

Questions from Ms Abigail Boyd MLC

Multiculturalism

Domestic violence

#	1
Question	(1) What additional steps is the NSW Government taking to address domestic and family violence in multicultural communities, particularly in relation to: (a) funding, (b) building a workforce of multicultural specialist workers, (c) co-designed and community-led primary prevention and early intervention, and (d) access to income support, health care and housing for people on temporary visas?

Q.1: I am advised:

Multicultural NSW is liaising with the Department of Communities and Justice on this issue.

#	2
Question	(2) Will the NSW Government commit to establishing a Domestic and Family Violence Multicultural Committee as part of the NSW Domestic and Family Violence and Sexual Assault Council to inform whole-of-government strategies at the intersections of multiculturalism and domestic and family violence? (a) If not, why not?

Q.2: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.1.

Questions from Hon Chris Rath MLC (on behalf of the Opposition)

Small Business

Issues with DNSP (Distribution Network Service Provider)-owned Businesses

#	3
Question	<p>(3) Electrical SMEs are increasingly finding themselves at a disadvantage, competing against DNSP-owned entities that exploit lax ring-fencing regulations to cross-subsidise operations and share staff. While the regulation of this issue largely falls under federal jurisdiction, what steps is the state government taking to address this dysfunction and advocate for the interests of SMEs within our jurisdiction?</p> <p>(a) How is it fair to those local business owners who invest in their workforce and equipment to compete against DNSP-owned entities legitimately?</p> <p>(b) What is the impact on electricity consumers who, as a result, are burdened with inflated costs in their electricity bills?</p>

Q.3: I am advised:

The NSW Government regularly advocates for the interests of SMEs. As you have stated in your question, this matter sits more accurately under federal jurisdiction.

State responsibility for energy matters is held by the Minister for Energy, this portion of the question should be directed to the Minister for Energy.

Challenge the government's fairness in handling COVID-19 grant repayments

#	4
Question	(4) What action has the Government taken to ensure fairness in determining fraudulent activity with regard to the COVID-19 grant?

Q.4: I am advised:

The responsibility for the JobSaver and Micro-Business Grants Audit is held by the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government.

This question should be directed to the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government.

#	5
Question	<p>(5) How many small businesses have been asked to pay back the micro business loan?</p> <p>(a) Of those businesses how many have paid the money back?</p>

Q.5: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.4.

Interest rates

#	6
Question	(6) Could you provide more insights into how current economic factors, including interest rates, are impacting small businesses? (a) What specific measures are being considered to address these challenges?

Q.6: I am advised:

You are encouraged to read the Small Business Commission's Small Business Momentum Survey reports, a free resource published on the Small Business Commissioner's website:

<https://www.smallbusiness.nsw.gov.au/resources/reports>

We launched the Business Bureau in October 2023. The Business Bureau is the NSW Government's one front door for business matters in the state. Since its creation the bureau has serviced more than 160,000 business enquiries and delivered more than 24,000 hours of personalised support to small businesses across the state.

The Business Bureau's rapid response team has also been able to provide intensive case management to business impacted by tragic events.

We have delivered more than \$1 billion in targeted cost relief through energy rebate and toll relief programs.

We have also made sweeping changes to government procurement to get more money flowing into NSW small business. <https://www.nsw.gov.au/media-releases/supporting-local-jobs-boosting-local-businesses-jobs-first-commission>

Our government understands restrictive regulations put in place by the former Coalition government have put a stranglehold on our economy. Whether its vibrancy reforms to generate a thriving night-time economy, untangling an unproductive planning system, or removing the concert cap to bring in more than a billion dollars in estimated additional economic activity over the next 10 years, we are focused on unlocking the potential of our state's economy and providing small businesses with opportunities.

#	7
Question	(7) In light of the ongoing difficulties faced by small businesses, could you elaborate on the types of support being prioritized to alleviate these pressures?

Q.7: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.6.

Red Tape

#	8
Question	(8) Regarding the reduction of red tape, could you share some examples or success stories that illustrate how these efforts are benefiting small businesses in practical terms?

Q.8: I am advised:

The NSW Government's Charter for Small Business, released in February 2024, has a specific focus on listening and responding to red tape and other pain points raised by small businesses.

The Service NSW Business Bureau is responsible in working across government to deliver the Charter and has undertaken a number of actions to support small business with red tape, such as:

- Providing access to the Bureau's Business Profile Licence Manager. This provides businesses with the ability to manage their licences in one place which saves them time and ensures they are aware of relevant compliance activity and reducing non-compliance
- Digitisation of the process that small businesses use to apply for a takeaway liquor licence to make it easier and quicker
- Release of a new online self-check tool to help supporting motor vehicle repairers stay compliant, identify opportunities to improve and avoid fines by using a new online self-check tool

Minister's diary

#	9
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Question	(9) Can the Minister clarify why there has only been one roundtable and two other meetings with small business representatives? (a) How does this level of engagement align with the needs of the small business community?
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Q.9: I am advised:

The Minister regularly meets with representatives from the small business community across a range of events. Events are generally not recorded in Ministers' Diary Disclosures.

Ministers' Diary Disclosures are published on The Cabinet Office website

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/the-cabinet-office/access-to-information/ministers-diary-disclosures>

#	10
Question	(10) Could the Minister provide specific examples or data to support his claim of daily interactions with small businesses, and how these interactions have informed his policy decisions?

Q.10: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.9.

#	11
Question	(11) How does the Minister plan to address concerns about the perceived lack of stakeholder discussion? (a) What steps will be taken to ensure more comprehensive engagement moving forward?

Q.11: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.9.

#	12
Question	(12) What measurable outcomes or actions have resulted from the Minister's reported daily interactions with small businesses, particularly in light of the limited formal meetings?

Q.12: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.9.

Retrospective Application of Payroll Tax

#	13
Question	(13) What is the NSW Government's position on the retrospective application of payroll tax to the mortgage and finance broking industry following the Loan Market Group Pty Ltd vs Chief Commissioner of State Revenue decision? (a) Has the Government considered the potential financial impact on small broking businesses due to the retrospective application of payroll tax? (b) What measures, if any, are being considered to mitigate these impacts? (c) Given the critical role mortgage brokers play in facilitating competitive loan pricing, what assessment has the government made on how this payroll tax interpretation might affect the cost of mortgages for first-home buyers in NSW? (d) What is the Government's response to concerns that this tax interpretation could lead to the closure of small broking businesses, and consequently reduce competition in the lending market?

Q.13: I am advised:

The application of payroll tax is the responsibility of the Minister for Finance.

This question should be directed to the Minister for Finance.

Future of Small Businesses in Finance Industry

#	14
Question	(14) With the reported rise in insolvencies among small businesses in NSW, particularly in the finance industry, how does the government justify increasing costs for these businesses at this time? (a) What is the government's plan to ensure the viability of small broking businesses, which are essential in helping NSW residents and small businesses secure finance?

Q.14: I am advised:

The application of payroll tax is the responsibility of the Minister for Finance.

This question should be directed to the Minister for Finance.

#	15
Question	(15) The NSW Government has recognised the importance of providing healthcare by assessing the application of payroll tax to GPs. Will the

	government apply similar consideration to the finance broking industry given its critical role in economic growth and home ownership? (a) Has the government considered a moratorium or other relief measures for the mortgage and finance broking industry, similar to those considered for the healthcare sector?
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Q.15: I am advised:

The application of payroll tax is the responsibility of the Minister for Finance.

This question should be directed to the Minister for Finance.

#	16
Question	(16) What is the government's response to the estimate that the payroll tax burden could increase the cost of an average mortgage in NSW by over \$273 per month? (a) How does the government plan to address the concern that this increase could completely erode the benefits of the Stamp Duty Reforms for first-home buyers?

Q.16: I am advised:

The application of payroll tax is the responsibility of the Minister for Finance.

This question should be directed to the Minister for Finance.

#	17
Question	(17) Is the government considering any legislative changes to clarify or limit the application of payroll tax in the finance broking industry, particularly in light of the Loan Market decision?

Q.17: I am advised:

The application of payroll tax is the responsibility of the Minister for Finance.

This question should be directed to the Minister for Finance.

Sydney Fish Market

#	18
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Question	(18) How will the substantial increase in the Sydney Fish Market construction costs, from \$250 million to \$836 million, affect the small businesses that depend on the market for their operations? (a) What support is the NSW Government providing to mitigate potential impacts?
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Q.18: I am advised:

Please refer to response provided on page 59 of the hearing transcript. Questions regarding the blowout of the Sydney Fish Market construction costs from \$250 million to \$836 million are a matter for the former Coalition Government.

#	19
Question	(19) Given that only two out of 38 subtenants have agreed to move to the new Sydney Fish Market due to design concerns, what steps is the government taking to address these design issues to ensure that small businesses can operate effectively in the new facility?

Q.19: I am advised:

Please refer to response provided on page 59 of the hearing transcript.

Sydney Fish Market Pty Ltd (SFM) has agreed to be the head tenant for the new building and it is their responsibility to sign up subtenants. While a small number of existing subtenants have formally executed their documents to date, the majority of subtenants have provided Infrastructure NSW with their designs for the future retail areas, which are being incorporated into the building arrangements.

There have been 250 workshops with the sub-tenants to understand their preferences, and refinements have accordingly been made to the design of the building.

#	20
Question	(20) Why has Infrastructure NSW denied the Sydney Fish Market's request for documents related to the construction project, and how is the government ensuring that small businesses affected by the project have access to the information they need to understand the implications for their operations?

Q.20: I am advised:

Please refer to response provided on page 59 of the hearing transcript.

#	21
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Question	(21) What specific measures is the NSW Government implementing to address the concerns of small businesses that have been raised in the context of the ongoing issues with the Sydney Fish Market construction and its impact on their business viability?
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Q.21: I am advised:

Infrastructure NSW has been working collaboratively with Sydney Fish Markets Pty Ltd and their tenants.

Upon request Infrastructure NSW has had issues raised by Sydney Fish Markets Pty Ltd independently reviewed and acted upon the outcomes of this process.

Infrastructure NSW has also conducted 250 workshops with the sub-tenants to understand their preferences, and refinements have accordingly been made to the design of the building.

The new Sydney Fish Market project will be a catalyst for economic growth, with visitor numbers to the area set to double in the next 10 years.

The new Sydney Fish Market is supporting around 700 jobs during construction and will support 700 jobs once operational.

The new Sydney Fish Market will provide significant benefits to the community, the NSW fishing industry and support economic growth.

Questions from Hon Chris Rath MLC (on behalf of the Opposition)

Lands and Property

Crown land issues in Regional NSW

#	22
Question	(22) Will more Crown land sites be identified in rural and remote communities for the construction of social and affordable housing? (a) Will this be at a cost that will make it economically unviable?

Q.22: I am advised:

A pipeline of additional Crown land sites has been identified for potential activation for housing purposes and are currently subject to further investigation. A number of sites are subject to due diligence including confirmation of suitability for residential purposes, existing statutory interests and identification of pathway for development. Crown Lands continues to search for other parcels of Crown land that may be suitable for future housing.

Crown Lands works closely with delivery entities like Homes NSW to identify projects that can be delivered. As an “at cost” developer, Homes NSW is well placed to deliver economically viable housing projects in regional NSW.

#	23
Question	(23) Too many LAHC houses in Griffith are currently unliveable and could be redeveloped to dual occupancy or medium density housing to create safe and secure housing and an inclusive community. Will redevelopment such as this be approved for Griffith Local Government Area in the near future?

Q.23: I am advised:

Matters regarding LAHC are the responsibility of the Minister for Housing.

This question should be directed to the Minister for Housing for response.

#	24
Question	(24) Does the Government acknowledge that local Councils, charities and other non-government organisations, not only by the nature of their business but by being closer in touch with communities and to local land resources, are especially well placed to identify and deliver affordable housing initiatives in NSW, including identifying opportunities to repurpose Crown land?

Q.24: I am advised:

Crown Lands is committed to maximising the use of government land for critical housing supply, where appropriate.

Brokering partnerships with other government agencies, local councils and non-government organisations (such as the NSW Aboriginal Land Council (NSWALC) and Local Aboriginal Land Councils (LALCs) to activate Crown land for housing opportunities is a model that has been tested via a series of pilot projects. Opportunities to scale up collaborative approaches are currently being explored.

Crown Lands is a member of the Regional NSW Housing Steering Committee (a cross-agency committee encompassing key agencies from the Department of Housing, Planning and Infrastructure, the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, and Homes NSW) that focuses on identifying land in regional NSW that could be suitable for future housing.

#	25
Question	(25) What is the Government doing to facilitate and remove barriers for local Councils, charities and non-government organisations who take the initiative, identify opportunities to repurpose Crown land for affordable housing, and take responsibility for delivering it?

Q.25: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.24.

#	26
Question	(26) Will you undertake to expedite the request from Griffith City Council to provide access to two small parcels of Crown land to incorporate into an affordable housing initiative in partnership with Argyle Housing?

Q.26: I am advised:

Crown Lands has been in discussion with Griffith City Council over the past three years in relation to activation of Crown land for housing opportunities. Crown Lands has met with Council on a number of occasions regarding its proposal to activate Crown land on Kookora and Bromfield Streets in Griffith for housing purposes.

Council has been provided with information about the process to be undertaken, in addition to the mandatory legislative requirements to be met.

Council initially requested Crown Lands gift the land to Council, which could not be supported in light of Treasury Direction 92.2 that seeks return of market value for the transfer of land. A key element of advice provided to Council was for it to investigate an exemption from this requirement.

At the most recent meeting between Crown Lands and the General Manager of Council in July 2024, it became apparent Council had not yet commenced the steps provided in Crown Lands' previous advice.

Crown Lands will follow up with Council to confirm its intentions in the matter. Crown Lands will continue to support Council to progress the housing projects it has identified.

Land Audit

#	27
Question	(27) Are there any "delivery agencies" apart from Homes NSW for housing and other infrastructure on land identified in the audit? (a) Please list every one that has been considered by the Government.

Q.27: I am advised:

Homes NSW and Landcom have been considered.

#	28
Question	(28) How many lots have been analysed to date as part of the land use audit? (a) Please list all the possible suitable uses of land as part of the land use audit. (b) How many lots have been determined as suitable for housing?

Q.28: I am advised:

As at 18 September 2024, 8,882 lots have been analysed as part of the land audit.

This information is otherwise Cabinet in Confidence.

#	29
Question	(29) For this surplus land intended for housing development, have you investigated any alternatives for the development of the land, where the Government holds long-term leases and the land is developed by another entity? (a) What could these other entities be? (b) Has modular housing been considered on this surplus land? (c) Have build-to-rent properties been considered on this surplus land?

Q.29: I am advised:

This information is Cabinet in Confidence.

#	30
Question	<p>(30) Have you assessed lots just for the provision of housing on the site or have you assessed them to support housing in neighbouring areas, for instance, such as public open space or roadways to support housing? Have you made that assessment?</p> <p>(a) For lots earmarked for housing, what assessments have been conducted for supporting infrastructure?</p> <p>(b) If not, when will these assessments be conducted?</p>

Q.30: I am advised:

This information is Cabinet in Confidence.

Adaptive Re-use

#	31
Question	<p>(31) The 2022-23 Year in Review report stated Property and Development NSW is leading “Government Property Framework policy reform to increase the adaptive reuse of surplus government property”. Is this correct?</p> <p>(a) What work has been done on adaptive reuse?</p> <p>i. What progress has been made in this regard?</p> <p>(b) Has it been considered to use surplus government property for housing?</p> <p>i. What progress has been made in this regard?</p>

Q.31: I am advised:

The 2022-23 Year in Review report does not state that Property and Development is leading “Government Property Framework policy reform to increase the adaptive reuse of surplus government property”.

However, Property and Development NSW has been recognised in its work to adaptively reuse NSW Government properties. For example, Property and Development NSW won the 2022 NSW Premier’s Award for the adaptive reuse of the Brewarrina Correctional Facility and the Master Builders Association of NSW 2022 Excellence in Construction Award for the Adaptive reuse of an Historic Building for the Parramatta North’s Western Sydney Startup Hub.

Parramatta Female Factory

#	32
Question	(32) What progress has been made on the World Heritage Nomination for the Parramatta Female Factory?

Q.32: I am advised:

In November 2022, the Australian Government announced investment of \$1 million towards the nomination for a World Heritage listing of the Cultural Precinct – the Parramatta Female Factory and Institutions Precinct.

PDNSW is partnering with Heritage NSW to support the NSW Government to deliver its election commitment to accelerate the World Heritage nomination.

The Parramatta Female Factory and Institutions Precinct was accepted on the World Heritage Tentative List on 28 September 2023. Tentative listing is the first step towards inclusion on the World Heritage List, a process that is anticipated to continue until 2029.

Crown Land Claims

#	33
Question	(33) How many Crown Land Claims remain unresolved as of today?

Q.33: I am advised:

There is no such thing as a ‘Crown Land Claim’.

#	34
Question	(34) How many Crown Land Claims were resolved in FY 2023-24?

Q.34: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.33.

#	35
Question	(35) How many Crown Land Claims were granted in FY 2023-24?

Q.35: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.33.

#	36
Question	(36) How many Crown Land Claims have been resolved in FY 2024-25?

Q.36: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.33.

#	37
Question	(37) How many Crown Land Claims have been granted in FY 2024-25?

Q.37: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.33.

#	38
Question	(38) How many Aboriginal Land Claims remain unresolved as of today?

Q.38: I am advised:

As of 5 September 2024, 40,123 Aboriginal Land Claims remain unresolved.

#	39
Question	(39) How many Aboriginal Land Claims were resolved in FY 2023-24?

Q.39: I am advised:

474 fully resolved and 55 partly resolved (parts of bulk claims).

#	40
Question	(40) How many Aboriginal Land Claims were granted in FY 2023-24?

Q.40: I am advised:

296 Aboriginal Land Claims were granted in FY 2023-24.

#	41
Question	(41) How many Aboriginal Land Claims have been resolved in FY 2024-25?

Q.41: I am advised:

As of 5 September 2024, 51 Aboriginal Land Claims have been resolved in FY 2024-25.

#	42
Question	(42) How many Aboriginal Land Claims have been granted in FY 2024-25?

Q.42: I am advised:

As of 5 September 2024, 29 Aboriginal Land Claims have been granted in FY 2024-25.

#	43
Question	(43) What is the average length of time taken to resolve an Aboriginal Land Claim?

Q.43: I am advised:

The length of time taken for each claim is dependent on the complexity of the claim. However, as a rule of thumb from the date an assessment commences the average timeframe can be between 6 to 9 months. This allows time for referencing external stakeholders about the use and occupation of the land on the date of the claim and the mandatory 4-month appeals period required under Land and Environment Court rules, post determination.

#	44
Question	(44) Can you please provide a list of every ongoing social housing development that has not yet been finished on Crown Land, including the following: (a) Address (b) Number of dwellings proposed (c) Types of dwelling (e.g. Free-standing house, apartment etc) (d) Date announced (e) Date started (f) Status of progress (g) Estimated completion date

Q.44: I am advised:

Cooma

Address: Polo Flat Road Cooma

No. of dwellings: 177 in total (with 50 social/affordable/key worker = 28.2%)

Type of dwellings: Dual occupancy/low rise apartments

Date announced: 9 February 2022

Date started: February 2022

Status of Progress: Final process of acquisition is underway – PAN issued. Subdivision construction indicative commencement December 2024.

Estimated completion (handover of completed homes): Q2 2027

Forbes

Address: Farnell and Dawson Streets, Forbes

No. of dwellings: 124 in total (with 36 social/affordable/key worker = 29%)

Type of dwellings: Dual occupancy/low rise apartments

Date announced: 5 March 2023

Date started: March 2023

Status of Progress: Final process of acquisition is underway – PAN issued. Subdivision construction indicative commencement March 2025.

Estimated Completion (handover of completed homes): Q4 2027

Sites which are subject to ongoing due diligence and feasibility assessment include:

- Wodonga Place, Albury
- Piper Street, Tamworth
- Toallo Street, Pambula
- Water Street, Greta

#	45
Question	(45) How many Crown Lands Claims remained unresolved on 30 June 2024

Q.45: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.33.

#	46
Question	(46) What are the 20 longest land claims still on the books?

Q.46: I am advised:

Crown Lands has invested resources into a project to assess the oldest 1000 claims.

Crown Lands Staffing

#	47
Question	(47) How many staff are currently employed by Crown Lands?

Q.47: I am advised:

Staff numbers are included in the annual reports of agencies and departments. Staff salaries are set by relevant awards, largely the Crown Employees (Public Sector – Salaries) award.

#	48
Question	(48) How many of FTE staff are assigned to work on Crown Land Claims?

Q.48: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.33.

#	49
Question	(49) How many of FTE staff are assigned to work on Aboriginal Land Claims?

Q.49: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.47.

Aboriginal Land Agreements

#	50
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Question	(50) What has DPHI Crown Lands budgeted to Aboriginal Land Agreement negotiations in terms of operational costs, number of FTE positions, and for land transfers themselves for FY24/25? (a) Provide a percent variation for the budgeted FY24/25 figures as against the expenditure figures for FY23/24?
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Q.50: I am advised:

The Land Negotiation Program closed in 2023, as it was only able to achieve one agreement under the former Coalition Government.

#	51
Question	(51) By way of contrast what has DPHI Crown Lands budgeted to ordinary determination of Aboriginal Land Claims in terms of operational costs, number of FTE positions, and for land transfers themselves for FY24/25? (a) Provide a percent variation for the budgeted FY24/25 figures as against the expenditure figures for FY23/24?

Q.51: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.47.

#	52
Question	(52) Can the minister provide an update and estimated timeframe for the finalisation of the Aboriginal Land Agreements (commenced in 2016) involving: (a) Tamworth City Council and separately Tamworth & Nungaroo LALCs, (b) Randwick City Council and La Perouse LALC, (c) Northern Beaches Council and Metropolitan LALC, (d) Central Coast Council and Darkinjung LALC, (e) Hilltops Council and Young LALC, and (f) The State and Eden LALC.

Q.52: I am advised:

Land divestment negotiations with a small number of local councils and Aboriginal Land Councils (LALCs) that were participating in the Land Negotiation Program (LNP) pilot ceased in 2023 when the program was closed.

Crown Lands continues to negotiate ALAs with LALCs to achieve the bulk resolution of Aboriginal land claims on a case-by-case basis. The most recent example (August 2024) is an ALA negotiated with the Brewarrina LALC to resolve an Aboriginal land claim dating from 1984.

Land Leaving the Crown Estate

#	53
Question	<p>(53) How much land (by area and value) has left the Crown Estate in the last financial year?</p> <p>(a) Can a breakdown be provided of the purpose of each transfer?</p> <p>(b) Under what mechanisms did these vestings or transfers occur (excluding the Roads program). Can a breakdown be provided for each category including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Sales Programs ii. One off vestings iii. Transfers to government agencies, including Property NSW iv. Transfers to local councils under the Crown Lands Management Act v. Transfers to non-government agencies vi. Aboriginal Land Rights transfers vii. Native Title transfers

Q.53: I am advised:

Land can be added through escheatment, purchase, excess and exchange with private land owners, and reduced through vesting, sales, compulsory acquisition, Western Division conversions, Hay Irrigation conversions, Aboriginal Land Claims, Aboriginal Land Agreements and Native title claims (this includes Crown roads).

Redevelopment of Reflections Wyangala Water Holiday Park

#	54
Question	<p>(54) Now that your Government has scrapped plans to raise the wall of Wyangala, where is the master plan to redevelop the Reflections Wyangala Water Holiday Park site up to?</p> <p>(a) How much money has been allocated in the 2024-25 budget for repairs and maintenance and capital improvement at the Reflections Wyangala Water Holiday Park site?</p> <p>(b) How does this compare to other Reflections sites across the state?</p> <p>(c) Can you give us a breakdown?</p>

Q.54: I am advised:

NSW Crown Holiday Parks Land Manager, trading as Reflections Holidays, is the appointed Crown Land Manager of Wyangala Waters Holiday Park and is responsible for all operational requirements at the Park.

Work will commence this financial year on a Strategic Master Plan for the Wyangala Waters Holiday Park, which will inform future capital investment into the Park.

- a. All Crown land holiday parks managed by Reflections Holidays, have a repairs and maintenance budget allocation. This financial year, Reflections Holidays is projected to spend just over \$500,000 in repairs and maintenance at Wyangala Waters Holiday Park. The spend is consistent with other holiday parks managed by Reflections Holidays.
- b. and c. Reflections Holidays has allocated \$6 million this financial year to its existing asset renewal program across the portfolio. This includes amenities and infrastructure upgrades and facilities improvements. Reflections Holidays self-funds its investment into maintenance of its existing assets.

Interment Services Levy

#	55
Question	(55) As the Interment Services Levy has been extended to cemetery operators outside of metropolitan New South Wales from 1 July 2024, and the additional \$5.05 million revenue this will generate in 2024-2025 and additional \$5.15 million in 2025-2026 will allow Cemeteries and Crematoria NSW to expand its staff from 14 FTE to 23 FTE, can the Government undertake to ensure a proportionate number of staff and regulatory activity will be in regional areas?

Q.55: I am advised:

CCNSW regulates all cemetery and crematoria operators in NSW. Interment industry activity is spread across the state, with 47.7% of services carried out in metropolitan Sydney and 51.3% regionally (in every planning region) in 2022-23.

In 2025/26 CCNSW will be undertaking compliance and education activities across NSW in metropolitan and regional areas.

Statutory Review of Crown Land Management Act 2016

#	56
Question	(56) The Statutory Review of the Crown Land Management Act was due to report on 1 July 2024, and this has now been extended to the end of 2024. The review began in January 2023, with the discussion paper released in February 2024 and public consultation closing on 19 March. What has led to the delay of this Review?

Q.56: I am advised:

To allow sufficient time for analysis of detailed stakeholder feedback received on the discussion paper, additional time has been granted to finalise the review report. This will now be tabled by the end of 2024.

Questions from Hon Chris Rath MLC (on behalf of the Opposition)

Multiculturalism

Domestic Violence in Multicultural Communities

#	57
Question	(57) What additional steps is the NSW Government taking to address domestic and family violence in multicultural communities, particularly in relation to: (a) funding, (b) building a workforce of multicultural specialist workers, (c) co-designed and community-led primary prevention and early intervention, and (d) access to income support, health care and housing for people on temporary visas?

Q.57: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.1.

#	58
Question	(58) Will the NSW Government commit to establishing a Domestic and Family Violence Multicultural Committee as part of the NSW Domestic and Family Violence and Sexual Assault Council to inform whole-of-government strategies at the intersections of multiculturalism and domestic and family violence?

Q.58: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.1.

Budget Funding

#	59
Question	(59) The Labor Government has committed \$85 million over the next four years, including a record ongoing investment to MNSW. What is the record ongoing funding that MNSW will be receiving towards operational expenses?

Q.59: I am advised:

The new funding announced for Multicultural NSW over the next four years is \$73 million plus \$12 million for COMPACT. This brings the total to \$85 million.

#	60
Question	(60) The 2024-25 budget papers list the operating expenses for MNSW at \$71.3 million and CapEx at \$0.3 million, however, the budget overview says there is \$73 million in a permanent boost through MNSW. Can you explain why there may be a discrepancy in these figures?

Q.60: I am advised:

The 2024/25 Multicultural NSW budget is \$71.6 million.

The new funding announced for Multicultural NSW over the next four years is \$73 million which is a record investment over the four-year budget forwards.

On top of this, there is an additional \$12 million for COMPACT. This brings the total to \$85 million over four years.

#	61
Question	(61) Minister, \$14.5 million has been allocated over four years to boost social cohesion and countering violent extremism. How much of this funding will go towards the COMPACT grants? (a) What programs and/or initiatives is the remainder of this funding allocated towards?

Q.61: I am advised:

\$12 million will support COMPACT Partnership Project grants over four years (2024-25 to 2027-28).

- a. Whole-of-program activities including supporting the state-wide COMPACT Alliance, program evaluation, strategic partnerships and strategic communications.

#	62
Question	(62) Minister, \$4 million was allocated in 2024-25 to bolster Community Connection and Wellbeing – what exactly is this funding going towards? (a) What was the reasoning for it not be an initiative/s that rolls over several financial years?

Q.62: I am advised:

These monies were allocated to community engagement, coordinated settlement and enhanced support for vulnerable communities.

#	63
Question	(63) \$5 million has been allocated for Community Cohesion Grants – is this funding over a four-year period? (a) How many rounds will be opened in each financial year in order for community groups to access this funding?

Q.63: I am advised:

This funding is for over a four-year period. Three funding rounds are proposed to be opened in each financial year.

#	64
Question	(64) \$1.2 million is also being directed towards supporting significant state events to be held in Sydney, particularly in the West and Southwest – is this funding over a four-year period? (a) How will this funding be distributed? (b) Who will be able to receive this funding?

Q.64: I am advised:

This funding will support events delivered by the NSW Government for the community of NSW across a 12-month period.

Multicultural Media

#	65
Question	(65) IMMA Members were reportedly told pre-election by the Labor Party that a Labor Government would develop “ways to support digital transformation and journalistic excellence in the multicultural media sector.” This was said to be fulfilled through grants and government funding. Is the Government still looking to fulfil this commitment? (a) If so, when are the relevant funding programs going to be announced and what will they look like? (b) If not, why have you decided to renege on this commitment?

Q.65: I am advised:

The NSW Government is committed to supporting a sustainable multicultural media where we work in partnership to serve the different language communities in NSW. The Multicultural Media Review and Policy Report was published in February 2024 in conjunction with the Department of Customer Service.

This delivers an election commitment to review NSW Government advertising with independent multicultural media. A revised Multicultural and Aboriginal Advertising Policy has now been in place from 1 July 2024.

#	66
Question	(66) Minister, have you met formally with IMMA since this review to discuss their concerns in response to the release of this report?

Q.66: I am advised:

I have met with IMMA twice in the past year to discuss the outcomes of the report.

NSW Grow Pilot Program and NSW Settlement Strategy

#	67
Question	(67) Minister, can you tell the Committee how many objectives in the NSW Settlement Strategy that had completion dates of both April and June 2024 have been completed on time? (a) Which items has the Government not completed on time? i. What is the reason for their delay?

Q.67: I am advised:

Multicultural NSW completed all of its designated actions due by June 2024, with the exception of some initiatives which are now continuing due to securing longer-term funding. Multicultural NSW has worked with every NSW Government department and agency with actions in the NSW Settlement Strategy to develop and agree output indicators to monitor delivery of their actions for the process evaluation. The process evaluation is in progress.

#	68
Question	(68) Several of Multicultural NSW's items were to "resource" the non-government sector. What exactly does this look like?

Q.68: I am advised:

There are three relevant actions related to resourcing the NGO Sector:

- 4.2: Resource the non-government sector to help refugees better understand key aspects of life in NSW, the stages of settlement and how this process can affect families.
- 4.3: Resource the non-government sector to improve social connections, health, education, economic, safety and service accessibility for refugee families, particularly mothers with young children.
- 4.4 Resource the non-government sector to support women from refugee backgrounds to develop social enterprises and obtain employment through creative learning, training and technology.

#	69
Question	(69) What was the benchmark to determine that these items would be “completed”?

Q.69: I am advised:

The nature of the output indicator varies depending on the action, therefore there was no universal ‘benchmark’.

#	70
Question	(70) For items that do not fall under the remit of Multicultural NSW – who is responsible for monitoring these action items to ensure they are completed?

Q.70: I am advised:

Multicultural NSW has worked with every NSW Government department and agency with actions in the NSW Settlement Strategy to develop and agree process indicators to monitor delivery of their actions.

#	71
Question	(71) The independent evaluation of the GROW pilot program had commenced in late February, are you able to provide any updates on the evaluation and when a final report may be provided to you? (a) Minister, will you make this report public?

Q.71: I am advised:

The GROW Pilot Program has been extended through to 30 November 2024 within the existing project budget. An independent evaluation of the GROW Pilot is in the process of being finalised which will inform future considerations.

#	72
Question	(72) It has also been advised that Federal Department's of Home Affairs and the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations are on the GROW Steering Committee. Whilst State and Federal agency collaboration is key in this space, what representations have you made directly to your Federal counterparts regarding the programs?

Q.72: I am advised:

The representation by the Department of Home Affairs and the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations on the GROW Steering Committee has provided valuable guidance to the GROW pilot and given them greater insight into place-based settlement in NSW.

#	73
Question	(73) Have you personally written to any Federal Minister's regarding either the GROW Pilot Program or the re-settlement of refugees and asylum seekers in NSW?

Q.73: I am advised:

Dialogue is ongoing with Federal counterparts with the aim for a stronger collaboration on settlement.

Safe Spaces for Faith Communities Program

#	74
Question	(74) Are you able to provide the committee with the list of the 103 successful applicants and the projects they received funding for?

Q.74: I am advised:

The list of organisations that received grants will be published in Multicultural NSW's 2023-24 Annual Report. The grants will be opened again towards the end of 2024, and the amount of funding available will be determined as part of this process.

#	75
Question	(75) How many applicants applied under this round and were unsuccessful?

Q.75: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.74.

#	76
Question	(76) Are you able to provide the committee with a list of those applicants who were unsuccessful?

Q.76: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.74.

#	77
Question	(77) For the first round, an initial \$3 million that groups were going to have access to was increased to \$5 million.

Q.77: I am advised:

This is not a question. This is a statement.

#	78
Question	(78) Is the Government going to consider increasing the funding available in the next round to ensure as many organisations as possible can improve security to their places of worship and other facilities eligible under the program?

Q.78: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.74.

Interpreting and Translation

#	79
Question	(79) Regarding the School-based Language Services Career Strategy: (a) How much funding has been allocated in the 2024-25 Budget to continue the strategy? (b) How many outcomes are in the strategy? (c) Are the outcomes of the strategy being monitored? If so, how? (d) When will the strategy be reviewed?

Q.79: I am advised:

As at 26 July 2024, 638 scholarships have been awarded under the enhanced scholarship program, bringing the overall total of scholarships awarded by Multicultural NSW to 1038 since inception.

In March 2023, 215 students who achieved an E4 (Band 6) in 10 targeted extension language courses were offered a place in the HSC High Achievers in Language Scholarship Program. 77 HSC students accepted a scholarship.

#	80
Question	(80) Strategic planning for an improved Scholarship program began in 2023. What is the status of this?

Q.80: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.79.

#	81
Question	(81) What universities and other educational institutions are partnered with MNSW as part of the scholarship program?

Q.81: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.79.

#	82
Question	(82) How long are these partnerships negotiated for before the partnerships are reviewed?

Q.82: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.79.

#	83
Question	(83) Over the past 12 months, how many people have: (a) Registered interest for the Interpreter Scholarship Program? (b) Been accepted into the Interpreter Scholarship Program? (c) Graduated from the Interpreter Scholarship Program?

Q.83: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.79.

Stronger Together Events Grants Programs

#	84
Question	(84) How many organisations have received funding over the past 12 months under the Stronger Together Events and Festivals Grants Program? (a) Which organisations have received funding? (b) What was the funding amount provided to each successful organisation? (c) What was the successful event or festival that each organisation received the funding for? i. When will each of these events take place?

Q.84: I am advised:

In 2023/24, Round 1 Festival and Event Grants allocated \$638,200 in grant funding to 81 community groups to deliver festivals and events between August 2023 and February 2024.

In 2023/24 Round 2 Festival and Event Grants allocated \$741,800 in grant funding to 124 community groups to deliver festivals and events between March and July 2024.

The list of organisations that received grants will be published in Multicultural NSW's 2023-24 Annual Report.

#	85
Question	(85) How many organisations applied for funding over the past 12 months under the Stronger Together Events and Festivals Grants Program but were unsuccessful?

Q.85: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.84.

#	86
Question	(86) How many organisations applied for funding over the past 12 months under the Stronger Together Projects Grants Program and were successful? (a) Which organisations received funding? (b) What was the funding amount provided to each organisation? (c) What are the individual projects that were successful?

Q.86: I am advised:

In 2023/24 a total of 12 community groups were successful for \$400,000 in funding for projects delivered between January and December 2024.

The list of organisations that received grants will be published in Multicultural NSW's 2023-24 Annual Report.

#	87
Question	(87) How many organisations applied for funding over the past 12 months under the Stronger Together Projects Grants Program but were unsuccessful?

Q.87: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.86.

Multicultural NSW Board

#	88
Question	(88) In relation to the MNSW Advisory Board Members: (a) Between 1 January 2024 and 1 September were any existing MNSW Board members whose terms had not yet expired, requested to resign? (b) If so i. Which Board members? ii. How much of their term remained? iii. When were they asked to resign? iv. Who instigated the request(s)? v. Who communicated the request(s) to the board members? vi. What was the basis for the request? (c) Did the Minister instigate the request(s)? (d) Was the Minister advised of the request(s)? (e) Was the Minister advised of the resignation(s)? (f) What advice was provided to the Minister regarding the resignation(s)? (g) Why were they asked to resign?

Q.88: I am advised:

One member resigned between 1 January and 1 September 2024 after taking up a career opportunity interstate. Appointment periods are published in Multicultural NSW's Annual Report.

#	89
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Question	(89) What are the current expiry dates for each Multicultural Advisory Board Member?
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Q.89: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.88.

COMPLAN

#	90
Question	(90) Following meetings of the COMPLAN Committee, who is tasked to monitor and ensure any action items and follow up tasks are completed?

Q.90: I am advised:

Multicultural NSW leads the NSW Community Resilience and Response Plan (COMPLAN) and chairs the COMPLAN Committee. In 2024, Multicultural NSW convened COMPLAN Committee meetings on 7 March 2024, 16 April 2024, 2 May 2024 and 1 August 2024.

The COMPLAN Committee is a senior officers group comprised of NSW Government agency representatives who have the delegated authority to act on behalf of their agency, including commitment of resources and activities on behalf of the agency.

Ministers are not members of the COMPLAN Committee. COMPLAN has been reviewed and the membership was updated to include the NSW Premier's Department.

#	91
Question	(91) How many meetings have taken place since 1 January 2024? (a) What dates did these meetings take place? (b) Did any Minister's attend these meetings? (c) If so, who?

Q.91: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.90.

#	92
Question	(92) How many actions items have arisen from meetings since 1 January 2024?

Q.92: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.90.

#	93
Question	(93) What were the committee's action items?

Q.93: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.90.

#	94
Question	(94) How many were successfully actioned?

Q.94: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.90.

#	95
Question	(95) Have there been any changes to the membership of the Committee in the past 12 months? (a) If so, what are the changes that have occurred?

Q.95: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.90.

Questions from Hon Chris Rath MLC (on behalf of the Opposition)

Sport

Access to playing fields during wet weather

#	96
Question	(96) What support have you and the Office of Sport provided to local sporting organisations that have been left worse off as a result of these field closures due to wet weather?

Q.96: I am advised:

In most cases, local sporting fields are the responsibility of Local Councils. The venue hire agreements and cancellation policies contained within them are matter for the relevant Local Council and hiring Sporting Organisations.

#	97
Question	(97) What support have you and the Office of Sport provided to local sporting organisations such as the North West Sydney Football Association that have been left worse off as a result not being refunded field hire?

Q.97: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.96.

#	98
Question	(98) Will the Office of Sport offer support to impacted community organisations?

Q.98: I am advised:

The venue hire agreements and cancellation policies contained within them are matter for the relevant Local Council and hiring Sporting Organisations.

#	99
Question	(99) Given that better quality playing surfaces and drainage would avoid field closures in some instances, will the Office of Sport take steps to rectify this situation and provide better access for our communities to these facilities?

Q.99: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.96.

#	100
Question	(100) Please provide a list of grant programs offered by the Office of Sport that can be used and provide sufficient funding for drainage works?

Q.100: I am advised:

Grant Programs are published on the Office of Sport website and the NSW Government Grants and Funding website when they become available.

#	101
Question	(101) Please provide a list of the “400-odd projects that are currently in delivery across the state” which included that grant program they were funded through, the round of funding, total funding amount, location and estimated completion date.

Q.101: I am advised:

Grant Programs are published on the Office of Sport website and the NSW Government Grants and Funding website. Some of these projects have been completed and some are still in delivery.

Sydney Academy of Sport and Recreation

#	102
Question	(102) The Manly Warringah Little Athletics wrote to the CEO of the Office of Sport on 12 June requesting an on-site meeting be facilitated with iCare and posing alternatives. This has not been done. Will you commit to arranging this meeting to support track users?

Q.102: I am advised:

The Office has proposed a number of mitigations in an attempt to keep the synthetic track operational. In addition, Manly Warringah Little Athletics have proposed similar options. In all these cases, the mitigations have not been deemed to suitable minimise the risk.

#	103
Question	(103) Is the Government committed to fully funding the necessary repairs at the Sydney Academy of Sport 400m athletics track?

Q.103: I am advised:

The Office of Sport is currently working through a design and scoping exercise to ascertain what remediation is required for the track area. This will include cost estimates for options provided. Once known, funding opportunities will be identified.

#	104
Question	(104) When do you anticipate these works will be completed?

Q.104: I am advised:

The design and scoping project is estimated to be completed by December 2024.

#	105
Question	(105) Are you aware that the alternative facility offered by the Office of Sport has often been unavailable due to weather conditions?

Q.105: I am advised:

The alternative facility is a natural grass track. Ongoing weather conditions affect the availability of this alternative track. The centre is committed to maximum utilisation of the facility where safe with a view to long term quality of the surface.

#	106
Question	(106) Has the Office of Sport received complaints that the alternative facility offered is uneven and used by other sporting codes, making it difficult to coordinate sharing space?

Q.106: I am advised:

The Office of Sport has received feedback regarding challenges with maintaining the surface, and the use of the facility by multiple user groups. The centre proactively maintains the temporary track surface while balancing the ongoing needs of the users. As the temporary facility is a shared use area, the Office works closely with all stakeholders to ensure fair and equitable use.

#	107
Question	(107) Will the Office of Sport work with community users like Manly Warringah Little Athletics to identify more appropriate alternative facilities?

Q.107: I am advised:

The Office of Sport provides ongoing communication into the assessment of the synthetic track facility. This has included investigations into other alternative locations both offsite and within the Sydney Academy of Sport complex.

Accor Stadium Roof

#	108
Question	(108) Which design firms were/are being used in formulating the business case for a roof at Accor Stadium?

Q.108: I am advised:

The design firms Maffeis Engineering and Populous.

Levelling the Playing Field Grant – Bob Proudfoot Pavilion

#	109
Question	(109) Before funding for this project was returned, did the Member for South Coast make formal representations seeking to amend the scope of the project?

Q.109:

I have had multiple conversations with the Member for South Coast on matters pertaining to her electorate, including funding for grassroots sporting facilities.

#	110
Question	(110) Since Shoalhaven City Council returned the funding, has the Member for South Coast made formal representations to you to on the importance of funding this project?

Q.110: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.109.

#	111
Question	(111) Are there other projects from the Levelling the Playing Field Program that will not be proceeding?

Q.111: I am advised:

Yes, a project awarded to Bathurst Giants Australian Rules Football Club for George Park 1 has also been withdrawn.

#	112
Question	(112) Will the available funds be reallocated and if so, what will be the process?

Q.112: I am advised:

An assessment of other applications that were considered to be meritorious is being undertaken.

#	113
Question	(113) Based on current information, will there be an underspend for the Levelling the Playing Field Grant Program? If so, how much?

Q.113: I am advised:

Any underspend, if any, will not be known until finalisation of the grant program.

Active Kids Vouchers

#	114
Question	(114) In the 2023 financial year how many children were eligible for Active Kids Vouchers in total and by electorate?

Q.114: I am advised:

It is estimated that 1,351,658 children in total were eligible for Active Kids Vouchers, based on 2021 Census data of children aged 5 to 18. Estimates of the number of children eligible by electorate are set out below.

The population data is extracted from the 2021 Census data at postcode level. Electorate data is based on concordance tables, so the eligible population of postcodes that are split across more than one Electorate will be counted proportionally in each of the Electorates they cover.

Electorate	Eligible Population	Electorate	Eligible Population	Electorate	Eligible Population
Albury	18,761	Granville	18,812	Orange	14,676
Auburn	15,476	Hawkesbury	9,866	Oxley	11,626
Ballina	14,788	Heathcote	8,972	Parramatta	17,883
Balmain	10,126	Heffron	9,773	Penrith	14,071
Bankstown	17,972	Holsworthy	13,012	Pittwater	11,265
Barwon	10,428	Hornsby	14,315	Port Macquarie	15,344
Bathurst	14,957	Keira	15,397	Port Stephens	11,438
Baulkham Hills	20,136	Kiama	18,583	Prospect	14,916
Bega	9,516	Kogarah	13,145	Riverstone	27,511
Blacktown	15,713	Ku-ring-gai	17,876	Rockdale	11,970
Blue Mountains	13,195	Lake Macquarie	14,441	Ryde	12,901
Cabramatta	18,315	Lakemba	19,374	Seven Hills	16,853
Camden	29,165	Lane Cove	14,751	Shellharbour	15,805
Campbelltown	16,068	Lismore	9,107	South Coast	8,901
Canterbury	13,445	Liverpool	26,941	Strathfield	12,128
Castle Hill	18,438	Londonderry	22,531	Summer Hill	9,511
Cessnock	13,224	Macquarie Fields	22,292	Swansea	13,734
Charlestown	14,999	Maitland	15,072	Sydney	4,810
Clarence	11,552	Manly	13,943	Tamworth	15,338
Coffs Harbour	14,474	Maroubra	13,870	Terrigal	17,381
Coogee	11,178	Miranda	17,647	The Entrance	11,969
Cootamundra	12,027	Monaro	12,180	Tweed	15,902
Cronulla	12,804	Mount Druitt	21,042	Upper Hunter	10,120
Davidson	18,314	Mulgoa	13,122	Vaucluse	10,852
Drummoyne	11,728	Murray	14,325	Wagga Wagga	14,115
Dubbo	14,599	Myall Lakes	8,228	Wakehurst	15,915
East Hills	15,760	Newcastle	11,171	Wallsend	20,337
Epping	18,108	Newtown	6,922	Willoughby	15,474
Fairfield	17,519	North Shore	9,298	Wollondilly	15,836
Gosford	9,336	Northern Tablelands	14,318	Wollongong	11,424
Goulburn	14,480	Oatley	11,929	Wyong	12,696

#	115
Question	(115) In the 2023 financial year how many Active Kids Vouchers were created in total and by state electorate?

Q.115: I am advised:

In 2022-23, 1,524,424 Active Kids Vouchers were created in NSW. Estimates of the number of Active Kids Voucher created by electorate are set out below. Data under the Active Kids program was not captured by electorate, but rather by postcode. The electorate is based on the recipient's location (not the provider's location) and is based on concordance tables. Vouchers created in postcodes that are split across more than one electorate will be counted proportionally in each of the electorates they cover.

Electorate	Vouchers Created
Albury	16,002
Auburn	15,186
Ballina	16,525
Balmain	11,758
Bankstown	15,905
Barwon	9,167
Bathurst	14,444
Baulkham Hills	26,365
Bega	9,841
Blacktown	15,514
Blue Mountains	14,252
Cabramatta	14,100
Camden	34,318
Campbelltown	14,677
Canterbury	13,511
Castle Hill	23,995
Cessnock	12,222
Charlestown	18,672

Electorate	Vouchers Created
Granville	18,543
Hawkesbury	10,961
Heathcote	12,410
Heffron	10,920
Holsworthy	13,040
Hornsby	18,314
Keira	18,811
Kiama	20,241
Kogarah	14,836
Ku-ring-gai	20,962
Lake Macquarie	15,555
Lakemba	17,202
Lane Cove	17,830
Lismore	6,857
Liverpool	22,242
Londonderry	22,991
Macquarie Fields	22,793
Maitland	15,367

Electorate	Vouchers Created
Orange	15,283
Oxley	11,002
Parramatta	21,224
Penrith	15,134
Pittwater	14,074
Port Macquarie	16,626
Port Stephens	11,410
Prospect	14,606
Riverstone	36,987
Rockdale	12,802
Ryde	16,910
Seven Hills	19,787
Shellharbour	17,639
South Coast	8,825
Strathfield	13,481
Summer Hill	10,656
Swansea	15,946
Sydney	4,892

Clarence	11,058	Manly	17,527	Tamworth	15,317
Coffs Harbour	16,006	Maroubra	16,703	Terrigal	21,545
Coogee	12,962	Miranda	23,633	The Entrance	14,121
Cootamundra	12,710	Monaro	10,786	Tweed	17,370
Cronulla	17,305	Mount Druitt	17,212	Upper Hunter	10,172
Davidson	23,082	Mulgoa	13,746	Vaucluse	10,721
Drummoyne	13,869	Murray	12,181	Wagga Wagga	14,855
Dubbo	14,793	Myall Lakes	7,880	Wakehurst	20,552
East Hills	16,915	Newcastle	13,162	Wallsend	21,534
Epping	23,739	Newtown	7,528	Willoughby	18,836
Fairfield	12,731	North Shore	10,400	Wollondilly	16,754
Gosford	10,369	Northern Tablelands	11,986	Wollongong	12,130
Goulburn	12,776	Oatley	13,973	Wyong	13,587

Note: Due to manual voucher creations and system limitations, some vouchers do not have valid postcodes assigned.

#	116
Question	(116) In the 2023 financial year how many Active Kids Vouchers were redeemed in total and by electorate?

Q.116: I am advised:

In 2022-23, 1,247,252 Active Kids Vouchers were redeemed in NSW. Estimates of the number of Active Kids Voucher redeemed by electorate are set out below. Data under the Active Kids program was not captured by electorate, but rather by postcode. The electorate is based on the recipient's location (not the provider's location) and is based on concordance tables. Vouchers redeemed in postcodes that are split across more than one electorate will be counted proportionally in each of the electorates they cover.

Voucher Redeemed	
Electorate	
Albury	13,011

Vouchers Redeemed	
Electorate	
Granville	14,268

Vouchers Redeemed	
Electorate	
Orange	12,826

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Auburn	11,227
Ballina	13,737
Balmain	9,784
Bankstown	11,468
Barwon	7,092
Bathurst	11,655
Baulkham Hills	22,586
Bega	7,830
Blacktown	12,169
Blue Mountains	12,073
Cabramatta	9,852
Camden	27,900
Campbelltown	11,605
Canterbury	10,621
Castle Hill	20,320
Cessnock	9,315
Charlestown	16,134
Clarence	9,145
Coffs Harbour	13,360
Coogee	10,875
Cootamundra	10,597
Cronulla	15,262
Davidson	19,093
Drummoyne	11,534
Dubbo	11,949
East Hills	13,591

Hawkesbury	9,190
Heathcote	11,115
Heffron	9,075
Holsworthy	10,364
Hornsby	15,875
Keira	16,421
Kiama	16,744
Kogarah	12,416
Ku-ring-gai	17,246
Lake Macquarie	12,847
Lakemba	12,547
Lane Cove	14,765
Lismore	5,615
Liverpool	16,122
Londonderry	18,301
Macquarie Fields	17,473
Maitland	12,213
Manly	15,022
Maroubra	14,296
Miranda	20,823
Monaro	8,559
Mount Druitt	12,324
Mulgoa	11,139
Murray	9,786
Myall Lakes	6,378
Newcastle	11,041

Oxley	8,841
Parramatta	17,598
Penrith	12,581
Pittwater	11,997
Port Macquarie	13,737
Port Stephens	9,345
Prospect	11,205
Riverstone	30,802
Rockdale	10,469
Ryde	14,392
Seven Hills	16,578
Shellharbour	14,963
South Coast	7,145
Strathfield	10,933
Summer Hill	8,761
Swansea	13,671
Sydney	3,819
Tamworth	12,663
Terrigal	18,887
The Entrance	12,231
Tweed	14,573
Upper Hunter	8,196
Vaucluse	8,344
Wagga Wagga	12,408
Wakehurst	18,003
Wallsend	17,875

Epping	20,392
Fairfield	8,371
Gosford	8,810
Goulburn	10,147

Newtown	6,145
North Shore	8,477
Northern Tablelands	9,464
Oatley	11,971

Willoughby	15,465
Wollondilly	13,429
Wollongong	10,107
Wyong	11,512

Note: Due to manual voucher creations and system limitations, some vouchers do not have valid postcodes assigned.

#	117
Question	(117) In the 2023 financial year what was the total funding budgeted for the Active Kids program?

Q.117: I am advised:

In the 2022-23 financial year, the total funding budgeted for the Active Kids program was \$127,000,000.

#	118
Question	(118) In the 2023 financial year was there an underspend of the allocated funds for the Active Kids program?

Q.118: I am advised:

Yes.

#	119
Question	(119) Noting that the Active Kids voucher program was axed by the Minns Labor Government on 31 January 2024, please advise for the 2024 financial year until the program's completion how many children were eligible for Active Kids Vouchers?

Q.119: I am advised:

In 2023-24, it is estimated that 1,351,658 were eligible for Active Kids Vouchers, based on 2021 Census data of children aged 5 to 18.

#	120
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Question	(120) Please advise for the 2024 financial year until the program's completion how many Active Kids Vouchers were created in the 2024 financial year?
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Q.120: I am advised:

In 2023-24, 673,912 Active Kids Vouchers were created in NSW. Estimates of the number of Active Kids Voucher created by electorate are set out below. Data under the Active Kids program was not captured by electorate, but rather by postcode. The electorate is based on the recipient's location (not the provider's location) and is based on concordance tables. Vouchers created in postcodes that are split across more than one electorate will be counted proportionally in each of the electorates they cover.

Electorate	Vouchers Created
Albury	6,409
Auburn	5,933
Ballina	6,539
Balmain	5,152
Bankstown	5,893
Barwon	3,155
Bathurst	5,359
Baulkham Hills	11,187
Bega	3,957
Blacktown	6,238
Blue Mountains	6,115
Cabramatta	5,458
Camden	14,692
Campbelltown	5,871
Canterbury	5,428
Castle Hill	10,279
Cessnock	4,789
Charlestown	7,865

Electorate	Vouchers Created
Granville	7,326
Hawkesbury	4,612
Heathcote	5,572
Heffron	4,499
Holsworthy	5,403
Hornsby	7,917
Keira	8,041
Kiama	8,406
Kogarah	6,031
Ku-ring-gai	8,845
Lake Macquarie	6,233
Lakemba	6,589
Lane Cove	7,605
Lismore	2,463
Liverpool	8,679
Londonderry	9,484
Macquarie Fields	9,160
Maitland	6,165

Electorate	Vouchers Created
Orange	5,947
Oxley	4,066
Parramatta	8,811
Penrith	6,414
Pittwater	6,168
Port Macquarie	6,789
Port Stephens	4,408
Prospect	5,853
Riverstone	15,896
Rockdale	5,141
Ryde	7,096
Seven Hills	8,154
Shellharbour	7,182
South Coast	3,508
Strathfield	5,458
Summer Hill	4,410
Swansea	6,542
Sydney	2,029

Clarence	3,878
Coffs Harbour	6,225
Coogee	5,517
Cootamundra	4,806
Cronulla	7,604
Davidson	9,716
Drummoyne	5,882
Dubbo	5,652
East Hills	6,822
Epping	10,124
Fairfield	4,790
Gosford	4,265
Goulburn	5,012

Manly	7,749
Maroubra	7,198
Miranda	10,424
Monaro	4,439
Mount Druitt	6,563
Mulgoa	5,814
Murray	4,619
Myall Lakes	3,033
Newcastle	5,715
Newtown	3,207
North Shore	4,327
Northern Tablelands	4,382
Oatley	5,835

Tamworth	5,624
Terrigal	9,097
The Entrance	5,855
Tweed	7,055
Upper Hunter	3,985
Vaucluse	4,443
Wagga Wagga	5,790
Wakehurst	9,174
Wallsend	8,802
Willoughby	7,938
Wollondilly	6,978
Wollongong	4,962
Wyong	5,447

Note: Due to manual voucher creations and system limitations, some vouchers do not have valid postcodes assigned.

#	121
Question	(121) Please advise for the 2024 financial year until the program’s completion how many Active Kids Vouchers were redeemed in the 2024 financial year? Please provide a breakdown of the redemption of Active Kids Vouchers by electorate.

Q.121: I am advised:

In 2023-24, 514,963 Active Kids Vouchers were redeemed in NSW. Estimates of the number of Active Kids Voucher redeemed by electorate are set out below. Data under the Active Kids program was not captured by electorate, but rather by postcode. The electorate is based on the recipient's location (not the provider’s location) and is based on concordance tables. Vouchers redeemed in postcodes that are split across more than one electorate will be counted proportionally in each of the electorates they cover.

Electorate	Vouchers Redeemed
Albury	4,912

Electorate	Vouchers Redeemed
Granville	5,166

Electorate	Vouchers Redeemed
Orange	4,572

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Auburn	3,925
Ballina	4,897
Balmain	4,090
Bankstown	3,962
Barwon	2,252
Bathurst	3,886
Baulkham Hills	8,708
Bega	2,999
Blacktown	4,456
Blue Mountains	4,865
Cabramatta	3,682
Camden	11,439
Campbelltown	4,311
Canterbury	4,013
Castle Hill	7,968
Cessnock	3,420
Charlestown	6,421
Clarence	2,806
Coffs Harbour	4,827
Coogee	4,384
Cootamundra	3,597
Cronulla	6,485
Davidson	7,571
Drummoyne	4,695
Dubbo	4,223
East Hills	5,183

Hawkesbury	3,686
Heathcote	4,794
Heffron	3,505
Holsworthy	4,043
Hornsby	6,397
Keira	6,520
Kiama	6,694
Kogarah	4,630
Ku-ring-gai	6,812
Lake Macquarie	4,924
Lakemba	4,383
Lane Cove	5,949
Lismore	1,827
Liverpool	5,897
Londonderry	7,139
Macquarie Fields	6,677
Maitland	4,770
Manly	6,243
Maroubra	5,819
Miranda	8,798
Monaro	3,274
Mount Druitt	4,454
Mulgoa	4,572
Murray	3,491
Myall Lakes	2,285
Newcastle	4,489

Oxley	3,007
Parramatta	6,711
Penrith	5,133
Pittwater	5,104
Port Macquarie	5,134
Port Stephens	3,422
Prospect	4,196
Riverstone	12,036
Rockdale	3,889
Ryde	5,657
Seven Hills	6,169
Shellharbour	5,778
South Coast	2,773
Strathfield	4,089
Summer Hill	3,445
Swansea	5,265
Sydney	1,454
Tamworth	4,153
Terrigal	7,503
The Entrance	4,753
Tweed	5,406
Upper Hunter	2,928
Vaucluse	3,252
Wagga Wagga	4,459
Wakehurst	7,545
Wallsend	6,922

Epping	8,008
Fairfield	3,038
Gosford	3,388
Goulburn	3,802

Newtown	2,512
North Shore	3,212
Northern Tablelands	3,201
Oatley	4,623

Willoughby	6,082
Wollondilly	5,406
Wollongong	3,861
Wyong	4,361

Note: Due to manual voucher creations and system limitations, some vouchers do not have valid postcodes assigned.

#	122
Question	(122) What was the total funding budgeted for the Active Kids program in the 2024 financial year?

Q.122: I am advised:

In the 2023-24 financial year, the total funding budgeted for the Active Kids program was \$44,263,000.

#	123
Question	(123) Was there an underspend of the allocated funds for the Active Kids program in the 2024 financial year?

Q.123: I am advised:

Yes.

#	124
Question	(124) What was the total funding budgeted for the Active and Creative Kids program in the 2024 financial year?

Q.124: I am advised:

This is a matter for the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government.

This question should be directed to the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government for a response.

#	125
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Question	(113) Based on current information, will there be an underspend for the Levelling the Playing Field Grant Program? If so, how much?
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Q.125: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.113.

Sydney International Regatta Centre and Penrith Whitewater Stadium

#	126
Question	(126) Following on from the questions asked on Wednesday, 28 August of the Minister for Sport, the Hon Steve Kamper MP concerning the blue green algae blooms at the Penrith Lakes, would you please confirm the exact allocation of responsibilities that exist between the Office of Strategic Lands and the Office of Sport for the Penrith Lakes, the SICR facility and the paddle and rafting facilities? Who is responsible for what?

Q.126: I am advised:

The responsibilities of both parties are detailed in a lease, under which the Office of Sport is the lessee. The Office of Sport is responsible for the management and operation of Sydney International Regatta Centre and Penrith Whitewater Stadium. The Office of Strategic Lands is responsible for water quality management including regular water quality monitoring and reporting to the Office of Sport on water quality levels.

#	127
Question	(127) For each financial year since 2019, how many events have been cancelled or postponed as a result of algae blooms at the Sydney International Regatta Centre?

Q.127: I am advised:

Between 2019 and 30 June 2024, 63 events were cancelled or postponed at Sydney International Regatta Centre due to either the presence of blue-green algae or water quality impacts of flooding. In addition to these event cancellations, venue bookings were cancelled or postponed for water-based training sessions as well as community and club activities.

#	128
Question	(128) For each financial year since 2019, how many events have been cancelled or postponed as a result of algae blooms at the Penrith Whitewater Stadium?

Q.128: I am advised:

The Office of Sport assumed operations of Penrith Whitewater Stadium from 1 July 2023 and have no records prior to that date. Since 1 July 2023, one event has been cancelled or postponed. In addition, venue bookings were cancelled/postponed for paddle and canoe training, whitewater rafting activities and emergency services training.

#	129
Question	(129) For each financial year since 2019, what was the revenue lost as a result of algae blooms at the Sydney International Regatta Centre?

Q.129: I am advised:

See below for revenue lost at Sydney International Regatta Centre since 2019:

Year	Revenue Lost
2019/20	-
2020/21	-
2021/22	\$428,473
2022/23	\$63,221
2023/24	\$72,199
Total	\$799,363

#	130
Question	(130) For each financial year since 2019, what was the revenue lost as a result of algae blooms at the Penrith Whitewater Stadium?

Q.130: I am advised:

The Office of Sport assumed operations of Penrith Whitewater Stadium from 1 July 2023 and does not have access to comprehensive and accurate records prior to that date. In the period from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 the total revenue lost was \$306,079.

#	131
Question	(131) How many local community organisations, as well as local, state, national and international sporting organisation use the Penrith Lakes precinct and facilities?

Q.131: I am advised:

The Office of Sport is unable to answer this question as the Office of Sport does not manage the Penrith Lakes precinct and facilities.

#	132
Question	(132) For each calendar year since 2019, how many organisations have been impacted by the blue-green algae blooms that shut down the Penrith Lakes and the water sports facilities?

Q.132: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.131.

#	133
Question	(133) For each calendar year since 2019, how many local, regional, state, national and international sporting events have been cancelled and/or postponed as a result of blue green algae blooms? (a) If so, please provide a breakdown of the impact on each organisation.

Q.133: I am advised:

The Office of Sport assumed operations of Penrith Whitewater Stadium from 1 July 2023 and does not have access to comprehensive and accurate records prior to that date. Since 1 July 2023 no sporting local, regional, state, national or international sporting events have been cancelled. However, venue bookings were cancelled or postponed for paddle and canoe training, whitewater rafting activities and emergency services training.

At Sydney International Regatta Centre 1 International, 7 National, 10 State and 10 regional/community sporting events were cancelled/postponed as a result of blue green algae or water quality related impacts of flooding.

In addition, venue bookings were cancelled/postponed for water-based training and community and club activities.

#	134
Question	(134) Given the interconnecting responsibilities of the Office of Strategic Lands for the maintenance of the precinct and its facilities, and the Office of Sport for operating the facilities, do these matters form part of joint discussions/meeting between the two organisations as to how the precinct can be effectively managed? (a) If not, why not? (b) If so, when did these discussions start and what has been the outcome of these discussions?

Q.134: I am advised:

The Office of Sport and Office of Strategic Lands signed a lease in September 2022. Both parties meet regularly to discuss operational and management responsibilities detailed in the lease agreement including water quality monitoring and management and decisions around venue closures for primary and secondary contact for recreational activities held at Sydney International Regatta Centre and Penrith Whitewater Stadium.

#	135
Question	(135) Is the Office of Sports aware of the broader economic impacts on the Penrith region and its business community that result from these events being cancelled and/or postponed due to blue green alga blooms? (a) If not, why not? (b) If so, please provide details of these economic impacts

Q.135: I am advised:

The Office of Sport does not assess the economic benefits of most events held by venue hirers at the Penrith Whitewater Stadium and Sydney International Regatta Centre but does understand the positive economic benefit the facilities provide. The Office of Sport has previously viewed commercial in confidence economic evaluations completed by Destination NSW in relation to selected events held at the Sydney International Regatta Centre.

#	136
Question	(136) Given that the Penrith Lakes are a strategic asset, do you recognise the negative national and international reputational impact that results from the Lakes not being a for purpose and reliable event asset?

Q.136: I am advised:

Both Sydney International Regatta Centre and Penrith Whitewater Stadium are fit for purpose training and competition sporting venues, and this is reflected in their ongoing use by dozens of sporting disciplines.

The Office of Sport recognises the value and importance of the Penrith Whitewater Stadium and Sydney International Regatta Centre and maximises their availability. Last financial year Sydney International Regatta Centre was open to the public every day.

Although a number of primary contact community water-based activities were cancelled, only one international sporting event has been cancelled at Sydney International Regatta Centre since 2019.

The Office of Sport assumed operations of Penrith Whitewater Stadium from 1 July 2023 and does not have access to comprehensive and accurate records prior to that date.

#	137
Question	(137) Are you aware that a number of national and international sports are considering completing bypassing the Penrith Lakes facilities to the unreliability of the asset and the high risk of blue green algae blooms? (a) If so, what steps have been taken to alleviate these concerns?

Q.137: I am advised:

Both Penrith Whitewater Stadium and Sydney International Regatta Centre are considered world class sporting facilities.

Both venues are, and always have been, located on a natural lake system which can be impacted by poor water quality, including the effects of blue green algae. The Office of Strategic Lands manages the lake system in line with the relevant international health and environmental management standards, which excludes chemical treatments based on environmental considerations.

The Office of Sport provides regular stakeholder information and reports on water quality in the lead up to events, and if required collaborates on event contingency plans and risk assessments to ensure sporting events can proceed safely. The Office of Sport provides updated information on water quality management on the venue's website.

#	138
Question	(138) On Wednesday, you and the Office of Sport told us that work between the Office of Strategic Lands and the Office of Sport had only just started in trying to find a solution to this problem. Why has it taken you so long?

Q.138: I am advised:

Under the terms of the lease between both organisations Water Quality Management solutions are a matter for the Office of Strategic Lands.

#	139
Question	(139) Are you aware that in the lead up to the 2032 Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games there are numerous opportunities for multiple national and international water sports events to be hosted at the Penrith Lakes?

Q.139: I am advised:

Yes, the Office of Sport has a Major Events team and works closely with Destination NSW, State and National Sport Organisations to attract national and international events. In October 2025 Paddle Australia will host the 2025 World Slalom Canoe Championships at Penrith Whitewater Stadium.

#	140
Question	(140) Do you agree that none of these opportunities can be capitalised on if the Penrith Lake facilities are not for purpose and present too high a risk for event cancellation due to blue green algae blooms?

Q.140: I am advised:

Sydney International Regatta Centre and Penrith Whitewater Stadium are fit for purpose, however water quality considerations can impact on any natural aquatic environment, and the Office of Sport will continue to work with sporting and event groups to minimise the risks posed by blue green algae.

#	141
Question	(141) Do you concede that the high risk of event cancellation at Penrith is likely to result in sporting organisations bypassing NSW completely and hosting their events elsewhere?

Q.141: I am advised:

Both Sydney International Regatta Centre and Penrith Whitewater Stadiums are considered world class facilities capable of hosting international and national events. Both venues are highly utilised and continue to host International, National, State, Regional, Local and School sporting events as well as community activities, training, and other booked purposes.

Surf Club Facility Program

#	142
Question	(142) Are you aware that the advice from the Office of Sport to the Club President is that “the chances of getting approval for this variation is very slim”, that they should return the milestone payment and apply again for the full-funding of the original project? Why is the Office of Sport discouraging community organisations from utilising available funding that has already been awarded?

Q.142: I am advised:

The Office of Sport did not provide that advice to any grantees. Organisations who seek a variation to the approved funding activity are provided with all available options to them. The Office of Sport does not discourage organisations from utilising awarded funding, however for transparency, equity and to ensure value for money, all variations to funding agreements are managed in line with the Office of Sport Policy for Grant Variations and the Grants Administration Guide.

#	143
Question	(143) Will the Office of Sport assist organisations like Copacabana SLSC to repurpose allocated funding where it is appropriate?

Q.143: I am advised:

All variations to funding agreements are managed in line with the Office of Sport Policy for Grant Variations that is in accordance with the Grants Administration Guide.

#	144
Question	(144) What is the average length of time for the variation of scope requests to be considered under the Surf Club Facility Program?

Q.144: I am advised:

In the last four years under the Surf Club Facility Program, the average time between the variation request submitted by the grantee to notification of the outcome is 4 to 5 weeks.

#	145
Question	(145) Are any other Surf Clubs that have been awarded funding under this program experiencing similar difficulties, and if so, how are they are being dealt with?

Q.145: I am advised:

There have been other variation requests received under the Surf Club Facility Program, and they have, or are currently being assessed, under the Office of Sport's Policy for Grant Variations.

#	146
Question	(146) On page 4-26 of Budget Paper No.2- Agency Information Statements a revised figure of \$282,054,000 for 2023/24 has been provided for Grants and Subsidies down from \$477,638,000. Please explain the reasons for this underspend and provide a list of grant programs and the relevant underspend for each?

Q.146: I am advised:

This is mainly due to the following:

- Carry-forward of grant expenses,
- Treasurer's approved variation request, and
- transfer of Dubbo Multi Sport Facility expense budget to balance sheet.

#	147
Question	(147) On page 4-26 of Budget Paper No.2- Agency Information Statements a revised figure of \$288,871,000 for 2023/24 has been provided for the funding distribution from the Department down from \$464,027,000. What is the reason from this reduction in revenue from the Department?

Q.147: I am advised:

This is mainly attributed to carry-forward of grant programs (including Treasurer's approved variation request) to 2024-25 and forward years.

#	148
Question	(148) On page 4-26 of Budget Paper No.2- Agency Information Statements a revised figure of \$29,268,000 for 2023/24 has been provided for Grants and Contributions revenue, down from \$64,643,000. What is the reason from this reduction in revenue?

Q.148: I am advised:

This is mainly attributed to Dubbo Indoor Multi Sport Facility Budget being transferred to the Balance sheet.

#	149
Question	(149) Please provide a list of the land and building assets owned by the Office of Sport that make up the figure contained in the Office of Sport balance sheet?

Q.149: I am advised:

- Lake Ainsworth Sport and Recreation Centre (Land and Building)

- Broken Bay Sport and Recreation Centre (Land & Building)
- Lake Keepit Sport and Recreation Centre (Land & Building)
- Lake Burrendong Sport and Recreation Centre (Land & Building)
- Point Wolstoncroft Sport and Recreation Centre (Land & Building)
- Sydney International Shooting Centre (Land & Building)
- Sydney International Equestrian Centre (Land & Building)
- Sydney International Regatta Centre (Building)
- Penrith Whitewater Stadium (Building)
- Farwest Academy (Building).

#	150
Question	(150) On Budget Paper No.2- Agency Information Statements page 4-27 under liabilities a payables figure of \$27,878,000 is provided for 2023/24, up from \$11,285,000 what is the reason for this increase in liabilities?

Q.150: I am advised:

The Office always pays off its liabilities on time and the variance is mainly attributed to timing differences of payments. The estimated liability of \$27,878,000 is based on best estimates as per the operations budget of Office of Sport for 2023-24 and the increase is mainly related to Dubbo Multisport Facility project.

Proposed NFL Game in Australia

#	151
Question	(151) If the bid is successful to have an NFL game in Sydney: (a) What Government Agency is responsible for working with the NFL to organise the game in Sydney? (b) It was said in the hearing the Government was believing the game would occur in the 4th quarter of the year – which is the NFL season. Is there a specific month that is being considered? (c) The NFL bye window is during weeks 5 to 14 of the season – and teams will likely take a bye the week before or after the game. Is the Government aware of this? i. Is this period under discussion to host the game? (d) Would the Government together with the NFL prepare wrap around and activation events throughout the week before the game for Australian NFL fans, of all 32 teams? (e) Because of broadcast guidelines for football in the United States, games cannot be broadcast on a Saturday U.S. Time during the College Football season, preventing a Sunday game in Australia during most of the NFL season. Is the Government aware of this predicament? i. What day of the week does the Government seek to host this NFL game in Sydney?

	ii. Is the Government aware of any issues with hosting a game on a Saturday afternoon in Australia (which would be Friday night in the U.S.)? iii. Would a game on a Monday public holiday be a consideration (because it would be able to be broadcast into the United States on a Sunday night)?
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Q.151: I am advised:

Venues NSW and Destination NSW are the government agencies that would deliver this event.

Sydney hosting an NFL game would present many opportunities for fan and activations zones across the precinct and city.

As we're in preliminary discussions only, all scenarios, including timing of the event and teams involved, are being considered.

#	152
Question	(152) Philadelphia Eagles left tackle Jordan Mailata grew up in Sydney – has the NSW Government suggested to the NFL that the Eagles be one of the teams involved in this game?

Q.152: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.151.

#	153
Question	(153) Has the NFL raised any issues concerning bye weeks for teams before or after the game in Sydney?

Q.153: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.151.

Questions from Hon Chris Rath MLC (on behalf of the Opposition)

Qantas Chairman's Club

#	154
Question	(154) 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?

Q.154: I am advised:

The Constitution (Disclosures by Members) Regulation 1983 (Regulation) sets out Members' obligations to disclose relevant pecuniary and other interests in periodic returns to Parliament.

The Legislative Assembly Standing Committee on Parliamentary Privilege and Ethics Report on Review of the Code of Conduct, Aspects of Disclosure of Interests, and Related Issues (December 2010) notes that:

"Advice has been received from the Crown Solicitor that use of the Chairman's Lounge by invitation is not a "gift" for the purposes of clause 10 of the Regulation, as it does not involve disposition of property. However, when the membership leads to an upgrade valued at more than \$250, it becomes disclosable as a contribution to travel, and should be reported under clause 11 of the Regulation."

Clause 16 of the Regulation allows a Member to, at their discretion, disclose any direct or indirect benefit, advantage or liability, whether pecuniary or not.

Relevant disclosures have been made to the Cabinet Office and to the Parliament.

Union membership

#	155
Question	(155) Are you a member of a union? (a) If yes, what union?

Q.155: I am advised:

The Constitution (Disclosures by Members) Regulation 1983 (the Regulation) sets out Members' obligations to disclose relevant pecuniary and other interests in periodic returns to Parliament.

Clause 13 of the Regulation relevantly requires the disclosure of the name of each trade union and each professional or business association 'in which he or she held any position' as at specified dates. The Regulation does not require Members to disclose membership of a trade union.

Membership of Unions can be disclosed on a discretionary basis. The Clerk of the Parliaments has confirmed that this view is consistent with guidance provided to Members.

Union membership fees

#	156
Question	(156) What was the expenditure for you to join a union in: (a) 2022-23? (b) 2023-24? (c) 2024-25?

Q.156: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.155.

CFMEU membership

#	157
Question	(157) Have you ever been a member of the Construction, Forestry and Maritime Employees Union (CFMEU)? (a) If yes, when?

Q.157: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.155.

CFMEU meetings

#	158
Question	(158) Given ministerial diary disclosures do not include all meetings and provide exceptions to disclosures, since 28 March 2023, have you met with the CFMEU?

Q.158: I am advised:

In accordance with the Premier's Memorandum 2015-05, all Ministers publish extracts from their diaries summarising details of scheduled meetings held with stakeholders, external organisations, third-party lobbyists and individuals. Ministers are not required to disclose details of the following meetings:

- meetings involving Ministers, ministerial staff, parliamentarians or government officials (whether from NSW or other jurisdictions)
- meetings that are strictly personal, electorate or party political
- social or public functions or events
- meetings held overseas (which must be disclosed in accordance with regulation 6(1)(b) of the Government Information (Public Access) Regulation 2018 and Attachment B to the Memorandum), and
- matters for which there is an overriding public interest against disclosure.

Ministers' diary disclosures are published quarterly on The Cabinet Office's website (<https://www.nsw.gov.au/departments-and-agencies/the-cabinet-office/access-to-information/ministers-diary-disclosures>)

ETU membership

#	159
Question	(159) Have you ever been a member of the Electrical Trades Union (ETU)? (a) If yes, when?

Q.159: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.155.

ETU meetings

#	160
Question	(160) Given ministerial diary disclosures do not include all meetings and provide exceptions to disclosures, since 28 March 2023, have you met with the ETU?

Q.160: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.158.

Paper shredder

#	161
Question	(161) Does your ministerial office have a paper shredder?

Q.161: I am advised:

When the NSW Government was elected in 2023, shredders used by the former Liberal and National Government were left in Ministerial and Parliament offices.

Office equipment is purchased in line with NSW Government procurement rules.

Ministerial disclosures to The Cabinet Office

#	162
Question	(162) On what date did you last update/make a ministerial disclosure to The Cabinet Office?

Q.162: I am advised:

The Ministerial Code of Conduct (Ministerial Code) requires Ministers to make certain disclosures to the Premier and the Secretary of The Cabinet Office.

I comply with my obligations under the Ministerial Code.

Department(s)/Agency(s) in Portfolio

#	163
Question	(163) What department(s)/agency(s) are included in your portfolio?

Q.163: I am advised:

The Cabinet Office publishes a Governance Arrangements Chart containing information about Ministers, NSW Government agencies established under Schedule 1 to the Government Sector Employment Act 2013 and State Owned Corporations established under Schedule 5 to the State Owned Corporations Act 1989.

The Governance Arrangements Chart may be accessed via The Cabinet Office's website at <https://www.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/noindex/2024-08/20240807-Governance-Arrangements-Chart.pdf>.

The Government Sector Employment Act 2013, and Administrative Arrangements Orders made under Part 7 of the Constitution Act 1902, are available on the NSW Legislation website (www.legislation.nsw.gov.au).

Department(s)/Agency(s) Employees

#	164
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Question	(164) How many senior executive service employees were employed by each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities on: (a) 28 March 2023? (b) 1 July 2023? (c) 1 January 2024? (d) 1 July 2024?
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Q.164: I am advised:

The number of senior executives is publicly reported within Annual Reports.

#	165
Question	(165) How many public servants within your portfolio department(s)/agency(s) were paid more than the Premier in 2023-24?

Q.165: I am advised:

The remuneration of public service senior executives is published in the respective Department(s)/Agency(s) Annual Reports.

#	166
Question	(166) 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?

Q.166: I am advised:

Redundancies are published in the annual reports of agencies and departments under employee related expenses.

Former Ministerial Employees

#	167
Question	(167) Are there any former employee from your ministerial office now employed by any department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities? (a) If yes, how many?

Q.167: I am advised:

The employment of former Ministerial office staff is not tracked.

Under the Government Sector Employment Act 2013, the Secretary of a Department exercises the employer functions of the Government in relation to departmental employees. The Secretary is not subject to the direction or control of a Minister in the exercise of those functions. Similarly, the head of a Public Service agency exercises the employer functions of the Government in relation to non-Public Service senior executives of the agency. A head of a Public Service agency is not subject to the direction or control of a Minister in the exercise of those functions.

All NSW government sector employees must comply with the Code of Ethics and Conduct for NSW government sector employees. Employees must also have regard to their relevant agency's code of conduct.

Ministerial office staff must comply with their ethical obligations under the NSW Office Holder's Staff Code of Conduct, including after the cessation of the employment.

Department(s)/Agency(s) Annual Reports

#	168
Question	(168) In what month will the 2023-24 annual reports for each department / agency in your portfolio be published?

Q.168. I am advised:

The annual report of a reporting GSF agency is to be prepared, submitted and tabled in accordance with requirements under the Government Sector Finance Act 2018 and Treasurer's Direction 23-11.

#	169
Question	(169) 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?

Q.169: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.168.

State Records Act

#	170
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Question	(170) 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?
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Q.170: I am advised:

The Ministers' Office Handbook provides guidance in relation to these obligations to assist each Minister's office.

The Premier's Department and The Cabinet Office also provide guidance, advice, training and support on these obligations for all Ministers' offices.

I expect my office to comply with their obligations under the State Records Act 1998.

Consultants

#	171
Question	(171) 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?

Q.171: I am advised:

Consultancy expenditure, including details of consulting engagements over \$50,000, are included in the annual reports of agencies and departments in accordance with the NSW Treasury Policy and Guidelines TPG23-10 - Annual Reporting Requirements.

Legal Costs

#	172
Question	(172) 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?

Q.172: I am advised:

Legal costs are included in the Other Operating Expenses of an agency's financial statement and further categorised in the note to Other Operating Expenses in accordance with the guidance in TPG24-05 Policy and Guidelines: Financial Reporting Code for NSW General Government Sector Agencies.

Advertising

#	173
Question	(173) 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)

Q.173: I am advised:

Department and agency expenditure is published in Annual Reports and on OpenGov NSW and data.nsw.gov.au.

Catering

#	174
Question	(174) How much of your ministerial budget was spent on catering in 2023-24?

Q.174: I am advised:

Catering provided for official purposes may be funded from the Ministerial office budget.

Catering costs for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 will form part of the Premier's Department Agency Annual Report 2023-24.

As Members of Parliament, Ministers have credit facilities extended to them for dining and hospitality at Parliament House. The facilities may be used for business or private purposes.

#	175
Question	(175) Was catering used for external stakeholders? (a) If yes, who were these external stakeholders?

Q.175: I am advised:

Catering provided for official purposes may be funded from the Ministerial office budget. As Members of Parliament, Ministers have credit facilities extended to them for

dining and hospitality at Parliament House. The facilities may be used for business or private purposes.

#	176
Question	(176) Did any catering costs in 2023-24 include expenditure on alcohol?

Q.176: I am advised:

The NSW Office Holder's Staff Code of Conduct, which is Attachment B to the Ministers' Office Handbook, provides that all office holder staff must use State resources for the effective conduct of public business in a proper manner. Office holder staff must be economical and efficient in the use and management of public resources.

The Handbook can be found here:

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/noindex/2023-12/Ministers-Office-Handbook.pdf>

Gin

#	177
Question	(177) Since 28 March 2023, have you or your ministerial office purchased 'gin' using your ministerial budget?

Q.177: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.176.

Stationery

#	178
Question	(178) How much of your ministerial budget was spent on stationery in 2023-24?

Q.178: I am advised:

Spending on office stationery is in accordance with standard procurement arrangements. The costs of stationery are contained within the Premier's Department Annual Report.

#	179
Question	(179) 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)?

Q.179: I am advised:

The Ministers' Office Handbook outlines that the decision to present a gift is at the discretion of the Minister, having regard to both appropriateness and economy. Gifts may be appropriate, for example, where given as a memento of an official visit or as a small token of appreciation. However, gifts should not be given with the purpose, or in circumstances where they could be perceived as having the purpose, of inducing favourable treatment.

Gifts may be purchased as needed on an occasional basis or purchased and stored for future use. Gifts need to be purchased in accordance with NSW Government procurement policy.

Ministerial Vehicles and Driving Offences

#	180
Question	(180) Since 28 March 2023, have you personally driven your ministerial vehicle?

Q.180: I am advised:

Ministers, the Leader of the Opposition, other nominated public office holders, and certain former office holders are provided with official cars and drivers.

Office holders may drive themselves whenever they choose. Cars should be driven only by the office holder, officially employed drivers, the office holder's spouse or approved relative and any other person authorised by the office holder in those circumstances considered to be appropriate.

#	181
Question	(181) 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?

Q.181: I am advised:

Ministers, like all members of the community are subject to the laws of New South Wales, including Road Rules 2014.

Where a fine is incurred, the payment of the fine is the responsibility of the driver of the vehicle.

Speeches

#	182
Question	(182) Does your portfolio department(s) / agency(s) draft and write speeches for you?

Q.182: I am advised:

Department and agency staff may contribute to factual information for speaking notes as part of their duties in line with longstanding practices in place under successive governments.

#	183
Question	(183) How many public servants have undertaken writing speeches in your portfolio department(s) / agency(s)?

Q.183: I am advised:

Department and agency staff may contribute to factual information for speaking notes as part of their duties in line with longstanding practices in place under successive governments.

Ministerial Staff – Local Government Councillors

#	184
Question	(184) As at 30 June 2024, how many of your ministerial staff were local government councillors?

Q.184: I am advised:

Ministerial staff are employed by Ministers, on behalf of the State, in their capacity as "political office holders" under Part 2 of the Members of Parliament Staff Act 2013 (Act).

All Ministerial staff are required to comply with the NSW Office Holder's Staff Code of Conduct, including obligations to seek approval for secondary employment, and to take reasonable steps to avoid, and in all cases disclose, any actual or potential conflicts of interest (real or apparent).

#	185
Question	(185) What local government(s) did they serve?

Q.185: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.184.

Ministerial Advisers

#	186
Question	(186) How many staff members were employed in your ministerial office in 2023-24 FY?

Q.186: I am advised:

Ministerial Staffing numbers are proactively published on the NSW website -

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/departments-and-agencies/premiers-department/access-to-information/premier-and-ministers-staff-numbers>

#	187
Question	(187) What is the average salary for staff members in your ministerial office in 2023-24 FY?

Q.187: I am advised:

Ministerial Staffing information is proactively published on the NSW website -

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/departments-and-agencies/premiers-department/access-to-information/premier-and-ministers-staff-numbers>

Police Commissioner Gin

#	188
Question	(188) Have you received gin from the Police Commissioner?

Q.188: I am advised:

No.

Cabinet Sub Committees

#	189
Question	(189) What cabinet sub committees are you a member of?

Q.189: I am advised:

Details of individual Cabinet committee members and the work of Cabinet committees are not generally 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 (www.nsw.gov.au) and provides information on operation of Cabinet and committees in NSW.

E-Toll

#	190
Question	(190) Does your ministerial vehicle have an E-Toll? (a) If yes, is expenditure paid by your by your ministerial budget?

Q.190: I am advised:

Ministers, the Leader of the Opposition, other nominated public office holders, and certain former office holders are provided with official cars and drivers. All costs associated with these vehicles need to be paid from the relevant approved budget.

Costs for e-tolls form part of the Premier's Department Annual Report.

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

#	191
Question	(191) 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?

Q.191: I am advised:

The standards for publishing gifts and hospitality are outlined in the Public Service Commissioner's Direction No. 1 of 2022 – Managing Gifts and Benefits: Minimum Standards.

Workplace complaints

#	192
Question	(192) Have you been the subject of any workplace complaints, including bullying, harassment, and sexual harassment since 28 March 2023?

Q.192: I am advised:

Any complaint or disclosure made under the Respectful Workplace Policy is confidential. The Respectful Workplace Policy applies to all Ministerial Offices and staff. As noted in the Goward review, a key aspect of effective workplace complaint policies is confidentiality in the complaint and investigation process. Confidentiality ensures that staff feel safe about raising concerns and confident that action will be taken in response.

#	193
Question	(193) Has any member of your ministerial staff been the subject of any workplace complaints, including bullying, harassment, and sexual harassment since 28 March 2023?

Q.193: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer for Q.192.

Ministerial staff disclosure of gifts and/or hospitality

#	194
Question	(194) Does your ministerial office keep a register of gifts and/or hospitality for staff to make disclosures?

Q.194: I am advised:

All Ministerial staff are required to comply with the Gifts, Hospitality and Benefits Policy for Office Holder Staff attached to the Ministers' Office Handbook and available on the NSW Government website.

#	195
Question	(195) 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?

Q.195. I am advised:

All Ministerial staff are required to comply with their disclosure obligations under the Gifts, Hospitality and Benefits Policy for Office Holder Staff and I expect them to do so.

A breach of the Policy may be a breach of the Office Holder's Staff Code of Conduct. The Policy includes disclosure obligations for Ministerial staff in respect of gifts, hospitality and benefits over \$150.

If a Ministerial staff member is required by their role to accompany their Office Holder at an event that the Office Holder is attending as the State's representative, or where the Office Holder has asked the staff member to attend, then attendance at that event would not constitute a gift or benefit for the purposes of the Policy.

Ministerial Code of Conduct

#	196
Question	(196) Since 28 March 2023, have you breached the Ministerial Code of Conduct? (a) If yes, what was the breach?

Q.196: I am advised:

All Ministers are expected to comply with their obligations under the NSW Ministerial Code of Conduct (Ministerial Code) at all times.

The Ministerial Code sets the ethical standards of behaviour required of Ministers and establishes practices and procedures to assist with compliance.

Among other matters, the Ministerial Code requires Ministers to:

- disclose their pecuniary interests and those of their immediate family members to the Premier
- seek rulings from the Premier if they wish to hold shares, directorships, other business interests or engage in secondary employment (known as 'prohibited interests')
- identify, avoid, disclose and manage conflicts of interest
- disclose gifts and hospitality with a market value over \$500.

A substantial breach of the Ministerial Code (including a knowing breach of any provision of the Schedule) may constitute corrupt conduct for the purposes of the Independent Commission Against Corruption Act 1988.

Credit Cards

#	197
Question	(197) 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?

Q.197: I am advised:

Ministers and Ministerial Staff are not eligible to receive Departmental credit cards except in the case of overseas travel. In cases of overseas travel short-term cards will be issued and returned at the completion of official travel together with a travel diary for fringe benefit tax purposes.

Where an NSW Government-issued credit card is provided the credit card must only be used for official overseas business trips and official business purposes, this includes for transport to/from the airport when departing/returning from the trip. NSW Government-issued credit cards for official business trips overseas will be held with government contract bankers and used within credit limits imposed. Credit cards are a useful means of expenditure control, but their use should never be for personal purposes.

Costs associated with overseas travel are published on the NSW Government website in line with M2015-05.

#	198
Question	(198) 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 breakdown 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) 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?

Q.198: I am advised:

The use and management of purchasing (credit) cards for official purposes is in accordance with standard procurement arrangements of the NSW Government.

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

#	199
Question	(199) Do you have a desk or office in your portfolio department(s)/agency(s) building(s)?

Q.199: I am advised:

I make use of an office in 52 Martin Place, NSW Parliament and my Electorate office.

When travelling, Ministers may make ad hoc arrangements to work for periods in Departmental offices.

Senior Executive Drivers

#	200
Question	(200) How many senior executives in your portfolio department(s) / agency(s) have a driver?

Q.200: I am advised:

No senior executive employed within departments or agencies reporting to me has a driver.

Mobile phones

#	201
Question	(201) How many mobile phones has your ministerial office been allocated as at 1 July 2024?

Q.201: I am advised:

Ministers' Staff Acceptable Use of Communication Devices Policy provides guidance on the use, loss, theft, and return of communication devices provided for business purposes.

Minister's staff may use mobile telephones for business and (reasonable use) private purposes.

Under the current mobile plans all local and Australia-wide calls to land lines/mobiles and texts are included in the plan. Premium service calls, international calls and global roaming services are outside of the plan and may be still chargeable based on the principles below.

Ministers' staff mobile phone charges are paid from the Ministers' office budget except for the items listed below, which need to be paid as a private expense:

- Personal international calls from within Australia
- Personal travel related global roaming charges
- Personal premium number service calls

Any personal calls which are outside the plan need to be declared and paid for monthly. Declarations are not required otherwise.

The purchasing of technology items is in accordance with standard procurement arrangements.

The costs form part of the Premier's Department Annual report.

#	202
Question	(202) How many mobile phones in your ministerial office have been lost or stolen since 28 March 2023?

Q.202: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.201.

Efficiency dividends

#	203
Question	(203) 201. 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?

Q.203: I am advised:

The budget papers include detailed information on budgeted expenses, revenue and capital expenditure. This includes detailed financial statements for individual agencies as well as for government as a whole. The budget papers also outline the financial

impact of measures in the budget on individual portfolios as well as for government as a whole.

GIPA Applications / Standing Order 52 – Ministerial Office

#	204
Question	(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?

Q.204: I am advised:

The Cabinet Office provides training for Ministerial staff on their obligations under the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA Act) and the requirements for responding to orders for papers under Standing Order 52 of the Legislative Council.

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

Q.205: I am advised:

Information concerning the obligations of a Minister's office as an agency under the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (the Act) is required to be submitted to the Attorney General in accordance with section 125(2) of the Act.

The information is included in the annual report of the Department of Communities and Justice in accordance with sections 125(3) and (5) of the Act.

Land audit – Department(s)/Agency(s)

#	206
Question	(206) 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?
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Q.206: I am advised:

The NSW Government has been conducting an audit of government land to identify surplus sites that are suitable for social, affordable or market housing.

The locations of an initial set of 44 sites identified by the audit will be made public over the coming weeks and months as they are transferred to housing delivery agencies or brought to market.

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

#	207
Question	(207) 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)?

Q.207: I am advised:

The Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 provides that agencies are not subject to the direction or control of any Minister in the exercise of the agency's functions in dealing with a particular access application under the Act (subsection 9(2)). The Act also contains offences prohibiting agency officers from acting unlawfully, and prohibiting persons from directing agencies to make an unlawful decision in relation to an access application (sections 116 and 117 of the Act).

It is, however, generally appropriate for agencies to inform the responsible Minister where documents are to be released under the Act, for the Minister's information.

Department(s)/Agency(s) Travel

#	208
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Question	(208) 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?
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Q.208: I am advised:

The NSW Government Travel and Transport Policy provides a framework for NSW Government travelling employees and covers official air and land travel by public officials using public money.

Section 2.1 of that Policy sets out approvals required in relation to overseas travel.

Further information in relation to the Policy can be found here:

<https://www.info.buy.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policies/travel-and-transport-policy>

NSW Treasury Policy and Guidelines – Annual Reporting Requirements (TPG-10) requires agencies to include information on overseas visits by officers and employees in agency annual reports. Information for the period prior to 30 June 2023 is available in agencies' 2022-23 annual reports. Information for the period between 1 July 2023 and 30 June 2024 will be available in agencies' 2023-24 annual reports.

#	209
Question	(209) Since 28 March 2023, how much has been spent on charter air flights by your portfolio agencies, broken down by agency?

Q.209: I am advised:

Charter air flights are contained within the travel costs category in the Other Operating Expenses note of the audited financial statements within the Department / Agency's Annual Report. This is in accordance with the Treasury Direction TD23-11 Annual reporting requirements.

#	210
Question	(210) 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?

Q.210: I am advised:

Domestic travel is contained within the travel costs category in the Other Operating Expenses note of the audited financial statements within the Department / Agency's Annual Report. This is in accordance with the Treasury Direction TD23-11 Annual reporting requirements.

Official travel is taken in accordance with the NSW government travel policy.

#	211
Question	(211) 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?

Q.211: I am advised:

The NSW Government Travel and Transport Policy provides a framework for all NSW Government travelling employees and covers all official air and land travel by public officials using public money. Further information in relation to the Policy can be found here: <https://www.info.buy.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policies/travel-and-transport-policy>

#	212
Question	(212) 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?

Q.212: I am advised:

The items are contained within the travel costs category in the Other Operating Expenses note of the audited financial statements within the Department / Agency's Annual Report.

This is in accordance with the Treasury Direction TD23-11 Annual reporting requirements.

TikTok

#	213
Question	(213) Are you on TikTok? (a) If yes, do you access TikTok from a NSW Government device?

Q.213: I am advised:

The Circular DCS-2023-01 Cyber Security NSW Directive - Protecting NSW Government information on government-issued devices sets out how NSW Government agencies are to manage the risk of using TikTok.

More information is available at:

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/public%3A/2023-05/TikTok%20Ban%20-%20Frequently%20Asked%20Questions%20%282%29.pdf>
[k%20Ban%20-%20Frequently%20Asked%20Questions%20%282%29.pdf](https://www.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/public%3A/2023-05/TikTok%20Ban%20-%20Frequently%20Asked%20Questions%20%282%29.pdf)

Signal

#	214
Question	(214) Are you on Signal? (a) If yes, do you access Signal from a NSW Government device?

Q.214: I am advised:

Like the former Coalition Government, a range of communications are used by the NSW Government.

I comply with the State Records Act 1998 and I expect all staff members to comply with their obligations under the State Records Act 1998.

Training

#	215
Question	(215) 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) If yes, what is the description of training? (b) If yes, how much?

Q.215: I am advised:

Ministers have undertaken a program of Ministerial induction training.

Ministers have undertaken Respectful Workplace Policy Training.

Members of Parliament are provided with a Skills Development Allowance that may be used in a manner consistent with the Parliamentary Remuneration Tribunal Annual Determination.

Cabinet documents

#	216
Question	(216) Since 28 March 2023, have you shared Cabinet documents with your Parliamentary Secretary?

Q.216: I am advised:

The conventions and practice for access to Cabinet documents are outlined in Premier's Memorandum M2006-08 - Maintaining Confidentiality of Cabinet Documents and Other Cabinet Conventions (M2006-8).

M2006-08 provides that the unauthorised and/or premature disclosure of Cabinet documents undermines collective ministerial responsibility and the convention of Cabinet confidentiality. It is essential that the confidentiality of Cabinet documents is maintained to enable full and frank discussions to be had prior to Cabinet making decisions.

Parliamentary Secretary

#	217
Question	(217) Does your Parliamentary Secretary have pass access to your ministerial office?

Q.217: I am advised:

Security passes for the parliamentary precinct and 52 Martin Place are required to be issued in accordance with the Parliament House Security Pass Policy and 52 Martin Place security procedures and the associated Privacy and Surveillance Statement.

#	218
Question	(218) Does your Parliamentary Secretary have a desk in your ministerial office?

Q.218: I am advised:

No.

Website usage

#	219
Question	(219) What were the top 20 most utilised (by data sent and received) unique domain names accessed by your ministerial office since 28 March 2023?

Q.219: I am advised:

All acceptable use of IT services must be lawful, appropriate, and ethical.

The Ministers' Staff Acceptable Use of Network Services Policy is available in the Ministers' Office Handbook.

#	220
Question	(220) What were the top 20 most accessed (by number of times accessed) unique domain names accessed by your ministerial office since 28 March 2023?

Q.220: I am advised:

All acceptable use of IT services must be lawful, appropriate, and ethical.

The Ministers' Staff Acceptable Use of Network Services Policy is available in the Ministers' Office Handbook.

Ministerial visits

#	221
Question	(221) 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)?

Q.221: I am advised:

Ministers' diary disclosures are publicly available.

Premier's and Ministers' domestic travel information is published on the Premier's Department's website at: <https://www.nsw.gov.au/departments-and-agencies/premiers-department/access-to-information/premier-and-ministers-domestic-travel>

Hard hats and/or vests

#	222
Question	(222) Do you have a hard hat and/or vest for visiting infrastructure sites? (a) If yes, was it paid from your ministerial budget?

Q.222: I am advised:

Ministers are to comply with the appropriate use of personal protective equipment as per Work Health and Safety Regulation 2017.

The NSW Office Holder's Staff Code of Conduct, which is Attachment B to the Ministers' Office Handbook, provides that all office holder staff must use State resources for the effective conduct of public business in a proper manner. Office holder staff must be economical and efficient in the use and management of public resources. State resources are not to be subject to wasteful or extravagant use.

Camera, video recorder and microphones

#	223
Question	(223) 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?

Q.223: I am advised:

Ministers' Staff Acceptable Use of Communication Devices Policy provides guidance on the use, loss, theft, and return of communication devices provided for business purposes.

The purchasing of technology items is in accordance with standard procurement arrangements.

The costs form part of the Premier's Department Annual Report.

Media releases and statements

#	224
Question	(224) 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?

Q.224: I am advised:

The Department of Customer Service (DCS) is responsible for managing www.nsw.gov.au/media-releases and the publication of media releases.

Questions from Hon Tania Mihailuk MLC

Sport

Women and Girls in Sport

#	225
Question	(225) Why does the NSW Government defer to the Australian Human Rights Commission's Guidelines for the Inclusion of Transgender and Gender Diverse People in Sport instead of adhering to the clear exemptions provided under both the NSW Anti-Discrimination Act 1977 and the Commonwealth Sex Discrimination Act 1984? (a) How does the NSW Government justify this approach when, by deferring to them, it effectively undermines the protections and exemptions these laws afford to female athletes?

Q.225: I am advised:

Sports codes are best placed to develop guidelines for the eligibility of competitors in their sports and to decide how participants are supported and matched in competitions so that it is a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone.

The inclusion of transgender and gender diverse people in sport needs to be dealt with sensitively, and the NSW Government does not prescribe arrangements regarding gender or comment on individual cases. The Australian Sports Commission and the Australian Human Rights Commission, in co-operation with the Coalition of Major Professional and Participation Sports, released National Guidelines for the Inclusion of Transgender and Gender Diverse People in Sport.

The Guidelines are designed to assist sporting organisations at all levels to offer opportunities for gender diverse people to participate in sport.

#	226
Question	(226) Given that the NSW Anti-Discrimination Act 1977 explicitly allows for the exclusion of transgender individuals from sex-specific sporting categories, what is the NSW Government's response to concerns that the inclusion of male athletes in female sports is creating unfair competition, compromising safety, and disadvantaging women and girls? (a) What specific measures is the NSW Government taking to restore safety, fairness, and the integrity of female sporting categories?

Q.226: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.225.

#	227
Question	(227) Current NSW Government policy of allowing males to self-identify into female sporting categories effectively entrenches discrimination against women and girls, unlawfully disadvantaging them in sports. Does the NSW Government intend to continue sanctioning this practice of unlawful sex-based discrimination, or will it take steps to uphold the existing exemptions under the NSW Anti-Discrimination Act 1977 that are designed to protect the integrity and safety of female sports?

Q.227: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.225.

#	228
Question	(228) Women and girls in NSW have reported injuries, privacy violations, religious concerns, safety risks, and psychological harm resulting from the inclusion of males who self-identify as female in female sports competitions. This has led to issues of lack of consent, unfairness, forced silence, and ultimately, the displacement and exclusion of women and girls from their own sporting categories. How does the NSW Government reconcile these significant risks with its duty to protect female athletes? (a) Why does the NSW Government continue to support policies that effectively lead to increased harm, despite the legal exemptions available under NSW and Commonwealth laws?

Q.228: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.225.

#	229
Question	(229) If sports codes are best placed to develop guidelines for inclusion, how does the NSW Government ensure these codes are aligning their policies with the NSW and Commonwealth legal frameworks, which prioritise fairness and safety over inclusion? (a) What accountability measures are in place to prevent sports organisations from implementing guidelines that effectively contravene NSW and Commonwealth laws, thereby putting female athletes at a disadvantage and in harm's way?

Q.229: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.225.

#	230
Question	(230) Does the NSW Government intend to conduct a public consultation or similar assessment to determine the impact of allowing males to compete in female sports categories?

	(a) If not, why has the NSW Government not sought specific input from female athletes and coaches, especially given the significant concerns regarding fairness and safety?
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Q.230: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.225.

#	231
Question	(231) Given the potential impact of the Equality Legislation Amendment (LGBTIQA+) Bill 2023 on the current sporting exemptions in the NSW Anti-Discrimination Act 1977, have you and the Office of Sport sought legal advice regarding the ramifications of Schedule 1 of the bill particularly with respect to women and girls?

Q.231: I am advised:

The responsibility for the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1977* (NSW) is held by the Attorney General.

This question should be directed to the Attorney General.

#	232
Question	(232) If the proposed changes in Schedule 1 of the Equality Legislation Amendment (LGBTIQA+) Bill 2023 to the sporting exemptions in the NSW Anti-Discrimination Act 1977 proceed through the Parliament, the result would be a significant erosion of protections for female athletes, making it extremely difficult for sporting organisations to maintain the integrity of the female sports category. As the Minister for Sport, have you, or do you intend to recommend that the NSW Government support Schedule 1 of the bill?

Q.232: I am advised:

Please refer to the answer to Q.231.

Questions from Dr Amanda Cohn MLC

Sport

Level the Playing Field

#	233
Question	(233) Why was the decision taken to discontinue funding for the oversubscribed Level the Playing Field program?

Q.233: I am advised:

Funding for the Level the Playing Field grant program was only for the 2023/24 financial year only.

#	234
Question	(234) What program with shared objectives has been funded in its place?

Q.234: I am advised:

Increased participation of women and girls in sport and recreation is a key objective of grant programs administered by the Office of Sport and forms a part of the criteria on which grant applications are assessed.

Applications are assessed on how projects will contribute to an increase in participation for women and girls either through reducing barriers, enhancing or delivering specific sport participation outcomes or, in the case of infrastructure projects, incorporating best practise design principles.

In addition, the Organisation Support Program also focuses on a commitment by State Sporting Organisations to progress towards and achieve gender equity in board governance.

#	235
Question	(235) What, if any, programs exist and are funded to improve infrastructure for the intended audience of Level the Playing Field.

Q.235: I am advised:

Grant Programs are published on the Office of Sport website and the NSW Government Grants and Funding website when they become available.

#	236
Question	(236) With “no funding allocation to continue the Level the Playing Field grant program this financial year,” does this comment apply to all parts of the Level the Playing Field program?

Q.236: I am advised:

Level the Playing Field Program was a 2023/24 infrastructure grant program.

Organisation Support Program

#	237
Question	(237) What are the criteria and accountabilities of the Organisation Support Program relating to women’s representation?

Q.237: I am advised:

Growth in female membership and movement toward or achievement of gender equity in Governance over the last 3 years has been used in the categorisation of recognised State Sporting Organisations (SSO/SSOD) as a determinant of funding levels under Organisation Support Program (OSP).

All funded SSOs/SSODs are required to declare a commitment to work towards achieving National Gender Equity in Sports Governance Policy targets and SSO/SSOD categorised at the highest levels of funding through Organisation Support Program (OSP) will be required to include a participation plan to increase gender equity in their sport.