

Special Minister of State, Roads, Arts, Music and the Night-time Economy, Jobs and Tourism

**Hearing Date: 6 September 2024
Supplementary Questions**

Question no: 1

(1) Can Government explain why, if the original continuance was for six months only, as reported in Sydney Morning Herald of 24 Jan 2024, (<https://www.smh.com.au/culture/art-and-design/leadership-shake-up-at-the-opera-house-as-first-indigenous-chair-appointed-20240123-p5ezf2.html>), the Minister claimed in his response that the original statement about continuance of Mr Collins as President of the Board of the Museum of Applied Arts and Science was for twelve months, not six months, from January 1, 2024?

Answer:

I am advised

The Hon Peter Collins AM KC's term was initially from 1 January 2024 to 30 June 2024 and was extended from 1 July 2024 to 31 December 2024.

Question no: 2

(2) Can Government explain why, if the original continuance was for six months only, it was subsequently altered to twelve months?
(a) Upon what grounds?

Answer:

I am advised

Peter Collins AM KC's term was extended by six months to the end of the year. There will be a new chair of the Trust after the expiry of the term on 31 December 2024, still to be selected. Peter Collins AM KC is a former arts Minister, and a former leader of a parliamentary party in New South Wales with the expertise to provide the advice needed.

Question no: 3

(3) The Minister underlined that he continued to rely upon the advice of Mr Collins and would do so in future when Mr Collins stands down as President of the Museum Board. Can the Minister outline what areas of advice he has consulted Mr Collins about and if that included demolishing approximately 76% of the architectural adaptive reuse interventions designed by the architect of record Lionel Glendenning for the 1988 Wran era museum project?

Answer:

I am advised

Mr. Collins provides advice to the Minister about the strategic direction and operations of the Museum in his capacity as Trust President. Advice to the Minister on construction is provided by Infrastructure NSW and their engineers, architects and other subject-matter experts.

Question no: 4

(4) If advice was received by the Minister, what precisely was that advice and what advice was provided in regards to the partial demolition of the Wran Building and the Galleria?

Answer:

I am advised

Infrastructure NSW undertook several engineering studies of the various elements of the museum, including building fabric and systems, to inform the scheme exhibited in the State Significant Development Application.

Question no: 5

(5) Is this the 'Tabula Erasa' approach promulgated by the CEO Ms Havilah and repeated by Mr Collins and why is that acceptable to the Minister when he has claimed Government will restore and revitalise the 1988 Wran-era Museum in Ultimo not create a 'Tabula Erasa'?

Answer:

I am advised

The Wran building is being retained and revitalised. It addresses community and stakeholder feedback that has been documented through the development of the project. The design scheme is in line with NSW Government policy, the recent heritage listing, investment levels and announcements.

Question no: 6

(6) The Minister again undertook to release relevant documentation relating to the Ultimo project. Can the Minister itemise what documents he intends to release: including the architectural brief underpinning the project as described in the Environmental Impact Statement; and the engineering analysis of the condition of the Powerhouse Museum roofs, gutters and maintenance deficiencies?

Answer:

I am advised

The NSW Government has committed to revitalising the Museum and unveiled the revised concept design for the \$300 million heritage revitalisation of the Museum on 4 December 2023. The scheme addresses community and stakeholder feedback that has been documented through the development of the project and is in line with Government policy, investment levels and announcements regarding the heritage revitalisation of the museum. The architectural brief is the design competition brief, and that design scheme is not proceeding. A procurement process is currently underway for construction. See attachment one.

Question no: 7

(7) Has the Minister taken advice from Mr Collins as President of the Museum in respect of the almost universal public opposition to the proposed Ultimo plans as outlined in the Environmental Impact Statement and in the Public Petition denouncing these plans and, if so, what was the nature of that advice?

Answer:

I am advised

Mr. Collins provides advice to the Minister about the strategic direction and operations of the Museum in his capacity as Trust President. Advice to the Minister on the Environmental Impact Statement and planning process is provided by Infrastructure NSW and their planners.

Question no: 8

(8) Has the Minister taken advice from Mr Collins as President of the Museum in respect of the Business Case justifying the cost of the Ultimo project and, if so, what was that advice?

Answer:

I am advised

The Minister takes advice from a range of stakeholders including Mr. Collins as President of the Trust.

Question no: 9

(9) Has the Minister taken advice from Mr Collins as President of the Museum in respect of the staffing of the Museum, the performance and veracity of the CEO and senior staff, the expenditures of the Consolidated Revenue in Financial years 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 and what was the nature of that advice?

Answer:

I am advised

The Minister takes advice from a range of stakeholders including Mr. Collins as President of the Trust.

Question no: 10

(10) Has the Minister taken advice from Mr Collins as President of the Museum in respect of documents relating to all aspects of the Ultimo project which describe future temporary exhibitions, public programming, permanent exhibition plans and market research, what was the nature of that advice?

Answer:

I am advised

The Minister takes advice from a range of stakeholders including Mr. Collins as President of the Trust.

Question no: 11

(11) Has the Minister taken advice from Mr Collins as President of the Museum in respect of articles by Ms Linda Morris in the Sydney Morning Herald in 2023 and 2024, and by Ms Kelly Burke in the Guardian in 2023 and 2024, relating to any and all aspects of the Ultimo project including those which describe damage to the collections, allegations of misleading conduct by senior staff and others, GIPA enquiries, inappropriate expenditures, misleading responses to questions in Parliament, etc., and if so, what was the nature of that advice?

Answer:

I am advised

The Minister takes advice from a range of stakeholders including Mr. Collins as President of the Trust.

Question no: 12

(12) Ms Havilah, CEO of the Museum, noted in reply to the question concerning changes to exhibition display space in Ultimo that in her term as CEO there had been no 'significant' changes in exhibition space at Ultimo- yet in an article in the Sydney Morning Herald (10- 5- 2023) she was quoted as saying, "When finished the new development would dramatically increase the size and quality of museum exhibition space and improve visitor experiences. The current Ultimo exhibition space of 15,318 square metres was not fit for purpose and did not have the ability to secure international exhibitions", while on 6 September at Budget Estimates in answering a question about the exhibition spaces in the 'revitalised' Ultimo project she said that 'current' exhibit display spaces were 6,800 square metres and this would be increased to 7,500 square metres- given that these statements are contradictory and that somehow, according to Ms Havilah, the 'current' display spaces were 15,318 in May 2023 and only 6,800 in February 2024, how does

Government explain her statement that there had been no 'significant' changes in exhibition space in her term as CEO?

Answer:

I am advised

The square metres quoted in the article published by the Sydney Morning Herald on May 10, 2023, as exhibition space is incorrect. The figure of 15,318 sqm includes circulation, public space and exhibition space.

Question no: 13

(13) In the same article in the Sydney Morning Herald (10- 5- 2023) Ms Havilah was quoted as saying: "The current Ultimo exhibition space of 15,318 square metres... did not have the ability to secure international exhibitions" yet there have been dozens of International Exhibitions displayed at The Powerhouse Museum between 1988 and 2019, how does Government explain this apparent ignorance of the core exhibition history of the Museum and where are the engineering studies demonstrating Ms Havilah's statement to be correct?

Answer:

I am advised

Powerhouse has presented international exhibitions in the past. The drivers for the Ultimo heritage revitalisation project are multiple and includes aging infrastructure, the condition of exhibition spaces, and the escalating cost of reactive maintenance to preserve building fabric and ensuring the safety of visitors and the Powerhouse Collection. The new and revitalised exhibition spaces will be unencumbered by low ceiling heights and structural intrusions, provide for more legible circulation, and the appropriate environmental controls required for operating a world-class contemporary museum.

Question no: 14

(14) Is this another example of the 'Tabula Erasa' approach promulgated by the CEO Ms Havilah and repeated by Mr Collins and why is that acceptable to the Minister when he has been relying on the Museum for accurate managerial advice, most notably to himself as Minister and to the Parliament of NSW?

Answer:

I am advised

No. The revitalisation of the museum will deliver a dynamic applied arts and applied sciences program, presenting exhibitions that showcase the Powerhouse Collection, attract international exhibition and programs that support the visitor economy and create an activated cultural precinct.

Question no: 15

(15) Ms Havilah, CEO of the Museum, noted in reply to the question concerning changes to objects on display in Ultimo that all objects needed 'resting' and should not be on display for periods as long as forty years, yet many great science and technology museums such as in London, Chicago, Washington and York, England, have had large, robust, properly maintained objects safely displayed in appropriate climatic and security conditions for many decades more than this. On what grounds does the CEO maintain she is correct and the great relevant International Museums are failing in their custodial and conservation duty?

Answer:

I am advised

Many of the objects at Powerhouse Ultimo have been on display since 1988. The revitalisation provides the opportunity to undertake conservation of these objects for future exhibition alongside other Powerhouse Collection objects which have never been exhibited.

Question no: 16

(16) Alternatively, is Ms Havilah the Museum CEO inadvertently acknowledging that, during her term, she has permitted circumstances to develop and take place which have materially threatened the safety, well-being and security of such objects as the Bleriot and Catalina within the museum in Ultimo? I
(a) If not on what basis?

Answer:

I am advised

No. There has been no damage or change in condition to the Catalina or Bleriot.

Question no: 17

(17) Ms Havilah, CEO of the Museum, noted in reply to the question concerning future exhibitions in the 'revitalised' museum, that there were no existing plans for such exhibitions in the Ultimo project except the return of three key objects/groups of objects: the Catalina, Number 1 Locomotive and Train and the Boulton and Watt Beam Engine- so does the CEO acknowledge this will be a massive reduction in permanently displayed objects from the museum's collection exceeding a loss of 98% compared with the 1988 Wran era Ultimo museum and can the CEO confirm the Number 1 Locomotive will also include the tender and three carriages which make up the train?

Answer:

I am advised

Upon reopening, the revitalised Powerhouse Museum in Ultimo will exhibit many objects from across its applied arts and sciences collection. The commitment to continue exhibiting Locomotive No.1 (including carriages), the Boulton & Watt and the Catalina at the revitalised museum has been misunderstood to mean only three objects. This is incorrect.

Question no: 18

(18) Ms Havilah, CEO of the Museum, noted in reply to the question concerning future exhibitions in the 'revitalised' museum, that there would be a continuing turnover of exhibits and objects several times a year- does this indicate that such an expensive, unsustainable practice will be supported by a significantly enhanced operating budget in Consolidated Revenue receipts or, along with the President and Board, does the CEO maintain in the Business Case justifying the capital expenditure of \$354 million + GST etc., that enhanced net income will cover such costs and will the '3,000' objects Ms Havilah referred to as being displayed mainly be small objects?

Answer:

I am advised

No. Objects of varying sizes across the applied arts and applied sciences will be exhibited and exhibitions will be presented over multiple years.

Question no: 19

(19) What are these continuing annual exhibition costs?
(a) How have they been arrived at and

(b) What/how has Treasury responded to Business Case forecasts?

Answer:

I am advised

Costs will be finalised once future programming is determined.

(a) See answer to Question 19(b)

(b) Funding for the museum is determined through the NSW Government budget process.

Question no: 20

(20) In Budget Estimate Questions Mr Brand, CEO of the Art Gallery of NSW, answered questions regarding the \$9million savings required in this financial year, the loss of positions, other savings and of cuts to operations. How can Government justify these reductions when the Powerhouse Museum is undergoing a massive increase in Consolidated Revenue payments?

Answer:

I am advised

The Government is committed to providing funding support to government agencies in line with government priorities. In addition to the revenues generated from activities, the State's cultural institutions also receive sufficient Government contributions to deliver on their strategies.

Question no: 21

(21) If the premier Art Gallery in NSW has significantly failed to meet agreed financial targets in the Sydney Modern Business Case, how can Government have confidence in the Business Case of the Parramatta Powerhouse project and the Ultimo museum 'revitalisation'?

Answer:

I am advised

NSW Submission of Business Cases (TPG22-04) and the NSW Government Business Case Guidelines (TPP18-06) set out mandatory requirements, recommendations and guidance for NSW General Government Sector agencies and other government entities developing investment proposals. Developing robust business cases ensures resource allocation decisions are well timed, offer value for money, consider and mitigate risks and are consistent with Government priorities and objectives.

Question no: 22

(22) Ms Havilah, CEO of the Museum, noted in reply to the question concerning the 'decanting' and 'dismantling' of the Catalina that the cost to do this and transport the object in a number of pieces to HARS aero museum in Albion Park Rail was in the region of '\$260,000' and that it would be approximately the same to return it and reassemble it in the 'revitalised' museum in Ultimo in the future. Does this costing include the reassembly in HARS, the conservation reporting and works, the future maintenance and any payment to HARS, the planned cost for retrieval and reassembly with further conservation works, etc., and, if so, can Government supply relevant expert documentation/plans demonstrating this?

Answer:

I am advised

The total cost to relocate the Catalina to HARS is \$285,250. Powerhouse will pay HARS \$323,500 over three years to exhibit the Catalina. \$90,000 of the costs are apportioned to specialist engineering, conservation services and equipment to assist with the

disassembly, transport, and reassembly of the Catalina. \$233,500 is apportioned as a contribution to operational and security costs for the 3-year exhibition period. A copy of the conservation plan for the Catalina while on loan to HARS is available on the Powerhouse website.

Question no: 23

(23) Ms Havilah, CEO of the Museum, noted in reply to the question concerning the Consolidated Revenue Budget for 2024-2025 that two capital items, one for solar power at Castle Hill and the other for Sydney Observatory's heritage restoration, were included in the total. Why was the capital allocation for solar power not included in the original Business Case for Castle Hill? and

(a) What will that capital cost be;

(b) What is the capital cost for the Sydney Observatory?

(c) What works will be required, where is the Conservation Management Plan for Australia's premier heritage astronomical site? and

(d) How is this justified in the relevant Business Case?

Answer:**I am advised**

(a) Solar panels are being installed to reduce ongoing operating costs. The project was not part of the Building J expansion, and the total cost is \$ 1.6 million.

(b) The Government provided a \$1.2 million uplift in Capital Works funding in 2024-25 for essential heritage maintenance works at Sydney Observatory. The existing Conservation Management Plan for the site is being updated to include a detailed fabric analysis and First Nations history of the site.

(c) Works include roofing repairs, stonework maintenance, internal conservation works, and a detailed fabric analysis.

(d) Funding was provided through the NSW Budget process.

Question no: 24

(24) Now that most of the very large objects, excluding the 1785 Boulton and Watt Beam Engine have been removed from the Ultimo Powerhouse Museum, what are the total costs of that specific 'decanting programme' to remove and maintain the very large objects to date, including the dismantled Catalina Flying Boat 'Frigate Bird II' and including all associated payments to contractors?

(a) What are the budgeted costs to remove and maintain any remaining very large objects, including all associated costs to contractors?

Answer:**I am advised**

Costs include documentation, conservation, digitisation, specialist rigging, logistics transport and staffing. Final costs will be known when the project is completed.

Question no: 25

(25) Is the Minister aware that the spending and planning priorities of the Powerhouse Ultimo 'revitalisation' have been so mismanaged that the 1785 Boulton & Watt steam beam engine, arguably the most significant and valuable technological artefact in Australia and of world heritage significance, is now under unacceptable risk of damage whether it is left in situ in the Museum, soon to be surrounded by demolition work, or dismantled and removed to an off-site location for essential and overdue maintenance?

Answer:

I am advised

The revitalisation of the museum will deliver a dynamic applied arts and applied sciences program, presenting exhibitions that showcase the Powerhouse Collection, attract international exhibition and programs that support the visitor economy and create an activated cultural precinct.

The Powerhouse Museum has one of the world's most highly skilled teams who are experts in taking care of the Collection. This includes extensive experience in registration, conservation and logistics. These teams are augmented with industry specialists as required to complete the movement of objects from Ultimo to Castle Hill.

The Powerhouse has developed individual object plans for the large and complex objects. An ongoing risk assessment and risk mitigation program is integrated into these plans.

Question no: 26

(26) Ms Havilah, CEO of the Museum in answer to a question, stated that the Catalina had not been damaged but when asked if she would be concerned to know that the Catalina had been touched over 1000 times when displayed in the lowered position, she reluctantly said yes; when asked if the Catalina was being stored and displayed in conditions that met international museum standards, she avoided the question, but said that her 'incredible collection management team' had advised that they were happy with the conditions of display at HARS.

(a) Is it the case that the HARS storage and display hanger is subject to salt laden maritime environmental conditions, that the hangar is not climate controlled, that the Catalina has already been touched more than four thousand times (GIPA report to Ms Jennifer Sanders)?

(b) That access to the HARS airfield after hours does not meet international museum security arrangements?

(c) That the hangar will only now be subject to strict environmental condition reporting and analysis? and

(d) That the Taylor family vehemently opposes the plane's move and future circumstances?

Answer:

I am advised

(a) Powerhouse Collection staff have determined that the environmental conditions are appropriate for the Catalina to be on display.

(b) See answer to Question 26 (a).

(c) See answer to Question 26 (a).

(d) Since the September 2023 NSW Government announcement of the revitalisation of the Powerhouse Museum in Ultimo and its temporary closure from 4 February 2024, Powerhouse staff made many attempts to contact Ms. Gai Taylor to discuss the Catalina and brief her on the plans for the object over the next three years while the works are being undertaken. However, despite multiple attempts, contact with Ms. Taylor was not successful.

On 1 March 2024, Powerhouse Trust President, The Hon. Peter Collins AM KC, wrote to Ms. Gai Taylor advising of the Museum's plans to temporarily relocate the Catalina to the HARS Aviation Museum and inviting Ms. Taylor and the wider Taylor family to a meeting to discuss these plans. I am advised following this letter, senior Powerhouse staff made attempts to speak to Ms. Taylor by phone without success.

Question no: 27

(27) Is Government aware that such statements to museum experts, with decades of experience, is lacking in all credibility and would it not be appropriate to commission a public report from aero conservation experts and museologists as to the risks and

museological acceptability, or otherwise, of the Catalina's storage at the HARS aero museum?

Answer:

I am advised

Powerhouse has a long-standing relationship with HARS Aviation Museum based on synergies between collections and the preservation of historical aircraft. HARS showcases and exhibits a remarkable collection of meticulously restored vintage aircraft and are an important conservator of Australia's aviation history.

The Powerhouse Collection team includes museologists and conservation experts who worked closely with HARS on the relocation for exhibition. The process to dismantle the Catalina was informed by the methodology defined in the Catalina's original operating manual. The approach is consistent to what was undertaken in the 1980s but was enhanced by technological improvements for transporting large objects and engineered materials for supports and stillages.

Question no: 28

(28) Can the Minister confirm what fund raising has been achieved by the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences specifically in respect of the proposed exhibitions at Powerhouse Parramatta and Powerhouse Museum 'revitalisation' in Ultimo and supply the subjects, scale and outline content of these exhibits as planned?

Answer:

I am advised

\$60.7 million has been raised for Powerhouse Parramatta, and a portion of this is designated for exhibitions and programs. \$10.0 million has been secured towards Ultimo towards capital.

To protect intellectual property, competitive advantage and impact of the opening program for Powerhouse Parramatta, the content of the exhibitions will not be publicly announced until closer to the museum opening.

Question no: 29

(29) If the Minister is unable to provide such details is this because they do not exist, or because they are not nearly as advanced as is required by the proposed opening schedule for Parramatta Powerhouse? and (a) How can such plans be costed and delivered on schedule if they are insufficiently developed at this stage?

Answer:

I am advised

(a) Development of the exhibition program for Parramatta is progressing well and within budget.

Question no: 30

(30) In answer to a question the CEO Ms Havilah noted that the Museum was not starting to fit out the Parramatta project till the end of 2025 into 2026, and was now not opening till 2028. Is this the case and is there a risk of the Parramatta project not opening until 2029, nine years after the architectural design was selected?

Answer:

I am advised

No. Following practical completion, the museum requires a minimum of eight months for fit out and exhibition installation. Infrastructure NSW is targeting practical completion in late 2025.

Question no: 31

(31) If the opening is at that date, or in 2028, what impacts does this have on construction and fit out costs?
 (a) What are the projected increases in cost of the total project at the moment? (ii) Who is responsible for this project failure in project management and how and when will they be held accountable?

Answer:**I am advised**

The project has faced challenges including post COVID-19 related construction issues and record inclement weather since construction commenced in 2022. Contractors plan for contingency in their delivery program to account for typical inclement weather delays, however this does not cater for the continued unprecedented weather events experienced over the past 2.5 years. The project is expected to be completed within the allocated budget.

(a) See answer to Question 31.

Question no: 32

(32) In his answer to a question on necessary Consolidated Revenue savings in 2024-2025 of \$9 million, Mr Brand CEO of the Art Gallery of NSW, noted that the Sydney Modern project opened on time and on budget. Is it fair for this institution to be penalised for relatively minor operating deficiencies when the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences appears to be permitted almost carte blanche in this domain and, if that is the case, what is the justification for such a lack of equitable oversight?

Answer:**I am advised**

The Government is committed to providing funding support to government agencies in line with government priorities. In addition to the revenues generated from activities, the State's important cultural institutions also receive sufficient Government contributions to deliver on their strategies.

Question no: 33

(33) Does the NSW Government have an intention to review the NSW Road Rules in relation to allowing motorised wheelchairs to have unlimited weight limits for footpath use and scooters to have an unladen mass limit of 170kgs, in line with recommendations from Austroads, Standards Australia, the National Transport Commission and various disability representative organisations?

Answer:**I am advised**

(33) Under the NSW Road Rule 18(a), a person driving a motorised wheelchair that cannot travel at over 10km/h (on level ground) is categorised as a pedestrian. The term motorised wheelchair includes devices commonly called mobility scooters or gophers. Motorised wheelchairs that are speed limited are also exempt from registration or licensing requirements. Pedestrians are permitted to use footpaths and there is no weight limit in NSW for a motorised wheelchair that cannot travel at over 10km/h. There are no current plans to amend the regulation that governs motorised wheelchairs.

Question no: 34

(34) Have you engaged with any community-led organisations that carry out arts and music programs in relation to sustainable funding arrangements?

Answer:

I am advised

Create NSW, on behalf of the NSW Government, regularly engages with a range of community-led arts and cultural organisations to discuss sustainable funding models. This was a key focus of the state-wide consultation undertaken on the development of the Creative Communities policy, and a key consideration in the design of the Arts and Cultural Funding Program reform, and the development of the NSW Government's forthcoming Western Sydney arts, culture and creative industries plan and Screen Industry Strategy.

Question no: 35

(35) In relation to the delivery of the regional arts, culture and creative industries strategy, is this on track to be delivered in late 2024?

(a) a. Have community-led organisations been engaged and consulted with as part of this process?

Answer:

I am advised

The NSW Government will commence development of a regional NSW arts, culture and creative industries plan in 2024. Work is currently underway on a range of other plans and strategies including a Western Sydney creative industries plan, a NSW Screen and Digital Games Strategy, and the NSW Contemporary Music Strategy.

(a) Community-led organisations will be critical to the development of the regional arts, culture and creative industries plan. Sector consultation and engagement will inform the priorities of the plan, and a working group will be established to oversee its development.

Question no: 36

(36) Does the NSW Government have a timeline for the establishment of a First Nations cultural centre, a commitment in the Creative Communities strategy?

Answer:

I am advised

The First Nations Cultural Centre will be progressed over the course of the 10-year Creative Communities Policy. A timeline will be determined through consultation with the First Nations community.

Question no: 37

(37) Who will be leading work on establishing a First Nations cultural centre?

Answer:

I am advised

Create NSW will lead the work on the establishment of a First Nations Cultural Centre for government in partnership with First Nations stakeholders, Aboriginal Affairs NSW and Destination NSW.

Question no: 38

(38) Who has the NSW Government consulted with to date in relation to securing a new site for a First Nations cultural centre? (a) Has the NSW Government engaged with the First Nations leaders who were leading the previous plans for a First Nations cultural centre?

Answer:

I am advised

Formal community consultation has not yet commenced regarding a site for the First Nations Cultural Centre.

(a) The Aboriginal Cultural Space Taskforce, previously engaged to consider The Cutaway as a possible First Nations Cultural Centre, was disbanded. The work of the Taskforce has not been continued following the decision of the previous NSW Government to deliver a multi-purpose space at the Cutaway.

Question no: 39

(39) Previous plans for a First Nations cultural centre were to be community-led. Will the NSW Government commit to ensuring that the current plans for a First Nations cultural centre will be led by First Nations communities?

Answer:

I am advised

As per the Priority Reforms under the National Agreement on Closing the Gap, the NSW Government is committed to working with First Nations communities by strengthening formal partnerships and establishing models of shared decision making.

Question no: 40

(40) What strategies are in place to create meaningful employment opportunities and increase the percentage of people with disability employed in the sector?

Answer:

I am advised

The NSW Government is committed to ensuring a more inclusive and accessible environment for people with disability or who are d/Deaf. Recognising the importance of sustainable employment opportunities, Create NSW partners with Accessible Arts to deliver the Creatability Internship Program, and offers the Pathways Development Program to support career growth for creatives with disability within the screen industry. In addition, Create NSW supports a range of organisations that employ and/or provide professional development to artists and arts workers with disability. This includes Accessible Arts who support opportunities for people with disability or who are d/Deaf to develop and sustain professional careers in the arts and have equitable access to arts and culture across NSW. Create NSW has also supported a wide range of projects through its infrastructure grants that have enhanced the accessibility of arts and cultural venues in NSW, ensuring that facilities can be utilised by artists and arts workers with disability.

Question no: 41

(41) Has Create NSW published a current Disability Inclusion Action Plan?
(a) If not, when will this be published?

Answer:

I am advised

The Department of Creative Industries, Tourism, Hospitality and Sport is developing a Disability Inclusion Action Plan which will outline the Department's commitment to creating a safe, accessible, and inclusive workplace for people with disability, and specify the actions it will take over a four-year period to build disability awareness, uplift capability in inclusive practice, improve accessibility of systems and technology, and enhance employment outcomes for people with disability.

The plan will be implemented in 2025, in-line with whole-of-government timeframes under the NSW Disability Inclusion Plan.

(a) See answer to Question 41.

Question no: 42

(42) According to the previous 2016-18 DIAP of Arts NSW and Screen NSW, all Arts NSW and Screen NSW staff previously engaged in mandatory disability awareness training. Are all Create NSW staff required to undergo disability awareness training?

Answer:**I am advised**

See answer to Question 41.

Question no: 43

(43) When cultural institutions are undergoing capital works, what is the process for ensuring disability access is provided during these processes?

Answer:**I am advised**

There is a statutory requirement for public facilities to comply with the National Construction Code, including all the relevant Australian Standards, when undertaking new building work or alterations. An Accessibility Consultant will generally be engaged to confirm that all requirements have been met. A Certifier will provide the final sign-off of compliance when issuing the Occupation Certificate.

Question no: 44

(44) What opportunities are currently offered by Create NSW for creatives and artists with intellectual or cognitive disability?

Answer:**I am advised**

The NSW Government's arts, cultural and creative industries policy, Creative Communities, highlights the importance of supporting broad and inclusive communities and content, which includes artists and arts workers with disability or who are d/Deaf. This is reflected in the recently reformed Arts and Cultural Funding Program, which includes a funding category designed to support projects that are led by support specific community groups, or that target the underrepresented communities of NSW. In addition, Create NSW continues to deliver the Createability Internship Program to provide new opportunities for artists with a disability across the arts and cultural sector.

Question no: 45

(45) Will the Createability Internships be extended beyond the current tranche?

Answer:**I am advised**

The Createability Internship Program will continue to be delivered by Create NSW in partnership with Screen NSW, Sound NSW and Accessible Arts NSW.

Question no: 46

(46) Why did the NSW Government's Creative Communities strategy document not contain any details in relation to policy and strategy for disability accessibility and inclusion in the arts?

Answer:**I am advised**

Creative Communities outlines government's vision for an inclusive and accessible arts, cultural and creative sector that represents all communities of NSW. As the policy outlines, 'Creative Communities reaches across government and promises over time to touch as

many lives as possible and embrace the full diversity of NSW including underrepresented culturally and linguistically diverse people and those with disability'. Over the lifespan of the policy, the NSW Government will continue to strengthen support for d/Deaf and disabled artists, arts workers and audiences, and identify new opportunities to enhance accessibility and inclusion in the creative sector.

Question no: 47

(47) How much funding does Sydney Opera House receive from the NSW Government for the Access Program? (a) Does the NSW Government intend to encourage other cultural institutions to initiate similar programs in relation to accessible arts and cultural performances and programs?

Answer:**I am advised**

The NSW Government does not provide any direct investment into the Opera House's access program. However, the Opera House's endowment, which represents about 10% of annual operating revenue, supports its operations and activities. This includes access programs such as: regular collaborations with arts and community organisations to deliver dedicated workshops and events that cater to people with complex disability; accessible performances that are adapted to increase participation for people who are d/Deaf and/or disabled; and access projects to remove barriers for people who are d/Deaf and/or disabled to engage with the physical built environment, the digital online experience or the organisation's workforce.

(a) The Department of Creative Industries, Tourism, Hospitality and Sport is developing a Disability Inclusion Action Plan which will outline the Department's commitment to creating a safe, accessible, and inclusive workplace for people with disability, and specify the actions we will take over a four-year period to build disability awareness, uplift capability in inclusive practice, improve accessibility of systems and technology, and enhance employment outcomes for people with disability. The plan will be implemented in 2025, in-line with whole-of-government timeframes under the NSW Disability Inclusion Plan. Creative Communities, the NSW Government's 10-year Arts and Cultural Policy, acknowledges that government and sector leaders have a responsibility to advocate for the benefits of cultural participation, the arts, and creative industries. This includes grassroots and community activities and high-profile professional events. The Policy notes that not only is cultural engagement a recognised human right, but it is also something that people cherish, as participants and audiences.

Question no: 48

(48) How much funding did Accessible Arts NSW receive from the NSW Government, for the last five financial years?

Answer:**I am advised**

As at 18 September 2024, Create NSW provided a total of \$2,413,786 to Accessible Arts for the last five financial years.

Question no: 49

(49) Will the Power Up Festival become a regular feature on the inner west cultural calendar or is this just a one-off?

Answer:**I am advised**

Questions regarding the Power Up Festival are a matter for the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces.

Question no: 50

(50) What other opportunities will there be for local artists, musicians, creatives and cultural groups to have hands-on engagement with the White Bay Power Station in the future?

Answer:**I am advised**

See answer to Question 49.

Question no: 51

(51) Will any part of the White Bay Power Station be set aside for a regional inner west art gallery and studio space?

(a) If so, when?

Answer:**I am advised**

See answer to Question 49.

Question no: 52

(52) In December 2023 the Minister announced that Kirkbride would become a “permanent base for film production” and that more would be done to secure a “steady pipeline of production” at Callan Park. Has the Government sought any community feedback or consultation in relation to the impact of this?

Answer:**I am advised**

Questions regarding the operation, consultation on and maintenance of Kirkbride precincts are a matter for the Minister for Health.

Question no: 53

(53) What criteria are in place for production companies making use of the Kirkbride precinct to ensure the grounds and buildings are kept in good order?

Answer:**I am advised**

See answer to Question 52.

Question no: 54

(54) Are there any immediate plans for further filming or production projects to take place in Kirkbride?

Answer:**I am advised**

The Kirkbride Precinct is in regular short-term use for filming and screen production activities. A cross-government Working Group has been established between NSW Health, Create NSW and Property and Development NSW to support government’s commitment to making Callan Park available for filming on an ongoing basis. Questions regarding production projects confirmed for the site should be directed to the Minister for Health.

Question no: 55

(55) What assistance is the NSW Government providing to the local arts community to establish a regional gallery and studio space in the Inner West?

Answer:

I am advised

I am advised that Create NSW is not aware of any requests from the community relating to the establishment of a regional gallery and studio space in Sydney's Inner West. Create NSW is aware of the need for further creative production space in Sydney and the challenges of retaining such space. Create NSW is available to meet with stakeholders to discuss the matter.

Question no: 56

(56) Has the Government sought any community feedback or engaged in any consultation in relation to interest by local artists and arts collectives in establishing a regional gallery, or in relation to available gallery and exhibition space in the Inner West?

Answer:

I am advised

I am advised Create NSW is not aware of any requests from the community relating to the establishment of a regional gallery and studio space in the Inner West. Create NSW is available to meet with stakeholders to discuss the matter.

Question no: 57

(57) In December 2023 the Minister announced that Kirkbride would become a "permanent base for film production" and that more would be done to secure a "steady pipeline of production" at Callan Park. Community feedback suggests this use has had a considerable impact on the grounds at Callan Park, and the historic Kirkbride precinct in particular.

(a) When was the last time the Minister visited the Kirkbride precinct and what was the state of the place?

(b) What criteria are in place for production companies making use of the Kirkbride precinct to ensure the grounds and buildings are kept in good order?

(c) Are there any immediate plans for further filming or production projects to take place in Kirkbride?

Answer:

I am advised

(a) The Minister last visited the Kirkbride precinct in December 2023.

(b) See answer to Question 52.

(c) See answer to Question 54.

Question no: 58

(58) There is a dearth of available gallery and exhibition space available for artists in the inner west and there are a number of artists and arts collectives with an interest in establishing a regional gallery.

(a) What assistance is the NSW Government able to provide to the local arts community to establish a regional gallery and studio space in the inner west?

Answer:

I am advised

(a) See answers to Questions 55 and 56.

Question no: 59

(59) Provide a list of the 55 dedicated live music venues in the Sound NSW research which have extended trading as provided for venues under part 3A of the NSW Liquor Act?

Answer:

I am advised

The State of the Scene Report, commissioned by Sound NSW, found that there are 55 dedicated live music venues in NSW that deliver live music. As this was preliminary research and nominated venues have not been involved in their classification, the list of venues is not yet publicly available. The list of venues accessing incentives under part 3A of the NSW Liquor Act are available via: <https://www.liquorandgaming.nsw.gov.au/>

Question no: 60

(60) How many candidates were provided by Sound NSW on your list to the Minister for the potential candidates for the inaugural Board?

Answer:

I am advised

Sound NSW provided a longlist with 56 potential candidates from across the NSW contemporary music industry for consideration for inaugural appointees.

Question no: 61

(61) Can the list of potential candidates submitted by Sound NSW be provided to the committee?

Answer:

I am advised

This refers to personal information and to protect the privacy of the candidates, this list cannot be shared.

Question no: 62

(62) How many full-time working musicians were provided by Sound NSW on the list to the Minister for the potential candidates for the inaugural Board?

Answer:

I am advised

The names of 15 working musicians were provided for consideration for appointment to the inaugural Sound NSW Board.

Question no: 63

(63) How many working musicians were on the panel which provided advice for potential candidates for the inaugural Board?

Answer:

I am advised

The panel was an internal panel comprised of staff from Sound NSW and Create NSW and did not include working musicians.

Question no: 64

(64) How many Board members are from outside of Sydney?

Answer:

I am advised

One.

Question no: 65

(65) How many Board members are from outside of Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong?

Answer:

I am advised

One.

Question no: 66

(66) Provide a list of the 55 dedicated live music venues in the Sound NSW research which have extended trading as provided for venues under part 3A of the NSW Liquor Act?

Answer:

I am advised

See answer to Question 59.

Question no: 67

(67) Does Sound NSW have an organisational structure and can it be provided?

Answer:

I am advised

Information about the Department of Creative Industries, Tourism, Hospitality and Sport is available at <https://www.nsw.gov.au/departments-and-agencies/dciths> and in relevant annual reports.

Question no: 68

(68) How many staff are employed in Sound NSW?

Answer:

I am advised

As at 19 September 2024, Sound NSW employs 10.2 FTE staff.

Question no: 69

(69) How much of the budget of Sound NSW is allocated to staff and separately to operational costs by dollar figure and percentage?

Answer:

I am advised

Sound NSW's 2024-25 budget is \$18.5 million. Of this, \$10.6 million (57%) is allocated towards grants programs, \$5.1 million is allocated towards staff costs, and \$2.8 million is allocated towards other operational expenditure.

Question no: 70

(70) How many Sound NSW staff are employed in each public service band?

Answer:

I am advised

Information regarding senior executive numbers is available in the Department's annual reports.

Question no: 71

(71) How much of the budget of Sound NSW is allocated to grants programs? (a) Break it down by each dollar figure and percentage.

Answer:

I am advised

See answer to question 69.

(a) The 10-year Contemporary Music Strategy is in development. Program budget allocation for 2024-25 will reflect the strategy's priorities.

Question no: 72

(72) Is there anything in place that has replaced the Pedestrian Protection Program?

Answer:

I am advised

(72) The Road Safety Program provides road safety infrastructure treatments jointly funded by the NSW and Australian Governments, with the latest iteration of the program to be delivered between 2023-24 and 2025-26 financial years.

The Australian Government has committed \$259 million for the 2024-25 and 2025-26 financial years as part of the road safety funding allocation for NSW. The combined State and Federally funded Road Safety Program totals \$518 million.

Question no: 73

(73) In order for pedestrian safety barriers to be installed along unsafe roadways there needs to be a "demonstrated history of crashes involving pedestrians" at the affected site.

(a) Is there a specific threshold for meeting this criteria?

(b) If so, what is the threshold?

(c) Does a pedestrian need to be injured before action will be taken? If so, to what degree?

(d) Does the Minister have any plans to review or alter this requirement?

Answer:

I am advised

Transport for NSW does not require demonstrated history of crashes involving pedestrians at any site to warrant the installation of pedestrian safety barriers, fences or other measures to improve pedestrian safety.

Question no: 74

(74) Inner West Council has reportedly received a promise of \$20 million from the NSW Government for master planning around the Rozelle Parklands.

(a) What conditions, if any, are attached to this \$20million funding envelope?

(b) Has any of that \$20 million actually been provided to Inner West Council?

(c) If so, on what basis?

Answer:

I am advised

(74) The \$20 million funding envelope will be provided on the condition that Inner West Council will enter into an agreement with Transport for NSW under section 159 of the *Roads Act 1993* for Inner West Council to be responsible for the care, control and management of the Rozelle Parklands as a public reserve. See attachment two.

Question no: 75

(75) A synthetic playing field could not be accommodated at the Rozelle Parklands due to design constraints, namely the depth of the available concreted surface above the road tunnels.

(a) Specifically how do these constraints prevent the installation of synthetic turf at this site?

(b) What investigations have been undertaken into the cost of resolving or removing these constraints?

- (c) What findings have been made regarding the cost of resolving or removing these constraints?
- (d) Was a hybrid turf playing field considered for the site, and would that make any difference in relation to these constraints?

Answer:

I am advised

(75) (a) The surface of the playing fields in the approved Urban Design and Landscaping Plan for the Rozelle Parklands was specified as turf; this was constructed in 2023. Retrospectively installing synthetic turf at this site would be constrained due to a high voltage Ausgrid cable running underneath the playing fields. Synthetic fields would require a concrete sub-base above the cables which would make access to the cable in future extremely difficult and expensive.

(b)-(c) To relocate the high voltage cable would be costly and would not provide good value for money for taxpayers. There are also substantial engineering challenges associated with the potential interference of this essential power cable above an operating motorway. Any attempt to relocate this asset could impact existing below ground assets including tunnels within the Interchange. Synthetic turf would create new challenges for checking and maintaining this critical cabling. The synthetic turf and concrete slab would need to be cut to access the cable if the power supply and cable required investigating.

(d) Hybrid turf was not considered for the playing fields.

Question no: 76

(76) The now repealed section 163 of the Liquor Act 2007 required the Minister for Gaming and Racing to provide a report to Parliament on the progress of the Parliamentary priorities to streamline liquor licensing and planning approvals and the development of live entertainment incentives. With this reporting process being removed by the NSW Government as part of the Vibrancy reforms for NSW, what actions can the Minister demonstrate on Government decision-making processes under the licensing and planning regulatory framework that have made the licensing and planning process more supportive, transparent and consistent?

Answer:

I am advised

This is a matter for the Minister for Gaming and Racing and the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces.

Question no: 77

(77) Under the current legislation venues with live music and trading with the additional hours must keep a log of their programming to ensure compliance with the intent of the incentives including discounts on their licence fees. For venues without the extended trading:

(a) how do we know that they are genuinely programming music in line with the guidelines, and what measures are in place to ensure that their programming can be evaluated?

(b) How many of the current venues identified on the L&G website are live music venues, or if other types of venues such as theatres, are genuinely programming live music in accordance with the guidelines?

Answer:

I am advised

(a) Live music venues are required to hold an average of at least two live music performances per week. Live music venues are subject to inspections and audits by Liquor & Gaming NSW inspectors to ensure they are genuinely programming live music in line with the requirements in the Liquor Act 2007 and the Liquor Regulation 2018.

(b) As at 17 September 2024, there were 355 live music venues and 68 live performance venues published on the Liquor & Gaming NSW website. Live performance venues include theatres. Live performance venues are not required to schedule live music to qualify for the incentives. They can schedule other arts and cultural events that may include focus on other creative and artistic disciplines that relate to a cultural theme. Other types of performance arts include but are not limited to, theatre shows, visual arts (e.g. an art exhibition) or literary arts events.

Question no: 78

(78) Under the Open Streets Program 2024-25, 73 councils have been funded to deliver over 130 street events across NSW where successful grant recipients will receive up to \$150,000 to support the temporary closure of streets for placemaking activations for people.

(a) How many of these 130 events are now scheduled to happen?

(b) Are any required to have user paid police?

i. if so, how many events and police are required across the program, and broken down by program?

Answer:

I am advised

(a) Of 130 events, 36 have occurred, and 91 are scheduled to occur, by 31 January 2025. Three events have been cancelled, with funding from these events approved to be reallocated to other Open Streets Program events already approved under the council's original grant applications.

(b) No, as it was not a requirement under the Open Streets Program guidelines.

Therefore, there is limited visibility of the number of councils that will use police services until grant acquittal is received.

Question no: 79

(79) Can the 24-hour Commissioner provide the Purple Flag evaluation report?

Answer:

I am advised

A summary of the report and the Purple Flag Program guidelines will be available at: www.nsw.gov.au.

Question no: 80

(80) How many 24-hour Office staff are working on Purple Flag?

Answer:

I am advised

Employees in the Office of the 24 Hour Economy Commissioner work across a range and projects and programs.

Question no: 81

(81) How much does the program cost to run from an operational perspective for the 24Hr Office including annual fees and licensing?

Answer:

I am advised

The costs for the program form part of the budget of the Office of the 24 Hour Economy Commissioner. The budget for the office was \$26.9 million for 2024-25.

Question no: 82

(82) How much does the program cost to run for each Council in the program including annual fees and licensing?

Answer:

I am advised

There are no fees charged to Councils.

Question no: 83

(83) Does the 24-Hr Office have an organisational structure and can it be provided?

Answer:

I am advised

Information about the Department of Creative Industries, Tourism, Hospitality and Sport is available at <https://www.nsw.gov.au/departments-and-agencies/dciths> and in relevant annual reports.

Question no: 84

(84) How many staff (FTE) are employed in the 24-hour Office? (a) Are any based regionally? If so, which positions and where?

Answer:

I am advised

As of 31 August 2024, the Office of the 24 Hour Economy had 27.8 FTE.

- (a) There are no roles based regionally but there may be employees who work from the regions. Regional locations exclude the Greater Sydney Metropolitan Area, Newcastle and Wollongong local government areas.

Question no: 85

(85) How much of the budget of the 24-hour Office is allocated to staff and separately to operational costs by dollar figure and percentage?

Answer:

I am advised

The Office of the 24-Hour Economy Commissioner received a budget in 2024-25 of \$26.9 million.

Question no: 86

(86) How many 24-hour Office staff are employed in each public service band?

Answer:

I am advised

Information regarding senior executive numbers is available in the Department's annual reports.

Question no: 87

(87) How much of the budget of the 24-hour Office is allocated to grants programs broken down by each including by dollar figure and percentage?

Answer:

I am advised

See answer to Question 85.

Question no: 88

(88) 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?

Answer:

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.

Question no: 89

(89) 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)?

Answer:

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.

Question no: 90

(90) Are you on Signal?

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

Answer:

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.

Question no: 91

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

(a) If yes, when?

Answer:

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.

Question no: 92

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

Answer:**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.

Question no: 93

(93) 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?

Answer:**I am advised**

(93) The Transport annual reports are digital publications. Two copies of each will be printed for the purpose of tabling in each House of Parliament. No budget has been set aside for printing.

Question no: 94

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

Answer:**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.

Question no: 95

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

Answer:**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.

Question no: 96

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

Answer:**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 outlines the agencies in the Premier and Cabinet portfolio. The Governance Arrangements Chart may be accessed via The Cabinet Office's website at 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).

Question no: 97

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

Answer:**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.

Question no: 98

(98) 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?

Answer:**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 NSW Parliament.

Question no: 99

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

Answer:

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).

Question no: 100

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

Answer:

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).

Question no: 101

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

Answer:

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.

Question no: 102

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

Answer:

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-cabinetoffice/access-to-information/ministers-diary-disclosures>).

Question no: 103

(103) 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?

Answer:

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 all Ministers' offices to comply with their obligations under the State Records Act 1998.

Question no: 104

(104) 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?

Answer:

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. The practice of the Premier's Department and The Cabinet Office is to include legal costs within the fees for services rendered category. Agencies will include legal costs as a separate line item if it is considered a material expense for the agency. Details for the period prior to 30 June 2023 form part of the former Department of Premier and Cabinet/other agency Annual Report 2022-23. Details for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 will form part of the department/agency Annual Report 2023-24.

Question no: 105

(105) Are you a member of a union?
(a) If yes, what union?

Answer:

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.

Question no: 106

(106) 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)

Answer:

I am advised

Department and agency expenditure on advertising is publicly available in the department/agency annual reports and on OpenGov NSW.

Question no: 107

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

Answer:

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.

Question no: 108

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

Answer:

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.

Question no: 109

(109) Did any catering costs in 2023-2024 include expenditure on alcohol?

Answer:

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>

Question no: 110

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

Answer:

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.

Question no: 111

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

Answer:

I am advised

No.

Question no: 112

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

Answer:

I am advised

(112) No senior executive service employees have a dedicated driver.

Question no: 113

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

Answer:

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.

Question no: 114

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

Answer:

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.

Question no: 115

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

Answer:

I am advised

- (a) Yes.
- (b) No.

Question no: 116

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

Answer:

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-OfficeHandbook.pdf>

Question no: 117

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

Answer:

I am advised

Ministerial Staffing numbers are proactively published on the NSW website - <https://www.nsw.gov.au/departments-and-agencies/premiersdepartment/access-to-information/premier-and-ministers-staff-numbers>

Question no: 118

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

Answer:

I am advised

Ministerial Staffing numbers are proactively published on the NSW website - <https://www.nsw.gov.au/departments-and-agencies/premiersdepartment/access-to-information/premier-and-ministers-staff-numbers>.

Question no: 119

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

Answer:

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.

Question no: 120

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

Answer:

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.

Question no: 121

(121) 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)?

Answer:

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.

Question no: 122

(122) 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?

Answer:**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.

Question no: 123

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

Answer:**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.

Question no: 124

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

Answer:**I am advised**

No

Question no: 125

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

Answer:**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.

Question no: 126

(126) 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?

Answer:

I am advised

Yes, the register is only accessible via Transport for NSW internal network.

Question no: 127

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

Answer:

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.

Question no: 128

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

Answer:

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.

Question no: 129

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

Answer:

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.

Question no: 130

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

Answer:

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>
[TikTok%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)

Question no: 131

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

Answer:

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-cabinetoffice/access-to-information/ministers-diary-disclosures>).

Question no: 132

(132) 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?

Answer:

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.

Question no: 133

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

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

Answer:

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. The Cabinet Office Purchase Card Policy is attached. The Transport for NSW Purchasing Card Policy can be found via https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/system/files/media/documents/2024/purchasing-card-policy_May-2024.pdf

Government Sector Finance Agency Purchasing Card Policy can be found via <https://arp.nsw.gov.au/assets/ars/attachments/TPP21-02-Use-and-Management-of-NSW-Govt-Purchasing-Cards.pdf>

Question no: 134

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

Answer:

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.

Question no: 135

- (135) 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?

Answer:

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.

Question no: 136

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

Answer:

I am advised

I make use of an office in 52 Martin Place and NSW Parliament. When travelling, Ministers may make ad hoc arrangements to work for periods in Departmental offices.

Question no: 137

(137) 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

Answer:

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.

Question no: 138

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

Answer:

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.

Question no: 139

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

Answer:

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.

Question no: 140

(140) 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?

Answer:

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.

Question no: 141

(141) 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?

Answer:**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. Details for the period prior to 30 June 2023 form part of the Department of Premier and Cabinet Annual Report 2022-23. Details for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 will form part of the Department / Agency Annual Report 2023-24.

Question no: 142

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

Answer:**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.

Question no: 143

(143) 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?

Answer:**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.

Question no: 144

(144) 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?

Answer:**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.

Question no: 145

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

Answer:**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. The travel costs for the period prior to 30 June 2023 form part of the Department of Premier and Cabinet / Agency Annual Report 2022-23. Travel costs for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 will form part of the Department / Agency Annual Report 2023-24.

Question no: 146

(146) 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?

Answer:**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. The travel costs for the period prior to 30 June 2023 form part of the Department of Premier and Cabinet / Agency Annual Report 2022-23. Travel costs for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 will form part of the Department / Agency Annual Report 2023-24. Official travel is taken in accordance with the NSW government travel policy.

Question no: 147

(147) 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?

Answer:

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-andtransport-policy> The travel costs for the period prior to 30 June 2023 form part of the Department of Premier and Cabinet / Agency Annual Report 2022-23. Travel costs for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 will form part of the Department / Agency Annual Report 2023-24.

Question no: 148

(148) 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?

Answer:

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. The travel costs for the period prior to 30 June 2023 form part of the Department of Premier and Cabinet / Agency Annual Report 2022-23. Travel costs for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 will form part of the Department / Agency Annual Report 2023-24.

Question no: 149

(149) 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?

Answer:

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.

Question no: 150

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

Answer:

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.

Question no: 151

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

Answer:**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.

Question no: 152

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

Answer:**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.

Question no: 153

(153) 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?

Answer:**I am advised**

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

Question no: 154

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

Answer:**I am advised**

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

Question no: 155

(155) 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?

Answer:**I am advised**

Redundancies are published in the respective Department(s)/Agency(s) Annual Reports under employee related expenses.

Question no: 156

(156) 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):

Answer:**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-andagencies/premiers-department/access-to-information/premier-and-ministersdomestic-travel>

Question no: 157

(157) What was the purpose of the visit(s)?

Answer:**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-andagencies/premiers-department/access-to-information/premier-and-ministersdomestic-travel>

Question no: 158

(158) Did you make a funding announcement(s)?

Answer:**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-andagencies/premiers-department/access-to-information/premier-and-ministersdomestic-travel>

Question no: 159

(159) 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?

Answer:**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.

Question no: 160

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

Answer:**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.

Question no: 161

(161) What budget allocation has been provided to implement the Creative Communities NSW Arts, Culture and Creative Industries Policy?

Answer:**I am advised**

Creative Communities is a whole-of-Government policy that outlines the NSW Government's vision for the state's arts, cultural and creative industries. While various government agencies and departments are responsible for allocating funds to deliver their own commitments to support the creative communities, the NSW Government, across the Creative Industries, Tourism, Night-time Economy and Hospitality portfolios will invest \$1.3 billion toward arts and cultural activities in 2024-25.

Question no: 162

(162) When will the regional arts, culture and creative industries strategy be released?

Answer:**I am advised**

The Plan for regional NSW arts, culture and creative industries will be released in 2025.

Question no: 163

(163) What budget allocation has been provided for arts and cultural infrastructure in the 2024/25 budget?

Answer:**I am advised**

Information regarding the budget for infrastructure projects is available in Budget Paper 3 Infrastructure Statement.

Question no: 164

(164) What was the annual operating budget of Create NSW in the following years:
 (a) FY2017/18
 (b) FY 2018/19
 (c) FY 2019/20
 (d) FY 2020/21
 (e) FY 2021/22
 (f) FY 2022/23
 (g) FY 2023/24

Answer:**I am advised**

Create NSW is a division within the Department of Creative Industries, Tourism, Hospitality and Sport, and has been part of the Department (formerly known as Department of Enterprise, Investment and Trade until 30 June 2024) since 2022. Create NSW budget formed part of the Department's budget since 1 April 2023. Information regarding the Department of Creative Industries, Tourism, Hospitality and Sports Recurrent Expenditure and Capital Expenditure budget is available in the budget papers. Create NSW was part of the Department of Premier and Cabinet in 2019-20 until 1 April 2023. Prior to that, Create NSW formed part of the Department of Planning and Environment.

Question no: 165

(165) What is the cost of storing Locomotive No.1?

Answer:**I am advised**

There are no storage costs. Locomotive No.1 is on exhibition at Powerhouse Castle Hill.

Question no: 166

(166) What was the cost of obtaining Locomotive No. 1?

Answer:**I am advised**

There was no cost to obtain Locomotive No.1. It was gifted to the Museum on May 8, 1884 by the Commissioner for Railways Sydney.

Question no: 167

(167) What was the cost of moving Locomotive No. 1?

Answer:**I am advised**

The total cost to relocate Locomotive Number 1, Tender and Carriages to Castle Hill was \$349,850.

Question no: 168

(168) What is the cost of keeping the Boulton & Watt protected from construction

Answer:**I am advised**

This is still being determined through NSW Government procurement processes.

Question no: 169

(169) What was the rental income/revenue recorded in the 2022-23 financial year? (a) Was this reported in the 2022-23 MAAS Annual report?

Answer:

I am advised

\$119,093.

(a) Yes.

Question no: 170

(170) How much was spent on Powerhouse Lates in 2022-2023?

(a) What is the Powerhouse Lates?

Answer:

I am advised

\$913,181.

(a) Powerhouse Late was a series of free after-hours events that featured live music, film screenings, workshops, talks and exhibition tours. After hours programming at cultural institutions is designed to activate the night-time economy and encourage people to engage with arts and culture after school and work.

Question no: 171

(171) How much was spent on Programmes and Learning in 2022-2023?

(a) Can you provide a breakdown of this spending?

Answer:

I am advised

\$969,134.

(a) The figure includes learning programs to support exhibitions, school incursions, virtual and digital learning programs, school holiday programs, science festival programs, Castle Hill learning programs, learning resources and permanent, temporary and casual educators to deliver.

Question no: 172

(172) How much were Herbert Smith Freehills paid by the Powerhouse Museum/MAAS to argue against requests made under the GIPA Act for the provision of information in museum records regarding damage and/or visitor interference with objects on display in the Museum?

Answer:

I am advised

\$36,361 was spent on legal advice relating to NCAT proceedings filed in relation to a GIPA application.

Question no: 173

(173) What was the cost to the NSW taxpayer of the legal fees incurred?

Answer:

I am advised

\$36,361.

Question no: 174

(174) How much is the funding for the Western Sydney writers' initiative?

(a) Why is the funding only focussed on Western Sydney writers and writing?

(b) Why isn't this established as a program to support writers and writing across Sydney and NSW?

(c) Why is this initiative being delivered through the Powerhouse and not the State Library of NSW?

Answer:

I am advised

Approximately \$25,000 was spent on commissioning new works from Western Sydney based writers.

(a) As the first state cultural institution in Western Sydney, Powerhouse Parramatta is delivering programming specific to the local communities of Western Sydney alongside national and international programs.

(b) Powerhouse has always commissioned local, national and international writers to produce works for publications and programs.

(c) The commissioning of writers occurs across all cultural institutions.

Question no: 175

(175) What measures are in place to evaluate the operation of the 24-Hr Office and programs?

Answer:

I am advised

The Office of the 24-Hour Economy Commissioner delivers programs and policy work and has established evaluation activities guided by the NSW Treasury's TPG22-22 Policy and Guidelines: Evaluation (2023). Evaluations are generally conducted following the completion of a program.

Question no: 176

(176) Has the 24-Hr Office undertaken an independent survey of the advisory group and a broad range of external industry stakeholders, and if not, can this be undertaken?

Answer:

I am advised

The Office of 24-Hour Economy Commissioner has undertaken several industry stakeholder focus groups to contribute to the refreshed Strategy. An Independent sentiment survey was also undertaken to inform the refreshed Strategy.

Question no: 177

(177) Has the 24-Hr Office undertaken any stakeholder evaluation of staff, and if so, what has been the cost to the agency?

Answer:

I am advised

No

Question no: 178

(178) Has the 24-Hr Office sought independent corporate training for any individual staff, and if so, what has been the cost to the agency and how many staff have been provided training?

Answer:

I am advised

No

Question no: 179

(179) Were the reporting requirements that applied to the former government to report on the effectiveness of reduction of fees and the extension of trading hours for dedicated live music venues removed in the Vibrancy Reforms by the current government?

Answer:

I am advised

Section 163A, which included reporting requirements on the implementation of Liquor Amendment (Night-time Economy) Act 2020 for the financial years 2021–2022 to 2023–2024 was omitted as part of the 24-Hour Economy Legislation Amendment (Vibrancy Reforms) Act 2023, which passed Parliament on 30 November 2023.

Question no: 180

(180) Were venue closures under the previous Government primary music venues or other types of venues which had live music as part of their business?

Answer:

I am advised

Evidence of venue was provided as part of the Parliamentary inquiry into the music and arts economy in New South Wales. More information can be found at: [The music and arts economy in New South Wales \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/the-music-and-arts-economy-in-new-south-wales)

Question no: 181

(181) Does data quoted in a May 2023 press release about 133 venues closing consider venues who stopped having live music during Covid and may not have returned to programming, and if so, how was it evaluated?

Answer:

I am advised

133 venues were registered to participate in incentives with Liquor & Gaming NSW as live music and performance venues across the state in March 2023.

Question no: 182

(182) How many of the 133 venues referenced in the media release were trading the additional 1 hr allowed in March 2023?

Answer:

I am advised

Live music venues are entitled to access the extended trading incentive under 12A of the Liquor Act 2007 on nights where a live music performance is held, but it is not mandatory. There is no statutory requirement for venues to notify Liquor & Gaming NSW when the extended trading incentive is used, therefore this data is not available.

Question no: 183

(183) How many of the 133 venues listed in March 2023 were live music venues or if other types of venues such as theatres, were genuinely programming live music in accordance with the guidelines?

Answer:

I am advised

See answer to Question 181.

Question no: 184

(184) How many of the 245 venues referenced in the media release were trading the additional 2 hrs allowed in March 2024?

Answer:

I am advised

See answer to Question 182.

Question no: 185

(185) How many of the 245 venues referenced in the media release were live music venues, or if other types of venues such as theatres, were genuinely programming live music in accordance with the guidelines?

Answer:**I am advised**

All of the venues referenced in the media release were live music venues.

Question no: 186

(186) How many of the current venues listed on the L&G website are trading the extra 2 hrs in September 2024?

Answer:**I am advised**

See answer to Question 182.

Question no: 187

(187) What percentage of the current venues listed on the L&G website are trading the extra 2 hrs in September 2024?

Answer:**I am advised**

See answer to Question 182.

Question no: 188

(188) What is the detailed breakdown of how the \$103 million commitment to the contemporary and live music sector has been allocated?

(a) What percentage of the funding has gone towards regional venues?

Answer:**I am advised**

The \$103 million election commitment is to support the development of contemporary music over the four-year term, including establishing Sound NSW, delivering Great Southern Nights and implementing the 10-year contemporary music strategy. This strategy will provide a framework for investing in the growth and development of contemporary music and is still in development. It is expected to be finalised by the end of the 2024.

(a) As part of the \$103 million election commitment, \$8 million of funding was identified for venue upgrades including soundproofing, ventilation and screen technology. Venues Unlocked grants are delivering on this commitment and in the first year of the program, there were 21 successful venues from across NSW. 52% of this funding was awarded to regional venues.

Question no: 189

(189) How many live music venues were open in NSW in January 2023?

(a) How many live venues are open in NSW at time of answering?

Answer:**I am advised**

As at 31 January 2023, 198 live music venues were listed on the Liquor & Gaming NSW website.

(a) As at 18 September 2024, 355 live music venues were listed on the Liquor & Gaming NSW website.

Question no: 190

(190) Is the government considering an expansion or modification of the NSW Government user charges policy to respond to the declining festival industry?
 (a) What events in NSW have previously been given Hallmark Status under the government user charges policy?
 (b) What is the criteria for gaining hallmark status?
 (c) What is the criteria for gaining 'mega events' status?
 (d) What economic cost benefit analysis has been conducted to demonstrate the economic benefit of major, regionally based festivals for regional communities?
 i. Please table any analysis

Answer:

I am advised

The NSW Government has announced two pathways for reviews of user pays charges. Firstly, music festival organisers will be able to apply for an internal review of user pays charges, and under changes in the Music Festivals Amendment Bill 2024 there is an appeal pathway in limited circumstances to have user pays government charges waived or reduced.

- (a) Hallmark events are the responsibility of the NSW Premier.
 (b) See answer to Question 190a.
 (c) Mega events are the responsibility of the NSW Premier.
 (d) Destination NSW, the NSW Government's tourism and major events agency undertakes an assessment of event investment proposals to measure the economic, strategic and community benefits the event will deliver and conducts stringent due diligence. Destination NSW makes event investment decisions based on their ability to deliver visitor expenditure and the best return on investment.
 (i) See answer to Question 190d.

Question no: 191

(191) The Commissioner has identified that the purpose of the Purple Flag program is about the overall appeal, wellbeing, mobility and lighting around a precinct. How are Live Music, Arts, and Culture factored into Purple Flag accreditation?

Answer:

I am advised

Purple Flag precincts are assessed on five core Purple Flag Principles and their attributes available at: <https://www.nsw.gov.au/business-and-economy/24-hour-economy/purple-flag>. Live music, arts and cultural offerings are primarily considered under the "Appeal" core principle.

Question no: 192

(192) What live music, arts and cultural benchmarks are measured for accreditation, for example, how many live music venues and theatres?

Answer:

I am advised

Applicants must demonstrate they are able to meet the minimum threshold for the "Appeal" principle, which is: "A night-time offering that is diverse across different sectors of the Night-time Economy for a variety of ages, lifestyles and cultures at different times of the evening to late night."

Question no: 193

(193) What benchmarks are required for transport, particularly public transport, for young people in a cost of living crisis?

Answer:

I am advised

Purple Flag precincts must demonstrate they are able to meet the minimum threshold for the “Movement” principle, which is: “Some form of appropriate late-night public transport provision as appropriate to each individual destination. Showing consideration to managing queues and areas of people/vehicle conflict.”

Assessors consider the availability of a wide range of transport modes including public transport, active transport and point-to-point, relevant to each precinct.

Question no: 194

(194) Who is responsible for the overarching communications strategy for each Purple Flag Precinct, and how is this evaluated?

Answer:

I am advised

The Office of the 24-Hour Economy Commissioner is responsible for the overarching communications strategy for the Purple Flag Program and provides support to accredited precincts with their individual strategies as needed.

The Purple Flag communications strategy contains metrics to evaluate its effectiveness including media coverage, website traffic, and social media engagement.

Question no: 195

(195) Can Sound NSW provide the complete list of 759 venues from the State of the Scene Report identifying venue type, location including Sydney Newcastle Wollongong and regional and remote NSW, and number of nights per week each venue presents music?

Answer:

I am advised

Information on the location percentages of venues is available in the State of the Scene Report.

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/noindex/2024-06/State-of-the-Scene-2024.pdf>

Question no: 196

(196) The following commitments were made to the Country Music Sector as part of the election campaign in 2023:

(a) Guaranteed funding for five Country Music Association of Australia Academy of Country Music Senior Scholarships per year, \$40,000 to support the Academy to deliver their country music education and professional development programs, and \$7,500 per year to send the leading graduate to Nashville. Can Sound NSW provide a status report on each of these commitments to the Country Music sector from the 2023 election?

(b) Working as a priority to set up a Special Entertainment Precinct in Tamworth, along with local live music venues and Tamworth Regional Council to guarantee the long-term future of the Tamworth Country Music Festival. Can Sound NSW provide a status report on each of these commitments to the Country Music sector from the 2023 election?

(c) A commitment to country music representation on the Contemporary Music Artform board. Can Sound NSW provide a status report on this commitment to the Country Music sector from the 2023 election?

Answer:

I am advised

(a) This commitment has been delivered through the execution of a multi-year funding agreement with the Country Music Association of Australia.
 (b) The Office of the 24-Hour Economy Commissioner is working with councils, including Tamworth, on opportunities to set up a Special Entertainment Precinct.
 (c) The Contemporary Music Artform Board was dissolved under the recent Arts and Culture Funding Program reforms. Sound NSW is now responsible for the allocation of contemporary music funding and an Industry Assessor Pool of 40 sector peers will be established to support the assessment of contemporary music funding. Expressions of interest for the Sound NSW Industry Assessor Pool opened on 18 September 2024 and will close on 8 October 2024. Expressions of interest from members of the country music sector are encouraged.

Question no: 197

(197) The committee was provided with an approximate figure spent by Sound NSW for the 23/24 financial year, can the actual figures be provided?

Answer:

I am advised

Total expenditure by Sound NSW in the 2023-24 financial year was \$17.3 million.

Question no: 198

(198) The Government committed to \$103M to contemporary music over the Parliamentary term, will the \$14.227M shortfall from the 23/24 budget be still delivered for contemporary music - or will it be cut from the NSW Government's commitments to the sector?

Answer:

I am advised

The NSW Government has committed \$103 million over four years to support the contemporary music industry. Unspent budget has been carried forward into future years or is in the process of being reallocated to ensure the \$103 million commitment is met.

Question no: 199

(199) How many gigs have the musician representatives on the Sound NSW Advisory Board performed since being appointed?

Answer:

I am advised

Sound NSW has advised that it does not collect this information from its Advisory Board members.

Question no: 200

(200) How many recordings have the musician representatives on the board released since being appointed?

Answer:

I am advised

Sound NSW has advised that it does not collect this information from its Advisory Board members.

Question no: 201

(201) What commitments can be provided for next board appointments to ensure a wider genre representation?

Answer:

I am advised

As per the Sound NSW Advisory Board charter, appointed members must include at least:

- one professional musician and/or producer
- one member with experience in a NSW not-for-profit contemporary music organisation
- one member with experience in, or knowledge of, contemporary music artist management
- one member with experience in, or knowledge of, live music venue operation/management
- one member with experience in, or knowledge of, First Nations cultures.

Diversity and representation of key industry areas, geography and priority areas is considered during the appointment process.

Question no: 202

(202) How many Board members live and work in Sydney?

Answer:

I am advised

11 Board members live and work in Sydney.

Question no: 203

(203) How many Board members live and work in Wollongong and Newcastle?

Answer:

I am advised

0

Question no: 204

(204) How many Board members live and work in regional and remote NSW?

Answer:

I am advised

1

Question no: 205

(205) What percentage of funding from Sound NSW delivered to organisations, artists, venues and events in regional NSW went to locations other than Newcastle or Wollongong? (a) Can this list be provided for funding outside of Newcastle and Wollongong?

Answer:

I am advised

61% of total Sound NSW funding to recipients in regional NSW went to artists, venues and organisations based outside of Newcastle and Wollongong LGA.

(a)

LGA	Count Successful Applications	Sum of \$ Approved

Ballina	1	\$15,000
Bega Valley	2	\$21,745
Bellingen	1	\$21,850
Broken Hill	1	\$12,500
Byron	12	\$355,272
Cabonne	2	\$18,860
Central Coast	10	\$234,140
Cessnock	4	\$69,105
Clarence Valley	2	\$20,000
Coffs Harbour	1	\$7,049
Kiama	3	\$57,075
Lake Macquarie	3	\$26,000
Lismore	2	\$59,878
Maitland	2	\$50,000
Nambucca Valley	1	\$5,000
Parkes	1	\$14,471
Port Macquarie-Hastings	1	\$32,709
Port Stephens	2	\$32,500
Richmond Valley	1	\$2,000
Shellharbour	2	\$8,697
Shoalhaven	2	\$85,260
Snowy Valleys	1	\$45,000
Tamworth Regional	3	\$191,000
Tweed	3	\$25,026
Wingecarribee	2	\$55,000

Question no: 206

(206) What genres of music were funded by Sound NSW in regional NSW not including Wollongong and Newcastle by dollar amount, and percentage of program funding?

Answer:

I am advised

Genre	\$ Approved
Contemporary Classical	\$50,000
Country	\$121,572
Electronic	\$127,979
Folk	\$141,378
Hip Hop, RnB, Soul	\$15,000
Jazz	\$2,500
Pop	\$224,880

Rock	\$152,131
World	\$70,000
Grand Total	\$905,440

Question no: 207

(207) What genres of music were funded by Sound NSW in Wollongong and Newcastle by dollar amount, and percentage of program funding?

Answer:

I am advised

ANSWER:

Genre	\$ Approved
Children's music	\$44,644
Country	\$2,500
Electronic	\$4,966
Folk	\$27,357
Hip Hop, RnB, Soul	\$50,000
Jazz	\$6,591
Pop	\$84,114
Rock	\$344,734
World	\$10,000
Grand Total	\$574,906

Question no: 208

(208) What genres of music were funded by Sound NSW in Western Sydney by dollar amount, and percentage of program funding?

Answer:

I am advised

ANSWER:

Genre	\$ Approved
Contemporary Classical	\$15,000
Electronic	\$7,946
Folk	\$9,445
Hip Hop, RnB, Soul	\$151,316

Pop	\$115,826	
Rock	\$289,487	
Grand Total	\$589,020	

Question no: 209

(209) What genres of music were funded by Sound NSW in Sydney not including Western Sydney by dollar amount, and percentage of program funding?

Answer:

I am advised

Genre	\$ Approved
Children's music	\$30,000
Contemporary Classical	\$46,525
Country	\$143,883
Electronic	\$474,979
Folk	\$182,891
Hip Hop, RnB, Soul	\$62,500
Jazz	\$155,602
Pop	\$630,282
Rock	\$790,349
World	\$112,053
Grand Total	\$2,629,064

Question no: 210

(210) What genres of music were funded by Sound NSW by dollar amount, and percentage of program funding across each program?

Answer:

I am advised

	Touring and Travel	Recording and Promotion
Genre	\$ Approved	\$ Approved
Children's music	-	\$74,644
Contemporary Classical	\$45,125	\$66,400
Country	\$194,072	\$73,883

Electronic	\$215,317	\$400,553
Folk	\$221,811	\$139,260
Hip Hop, RnB, Soul	\$70,445	\$208,371
Jazz	\$92,713	\$71,980
Pop	\$502,838	\$552,264
Rock	\$1,112,087	\$464,614
World	\$55,000	\$137,053
	\$2,509,408	\$2,189,022

Question no: 211

(211) Can Sound NSW provide the complete list of 759 venues from the State of the Scene Report identifying venue type, location including Sydney Newcastle Wollongong and regional and remote NSW, and number of nights per week each venue presents music?

Answer:**I am advised**

Please see response for supplementary question 195.

Question no: 212

(212) What funding has been allocated in the 2024-25 NSW Budget to specifically address unemployment rates across South-Western Sydney?

- (a) What programs has the NSW Government initiated since its election to address South-Western Sydney's unemployment rate?
- (b) What indicators are used to determine the success of any programs at reducing unemployment in South-Western Sydney?
- (c) The electorate of Fairfield's unemployment rate is the highest in NSW at 10.3%, what is the NSW Government doing to address this?

Answer:**I am advised**

The NSW Government is committed to job growth in South-Western Sydney and across the State, including to establish a NSW Jobs First Commission, rebuild domestic manufacturing, fund an additional 500 paramedics, recruit an additional 1,200 nurses and midwives, hire 1,000 additional apprentices across NSW Government, recruit an additional 600 firefighters, establish a Future Women's Jobs Academy program and invest \$22 million in the early childhood workforce.

Question no: 213

(213) What conversations has the Minister had with Federal Government regarding the allocation of funding to NSW from the Commonwealth's Future Made in Australia package?

- (a) What actions has NSW Government taken to ensure that South-Western Sydney receives funding from the Federal Government to support domestic manufacturing?
- (b) What actions is the NSW Government taking to promote the growth of advanced manufacturing jobs in South-Western Sydney?
- (c) What upskilling programs is the NSW Government implementing to promote advanced manufacturing jobs in South-Western Sydney?

Answer:

I am advised

This is a matter for the Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement.

Question no: 214

(214) What programs has the NSW Government introduced since April 2023 in South-Western Sydney to address youth unemployment?

Answer:

I am advised

See response to 212

Question no: 215

(215) What steps has the Minister taken to ensure that South-Western receives public sector jobs growth?

(a) How many public sector jobs were created in South-Western Sydney in the 2023-24 Financial Year?

(b) What is the projected public sector jobs growth in South-Western Sydney for the 2024-25 Financial Year?

Answer:

I am advised

See response to 212

Question no: 216

(216) How many jobs were created in NSW in financial year 2023-24?

Answer:

I am advised

105,400, net change in employment from 2022-23 to 2023-24, according to data from Australian Bureau of Statistics, Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Table 16b.

Question no: 217

(217) How many jobs were created in financial year 2023-24 in:

- (a) Sydney CBD
- (b) Northern Sydney
- (c) Northern Beaches
- (d) Eastern Suburbs
- (e) Inner-West
- (f) South Sydney
- (g) South-Western Sydney
- (h) Western Sydney
- (i) Illawarra-Shoalhaven
- (j) South East and Tablelands
- (k) Riverina Murray
- (l) Far West NSW
- (m) Central West and Orana
- (n) New England North West
- (o) North Coast
- (p) Hunter
- (q) Central Coast

Answer:

I am advised

The net change in employment from 2022-23 to 2023-24 for corresponding Australian Bureau of Statistics statistical area 4s is as follows, according to data from Australian Bureau of Statistics, Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Table 16b:

ABS Statistical Area 4 (SA4)	No.
Sydney – City and Inner South	-6,000
Sydney – North Sydney and Hornsby	1,600
Sydney – Northern Beaches	0
Sydney – Eastern Suburbs	3,700
Sydney – Inner West	-4,200
Sydney – Ryde	1,500
Sydney - Sutherland	400
Sydney – South West	9,000
Western Sydney*	55,700
Illawarra	-3,100
Capital	13,400
Central West	10,900
Coffs Harbour-Grafton	-1,200
Far West and Orana	-1,100
Hunter Valley excluding Newcastle	6,400
Mid North Coast	20,200
Murray	700
New England and North West	11,200
Newcastle and Lake Macquarie	-3,100
Richmond-Tweed	-900
Riverina	-6,300
Southern Highlands and Shoalhaven	-3,900
Central Coast	9,500
Total NSW	105,400

*Western Sydney includes Sydney – Baulkham Hills and Hawkesbury, Sydney – Blacktown, Sydney – Inner South West, Sydney – Outer South West, Sydney – Outer West and Blue Mountains, Sydney – Parramatta, and Sydney – South West SA4s

Question no: 218

(218) Will you refer to LSCA for an audit by the Audit Office of NSW?

Answer:

I am advised

The Audit Office of New South Wales determines its own work program. The Government will cooperate with any audit conducted by the Audit Office.

Question no: 219

(219) How much expenditure was LSCA in:

(a) 2022-23?

(b) 2023-24?

Answer:

I am advised

The LSCA Program office was stood up in July 2023. The program budget is \$37.2 million. The expenditure for FY 2023/24 was \$20.15 million.

Question no: 220

(220) How much is budgeted for LSCA in:
(a) 2024-25?

Answer:

I am advised

The total approved funding for the program is a \$37.2 million program. Anticipated expenditure for FY 2024/25 is \$17.05 million

Question no: 221

(221) In relation to local government being awarded funds from LSCA for playground and park upgrade projects:
(a) Is there a process local governments need to follow?
i. If yes, what is the process?
ii. If yes, is there a timeframe?

Answer:

I am advised

Refer to Section 2.2 of the LSCA Guidelines.

Question no: 222

(222) What LSCA playground and park upgrade did Penrith City Council deliver by 30 June 2024 in:
(a) Penrith electorate?
(b) Londonderry electorate?
(c) Badgerys Creek electorate?

Answer:

I am advised

Playground and park projects are yet to be completed by Penrith City Council in the Penrith, Londonderry, Badgerys Creek electorates.

Question no: 223

(223) What LSCA funding has been provided to the Ballina electorate as of 30 June 2024?

Answer:

I am advised

\$200,000 has been provided to Byron Shire Council to upgrade Linda Vidler Park and Suffolk Park.

Question no: 224

(224) What LSCA funding has been provided to the Parramatta electorate as of 30 June 2024?

Answer:

I am advised

The project in the Parramatta electorate has been approved, however, no funds were provided up to 30 June 2024.

Question no: 225

(225) What LSCA funding has been provided to the Ryde electorate as of 30 June 2024?

Answer:

I am advised

No funds were provided to projects within the Ryde electorate up to 30 June 2024.

Question no: 226

(226) Will you extend LSCA beyond 2 years of the execution of a funding agreement for individual projects to be delivered?

Answer:

I am advised

A project will need to request an extension if delivery is expected to take longer than 2 years.

Question no: 227

(227) Have any LSCA projects been nominated that were not election commitments prior to the March 2023 election? (a) If yes, what projects?

Answer:

I am advised

All nominated projects are assessed in accordance with the Local Small Commitment Allocation Guideline.

Question no: 228

(228) How were conflict(s) of interest managed by the Premier's Department for LSCA?

Answer:

I am advised

All nominated projects are assessed in accordance with the Local Small Commitment Allocation Guideline. Where a conflict was declared or identified after the nomination process, the LSCA Program Office and probity advisor considers the context and risk of the declared interest and provides advice and recommendation to the Special Minister of State.

Question no: 229

(229) Was there any conflict(s) of interest identified between the Labor Candidate for Balmain and the LSCA in relation to Sydney Secondary College?

Answer:

I am advised

All nominated projects are assessed in accordance with the Local Small Commitment Allocation Guideline. Where a conflict was declared or identified after the nomination process, the LSCA Program Office and probity advisor considers the context and risk of the declared interest and provides advice and recommendation to the Special Minister of State.

Question no: 230

(230) Was there any conflict(s) of interest identified between the Labor Candidate for Camden and the LSCA in relation to Camden Musical Society?

Answer:

I am advised

A conflict of interest with the Camden Musical Society was declared by the Member for Camden. The conflict was assessed by an independent probity advisor and was identified as a low probity risk in accordance with the LSCA Program Office's risk matrix. The application was able to proceed for assessment by the independent panel.

Question no: 231

(231) Was there any conflict(s) of interest identified between the Labor Candidate for Clarence and the LSCA in relation to Anglicare North Coast?

Answer:

I am advised

A conflict of interest with the Anglicare North Coast was declared by the Candidate for Clarence. The conflict was assessed by an independent probity advisor and was identified as a moderate probity risk in accordance with the LSCA Program Office's risk matrix. The application was able to proceed for assessment by the independent panel.

Question no: 232

(232) Was there any conflict(s) of interest identified between the Labor Candidate for Lane Cove and the LSCA in relation to the Northern Centre for a Safe Transitions Program?

Answer:

I am advised

A conflict of interest with the Parramatta River Catchment was declared by the Candidate for Lane Cove. The conflict was assessed by an independent probity advisor and was identified as a moderate probity risk in accordance with the LSCA Program Office's risk matrix. The application was able to proceed for assessment by the independent panel.

Question no: 233

(233) Was there any conflict(s) of interest identified between the Labor Candidate for Newtown and the LSCA in relation to Wyanga Aged Care?

Answer:

I am advised

All nominated projects are assessed in accordance with the Local Small Commitment Allocation Guideline. Where a conflict was declared or identified after the nomination process, the LSCA Program Office and probity advisor considers the context and risk of the declared interest and provides advice and recommendation to the Special Minister of State.

Question no: 234

(234) Was there any conflict(s) of interest identified between the Labor Candidate for Riverstone and the LSCA in relation to Riverstone Neighbourhood Centre?

Answer:

I am advised

All nominated projects are assessed in accordance with the Local Small Commitment Allocation Guideline. Where a conflict was declared or identified after the nomination process, the LSCA Program Office and probity advisor considers the context and risk of the declared interest and provides advice and recommendation to the Special Minister of State.

Question no: 235

(235) Was there any conflict(s) of interest identified between the Labor Candidate for Wyong and the LSCA in relation to Soldiers Beach SLSC Inc?

Answer:

I am advised

A conflict of interest with the Soldiers Beach SLSC was declared by the Member for Wyong. The conflict was assessed by an independent probity advisor and was identified as a low probity risk in accordance with the LSCA Program Office's risk matrix. The application was able to proceed for assessment by the independent panel.

Question no: 236

(236) Was there any conflict(s) of interest identified between the Labor Candidate for Swansea and the LSCA in relation to Caves Beach SLSC?

Answer:

I am advised

A conflict of interest with the Caves Beach SLSC was declared by the Member for Swansea. The conflict was assessed by an independent probity advisor and was identified as a low probity risk in accordance with the LSCA Program Office's risk matrix. The application was able to proceed for assessment by the independent panel.

Question no: 237

(237) Was there any conflict(s) of interest identified between the Labor Candidate for Pittwater and the LSCA in relation to Community Connect Northern Beaches?

Answer:

I am advised

All nominated projects are assessed in accordance with the Local Small Commitment Allocation Guideline. Where a conflict was declared or identified after the nomination process, the LSCA Program Office and probity advisor considers the context and risk of the declared interest and provides advice and recommendation to the Special Minister of State.

Question no: 238

(238) Was there any conflict(s) of interest identified between the Labor Candidate for Lane Cove and the LSCA in relation to the Parramatta River Catchment group?

Answer:

I am advised

A conflict of interest with the Parramatta River Catchment was declared by the Candidate for Lane Cove. The conflict was assessed by an independent probity advisor and was identified as a moderate probity risk in accordance with the LSCA Program Office's risk matrix. The application was able to proceed for assessment by the independent panel.

Question no: 239

(239) Why did the Minister request the Premier's Department to carry out an assessment of potential conflicts of interest involving the Labor candidate in 17 electorates?

Answer:

I am advised

I refer to my answer in the Legislative Council given on 12 March 2024.

Question no: 240

(240) Is every single LSCA allocation subject to an independent assessment process?

Answer:

I am advised

All LSCA applications are assessed by an independent assessment panel.

Question no: 241

(241) What is the status of LSCA funding for the Korean community to build a new cultural centre in Eastwood?

Answer:

I am advised

On 22 September 2023, the City of Ryde CEO wrote to the LSCA Program Office saying “the Council cannot accept this grant offer.” A subsequent proposal by the Council did not meet LSCA eligibility requirements.

Question no: 242

(242) How do electorates decide what projects are allocated funding?

Answer:

I am advised

All nominated projects are assessed in accordance with the Local Small Commitment Allocation Guideline. All NSW electorates will receive \$400,000 in funding.

Question no: 243

(243) What were the specifics behind the decision to allocate \$396,000 for a riverside picnic area in Dubbo?

Answer:

I am advised

All nominated projects are assessed in accordance with the Local Small Commitment Allocation Guideline.

Question no: 244

(244) Was there any conflicts of interest regarding the allocation of \$75,000 towards the Camden Musical Society Productions of which the local member is associated.

Answer:

I am advised

See answer 230.

Question no: 245

(245) Was there a conflict of interests regarding the allocation of \$40,000 towards Anglicare North Coast in Clarence of which a local member is associated.

Answer:

I am advised

A conflict of interest with the Anglicare North Coast was declared by the Candidate for Clarence. The conflict was assessed by an independent probity advisor and was identified as a moderate probity risk in accordance with the LSCA Program Office’s risk matrix. The application was able to proceed for assessment by the independent panel.

Question no: 246

(246) Was there a conflict of interest regarding the allocation of \$24,000 towards Cave Beach SLSC of which a local member is associated.

Answer:**I am advised**

All nominated projects are assessed in accordance with the Local Small Commitment Allocation Guideline. Where a conflict was declared or identified after the nomination process, the LSCA Program Office and probity advisor considers the context and risk of the declared interest and provides advice and recommendation to the Special Minister of State.

Question no: 247

(247) Was there a conflict of interest regarding the allocation of \$20,000 to paint the clubhouse at Soldiers Beach SLSC of which a local member is associated.

Answer:**I am advised**

A conflict of interest with the Soldiers Beach SLSC was declared by the Member for Wyong. The conflict was assessed by an independent probity advisor and was identified as a low probity risk in accordance with the LSCA Program Office's risk matrix. The application was able to proceed for assessment by the independent panel.

Question no: 248

(248) Will the Government approve the following conflicts of interest?

- (a) \$18,000 towards Sydney Secondary College, of which a local councillor for Balmain, Philippa Scott, is associated.
- (b) \$40,000 for Nepean Venturers, of which the local member for Camden, Sally Quinell, is associated.
- (c) \$58,000 for Camden Tigers Football Club of which the local member for Camden, Sally Quinell, is associated.
- (d) \$7,300 for Drummoyne Community Centre, of which the local councillor for Drummoyne, Julia Little, is associated.
- (e) \$25,000 to the Parramatta River Catchment group, of which local councillor for Lane Cove, Penny Pedersen, is associated.
- (f) \$15 000 towards Erskineville Public School, of which Pittwater candidate David Hetherington, is associated.
- (g) \$50,000 to Community Connect Northern Beaches, of which Labor candidate Jeffrey Quinn is associated.
- (h) \$50,000 to Riverstone Neighbourhood Centre, of which Riverstone member Warren Kirby is associated
- (i) \$100 000 to Gunnedah Urban Landcare Group, of which Tamworth councillor Kate McGrath is associated.
- (j) \$220 000 to the local council for solar heating at Beresfield Pool in Wallsend, of which state member Sonia Hornery is associated

Answer:**I am advised**

All nominated projects are assessed in accordance with the Local Small Commitment Allocation Guideline.
Where a conflict was declared or identified after the nomination process, the LSCA Program Office and probity advisor considers the context and risk of the declared interest and provides advice and recommendation to the Special Minister of State.

Question no: 249

(249) Does the Government take the CBP conflict of interest provisions into consideration before approving funding?

Answer:

I am advised

All nominated projects are assessed in accordance with the Local Small Commitment Allocation Guideline. Where a conflict was declared or identified after the nomination process, the LSCA Program Office and probity advisor considers the context and risk of the declared interest and provides advice and recommendation to the Special Minister of State.

Question no: 250

(250) What factors does the Government consider when allocating and approving LSCA funding?

- (a) Do these considerations affect the approval and funding of member-chosen projects?
- (b) What processes are in place to deal with conflicts of interest in the allocation of LSCA funding?

Answer:

I am advised

All nominated projects are assessed in accordance with the Local Small Commitment Allocation Guideline. Where a conflict was declared or identified after the nomination process, the LSCA Program Office and probity advisor considers the context and risk of the declared interest and provides advice and recommendation to the Special Minister of State.

Question no: 251

(251) How will these conflict(s) of interest be managed?

- (a) Will the funding be reallocated?

Answer:

I am advised

A process has been established by the LSCA Program Office, and approved by the Special Minister of State, for managing conflicts of interest. Should a conflict of interest be identified that is high risk or unacceptable to the program, the project will not be recommended for funding. Any residual funds will be allocated to local councils in the same electorate to deliver playground and park upgrade projects. These will be assessed in accordance with the LSCA Guideline.

Question no: 252

(252) How is the amount of money needed per project calculated?

- (a) What calculations were in place to determine the cost of the EV charging stations in Vaucluse?

Answer:

I am advised

All nominated projects are assessed in accordance with the Local Small Commitment Allocation Guideline.

Question no: 253

(253) What were the specific details of the 'Back to School Party' that the Wagga Wagga City Council awarded \$15,000?

Answer:

I am advised

Details are publically available on the event website.

Question no: 254

(254) What was the decision process in awarding the Manly Council \$50,000 over the budget for council projects? (a) Does this contradict the Government's plan to provide everyone an equal amount regardless of electorate, recalling the Minister has stated in past "everyone gets an equal amount – regardless of where you live in the state you're entitled to an equal amount of funding. That's the opposite of pork-barrelling"?

Answer:

I am advised

It appears the *Northern Beaches Council – upgrade of Swaine Reserve* project has been listed on the **Local Small Commitments Allocation - Grants Approved** website twice in error. The electorate of Manly has been allocated the same \$400,000 as all other electorates.

Question no: 255

(255) What are the processes to ensure that each electorate receives funding?
 (a) Why have some electorates exhausted the designated funding, and other electorates (as below) have received no funding:
 i. Cronulla
 ii. Ryde
 iii. Badgerys Creek
 iv. Northern Tablelands
 v. Willoughby
 vi. Ballina
 vii. Mount Druitt
 viii. Maroubra
 ix. Londonderry
 x. Heffron
 xi. Penrith

Answer:

I am advised

Applications are still under assessment. Once a project is approved by the Special Minister of State it will be listed on the LSCA website - <https://www.nsw.gov.au/grants-and-funding/lzca>

Question no: 256

(256) What processes are in place for the 70% of electorates that have not received the full LSCA funding?
 (a) Does this contradict election promises?
 (b) What criteria are in place to manage such election commitments?

Answer:

I am advised

Applications are still under assessment. Once a project is approved by the Special Minister of State it will be listed on the LSCA website - <https://www.nsw.gov.au/grants-and-funding/lzca>
 In accordance with Section 2.2 of the LSCA Guidelines, for electorates where the \$400,000 was not exhausted, funds will be reallocated to local councils for the delivery of playground and park upgrade projects.

Question no: 257

(257) Who were the ALP organisers notified of projects prior to the election?

Answer:

I am advised

All nominated projects are assessed in accordance with the Local Small Commitment Allocation Guideline.

Question no: 258

(258) Have any projects not been properly authorised?

(a) Was the \$50,000 for Calga Wildlife Sanctuary properly authorised?

Answer:

I am advised

All nominated projects are assessed in accordance with the Local Small Commitment Allocation Guideline.

Question no: 259

(259) Was the \$84,000 allocated to the Hunter River Agricultural & Horticultural Association Limited instead allocated towards an upgrade at Maitland Showground, nominated after the election?

Answer:

I am advised

I approved a grant of \$84,000 to the Maitland Showground on 28 January 2024 as part of the Local Small Commitments Allocation program. In doing so, I was advised by the LSCA program office.

Question no: 260

(260) What is the process when a member does not allocate a project to be funded?

(a) Does the government allocate this money elsewhere?

i. If so, where?

Answer:

I am advised

In accordance with Section 2.2 of the LSCA Guidelines, for electorates where the \$400,000 was not allocated or exhausted, funds will be reallocated to local councils for the delivery of playground and park upgrade projects.

Question no: 261

(261) The NSW Electoral Commission testified that because of the denied funding, they will be forced to “exit staff”, have less robust cybersecurity, and may revert to manual processes for counting. What steps are you taking right now to assure the people of NSW that their elections will be secure?

(a) How many staff will be forced to leave the NSW Electoral Commission?

(b) What manual processes will be adopted?

Answer:

I am advised

The Government is committed to ensuring that the integrity agencies receive appropriate funding to undertake their important work, and that the funding arrangements for integrity agencies do not impede their independence. Parliament passed the Government Sector Finance Amendment (Integrity Agencies) Bill 2024 on 18 September 2024. This is an Act to amend the Government Sector Finance Act 2018 to make provision about the funding

of integrity agencies. The Government will consider future funding proposals when it prepares the 2025-26 Budget.

Question no: 262

(262) Dr Phillips also testified that they won't be able to carry out certain activities including printing "logos on ballot papers". Do you support measures to ensure transparency such as printing party logos?

(a) If so, why didn't you fund them?

(b) When can the people of NSW expect to see logos on ballot papers?

Answer:

I am advised

The Government is committed to ensuring that the integrity agencies receive appropriate funding to undertake their important work, and that the funding arrangements for integrity agencies do not impede their independence. Parliament passed the Government Sector Finance Amendment (Integrity Agencies) Bill 2024 on 18 September 2024. This is an Act to amend the Government Sector Finance Act 2018 to make provision about the funding of integrity agencies. The Government will consider future funding proposals when it prepares the 2025-26 Budget.

Question no: 263

(263) Can you commit to the people of NSW that you've done everything in your power to ensure the integrity of our State and local elections?

Answer:

I am advised

The Government is committed to ensuring that the integrity agencies receive appropriate funding to undertake their important work, and that the funding arrangements for integrity agencies do not impede their independence. Parliament passed the Government Sector Finance Amendment (Integrity Agencies) Bill 2024 on 18 September 2024. This is an Act to amend the Government Sector Finance Act 2018 to make provision about the funding of integrity agencies. The Government will consider future funding proposals when it prepares the 2025-26 Budget.

Question no: 264

(264) Do you agree with the NSW Electoral Commission's testimony that "the risks of election delivery failure are heightened as a result of this funding decision"?

Answer:

I am advised

The Government is committed to ensuring that the integrity agencies receive appropriate funding to undertake their important work, and that the funding arrangements for integrity agencies do not impede their independence. Parliament passed the Government Sector Finance Amendment (Integrity Agencies) Bill 2024 on 18 September 2024. This is an Act to amend the Government Sector Finance Act 2018 to make provision about the funding of integrity agencies. The Government will consider future funding proposals when it prepares the 2025-26 Budget.

Question no: 265

(265) Will you take responsibility if an election delivery failure occurs at the next State or Local Government election?

Answer:

I am advised

The Government is committed to ensuring that the integrity agencies receive appropriate funding to undertake their important work, and that the funding arrangements for integrity agencies do not impede their independence. Parliament passed the Government Sector Finance Amendment (Integrity Agencies) Bill 2024 on 18 September 2024. This is an Act to amend the Government Sector Finance Act 2018 to make provision about the funding of integrity agencies. The Government will consider future funding proposals when it prepares the 2025-26 Budget.

Question no: 266

(266) Is it the case that you can't fund the NSW Electoral Commission because you've prioritised wage demands from the Unions?

Answer:

I am advised

The Government is committed to ensuring that the integrity agencies receive appropriate funding to undertake their important work, and that the funding arrangements for integrity agencies do not impede their independence. Parliament passed the Government Sector Finance Amendment (Integrity Agencies) Bill 2024 on 18 September 2024. This is an Act to amend the Government Sector Finance Act 2018 to make provision about the funding of integrity agencies. The Government will consider future funding proposals when it prepares the 2025-26 Budget.



PRIGATE BIRDIII

POWERHOUSE ULTIMO

DESIGN COMPETITION BRIEF
20 SEPTEMBER 2022



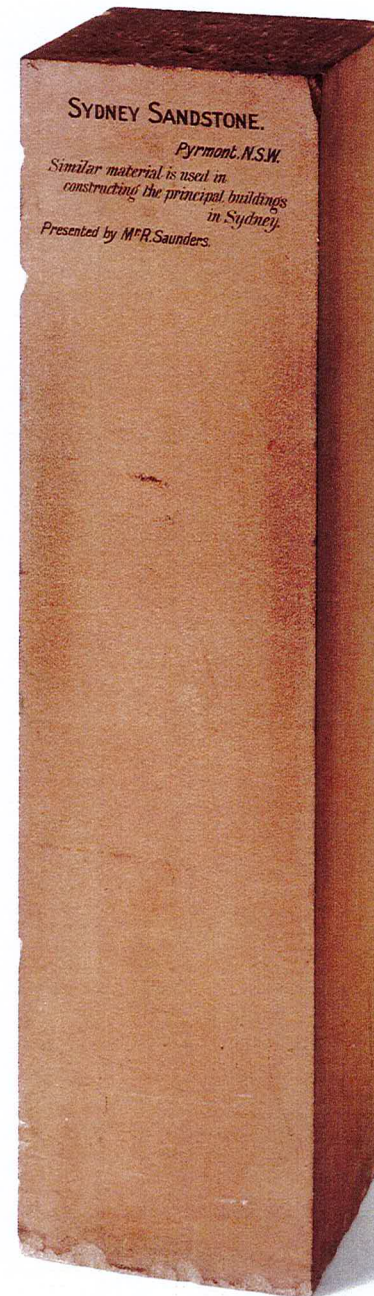
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Powerhouse pays respect to the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation, the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which Powerhouse Ultimo stands. We recognise their continuous connection to this place.

We honour the clans, nations, families that have always been connected to this Site, and respect the diverse Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples that now call this place home.

We recognise Aboriginal connections to this place as a cultural continuum – resilient, resistant, and responsive to emerging and receding industries. This has always been a place of story, ceremony and gathering, it is our responsibility that this continues to be a place for the broader community and reflects their stories.

An Acknowledgement of Country is a responsibility, behaviour, and action. It is our intention that the Powerhouse Ultimo Renewal be an Acknowledgment of Country in practice.



Cover: View of the Powerhouse Boiler Hall showing Catalina flying boat
"Frigate Bird II", 1935. Photo: Zan Wimberley

This page: Column of Pyrmont sandstone quarried at Robert Saunders' Free Stone
Quarries and Stone Works, Pyrmont, Sydney, and supplied to the then Technological
Museum in 1906. Powerhouse Collection. Photo: Zan Wimberley

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TERMS OF REFERENCE

BCA	Building Code of Australia
BOH	Back of House
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
ESD	Environmental Sustainable Design
FOH	Front of House
MAAS	Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences
SSDA	State Significant Development Application
VT	Vertical Transportation

THE NSW MINISTER FOR THE ARTS

The Hon Benjamin Franklin, MLC



In 1947, the Director of the Museum of Technology and Applied Sciences, the pre-cursor to the Powerhouse, Arthur Penfold stated: "A museum's role in the community should be a vitalising force." The Powerhouse, through this transformative renewal, is rethinking the museum as a place in the service of the city, community, and industry. In renewing the Powerhouse, the Government's responsibility to our communities is to do so in a way that is open, accessible, inclusive, and to care for the Museum's legacy and its future. When we imagine our renewed Museum, it is a place to tell stories, to hold our histories, connect to Country and reflect our diverse and changing communities.

The New South Wales Government commitment to renew the Powerhouse Museum in Ultimo, alongside the investment of \$480-500 million, will transform this iconic and much loved cultural institution and secure its future for generations to come. This renewal cements the Powerhouse as Australia's leading museum of applied arts and sciences with the development of two world-class cultural destinations, Powerhouse Ultimo and the new flagship, Powerhouse Parramatta, alongside Powerhouse Castle Hill and the Sydney Observatory.

Our game changing investment will create a world class museum embedded within a thriving creative industries precinct, generating new, connected employment pathways into the cultural and creative industries. The transformation of this iconic Museum will be the centrepiece of a creative precinct that is connected with its surrounding areas of Darling Harbour, Tech Central and the developing Pyrmont Peninsula.

PRESIDENT OF TRUSTEES

The Hon Peter Collins, AM QC



Many thousands of us across NSW and around Australia have memories of visiting the Powerhouse Museum in Ultimo. Through many generations the Powerhouse has become embedded in the imaginations of our communities. We are honoured that through the investment by the NSW Government we will expand and carry forward the legacy of our great institution to contribute to the cultural life of Sydney and NSW for many generations to come.

Through our renewal we will return to the true course of the original intentions of the Powerhouse that were set at its inception by one of our founders Archibald Liversidge. Liversidge envisaged our Museum over a century ago as 'more than merely a location to display objects but as a place that will generate and apply new knowledge'. A place of inquiry, an active participant in the creation of new ideas, of collaboration in partnership with community, industry and education.

Our renewal in Ultimo will see the Powerhouse focus on design and fashion through the creation of dedicated galleries, providing the opportunity to present our extensive collection across the applied arts and sciences in new ways. It will enable us to expand our international exhibition partnerships to present new exhibitions exclusively in Sydney, to partner, collaborate and support the Australian design and fashion industries in new ways alongside celebrating our iconic collection objects from the Catalina, Locomotive Number 1 and the Boulton and Watt engine.

It is important to our institution that we carry forward and elevate the many layers of history and labour that sit within our built form and the many thousands of years of storytelling and exchange that have happened here.

With our architectural and design teams we aspire to fold time, looking both forward and back into our history, ensuring continuity and creating a new foundation for future stories. This landmark project offers an extraordinary opportunity for Australia's architectural community to shape our creative state for decades to come. The Trustees acknowledge the vision of the NSW Government in investing in the renewal of our institution. We are honoured to be part of the historic legacy that is being created through this visionary investment.

THE POWERHOUSE WILL OFFER RESPITE
CULTURAL CONTINUITY
UNMEDIATED EXPERIENCES WITH OBJECTS
IT WILL BE A PLACE FOR PEOPLE

EVERY MOMENT
EVERY SPACE
EVERY DETAIL
WILL HAVE UTILITY, PURPOSE
AND CONSISTENCY

IT IS WHAT IT DOES

A MIRROR TO THE LIVES
OF ITS COMMUNITIES

The Powerhouse Ultimo Renewal will see the Museum redefined, through a tangible and intangible transformation. We will consciously shift to a relational model that upends and redefines existing museological hierarchies of knowledge. People will sit at the centre of the museum; they will power our institution through creating and immersing themselves in diverse stories and programs.

The Powerhouse will amplify the voice and ideas of our communities and continue to highlight the ingenuity of innovation for new generations.

Powerhouse Ultimo Renewal will bring clarity to the story our building and site tells, whilst simultaneously creating flexible spaces that can support and adapt to new stories and changing, dynamic programs that facilitate direct connections with our collections. We will re-think exhibition making as a generative form of provocation and conversation, creating spaces that empower people to have unmediated experience with objects, providing space for their own stories and experiences. We will redefine learning programs to enable reciprocity as an underpinning definition of learning.

The Powerhouse Museum has a vast history of documenting, reflecting, and investing in industry through our collections and exhibitions, dating back to our earliest inception at the Garden Palace in 1881. Our museum is not a passive observer to change and innovation, we have always taken a generative approach by actively contributing to the development of industry. We support the front edge of contemporary design thinking and amplify the work of industry – this is where our stories lie.

The experience of moving around the Powerhouse will be innately intuitive. It will be a place that allows you to orient yourself with the city. It will be porous and connected, a place that you walk through, not around, naturally extending the pathways of the city. The Presentation Space of the Powerhouse will create world-class environments that care for local and internationally important objects to the highest of standards. As a place it will be a positive contributor to the environment, providing shaded green areas of respite that are connected across the site. It will be both epic and intimate, actively enabling and integrating with Powerhouse programs to create an internationally renowned, distinctive cultural place.

As a cultural institution our relationship with time is expansive, vital, energised and vulnerable. Our renewal cannot simply be an acceleration into the future, it must allow a complex and nuanced understanding of time. This is a moment of simultaneous transition and return. We are seeking integrity of concept and directness of form. We invite you to consider these aspirations and bring your own expansive concepts and ambitions to collaborate with us to deliver this generationally important cultural project.

Lisa Havilah
Chief Executive, Powerhouse

POWERHOUSE ULTIMO OVERVIEW

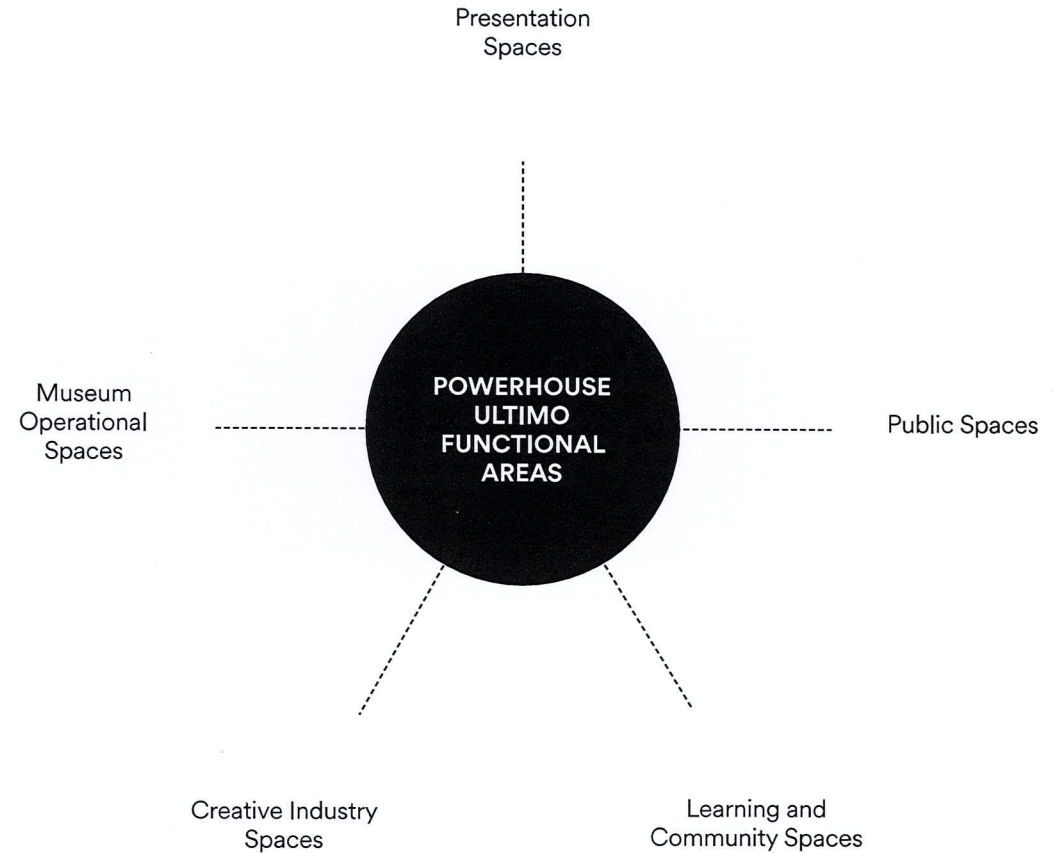
Powerhouse Ultimo will be a dynamic, porous, and connected 24/7 precinct that is responsive to the changing city around it. It will be a welcoming, visually coherent place which will function across many modes throughout the day and into the night ensuring it is highly utilised by local communities, creative industries, national and international visitors.

Powerhouse Ultimo will set new precedents through the multiple ways it supports high levels of concurrent cultural activation and community use. It will support diversity and innovation, be adaptable, with flexible operational capabilities to present indoor and outdoor large-scale community, civic, and public events. It will feature connected spaces across the built form and public domain that support multiple, concurrent collaborations across the creative industries.

Powerhouse Ultimo will have re-imagined existing spaces, with complementary new built form and public realm. Powerhouse Ultimo will include:

- Presentation Spaces
- Public Spaces
- Learning and Community Spaces
- Creative Industry Spaces
- Museum Operational Spaces (includes Back of House)

This section of the Brief details the vision and guiding principles for the renewal of Powerhouse Ultimo. The vision will be realised through new functional spaces and a re-invigorated public realm.



CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

Powerhouse Ultimo Renewal will integrate a Creative Industries Precinct into the function of the Museum. Creative industry partners that base their practice at Powerhouse Ultimo will collaborate with Powerhouse to contribute to programs, Collections and exhibitions. It will be a place that builds on unique local strengths and connects to the broader creative industries across Sydney and NSW.

The term creative industries describes a wide range of cultural and technology-intensive activities which include, but are not limited to, design, fashion, architecture, craft, music, performing and visual arts, publishing, media production and broadcasting, digital services, arts education, and advertising.

The Creative Industries Precinct will be supported by the following principles:

- Provide opportunity for emerging and established creative practitioners and industries.
- A place for co-location and collaboration that provides professional and digital connectivity.
- Emerging practitioners and start-ups will form networks to support growth, professional engagement and access to interconnected and co-located resources.
- Create education and industry pathways from secondary to tertiary, from emerging to established creative leaders.
- A highly utilised 24/7 precinct with continual activity to create jobs and stimulate cultural vibrancy. The precinct will be used for work, cultural engagement and social recreation. Cultural and economic activation will integrate to support diverse commercial offerings.

DESIGN AND FASHION

The renewal will expand our international reputation as a leading collecting institution, through the creation of new dedicated design and fashion exhibition spaces. Powerhouse Ultimo's focus on design and fashion reflects our alignment with the changing nature of our precinct.

The Powerhouse's commitment to design and fashion is expressed beyond the built form. Our generative model of supporting learning, commissioning, researching, and collaborating through our Creative Industries Precinct and partnerships will create an ecology of practice which will power our collections, exhibitions and programming.

Jordan Quinn, Jordan's Spiritism Group for Australian Fashion Week 2022 in collaboration with Mary Lou Herron, The Fabricless Firm, David Lee Zallo, Eli Navarro and Virginia Clark, Phoebe Brereton

SECTION 1
DESIGN PRINCIPLES



DESIGNING WITH COUNTRY

PAST TO PRESENT

Powerhouse Ultimo is situated upon the ancestral homelands of the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation. The area of present-day Powerhouse Ultimo was a site of passage to the shorelines of Tumbalong (present day Darling Harbour) and recognised as a place of in-between for the Gadigal and the Wangal, whose Country lies further to the west.

The industrial quarries of Ultimo incised stone, watercourses were reshaped, the topographies of Country were concealed by layers of concrete and cement, and yet the stories, memories, and connections of this place permeate through layers of time. The custodianship of this site remains resilient, resistant, and constant.

The Powerhouse Site, and its surrounding inner-city suburbs have an important and strong legacy of Aboriginal connections. More than a thousand generations of Aboriginal people have lived in the Sydney region through numerous climatic changes that have shaped Australia and its landscape to what it is today.

Compared with other nearby areas of Sydney, the Ultimo-Pyrmont Peninsula remained largely undeveloped for many years following European invasion, affording retention of a stronger measure of Aboriginal presence in the earlier years of the NSW colony that was not equaled in adjacent areas such as Sydney and Farm Coves. Aboriginal people on the Ultimo-Pyrmont Peninsula continued to live traditionally for decades after the arrival of Europeans, as is demonstrated through both the historical and archaeological records. Archaeological evidence demonstrates how new materials were adopted into traditional practices, such as fashioning a tool from a piece of glass. Colonial descriptions and images depict Aboriginal people continuing to camp and fish around Tumbalong into the 1820s.

It was not until the late 1830 and early 1840s that the colonists began to turn their attention to the Pyrmont Peninsula for more 'rural' uses, resulting in land clearance and further dislocation of Aboriginal people from their traditional land.

However, the Ultimo area remained significantly underdeveloped in comparison to the nearby larger industrialised areas like Darling Harbour until the late 1880s, and historic records suggest that the area continued to be used by local Aboriginal people during the mid-19th century for gathering oysters and cockles from the shore.

In the 20th Century there continued to be Aboriginal connections to Ultimo and the surrounding area. In 1933 workers from the Ultimo Power Station, alongside a number of workers' groups, contributed to the Eatock Defence Fund, to help fund the defence of Noel Eatock, an Aboriginal man who was arrested and charged when participating in a protest against the dole form in October 1932. In the 1960s, Aboriginal people became increasingly active in the political sphere, particularly around issues that affected their lives such as citizenship and land rights.

We honour the clans, nations, families that have always been connected to this site, and respect the diverse Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples that now call this place home. We recognise Aboriginal connections to this place as a cultural continuum – resilient, resistant, and responsive to emerging and receding industries. This has always been a place of story, ceremony and gathering, it is our responsibility that this continues to be a place for the broader community and reflects their stories.

ALIGNMENT WITH RELEVANT POLICIES AND PLANS

Competitors should consider relevant concepts and ways of working from the following documents in their submission.

- Designing with Country (Draft) (GANSW, 2020)
- Connecting with Country (Draft) (GANSW, 2020)

A summary of these documents is included in *Appendix B: Alignment with Policy, Plans and Strategic Directions*.



Greenstone and millstone, Australia, c. 1900. Powerhouse Collection. Gift of Dr G.A. Mackay, 1994. Photo: Ryan Hernandez

CARING FOR COUNTRY

First Nations peoples are the traditional owners, custodians and caretakers of the Country on which the four Powerhouse sites are located. First Nations peoples hold knowledge and practices stemming from their connection to Country, cultural values and beliefs which have developed over millennia.

“Country” means more than just the land on which the Powerhouse sites are located. It includes the literal country being the land and seas, as well as all the tangible and intangible. It is the source of Indigenous’ people cultural and spiritual identity, and helps Indigenous people understand themselves and relate to others. Knowledge and cultural practices passed down through generations are learned and taught from Country.

“Caring for Country” refers to Indigenous peoples symbiotic relationship to their Country and their obligations as traditional custodians to maintain the vitality and integrity of Country, and all that it encompasses.

As unmitigated climate change becomes a global issue, the place of Caring for Country and First Nations cultural knowledge is becoming central to this discourse and practical solutions. Embedding First Nations knowledge, practices and principles into the Powerhouse Sustainability Action Plan, including through the development of Caring for Country Principles, ensures an integrated approach to responding to these issues and reflects the knowledge and priorities of all its stakeholders.

Historically and still, First Nations knowledge systems have been co-opted and exploited by non-Indigenous people and institutions. It is important that the Caring for Country Principles are led and co-designed in consultation and with the approval of the First Nations community for each of the Powerhouse sites. The Powerhouse Caring for Country Principles will be significant in demonstrating the connection between First Nations knowledge, practices and innovations and the Museum’s methodologies, processes, sciences and collections.

A summary of the Powerhouse Caring for Country Principles are:

Locality of Place

- Local engagement - Knowledge of Powerhouse sites and Country
- Deep listening to Elders
- Memories of place
- Opportunities for community employment, training and mentorship

Knowledge of Place

- First Nations voices and perspectives
- Elders and youth knowledge
- Storytelling
- Affirming shared histories and connection to Country

Respect

- First Nations leadership and co-design
- Respect Sacred Sites and places
- Men’s and women’s business
- First Nations knowledge of land, seas, skies, places, identity and tangible and intangible cultural heritage

Holistic

- Build strong relationships
- Country-centred
- Cyclical
- Tailor approaches

Vitality – People and Country

- Strong relationship with Country and people
- Prioritising people and their needs
- Access to sites and space
- Connecting to Mob

Stewardship

- Maintaining Country and culture
- Sharing knowledge
- Obligations as custodians of Country
- Impact of design on Country
- Ensuring intergenerational access to Country and knowledge

Intergenerational

- Intergenerational teaching/learning
- Opportunities to transfer and share knowledge
- Support cultural revitalisation and practices

Cultural Flows

- Healthy and strong waterways and resources
- Recognition and respect for cultural flows
- Conserving and managing marine species and resources

Language

- Language revitalisation and affirmation
- Oral histories
- Sustaining connection to Country

Cultural Expression

- Song, dance, gathering on Country
- Strong connection to Country
- Expressing connection to Country through cultural practices





POWERHOUSE ULTIMO RENEWAL PRINCIPLES

These principles inform the design process and will be expressed throughout the built form and public realm, reminding us of our collective responsibility in creating a place that is held by the community. These principles will be employed as our metric for value, relevance and authenticity to our Site and story.

- Intention
- Continuity
- Connectivity
- Belonging
- Collaboration
- Flexibility
- Sustainability

INTENTION

We want an idea, an approach and a philosophy — not simply a collection of buildings. Our Site is a place of varied design languages from State Heritage Listed buildings to the post-modern adaptive re-use addition of the 1980s. The weight of history, language, approach to sustainability and the pre-existing architectural forms should inspire design solutions and re-imagining.

Neutrality disinterests us. We want people to know that they are on Gadigal Country, in Sydney, in Australia. Country gives us geographical markers to situate ourselves, to be grounded and centre into a sense of belonging. We want our visitors, staff and collaborators to consciously carry a sense of place with them as they experience the buildings and the precinct.

We invite boldness, resilience and confidence in the face of constraint and complexity. We seek to set a new benchmark for cultural institutions.

Every material tells a story of creation and extraction, of industry and ingenuity. The built form should inspire a heightened awareness of the materiality which reflects our story and Site.

We require a built form that holds and highlights world-class exhibitions and welcomes nationally and internationally significant objects and collections. We want to create a place that can move through time with elasticity and responsiveness, a place where we can create and hold space for stories.



Object No H1776. Anatomical model of a human heart.
Sydney Science Festival 2022. Photo: Zan Wimblerley

CONTINUITY

Powerhouse Ultimo Renewal is about remembering the origin of who we are — it is an acknowledgement, a folding of time, a reckoning and a return. The stories and memories of the Site should inform and empower the design.

The Site is at an outstretched proximity to Darling Harbour (Tumbalong). In the past this place maintained a closer relationship to the natural waterline of the harbour. Powerhouse Ultimo still holds the memory of water, our steam engines continue to be powered by saltwater extracted and channelled from the harbour.

This renewal is the opportunity to reinstate and maintain the epic volumes of space in our Boiler House, Turbine Hall and Engine House and the industrialised remnants that speak to our buildings' former functions and its relevance in Sydney. We seek to bring forth the legacy of the Museum and give respect to time, history, memory and Country. We want to complement and celebrate the fabric and spaces on Site to the wider public domain network, allowing improved access, connection to, and appreciation for these buildings.

We seek to fold the histories of the Site with the Museum's contemporary history, established with the adaptive re-use of the Ultimo Power Station in 1988.

MICROCARS

Museum's Exhibition in Boiler House, Powerhouse 2022.
Photo: Zai Winklerky



CONNECTIVITY

The Powerhouse spans across a digital platform and four physical sites; Ultimo, Parramatta, Sydney Observatory and Castle Hill, all connected by the waters and tributaries of Sydney Harbour that merge from saltwater to freshwater as it extends toward Parramatta.

Ultimo is a place of connectivity, passage and movement. Positioned at the southern end of the Pyrmont (Pirrama) peninsula, this location was a thoroughfare and an access point to Tumbalong and Gomora where the Gadigal and Wangal gathered to feast on abundant shellfish upon the shoreline.

Ultimo is a gritty, textured place of stories and ingenuity. Our site was used to connect industry and trade by rail and sea. The Ultimo Power Station was commissioned in 1899 to supply power for Sydney's first electric tram network.

Ultimo's technological and powered past is re-imagined in the present day through the exchange of non-materialised industries of media, technology, creativity and education. The Goods Line originally transported wool, coal, shale, timber and wheat and today it weaves a thread of connection between our Site, through the expanding technology precinct, opening out to the south of Sydney CBD.

Powerhouse Ultimo is a core pillar in the cultural spine of The Goods Line, connecting through the fine grain and public domain to other cultural destinations and transport nodes. We seek designs that respond to the unique conditions of the Site and integrate the Museum into the contemporary urban, social and environmental context. We encourage openness and breath as we reinstate our historic and contemporary connections to Site, city and community.

BELONGING

We want people to feel that they belong. For us, there is no hierarchy of people who interact with our Site. We want the community to feel empowered to navigate, move through and live in Powerhouse Ultimo.

Our public space will support a thriving 24/7 economy that can transition through all modes of the day and seasons. We seek public open spaces that are comfortable and welcoming, have good solar access and encourage the local community to utilise and activate the precinct.

We seek a porous site, connected to the wider surrounds, with multiple points of entry, enabling a slipstream of visitation, interaction and living. Contemporary, curated retail, food and beverage experiences will be integrated into the Museum programming and creating a dynamic visitor experience. Powerhouse Ultimo will be safe, accessible, and inclusive, supporting and welcoming diverse abilities, communities and perspectives to contribute.

The Goods Line and connected transport links need to guide visitors through a major public square to a re-orientated Museum entrance. Here they should be met with welcoming threshold spaces and be reminded instantly of our industrialised and powered past through the epic presence of the heritage façade of the original Power Station.

Clear circulation is fundamental to the visitor experience. We seek simple, consistent sight lines that enables visitors to read the Museum independently and autonomously. It must be communicated throughout the building, enabling a diverse range of visitors to access our exhibitions, programs and collections without distraction. Circulation must be separate and distinct from presentation space, ensuring that exhibitions and programs can be produced without impacting the visitor experience.

COLLABORATION

Powerhouse is not just a place of objects, it is a place of people – curators, strategists, writers, scientists, technologists, inventors, coders, historians, educators, storytellers, digital specialists and researchers. The Powerhouse will be a key collaborator in the renewal of Ultimo throughout the design process. Our knowledge will contribute to the renewal through heritage and interpretation, First Nations cultural narratives, exhibitions, and curatorial practice. We will actively collaborate with the design team, at the table, throughout the design process.

We embrace expansive definitions of design that hold space for collaboration and experimentation. We value creative practitioners' and artists' abilities to work across multi-disciplinary projects and to question, to solve, to agitate and re-imagine possibilities. Our embedded artists and artistic associates work closely with us to redefine our Institution and connection with industry and community. We welcome like-minded approaches to the establishment of multidisciplinary design teams that take an expansive and collaborative approach to the design process.

Together, we will set the foundation for honest collaboration and purposeful management of time. Working together, we will enable a thriving, 24/7 cultural destination that is embedded in Sydney and generously integrates into the fine grain with multi-layered, multi-level social and recreational spaces that attract, stimulate and reflect daily civic life.



Powerhouse creative residents Romance Was Born.
Photo: Zan Wimberley

FLEXIBILITY

Stories are the gravity that pull people toward our Museum. We require a design solution that puts stories first. We envisage a built form that does not compete with us. Rather, it will support our core function through respectful and sensitive approaches to design, giving primacy to our stories and the ways in which we share them through exhibitions and programs.

The Powerhouse Ultimo Renewal will ensure that our Museum can function to the best of its ability, in the service of its communities. It will allow for flexibility in the built form and public domain to adapt and change over time. We require a design that allows multiple uses of space and fosters collaboration and sharing. Each space needs to have its own integrity and autonomy. The public domain and built form will support the delivery of concurrent, dynamic activation, utilisation and programming of multiple scales across the day and night. This includes the development and presentation of exhibitions featuring the Powerhouse's Collection, international exhibitions, education, and commercial programs.

The Collection will be cared for through the highest level of required environmental controls and support international and national loans and exhibitions.

We require clear separation of Front of House (FOH) and Back of House (BOH) activity to ensure the visitor experience and programs are not compromised. The Museum operations and ease of movement must support high levels of production and programming alongside concurrent visitation. Public thoroughfares will be maintained during loading and unloading. We require intuitive wayfinding that is responsive to new access points and key connections.

Multiple programs and BOH functions will run concurrently and we seek a design that supports operational excellence. Acoustic and light isolation will support the delivery of high levels of concurrent activity and utilisation. We require Presentation and Program spaces that are minimal in detail to ensure our exhibitions have primacy. We seek consolidated facilities that are discrete and easily identified.



SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability is more than a requirement for the Powerhouse, it is our story and responsibility. Taking a leadership position on sustainability and climate change is essential to the Powerhouse Ultimo Renewal and expansion.

Powerhouse Ultimo is situated upon the ancestral homelands of the Gadigal People whom we acknowledge as Traditional Custodians. We recognise their timeless and continuous connection to Country and intend to renew the respect paid to the Gadigal People and the cultural narratives of the site. The Powerhouse will create museums that reflect the knowledge, understanding and ingenuity of First Nations peoples to care for Country in ways that are inherently sustainable. The renewal of Powerhouse Ultimo will embed First Nations sustainability and Caring for Country principles, architectural innovation, and future technologies on Site, with consideration for material impacts and future operations.

The renewal will recognise the relationship between the built form and function, and remember our responsibility and responsiveness to climate, season and sustainability. Innovation, function and critical analysis of energy production and consumption have been ongoing themes throughout the history of the Powerhouse and our Ultimo Site. We seek an authentic design response to sustainability with the intention of retaining and re-using what is essential for the benefit of the whole project. The sustainability methodology should apply to modifications, new built form and further adaptive re-use.

Powerhouse Ultimo will be centred on low carbon, thermally responsive buildings, maximising energy and efficiency and promoting passive solutions. The design needs to account for climate changes and be resilient to current and future needs of the Museum, our programs and Collection. All aspects of the design, construction and ongoing operation of the Museum are required to seek opportunities to embed sustainable thinking, have positive social impacts, reduce waste, reduce water usage and use sustainable.

Gail Mabo, with iconic shirt belonging to her late father Eddie Mabo. His shirts will be cared for by the Powerhouse, with full ownership retained by the family and community, Mabo, Zoi Wiribitjy.

The Hon John Graham MLC

Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts,
Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, Minister for Jobs and Tourism,
Deputy Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council



Ref: BN23/00652

Councillor Darcy Byrne
Mayor
Inner West Council
PO Box 14
Petersham NSW 2040

Re: Rozelle Parklands

Dear Cr *Darcy,* Byrne,

As part of the Rozelle Interchange project, Transport for NSW (Transport) will deliver the Rozelle Parklands, 10 hectares of public parkland and open space for community of Rozelle and the Inner West.

The Rozelle Parklands Working Group was established to determine the Parklands' optimal 'end state' and ensure all perspectives were considered.

The report outlines a preferred Parklands' 'end state', which includes recreation, sporting activities and fields, amenities and facilities, and parking changes.

Transport progressed the delivery of the majority of the recommendations including:

- an oval field with a natural turf surface for various sports
- a rectangle field (without a synthetic surface)
- two multi-purpose courts (not four as proposed)
- a facility building
- lighting for both the oval and rectangle fields, and the multi-purpose courts
- a toilet facility within the vicinity of the BBQ and playground
- bus drop-off area near a park entry point
- parking study, to determine the local area's potential traffic impacts arising from the Parklands' increased use.

As you have outlined, several items have not been implemented by Transport, which include:

- A synthetic surface on the rectangle field
- two of the four multi-purpose courts
- a pedestrian crossing between the Parklands and Easton Park
- parking changes on Lilyfield Road to increase parking.

Following your representations, I understand the importance of these facilities for sporting organisations and the Inner West Community.

Given this strong sentiment, Transport has been working with Inner West Council on opportunities to consider the needs, and where appropriate how the outcomes can be delivered in or near the Rozelle Parklands to meet community needs.

It is proposed that Inner West Council lead a Master Plan for the Rozelle Parklands and associated consultation with the community.

The Masterplan would consider elements such as:

- refinements to the parklands to enable improvements over time (without changing the existing layout)
- the need and justification for additional parking
- potential to deliver additional multipurpose courts and synthetic all-weather sporting fields at alternate locations within proximity to the Parklands.

We will provide \$250,000 in funding for the delivery of the Master Plan.

Transport would normally lead the delivery of these items as it has done for the rest of the Rozelle Parklands. However, as these would be Inner West Council assets that need to be delivered to your specifications and requirements, on Inner West Council land, the cost effective and efficient way for them to be delivered is by Inner West Council. As such, it is proposed that funding be provided to Inner West Council for their delivery.

A funding envelope of \$20 million will be made available to Inner West Council for the delivery of the items identified through the Master Plan.

Following the completion of the Master Plan, the funds would be transferred to Council when the total costs to deliver improvements within their Local Government Area are known.

As you would be aware the intent has always been that Transport would deliver the Rozelle Parklands, and they would be managed and maintained by Inner West Council through a Care, Control and Management agreement.

Transport is in the process of providing Inner West Council with the required asset information to prepare to operate and manage the Parklands, as such no agreement is currently in place with Council to manage the Parklands.

Transport has agreed to manage the Rozelle Parklands until an agreement can be entered with Inner West Council, to operate and maintain the site.

As recently discussed and proposed, Inner West Council will enter into a Care, Control and Management agreement for the Rozelle Parklands at no cost to Transport, and they will take control of the Parklands by November 2024.

If you require any further information, please contact Mr Steve Issa, Executive Director, Community and Place, Greater Sydney, Transport for NSW, on

Sincerely,


John Graham MLC

Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts,
Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, Minister for Jobs and Tourism,
Deputy Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council

01/12/23.

Department of Premier and Cabinet



Purchasing Card Policy

November 2022

Document management

Publication details

Document Type(s) (Select all options that apply)	Yes/No
Policy	Yes
Procedures	No
Guidelines	No
Standard	No
Fact sheet	No

Responsible Branch	Document Owner	Document Reviewer
Finance, Strategy & Performance	Associate Director, Procurement	Director, Finance & Procurement

Publication (Select all options that apply)	Yes/No
Not for publication	No
Intranet	Yes
DPC website	Yes
Other (Please specify.)	

Approved by	Date of approval
DPC Executive	

Review record

Date	Action	Version
2011	Publication	1.0
April 2013	Publication	2.0
June 2017	Publication	3.0
November 2022	New template, updated links, references and incorporation of NSW Treasury policy TPP21-02 <i>Use and Management of NSW Government Purchasing Cards</i> requirements	4.0
November 2024	Scheduled review	

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1 Overview

1.1 Policy Statement

The Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC) recognises that Purchasing Cards (PCards) are an efficient method for arranging the purchase of goods and services subject to certain conditions, and for tracking expenditure.

DPC is committed to ensuring that employees can perform their duties in an efficient and effective manner, while maintaining management control over the use of official resources.

As a result, a PCard may be provided to an employee, who is a government officer, where a legitimate ongoing business requirement can be demonstrated.

This extends to DPC's use of Virtual Cards (VCards).

1.2 Objective

The purpose of this policy is to clearly outline the conditions and processes to ensure effective management control over the use of official PCards.

Conforming with this policy will ensure that the following risks associated with the use and management of PCards are minimised and effective and efficient delivery of government programs is supported through a well-managed PCard program:

- Misuse of PCards
 - Inefficient use of Departmental resources
 - Fraudulent misappropriation of Departmental funds
 - Unauthorised or unapproved transactions.
-

1.3 PCard Program

A PCard is a commercial purchasing card issued at the request of DPC by the banking services provider engaged by the Treasurer. It is issued to officers to use exclusively for the purchase of goods and services on behalf of DPC.

1.4 VCard Program

A VCard is like a purchasing card but is not issued as a physical card, rather as a 16-digit number issued by the card issuer (Citibank). A VCard is typically issued as a 'whole-of-agency' card for the purchase of goods or services from a single supplier and it can have multiple 'Cardholders'. In this policy document, both the PCard and VCard are referred to in the singular term, PCard unless stated otherwise.

1.5 Relationship to Other Documents

The PCard program is governed by this policy document and all other relevant government and Departmental policies, instructions, and related memoranda. These policy documents can be accessed in the DPC intranet.

The policy should be read in conjunction with the:

- Procurement Policy
- Financial Delegations
- Code of Conduct
- Gifts and Benefits Policy
- NSW Treasury policy TPP21-02 *Use and Management of NSW Government purchasing Cards*

The Secretary, as the Accountable Authority for the DPC, is ultimately responsible for the proper management and administration of PCards within DPC. This policy, operating in conjunction with

other DPC and NSW Government policies, forms part of the internal control framework over financial transactions of DPC.

2 Who Does this Policy Apply to?

The policy and procedures apply to all Cardholders, who have been provided with a PCard; and line managers of Cardholders. All staff are responsible for implementing this policy.

2.1 Eligibility

Permanent and temporary officers of the Department may apply for a PCard.

Contractors and other non-officers of DPC are allowed to apply for PCards in exceptional circumstances.

To be eligible for a PCard, an officer **must** meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Frequently purchase goods and services in the course of their duties
- Travel frequently in the course of their duties
- Travel overseas on official business

Officers who are seconded to another Department, for the duration of their secondment, must return their PCard to DPC Finance, Strategy and Performance Branch (FSP).

3 Key Responsibilities

All staff who are issued with PCards have responsibilities under this policy. Managers, senior management and/or the head of the agency also have added responsibilities. DPC FSP have specific responsibilities.

3.1 Cardholder

The cardholder is personally responsible and accountable for:

- The responsible use of the PCard.
- The safekeeping of the PCard. Personal Identification Numbers (PINs) must not be disclosed to anyone and must not be carried with the PCard.
- Reconciling PCard expenditure within 30 days of each transaction. If transactions remain outstanding and no acceptable reason is submitted for non-compliance, a cardholder's PCard may be cancelled without warning
- Retaining and submitting all receipts with the reconciliation as supporting documentation. Cardholders must obtain a duplicate receipt from the supplier if an original receipt is lost. If it is not possible to obtain a duplicate receipt, the cardholder must provide a declaration detailing particulars and certifying that the expenditure was business related.
- Contacting Citibank to cancel lost or stolen cards immediately.
- Limiting cash withdrawals to incidental travel expenses, and are to be used only in exceptional circumstances.
- Immediately reporting any unauthorised transactions which appear on their PCard account to DPC FSP and Citibank.

3.2 Manager

The manager of the cardholder is responsible and accountable for:

- Ensuring that cardholders submit transactions within 30 days of occurrence.
- Reviewing PCard transactions for compliance with DPC policies
- Authorising or rejecting all submitted transactions within 30 days.

- Advising FSP if the cardholder leaves DPC, or the PCard is no longer required.
-

3.3 DPC Finance, Strategy & Performance Branch

DPC Finance, Strategy & Performance are responsible for:

- The PCard policy and administration of the PCard program in DPC
 - Reviewing credit card activity to ensure compliance with this policy.
 - Providing guidance to staff regarding PCard usage.
 - Acting as a point of contact between the Department and the Citibank.
 - Supporting cardholders in action where there is evidence of misuse of a PCard (including possible unauthorised or fraudulent transactions).
 - Following up with cardholders and managers to ensure acquittals are occurring on a timely basis.
 - Reporting on PCard usage.
 - Management of exclusions from authorised purchases.
 - Maintaining restrictions on use of PCards for supplier payment types.
 - Cardholder training requirements.
-

3.4 GovConnect NSW

GovConnect NSW is responsible for:

- Maintaining the Expense8 system, including user access and security.
- Reconciling the General Ledger Control Account.

4 PCard limits

PCard transactions are subject to financial delegation limits, individual transaction limits, and monthly card usage limits.

- PCard holders are provided with a default financial delegation of \$10,000.
- Cardholders with a higher financial delegation may request a higher transaction limit, subject to Deputy Secretary and Chief Financial Officer (CFO) support. This is expected to be subject to business requirements and in exceptional circumstances only.
- Default individual transaction limits are \$10,000 per transaction.
- Default monthly credit limits for PCards are \$10,000 per month.
- ATM and over the counter withdrawal limits are set to zero. Where staff are travelling overseas on official business, an ATM withdrawal limit of \$600 per day may be made available. Before travelling, staff must contact FSP to arrange for this limit to be adjusted.

5 Conditions of Use

A PCard must only be used for official business. PCards should be kept in a secure place.

5.1 What PCards can be used for

A PCard can be used for:

- The purchase of goods and services, subject to exclusions.
 - A list of items excluded from Purchasing Card use can be found in **Appendix A** of this document.

- Purchases must be made through NSW Government contracted suppliers where applicable. Details of contracted suppliers can be found in the buy.nsw central contracts library.
 - Payment of claimable travel expenses when overseas only. For example, meals and incidentals.
 - Withdrawal of cash via ATM or over the counter when travelling overseas.
-

5.2 What PCards cannot be used for

Further to the items listed in **Appendix A**, a PCard **must not** be used for:

- Payment of one day meal expenses or overtime meals where the cost exceeds the limit specified by NSW Industrial Relations (these expenses are taxable and must be claimed through the payroll system)
 - Regular or periodic payments. These items should be arranged through a standing purchase order or DPC Virtual Card.
 - The purchase of capital items or low value, portable and attractive assets. These items should be procured through NSW Government contracts where possible, and paid for via an official Departmental purchase order, so the assets can be recorded and managed appropriately.
 - The purchase of any goods or services where the Cardholder may/will gain private advantage (e.g. frequent flyer points, rewards programs, etc.)
 - The purchase of goods or services where existing whole-of-government contracts are in place, e.g. airline tickets which must be obtained through the Department's travel provider (FCM Travel Solutions).
 - Expenses for rideshare services.
-

5.3 PCard Purchases for Entertainment or Hospitality Expenses

Where the purchase of entertainment or hospitality items is a legitimate business requirement, these must be approved in accordance with *Administrative Delegations (Category B)*. The cardholder must provide full supporting documentation, including all receipts and explanatory notes, with the card reconciliation.

Explanatory notes should contain sufficient detail to enable staff approving the expenditure or reviewing the card reconciliation to be satisfied that the business requirements for the purchase were legitimate. For example, if a card is used for the payment of meals and/or alcohol, the cardholder must provide the purpose of the purchase and a list of persons involved.

Supporting documentation must clearly identify costs incurred on behalf of Public Servants and non-Public Servants to allow for the calculation of any Fringe Benefits Tax (FBT) liability.

Alcohol related purchases are governed by different rules. The majority of PCard holders do not have delegation to purchase alcohol. Refer to the Gifts and Hospitality Policy and the Code of Conduct for further information.

5.4 PCard Purchases for Motor Vehicle Expenses

The payment of expenses related to Departmental motor vehicles should be limited to emergency situations only. Fuel should be purchased using fuel cards provided with the vehicle, while repairs and servicing should be arranged through Transport Services.

If a PCard is used in relation to a Departmental motor vehicle, the cardholder must provide copies of all receipts to Transport Services.

6 Procedures

6.1 Applying for a PCard

The applicant must complete and sign a Purchasing Card Application form and a Purchasing Card Responsibilities form (available on the Hub).

PCard applications must be approved by a line manager, of Executive Director level or higher.

Both forms are to be forwarded to DPC Finance, Strategy & Performance for processing at DPC.Procurement@dpc.nsw.gov.au.

Applications are reviewed by FSP, prior to lodgement with the banking service provider.

Applicants must then apply for a card via the Citibank website as directed by DPC Procurement.

6.2 Changes to PCard Limits

Alternative transaction limits and monthly card limits may be requested based on business requirements. Details should be provided to FSP, with evidence of approval from the Cardholder's Executive Director or higher.

6.3 Issuing PCards

PCards are ordered by DPC Finance, Strategy & Performance through the contracted bank (Citibank). Approximately 7-10 working days should be allowed for the processing of the card by the bank.

The applicant can request the card to be sent to their personal address or to the office. If the card has not been received within 10 working days, applicants can contact FSP to arrange follow up at DPC.Procurement@dpc.nsw.gov.au.

A Personal Identification Number (PIN) will need to be arranged with the bank.

6.4 Reconciliations

Transaction details are accessible via the Citibank reporting portal (CCRS). Separate monthly card statements are provided. Cardholders must reconcile expenditure within 30 days of the transaction date. Managers must authorise or reject all submitted transactions within 30 days. Any transactions disputed by the cardholder must be reported to FSP, who will pursue these items with the bank.

Receipts held by the cardholder should be matched to transactions appearing in the Expense8 system. A cost centre or project code must also be assigned.

Additional approval requirements:

- Purchases related to entertainment or hospitality require prior approval from a line manager at Executive Director level or higher.
- Purchases of alcohol, unrelated to a meal, require prior approval from the Cardholders Deputy Secretary, in accordance with (or as varied by) the DPC Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality Policy.
- This can be evidenced by signing of the receipt by the authority (or similar electronic evidence of approval) before it is scanned and submitted through the Expense8 system.

In the case of lost receipts, the cardholder must provide a written statement detailing particulars of the expenditure, in the form of a Statutory Declaration within the Expense8 system.

Detailed procedures relating to the processing and approval of transactions in the Expense8 system are contained on the DPC intranet.

The Expense8 system will enable reporting on all outstanding card transactions at any point in time. Cardholders who have transactions outstanding for more than 30 days will be notified accordingly by FSP. If transactions remain outstanding, the card may be cancelled without further notice.

6.5 Lost or Stolen Cards

The cardholder must immediately report a lost or stolen card to Citibank via telephone on 13 24 84 (Australia) or 61 2 8225 0615 (overseas).

6.6 Damaged Cards

Damaged cards can be replaced by cutting the card through the card numbers and disposing the card. Cardholders should email DPC Finance, Strategy & Performance on dpc.procurement@dpc.nsw.gov.au with a replacement request, and confirm that the damaged card has been destroyed and disposed. A new card will then be issued.

Replacement cards may take up to 10 working days to arrive.

6.7 Renewal of Cards

Replacement PCards will be issued by Citibank prior to the card expiry date.

6.8 Termination of Employment

Cardholders leaving the Department must cut the card through the card numbers dispose the card. Before their last day of duty, the cardholder must reconcile all outstanding expenditure on their purchasing card and advise FSP at dpc.procurement@dpc.nsw.gov.au, who will then cancel the card with Citibank.

Details of outstanding transactions for purchasing cards can be obtained from the Expense8 system. It is the responsibility of the Cardholder's manager to ensure all reconciliations are completed prior to last day of duty.

7 Breaches and Remedies

A breach of this policy may be a breach of the DPC's Code of Conduct or Code of Conduct for Procurement.

Officers issued with a PCard are in a position of trust regarding the use of public funds and improper use is a breach of the DPC Code of Conduct. The cardholder may be liable to disciplinary/legal action and/or criminal prosecution.

Decisions must be made fairly and respectfully. Before a finding is made against a person, the person should be informed of the substance of the allegation against them and provided with an opportunity to be heard. Additional support mechanisms may be available for all parties, where the parties choose to use them.

8 Availability and Implementation

A copy of this policy can be found on the DPC intranet and the DPC internet site.

All staff are responsible for implementing this policy.

Other documents relevant to this policy available on the intranet.

- Purchasing Card Application Form
- Purchasing Cards Responsibilities Form

9 References

9.1 DPC Policies and Procedures

- Code of Conduct
 - Financial Delegations
 - Fraud Control policy
 - Gifts and Hospitality Policy
 - Gifts and Hospitality: G.I.F.T Guide
 - Gifts and Hospitality: H.O.S.T. Guide
 - Meal, Traveling and Other Allowances
 - Procurement Policy and Procedures
 - Procurement Governance and Information Guide
 - Code of Conduct for Procurement
 - Taxi and Rideshare Usage Policy
-

9.2 Other Policies or Guides

- NSW Treasury Policy TPP21-02 Use and Management of NSW Government Purchasing Cards
 - NSW Treasury Circular TC21-01 NSW Payments Digital Reform – Digital Payment Adoption
 - Public Service Commission Managing Gifts and Benefits
 - Public Service Commission Code of Ethics and Conduct for NSW Government Employers
 - Small Business Commissioner - Faster Payment Terms Policy
 - NSW Government Travel and Transport Policy
 - NSW Treasury Circular Review of Meal, Travelling and Other Allowances
 - Crown Employees Award
-

9.3 Legislation

- Government Sector Finance Act 2018
- Government Sector Employment Act 2013
- Government Sector Audit Act 1983
- Independent Commission Against Corruption Act 1988
- Public Interest Disclosures Act 2022
- Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA Act)
- Public Works and Procurement Act 1912
- Ombudsman Act 1974

10 Contacts

Procurement Team, Finance Strategy and Performance

DPC.Procurement@dpc.nsw.gov.au

Appendix A – Exclusions

Items excluded from Purchasing Card use:

Air travel

Airline tickets must be purchased through the NSW Government contracted provider FCM where possible.

Emergency purchases only permitted.

Assets

Assets, including ICT equipment, should be purchased using a purchase order and be recorded in the Department's Asset Register.

Fuel/lubricants

Fuel and lubricants for Departmental motor vehicles should be purchased using fuel cards provided. Details of any purchases made using a PCard must be reported to Transport Services.

Contract labour

Must be engaged through Contractor Central/SAP Fieldglass.

Consultants

Must be purchased using a purchase order. Refer to DPC's Procurement policy regarding procurement of consultants.

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