



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE NO. 1 – PREMIER AND FINANCE

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2024-2025

Supplementary questions

Portfolio Committee No. 1 – Premier and Finance

**Finance, Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Natural
Resources**
(Houssos)

Hearing: Thursday 6 March 2025

Answers due by: 5.00 pm Wednesday 2 April 2025

Budget Estimates secretariat

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BUDGET ESTIMATES 2024-2025
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS

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

Revenue NSW

- (1) How many public servants are employed by Revenue NSW?
- (2) What are the locations of each Revenue NSW office and how many staff are employed at each office?
- (3) What are the current work from home arrangements for staff?
- (4) Are any staff employed by Revenue NSW currently located interstate? If, so, how many?
- (5) What were the overall expenses of Revenue NSW in 2023-2024?
- (6) What are the projected overall expenses for Revenue NSW in 2024-2025?
- (7) From the expected \$51 million increase in compliance revenue, how much will be raised from:
 - (a) An increase in Land tax compliance revenue?
 - (b) A reduction in write-off tax debts?
 - (c) Reduced tax avoidance?

Hotel Quarantine Debts

- (8) How much money is owed to New South Wales by other States and Territories?
 - (a) Please provide breakdown across:
 - i. Queensland
 - ii. Western Australia?
 - iii. Victoria?
 - iv. Northern Territory?
 - v. South Australia?
 - vi. Australian Capital Territory?
 - vii. Tasmania?

- (9) Considering the Queensland Government's recently announced plans to recover hotel quarantine fees, how is the NSW Government planning on recouping the \$105 million dollars owed to the State by Queensland?

Payroll Tax

- (10) How much do we expect to generate from payroll tax in the upcoming fiscal years:
- (a) 2024-2025?
 - (b) 2025-2026?
 - (c) 2026-2027?
 - (d) 2027-2028?
- (11) What is the projected growth of payroll tax revenue over the next four years?
- (12) Are there any anticipated changes to payroll tax regulations that could affect businesses?
- (13) What initiatives are in place to support businesses facing increased payroll tax due to wage growth?

Payroll Tax on Medical Practices

- (14) Since 4 September 2024, how many medical practices have received the Bulk Billing Support Initiative rebate?
- (a) How many of these practices are in Metropolitan Sydney?
 - (b) How many of these practices are in other areas?
- (15) Since 4 September 2024, what is the total amount claimed by medical clinics under the Bulk Billing Support Initiative rebate?
- (16) What is the number of medical clinics which engage general practitioners that have been audited since 4 September 2024?
- (a) How much in unpaid payroll tax has been identified as a result of these audits?
 - (b) How many of these practices are in Metropolitan Sydney?
 - (c) How many of these practices are in other areas?

Point of Consumption Tax

- (17) Has the Government considered lifting the point of consumption tax rate to – 20%?

(18) Has the Government conducted any modelling to assess the implications of increasing the Point of Consumption tax rate?

(19) Has the Government consulted with stakeholders?

General questions

CFMEU meetings

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

ETU meetings

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

Ministerial disclosures to The Cabinet Office

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

Department(s)/Agency(s) Employees

(23) 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?

(c) On what page are redundancies published in the respective Department(s)/Agency(s) Annual Reports?

Department(s)/Agency(s) Annual Reports

(24) On what date were the annual report(s) from 2023-24 for each department / agency in your portfolio published?

(25) Were the annual report(s) from 2023-24 for each department / agency in your portfolio printed?

(a) If yes, what was the printing cost(s) for each department / agency?

- (26) Did the annual report(s) from 2023-24 for each department / agency in your portfolio use in part or full an external production / body / consultant to draft?
- (a) If yes, what was the cost(s) for each department / agency?
- (27) In what month will the 2024-25 annual report(s) for each department / agency in your portfolio be published?
- (28) Will the 2024-25 annual report(s) for the department / agency in your portfolio include a printed copy?
- (a) If yes, how much is budgeted for printing in 2024-25 for each department / agency?

State Records Act

- (29) 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?

Advertising

- (30) On what page is advertising published in the respective Department(s)/Agency(s) annual report(s)?

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

- (31) 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 website URL?

Ministerial staff disclosure of gifts and/or hospitality

- (32) Does your ministerial office keep a register of gifts and/or hospitality for staff to make disclosures?
- (a) If yes, what is the website URL?
- (33) 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?

Ministerial Code of Conduct

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

- (a) If yes, what was the breach?

Credit Cards

(35) 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?

(36) Do public servants in your portfolio department(s)/agency(s) been issued with department/agency credit cards?

- (a) If yes, what is the website URL of the credit card policy?

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

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

Senior Executive Drivers

(38) As at 1 February 2025, how many senior executives in your portfolio department(s) / agency(s) have a driver?

GIPA Applications – Ministerial Office

(39) Has your Ministerial Office received a GIPA Application(s) since 28 March 2023?

- (a) If yes, how many?

- (b) If yes, what is the website URL of the disclosure log?

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

(40) 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)?

GIPA Act – Disclosure Log Website URL

(41) What is the website URL for the GIPA Act disclosure log each of your portfolio department(s) / agency(s)?

TikTok

(42) Are you on TikTok?

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

Signal

- (43) Are you and/or your ministerial staff on Signal?
- (a) If yes, do you and/or your ministerial staff access Signal from a NSW Government device?
 - (b) If yes, does Signal comply with the State Records Act?

Training

- (44) 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?

Cabinet documents

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

Parliamentary Secretary

- (46) Does your Parliamentary Secretary have pass access to your ministerial office?
- (47) Does your Parliamentary Secretary have a desk in your ministerial office?
- (48) Has your Parliamentary Secretary ever used your Ministerial Vehicle?

Media releases and statements

- (49) 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?

Overseas Travel

- (50) As Minister, do you approve overseas travel for public servants from your portfolio department(s)/agency(s)?

Data Breaches

- (51) Does your portfolio department(s)/agency(s) keep a register of data breaches in accordance with the Privacy and Personal Information Protection (PPIP) Act?
- (52) If yes to 51, what is the website?

Discretionary Fund

- (53) As Minister, do you have a discretionary fund?
- (a) If yes, what department(s) / agency(s) administer it?
 - (b) If yes, what is the website URL detailing expenditure?

Qantas Chairman's Lounge

- (54) Are you a member of the Qantas Chairmans Lounge?

Local Government Councillors

- (55) How many of your Ministerial staff is a local government councillor(s)?

Questions from Ms Cate Faehrmann MLC

Clarence Wilderness Lodge and Tooloom Creek

- (56) Minister Courtney Houssos replied in a letter to me, dated 15 August 2024, that compliance matters I raised were referred to the Resources Regulator for review and further investigation if warranted.
- (a) What is the status of that investigation? (Any outcome/action?)

Gas infrastructure costs

- (57) What is the likely cost of both the Queensland Hunter Gas Pipeline and the Narrabri Lateral Pipeline?
- (a) What percent of these costs will Santos seek to recoup from NSW gas customers?
 - (b) If both pipelines are built, what would gas consumers in NSW be charged?
 - (c) Over what period of time will costs be recouped to cover the costs of building these pipelines?