



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEES

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2024-2025

Supplementary questions

Portfolio Committee No. 5 – Justice and Communities

Families and Communities, Disability Inclusion (Washington)

Hearing: Tuesday 3 September 2024

Answers due by: 5.00 pm Tuesday 1 October 2024

Budget Estimates secretariat

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BUDGET ESTIMATES 2024-2025
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS

Questions from Ms Sue Higginson MLC
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Response to the Audit Office report

- (1) How is the Department approaching the transformative change demanded to achieve better outcomes for First Nations people in line with the recommendations of the Audit Office?
- (2) The recent decision to change the head of the Transforming Aboriginal Outcomes (TAO) division of DCJ from a Deputy Secretary to a Director could be seen by many as a move *away* from embedding internal accountability opportunities. What is the vision for the future role of TAO in transformation of the DCJ system as it relates to child protection and youth justice?
- (3) What role will TAO and TAO staff have in the development, implementation and evaluation of the Quality Assurance Framework that the Audit Office has recommended?
- (4) The implementation of the *Family is Culture* recommendations remains a priority for the peaks, and there is some work underway to develop the mutually-agreed comprehensive Implementation Plan for FIC that has been central to the ask from community for some time. Will you commit to such a plan?
- (5) Given the poor performance of DCJ in both of the Audit Office reports, how can the Department claim to be Closing the Gap on Socio-Economic Outcome Target 12?

First Nations Children in HCEAs

- (6) How many aboriginal and non aboriginal children and young people are in each category of emergency and temporary care arrangements?
 - (a) Of these, how many have been in emergency or temporary arrangements for:
 - i. 0-3, 3-6, 6-9, 9-12, or 12+ months?
 - (b) Of these, what is the longest stay of any individual child or young person?
 - (c) Of these, what is the median stay in these arrangements?
 - (d) Of these, provide a breakdown by type of accommodation including but not limited to hotels, motels, and caravan parks?

- (7) How many children have been moved out of temporary and emergency accommodation arrangements and to what kind of care have they exited and please provide a breakdown of First Nations children?
- (8) What percentage of children in HCEAs have self-placed? What percentage of those are First Nations children?
- (9) By current estimates, when will Outcome 12 in the Closing the Gap targets of halving the over-representation of First Nations young people in out-of-home care be achieved?
- (10) In dollar terms, how much funding will be divested from the OOHC system to better resource early support/intervention and family preservation services in the 2024/2025 budget and reinvest in strengthening Aboriginal families?
- (11) What amount and percentage of total funding will be allocated in the forthcoming recommissioning rounds for each of the below, and how does this compare to their current funding shares:
 - (a) Targeted Early Intervention (TEI)
 - (b) Family Connect and Support (FCS)
 - (c) Family Preservation
- (12) What share of funding will be allocated to Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs) when you recommission these critical service areas?

Systems Reform Division

- (13) Given the scale of reform required within DCJ, and the NSW government commitments to Close the Gap for Aboriginal children and families (across SEO targets 10, 11, 12 and 13) , how will the Systems Reform Division work with the Transforming Aboriginal Outcomes (TAO) division?
- (14) Please outline what resources have been provided to the System Reforms Division (in both staff and budget) to undertake critical reform work, and a breakdown of what TAO had prior to the creation of this division and what they now have (in terms of both staffing and budget).

Staff Turnover

- (15) What support and supervision will be provided to inexperienced caseworkers to ensure they can provide culturally appropriate care to Aboriginal families and children?

- (16) Has DCJ undertaken any analysis of how the risk-compliance focused nature of work with families - which increases time at the keyboard and reduces time supporting families – contributes to recruitment and retention struggles?
- (17) How many DCJ caseworkers made Workers Compensation claims for mental stress or psychological injury and what were the costs of those claims in the 21/22, 22/23, 23/24 and current financial years?
- (18) How many DCJ caseworkers made Workers Compensation claims for mental stress or psychological injury and what were the costs of those claims in 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24?
 - (a) Of these, what was the average period of leave taken per claimant?
 - (b) Of these, how many of them were Aboriginal workers?
 - (c) Of these, what proportion of those caseworkers returned to casework roles within DCJ or other roles in DCJ?
- (19) In each of the 19/20, 20/21, 21/22, 23/24 and current financial years, how many staff resigned from the department?
 - (a) Of these, what percentage were Aboriginal staff?
- (20) In each of the 19/20, 20/21, 21/22, 23/24 and current financial years, how many staff resigned from the Office of the Children’s Guardian?
- (21) In each of the 19/20, 20/21, 21/22, 22/23, 23/24 and current financial years, how many full time equivalent staff were working on the OCG’s
 - (a) Working With Children Check team?
 - (b) Reportable Conduct team?
 - (c) Out-of-home care accreditation team?
- (22) In each of the 19/20, 20/21, 21/22, 22/23, 23/24 and current financial years, how many full-time equivalent staff were employed at the level of executive or higher at the Office of the Children’s Guardian and in each financial year what was the total value of their salaries?
- (23) In each of the 19/20, 20/21, 21/22, 22/23, 23/24 and current financial years, how much has the OCG spent on external consultants?
- (24) In each of the 19/20, 20/21, 21/22, 22/23, 23/24 and current financial years, how many working with children check applications were received by the OCG?

- (a) Of these, how many were processed within 12 months?

Child removals

(25) In each of the 19/20, 20/21, 21/22, 22/23, 23/24 and current financial years, please provide the number of guardianship orders made for Aboriginal children

- (a) Of these, in how many cases were guardians:
- i. Non-Aboriginal?
 - ii. Non-Aboriginal *and* not related to the child?

(26) In each of the 19/20, 20/21, 21/22, 22/23, 23/24 and current financial years, how many times has the Secretary exercised the power in section 17 of the *Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act* 1998 to request provision of a service to a child or young person or their family?

- (a) Please include a breakdown of:
- i. the nature of the service requested;
 - ii. how many requests were directed to ACCOs; and
 - iii. how many requests were in relation to an Aboriginal child or young person.

(27) In each of the 19/20, 20/21, 21/22, 22/23, 23/24 and current financial years, how many times has the Children's Court exercised the power in section 85 to request provision of a restoration service to a child or young person or their family, in order to facilitate the safe restoration of the child or young person to their family?

- (a) Please include a breakdown of:
- i. the nature of the service requested;
 - ii. how many requests were directed to ACCOs; and
 - iii. how many requests were in relation to an Aboriginal child or young person.

(28) In each of the 19/20, 20/21, 21/22, 22/23, 23/24 and current financial years

- (a) How many children were removed from their families in total?
- (b) How many children were removed from their families by warrant?
- i. Of whom, how many were Aboriginal?
- (c) How many children were removed by NSW police?

- i. Of whom, how many were Aboriginal?

Questions from Hon Chris Rath MLC (on behalf of Opposition)
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FAMILIES & COMMUNITIES

Foster Carers

- (29) How many foster carers were there by CSC during 2023-24?
- (a) How many identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander?
- (30) How much funding in this Budget is being used to recruit foster carers identifying as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander?
- (31) How many foster carers identifying as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander have been recruited since June 2023?
- (32) How many foster carers have transitioned from NGOs to ACCOs?
- (a) How many have ceased to be carers after the transfer?

Budget Breakdown

- (33) What is the breakdown of the \$224 million to the FACS Budget?
- (34) How has been allocated in the 2024-25 Budget for Targeted Early Intervention?
- (a) How many individual clients has the TEI program seen for 2023-24?
- (b) How many individual clients identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander for 2023-24?
- (35) What funding has Family Connect and Support (FCS) received for 2023-24?
- (36) How many clients have FCS supported during 2023-24?
- (37) What is the total number of contracted places that family preservation programs have provided to families for 2023-24?
- (a) How many services were delivered to children?
- (b) How many of those children were Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander?
- (38) Regarding Permanency Support Program (PSP) Family Preservation, how many families have been assisted in 2023-24?
- (a) How many families were Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander?

- (39) Regarding Brighter Futures, how many families received support during 2023-24?
- (a) How many children and young people were supported?
 - (b) How many families were Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander?
- (40) Regarding Youth Hopes, how many children received support during 2023-24?
- (a) How many families were Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander?
- (41) Regarding Multisystemic Therapy for Child Abuse and Neglect (MST-CAN) and Functional Family Therapy Child Welfare (FFT-CW), how many families accepted service for 2023-24?
- (a) How many families were Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander?
- (42) Regarding Resilient Families, how many families have been referred to the program for 2023-24?
- (a) How many families were Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander?
- (43) Regarding Intensive Family Preservation, how many families have received support for 2023-24?
- (a) how many families were Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander?
- (44) Regarding Intensive Based Family Support, how many families received support during 2023-24?
- (a) how many families were Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander?
- (45) Regarding Family Group Conferencing (FGC), how many families were referred and how many conferences were convened for 2023-24?
- (a) Of those that participated in the conference, how many families were Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander?
- (46) how many proceeded to the Children's Court for interim or final orders for 2023-24?
- (a) How many that proceeded to the Children's Court for interim or final orders involved Aboriginal families?
- (47) How has been allocated in the 2024-25 Budget to My Forever Family?
- (a) What is this to deliver?
- (48) How has been allocated in the 2024-25 Budget to AbSec?
- (a) What is this to deliver?

- (49) How has been allocated in the 2024-25 Budget for the following programs:
- (a) PSP family preservation services?
 - (b) Youth Hope and Brighter Futures?
 - (c) Multisystemic Therapy for Child Abuse and Neglect and Functional Family Therapy Child Welfares services?
 - (d) Nabu?
 - (e) Resilient Families?
 - (f) Intensive Family Preservation?
 - (g) Intensive Based Family Support?

HCEA

- (50) How many children and young people were in each HCEP for
- (a) October to December 2023?
 - (b) January to March 2024?
 - (c) April to June 2024?
- (51) Regarding the above, how many are case managed by DCJ and how many are case managed by a nongovernment organisation during the same timeframes?
- (52) What is the cost of each HCEA for 2023-24?

Better Decisions for Children

- (53) Is DCJ still leading the Better Decisions for Children (Better Decisions) project announced in August 2023?
- (54) How many people, organisations, peak bodies and experts have been engaged as part of the project?
- (55) When will the project be completed?

Ministerial Aboriginal Partnership (MAP) Group

- (56) How many times has the MAP Group met since being established?
- (57) How many times has the Minister met the MAP Group?
- (58) What work has the MAP Group undertaken to date?

- (59) What work is the MAP Group currently working on?
- (60) Will the Minister publish the work provided by the MAP Group?
- (a) If not, why not?

Tirkandi Inaburra Cultural Development Centre

- (61) The closure of Tirkandi Inaburra Cultural Development Centre is another example of services for youth being removed from country. The Tirkandi program strengthened cultural identity, self-esteem and resilience of young aboriginal males aged 12 to 15 years old. What has replaced this service?
- (a) How much did this service receive in funding?
- (b) Where has this funding been allocated?

ROSH Reports

- (62) What is the highest number of ROSH re-reports received for a single child for the following periods:
- (a) April to June 2023?
- (b) July to September 2023?
- (c) October to December 2023?
- (d) January to March 2024?
- (e) April to June 2024?
- (63) For each of the above:
- (a) What was the age and gender of the child?
- (b) Do they identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander?
- (c) Which district was the ROSH report made?
- (d) Was the child or young person in a placement at the time?

Adoption, Guardianship and Restoration

- (64) How many children in OCH exited to guardianship during 2023-24?
- (a) How many are Aboriginal?
- (65) How many young people have a plan for guardianship?

- (a) What is this by percentage?
- (66) How many adoptions were there of children from OOHC in NSW for 2023-24?
 - (a) How many were Aboriginal?
- (67) How many young people have a plan for adoption?
 - (a) What is this by percentage?
- (68) How many restorations were there of children from OOHC in NSW for 2023-24?
 - (a) How many were Aboriginal?
- (69) How many young people have a plan for restoration?
 - (a) What is this by percentage?

Exits due to incarceration and ageing out

- (70) During 2023-24 how many exits from OOHC were due to a young person entering a youth justice centre?
 - (a) What were the ages of these young people?
 - (b) What were their genders?
 - (c) How many were Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander?
- (71) How many children and young people in OOHC were staying in youth bail accommodation during April to June 2023?
 - (a) For the above:
 - i. What were the ages of these young people?
 - ii. What were their genders?
 - iii. How many were Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander?
- (72) How many children and young people in OOHC were staying in youth bail accommodation during July to September 2023?
 - (a) For the above:
 - i. What were the ages of these young people?
 - ii. What were their genders?
 - iii. How many were Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander?

- (73) How many children and young people in OOHC were staying in youth bail accommodation during October to December 2023?
- (a) For the above:
- i. What were the ages of these young people?
 - ii. What were their genders?
 - iii. How many were Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander?
- (74) How many children and young people in OOHC were staying in youth bail accommodation during January to March 2024?
- (a) For the above:
- i. What were the ages of these young people?
 - ii. What were their genders?
 - iii. How many were Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander?
- (75) How many children and young people in OOHC were staying in youth bail accommodation during April to June 2024?
- (a) For the above:
- i. What were the ages of these young people?
 - ii. What were their genders?
 - iii. How many were Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander?
- (76) How many Aboriginal children and young people are set to exit due to ageing out of care for the following periods:
- (a) July to September 2024?
 - (b) October to December 2024?
 - (c) January to March 2025?
 - (d) April to June 2025?

Behaviour Support Plans for Intensive Therapeutic Care (ITC) providers

- (77) Are ITC providers required to have behaviour support plans in place to manage the safety and risk of staff as well as children and young people?

- (78) How is this monitored to ensure ITC providers actually have the plans in place?
- (79) Who approves the behaviour support plans?
- (a) Is there any capacity to review the plans?
- i. If yes, by who?

OOHC

- (80) As of 30 June 2024 how many young people who are under Parental Responsibility to the Minister who were not in a placement with authorised carer?
- (a) “Absent over 24 hours – location unknown “
- (b) Self-placed
- (81) Why isn’t data available on the ages and gender on the number of children and young people case managed by the Department of Communities and Justice?
- (a) Will you make this publicly available?
- i. If no, why not?
- (82) Why isn’t data available on the ages and gender on the number of children and young people case managed by non-government organisations?
- (a) Will you make this publicly available?
- i. If no, why not
- (83) How many Aboriginal Controlled Organisations are there providing OOHC?
- (a) What are the names of the Aboriginal Controlled Organisations?
- (b) What areas do the Aboriginal Controlled Organisations operate?
- (84) How many children are currently in OOHC?
- (a) What is the most recent date that this information is available?
- (85) How many children in OOHC are currently living overseas?
- (a) How many children are Aboriginal?
- (86) How many are non-Aboriginal?
- (a) Do you have a breakdown of non-Aboriginal by ethnicity?
- (87) How much is allocated to NGOs for OOHC?

- (88) How many Aboriginal children are with ACCOs?
- (89) What proportion of Aboriginal children in OOHC are case managed by DCJ?
- (90) What proportion of Aboriginal children in OOHC are case managed by NGO provider?
- (91) During 2023-24, how many children leaving OOHC were referred to homelessness support within 12 months of leaving care?
 - (a) Where all children over 18 years of age?
 - (b) If not, what was the youngest age?
- (92) What is the progress with the implementation of the 2022 OOHC Health Pathways Program evaluation recommendations?

Court

- (93) As of 30 June 2023, how many matters are before the Children's Court?
- (94) How many matters over the 2023-24 period have taken longer than 12 months?
- (95) How many have taken longer than 18 months?

Acts under Review

- (96) Is the Adoption Act under review?
 - (a) If not, when will a review commence?
- (97) Is the Child Protection (International Measures) Act under review?
 - (a) If not, when will a review commence?
- (98) Is the Child Protection (Working with Children) Act under review?
 - (a) If not, when will a review commence?
- (99) Is the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act under review?
 - (a) If not, when will a review commence?
- (100) When will the review commence of the amendments made to the Care Act by way of the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Amendment (Family is Culture) Act 2022, as required by section 265 of the Care Act.
 - (a) When will it conclude?
 - (b) Has the review been made public?

i. If not, why not?

(101) Is the Community Services (Complaints, Reviews and Monitoring) Act under review?

(a) If not, when will a review commence?

(102) Is the review into the Children's Guardian Act completed?

(a) What date will the review be completed?

(b) When will it be made public?

(103) Is the Disability Inclusion Act under review?

(a) If not, when will a review commence?

(104) Is the Adoption Act under review?

(a) If not, when will a review commence?

(105) Is the Child Protection (International Measures) Act under review?

(a) If not, when will a review commence?

(106) Is the Child Protection (Working with Children) Act under review?

(a) If not, when will a review commence?

(107) Is the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act under review?

(a) If not, when will a review commence

(108) When will the review commence of the amendments made to the Care Act by way of the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Amendment (Family is Culture) Act 2022, as required by section 265 of the Care Act?

(a) When will it conclude?

(b) Has the review been made public?

i. If not, why not?

(109) Is the Community Services (Complaints, Reviews and Monitoring) Act under review?

(a) If not, when will a review commence?

(110) Is the review into the Children's Guardian Act completed?

(a) What date will the review be completed?

(b) When will it be made public?

(111) Is the Disability Inclusion Act under review?

(a) If not, when will a review commence?

(112) Is the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NSW Enabling) Act under review?

(a) If not, when will a review commence?

(113) Is the National Disability Insurance Scheme (Worker Checks) Act under review?

(a) If not, when will a review commence?

Child Protection Hotline

(114) How many calls to the Child Protection Hotline between:

(a) January to March 2024?

(b) April to June 2024?

(115) How many calls to the Child Protection Hotline between:

(a) January to March 2024?

(b) April to June 2024?

(116) How many staff members are employed at the Child Protection Helpline for the following periods:

(a) April 2023 to June 2023?

(b) July 2023 to September 2023?

(c) October 2023 to December 2023?

(d) January 2024 to March 2024?

(e) April 2024 to June 2024?

(117) What is the expected waitlist times for the Child Protection helpline for the following periods:

(a) April 2023 to June 2023?

(b) July 2023 to September 2023?

(c) October 2023 to December 2023?

(d) January 2024 to March 2024?

(e) April 2024 to June 2024?

After Hours Response Team

- (118) On 24 April 2024, the After Hours Response Team went on strike for 24 hours. When were you advised of this strike?
- (a) When was the Department advised of the strike?
- (119) What measures did you put in place to ensure the safety of children reported at risk during the strike?
- (a) When were these measures put in place?
- (b) If no measures were put in place, why not?
- (120) During the 24 hours strike how many calls were received?
- (121) During the 24 hours strike how many calls went unanswered?
- (122) How many staff should be employed at any one time to the After Hours Response Team?
- (a) What is the break down by shifts?
- (123) How many staff were working on 24 April 2024 when the strike occurred?

Caseworkers

- (124) What is the total attrition rate for 2022-23, by percentage, for DCJ Child Protection Caseworkers employed:
- (a) Less than 1 year?
- (b) 1 - 2 years?
- (c) 2 - 5 years?
- (d) 5 - 10 years?
- (e) 10 - 20 years?
- (f) More than 20 years?
- (125) What is the total attrition rate for 2023-24, by percentage, for DCJ Child Protection Caseworkers employed
- (a) (Less than 1 year?
- (b) 1 - 2 years?
- (c) 2 - 5 years?

- (d) 5 - 10 years?
- (e) 10 - 20 years?
- (f) More than 20 years?

(126) What is the total attrition rate by percentage, for DCJ Child Protection Caseworkers employed

- (a) Less than 1 year?
- (b) 1 - 2 years?
- (c) 2 - 5 years?
- (d) 5 - 10 years?
- (e) 10 - 20 years?
- (f) More than 20 years?

(127) For the above please cover the follow time period:

- (a) April 2023 to June 2023?
- (b) July 2023 to September 2023?
- (c) October 2023 to December 2023?
- (d) January 2024 to March 2024?
- (e) April 2024 to June 2024?

Critical instances

(128) How many critical instances reports has the Minister received since 1 November 2023 to 1 September 2024?

(129) How many relate to OOHC pregnancies?

Case Plans

(130) How many children that are required to have a case plan have a case plan?

- (a) What is the number by percentage?

(131) As of 30 June 2024, many children managed by DCJ have a case plan?

- (a) How many of these children and young people have been living in OOHC for 0-3 months?

- (b) How many of the children and young people have been living in OOHC care for 3-6 months?
- (132) As 30 June 2024 how many children managed by an NGO have a case plan?
- (a) How many of these children and young people have been living in OOHC for 0-3 months?
 - (b) How many of the children and young people have been living in OOHC care for 3-6 months?
- (133) As of 30 June 2024, many children managed by DCJ have a current cultural support plan?
- (a) How many of these children and young people have been living in OOHC for 0-3 months?
 - (b) How many of the children and young people have been living in OOHC care for 3-6 months?
- (134) During 2023-24 how many young people who have left out-of-home care (OOHC), received the Your Choice, Your Future funding?
- (135) During 2023-24 what was the budget for Your Choice, Your Future?
- (136) How much has been allocated in the 2024-25 Budget for Your Choice, Your Future?
- (137) How many young people who have left out-of-home care (OOHC), who are eligible for the Your Choice, Your Future funding, have not applied for assistance?
- (a) As of what date?
- (138) When will the evaluation of the Your Choice, Your Future commence and when will it be concluded?

OOHC Education Pathway

- (139) During 2023-24 how many young have had pathway planning meeting within 30 days?
- (a) How many did not?
- (140) What is the longest time a young person has waited for learning and support plan to be implemented?
- (141) What is the attendance rates for all school aged children who are enrolled in a NSW public school and who are the under the parental responsibility of the Minister from July 2023 to June 2024?

(a) Provide for each month

(142) Are there young people in OOHC not enrolled in school right now?

(a) If yes, how many?

(143) From July 2023 to June 2024 how many young people in OOHC were suspended from school?

(a) What are the figures for each month in that timeframe?

Discretionary Fund

(144) Does the Minister have any discretionary funds in relation to her portfolio responsibilities for Families and Communities?

(a) If yes, what is the total amount that has been made available to the Minister?

i. How much was expended for 2023-24?

ii. How much has already been expended for 2024-25?

(b) Can the Minister provide a dollar value breakdown on what the discretionary funds have been expended on?

Meetings

(145) How many monthly FACS District Director meetings has the Minister attended since 1 September 2023?

(a) Please provide the relevant dates.

(146) How many CSC meetings has the Minister attended since 1 September 2023

(a) Please provide the dates and locations?

DISABILITY INCLUSION

CRAMF

(147) How will the Department of Communities and Justice implement the domestic and family violence Common Risk Assessment and Management Framework (CRAMF) to ensure child protection and family support service staff have the capability to identify domestic and family violence and assess or manage risk?

- (148) Is the Department of Communities and Justice considering implementing the Safe and Together training and/or model into child protection?
- (a) If not, why not?
- (149) What processes are in place to hold perpetrators of violence to account, and keeping protective parents safe and together with children?
- (150) Following the Disability Royal Commission, will the NSW Government actively support the development of a five-year Action Plan for Women and Children with Disability to accompany the National Plan to End Violence against Women and Children 2022-2032?
- (a) If not, why not?
- (151) Following the Disability Royal Commission, will the NSW Government amend its legislative definitions of family and domestic violence to include:
- (a) all relationships in which people with disability experience family and domestic violence, including but not limited to carer and support worker relationships?
- (b) disability-based violence and abuse?
- (c) all domestic settings, including but not limited to supported accommodation such as group homes, respite centres and boarding houses? If not, why not?

DCJ Staffing

- (152) How many people with disabilities are in senior management positions in the department?

Ageing and Disability Commission

- (153) How many calls did the Ageing and Disability Commission (ADC) receive in 2023-24?
- (a) How many related to adults with disability?
- (b) How many related to people with disability under 18 years of age?
- (154) How many Helpline consultants are there currently?
- (155) How many matters consisting of reports and enquiries did the ADC receive?
- (156) How many reports were received under section 13 of the Ageing and Disability Commissioner Act?
- (a) How many reports related to regional, rural, and remote areas?
- (b) How many of reports related to older people, including older people with disability?

- (c) How many reports related to adults with disability (who were not older people)?
- (d) How many were enquiries?
- (e) How many were general enquiries?
- (f) How many were abuse related enquiries?

Disability Inclusion Action Plans

- (157) How many government departments have DIAPs?
 - (a) How many have completed their 2022-23 annual progress reports?
- (158) How many councils have DIAPs?

Return to Office Policy

- (159) Please provide the occupancy rates for all DCJ offices over the past five years, covering all staff.
- (160) Please provide the occupancy rates for all DCJ offices over the past five years, specifically for non-casework staff.
- (161) How frequently is office occupancy measured, and what is the methodology used for these measurements?
- (162) Can you provide records of the working locations for non-casework DCJ staff over the past five years?
- (163) How many non-caseworks staff have returned to working in the office five days a week in the last 6 months, 12 months, and currently?
- (164) How many non-caseworks staff have returned to working in the office three days a week in the last 6 months, 12 months, and currently?
- (165) What is DCJ's return-to-office plan?
- (166) What consultations have taken place in regard to a return to office plan, with whom, and when?
- (167) What goals, targets, and timeframes are in place regarding DCJ's return-to-office strategy?
- (168) How are these goals, targets, and timeframes being measured? Will the results be made publicly available?

(169) Is there a requirement for the department to report to Premier and Cabinet with updates on progress and results?

Media releases and statements

(170) Are all the ministerial media releases and statements issued by you publicly available at <https://www.nsw.gov.au/media-releases>?

(a) If no, why?

GIPA Applications – Department(s)/Agency(s)

(171) Since 28 March 2023, have you and/or your ministerial office given instructions to your portfolio department(s)/agency(s) in relation to Government Information (Public Access) Act application(s)?

Signal

(172) Are you on Signal?

(a) If yes, do you access Signal from a NSW Government device?

CFMEU membership

(173) Have you ever been a member of the Construction, Forestry and Maritime Employees Union (CFMEU)?

(a) If yes, when?

Department(s)/Agency(s) Annual Reports

(174) In what month will the 2023-24 annual reports for each department / agency in your portfolio be published?

(175) Will the 2023-24 annual reports for the department / agency in your portfolio include a printed copy?

(a) If yes, how much is budgeted for printing in 2024-25?

ETU membership

(176) Have you ever been a member of the Electrical Trades Union (ETU)?

(a) If yes, when?

Paper shredder

(177) Does your ministerial office have a paper shredder?

Department(s)/Agency(s) in Portfolio

(178) What department(s)/agency(s) are included in your portfolio?

Former Ministerial Employees

(179) Are there any former employee from your ministerial office now employed by any department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities?

(a) If yes, how many?

Qantas Chairman's Club

(180) Are you a Member of the Qantas Chairman's Club?

(a) If no, have you ever previously been a member?

(b) If yes, when did you cease to be a member?

(c) If yes, when did you initially become a member?

(d) If yes, when did you make a declaration to The Cabinet Office?

(e) If yes, how many times since 28 March 2023 have you used the Qantas Chairman's Club?

Ministerial Staff – Local Government Councillors

(181) As at 30 June 2024, how many of your ministerial staff were local government councillors?

(182) What local government(s) did they serve?

Union membership fees

(183) What was the expenditure for you to join a union in:

(a) 2022-23?

(b) 2023-24?

(c) 2024-25?

ETU meetings

(184) Given ministerial diary disclosures do not include all meetings and provide exceptions to disclosures, since 28 March 2023, have you met with the ETU?

State Records Act

(185) Have you and your ministerial office had training and/or a briefing about the State Records Act from State Records NSW and/or The Cabinet Office and/or Premier's Department?

(a) If yes, when?

Legal Costs

(186) How much did the Department/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities spend in legal costs since 28 March 2023?

(a) For what specific purposes or matters was legal advice sought?

(187) Are you a member of a union?

(a) If yes, what union?

Advertising

(188) How much has each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities spent on advertising or sponsored posts since 28 March 2023 on the following social media platforms:

(a) Facebook

(b) Instagram

(c) LinkedIn

(d) TikTok

(e) YouTube

(f) X (formerly known as Twitter)

Catering

(189) How much of your ministerial budget was spent on catering in 2023-24?

(190) Was catering used for external stakeholders?

(a) If yes, who were these external stakeholders?

Parliamentary Secretary

(191) Does your Parliamentary Secretary have pass access to your ministerial office?

(192) Does your Parliamentary Secretary have a desk in your ministerial office?

(193) Did any catering costs in 2023-24 include expenditure on alcohol?

Senior Executive Drivers

(194) How many senior executives in your portfolio department(s) / agency(s) have a driver?

Speeches

(195) Does your portfolio department(s) / agency(s) draft and write speeches for you?

(196) How many public servants have undertaken writing speeches in your portfolio department(s) / agency(s)?

Hard hats and/or vests

(197) Do you have a hard hat and/or vest for visiting infrastructure sites?

(a) If yes, was it paid from your ministerial budget?

Gin

(198) Since 28 March 2023, have you or your ministerial office purchased 'gin' using your ministerial budget?

Ministerial Advisers

(199) How many staff members were employed in your ministerial office in 2023-24 FY?

(200) What is the average salary for staff members in your ministerial office in 2023-24 FY?

Ministerial disclosures to The Cabinet Office

(201) On what date did you last update/make a ministerial disclosure to The Cabinet Office?

Stationery

(202) How much of your ministerial budget was spent on stationery in 2023-24?

(203) Did your stationery expenditure include gifts for external stakeholders?

(a) (If yes, what was the gift(s)?

(b) If yes, who received the gift(s)?

GIPA Applications / Standing Order 52 – Ministerial Office

(204) Does your ministerial office have staff member(s) to undertake Government Information (Public Access) Act application(s) and/or Standing Order 52 requests?

(a) If yes, has that ministerial staffer(s) received formal training about their legal obligations?

(205) How many GIPA Applications have been received by your ministerial office since 28 March 2023?

Police Commissioner Gin

(206) Have you received gin from the Police Commissioner?

E-Toll

(207) Does your ministerial vehicle have an E-Toll?

(a) If yes, is expenditure paid by your by your ministerial budget?

Department(s)/Agency(s) Gifts and Hospitality Register

(208) Does your portfolio department(s)/agency(s) have a gifts and/or hospitality register?

(a) If yes, is it available online?

i. If yes, what is the URL?

Workplace complaints

(209) Have you been the subject of any workplace complaints, including bullying, harassment, and sexual harassment since 28 March 2023?

(210) Has any member of your ministerial staff been the subject of any workplace complaints, including bullying, harassment, and sexual harassment since 28 March 2023?

Ministerial Code of Conduct

(211) Since 28 March 2023, have you breached the Ministerial Code of Conduct?

(a) If yes, what was the breach?

TikTok

(212) Are you on TikTok?

(a) If yes, do you access TikTok from a NSW Government device?

CFMEU meetings

(213) Given ministerial diary disclosures do not include all meetings and provide exceptions to disclosures, since 28 March 2023, have you met with the CFMEU?

Credit Cards

(214) Have you ever been issued with a credit card by a NSW Government department(s) and/or agency(s) since 28 March 2023?

- (a) If yes, under what circumstance?
- (b) If yes, what items and expenditure was undertaken?

(215) For each department, agency and/or other body in the Minister's portfolio please report:

- (a) How many credit cards are currently on issue for staff? (Please provide a break-down of this information by grade)
- (b) What was the value of the largest reported purchase on a credit card for the last year?
- (c) What was each largest reported purchase for?
- (d) What was the largest amount outstanding on a single card at the end of a payment period?
- (e) And what was the card holder's employment grade?
- (f) How many credit cards have been reported lost or stolen?
- (g) What was the cost to replace them?
- (h) How many credit card purchases were deemed to be illegitimate or contrary to agency policy?
 - i. How many purchases were asked to be repaid on the basis that they were illegitimate or contrary to agency policy and what was the total value thereof?
 - ii. Were all those amounts repaid?
- (i) (i) Are any credit cards currently on issue connected to rewards schemes?
 - i. Do staff receive any personal benefit as a result of those reward schemes?
 - ii. Can a copy of the staff credit card policy please be provided?

Ministerial Vehicles and Driving Offences

(216) Since 28 March 2023, have you personally driven your ministerial vehicle?

(217) As a driver since 28 March 2023:

- (a) Have you been pulled over by the NSW Police Force?
- (b) Have you been fined for speeding?
- (c) Have you been fined for school zone related offence?
- (d) Have you been fined for red light related offence?
- (e) Have you been involved in an accident that included the NSW Police attending the scene?
 - i. If yes to a) to e), did this include whilst driving your ministerial vehicle?

Department(s)/agency(s) desk or office

(218) Do you have a desk or office in your portfolio department(s)/agency(s) building(s)?

Land audit – Department(s)/Agency(s)

(219) Has your portfolio department(s)/agency(s) undertaken a land audit of surplus government property in any of the following postcodes:

- (a) 2077?
- (b) 2079?
- (c) 2080?
- (d) 2081?
- (e) 2082?
- (f) 2083?
- (g) 2117?
- (h) 2118?
- (i) 2119?
- (j) 2120?
- (k) 2121?
- (l) 2125?
- (m) 2126?

- (n) 2151?
- (o) 2154?
- (p) 2156?
- (q) 2157?
- (r) 2158?
- (s) 2159?
- (t) 2756?
- (u) 2775?

i. If yes to (a) to (u), how many properties have been identified

Mobile phones

(220) How many mobile phones has your ministerial office been allocated as at 1 July 2024?

(221) How many mobile phones in your ministerial office have been lost or stolen since 28 March 2023?

Efficiency dividends

(222) Was an efficiency dividend applied to your portfolio department(s) / agency(s) within your portfolio responsibilities in:

- (a) 2023-24?
- (b) 2024-25?

- i. If so, what was the efficiency dividend applied to each department/agency?
- ii. What measures are being considered to achieve this efficiency dividend?

Consultants

(223) Since 28 March 2023, how many consultancy contracts have been signed in your portfolio agencies, broken down by agency?

- (a) What was the individual amount of each contract?
- (b) What is the purpose of each contract?
- (c) Who was the contract with?
- (d) Did the contract go through a competitive tender?

Ministerial staff disclosure of gifts and/or hospitality

- (224) Does your ministerial office keep a register of gifts and/or hospitality for staff to make disclosures?
- (225) Have any staff members in your office been the recipient of any free hospitality?
- (a) What was the total value of the hospitality received?
 - (b) Are these gifts of hospitality declared?

Department(s)/Agency(s) Travel

- (226) As Minister, do you approve overseas travel for public servants in your portfolio department(s) / Agency(s)?
- (a) If yes, how many overseas trips have you approved since 28 March 2023?
- (227) Since 28 March 2023, how much has been spent on charter air flights by your portfolio agencies, broken down by agency?
- (228) Since 28 March 2023, how much has been spent on domestic flights by your portfolio agencies, broken down by agency?
- (a) Of these, how many flights were taken in business class?
- (229) Since 28 March 2023, how much has been spent on international flights by your portfolio agencies, broken down by agency?
- (a) Of these, how many flights were taken in business class?
 - (b) Of these, how many flights were taken in first class?
- (230) What was the total expenditure since 28 March 2023 by each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities on:
- (a) Taxi hire?
 - (b) Ridesharing services?
 - (c) Limousine/private car hire?
 - (d) Hire car rental?

Training

- (231) Since 28 March 2023, have you had training from an external stakeholder that included an invoice and payment paid for using your ministerial budget?

- (a) (a) If yes, what is the description of training?
- (b) (b) If yes, how much?

Cabinet documents

(232) Since 28 March 2023, have you shared Cabinet documents with your Parliamentary Secretary?

Website usage

(233) What were the top 20 most utilised (by data sent and received) unique domain names accessed by your ministerial office since 28 March 2023?

(234) What were the top 20 most accessed (by number of times accessed) unique domain names accessed by your ministerial office since 28 March 2023?

Department(s)/Agency(s) Employees

(235) How many senior executive service employees were employed by each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities on:

- (a) 28 March 2023?
- (b) July 2023?
- (c) 1 January 2024?
- (d) 1 July 2024?

(236) How many public servants within your portfolio department(s)/agency(s) were paid more than the Premier in 2023-24?

(237) How many redundancies were processed by each Department(s)/agency(s) within your portfolio responsibilities since 28 March 2023?

- (a) Of these redundancies, how many were:
 - i. Voluntary?
 - ii. Forced?
- (b) What was the total cost of all redundancies in each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities?

Ministerial visits

(238) Since 28 March 2023, have you visited any of these postcodes:

- (a) 2077?
- (b) 2079?
- (c) 2080?
- (d) 2081?
- (e) 2082?
- (f) 2083?
- (g) 2117?
- (h) 2118?
- (i) 2119?
- (j) 2120?
- (k) 2121?
- (l) 2125?
- (m) 2126?
- (n) 2151?
- (o) 2154?
- (p) 2156?
- (q) 2157?
- (r) 2158?
- (s) 2159?
- (t) 2756?
- (u) 2775?

i. If yes to (a) to (u):

1. What was the purpose of the visit(s)?
2. Did you make a funding announcement(s)?

Camera, video recorder and microphones

(239) Does your ministerial office have the following paid by your ministerial budget:

- (a) Handheld camera?
- (b) Handheld video recorder?
- (c) Microphone?
 - i. If yes to (a) to (c), how much is each worth when purchased?

Cabinet Sub Committees

(240) What cabinet sub committees are you a member of?

Questions from Ms Abigail Boyd MLC

Ageing and Disability Commissioner budget bid

(241) The Ageing and Disability Commissioner submitted a funding budget bid to you. Did you not include it in the Department's budget bid to the Treasurer?

Healthcare access for people with physical disability

(242) People with physical disabilities often experience physical barriers to accessing healthcare across the state. What budget is being allocated to address this particular issue?

- (a) What is the government doing to assess and improve the accessibility of health systems for people with physical disabilities across NSW?

Accessibility NSW funding and Easy Read by 2025 government commitment

(243) At Budget Estimates in February 2024, in response to supplementary questions, the Minister for Disability Inclusion redirected the questions "will Accessibility NSW be funded beyond 30 June 2024?" and "if funding will not be provided past June 30, what agency or department will be responsible for making all of NSW Government websites and services available in Easy Read by 2025?" to the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government. However the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government then redirected the same questions to the Minister for Disability Inclusion.

- (a) Which minister has responsibility for Accessibility NSW?
- (b) Which minister has responsibility for the government commitment of Easy Read by 2025?
 - i. If the answer is the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, does the Minister for Disability Inclusion have any involvement or oversight for ensuring this target is met?

- ii. If the answer is the Minister for Disability Inclusion, given Accessibility NSW did not receive ongoing funding from the previous government beyond a \$2.75m allocation from the Digital Restart Fund, which department or agency is currently responsible for making all of NSW Government websites and services available in Easy Read by 2025?

(244) Will all NSW Government websites and services be available in Easy Read by 2025?

Core funding for neighbourhood and community centres (NCCs)

(245) Did you advocate to the Treasurer for core funding for NCCs in the 2024-25 Budget?

(246) I understand that DCJ is working with LCSA to develop a neighbourhood and community centres agreement. Is there any progress on this?

(247) What are you doing to advocate for a more sustainable funding model for community-led NGOs?

Domestic violence

(248) How will the Department of Communities and Justice implement the domestic and family violence Common Risk Assessment and Management Framework (CRAMF) to ensure child protection and family support service staff have the capability to identify domestic and family violence and assess or manage risk?

(249) Is the Department of Communities and Justice considering implementing the Safe and Together training and/or model into child protection? If not, why not?

(250) What processes are in place to hold perpetrators of violence to account, and keep protective parents safe and together with children?

(251) Following the NSW Government's response of "accept in principle" to recommendation 8.23 of the Disability Royal Commission, will the NSW Government actively support the development of a five-year Action Plan for Women and Children with Disability to accompany the National Plan to End Violence against Women and Children 2022-2032?

(a) If not, why not?

(252) Following the NSW Government's response of "subject to consideration" to recommendation 8.24 of the Disability Royal Commission, will the NSW Government amend its legislative definitions of family and domestic violence to include all relationships in which people with disability experience family and domestic violence, including but not

limited to carer and support worker relationships, disability-based violence and abuse and all domestic settings, including but not limited to supported accommodation such as group homes, respite centres and boarding houses?

- (a) If not, why not?
- (b) In relation to this recommendation, the NSW Government commented that “there are a range of challenges with progressing a nationally consistent definition”. What are the challenges identified by the NSW Government, noting that the Victorian Government accepted this recommendation in principle?

Funding for CID My Relationships Matter

(253) How much funding is the NSW Government providing to the My Relationships Matter project by Council for Intellectual Disability NSW?

- (a) Which government department or agency is this funded under?
- (b) Is this something that the NSW Government will be considering expanding or continuing to fund beyond the three years it is currently funded for?

NDAN Pre-Budget Submission on Disability Advocacy Funding

(254) Did the Minister for Disability Inclusion advocate to Cabinet on behalf of the NSW Disability Advocacy Network (NDAN) in relation to their pre-budget submission, ahead of the 2024-25 Budget?

(255) Will the NSW Government be implementing secure long-term funding contracts for the disability sector, with longer timelines of 5 years?

- (a) If yes, when?

People with Disability Australia (PWDA)

(256) Did the Minister for Disability Inclusion advocate to Cabinet on behalf of People with Disability Australia (PWDA) in relation to their pre-budget submission, ahead of the 2024-25 Budget?

- (a) PWDA called for an investment of \$1,802,817 over five years to continue delivery of the PWDA Building Access Project to all NSW domestic and family violence (DVF) services. Is the NSW Government continuing to fund this program?

NSW Government response to the Disability Royal Commission

- (257) Which recommendations does the Minister for Disability Inclusion have partial or full responsibility for?
- (258) In relation to the NSW Government's response to recommendation 5.3, which government departments and prescribed entities will prepare new or remade DIAPs by mid-2025?
- (a) Which minister will have responsibility for ensuring this commitment is followed through, in accordance with this timeline?
- (259) In relation to the NSW Government's response to recommendation 5.7, which was accepted in principle, will the NSW Government be designating UNCRPD focal points by the end of 2024?
- (a) If not, when?
- (b) Which minister will have responsibility for ensuring this commitment is followed through?
- (260) In relation to the NSW Government's response to recommendation 6.2, which was accepted in principle, what is the NSW Government doing to increase the number and quality of Auslan interpreters?
- (a) Which minister will have responsibility for ensuring this commitment is followed through?
- (261) In relation to the NSW Government's response to recommendation 6.35, which was rejected as subject to further consideration, what is the NSW Government doing in "carefully considering the best method and legislative framework for achieving this"?
- (a) Is the NSW Government undertaking a review of the current framework around restrictive practices across each setting?
- (262) In relation to the NSW Government's response to recommendation 6.39, which was accepted in principle, the NSW Government commented that "NSW supports further analysis and consultation on targets and performance indicators to drive the reduction and elimination of restrictive practices". Has the NSW Government undertaken any external consultation or analysis in relation to this to date?
- (a) Will the NSW Government be establishing sector-specific targets and performance indicators to drive the reduction of restrictive practices over time?

- (263) In relation to the NSW Government's response to recommendation 7.39, which was accepted in principle, will the NSW Government commit to a policy of 'no leaving into homelessness' for people with disability?
- (264) In relation to the NSW Government's response to recommendation 9.2, which was accepted in full, when will this be followed through with?
- (265) In relation to the NSW Government's response to recommendation 11.1 and 11.2, which were rejected as subject to further consideration, the NSW Government commented that "the NSW Ageing and Disability Commission established under the Ageing and Disability Commissioner Act 2019 (NSW) provides a model for adult safeguarding by an independent statutory body that other States and Territories should adopt. The ADC receives, investigates and responds to allegations of abuse, neglect and exploitation of older people and adults with disability in NSW. The ADC has been providing national leadership around articulating a national adult safeguarding policy framework". Will the NSW Government be expanding the statutory requirements of the ADC to carry out any of the functions outlined in recommendation 11.1 and 11.2?
- (a) What further consideration is the NSW Government giving in relation to these recommendations?
- (266) In relation to the NSW Government's response to recommendation 11.3, which was accepted in principle, the NSW Government noted that "the NSW Ageing and Disability Commission currently fulfills many of the proposed functions set out in recommendation 11.3". Given this, will the NSW Government be funding the ADC on a demand-based model in the next Budget, to ensure it can carry out the functions outlined in recommendation 11.3 and 11.4?
- (267) In relation to the NSW Government's response to recommendation 11.12, which was accepted in principle, will the NSW Government be actively advocating for nationally consistent OCV schemes?
- (a) Given the NSW Government's recognition of the important role community visitors schemes have in promoting and protecting the rights and wellbeing of people with disability, will the NSW Government be meeting the ask of People With Disability Australia (PWDA) to increase Official Community Visitors Scheme funding by \$700,000 per year for the next four years, to enable visits to all current visitable facilities?

(268) In relation to the NSW Government's response to recommendation 11.14 and 11.15, which were rejected as subject to further consideration, the NSW Government commented that "the NSW Government will carefully consider the recommendations for a Disability Death Review scheme to provide for systemic death reviews in collaboration with other governments, the disability community and other stakeholders". What considerations is the NSW Government undertaking in relation to this?