, Northern Rivers CLC, Public Interest Advocacy Centre, Shopfront Youth Legal Centre, South West Sydney LC, Western NSW CLC, Warringa Baiya Aboriginal Women's LC, and Women's Legal Service).
- (ii-iii) Victims Services has engaged directly with stakeholders who provided feedback to seek further information, continue consultations, and offer assistance with improving guidance and communication on accessing the Victims Support Scheme. The work to improve service delivery to victims is ongoing.
- (2)
- (a) The Victims Advisory Board was consulted on policies and reforms that have been progressed throughout 2018-19 to 2020-21, including but not limited to:
- Implementation of the recommendations from the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, including reforms to admissibility of tendency and coincidence evidence and the Child Sexual Offence Evidence Program (ongoing)
 - Implementation of the Charter of Victims Rights and access to victims support (ongoing)
 - Consent law reform (2018-present)
 - Forensic Mental Health Reforms (2018-2021)
 - Response to the NSW Sentencing Council's Victims' Involvement in Sentencing Report (2018-2020)
 - Sentencing and parole reforms (2018).
- (b) The Victims Advisory Board met:
- (i) Twice in 2018-19
- (ii) Once in 2019-20
- (iii) Once in 2020-21.
- The frequency of meetings in 2020 and 2021 have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Victims Advisory Board was also consulted out of session on specific matters when meetings could not be held.
- (3) The Victims Advisory Board does not have a function to report on its activities under the *Victims Rights and Support Act 2013*.

* 7382 FINANCE AND SMALL BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT PRACTICES—The Hon. Peter Primrose to ask the Minister for Finance and Small Business—

- (1) For the 2019/20 financial year:
- (a) How many agencies have purchased up to \$10,000 from any supplier, including where a mandated whole-of-government arrangement is in place?
- (i) Which agencies?

- (b) How many agencies have bought directly from small businesses for values up to \$50,000, including where a mandated whole-of-government arrangement is in place?
 - (i) Which agencies?
 - (c) How many agencies have engaged regional businesses and small and business enterprises (SMEs) for direct procurements up to \$250,000?
 - (i) Which agencies?
 - (d) With larger procurements over \$3 million, how many agencies have included a minimum 15% of non-price evaluation criteria?
 - (i) Which agencies?
 - (ii) Which projects?
 - (e) With larger procurements over \$3 million, many agencies have ensured that at least 10% goes to SME participation?
 - (i) Which agencies?
 - (ii) Which projects?
 - (f) In relation to government construction procurement, how many agencies have sought a quotation from a SME for construction services up to \$1 million from whole of government prequalification schemes?
 - (i) Which agencies?
 - (ii) Which projects?
 - (g) Of those regional businesses and SMEs, captured in the responses to questions 1(a) to 1(f), in which state electorate districts do the regional businesses and SMEs reside (as stated in their contracts?)
- (2) For 2020/21 financial year:
- (a) How many agencies have purchased up to \$10,000 from any supplier, including where a mandated whole-of-government arrangement is in place?
 - (i) Which agencies?
 - (b) How many agencies have bought directly from small businesses for values up to \$50,000, including where a mandated whole-of-government arrangement is in place?
 - (i) Which agencies?
 - (c) How many agencies have engaged regional businesses and small and business enterprises (SMEs) for direct procurements up to \$250,000?
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 - (i) Which agencies?

- (ii) Which projects?
- (g) Of those regional businesses and SMEs, captured in the responses to questions 1(a) to 1(f), in which state electorate districts do the regional businesses and SMEs reside (as stated in their contracts)?

Answer—

(1-2)

- (a) Under the 2019 Small and Medium Enterprise and Regional Procurement Policy, agencies were permitted to purchase up to a maximum of \$10,000 from any supplier, including where there is a whole-of-government arrangement in place. There was no requirement for agencies to report this information.
- (b) Under the 2019 Small and Medium Enterprise and Regional Procurement Policy, agencies were permitted to purchase goods or services valued up to \$50,000 directly from a small business, even where those goods or services are available on a whole-of-government arrangement. There was no requirement for agencies to report this information.
- (c) Under the 2019 Small and Medium Enterprise and Regional Procurement Policy, agencies were required to first consider purchasing from an SME whenever direct procurement was permitted, up to a value of \$250,000.

For contracts under \$150,000 there was no requirement for agencies to report this information.

NSW Government agencies comply with the contract disclosure of the GIPA Act. Refer to contract disclosures at: <https://www.tenders.nsw.gov.au>.

- (d-f) NSW Government agencies comply with the contract disclosure of the GIPA Act. Refer to contract disclosures at: <https://www.tenders.nsw.gov.au>.
- (g) Not applicable

The NSW Government spent approximately \$40 billion on goods, services and construction in 2019/20, with around 43.4% (\$16.3 billion) spent with more than 60,000 small and medium businesses.

Data for 2020/21 is still being finalised.

A refreshed SME and Regional Procurement Policy came into effect on 1 July 2021. Under this policy there are additional measures designed to increase SME participation in procurement opportunities within the NSW Government and improve economic, ethical, environmental and social outcomes through a range of initiatives. These measures include:

- SME First - Agencies must first consider purchasing from a SME supplier whenever direct procurement is permitted, up to a value of \$3 million.
- SME and Regional Exemption - Agencies may purchase goods or services up to a value of \$150,000 directly from a SME or Regional Supplier, even where these are available on a whole-of-government arrangement.
- SME and Sustainability Criteria - For procurements over \$3 million over the life of the arrangement, including single supplier standing offers, agencies must include a minimum 10% of the non-price evaluation criteria for SME participation and 10% to support for the NSW Government's economic, ethical, environmental and social priorities.
- SME & Local Participation Plan - For contracts over \$3m suppliers will be required to submit a SME & Local Participation Plan which references SME and NSW specific content and to report on compliance with the plan quarterly.

* 7383 HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH—COVID NUMBERS AND AUDIT—The Hon. Peter Primrose to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

- (1) Has there been an audit undertaken by NSW Health and/or individual local health districts (LHDs) into unreported COVID-19 positive cases, at or around August 2021?
 - (a) If so, which of NSW Health and/or individual LHDs undertook the audit?
- (2) Did the audit find a discrepancy between the publicly reported COVID-19 positive case numbers, and the number of COVID-19 positive cases found by pathology testing?
 - (a) If so:
 - (i) Did the discrepancy find that the number of positive cases reported publicly was less than those confirmed by pathology testing?
 - (ii) Which LHDs did these discrepancies occur?
- (3) Has the discrepancy in numbers been rectified and publicly reported?
 - (a) If not, why not?
 - (i) What is the timeframe for rectifying this?
- (4) What is the average length of time it takes for NSW Health to be contacted by pathology laboratories with the COVID-19 positive cases?
- (5) What is the average length of time it takes for NSW Health to contact COVID-19 positive cases?

Answer—

(1-5) NSW Health's data is reviewed and updated continuously as COVID-19 case details change over time.

The COVID-19 weekly surveillance reports and epidemiological reports provide COVID-19 data that is publicly available, including on notification timeframes, at: <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/covid-19/Pages/weekly-reports.aspx>

* 7384 JOBS, INVESTMENT, TOURISM AND WESTERN SYDNEY—GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT PRACTICES—The Hon. Peter Primrose to ask the Minister for Finance and Small Business representing the Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney—

- (1) For the 2019/20 financial year:
 - (a) How many agencies have purchased up to \$10,000 from any supplier, including where a mandated whole-of-government arrangement is in place?
 - (i) Which agencies?
 - (b) How many agencies have bought directly from small businesses for values up to \$50,000, including where a mandated whole-of-government arrangement is in place?
 - (i) Which agencies?
 - (c) How many agencies have engaged regional businesses and small and business enterprises (SMEs) for direct procurements up to \$250,000?
 - (i) Which agencies?
 - (d) With larger procurements over \$3 million, how many agencies have included a minimum 15% of non-price evaluation criteria?
 - (i) Which agencies?
 - (ii) Which projects?
 - (e) With larger procurements over \$3 million, many agencies have ensured that at least 10% goes to SME participation?
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- (f) In relation to government construction procurement, how many agencies have sought a quotation from a SME for construction services up to \$1 million from whole of government prequalification schemes?
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- (g) Of those regional businesses and SMEs, captured in the responses to questions 1(a) to 1(f), in which state electorate districts do the regional businesses and SMEs reside (as stated in their contracts)?
- (2) For 2020/21 financial year:
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 - (g) Of those regional businesses and SMEs, captured in the responses to questions 1(a) to 1(f), in which state electorate districts do the regional businesses and SMEs reside (as stated in their contracts)?

Answer—

On behalf of the Minister, I refer to my answer to QoN 7382.

* 7385 TREASURER—GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT PRACTICES—The Hon. Peter Primrose to ask the Minister for Finance and Small Business representing the Treasurer—

- (1) For the 2019/20 financial year:
 - (a) How many agencies have purchased up to \$10,000 from any supplier, including where a mandated whole-of-government arrangement is in place?
 - (i) Which agencies?

- (b) How many agencies have bought directly from small businesses for values up to \$50,000, including where a mandated whole-of-government arrangement is in place?
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- (ii) Which projects?
- (g) Of those regional businesses and SMEs, captured in the responses to questions 1(a) to 1(f), in which state electorate districts do the regional businesses and SMEs reside (as stated in their contracts)?

Answer—

On behalf of the Treasurer, I refer to my answer to QoN 7382.

* 7386 WATER, PROPERTY AND HOUSING—IRRIGATION WATER METER CHANGES—The Hon. Rod Roberts to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

- (1) Did the Minister receive a communication from Mr John Schultz on 9 July 2021 in relation to irrigation water meter changes?
- (2) Has the Minister provided a response to the writer in relation to his concerns?
 - (a) If not, why not?
- (3) What is the Government's position in relation to the concerns outlined in the communication from Mr Schultz?

Answer—

- (1) Yes
- (2) Yes
- (3) I am considering options.

* 7387 HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH—PEOPLE PASSING AWAY AT HOME FROM COVID-19—The Hon. Rod Roberts to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

- (1) During a number of press conferences in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic we have been informed by the Government of several people who have died at home from the COVID-19 virus:
 - (a) What is the criteria for hospital admission for a person infected with the COVID-19 virus?
 - (b) How many people who have died as a result of COVID-19 in their homes were rejected for admission to a Hospital?
 - (c) Why were the people who died at home from the COVID-19 rejected for admission to a hospital?

Answer—

- (1)
 - (a-c) The Agency for Clinical Innovation Guideline Caring for adults with COVID-19 in the community sets out the escalation points for patients to be referred for in-hospital care. Currently, patients who meet these criteria, or are at high risk of deterioration based on clinical assessment, are pre-emptively admitted to hospital for closer observations.

To date, no patients have been denied access to higher levels of care or admission to hospital.

* 7388 MENTAL HEALTH, REGIONAL YOUTH AND WOMEN—COVID-19 MENTAL HEALTH PANDEMIC—The Hon. Rod Roberts to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women—

- (1) Many experts are predicting serious mental health issues for New South Wales residents as a result of the COVID-19 restrictions. These mental health issues are especially prominent for children who have been home schooling with stressed parents and who are absent from their friends:

- (a) What is the Government doing now to reduce the impact of mental health issues as a result of the COVID-19 restrictions?
- (b) Does the Government have a long term plan to address this imminent mental health pandemic?
- (c) What additional resources has the Government allocated to mental health care since implementing COVID-19 restrictions?
- (d) What is the estimated future costs to address the mental health issues that have resulted from the COVID-19 restrictions?

Answer—

(1)

- (a-d) In the past two years, the NSW Government has increased its investment in mental health from \$2.1 billion in 19/20 to \$2.6 billion in 21/22. A NSW Government record investment of \$10.9 billion will support mental health services over the next four years.

In early 2020, the NSW Government invested \$80 million to strengthen mental health services across the state. The package included:

- Support for vulnerable populations by recruiting specialist, community-based mental health clinicians and peer support workers
- Expanding virtual mental health services to connect clinical settings within and across districts to enhance capability to assess and treat mental health clients remotely.
- Enhancing the capacity and responsiveness of the Mental Health Line
- Expanding the PACER model
- Enhancing therapeutic activities in acute inpatient units
- Access to Tresillian's Sleep Well Baby app
- Establishing a residential supported living service using the Habilis model
- Expanding Lifeline to respond to the increase needs of the community

The NSW Government's 2020-21 Budget also committed \$66.2 million over three years to continue the additional specialist mental health clinicians recruited in response to COVID-19, plus a further \$50.4 million over three years to continue to provide technology-enabled workforce and expand the telehealth services.

To address the expected uptick in demand for mental health services, a joint Commonwealth and NSW Government investment of \$17.5 million was announced in July 2021. The package focuses on boosting crisis and mental health support to vulnerable communities during COVID-19 lockdown and will support:

- Headspace outreach support to parents and young people across greater Sydney
- The Sonder app to provide anyone subject to a mandatory 14-day isolation order with 24/7 health and wellbeing support for the entire duration of their isolation period
- Support for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) communities, with a focus on communities in South West and Western Sydney.
- Primary Health networks across Sydney to increase their mental health services across all areas
- Lifeline to boost crisis counselling services
- Gidget Foundation to provide counselling services for parents suffering from perinatal depression and anxiety
- Free access for 8,000 new parents to the Tresillian SleepWell baby app
- Kids Helpline to extend online wellbeing sessions to secondary schools

- The Butterfly Foundation to provide additional support for young people with or at risk of an eating disorder and their carers

Following this, the NSW Government announced a further \$1.5 million towards the Moderated Online Social Therapy (MOST) platform designed by youth mental health organisation Orygen. The NSW Government has also supported the familyproject.org.au, a one stop shop for all families to help them maintain family connections and improve mental wellbeing with a variety of free resources and activities.

In addition to this, the Federal Government has publicly announced \$10.6 million funding for Head to health pop-up clinics.

The NSW Government continues to plan for the changing mental health and wellbeing needs within the community over the long term as restrictions ease.

* 7389 PREMIER—HEALTH ADVICE—The Hon. Rod Roberts to ask the Special Minister of State, and Minister for the Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs, and the Arts representing the Premier—

- (1) The Premier has been stating each morning in her press conferences that she is following health advice when implementing restriction in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic:
 - (a) Will the Premier release the health advice that she has relied upon to implement restrictions in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic?
 - (i) If not, why not?

Answer—

The NSW Government continues to respond to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. NSW Health released modelling from the Burnet Institute on 6 September 2021.

* 7390 SPECIAL MINISTER OF STATE—NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE LOST THEIR JOBS IN NSW FOR BEING UNVACCINATED FOR COVID-19—The Hon. Rod Roberts to ask the Special Minister of State, and Minister for the Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs, and the Arts—

- (1) A number of reports are being made in relation to people losing their jobs as a result of not being vaccinated for COVID-19:
 - (a) As of 6 September 2021:
 - (i) How many people in New South Wales public service have lost their jobs as a result of not being vaccinated for COVID-19?
 - (b) How many people in the New South Wales public service does the Government expect will lose their jobs as a result of not being vaccinated for COVID-19?
 - (c) What steps is the Government taking to ensure people in the New South Wales public service do not lose their jobs as a result of not being vaccinated for COVID-19?

Answer—

COVID-19 vaccination mandates in the NSW public service are limited as follows:

- Ministry of Health employees are required under the Public Health (COVID-19 Vaccination of Health Care Workers) Order 2021 to have received one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine by 30 September 2021 and the second dose by 30 November 2021.
- Public service employees that fall into the category of an authorised worker from one of the 12 restricted LGAs in the Public Health (COVID-19 Additional Restrictions for Delta Outbreak) Order (No 2) 2021 are required to have received one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine by 19 September 2021.

Public service employees are expected to comply with the relevant public health orders in the conduct of their duties.

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(Paper No. 593)

- 7603 EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING—COOLER SCHOOLS PROGRAM—The Hon. Mark Banasiak to ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—
- (1) Since the Cooler Schools program announced ahead of the election in 2018, only 4,300 out of 156,000 learning spaces have had air conditioning installed. In the lead up to summer and ventilation requirements for a safe return to school:
 - (a) Will the remaining units be installed in time?
 - (i) If so, how does the Minister plan to achieve this, when little progress has been made since 2018?
 - (b) How much of the \$500 million assigned to this program has been spent?
- 7604 TRANSPORT AND ROADS—BOAT AND CARAVAN OWNERS—The Hon. Mark Banasiak to ask the Special Minister of State, and Minister for the Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs, and the Arts representing the Minister for Transport and Roads—
- (1) Boat and caravan owners within Local Government Areas (LGA) of concern have been unable to utilise their boats, boat trailers and caravans all of which they pay registration for. They have been unable to do so for up to 13 weeks to date. Given they are obliged to pay registration fees by government regulation to utilise such vehicles and have been restricted from doing so by subsequent government regulation (COVID-19 health orders):
 - (a) Will the Minister commit to either:
 - (i) Rebates on registration for caravans, boats and boat trailers for owners within an LGA of concern equivalent to the time period of restriction?
 - (ii) Extension of registration for caravans, boats, and boat trailers for owners within an LGA of concern equivalent to the time period of restriction?
- 7605 POLICE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES—BACKLOG OF FIREARM LICENCE APPLICATIONS—The Hon. Robert Borsak to ask the Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—
- (1) Regarding a reply to a question in Budget Estimates on 12 March 2021, the Minister confirmed there were 416 and 803 applications for Internal Review received by the NSW Firearms Registry in 2019 and 2020 respectively. Given the 93 per cent increase in the number of Internal Review requests received in the space of just 12 months:
 - (a) What is the Commander of the Firearms Registry doing to reduce the backlog of Internal Reviews?
 - (b) Will the 10 additional staff seconded to reduce the backlog of firearm licence applications be retained to reduce the backlog of Internal Reviews applications?
- 7606 WATER, PROPERTY AND HOUSING—SOUTHERN CROSS COMMUNITY HOUSING—The Hon. Rose Jackson to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—
- (1) Does the Government monitor vacancy rates in Community Housing Providers?
 - (2) How many properties in Southern Cross Community Housing have been vacant in the Shoalhaven?
 - (a) Why are these properties vacant?
 - (3) How much does the Government pay Southern Cross Community Housing each year?
- 7607 CUSTOMER SERVICE—VACCINATION DATA—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Finance and Small Business representing the Minister for Customer Service, and Minister for Digital—

- (1) Has Service NSW received data on the COVID-19 vaccination status of individual New South Wales residents, shared by the Federal Government?
 - (a) If so, how many residents have been affected?
 - (b) Which Federal Government agency provided the data?
 - (i) On which dates?
 - (c) How has Service NSW stored the data?
 - (i) What security measures have been put in place?
- (2) Has Service NSW received the vaccination status of residents who have completed the Australian Immunisation Register ‘Ceasing Correspondence and Release of Information’ form?
 - (a) What are the details?
 - (b) How can Service NSW access the data, given that third party access is prohibited under Federal law?
- (3) In the creation of New South Wales Vaccine Passports:
 - (a) How will the system verify that the vaccination certificate is held by the same individual identified on the Service NSW system?
 - (b) What security measures are in place to guard against vaccine certificate forgery?
 - (c) When does the Minister expect the New South Wales Vaccine Passport ID Card system to commence?
 - (d) What do people do without a phone?
 - (i) For these people, how do shops and other venues accurately verify vaccination status?

7608 EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING—DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION STAFF—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) Is the Department of Education denying its staff access to accrued leave entitlements?
 - (a) If so, what are the details?
- (2) What legal advice has the Minister received about the management practice in (1) above?
- (3) Given the impact of forced workplace vaccinations, how is the Department dealing with:
 - (a) Current staff shortages for teachers?
 - (i) What are the details?
 - (b) Current staff shortages for school support staff?
 - (i) What are the details?
 - (c) Impending staff shortages for teachers?
 - (i) What are the details?
 - (d) Impending staff shortages for school support staff?
 - (i) What are the details?

7609 EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING—PARENTAL CONSENT—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) Further to the Minister’s answer to Question on Notice 7364:
 - (a) Will parental consent be required in Government schools for students to study the GSA Connect material on pansexuality, transgender, lesbianism, bisexuality, intersex and asexuality?
 - (i) At what age will parental consent be required?

7610 EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING—REAL SCENARIOS OF FARMERS AND MINERS—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) Further to the Minister's answer to Question on Notice 7300:
 - (a) Why do the "real scenarios" of family violence single out farmers and miners as perpetrators?
 - (b) Does the Department of Education believe that only farmers and miners reflect real scenarios of family violence in New South Wales?
 - (i) If not, why have farmers and miners been used in the "real scenarios" when there was no need to base the case studies on any particular industry or occupation?
- (2) Will the Minister now apologise to the peak associations in New South Wales representing farmers and miners?

7611 ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT—NSW BIODIVERSITY SCHEMES—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Special Minister of State, and Minister for the Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs, and the Arts representing the Minister for Energy and Environment—

- (1) Under NSW Biodiversity Schemes:
 - (a) Why are scrubland grasses on private properties only allowed to be managed and reduced in length by burning off, creating carbon emissions, air pollution and fire hazard risks?
 - (b) Why is reducing these grasses to a blackened, charcoal, ugly landscape regarded as sound environmentalism?
 - (c) What contribution do these practices make to air pollution in New South Wales, the Sydney basin in particular?

7612 ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT—NSW ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY AND SCIENCE SPOKES WOMAN COMMITTEE—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Special Minister of State, and Minister for the Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs, and the Arts representing the Minister for Energy and Environment—

- (1) What is the NSW Environment, Energy and Science Spokes Woman Committee?
 - (a) Who is on it?
 - (b) What does it do?
- (2) Does someone need to be born biologically female to be on the Committee or can men join too?

7613 HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH—MANDATORY WORKPLACE VACCINATIONS—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

- (1) Has NSW Health conducted a survey of its employees concerning the introduction of mandatory workplace vaccinations?
 - (a) What do the survey results show?
 - (b) What percentage of the following groups, have said they do not plan to be COVID-vaccinated:
 - (i) Nurses?
 - (ii) Paramedics?
 - (iii) Other NSW Health staff?

7614 HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH—NSW HEALTH STAFF—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

- (1) Is NSW Health denying its staff access to accrued leave entitlements?

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- (a) If so, what are the details?
- (2) What legal advice has the Minister received about the management practice in (1) above?
- (3) Given the impact of forced workplace vaccinations:
- (a) How is NSW Health dealing with current and impending staff shortages?
- 7615 PLANNING AND PUBLIC SPACES—NSW BIODIVERSITY SCHEMES—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—
- (1) Under NSW Biodiversity Schemes:
- (a) Why are scrubland grasses on private properties only allowed to be managed and reduced in length by burning off, creating carbon emissions, air pollution and fire hazard risks?
- (b) Why is reducing these grasses to a blackened, charcoal, ugly landscape regarded as sound environmentalism?
- (c) What contribution do these practices make to air pollution in New South Wales, the Sydney basin in particular?
- 7616 POLICE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES—BURNING GRASSLANDS UNDER BIODIVERSITY SCHEMES—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—
- (1) What cost-recovery arrangements do the New South Wales fire brigades have in place for work undertaken on private properties in burning grasslands under biodiversity schemes?
- (a) What are the details?
- (2) Given the fire hazard risk, carbon emissions and air pollution created in (1) above:
- (a) Why don't the NSW fire brigades advise property owners to mow or slash their land like normal people do?
- 7617 POLICE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES—LUNAR PARK GHOST TRAIN FIRE—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—
- (1) Has the NSW Police paid a reward to anyone for information about the 1979 Lunar Park Ghost Train fire?
- (a) When will the reward availability end?
- (2) Has the NSW Police identified any reason for reopening its investigation into the fire?
- 7618 POLICE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES—MANDATORY WORKPLACE VACCINATIONS—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—
- (1) Has the NSW Police conducted a survey of its employees concerning the introduction of mandatory workplace vaccinations?
- (a) What do the survey results show?
- (b) What percentage of police have said they do not plan to be COVID-vaccinated?
- 7619 POLICE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES—NSW POLICE STAFF—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services—
- (1) Is NSW Police denying its staff access to accrued leave entitlements?
- (a) If so, what are the details?
- (2) What legal advice has the Minister received about the management practice in (1) above?

- (3) Given the impact of forced workplace vaccinations, how is the NSW Police dealing with:
 - (a) Current staff shortages?
 - (i) What are the details?
 - (b) Impending staff shortages?
 - (i) What are the details?

7620 SPORT, MULTICULTURALISM, SENIORS AND VETERANS—CRICKET NSW VACCINATION—
The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans—

- (1) What advice has the Government provided to Cricket NSW about COVID-safe requirements for its 2021/22 season?
- (2) Given that park cricket is played outdoors in summer as a non-contact sport, and that both vaccinated and unvaccinated people can carry the COVID-19 virus:
 - (a) What requirement is there for the COVID-vaccination of the:
 - (i) Players?
 - (ii) Officials?
 - (iii) Spectators?
 - (b) At what age would any COVID-vaccination requirement commence?
- (3) Why would a vaccination requirement for park cricket be enforced when the Australian and Indian national teams are currently playing an ODI series with some unvaccinated players?

7621 AGRICULTURE AND WESTERN NEW SOUTH WALES—AGRICULTURAL WORKFORCE
PLAN—The Hon. Rod Roberts to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women
representing the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—

- (1) On 2 September 2021 Question on Notice 7358 was asked and a response was received on 23 September 2021. In relation to that response:
 - (a) What are the actions the Minister refers to in the answer to question (1) (a) (i)?
 - (b) When will the Minister have an answer to question (2)?

David Blunt
Clerk of the Parliament