



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

2023-24

FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-EIGHTH PARLIAMENT

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

No. 72

THURSDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2024

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

Publication of Questions	Answer to be lodged by
Q & A No. 43 (Including Question Nos 2348 to 2417)	14 March 2024
Q & A No. 69 (Including Question Nos 3498 to 3579)	19 September 2024
Q & A No. 70 (Including Question Nos 3580 to 3628)	22 October 2024
Q & A No. 71 (Including Question Nos 3629 to 3643)	23 October 2024
Q & A No. 72 (Including Question Nos 3644 to 3681)	24 October 2024

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15 AUGUST 2024

(Paper No. 69)

- * 3498 CORRESPONDENCE REGARDING RESURFACING PROJECT - MONA VALE ROAD—Mr Rory Amon to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

On 7 August 2024, the Parliamentary Secretary for Roads, Ms Anna Watson MP sent a letter to the Member for Pittwater (Ministerial Correspondence – TfNSW ref: 02148237) advising that ConnectSydney was undertaking a ‘resurfacing project along Mona Vale Road in August 2024’:

- (1) Could the Minister please provide further details of this resurfacing project, including:
- (a) What precise sections of the road will be resurfaced?
 - (b) What is the nature of the resurfacing works?
 - (c) Will it be repairs of potholes only or more comprehensive works?

Answer—

I am advised

ConnectSydney is currently resurfacing sections of Mona Vale Road between Richmond Avenue and the St Ives Showground. Local residents have been notified of these works, which are expected to be completed by 29 September 2024.

Works will be undertaken on large sections of pavement in the westbound lanes only and will include removing and replacing sections of asphalt to create a smoother and safer road surface.

- * 3499 NARRABEEN NORTH BUSINESS COMMUNITY GROUP - CORRESPONDENCE—Mr Rory Amon to ask the Minister for Local Government—

- (1) Was an email sent to Minister Hoenig, dated 23 June 2024, on behalf of the Narrabeen North Business Community Group?
- (a) If so, does the Minister have plans to meet with the community group to discuss the matters raised?
 - (b) If so, when is that meeting scheduled to take place?
 - (i) If not, why not?

Answer—

- (1) I am advised: yes
- (a - b) All meetings I have as Minister for Local Government are appropriately disclosed in my Ministerial diary.

- * 3500 5KM RULE - REGISTERED CLUBS ACT 1976—Mr Rory Amon to ask the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Veterans, Minister for Medical Research, and Minister for the Central Coast—

- (1) What is the rationale for the 5km rule under section 30(3B) of the REGISTERED CLUBS ACT 1976?
- (2) Does the Government have plans to remove the 5km rule?
- (a) If not, why not?

Answer—

- (1) The 5km rule, under Section 30(3b) of the Registered Clubs Act 1976, reflects the view that registered clubs in NSW exist to deliver a wide range of benefits to their members and local communities.
- (2) The Government is currently considering whether the 5km rule remains relevant and has consulted with stakeholders on this matter.

* 3501 AVERAGE PASSENGER NUMBERS - B1—Mr Rory Amon to ask the Minister for Transport—

For the period between 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024, could the Minister please advise (and please provide exact average numbers for each bus stop):

- (1) The average number of B1 passengers beginning their trip at Wynyard Station, Carrington St, Stand B between 4.30pm and 6.30pm, every Monday – Friday and tapping off at:
 - (a) Neutral Bay Junction?
 - (b) Spit Junction?
 - (c) Manly Vale?
 - (d) Warringah Mall?
 - (e) Dee Why?
 - (f) Collaroy?
 - (g) Narrabeen?
 - (h) Warriewood?
 - (i) Mona Vale?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) Data is only available in hourly blocks, as such the data provided is for 4:00pm and 7:00pm. Where a weekday falls on a public holiday or school holidays, these figures have been excluded from the analysis.
 - (a) 374 passengers.
 - (b) 224 passengers.
 - (c) 320 passengers.
 - (d) 353 passengers.
 - (e) 571 passengers.
 - (f) 169 passengers.
 - (g) 119 passengers.
 - (h) 194 passengers.
 - (i) 210 passengers.

* 3502 AVERAGE DAILY NUMBER OF TRIPS—Mr Rory Amon to ask the Minister for Transport—

Could the Minister please advise:

- (1) The average daily number of trips for the Avalon Beach to Stokes Point (Loop Service) 192 route every Monday – Friday between 1 July 2023 –30 June 2024?

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- (2) The average daily number of trips for the Avalon Beach to Stokes Point (Loop Service) 192 route every Saturday – Sunday between 1 July 2023 –30 June 2024?
- (3) The average daily number of trips for the Avalon Beach to Taylors Point (Loop Service) 191 route every Monday – Friday between 1 July 2023 –30 June 2024?
- (4) The average daily number of trips for the Avalon Beach to Taylors Point (Loop Service) 191 route every Saturday – Sunday between 1 July 2023 –30 June 2024?
- (5) The average daily number of trips for the Bayview Garden Village to Narrabeen and Frenchs Forest 155 route every Monday – Friday between 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024?
- (6) The average daily number of trips for the Narrabeen and Frenchs Forest to Bayview Garden Village 155 route every Monday – Friday between 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024?
- (7) The average daily number of trips for Bayview Garden Village to Narrabeen and Frenchs Forest 155 route every Saturday - Sunday between 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024?
- (8) The average daily number of trips for the Narrabeen and Frenchs Forest to Bayview Garden Village 155 route every Saturday – Sunday between 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024?
- (9) The average daily number of trips for the Mona Vale to Narrabeen 182 route every Monday – Friday between 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024?
- (10) The average daily number of trips for the Narrabeen to Mona Vale 182 route every Monday – Friday between 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024?
- (11) The average daily number of trips for Mona Vale to Narrabeen 182 route every Saturday - Sunday between 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024?
- (12) The average daily number of trips for the Narrabeen to Mona Vale 182 route every Saturday – between 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024?
- (13) The average daily number of trips for the Mona Vale to Narrabeen via Warriewood Valley 185 route every Monday – Friday between 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024?
- (14) The average daily number of trips for the Narrabeen to Mona Vale via Warriewood Valley 185 route every Monday – Friday between 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024?
- (15) The average daily number of trips for Mona Vale to Narrabeen via Warriewood Valley 185 route every Saturday - Sunday between 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024?
- (16) The average daily number of trips for the Narrabeen to Mona Vale via Warriewood Valley 185 route every Saturday – Sunday between 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024?
- (17) The average daily number of 181X passengers beginning their trip at Stop ID 210125, 210150, 210152 and 210153 every Monday – Friday between 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) 48 passenger trips.
- (2) 24 passenger trips.
- (3) 68 passenger trips.
- (4) 40 passenger trips.
- (5) 61 passenger trips.
- (6) 59 passenger trips.
- (7) 38 passenger trips.

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- (8) 37 passenger trips.
 - (9) 183 passenger trips.
 - (10) 197 passenger trips.
 - (11) 96 passenger trips.
 - (12) 100 passenger trips.
 - (13) 230 passenger trips.
 - (14) 196 passenger trips.
 - (15) 130 passenger trips.
 - (16) 118 passenger trips.
 - (17) There was an average of 57181X passengers who began their trip at Stop IDs 210125, 210150, 210152 and 210153 each weekday, every Monday -Friday between 1 July 2023 -30 June 2024.

There was an average of less than 20 passengers who began their trip at Stop ID 210125 Narrabeen B-Line, Pittwater Road, Stop ID 210150 Pittwater Road before Robertson Street, Stop ID 210152 Pittwater Road after Goodwin Street and Stop ID 210153 Pittwater Road after Clarke Street.

* 3503 REGION 8 FULL TIME EMPLOYED DRIVERS—Mr Rory Amon to ask the Minister for Transport—

- (1) Can the Minister please advise how many full-time equivalent drivers were employed to provide services in Region 8 as at each of the following dates:
 - (a) 30 June 2023?
 - (b) 31 December 2023?
 - (c) 30 June 2024?
 - (d) As at the date of this question or the closest date for which records are available?
- (2) Please advise how many drivers were employed on a casual basis to provide services in Region 8 as at each of the following dates:
 - (a) 30 June 2023?
 - (b) 31 December 2023?
 - (c) 30 June 2024?
 - (d) As at the date of this question or the closest date for which records are available?
- (3) Noting the changed timetable in July 2023 and ongoing recruitment of bus drivers, when will the Region 8 timetable be reviewed to provide for an increase in timetabled services once driver numbers increase?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) (a) 616.
- (b) 644.
- (c) 732.
- (d) 723.
- (2) (a) 54.
- (b) 58.

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- (c) 43.
(d) 46.
- (3) Transport for NSW is moving to a program of regular service adjustments for Greater Sydney contracts. Region 8, along with the other regions will have service adjustments during the second half of 2024, and this will be ongoing.
- * 3504 VACANCIES FOR SCHOOL CROSSING SUPERVISORS—Mr Rory Amon to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—
- (1) What is the exact number of vacancies for school crossing supervisors in New South Wales as at the most recent date for which records are kept (irrespective of whether those vacancies are currently being advertised)?
- (2) What is the exact number of vacancies for school crossing supervisors which exist in the Northern Beaches Local Government area as at the most recent date for which records are kept (irrespective of whether those vacancies are currently being advertised)?
- (3) What is the exact number of school crossing supervisors currently engaged or employed in New South Wales?
- (4) What is the exact number of school cross supervisors currently engaged or employed in the Northern Beaches Local Government area?
- (5) What is the exact number of school crossing supervisors currently engaged or employed at schools in the following post codes: 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2084?
- (6) What is the exact number of vacancies for school crossing supervisors which exist in schools in the following post codes: 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2084, as the most recent date for which records are kept (irrespective of whether those vacancies are currently being advertised)?
- (7) If any of the answers to the above questions reference publicly available material, could you please provide URL and page number where the relevant information is located?

Answer—

I am advised

As of 19 August 2024:

- (1) 311.
(2) 10.
(3) 1,507.
(4) 47.
(5)
- 2101: 5
 - 2102: 0
 - 2103: 1
 - 2104: 1
 - 2105: 0
 - 2106: 2

- 2107: 0
- 2108: 0
- 2084: 0

(6)

- 2101: 0
- 2102: 2
- 2103: 0
- 2104: 0
- 2105: 0
- 2106: 0
- 2107: 1
- 2108: 0
- 2084: 0

(7) Information is available on the Transport for NSW website: <https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/roadsafety/community/schools/school-crossing-supervisors>

* 3505 SERVICE NSW WARRIEWOOD FULL TIME STAFF—Mr Rory Amon to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice—

Could the Minister please advise:

- (1) How many full-time equivalent staff were employed at Service NSW Warriewood as at each of the following dates:
 - (a) 31 December 2023?
 - (b) 30 June 2024?
 - (c) As at the most recent date for which records are held?
- (2) How many casual staff were employed at Service NSW Warriewood on each of the following dates:
 - (a) 31 December 2023?
 - (b) 30 June 2024?
 - (c) As at the most recent date for which records are held?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1)
 - (a) 14.3
 - (b) 13.7
 - (c) 13.7 (as at 31 July 2024)
- (2) Casual staff are deployed from a central pool and are not employed by individual Service NSW service centres.

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* 3506 WATER SAMPLES - BEACH WATCH TESTING STATIONS—Mr Rory Amon to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice representing the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—

- (1) How often are water samples taken and tested from each of the Beach Watch testing stations at:
 - (a) Bayview Baths?
 - (b) South Scotland Island?
 - (c) North Scotland Island?
 - (d) Taylors Point Baths?
 - (e) Clareville Beach?
 - (f) Paradise Beach Baths?
 - (g) Elvina Bay?
 - (h) Coasters Retreat - The Basin?
 - (i) Great Mackerel Beach?
- (2) On what date was the last water sample taken and what was the result for each of the above stations?
- (3) What are the anticipated dates on which water samples will be taken until 31 December 2024?

Answer—

- (1) Beachwatch routinely takes and tests water samples from Pittwater swim sites weekly during the swimming season from October to April, and monthly from May to September.
- (2) The most recent water samples were taken from Pittwater swim sites on 7 August 2024 and tested for bacteria (enterococci). All swim sites recorded low bacteria counts (colony forming units per 100 millilitres) and were identified as suitable for swimming:
 - (a) Bayview Baths - enterococci 0 cfu/100ml.
 - (b) South Scotland Island - enterococci 0 cfu/100ml.
 - (c) North Scotland Island - enterococci 0 cfu/100ml.
 - (d) Taylors Point Baths - enterococci 4 cfu/100ml.
 - (e) Clareville Beach - enterococci 5 cfu/100ml.
 - (f) Paradise Beach Baths - enterococci 0 cfu/100ml.
 - (g) Elvina Bay- enterococci 1 cfu/100ml.
 - (h) Coasters Retreat - The Basin - enterococci 2 cfu/100ml.
 - (i) Great Mackerel Beach - enterococci 0 cfu/100ml.
- (3) Water samples will be taken on 6 September 2024, and then weekly during the period from October to December 2024. Sampling dates will be confirmed once the schedule is finalised in September.

* 3507 SUSPECTED ABUSE AT SCHOOLS REPORTING—Mrs Tina Ayyad to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) What processes and/or policies does the Department of Education have regarding the reporting of suspected abuse of children at a school?
 - (a) Can the Minister provide a copy of the policy and/or procedure?

- (b) If not, why not?
- (2) What training is provided to teachers and principals regarding the reporting of incidents?
- (3) Does the Department of Education conduct independent investigations following reports?
 - (a) If not, why not?
 - (b) If yes, how many were conducted in;
 - (i) 2023?
 - (ii) 2024?

Answer—

The Department of Education's Code of Conduct and the 'Child Protection: Responding to and Reporting Students at Risk of Harm' policy and procedures. They are available in the department's policy library at: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library>

All department staff, and non-department staff working in education settings, are required to complete annual child protection training. Staff are taught how to recognise the indicators and factors of abuse, how to respond to ensure the safety of all students and how to appropriately report these concerns.

The department's Professional and Ethical Standards Directorate (PES) provides significant training and support to employees, in particular principals and workplace managers, in relation to the reporting of allegations of employee misconduct involving child protection concerns.

PES is responsible for the investigation of allegations of employee misconduct. The Office of the Children's Guardian administers, oversees and audits PES investigations into allegations made about employees that are reportable under the Children's Guardian Act 2019.

In the period 1 January to 31 December 2023 PES progressed 247 allegations of reportable conduct for investigation. In the period 1 January to 30 June 2024 PES progressed 100 allegations of reportable conduct for investigation.

Reportable conduct includes a sexual offence, sexual misconduct, ill-treatment or neglect of a child, assault against a child, failure to protect or failure to report offences under the Crimes Act 1900 and behaviour that causes significant emotional or psychological harm to a child.

* 3508 RESPONSE TO CORRESPONDENCE—Mrs Tina Ayyad to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) What is the average response time for the Minister for Education to reply to correspondence?
 - (a) Did the Minister receive my correspondence sent on 28 February 2024?
 - (b) Do you have plans to reply to this correspondence?
 - (i) What were the reasons for the delay in a reply?

Answer—

I am advised this correspondence has been responded to.

Please refer to the Ministerial correspondence policy <https://www.nsw.gov.au/nsw-government/ministers/ministers-correspondence-policy>

* 3509 LAND RATES IN WALGETT SHIRE—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Local Government—

- (1) Are land rates charged to property owners in the Walgett Shire more than double those charged in affluent areas of Metropolitan Sydney?
 - (a) Why?

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- (b) What services are Walgett Shire Council providing to Landholders as a part of their rates notices/charges?

Answer—

- (1) A comparison of average annual rates is below:

- The average residential rates for Walgett for 2022-23 was \$407.33.
- The average residential rates for 2022-23 for all large rural councils was \$886.89.
- The average residential rates for 2022-2023 for metropolitan councils was \$1172.42.

Individual circumstances may vary, depending on the land value of the property being charged.

- (a) See above.
- (b) The services provided to Walgett rate payers are captured in its annual Operational Plan and include, but are not limited to water, sewer, roads, libraries, swimming pools, sporting fields, street lighting, cultural services, domestic waste and stormwater management.

* 3510 BEVERLY HILLS COMMUTER CAR PARK—Mr Mark Coure to ask the Minister for Transport—

- (1) Since April 2024, what consultation, if any, has been undertaken with the local community and business owners regarding the parking model of the Beverly Hills Commuter Car Park?
- (2) Since April 2024, have Transport for NSW investigated the feasibility of a parking structure model like Revesby Commuter Car Park, to ensure that customers for local businesses have somewhere to park Monday to Friday, 9am – 5pm?
- (a) If so, what was the outcome of this investigation?

Answer—

I am advised

Transport for NSW continues to engage with Georges River Council, local businesses, and the community on the progress of the Beverly Hills Commuter Car Park. By supplying a commuter car parking facility, Park&Ride is designed to improve parking availability in nearby streets and the town centre. Further information about the Beverly Hills Commuter Car Park, including community notifications, is publicly available on the Transport for NSW website: <https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/projects/current-projects/beverly-hills-commuter-car-park>

* 3511 AGED CRIME PREVENTION OFFICERS—Mr Mark Coure to ask the Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism, and Minister for the Hunter—

- (1) How many Aged Crime Prevention Officers (ACPOs) are employed across New South Wales?
- (2) Which Police Area Commands (PACs) are they located at?
- (3) Does the Minister plan to introduce more ACPOs to PACs across New South Wales?
- (a) Is there a target number for additional ACPOs?
- (b) Is there a target date to have additional ACPOs employed by?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Nine.
- (2) Central West Police District, Coffs-Clarence Police District, Eastern Suburbs Police Area Command, Monaro Police District, Newcastle City Police District, North Shore Police Area

Command, Orana-Mid Western Police District, Port Stephens-Hunter Police District and South Coast Police District.

- (3) A review of the Aged Crime Prevention Officer program has been completed and the review findings are currently under consideration by the NSW Police Force.

* 3512 MOU WITH MULTICULTURAL NSW—Mr Mark Coure to ask the Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism, and Minister for the Hunter—

- (1) How frequently has the NSW Police Force engaged Multicultural NSW's translating services between:
- (a) 1 January 2023 to 30 June 2023?
 - (b) 1 July 2023 to 31 December 2023?
 - (c) 1 January 2024 to 30 June 2024?
- (2) How frequently has the NSW Police Force engaged Multicultural NSW's interpreting services between:
- (a) 1 January 2023 to 30 June 2023?
 - (b) 1 July 2023 to 31 December 2023?
 - (c) 1 January 2024 to 30 June 2024?
- (3) What is the breakdown, by language, of interpreting requests made?
- (4) What is the breakdown, by language, of translation requests made?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1)
- (a) 130
 - (b) 79
 - (c) 85
- (2)
- (a) 2,345
 - (b) 1,678
 - (c) 1,937

Note: Data does not include telephone interpreting provided by Multicultural NSW.

- (3) The table below* shows the number of interpreting requests made by the NSW Police Force to Multicultural NSW by language:

* Please see Attachment A on the Parliament's website under Questions and Answers Tracking.

- (4) The table below* shows the number of translation requests made by the NSW Police Force to Multicultural NSW by language:

* Please see Attachment A on the Parliament's website under Questions and Answers Tracking.

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* 3513 MULTICULTURAL LIAISON OFFICERS—Mr Mark Coure to ask the Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism, and Minister for the Hunter—

- (1) How many Multicultural Liaison Officers (MCLOs) are there across New South Wales?
- (2) Which police stations across New South Wales have MCLOs and how many are employed within each station?
- (3) What languages are provided at each station by the MCLO employed there?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) 30.
- (2) Multicultural Liaison Officers (MCLOs) MCLOs work across the state to provide support in any area they are needed.
- (3) Languages spoken by MCLOs include:

Arabic	Chiu-Chau	Kikuyu	Spanish
Assamese	Croatian	Lao	Swahili
Assyrian	Dari	Mandarin	Syriac
Balinese	French	Pashto	Thai
Bangla	Hai Nam	Portuguese	Tongan
Bosnian	Hindi	Samoan	Turkish
Cantonese	Indonesian	Serbian	Urdu
Chaldean	Khmer	Shanghainese	Vietnamese

* 3514 UPDATE TO QON 2671 - ILLEGAL TREE REMOVAL—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces representing the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

In relation to the answer to QoN 2671 on Illegal Tree Removal – Review:

- (1) Is the Department of Planning and Environment considering whether the current penalty framework for tree vandalism is effective?
 - (a) If yes, will the Department of Planning and Environment consider undertaking a formal review?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Yes. The NSW Government is consulting with councils as the primary regulator of illegal tree clearing and investigating opportunities to strengthen the current penalty framework and promote tree retention.
 - (a) Yes.

* 3515 COMMONWEALTH MINISTER FOR CITIES—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Premier—

As the Commonwealth Government has re-established a Minister for Cities:

- (1) Which New South Wales minister will be working directly and/or have responsibility to work with the Commonwealth Minister for Cities?
- (2) Does the Government have a plan, purpose, or policy framework for cities in NSW?
 - (a) If yes, what is the URL?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Minister for Planning and Public Spaces has the responsibility for city planning and has already been working with the Commonwealth Minister for Cities. The Minister for Planning and Public Spaces has been consulted on the draft National Urban Policy, which is being developed by the Commonwealth Government.

The Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure is currently reviewing the suite of existing land use plans, which includes plans for cities within NSW. Existing land use plans for cities and priority growth areas and precincts within NSW can be found at: <https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/plans-for-your-area>

* 3516 PREMIER'S DEPARTMENT DISCLOSURE LOG - STATIONERY AND OFFICE SUPPLIES—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

Regarding the Premier's Department disclosure log which lists ministerial expenditure that includes "Stationery & Office Supplies" worth \$28,495 for your ministerial office in 2023-24:

- (1) What were the three largest individual expenditure items of stationary and/or office supplies, and the individual amount of each?

Answer—

I am advised:

Spending on office stationery is in accordance with standard procurement arrangements.

* 3517 PERSONALISED NUMBER PLATES—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

In relation to personalised number plates:

- (1) What defines / determines personal plates?
- (2) When were personal plates introduced?
- (3) Are there individuals who owned a plate before personal plates were introduced, that now have a plate considered to be a personal plates?
 - (a) If yes, do these individuals need to pay for personal plates?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) Personalised Plates are plates where the content is selected by the customer from a defined syntax within a certain range set by Transport for NSW.
- (2) 1969.

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- (3) Plates issued prior to 2000 do not attract an annual fee unless the plate has changed hands and the recipient is not exempt (direct family member) or the customers lose their Special Number Plate rights due to non-renewal.

* 3518 BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION ACT 2016—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice representing the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—

In relation to the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016:

- (1) Are there any plans to expand power to local governments / councils for enforcement in relation to Section 13.29, “Responsibility of landholder for activities carried out on the land”?

Answer—

- (1) At present, there are no specific reform proposals relating to enforcement of Section 13.29 of the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (BC Act).

As indicated in the NSW Plan for Nature, the NSW Government is committed to amending and strengthening the BC Act. This will include consideration of enhancements to compliance and enforcement powers and penalties.

The Government is considering the scope and timing for reforms to the BC Act. Stakeholders, including local councils and landholders, will be consulted as part of determining proposed amendments.

* 3519 ILLEGAL POISONING OF TREES IN KILLARA—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice representing the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—

- (1) Have there been instances of illegal poisoning of high blue gum forest trees in Buckingham Road in Killara?

(a) If yes, what action is and/or has been taken?

Answer—

- (1) On 10 July 2024, the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) received a report that trees that are part of Blue Gum High Forest had allegedly been poisoned at 14-16 Buckingham Road in Killara. Blue Gum High Forest is listed under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 as a critically endangered ecological community.

(a) This matter is currently under investigation. The DCCEEW Compliance Policy and prioritisation procedures are applied to these matters and the investigation is completed as appropriate. No further information can be provided at this stage.

* 3520 GIPA APPLICATION - FUND PROCESSING—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Premier—

In relation to the Government Information (Public Access) (GIPA) Act:

- (1) Did your office receive a GIPA application and \$30 bank cheque that my office submitted on 8 August 2024?

(2) Does the Premier’s Office have any plans to allow GIPA \$30 application fees to be processed via Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) and/or debit/credit card, rather than a bank cheque or an agency initiated transfer?

(a) If yes, will this be extended to all ministerial offices?

Answer—

I am advised:

Under section 51 of the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA Act), an agency's decision as to the validity of an application must be made and notified to the applicant as soon as practicable after the agency receives the application and in any event within 5 working days after the application is received.

Section 41 of the GIPA Act sets out requirements for the making of an access application, including in relation to the payment of an application fee.

My Office currently accepts application fee payments by cheque and EFT.

* 3521 PREMIER'S DEPARTMENT DISCLOSURE LOG - TAXIS—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Premier—

Regarding the Premier's Department disclosure log which lists ministerial expenditure that includes "Taxis" worth \$36,999 for your ministerial office in 2023-24:

(1) What was the largest individual taxi fare amount, and what was the origin and destination of the taxi?

Answer—

I am advised:

It is expected that Ministerial staff comply with the Ministers' Office Handbook, which states the following:

"Taxis or ride share services are an option for business trips, including trips:

- Home after evening duty (e.g., when Parliament is sitting, when required to perform the duties of the job, etc.) where public transport is not reasonably available or where it may be unsafe to use public transport. Generally, use of taxis for these purposes would occur after 8:00pm.
- To or from the airport in connection with early morning or late-night flights on official trips.
- To meetings when it would be unsafe or uneconomical to use public transport."

* 3522 PREMIER'S DEPARTMENT DISCLOSURE LOG - CATERING—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education—

Regarding the Premier's Department disclosure log which lists ministerial expenditure that includes "Catering" worth \$5,233 for your ministerial office in 2023-24:

(1) What external stakeholders was catering organised for?

(2) Did this expenditure include alcohol?

(a) If yes, how much was spent on alcohol?

(b) If yes, did it include gin?

Answer—

(1) The catering was for the NSW Parliamentary Friends of TAFE event. The event was run in conjunction with the 'Beyond the Brush' TAFE Art exhibition in Parliament. It was attended by TAFE students, their families and teachers; Members of the Government, the Liberal and National parties, the Greens and cross bench members. I congratulate the three co-chairs of the NSW Parliamentary Friends of TAFE, Maryanne Stuart, Geoff Provest and Tamara Smith in starting such an important group.

(2) (a) No money was spent on alcohol from the Ministerial Budget.

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(b) The AHA donated alcohol to the co-convenors of the NSW Parliamentary Friends of TAFE event, Geoff Provest and Maryanne Stuart.

* 3523 TERRIGAL POLICE STATION—Mr Adam Crouch to ask the Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism, and Minister for the Hunter—

- (1) Can the Minister advise as to why criminal offenders are not held in Terrigal Police Station and are instead transferred to Gosford Police Station?
- (2) Can the Minister advise if the upgrade of the ageing Terrigal Police Station will be included in the 2025-26 NSW Budget?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Terrigal Police Station is not a designated custody station. Individuals taken into custody are processed through Gosford Police Station, which is a designated custody facility. The custody suite at Gosford Police Station has been modernised, incorporating safer design custody management, including various technology solutions, including CCTV capability.
- (2) No.

* 3524 LOCAL SMALL COMMITMENTS ALLOCATION - REMAINING FUNDS—Mr Adam Crouch to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

Noting that \$230,000 out of \$400,000 has been allocated under the Local Small Commitments Allocation to five projects across the Terrigal Electorate, can the Minister:

- (1) Confirm what projects the remaining \$170,000 will be allocated to?
- (2) Advise as to why there is an outstanding amount of \$170,000 over a year from announcement of successful projects?

Answer—

I have approved all projects for delivery in the Terrigal electorate.

The NSW Government put every single project through a rigorous assessment process detailed in the LSCA Program Guidelines, including assessment by an expert independent assessment panel.

The Local Small Commitments Allocation has been designed to evenly spread funding across all 93 Legislative Assembly electorates.

The election commitment ensured \$400,000 went to every electorate in NSW regardless of political allegiance.

* 3525 FUNDING FOR THE RE-DEVELOPMENT OF GOSFORD TAFE—Mr Adam Crouch to ask the Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education—

With Central Coast Council reaffirming their intent to proceed with the transfer of the old Council chambers to TAFE NSW, can the Minister:

- (1) Confirm the Government and TAFE NSW remain committed to developing a brand-new TAFE in Gosford?
- (2) Confirm funding will be provided for the development of the new Gosford TAFE in the for the project in the 2025-26 NSW Budget

Answer—

(1 - 2) inclusive

I refer the Member to evidence provided during the hearing of Portfolio Committee No.3 – Education (Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education) held Wednesday 4 September 2024.

I additionally note that despite the announcement of plans for a new Gosford TAFE in 2021, this project was left unfunded and unbudgeted by the former government.

* 3526 PUBLIC SCHOOL CLEANER CONDITIONS—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) What steps is the Government taking to improve the working conditions and job security of school cleaners in public schools?
- (2) Will the Government consider increasing cleaning hours allocated to public schools to address the growing complexities and sizes of school facilities?
- (3) Is there a plan to revert the employment of school cleaners to a public provision under the Department of Education to ensure higher standards of cleanliness and safety in our schools?

Answer—

- (1) The NSW Government committed to reviewing the whole-of-government cleaning contract at the 2023 State Election.
- (2) The cleaning services in schools review has investigated potential cleaning service models, and the final outcome will be determined by Cabinet.
- (3) The government is committed to securing the best outcomes for NSW public schools and those who support them.

* 3527 ACCESS TO SPECIALISED MAMMOGRAM SERVICES—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

With respect to access to specialised mammogram services in Murray Electorate:

- (1) Does the Government have plans to increase availabilities for Mammograms for women on hormone replacement therapy (HRT) and with breast cancer who require specialised services?
 - (a) If so, what are those plans?

Answer—

I'm advised:

Health services are not provided on an electorate basis.

BreastScreen NSW provides free breast cancer screening mammograms to asymptomatic women over 40 years of age, including for women who use hormone replacement therapy. Permanent clinics and mobile vans provide the service at more than 250 locations across NSW.

Ongoing care and treatment of women with breast cancer is not part of the BreastScreen NSW program. The patient's specialist will arrange any imaging services needed, such as surveillance mammograms or ultrasounds.

Clients can return to BreastScreen for ongoing mammograms 5 years after a cancer diagnosis if cleared by their specialist.

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- * 3528 ACCESS TO MEDICAL TREATMENT—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

With respect to the Griffith Base Hospital:

- (1) Does the Government plan to bring treatment for services including burns and broken bones back to this Hospital?
 - (a) If so, what are those plans?

Answer—

I'm advised:

The NSW Statewide Severe Burn Injury Service provides clinical guidance and virtual care services for local management of appropriate burns patients by clinicians at Griffith Base Hospital. Patients requiring specialised burns treatment are referred to Concord Repatriation General Hospital or the Children's Hospital at Westmead.

The \$250 million Griffith Base Hospital redevelopment will support the delivery of a specialist orthopaedic service to the Griffith region, including access to surgery and a multi-disciplinary fracture clinic. The new Clinical Services Building is due for completion in 2025. Major and complex trauma patients will continue to be initially referred to the designated trauma centre at Wagga Wagga Base Hospital.

- * 3529 STUDENT SUPPORT OFFICERS—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Given the essential role that Student Support Officers play in supporting students' academic and emotional well-being across New South Wales, what measures is the Minister taking to ensure continued investment in these positions to meet the growing needs of students?
- (2) What steps is the Government taking to ensure that all students, particularly in rural and regional areas, have access to adequate mental health support, including services provided by Student Support Officers, amidst the current shortage of paediatric specialists?

Answer—

Student Support Officers are appointed to all high schools, as well as identified Schools for Specific Purposes and central schools, to support students in local communities.

There are more than 2,000 wellbeing roles in NSW public schools, including school psychologists, school counsellors, student support officers, wellbeing nurse coordinators and school chaplains/wellbeing officers.

The department also has a School Counselling and Telepsychology Rural and Remote Schools team of senior psychologists education providing support to students and schools in rural and remote areas through a combination of in-person and telepsychology services.

- * 3530 WENTWORTH POINT HIGH SCHOOL—Ms Stephanie Di Pasqua to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) What is the catchment area for Wentworth Point High School?
- (2) What suburbs and areas of the Drummoyne electorate are included in the catchment?

Answer—

School intake areas are publicly available.

* 3531 WENTWORTH POINT HIGH SCHOOL - YEAR 8 2025—Ms Stephanie Di Pasqua to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) During the expression of interest process, how many applications were received by the Department for students to enrol in Year 8 in 2025?
- (2) Why was the decision made to not accept enrolments for Year 8 students in 2025?

Answer—

The Department of Education aims to cater for the diverse curriculum interests of the community in the intake area for Wentworth Point High School to allow for the best educational opportunities.

Unfortunately, after opening an expression of interest period twice during June and July 2024, there was insufficient interest to establish a Year 8 cohort in 2025. A thorough analysis of the expression of interest responses has shown that the low number of expected enrolments would limit curriculum offerings, particularly for elective subjects.

Further information in relation to this matter, which was shared with the local community, is available on the department's website.

* 3532 RHODES FERRY WHARF—Ms Stephanie Di Pasqua to ask the Minister for Transport—

- (1) Why was the delivery of the Rhodes Ferry Wharf removed from Budget Papers in 2023-24 and 2024-25?
- (2) Can you provide an update on the Rhodes Ferry Wharf?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) The Rhodes Ferry Wharf was not previously included in the Budget Papers. Not all individual projects are captured in the Budget papers.
- (2) Transport for NSW continues to work closely with the City of Canada Bay and NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure to plan the infrastructure required to support the development of the Rhodes Peninsula.

* 3533 RHODES TRAIN STATION UPGRADE—Ms Stephanie Di Pasqua to ask the Minister for Transport—

- (1) Does the Government plan to upgrade the platforms at Rhodes Train Station, which are already oversubscribed in peak times, even before Rhodes East development begins?

Answer—

I am advised

Transport for NSW is working with the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure, City of Canada Bay Council, and adjacent developers to monitor the timing and scale of development around Rhodes Station. Design work has begun to identify the scale of any future upgrade.

* 3534 RHODES FIRE STATION—Ms Stephanie Di Pasqua to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice—

- (1) Can you provide an update on the delivery of a new Rhodes Fire Station?

Answer—

Please refer to the answer to QON 3119 - RHODES FIRE STATION.

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* 3535 439 BUS—Ms Stephanie Di Pasqua to ask the Minister for Transport—

- (1) How many complaints have been received about the cancellation of the 439 bus in:
 - (a) 2020?
 - (b) 2021?
 - (c) 2022?
 - (d) 2023?
 - (e) 2024?
- (2) Are there plans to bring back the 439 bus?
 - (a) If not why not?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) Since September 2020, there have been 220 complaints received.
 - (a) 86.
 - (b) 32.
 - (c) 86.
 - (d) 10.
 - (e) 6.
- (2) Services are currently provided by routes 464, 502, 438X and 438N, as well as the Bridj On-demand service.

* 3536 BUS LANE CAMERA - GLADESVILLE BRIDGE—Ms Stephanie Di Pasqua to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

- (1) Does the Government have plans to install a bus lane camera on the Gladesville Bridge heading eastbound to the city?

Answer—

I am advised

Transport for NSW is investigating and reviewing options for a bus lane camera, or similar, between Gladesville Bridge and Lyons Road.

* 3537 PILOT PIG BOUNTY PROGRAM—Mr Philip Donato to ask the Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Western New South Wales—

Will you consider pilot bounty program to increase the effective management of wild pigs and dogs, which continue to plague and terrorise our state's agricultural sector?

Answer—

Past bounty schemes have shown not to deliver a significant reduction in pest animal populations and their impacts compared to current approaches in NSW.

The NSW Government has invested an additional \$13 million to reduce the spread of feral pigs and other pests across NSW. This, along with the services provided by LLS, such as landholder education, have seen successful results in invasive pest management.

* 3538 HOUSING SUBCOMMITTEE—Ms Jenny Leong to ask the Premier—

- (1) In relation to the new Housing Subcommittee of the New South Wales Cabinet:
 - (a) When was this established?
 - (b) Which Ministers are members?
 - (c) On what basis were Ministers selected for inclusion?
 - (d) What is the Subcommittee's remit?

Answer—

I am advised:

Details of individual Cabinet committee members and the work of Cabinet committees are generally not made public. This reflects the longstanding Cabinet conventions of confidentiality and collective Ministerial responsibility, which are central to the Westminster system of government.

The NSW Cabinet Practice Manual is publicly available on the NSW Government website (<https://www.nsw.gov.au/>) and provides information on the operation of Cabinet and committees in NSW.

* 3539 GLEN INNES HOSPITAL REDEVELOPMENT—Mr Brendan Moylan to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

In relation to funding for the Glen Innes Hospital redevelopment:

- (1) How much funding has been secured for this redevelopment?
- (2) What are the details of the revised design plans?
- (3) Can you explain why the schematic designs were updated, showing a significant downgrading of plans?

Answer—

I'm advised:

The NSW Government has committed \$50 million to the redevelopment of Glen Innes Hospital. The redevelopment will deliver new infrastructure for the emergency department, medical imaging, ambulance bays, mortuary and a new main entrance and car parking. The new building will be linked to the existing hospital ensuring all services remain connected onsite.

The project scope was revised due to the global escalation of building costs within the construction industry. The updated design delivers on current clinical and support priority areas and provides a development zone to allow a staged approach to deliver the full master plan, pending future additional funding.

* 3540 NEW ENGLAND CONSERVATORIUM OF MUSIC LEASE—Mr Brendan Moylan to ask the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Lands and Property, Minister for Multiculturalism, and Minister for Sport—

In relation to a lease for the New England Conservatorium of Music (NECOM) at the Old Teacher's College in Armidale:

- (1) Can you explain the current lease arrangements for NECOM based at this site?

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- (2) Will you consider a 10-year lease for NECOM at the Old Teacher's College, so that they have security in their tenure?
- (a) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The Secretary of the Department of Education (DoE) is the appointed Crown Land Manager (CLM) for the Old Teacher's College in Armidale.

The New England Conservatorium of Music (NECOM) should contact DoE to discuss lease arrangements.

- (2) The DoE as CLM requires consent from the Minister for Lands and Property to enter into any agreement longer than 12 months.

The Minister for Lands and Property would consider providing consent to DoE for a longer-term agreement provided the appropriate terms and conditions are included.

Templates to assist CLMs entering into longer-term agreements can be found on the Crown Lands Reserve Manager website:

reservemanager.crownland.nsw.gov.au/data/assets/word_doc/0006/1151898/Non-council-Crown-land-manager-lease-template-2.doc

- * 3541 NURSE VACANCY RATES ACROSS THE NORTHERN TABLELANDS—Mr Brendan Moylan to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

In relation to nurse vacancy rates across the Northern Tablelands:

- (1) What is the nurse vacancy rate in the following local government areas:
- (a) Armidale Regional?
- (b) Glen Innes Severn?
- (c) Gwydir?
- (d) Inverell?
- (e) Moree Plains?
- (f) Uralla?
- (g) Walcha?
- (2) What is the New South Wales state-average nurse vacancy rate?
- (3) What steps are you undertaking to ensure staffing vacancies are filled as priority?

Answer—

I'm advised:

Health services are not provided on the basis of electorate or local government area. NSW Health does not centrally collect vacancy rates for positions and is unable to provide the average nursing vacancy rate.

The Rural Health Workforce Incentive Scheme (RHWIS) enables participating health organisations to offer incentives and benefits at rural and remote locations with hard-to-fill and critical vacancies. Incentive packages of up to \$20,000 can be provided to those willing to relocate and work in these positions. Incentives and benefits include an additional rural and regional health allowance, accommodation assistance, relocation benefits, travel assistance, and ongoing professional development.

The Whole of Health Nursing Agency Panel arrangement will go live in September 2024. This contract arrangement gives all health organisations access to a range of appropriate nursing agencies that have fixed pre negotiated fees. Health organisations can access any of the approved nursing agencies on the panel arrangement to assist with filling their short-term staffing vacancies.

The NSW Health Deployment Program provides nurses, midwives and allied health professionals to fill short-term vacancies across regional, rural and remote NSW for 2 to 13 weeks. Health organisations can use the NSW Health Deployment Program as a temporary measure to fill staffing vacancies as a priority while recruitment is underway.

- * 3542 PROPOSED DAM SAFETY LEVY—Mr Brendan Moylan to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast representing the Minister for Water, Minister for Housing, Minister for Homelessness, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Youth, and Minister for the North Coast—

In relation to the proposed dam safety levy:

- (1) Does the Government plan to adopt the IPART recommendation to introduce a dam safety levy, which will impact local councils across regional New South Wales?
 - (a) If yes, how would you explain this to local councils who are in opposition to the levy?

Answer—

The final report by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) is anticipated by the end of September 2024.

This report will be thoroughly evaluated by government before any determination is made. We take dam safety incredibly seriously and will be guided by experts about the best approach to ensure proper dam safety.

I'd be more than happy to discuss this issue with the Member.

- * 3543 WORLDWIDE SHORTAGE OF INTRAVENOUS FLUIDS—Mr Brendan Moylan to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

In relation to the reported worldwide shortage of intravenous (IV) fluids:

- (1) What steps are you undertaking to ensure that rural and regional hospitals receive an adequate supply of IV fluids during the current shortage?
- (2) How can you ensure an equitable distribution of these fluids, so that regional hospitals don't miss out?

Answer—

I'm advised:

NSW Health is taking all possible steps to minimise any potential disruptions to our services and patients caused by the intravenous (IV) fluid supply issues including:

- Monitoring existing stock at facilities throughout its highly networked health system via twice weekly audits.
- Centralising supply and distribution of available stock of highly impacted products to ensure equitable access amongst all facilities this includes metropolitan, rural and regional facilities.
- Establishment of Intravenous Fluids Stewardship Groups across NSW Health facilities including those in rural and regional areas to act as the central, local resource of expertise on IV fluids, their management and conservation during this disruption to supply.
- Provision of state-level recommendations to ensure conservation of supply and equity of access.

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At this stage, every facility has equitable access to the IV fluids they require to continue to provide safe patient care with clear escalation pathways in place should supply or clinical concerns arise.

* 3544 FLOODING IN PRIVATE FARMLAND—Mr Brendan Moylan to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast representing the Minister for Water, Minister for Housing, Minister for Homelessness, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Youth, and Minister for the North Coast—

- (1) Have the releases of environmental water into the lower Gwydir and Gingham water courses resulted in flooding of private farmland?
- (2) What steps will the Government take to stop this flooding of private landholdings?
- (3) Will the Government provide compensation and/or assistance to the private landholders who are impacted by this flooding?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Gwydir Reconnecting Watercourse Country Program aims to address constraints to environmental flows in the Gwydir floodplain by implementing a range of measures designed and implemented in partnership with watercourse landholders and the broader community.

The NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) - Biodiversity Conservation & Science (BCS) is responsible for the Gwydir Reconnecting Watercourse Country Program. This is therefore a matter for the Hon Penny Sharpe, MLC, in her capacity as Minister for the Environment.

* 3545 APPOINTMENT OF MAGISTRATES - INVERELL AND MOREE CIRCUIT—Mr Brendan Moylan to ask the Attorney General—

In relation to the appointment of a magistrate to the Inverell and Moree Circuit:

- (1) Has a replacement Magistrate been identified for the circuit?
 - (a) If yes, who and when will their appointment commence?
 - (b) What duration will their appointment be?
- (2) Is it anticipated that the replacement Magistrate will reside within the circuit?
- (3) Previously, there was some discussion that this circuit would have two Magistrates appointment, if so, could you please identify the other appointment?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Yes
 - (a) His Honour Acting Magistrate Malcolm MacPherson has been appointed commencing 26 August 2024.
 - (b) The appointment will be for a six month period.
- (2) His Honour Acting Magistrate MacPherson is a resident of the New England Region.
- (3) His Honour Acting Magistrate MacPherson will sit as an additional magistrate on the Moree and Inverell circuit during the first week of each month. The existing Magistrate on the Moree and Inverell circuit is Her Honour Magistrate Catherine Samuels.

- * 3546 LAWNMOWING AND GARDEN SERVICES CONTRACT - ARMIDALE AMBULANCE STATION—Mr Brendan Moylan to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

In relation to the contract between NSW Health and the business trading as Armidale Mowing to provide lawnmowing and garden services at Armidale Ambulance Station:

- (1) Can you explain why this contract was terminated?
- (2) Why is the Government terminating contracts with small local businesses in regional New South Wales?
- (3) Will the Government reconsider the termination of its contract with Armidale Mowing and/or other small businesses in regional New South Wales that have had their contracts with the Government terminated?

Answer—

I'm advised:

NSW Ambulance now engages with the NSW Public Works Multi-Agency Facilities Management Services Contract. This contract includes ground service maintenance at Armidale Ambulance Station.

Questions relating to the Multi-Agency Facilities Management Services Contract are a matter for the Minister for Regional NSW.

- * 3547 SOUTHERN CROSS DISTANCE EDUCATION—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

Regarding Southern Cross Distance Education:

- (1) How many teachers and staff were employed at the Minjungbal Learning Hub in Tweed prior to its closure?
- (2) How many students were enrolled at the Hub prior to its closure?
- (3) On what date was the Hub closed?
- (4) What notice was provided to teachers, staff, students and their families regarding the closure?
- (5) How many FTE teaching positions at the Minjungbal Learning Hub have been transferred to other schools as a result of the closure, and how many FTE temporary teaching contracts have ended?

Answer—

Work is currently underway at Southern Cross School of Distance Education to ensure it is operating within its staffing entitlement. This follows an audit of the school which found enrolment irregularities, requiring a reorganisation of school operations.

The school is working closely with staff, parents and students to support every student to continue to engage in high quality education. The school is providing regular updates to families to ensure they are aware of the changes.

All permanent staff will remain employed by the Department of Education.

- * 3548 EXTENDED CARE PARAMEDICS—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

How many Extended Care Paramedics (ECPs) have joined the multidisciplinary urgent care team in the Tweed Region, and when did the ECPs commence in the Tweed region?

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Answer—

I'm advised:

Three Extended Care Paramedics commenced on 12 August 2024.

- * 3549 BOATING INFRASTRUCTURE AND DREDGING SCHEME—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Transport—

Regarding the \$16 million for dredging announced under the new Boating Infrastructure and Dredging Scheme, where are the key locations along the New South Wales coast where this funding will be used to deliver new dredging projects?

Answer—

I am advised

The NSW Coastal Dredging Strategy lists Key Investment Locations, and Priority Regional Locations, which will be considered for dredging during the delivery of the Priority Dredging Program. This is publicly available on the Transport for NSW website: <https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/system/files/media/documents/2024/NSW-Coastal-Dredging-Strategy-2019-2024.pdf>

- * 3550 SEDIMENT RUN-OFF POLLUTION FROM CONSTRUCTION SITES—Mr Michael Regan to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice representing the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—

- (1) Are there any unresolved investigations into pollution events reported in connection to the Forest High School construction site in Allambie Heights?
 - (a) If yes, what incident dates are being investigated?
 - (b) What is the status of each investigation?
 - (c) Were samples collected by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) within the timeframe required to be considered valid?
 - (d) Can an indicative timeframe be provided for when the investigation/s will be finalised?
- (2) In relation to remedial actions outlined in the advisory letter to ADCO Constructions in relation to the January 2024 alleged pollution incident from the Allambie Heights construction site:
 - (a) What were each of the actions?
 - (b) For each of the actions, have they been implemented?
 - (c) Is it possible to indicate the level of rainfall that could be accommodated on the site with the additional measures introduced?
- (3) Is the Government considering reforming sediment control requirements outlined in the 'Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction' guidelines to increase the minimum stormwater holding capacity on applicable construction sites, given the 83mm rainfall event on the 15th January 2024 at the Forest High School construction site was almost double the 45mm onsite control limit in place at the time?
- (4) Is the Government considering reforming planning consent conditions to better manage risk of damaging sediment run-off from construction sites given increasing incidence of sudden high rainfall events?
 - (a) If so, what steps is the Government taking?

-
- (5) When a member of the public reports a pollution incident to the EPA, is the EPA required to respond to each individual with updates on the progress of investigations, including providing a summary of their investigation when a report has been closed by the EPA?
- (6) Is it the case that the EPA cannot determine fault for a reported pollution incident unless an EPA officer investigates the site of the reported pollution within 24 hours of the pollution incident?
- (7) Can the EPA use data or samples collected by third parties in relation to a reported pollution incident?

Answer—

- (1) Yes
- (a) 22 June 2024.
- (b) The investigation is ongoing.
- (c) Yes.
- (d) The end of September 2024.
- (2) (a) Install and maintain adequate erosion and sediment controls as required by the development consent issued by NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) and to adequately maintain those controls.
- (b) Yes:
- Planning works to minimise the areas of exposed soils and the amount of sloped site exposed to erosion, particularly during heavy rain periods whilst the site is being constructed.
 - Increasing capacity of water storage sediment basins. This occurred in March and April 2024.
 - Covering stockpiles of disturbed soils to minimise the generation of sediment. This occurred in June 2024.
 - Sediment fencing installed around stockpiles. This is ongoing.
 - Installation of stormwater treatment plant to remove sediment from stormwater prior to discharge. This occurred in late June 2024.
- (c) As the site is under constant change during the construction phase, the volume of stormwater that can be captured at any one time will change. The installation of the water treatment plant in June has increased the site's capacity to manage stormwater through treatment and discharge.
- (3) No. The EPA is making preliminary inquiries into the current framework for the assessment and management of sediment and erosion from construction sites under the NSW planning framework and will shortly engage with DPHI on this.
- (4) See response to Question 3.
- (5) No. The EPA has procedures in place for handling pollution complaints and may provide some information upon request. It is not always appropriate to provide updates when regulatory action is involved. When an investigation is closed, the EPA may provide a summary of the findings, particularly if it is relevant to the complainant. The EPA is grateful for all members of the public who take the time to report incidents as this greatly assists regulatory action.
- (6) No. There is no 24-hour limit to evidence collection. However, to prove an offence has been committed, the EPA must have access to evidence that proves that the particular offence has been committed beyond a reasonable doubt.

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- (7) Yes. The EPA can and does use data or samples collected by third parties to assist in furthering its inquiries into an incident.

* 3551 **FEDERALLY FUNDED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SUPPORT WORKERS**—Mr Dugald Saunders to ask the Minister for Women, Minister for Seniors, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault—

For each electorate in regional New South Wales, could you list how many of the federally funded Domestic Violence support workers:

- (1) Were hired by the end of the 2023/24 financial year?
- (2) Are forecast to be hired by the end of the 2024 calendar year?

Answer—

I am advised:

The following information relates to the 500 Workers Initiative for NSW set out in the Commonwealth's Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence Responses 2021-27 Schedule (the FDSV Schedule).

As of 16 September 2024, 62 (53.8 FTE) DFV workers are recruited and working on the ground. Currently, 25.8FTE workers are in the final stages of recruitment and 33.6 FTE are at the interview stage. Recruitment remains underway for remaining allocated workers.

DCJ does not report on the allocation of workers by electorates.

The table below outlines the workers that will be delivering services in remote, regional or rural areas by Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) regions. The FDSV Schedule required NSW to place a specific number of workers in each ABS region and NSW has complied with this direction.

ABS Region	Remote, Regional or Rural
Capital Region	6.0
Central West	10.0
Coffs Harbour- Grafton/Richmond - Tweed	10.6
Far West and Orana	13.0
Hunter Valley exc Newcastle	5.0
Illawarra/Southern Highlands & Shoalhaven	4.0
Mid North Coast	6.0
Murray/Riverina	9.0
New England and North West	11.0
Sydney Outer West & Blue Mountains	1.0
TOTAL	75.6

* 3552 **STAFF NUMBERS - LOCAL LANDS SERVICES**—Mr Dugald Saunders to ask the Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Western New South Wales—

Can the Minister advise the total numbers of Full-time equivalent staff employed by Local Lands Services, by Local Land Services region:

- (1) As at 1 July, 2024?

- (2) At 1 July, 2023?
- (3) At 1 July, 2022?

Answer—

- (1) 966 FTE
- (2) 938 FTE
- (3) 851 FTE

- * 3553 RURAL HEALTH WORKFORCE INCENTIVE SCHEME - NURSES ASSISTED—Mr Dugald Saunders to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

For each local health district in regional New South Wales, can the Minister advise the total numbers of nurses assisted by the Rural Health Workforce Incentives Scheme:

- (1) As at 1 July, 2024?
- (2) At 1 July, 2023?
- (3) At 1 July, 2022?

Answer—

I'm advised:

- (1) As of July 2024, more than 9,000 nurses received an incentive package.
- (2) Data is only available from October 2023, just over 6,000 nurses received an incentive package.
- (3) The scheme was introduced on 4 July 2022. No health workers were incentivised on 1 July 2022.

- * 3554 POLICE OFFICER NUMBERS IN REGIONAL NSW—Mr Dugald Saunders to ask the Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism, and Minister for the Hunter—

For each electorate in regional New South Wales, can the Minister advise the total number of police officers:

- (1) As at 1 July, 2024?
- (2) At 1 July, 2023?
- (3) At 1 July, 2022?

Answer—

I am advised:

The NSW Police Force publishes information regarding police officer numbers in each Police District (PD) and Police Area Command (PAC) in its annual report. Police District and Police Area Command boundaries do not align with electoral district boundaries or local government area boundaries.

All police positions attached to PACs or PDs are flexible resources available to respond to incidents across the district. All local resources are supplemented by specialist police (highway patrol, major crime squads, covert resources), which are managed centrally but can be deployed across boundaries to meet changing community needs and respond to changing crime patterns and emerging issues. Staffing at any particular police station can fluctuate daily in response to crime trends and other intelligence-led operational requirements.

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- * 3555 TEACHER VACANCY RATES IN REGIONAL NSW—Mr Dugald Saunders to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

In relation to teacher vacancy rates for full-time equivalent teaching positions in regional New South Wales:

- (1) Can the Minister advise the teacher vacancy rates in the following electorates as at 1 July 2024:
- (a) Albury?
 - (b) Ballina?
 - (c) Barwon?
 - (d) Bathurst?
 - (e) Bega?
 - (f) Cessnock?
 - (g) Clarence?
 - (h) Coffs Harbour?
 - (i) Cootamundra?
 - (j) Dubbo?
 - (k) Goulburn?
 - (l) Kiama?
 - (m) Lake Macquarie?
 - (n) Lismore?
 - (o) Maitland?
 - (p) Monaro?
 - (q) Murray?
 - (r) Myall Lakes?
 - (s) Northern Tablelands?
 - (t) Orange?
 - (u) Oxley?
 - (v) Port Macquarie?
 - (w) Port Stephens?
 - (x) South Coast?
 - (y) Tamworth?
 - (z) Tweed?
 - (aa) Upper Hunter?
 - (bb) Wagga Wagga?
 - (cc) Wollondilly?
- (2) Can the Minister advise the number of vacancies for FTE SLSO in the following electorates as at 1 July 2024:
- (a) Albury?

- (b) Ballina?
- (c) Barwon?
- (d) Bathurst?
- (e) Bega?
- (f) Cessnock?
- (g) Clarence?
- (h) Coffs Harbour?
- (i) Cootamundra?
- (j) Dubbo?
- (k) Goulburn?
- (l) Kiama?
- (m) Lake Macquarie?
- (n) Lismore?
- (o) Maitland?
- (p) Monaro?
- (q) Murray?
- (r) Myall Lakes?
- (s) Northern Tablelands?
- (t) Orange?
- (u) Oxley?
- (v) Port Macquarie?
- (w) Port Stephens?
- (x) South Coast?
- (y) Tamworth?
- (z) Tweed?
- (aa) Upper Hunter?
- (bb) Wagga Wagga?
- (cc) Wollondilly?

Answer—

Public schools across regional NSW began Term 3, 2024 with 24% fewer teacher vacancies than the same time last year.

* 3556 CAMPERDOWN DIVE SITE—Ms Kobi Shetty to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces representing the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

Regarding the former WestConnex dive site in Camperdown:

- (1) What are the current planning controls for the site?
- (2) What current restrictions apply that would limit the capacity of the site?

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Answer—

I am advised:

Information regarding the current planning controls is publicly available at <https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/> via the Spatial Viewer. Applicability of planning controls will depend on the relevant development scheme.

- * 3557 PARRAMATTA ROAD REVITALISATION—Ms Kobi Shetty to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—
- (1) What progress has been made, if any, on a business case for the revitalisation of Parramatta Road?
 - (2) What opportunities will be provided, if any, for local input into the business case from local residents, businesses and other interested stakeholders?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) Project planning is underway to investigate options for the revitalisation of Parramatta Road to meet key Government objectives including housing and to look at how the corridor can leverage existing transport infrastructure investment. The current corridor serves a variety of purposes and the project aims to identify a range of options along the corridor to make it more liveable and vibrant for communities.
 - (2) Transport for NSW will collaborate across government, with local councils, the community and industry.
- * 3558 VICTORIA ROAD REVITALISATION—Ms Kobi Shetty to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—
- (1) What progress has been made, if any, on a business case for the revitalisation of Victoria Road between the Iron Cove Bridge and Anzac Bridge?
 - (2) What opportunities will be provided, if any, for local input into the business case from local residents, businesses and other interested stakeholders?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) Transport for NSW has started work on a Victoria Road Final Business Case, which will investigate integrated transport opportunities and contribute to better place outcomes to realise the vision for Victoria Road.

The Final Business Case is being done in parallel to the Parramatta Road Final Business Case. A program of works will be developed on both corridors to inform a future investment decision.
 - (2) Transport for NSW will begin consultation with councils, the community, and other stakeholders.
- * 3559 REPORTED ASSAULTS ON NSW HEALTH EMPLOYEES—Mr Gurmesh Singh to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—
- (1) For each local health district in New South Wales, can the Minister advise the total number of reported assaults on NSW Health employees in New South Wales hospitals for:
 - (a) Financial year 23/24?
 - (b) Financial year 22/23?

- (c) Financial year 21/22?

Answer—

I'm advised:

- (1) NSW Health workers compensation claims for 'workers being assaulted by a person or persons' varies for the requested years from 282 to 373.
- (2) The NSW Government has announced a trial of body worn cameras for security staff. This is part of our Government's continuing effort to look at new ways to keep our health workers safe. The trial will see up to 300 cameras in use across NSW Health.

* 3560 REPORTED ASSAULTS ON PATIENTS IN NSW HOSPITALS—Mr Gurmeh Singh to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

- (1) For each local health district in New South Wales, can the Minister advise the total number of reported assaults on patients in New South Wales hospitals for:
 - (a) Financial year 23/24?
 - (b) Financial year 22/23?
 - (c) Financial year 21/22?

Answer—

I'm advised:

NSW Health staff are required to report all identified clinical and corporate incidents, near misses and complaints using the statewide incident management system in line with the NSW Health Incident Management Policy Directive (PD2020_047). All incidents are investigated, and incidents identified as serious incidents must be notified and escalated to the Ministry of Health.

It is not possible to separately identify 'assaults on patients' as a specific data set. Patient assaults are classified under the Patient Incident Type of 'Concerning Behaviour', and these incidents encompass various types of behaviours.

* 3561 EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT NURSES QUITTING—Mr Gurmeh Singh to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

- (1) How many Emergency Department nurses quit Blacktown Hospital in:
 - (a) Financial year 23/24?
 - (b) Financial year 22/23?
 - (c) Financial year 21/22?

Answer—

I am advised:

Retention in nursing in NSW Health, like other disciplines and professions inside and outside of NSW Health, is impacted by staff who choose to take up other roles and opportunities, relocate, move for family reasons, or retire.

Nursing retention in Western Sydney Local Health District is similar to the retention rate of nursing across NSW Health. At June 2024, the District's nursing retention rate was 92.9% an increase of 1.4% from June 2023.

Where vacancies exist, local health districts have processes in place to action recruitment and support vacancies with use of casual pool and/or agency nurses.

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* 3562 NUMBERS OF EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT NURSES—Mr Gurmesh Singh to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

- (1) For each hospital in Regional New South Wales, what is the total number of Emergency Department nurses:
- (a) As at 1 July, 2024?
 - (b) At 1 July, 2023?
 - (c) At 1 July, 2022?

Answer—

I'm advised:

As of July 2024, there are 2363.8 FTE emergency department nurses across regional NSW. This is an increase of 282 FTE since July 2022, and represents an increase of 140 FTE or over a 6% increase each year.

Under the Government Nurse retention levels are high and have reached pre-COVID levels.

* 3563 HAZARD REDUCTION TARGETS FOR EACH RURAL FIRE SERVICE COMMAND—Mr Gurmesh Singh to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice—

Separately, for this year (2024) and for the next 3 years, and for each Rural Fire Service Area Command, what are the Hazard Reduction Targets?

Answer—

I am advised:

Hazard reduction targets are calculated through a financial year work plan. Combined Bush Fire Management Committee hazard reduction targets by Rural Fire Service Area Command for financial year 2024-25 are as follows:

Command	Proposed Total Area (Ha)	Proposed Total Properties
Greater Sydney Area Command	37,569	75,677
Hunter Area Command	56,192	59,339
North Eastern Area Command	75,399	8,719
North Western Area Command	36,808	6,705
South Eastern Area Command	57,971	37,994
South Western Area Command	31,810	4,328
Western Area Command	81,541	12,446
Total	377,290	205,208

Proposed hazard reduction targets for financial years 2025-26, 2026-27 and 2027-28 are dependent on works completed in the previous year(s) and therefore are not available at this time.

* 3564 HAZARD REDUCTION TARGETS COMPLETED IN 2023/24 FINANCIAL YEAR—Mr Gurmesh Singh to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice—

For each Rural Fire Service Area Command, how much Hazard Reduction was completed in the 2023/24 Financial Year?

Answer—

Please refer to the answer provided to QON LC 2588 - Emergency Services - HAZARD REDUCTION.

* 3565 RURAL FIRE SERVICE VOLUNTEER NUMBERS—Mr Gurmesh Singh to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice—

(1) How many volunteers are registered with the Rural Fire Service:

- (a) As at 1 July, 2024?
- (b) At 1 July, 2023?
- (c) At 1 July, 2022?

Answer—

I am advised that:

NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) volunteer statistics are included in RFS annual reports. The annual reports are published on the RFS website at <https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/resources/publications/annual-reports>

* 3566 STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE VOLUNTEER NUMBERS—Mr Gurmesh Singh to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice—

(1) How many volunteers are registered with the State Emergency Service:

- (a) As at 1 July, 2024?
- (b) At 1 July, 2023?
- (c) At 1 July, 2022?

Answer—

I am advised that:

NSW State Emergency Service (SES) volunteer statistics are included in SES annual reports which are published on the SES website at <https://www.ses.nsw.gov.au/about-us/publications-and-reports>.

* 3567 MARINE RESCUE NSW VOLUNTEER NUMBERS—Mr Gurmesh Singh to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice—

(1) How many volunteers are registered with Marine Rescue NSW:

- (a) As at 1 July, 2024?
- (b) At 1 July, 2023?
- (c) At 1 July, 2022?

Answer—

I am advised that:

Marine Rescue NSW volunteer statistics are included in Marine Rescue NSW annual reports. The annual reports are published on the Marine Rescue NSW website at <https://www.marinerescuensw.com.au/organisation/reports-and-documents/>

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- * 3568 SCABIES OUTBREAK - ILLAWARRA AND SHOALHAVEN—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

With respect to the recent confirmation of a scabies outbreak in hospitals across the Illawarra-Shoalhaven:

- (1) When was the first case of scabies detected in the Illawarra-Shoalhaven Health District this year?
- (2) When was the prevalence of scabies elevated to an ‘outbreak’?
- (3) When was the Minister’s office and the Minister briefed on the scabies outbreak?
- (4) What additional resources have been allocated to our district to deal with the outbreak?
- (5) What outreach has occurred to all local schools, aged care and nursing home providers, NDIS support services, GPs and homelessness services?
- (6) Can the Government provide an update on the outbreak and cases since the Local Health District’s announcement on Monday 5 August?

Answer—

I’m advised:

Scabies is a skin condition that is prevalent in the community. In line with NSW Health infection management and control protocols, Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District took immediate action when a case of scabies was identified in a patient at Wollongong Hospital on 22 July 2024. An initial outbreak management meeting was held on 25 July 2024.

Following the identification of multiple cases, on 26 July 2024 the District provided advice to Ministry of Health staff, who subsequently advised the Minister’s Office.

The District escalated its response when it identified cases had spread to additional wards on 1 August 2024. As part of the outbreak response, the District rolled out a comprehensive plan to inform key stakeholder groups including staff, health support services, primary care and aged care networks. The District also provided regular media updates.

The outbreak was managed with District resources. The District concluded its public health measures to control the outbreak on 26 August 2024. No further cases linked to this outbreak have been identified.

- * 3569 ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS - SHELLHARBOUR HOSPITAL—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

I seek more information on the access arrangements for the main entrance and the entrance at Dunmore Road for the new Shellharbour Hospital:

- (1) Have the access designs been finalised and where can the public view these designs?
- (2) Will the Dunmore Road entrance have bicycle and pedestrian access?
- (3) Can you list stakeholders consulted in relation to the above?
- (4) In relation to (3) did this include residents proximal to Dunmore Road?
- (5) What improvements have been identified to the active transport network that will service both the train station and the new Shellharbour Hospital?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) This is a matter for the Minister for Health and Minister for Regional Health.
- (2) This is a matter for the Minister for Health and Minister for Regional Health.
- (3) This is a matter for the Minister for Health and Minister for Regional Health.

- (4) This is a matter for the Minister for Health and Minister for Regional Health.
- (5) The improvements required for active transport are detailed in the conditions of development consent issued by the Department of Planning, Infrastructure and Housing. The conditions include a requirement to build a shared path between the station and the hospital.

* 3570 ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS - SHELLHARBOUR HOSPITAL—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

I seek more information on the access arrangements for the main entrance and the entrance at Dunmore Road for the new Shellharbour Hospital:

- (1) Have the access designs been finalised and where can the public view these designs?
- (2) Will the Dunmore Road entrance have bicycle and pedestrian access?
- (3) Can you list stakeholders consulted in relation to the above?
- (4) In relation to (3) did this include residents proximal to Dunmore Road?
- (5) What improvements have been identified to the active transport network that will service both the train station and the new Shellharbour Hospital?

Answer—

I'm advised:

- (1 – 4) Design finalisation is underway for the new Shellharbour Hospital. The designs are available on the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure website.

The local community, including residents along Dunmore Road, were given various opportunities to provide feedback, including during the public exhibition of the State Significant Development Application, in September 2023. Responses to the submissions are on the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure website.

Health Infrastructure is working with relevant stakeholders, such as Transport for NSW and Shellharbour City Council, to ensure there is suitable pedestrian and bicycle connectivity to the new hospital.

- (5) This is a matter for Transport for NSW. Health Infrastructure is continuing to work with stakeholders, such as Transport for NSW and Shellharbour City Council, to improve the surrounding road and active transport network to the site of the new Shellharbour Hospital.

* 3571 CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION (CCTV) - STATE SUPPORT—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism, and Minister for the Hunter—

With reference to CCTV programs that aim to reduce or prevent crime and the recognition that CCTV can be an effective crime prevention program when it is part of a broader crime prevention and community safety strategy:

- (1) Can the Government provide an update on its broader crime prevention and community safety strategy?
- (2) What proportion of the 2024-25 NSW Budget was allocated to CCTV rollouts?
- (3) Which community groups, small businesses or Local Government Areas have gained CCTV since Labor returned to Government?
- (4) Has the Maitland electorate received any assistance in relation to CCTV since Labor returned to Government?
- (5) Can you provide similar information for other regional New South Wales electorates?

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- (6) Has the Government expanded the criteria of CCTV programs to include small businesses and community groups in regional New South Wales?
- (7) How is the Government supporting the NSW Police Force's six principles related to its policy on the development and use of CCTV?
- (8) How many complaints has the Government received in relation to CCTV each year for the last five years?
- (9) How many, if any, requests for CCTV have this Government received from councils, businesses, organisations or LGAs since March 2023 and can you provide a breakdown of these?
- (10) Has the Government Policy Statement and Guidelines for the Establishment and Implementation of CCTV in Public Places (2000) been reviewed or updated by this Government?
 - (a) If not, why not?
- (11) Does the Government consider the Policy Statement and Guidelines current and in force?
- (12) What Government support is there for council's who may have had CCTV systems or networks damaged by significant weather events?
- (13) What Government support is there for councils for CCTV systems or networks maintenance?
- (14) Is it equitable if the financial burden on installing and maintaining CCTV falls on council if the primary use of CCTV is by NSW Police?
- (15) What are the benefits of a centralised CCTV system over decentralised systems managed by councils and is this a possibility for New South Wales?
- (16) Is New South Wales CCTV operating at satisfactory levels and how is this measured?
- (17) Is there any other information related to the above you would like to provide?

Answer—

I am advised:

These matters fall within the portfolio responsibilities of the Attorney General.

* 3572 JAMBEROO PRESCHOOL RELOCATION—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

With reference a new site for Jamberoo Preschool:

- (1) What sites for potential relocations have been identified for the school?
- (2) What actions have transpired following the meeting between the Local Reform Commissioning team and the school on 23 April 2024?
- (3) Have you or the Department met with the Jamberoo Relocation Committee since April 2024?
 - (a) If so, when?
- (4) How many families are on the waiting list for this school as at August 2024?
- (5) How is the Government expediting this matter?

Answer—

I am advised Jamberoo Preschool Relocation Committee is exploring options for potential relocation of Jamberoo Community Preschool. Since the meeting on 23 April 2024, The Department of Education has been in regular contact with the Director of Jamberoo Community Preschool to provide support as needed.

In addition, Bomaderry Public School and Greenwell Point Public School are among the schools that will receive a public preschool under the Minns Government's election commitment to deliver 100 public preschools by 2027.

- * 3573 SCHOOL WAIT LISTS—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

With reference to all public preschools, primary and secondary schools in the Kiama electorate:

- (1) What are the current waiting lists for each school?
- (2) Which schools are at maximum capacity, and which are not?
- (3) When were school boundaries last reviewed?
- (4) Will you permit underutilised schools to take on additional enrolments to help ease pressure on schools that are at maximum capacity?
 - (a) If not, why not?

Answer—

All NSW government school intake areas are regularly monitored and reviewed by the Department of Education as populations and enrolment trends change over time. The department provides a place in a public primary school and public high school for every local student seeking to enrol, in line with its enrolment policy.

- * 3574 LOGGING ACTION PLAN—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice representing the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—

With reference to my Question on Notice 3146 – Native Forest Logging:

- (1) When will your new Forestry Industry Action Plan be released and what is its schedule and timeframe?
- (2) Where can the public access information about this Plan?
- (3) What is the Government's definition of what it means to be "ecologically sustainable"?
- (4) In relation to (1) through (3), can you list the stakeholders you have met with and when to progress this matter:
 - (a) Environmental stakeholders?
 - (b) Aboriginal people?
 - (c) Unions?
 - (d) Other
- (5) Is the Government committed to protecting remaining forests and woodlands in New South Wales?
 - (a) If not, why not?
- (6) How is the Government preserving the state's remaining forest estate, estimated at 40% of what existed some 200 years ago?

Answer—

- (1) Consultation on the development of a Forestry Industry Action Plan (FIAP) will occur this year with further details being announced in due course.

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- (2) Information about the plan can be found on the FIAP webpage at <https://www.nsw.gov.au/have-your-say/forestry-industry-action-plan>. Further details will be announced in due course.
- (3) Regional Forest Agreements contain definitions of Ecologically Sustainable Forest Management (ESFM) and can be found on the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry's dedicated forestry policies website.
- (4) The Independent Forestry Panel (the Panel) will lead targeted stakeholder engagement to ensure a broad range of views are appropriately considered, including environmental stakeholders, Aboriginal people and union representatives. The Panel will also engage with representatives from the timber industry, forest growers, local government, business, related industries, tourism, scientific experts and the Commonwealth Government.
- (5 - 6) The native forests of NSW are a precious asset, housing numerous plant and animal species. The NSW Government takes its responsibility in managing native forests seriously and is committed to delivering strong regulatory measures to protect the environment. Approximately half of the State Forest estate is managed for conservation, including areas that are set aside as flora reserves.

The NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has improved the Integrated Forestry Operations Approval (IFOA) protocols to protect biodiversity, including the prohibition of logging in koala hubs within the assessment area of the proposed Great Koala National Park.

The EPA is continually updating IFOAs to protect newly listed and at-risk species and ecosystems.

Additionally, the NSW Government has committed to the NSW Plan for Nature, which supports the delivery of the twin national objectives of no new extinctions and restoring threatened species and ecosystems.

- * 3575 WEBCAMS FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND TOURISM—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

With reference to visitor accessibility and inclusion enhancements:

- (1) What tourist assets or sites in New South Wales are currently available to view or stream online?
- (2) What plans does the government have to improve accessibility or promote inclusion for tourist sites?
- (3) Can you list any projects related to these themes?
- (4) Will you support a pilot program to live stream the Kiama Blow Hole?

Answer—

- (1) Tourism assets or sites in NSW are owned and operated by individuals and business owners operating in the visitor economy. While some business owners choose to offer live streaming, no data currently exists on live streaming of visitor assets or sites operating within the NSW visitor economy. Destination NSW has offered some live streaming for Vivid Sydney events since 2022, with the First Light event and drone shows live streamed to domestic and international audiences.

- (2) Get Skilled Access Election Commitment:

As an election commitment, the NSW Government committed \$450,000 over four years to fund Get Skilled Access to enhance accessibility and disability inclusion knowledge within the tourism sector. Destination NSW is delivering this commitment and collaborating with Get Skilled Access to enhance accessibility and disability inclusion knowledge within the visitor economy.

Vivid Sydney:

Destination NSW proudly supported the Hidden Disability Sunflower during Vivid Sydney 2024. Festival and event staff were trained to identify and support attendees wearing the Hidden Disability Sunflower lanyard or wristband ensuring an inclusive experience for attendees.

The Vivid Sydney website provides information for attendees about accessibility services and facilities at the festival. Additionally, festival staff and volunteers are trained to provide information and assistance to attendees with access needs.

In 2024, in consultation with Autism Spectrum Australia, Vivid Sydney created an Accessibility Toolkit and Visual Story to make it easier for people to plan their visit. This provided specific information on accessibility. The Visual Story for Vivid Sydney 2024:

<https://www.vividsydney.com/sites/default/files/2024-05/vivid-sydney-24-accessibility-visual-story.pdf>

In addition, the entirety of the Vivid Light Walk was wheelchair accessible; and a street gradient guide was created on the event map to highlight the easiest route for anyone with accessibility requirements.

WELCOME Framework

Destination NSW collaborated with Austrade, state and territory tourism organisations and Tourism Australia on the development and implementation of the WELCOME Framework, a national guide to accessible tourism. The WELCOME Framework is a guide to making tourism more accessible to all travellers. More information on the WELCOME Framework:

<https://www.austrade.gov.au/en/news-and-analysis/publications-and-reports/welcome-framework>

- (3) As above.
- (4) The NSW Government encourages visitation to and within NSW, to capitalise on economic growth for rural and regional NSW and establishing NSW as the destination of choice for domestic and international visitors.

While increasing accessibility initiatives is key to growing the NSW visitor economy, live streaming of tourism sites across NSW such as the Kiama Blow Hole is a matter for the local council and Crown Lands NSW as the land manager.

- * 3576 HAZARD REDUCTION BURNS - EFFICACY AND TARGETS—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice—

With reference to hazard reduction burns:

- (1) What evidence does the Government rely on that hazard reduction burns are effective method of controlling fuel in the lead up to bushfire season?
- (2) What rationale is behind the target for the 2023/2024 FY hazard reduction burn of 166,736 Ha?
- (3) What are the implications of the hazard reduction targets not being met last year?
- (4) Can you list collaboration or consultation the Government has had in relation to the above with the scientific community and forestry academics?
- (5) Have you consulted or had discussions with the Minister for the Environment or Department in relation to the above?
 - (a) If so, when?
- (6) Does the Government accept current scientific evidence that hazard reduction burns do not reduce bushfire risk?
- (7) If not, why not?
- (8) Will the Government pause hazard reduction burns to hold an inquiry in relation to the efficacy of hazard reduction burns?
 - (a) If not, why not?

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Answer—

I am advised:

(1) Scientific evidence published by the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) and academics, along with the experience of fire services, point to hazard reduction burns as an effective method of controlling fuel loadings.

(2) The target for hazard reduction in 2023/24 was 324,609ha (306,415ha from burning and 18,194ha from mechanical works).

Each Bush Fire Management Committee (BFMC) develops a Bush Fire Risk Management Plan (BFRMP), which includes hazard reduction plans, for its relevant geographic area. The BFRMP is a strategic document that identifies community assets and values that may be at risk from bush fire and identifies coordinated multi-agency objectives and associated treatment strategies to reduce the risk over a five-year period.

(3) Unsuitable weather conditions again impacted hazard reduction work in 2023/24. Despite this, fire services and land managers treated 139,927ha, offering protection to 129,711 properties. Work not completed in 2023/24 will be carried into 2024/25.

(4) The RFS has a long history of working with the scientific community to better understand the complexities of fire behaviour and fuel management, including the CSIRO and a long-standing collaboration with the University of Wollongong.

The NSW Bushfire and Natural Hazards Research Centre was established in response to a recommendation of the NSW Bushfire Inquiry, and is a research consortium led by the Hawkesbury Institute for the Environment at Western Sydney University, in partnership with the University of NSW, University of Wollongong, Australian National University, University of Melbourne and University of Tasmania.

The work of the Natural Hazards Research Australia and its predecessors the Bushfire and Natural Hazards Cooperative Research Centre also inform bush fire protection works.

(5) Minister Sharpe and the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) are represented on the Bush Fire Coordinating Committee (BFCC) and BFMCs through the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS), which is also represented on the Program Committee for the Bush Fire and Natural Hazards Research Centre (BFNHRC). The DCCEEW Applied Science Team leads the Management of the BFNHRC.

(a) The BFCC and BFMCs meet regularly.

(6) See response to question 1.

(7) See response to question 1.

(8) No.

(a) Hazard reduction burns are an important activity to help protect life, property and the environment from increased risk of bush fire.

* 3577 24-HOUR POLICE STATION IN LAURIETON—The Hon. Leslie Williams to ask the Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism, and Minister for the Hunter—

(1) Will the Minister investigate options to establish a 24 hour police station in Laurieton to combat increased reports of anti-social behaviour and crime in the Camden Haven benefiting the towns of Dunbogan, Laurieton, Lakewood, Kew, Kendall, Herons Creek, Johns River and Lorne?

(a) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

There are no current plans to change the operational hours of Laurieton Police Station.

NSW Police Force Police Districts provide 24/7 coverage to their local areas through a variety of operational deployment models, including first response agreements, on call and mobile policing arrangements. The NSW Police Force deploys police to places where crime may be expected to occur in response to crime trends and other intelligence-led operational requirements. All local resources are supplemented by specialist police (highway patrol, major crime squads, covert resources), which are managed centrally but can be deployed across boundaries to meet changing community needs and respond to crime patterns and emerging issues.

* 3578 PACIFIC HIGHWAY - HARRINGTON ROAD INTERCHANGE PROJECT—The Hon. Leslie Williams to ask the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

- (1) Can the Minister provide an update on the Pacific Highway – Harrington Road Interchange project?
- (2) Can the Minister advise when construction will commence?
 - (a) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised

In November 2023, the Australian Government released their Infrastructure Investment Program Strategic Review. This included \$3.5 billion of funding towards planning and construction for a number of projects along the Pacific Highway corridor, including Pacific Highway - Harrington Road Intersection Upgrade. Transport for NSW is currently working with the Federal Government to understand the timeframe and related funding for individual projects, within the Pacific Highway corridor.

While timing for construction of the upgrade has not been confirmed and is subject to project approval, Transport for NSW has prepared a concept design and Review of Environmental Factors to identify potential impacts for the project and proposed mitigation measures for the upgrade. This document was placed on display for community and stakeholder feedback in March 2024.

From the feedback received, Transport for NSW is preparing a report that includes responses to issues raised by the community.

* 3579 FERAL DEER MANAGEMENT PRACTICES—The Hon. Leslie Williams to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice representing the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—

- (1) Can the Minister provide an update on the management practices to reduce feral deer in the Hastings and Camden Haven?
- (2) Can the Minister advise if funding can be allocated to reduce the number of feral deer in the Port Macquarie and Camden Haven?
 - (a) If not, why not?

Answer—

These questions should be referred to the Minister for Agriculture, the Hon Tara Moriarty MLC.

17 SEPTEMBER 2024

(Paper No. 70)

3580 COST OF THE SECTION 430 INVESTIGATION INTO LIVERPOOL CITY COUNCIL—Mrs Tina Ayyad to ask the Minister for Local Government—

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- 3581 CHANGES IN PROCESSES FOR FUTURE SECTION 430 INVESTIGATIONS—Mrs Tina Ayyad to ask the Minister for Local Government—
- 3582 CROWN RESERVES IMPROVEMENT FUND—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Lands and Property, Minister for Multiculturalism, and Minister for Sport—
- 3583 TRAINING FOR PHARMACISTS WITH EXPANDED SCOPE OF PRACTICE—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—
- 3584 VEHICLES FOR PATIENT TRANSFER AVAILABLE TO LOCAL HEALTH DISTRICTS—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—
- 3585 PROTECTION OF HERITAGE AND CULTURE—Ms Steph Cooke to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice representing the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—
- 3586 COUNCIL WASTE LEVIES—Ms Steph Cooke to ask the Minister for Local Government—
- 3587 INFRASTRUCTURE PRIORITIES IN REGIONAL NSW—Ms Steph Cooke to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces representing the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—
- 3588 FIT FOR PURPOSE POLICE STATION IN YOUNG—Ms Steph Cooke to ask the Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism, and Minister for the Hunter—
- 3589 RURAL FIRE SERVICE TRUCK ROLLOUT—Ms Steph Cooke to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice—
- 3590 BUS SERVICE AVAILABILITY ACROSS THE COOTAMUNDRA ELECTORATE—Ms Steph Cooke to ask the Minister for Transport—
- 3591 REPAIR AND RESTORE MAINTENANCE BLITZ—Ms Steph Cooke to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast representing the Minister for Water, Minister for Housing, Minister for Homelessness, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Youth, and Minister for the North Coast—
- 3592 STATE-WIDE MEDIUM TERM BUS PLAN—Ms Steph Cooke to ask the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—
- 3593 STRATEGIC REGIONAL INTEGRATED TRANSPORT PLANS—Ms Steph Cooke to ask the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—
- 3594 BUS REGION 14 CANCELLATIONS - AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 2024—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Minister for Transport—
- 3595 MANDATING TEACHING LANGUAGES AT SCHOOLS—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 3596 STOPPING ANTISEMITISM IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 3597 TRANSPORT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT - LOCAL ENVIRONMENT PLAN—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces representing the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

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- 3598 NATIVE FISH FINGERLINGS—Mr Philip Donato to ask the Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Western New South Wales—
- 3599 NESA FUNDING MODEL—Mr Philip Donato to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 3600 TEACHER SHORTAGES—Mr Philip Donato to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 3601 FULLY FUNDING SCHOOLS TO MINIMUM RESOURCE STANDING—Mr Philip Donato to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 3602 RELEASE FROM FACE-TO-FACE TIME—Mr Philip Donato to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 3603 FERAL ANIMAL SHOOTING CONTRACTS—Mr Philip Donato to ask the Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Western New South Wales—
- 3604 DOLLY PARTON'S IMAGINATION LIBRARY—Mr Michael Kemp to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 3605 GIG WORKER REFORMS—Mr Jordan Lane to ask the Minister for Industrial Relations, and Minister for Work Health and Safety—
- 3606 SAME DAY ALCOHOL DELIVERY DATA—Mr Jordan Lane to ask the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Veterans, Minister for Medical Research, and Minister for the Central Coast—
- 3607 PARRAMATTA LIGHT RAIL STAGE 2 IMPACT ON MELROSE PARK COMMUNITY—Mr Jordan Lane to ask the Minister for Transport—
- 3608 INCORPORATING CHILDREN'S VOICES IN POLICY DEVELOPMENT—Mr Jordan Lane to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast representing the Minister for Water, Minister for Housing, Minister for Homelessness, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Youth, and Minister for the North Coast—
- 3609 RYDE HOSPITAL REDEVELOPMENT - HEALTH—Mr Jordan Lane to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—
- 3610 RYDE HOSPITAL REDEVELOPMENT - TRANSPORT—Mr Jordan Lane to ask the Minister for Transport—
- 3611 FINAL CONCLUSION DATE - RYDE HOSPITAL REDEVELOPMENT—Mr Jordan Lane to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—
- 3612 BRAILLE BALLOT PAPERS - 2024 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS—Mr Jordan Lane to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—
- 3613 SUPPORT FOR PET OWNERS FLEEING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE—Mr Jordan Lane to ask the Minister for Women, Minister for Seniors, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault—

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- 3614 PATYEGARANG PLANNING PROPOSAL—Mr Michael Regan to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces representing the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—
- 3615 MODULAR HOUSING—Mr Michael Regan to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast representing the Minister for Water, Minister for Housing, Minister for Homelessness, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Youth, and Minister for the North Coast—
- 3616 WAITING LISTS FOR SPECIAL NEEDS SUPPORT CLAUSES IN HIGH SCHOOLS—Mr Michael Regan to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 3617 F10 BLACKWATTLE BAY FERRY SERVICE—Ms Kobi Shetty to ask the Minister for Transport—
- 3618 LINDT CAFE SIEGE - NON-DISCLOSURE ORDER—The Hon. Mark Speakman to ask the Premier—
- 3619 M6 EXTENSION STAGE 1 UPDATE—The Hon. Mark Speakman to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—
- 3620 HUME POLICE DISTRICT RESIGNATIONS—Mrs Wendy Tuckerman to ask the Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism, and Minister for the Hunter—
- 3621 BUILDING HOMES FOR NSW PROGRAM—Mrs Wendy Tuckerman to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast representing the Minister for Water, Minister for Housing, Minister for Homelessness, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Youth, and Minister for the North Coast—
- 3622 TOTAL TAX REVENUE COLLECTED FROM POKER MACHINES—Mrs Wendy Tuckerman to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, and Minister for Natural Resources—
- 3623 WOMBEYAN CAVES ROAD WARNINGS AND RESTRICTIONS—Mrs Wendy Tuckerman to ask the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—
- 3624 GOULBURN CRESCENT SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS—Mrs Wendy Tuckerman to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 3625 MAINTENANCE REQUESTS FROM SCHOOL PRINCIPALS—Mrs Wendy Tuckerman to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 3626 NEW REGIONAL RAIL FLEET DELIVERY TIMELINE—Mrs Wendy Tuckerman to ask the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—
- 3627 COVID DEBT RECOVERY—Mrs Wendy Tuckerman to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice—
- 3628 ACTIVE KIDS VOUCHERS - GOULBURN ELECTORATE—Mrs Wendy Tuckerman to ask the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Lands and Property, Minister for Multiculturalism, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Lands and Property, Minister for Multiculturalism, and Minister for Sport—

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(Paper No. 71)

- 3629 REGIONAL APPRENTICE AND UNIVERSITY STUDENT TRAVEL CARD SUBSIDY—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice—
- 3630 NSW HOUSEHOLD ENERGY SAVING UPGRADES—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice representing the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—
- 3631 NSW GAS REBATE—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice representing the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—
- 3632 CLOTHING STORE SUB-PRECINCT—Ms Jenny Leong to ask the Minister for Transport—
- 3633 PUBLIC HOUSING IN ERSKINEVILLE—Ms Jenny Leong to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast representing the Minister for Water, Minister for Housing, Minister for Homelessness, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Youth, and Minister for the North Coast—
- 3634 EVICTIONS FROM PUBLIC HOUSING—Ms Jenny Leong to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast representing the Minister for Water, Minister for Housing, Minister for Homelessness, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Youth, and Minister for the North Coast—
- 3635 NUMBER OF OVERSEAS NURSES AND MIDWIVES—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—
- 3636 RURAL HEALTH WORKFORCE INCENTIVE SCHEME - NORTHERN NSW LOCAL HEALTH DISTRICT—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—
- 3637 FUNDING FOR SUPPORTING OVERSEAS NURSES AND MIDWIVES—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—
- 3638 RURAL HEALTH WORKFORCE INCENTIVE SCHEME - AUGUST 2023-2024—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—
- 3639 IPTAAS RECIPIENTS IN THE TWEED ELECTORATE—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—
- 3640 AVERAGE IPTAAS SUBSIDY WITHIN TWEED ELECTORATE—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—
- 3641 WITHDRAWAL OF THE 602X BUS SERVICE—Mr Mark Taylor to ask the Minister for Transport—
- 3642 INCREASE IN COMMUTERS USING METRO NORTHWEST—Mr Mark Taylor to ask the Minister for Transport—

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3643 BREAST SCREENING CLINIC IN BLACKTOWN—Mr Mark Taylor to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

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(Paper No. 72)

3644 FIRST LAP SWIMMING VOUCHERS—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice—

- (1) Can the Minister advise why the Government has withdrawn funding for the First Lap Swimming vouchers?
 - (a) Will the Minister consider re-introducing funding in 2025?

3645 NEW K-10 SYLLABUS—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Can the Minister advise what the key differences between the new K-10 syllabus structure and its former structure?
 - (a) What prompted these changes?
- (2) Assuming these changes have been implemented for improvement in student performance, when would we expect to see its impact?

3646 DIFFERENTIAL RATE APPLICATION TO VACANT PROPERTIES—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Local Government—

- (1) Can the Minister advise whether Local Governments can apply the differential rates charge to properties which have been deemed vacant?
- (2) Given that the differential charge raises Local Council revenue to fund the services and facilities provided to residents and its visitors, can the Minister advise whether the Local Council entity contributes funding for these charges?
 - (a) If so, can he provide a percentage breakdown?

3647 TRANSPORT TIMETABLE CHANGES - OCTOBER 2024—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Minister for Transport—

In relation to transport timetables:

- (1) Will there be a change in October 2024?
 - (a) If yes, how many services will be cut on the North Shore on:
 - (i) Morning peak times?
 - (ii) Afternoon peak times?
 - (iii) Nonpeak times?
 - (b) If yes, will it be integrated with current bus timetables?

3648 LOCAL INPUT TO URBAN PLANNING AND DESIGN—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Premier—

Referencing the Private Members' Statement you gave on 8 August 2018 regarding urban planning:

- (1) Does the Government have plans for local communities and councils to have control on the pace, nature, design, or location of buildings under the Transport Oriented Development SEPP?
 - (a) If yes, what are the plans?

3649 LOCAL SMALL COMMITMENTS ALLOCATION - AUDITOR GENERAL—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

- (1) Will you refer the Local Small Commitment Allocation (LSCA) program to be audited by the NSW Auditor General?

3650 FARE EVASION REVENUE LOSSES—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Minister for Transport—

- (1) How many people were caught fare evading in the following financial years:
- (a) 2023-24?
 - (b) 2022-23?
 - (c) 2021-22?
 - (d) 2020-21?
 - (e) 2019-20?
 - (f) 2018-19?
- (2) How much in lost revenue did fare evasion cost in the following financial years:
- (a) 2023-24?
 - (b) 2022-23?
 - (c) 2021-22?
 - (d) 2020-21?
 - (e) 2019-20?
 - (f) 2018-19?

3651 DISCRETIONARY FUND TO PROVIDE GRANTS AND FUNDING—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Do you have a discretionary fund to provide organisations grants or funding?

3652 COMMUNITY BUILDING PARTNERSHIP FUNDING—Mr Adam Crouch to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces representing the Treasurer—

- (1) Can the Treasurer advise if and when the Government will announce the opening of the 2024/25 Community Building Partnership Funding?
- (a) When will the fund recommence?
 - (b) How much funding will be allocated to each electorate?
 - (c) Can you confirm if the fund will be amended in anyway and outline any proposed changes?

3653 CROWN RESERVES IMPROVEMENT FUND—Mr Adam Crouch to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces representing the Treasurer—

- (1) Can the Treasurer advise if and when the Government will announce the opening of the 2024/25 Crown Reserves Improvement Fund?
- (a) When will the fund recommence?
 - (b) Can you confirm if the fund will be amended in anyway and outline any proposed changes?

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3654 AGRICULTURAL LAND USE PLANNING—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Western New South Wales—

- (1) What are the implications of nut plantations on water use in irrigation areas?
- (2) What is the Government planning to do to regulate the nut industry in regard to agricultural land use planning?

3655 CARP VIRUS BIOCONTROL—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Western New South Wales—

Can the Minister advise:

- (1) What steps are being taken to progress research to investigate carp virus biocontrol?
- (2) When can we expect to see the rollout of the virus?

3656 CASHLESS GAMING TRIALS—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Veterans, Minister for Medical Research, and Minister for the Central Coast—

Can the Minister advise when the results of a cashless gambling trial which took place at IGT-Club York between April 2023 and October 2023 will be made available to the public on the Liquor and Gaming website?

3657 SHERIFF STAFFING ISSUES—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Better Regulation and Fair Trading, Minister for Industry and Trade, Minister for Innovation, Science and Technology, Minister for Building, and Minister for Corrections—

- (1) Can the Minister advise why Sheriffs across the state have recently walked off the job for the fourth time in two months, closing local courts across the Murray electorate and putting additional pressure on court timetables?
- (2) What is being done to address staffing issues?

3658 GAMBLING & PROCEEDS OF CRIME—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Veterans, Minister for Medical Research, and Minister for the Central Coast—

What has the Minister done to ensure that money put through gaming machines in New South Wales pubs and clubs, which has been identified as the proceeds of crime, is being returned to victims?

3659 IMAGINATION LIBRARY FUNDING COMMITMENT—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Can you confirm any plans to provide continued funding for the Imagination Library program for the full five-year term, specifically ensuring funding for the 2025-26 financial year, to allow the 13,200 children currently enrolled to continue benefiting from the program?
- (2) What is the rationale for terminating the program and to what extent were these financially motivated?
- (3) How does the NSW Government plan to support early literacy in disadvantaged communities if the Imagination Library funding is not extended to the fifth year?
- (4) Considering the collaborative partnerships with over 80 local organizations, how would the discontinuation of the Imagination Library affect community services and early childhood education in these areas?

3660 NATIONAL PARKS FENCING—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice representing the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—

Can the Minister advise:

- (1) Why National Parks and Wildlife Services policy records boundary fences on their Asset Registers, but does not undertake repairs and maintenance on that fencing?
- (2) What figure was spent on National Parks and Wildlife Service boundary fencing in the Murray electorate in the 2023-2024 financial year?

3661 PLANNING PROFESSIONALS—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces representing the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

What is the Government doing to assist local councils in rural and remote areas attract planning professionals to help ease the backlog of planning proposals and progress critical building works?

3662 STUDENT LEARNING SUPPORT OFFICERS—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

Can the Minister advise:

- (1) Are schools across New South Wales struggling to fund Student Learning Support Officers (SLOs)?
 - (a) Why?
- (2) Has there been a reduction in funding for Student Support Officers across the State?
 - (a) If so, why?

3663 ABORTION CARE REFUSAL—Mr Philip Donato to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

Could you please advise, under what circumstances can a public hospital, and public hospital executive, refuse to provide abortion care, including social termination, to people who request it, if the same hospital has clinicians qualified and willing to provide this important reproductive health service, and sufficient resources to do so?

3664 NSW 2024 DRUG SUMMIT—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

- (1) When will the 2024 drug summit invitations for members of Parliament and stakeholders be sent for the:
 - (a) Regional forums?
 - (b) Sydney forum?
- (2) What work is being done to ensure that members can access accommodation at the regional forums?
- (3) Who is coordinating logistics for the regional forums?
- (4) What is the role and responsibility of the co-chairs?
- (5) How will delegates and guests be decided?
- (6) Has the government set a minimum for delegates with lived experience to ensure they are central to the summit?
 - (a) If so, what is that minimum?
- (7) When will agendas and guest speakers be publicly available?

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3665 URALLA POLICE STATION—Mr Brendan Moylan to ask the Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism, and Minister for the Hunter—

In relation to police officers stationed at Uralla Police Station:

- (1) How many police officers are currently based here?
- (2) Have police officers who have been assigned to Uralla been relocated to Armidale Police Station?
 - (a) If yes, why?
- (3) Was the police station closed for a period of time in 2024?
 - (a) If yes, why?

3666 MOREE HOSPITAL REDEVELOPMENT—Mr Brendan Moylan to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

In relation to the Moree Hospital redevelopment:

- (1) Is a helipad included in the hospital redevelopment?
 - (a) If not, why not?

3667 OLD DUVAL HIGH SCHOOL SITE—Mr Brendan Moylan to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

In relation to the old Duval high school site in Armidale:

- (1) Do you have plans to repurpose this building?
- (2) How can you ensure vandals and squatters don't access the site?

3668 MALPAS DAM WALL FUNDING—Mr Brendan Moylan to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast representing the Minister for Water, Minister for Housing, Minister for Homelessness, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Youth, and Minister for the North Coast—

In relation to funding for the raising of the Malpas Dam wall:

- (1) On Tuesday 21 June 2022 the former Member for Northern Tablelands Adam Marshall announced \$27 million of funding for this project.
 - (a) Is this funding still available?
 - (b) If not, why not?
- (2) Will further funding be set aside for this project?

3669 AVERAGE SPEED CAMERAS—Mr Brendan Moylan to ask the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

In relation to average speed cameras in regional New South Wales:

- (1) Do you have plans to install average speed cameras in regional areas?
- (2) If yes, will revenue raised go back to local councils rather than the State Government?

3670 GP SHORTAGES—Mr Brendan Moylan to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

In relation to comments made by Premier Chris Minns and the Parliamentary Secretary for Health Michael Holland:

-
- (1) How will the New South Wales Government work with the Commonwealth Government to address the General Practitioner shortage in regional areas?
- 3671 **ILLEGAL SALE OF TOBACCO**—Mr Brendan Moylan to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—
- In relation to the illegal sale of tobacco:
- (1) What are you doing to ensure the sale of illegal and counterfeit cigarettes is stopped?
- (2) How will you continue to monitor this situation?
- 3672 **RECRUITMENT DRIVE FOR NURSES**—Mr Brendan Moylan to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—
- In relation to the recruitment drive for nurses in regional New South Wales:
- (1) What incentive payments are currently available for nurses to relocate to regional areas?
- (2) Are there plans for any other measures to be put in place to ensure the recruitment and retention of nurses in regional areas?
- 3673 **CRIME IN BORDER COMMUNITIES**—Mr Brendan Moylan to ask the Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism, and Minister for the Hunter—
- In relation to crime in border communities such as Mungindi and Boggabilla:
- (1) Do you have plans to increase cross-border powers between New South Wales and Queensland so that Police on the border can arrest and detain offenders who cross the border?
- (2) What other measures are planned to ensure this crime is kept under control?
- 3674 **KEY HEALTH WORKER ACCOMMODATION**—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—
- Regarding the Government's commitment of \$200.1 million for key health worker accommodation across rural and regional New South Wales:
- (1) Has Tweed Heads been confirmed as a location?
- (2) Have any possible sites within Tweed Heads been identified?
- (a) If yes, where are the identified sites?
- 3675 **TWEED URGENT CARE SERVICE**—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—
- Regarding the Tweed Urgent Care Service:
- (1) Will this service incorporate a physical location in the future, or will care remain home-based and only accessible by phoning healthdirect?
- 3676 **HOMELESSNESS INNOVATION FUND**—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast representing the Minister for Water, Minister for Housing, Minister for Homelessness, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Youth, and Minister for the North Coast—
- Regarding the \$100 million Homelessness Innovation Fund:
- (1) How will funding be allocated between metropolitan areas and rural and regional areas of New South Wales?

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- (2) Will a percentage of the funding be quarantined for rural and regional Community Housing Providers?
- 3677 DISPOSAL AND REUSE OF GOVERNMENT LAPTOPS—Mr Michael Regan to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice representing the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—
- (1) As part of Government waste reduction policies and strategies (including the Government Resource Efficiency Policy, NSW Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy 2041 and the Circular Economy Policy Statement 2019), is there:
- (a) Any centralised policy on how long Government agency laptop computers should be used before being replaced?
- (i) If so, what does this policy specify?
- (b) Any centralised oversight of the quantity of e-waste, including laptop computers, created by Government agencies?
- (i) If so, is it known how many laptops are disposed of by Government agencies each year?
- (1) If so, how many?
- (c) Any centralised programs to ensure IT assets, including laptop computers, are reused and recycled across Government agencies?
- (i) If so, what does this involve?
- (2) Who decides what happens to Government agency laptop computers when they are discarded?
- (3) What typically happens to Government agency laptop computers when they are discarded?
- (a) Do we know how many laptops end up in landfill?
- (4) Are there any existing avenues for laptop computers no longer used by Government agencies to be donated to a charity that distributes laptops for reuse by priority groups in need?
- (a) If so, what does this involve?
- (5) How would a charity that collects used laptops being discarded by large organisations approach the Government, from a whole-of-government perspective or an individual agency (starting with the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water), to propose collecting used laptops for reuse, to prevent them from being recycled prematurely, or worse, sent to landfill?
- 3678 HOUSING SEPP AND FRENCHS FOREST TOWN CENTRE—Mr Michael Regan to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces representing the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—
- (1) Given the Frenchs Forest Town Centre site is already set to deliver 10-15% affordable housing under the Northern Beaches Affordable Housing Contributions Scheme, will developers get the 30% height and floor space ratio bonus, as per amendments to the Housing State Environmental Planning Policy?
- 3679 FOREST HIGH SCHOOL FRENCHS FOREST SITE—Mr Michael Regan to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- (1) What is the status of discussions and project management between the Department of Education and Property Development NSW in relation to the future use of the site of the current Forest High School, once it has been relocated (approx mid 2025)?
- (2) What are the timeframes and steps for the sale or transfer of the Forest High site from the Department of Education?

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- (3) Who is the formal decision maker who signs off on the sale or transfer of the Forest High site?
 - (4) Is there a value that the Department of Education is assuming they will receive from the sale of the Forest High site allocated to cover the costs of constructing the new Forest High School in Allambie Heights?
 - (a) If so, what is this figure?

3680 TOONGABBIE CREEK—Mr Mark Taylor to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice representing the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—

Regarding Toongabbie Creek, could the Minister please advise:\

- (1) When was the water quality last tested?
- (2) What is the frequency of water quality testing?
- (3) At what location of the creek is the water tested?

3681 TEMPORARY SHUT DOWN OF XPT TRAIN SERVICE—Mrs Tanya Thompson to ask the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

In relation to the temporary shut down of the XPT Train Service:

- (1) What was the Operational Issue that caused the shut down of this rail line?
- (2) Were consumers given less than 24 hours notice of the cancellation of the service?
 - (a) If so, why was such short notice given?
- (3) How many customers in the Myall Lakes Electorate were affected by this cancellation?