



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

2019-20-21

FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

No. 643

WEDNESDAY 8 DECEMBER 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. 628 (Including Question Nos 7780 to 7793)	8 December 2021
Q & A No. 629 (Including Question Nos 7794 to 7806)	9 December 2021
Q & A No. 630 (Including Question Nos 7807 to 7812)	10 December 2021
Q & A No. 631 (Including Question Nos 7813 to 7817)	13 December 2021
Q & A No. 632 (Including Question Nos 7818 to 7821)	14 December 2021
Q & A No. 633 (Including Question Nos 7822 to 7830)	15 December 2021
Q & A No. 634 (Including Question Nos 7831 to 7839)	16 December 2021
Q & A No. 635 (Including Question Nos 7840 to 7843)	17 December 2021
Q & A No. 636 (Including Question Nos 7844 to 7908)	20 December 2021
Q & A No. 637 (Including Question Nos 7909 to 7913)	21 December 2021
Q & A No. 638 (Questions—Nil)	-
Q & A No. 639 (Including Question Nos 7914 to 7917)	23 December 2021
Q & A No. 640 (Including Question Nos 7918 to 7926)	24 December 2021
Q & A No. 641 (Including Question Nos 7927 to 7957)	27 December 2021
Q & A No. 642 (Including Question Nos 7958 to 7959)	28 December 2021
Q & A No. 643 (Including Question Nos 7960 to 7968)	29 December 2021

17 NOVEMBER 2021

(Paper No. 628)

* 7780 ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT—CARBON EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS IN NEW SOUTH WALES—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 Treasurer, and Minister for Energy and Environment—

- (1) In the calculation of carbon emissions reductions in New South Wales, what account is taken of the Australia Clause in the Kyoto Protocol, that is, restrictions on land clearing are counted in as carbon emissions reductions?
- (2) What proportion of New South Wales carbon emissions reductions are comprised of the Australia Clause for:
 - (a) Calendar year 2020?
 - (b) The decade 2010-2020?
 - (c) Projections for the 50 per cent reduction target by 2030?
 - (d) Projections for Net Zero target by 2050?
- (3) What are the details?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1-3) The Australian Government maintains national, state and territory emission inventories. National emissions are published for United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) rules and Kyoto Protocol rules.

NSW and other state/territory inventories are based on UNFCCC rules and include all sectors including land use, land use change and forestry. Emission projections for NSW are compiled for all UNFCCC sectors.

* 7784 JOBS, INVESTMENT, TOURISM AND WESTERN SYDNEY—SHORTAGE OF PALLETS—The Hon. Peter Primrose 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 Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney, and Minister for Trade and Industry—

- (1) Is there a shortage of pallets in New South Wales, affecting transport logistics, supply chains and construction throughout the state?
 - (a) If so:
 - (i) What is causing the shortage?
 - (ii) Is the shortage of wood a significant issue?
 - (iii) What effect is this shortage having on the price of goods and services?
- (2) What action is the Government undertaking to help resolve this issue?

Answer—

This question would be more appropriately directed to the Deputy Premier.

* 7785 AGRICULTURE AND WESTERN NEW SOUTH WALES—HELP HARVEST NSW—The Hon. Mick Veitch to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—

- (1) In relation to the Help Harvest NSW initiative:
 - (a) When was the web portal activated?

- (b) How many views to date have been recorded?
- (c) Can the Department measure if many views have led to views on the web pages linked to the portal?
 - (i) If so, how many views have been recorded on the associated web pages?
- (d) What is the associated costs with:
 - (i) Establishing the web portal?
 - (ii) Managing and maintaining the web portal?
- (e) Does the Department know how many views on the portal have led to enquiries with potential employers?
- (f) Does the Department know whether how many views are repeat viewings?
- (g) Does the Department know how many views came from Government agencies?
- (h) How many harvest jobs have been filled as a result of Help Harvest NSW?
- (i) Has the Department sought feedback from potential employers on the effectiveness of the web portal?
 - (i) If so what is the feedback?
 - (ii) If not, why not?
- (j) Has the Department undertaken any other measurement to test to impact and effectiveness of the web portal?

Answer—

The Help Harvest portal is hosted by Service NSW. The following information has been provided by the NSW Department of Customer Service.

- (1)
 - (a) 25 August 2020.
 - (b) 104,769 page views.
 - (c) 53,116 clicks to other websites.
 - (i) Information not held.
 - (d)
 - (i) The costs of establishing Help Harvest NSW online are absorbed as part of the Department of Customer Service's core service operations of the NSW Government website, <https://www.nsw.gov.au>
 - (ii) The costs of managing and maintaining Help Harvest NSW online are absorbed as part of the Department of Customer Service's BAU operations of the NSW Government website, <https://www.nsw.gov.au>
 - (e) Information not held.
 - (f) 72.4% of the page views are from returning users to the website.
 - (g) 17,023 clicks from other government websites have sent customers to <https://www.nsw.gov.au> and the Help Harvest website.
DSC does not track whether users on the websites are government employees or members of the public.
 - (h) Information not held.
 - (i) The portal has been reviewed by industry representative organisations.
 - (i) Industry is supportive of the portal.

- (ii) N/A.
- (j) DPI is working with the Department of Customer Service to assess how additional information may be incorporated into the site, and how the effectiveness of the portal can be measured.

* 7786 TRADE AND INDUSTRY—SHORTAGE OF PALLETS—The Hon. Peter Primrose 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 Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney, and Minister for Trade and Industry—

- (1) Is there a shortage of pallets in New South Wales, affecting transport logistics, supply chains and construction throughout the state?
 - (a) If so:
 - (i) What is causing the shortage?
 - (ii) Is the shortage of wood a significant issue?
 - (iii) What effect is this shortage having on the price of goods and services?
- (2) What action is the Government undertaking to help resolve this issue?

Answer—

This question would be more appropriately directed to the Deputy Premier.

* 7787 EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING—CONVERSION OF TEMPORARY TEACHERS TO PERMANENT STATUS—The Hon. Anthony D'Adam to ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) In relation to the mechanism identified in the minister's answer to answer Question on Notice 7688:
 - (a) How many teachers have been converted from temporary to permanent status using this mechanism each year as of 30 June for each of the following years:
 - (i) 2017?
 - (ii) 2018?
 - (iii) 2019?
 - (iv) 2020?
 - (v) 2021?

Answer—

- (1)
 - (a) Principals have an opportunity to seek appointment of an eligible temporary teacher to a permanent teaching position when they are up to a local recruitment choice. Up until July 2021, one transfer point schools have only been able to access this opportunity for permanent part time positions. School staffing operations work on a calendar year, not a financial year. Figures below indicate the total number of permanent vacant positions filled using this mechanism for each calendar year.
 - (i) 32 positions filled in the 2017 calendar year
 - (ii) 54 positions filled in the 2018 calendar year
 - (iii) 57 positions filled in the 2019 calendar year
 - (iv) 74 positions filled in the 2020 calendar year
 - (v) At 22 November 2021, approximately 114 positions have been filled, and it is anticipated this number will continue to increase as more vacancies are filled this year.³

* 7788 EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING—TEACHERS - PERIOD OF CONTINUOUS TEMPORARY SERVICE—The Hon. Anthony D'Adam to ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) In relation to the data provided in the Minister's answer to Question on Notice 7689:
 - (a) For each school, of the temporary employees identified at 1(a) (ii) how many have:
 - (i) More than 5 years continuous temporary service?
 - (ii) More than 10 years continuous temporary service?
 - (iii) More than 15 years continuous temporary service?

Answer—

Please see the answer as an attachment on the [Parliament's website](#).

* 7789 PLANNING AND PUBLIC SPACES—JIM BETTS—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning representing the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, and Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) With the exit of Jim Betts as Departmental Secretary, which of his internal staff political programs will now be abolished?

Answer—

I am advised:

There are no such programs.

* 7790 JOBS, INVESTMENT, TOURISM AND WESTERN SYDNEY—RAIL FREIGHT LINE—The Hon. Peter Primrose 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 Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney, and Minister for Trade and Industry—

- (1) When is the rail freight line servicing Western Sydney Airport expected to commence construction?
- (2) When is the rail freight line servicing Western Sydney Airport expected to be completed?
- (3) What is the predicted annual volume of cargo expected to pass through Western Sydney Airport over the first five years of its operation?
- (4) What is the estimated cost of land acquisition for the freight rail corridor?
- (5) What percentage of the land corridor for the freight line has been acquired by the Government?

Answer—

This is a matter for the Minister for Transport and Roads.

* 7791 PLANNING AND PUBLIC SPACES—RAIL FREIGHT LINE—The Hon. Peter Primrose to ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning representing the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, and Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) When is the rail freight line servicing Western Sydney Airport expected to commence construction?
- (2) When is the rail freight line servicing Western Sydney Airport expected to be completed?
- (3) What is the predicted annual volume of cargo expected to pass through Western Sydney Airport over the first five years of its operation?
- (4) What is the estimated cost of land acquisition for the freight rail corridor?
- (5) What percentage of the land corridor for the freight line has been acquired by the Government?

Answer—

I refer to my response at 7792.

* 7792 TRANSPORT AND ROADS—RAIL FREIGHT LINE—The Hon. Peter Primrose to ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning representing the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, and Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) When is the rail freight line servicing Western Sydney Airport expected to commence construction?
- (2) When is the rail freight line servicing Western Sydney Airport expected to be completed?
- (3) What is the predicted annual volume of cargo expected to pass through Western Sydney Airport over the first five years of its operation?
- (4) What is the estimated cost of land acquisition for the freight rail corridor?
- (5) What percentage of the land corridor for the freight line has been acquired by the Government?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The proposed Western Sydney Freight Line project is noted in Future Transport 2056 for implementation in 10 - 20 years subject to a business case. It is intended as a dedicated 24/7 rail freight line to Western Sydney.
- (2) The commencement of the Western Sydney Freight Line is subject to the creation a business case.
- (3) The predicted annual volume of air cargo is forecast to be approximately 220,000 tonnes.
- (4) The estimated cost of land acquisition for the Western Sydney Freight Line rail corridor will be determined during the business case for the project.
- (5) The Government has acquired 14 hectares of land for the future Western Sydney Freight Rail line. This represents a small percentage of land required for the rail corridor.

8 DECEMBER 2021

(Paper No. 643)

7960 EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING—COVID-19 VACCINATION OF EDUCATION AND CARE WORKERS—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) Under the Public Health (Covid-19 Vaccination of Education and Care Workers) Order 2021:
 - (a) How many permanent teachers:
 - (i) Have been terminated as Department of Education employees?
 - (ii) Are being investigated by the Professional and Ethical Standards Directorate for non-compliance with the Public Health Order?
 - (b) How many permanent non-teaching staff:
 - (i) Have been terminated as Department of Education employees?
 - (ii) Are being investigated by the Professional and Ethical Standards Directorate for non-compliance with the Public Health Order?
- (2) When did the investigative process start?
- (3) How have the numbers in (1) above changed since the answer to question taken on notice at Budget Estimates (when as of 16 November, 802 permanent school employees were being investigated - 591 teaching and 211 non-teaching staff)?

7961 TREASURER—GENERATIONS FUND—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Finance and Small Business representing the Treasurer, and Minister for Energy and Environment—

- (1) Who is conducting the review of the Generations Fund investment strategy?
 - (a) What is the purpose of the review?

- (b) When is the review scheduled to be finalised?
- (4) Will the Generations Fund be required to invest according to ESG principles?
- (a) What impact will this have on the expected rate of financial return?
- 7962 TRANSPORT AND ROADS—FREIGHT TO AND FROM WESTERN SYDNEY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT—The Hon. Peter Primrose to ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning representing the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, and Minister for Transport and Roads—
- (1) Have any scoping studies or planning documents been produced over the last ten years regarding the movement by road of cargo/ freight to and from Western Sydney International Airport following its scheduled opening?
- (a) If so:
- (i) What are the titles of these documents?
- (ii) Where can they be obtained?
- (2) Are any scoping studies or planning documents currently being prepared regarding the movement by road of cargo/freight to and from Western Sydney International Airport following its scheduled opening?
- (a) If so, under which auspice are these documents being prepared?
- 7963 TRANSPORT AND ROADS—WESTERN SYDNEY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT—The Hon. Peter Primrose to ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning representing the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, and Minister for Transport and Roads—
- (1) Have any scoping studies or planning documents been produced over the last ten years regarding rail freight in Western Sydney, in particular relating to the Western Sydney International Airport?
- (a) If so:
- (i) What are the titles of these documents?
- (ii) Where can they be obtained?
- (2) Are any scoping studies or planning documents currently being prepared regarding rail freight in Western Sydney, in particular relating to the Western Sydney International Airport?
- (a) If so, under which auspice are these documents being prepared?
- 7964 FAMILIES, COMMUNITIES AND DISABILITY SERVICES—LAND AND HOUSING CORPORATION HOUSES—The Hon. Rose Jackson to ask the Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans representing the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services—
- (1) How many NSW Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) houses are currently not occupied by tenants?
- (2) How many LAHC houses have been left vacant in the last 6 months?
- (3) How many LAHC houses have been left vacant in the last 12 months?
- (4) What is the average period of a time a LAHC house is vacant?
- 7965 WATER, PROPERTY AND HOUSING—LAND AND HOUSING CORPORATION HOUSES—The Hon. Rose Jackson to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—
- (1) How many NSW Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) houses are currently not occupied by tenants?
- (2) How many LAHC houses have been left vacant in the last 6 months?
- (3) How many LAHC houses have been left vacant in the last 12 months?
- (4) What is the average period of a time a LAHC house is vacant?

7966 WATER, PROPERTY AND HOUSING—SOCIAL AND PUBLIC HOUSING SALES—The Hon. Rose Jackson to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

- (1) How many social and public housing properties were sold in the following financial years:
 - (a) 2021/22 to date?
 - (b) 2020/21?
 - (c) 2019/20?
 - (d) 2018/19?
 - (e) 2017/18?
 - (f) 2016/17?
 - (g) 2015/16?
 - (h) 2014/15?
 - (i) 2013/14?
 - (j) 2012/13?
 - (k) 2011/12?
- (2) What was the total revenue of the sale of social and public housing properties for each of the following financial years:
 - (a) 2021/22 to date?
 - (b) 2020/21?
 - (c) 2019/20?
 - (d) 2018/19?
 - (e) 2017/18?
 - (f) 2016/17?
 - (g) 2015/16?
 - (h) 2014/15?
 - (i) 2013/14?
 - (j) 2012/13?
 - (k) 2011/12?
- (3) Since the Liberal and National Government was elected in 2011, how many social and public housing properties have been sold in total?
 - (a) What was the total revenue generated from these sales?

7967 AGRICULTURE AND WESTERN NEW SOUTH WALES—ADDITIONAL WEED FUNDING—The Hon. Mick Veitch to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—

- (1) Is the recently announced \$24.2 million on weed management an annual allocation or an amount allocated over a particular timeframe?
- (2) If the latter, how many years will the additional funding be spent?

7968 WATER, PROPERTY AND HOUSING—WEED AND PEST MANAGEMENT—The Hon. Mick Veitch to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

- (1) What is the annual expenditure of weed and pest management by Crown Lands since 2015-16?

David Blunt
Clerk of the Parliament

Authorised by the Parliament of New South Wales