

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEES

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2024-2025 Supplementary questions

Portfolio Committee No. 3 - Education

Professor Mark Scott AO, Vice Chancellor and President, University of Sydney

Hearing: Wednesday 4 September 2024

Answers due by: 5.00 pm Wednesday 2 October 2024

Budget Estimates secretariat Phone (02) 9230 2214 BudgetEstimates@parliament.nsw.gov.au

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2024-2025

SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS

Questions from Ms Abigail Boyd MLC

Questions to Professor Mark Scott, Vice-Chancellor and President, University of Sydney

- (1) What is the volume of remediation payments made to casual academic staff under the University's current wage theft reviews?
 - (a) What is the volume of remediation payments made to other professional staff under the University's current wage theft reviews?
- (2) What is the University's expenditure to date on casual wage theft reviews, other than remediation payments made to casual staff?
- (3) Has the University engaged external contractors, advisors or consultants in its casual wage theft reviews to date?
 - (a) What work has it engaged them to perform?
- (4) What is the University's expenditure to date on external consultants, contractors and advisors for its casual wage theft reviews?
- (5) How much remains in the \$70 million reservation made in the University's Annual Report for remediation payments?

Questions from Hon Chris Rath MLC on behalf of the Opposition

Sydney University

- (6) Was the encampment on the University Laws at the front of the Quadrangle one which was allowable under the University's policies and rules?
 - (a) What legal advice did you rely on for that?
 - (b) How many people were at this encampment on average over the period?
 - i. How many were students or faculty?
 - ii. How many were external to the university?
 - (c) At what level was the decision taken to remove the encampment made?
 - i. What was the reason given for the removal of the encampment?

- (d) What were the terms of the deal made with a section of the encampment in order for them to leave?
 - i. Were the terms of that deal different to those offered to other students?
 - ii. Why was this deal made when the encampments were operating illegally and could simply be removed?
- (e) When was the University Senate informed of the deal that was struck to remove the encampment?
 - i. When did they approve it?
- (f) How many disruptions to lectures and classes have been referred to Registrar?
- (g) How many cases of harassment have been investigated during the period of the encampment?
- (h) How many of the encampment protestors have been referred to disciplinary proceedings for damaging the lawns?
- (i) How many complaints relating to antisemitic activity by students or staff have been received by the University of Sydney since October 7, 2023?