



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE NO. 5 – JUSTICE AND COMMUNITIES

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2024-2025

Supplementary questions

Portfolio Committee No. 5 – Justice and Communities

Families and Communities, Disability Inclusion
(Washington)

Hearing: Monday 10 March 2025

Answers due by: 5.00 pm Friday 4 April 2025

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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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FAMILIES & COMMUNITIES

- (1) When will the NSW Disability Inclusion Plan 2025-2029 be released?
 - (a) Who has been consulted?
 - (b) When did consultation take place?
- (2) In the NSW Child Death Review Team Annual Report 2023-24, how many children and young people were known to DCJ?
 - (a) Of these how many were Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people?
 - (b) How many have open cases with DCJ?
 - (c) How many were living in regional or remote areas?
 - (d) What actions has the department taken in response to some of those children's deaths?
- (3) In 2023-24 how many children and young people died of suicide were known to DCH?
 - (a) Of these how many were Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people?
 - (b) How many were living in regional or remote areas?
 - (c) What actions has the department taken in response to some of those children's deaths?
 - (d) How many of the children who died had siblings?
- (4) How much was allocated in 2024/25 for early intervention programs?
- (5) How much was allocated in 2024/25 for family preservation programs?
- (6) How many children and young people were in each HCEP for
 - (a) July to September 2024
 - (b) October to December 2024?
 - (c) January to March 2025?
- (7) Regarding the above, how many are case managed by DCJ and how many are case managed by a nongovernment organisation during the same timeframes?
- (8) What is the cost of each HCEA for

- (a) July to September 2024
 - (b) October to December 2024?
 - (c) January to March 2025?
- (9) What is the highest number of ROSH re-reports received for a single child for the following periods:
- (a) July to September 2024?
 - (b) October to December 2024?
 - (c) January to March 2025?
 - (d) For the above which district was the ROSH report made?
- (10) How many young people have a plan for adoption as at 1 January 2025?
- (11) How many young people have a plan for guardianship as at 1 January 2025?
- (12) How many young people have a plan for restoration as at 1 January 2025?
- (13) As of 31 December, how many young people who are under Parental Responsibility to the Minister who were not in a placement with authorised carer?
- (a) “Absent over 24 hours – location unknown “
 - (b) Self-placed
 - (c) No placement or whereabouts recorded
 - (d) Parent/s - Both Parents, Parent/s – Father, Parent/s – Mother
 - (e) Youth Justice Centre – remand or sentence.
- (14) As of 31 December 2024 how many Aboriginal Controlled Organisations are there providing OOHC?
- (a) What are the names of the Aboriginal Controlled Organisations?
 - (b) What areas do the Aboriginal Controlled Organisations operate?
- (15) How many children in OOHC are currently living overseas?
- (a) How many children are Aboriginal?
- (16) How many children living overseas are non-Aboriginal?
- (a) Do you have a breakdown of non-Aboriginal by ethnicity?

- (17) How many critical instances reports has the Minister received in relation to OOHC pregnancies from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2024.
- (18) What is the progress with the implementation of the 2022 OOHC Health Pathways Program evaluation recommendations?
- (19) Is the Adoption Act under review?
- (20) Is the Child Protection (International Measures) Act under review?
- (21) Is the Child Protection (Working with Children) Act under review?
- (22) Is the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act under review?
- (23) When did the review commence of the amendments made to the Care Act by way of the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Amendment (Family is Culture) Act 2022, as required by section 265 of the Care Act?
 - (a) When will it conclude
 - (b) Will the review be made public?
- (24) Is the Community Services (Complaints, Reviews and Monitoring) Act under review?
- (25) Is the review into the Children's Guardian Act completed?
 - (a) If not, why not?
 - (b) What date will the review be completed?
 - (c) When will it be made public?
- (26) Is the Disability Inclusion Act under review?
- (27) Is the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NSW Enabling) Act under review?
- (28) Is the National Disability Insurance Scheme (Worker Checks) Act under review?
- (29) How many calls to the Child Protection Hotline between:
 - (a) July to September 2024?
 - (b) October to December 2024?
 - (c) January to March 2025?
- (30) What is the expected waitlist times for the Child Protection helpline for the following periods:
 - (a) July to September 2024?

- (b) October to December 2024?
 - (c) January to March 2025?
- (31) As of 31 December 2024 how many staff members are employed at the Child Protection Helpline?
- (32) How many critical instances reports has the Minister received during
- (a) October to December 2024?
 - (b) January to March 2025?
 - (c) For the above how many relate to OOHC pregnancies?
- (33) What the average cost of a residential care placement is by each sub-type in residential care?
- (34) How many children and young people are currently in ITC?
- (35) How many children and young people have a CALD plan?
- (36) How many children and young people have an education plan?
- (37) How many children and young people have a leaving care plan?
- (38) How many children and young people in the care of the Minister access mental health services during:
- (a) April to June 2024?
 - (b) July to September 2024?
 - (c) October to December 2024?
 - (d) January to March 2025?
- (39) How many councils provided a DIAPs to the Minister in 2024?
- (40) Has the Department established mandatory arrangements to enable timely monitoring of children in OOHC who present to homelessness services?
- (41) Has the Department conducted a systemic review of children in OOHC who are presenting as homeless to SHS?
- (42) How many foster carers have transitioned from NGOs to ACCOs since 30 June 2024
- (a) How many have ceased to be carers after the transfer?

General questions

CFMEU meetings

- (43) 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

- (44) 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

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

Department(s)/Agency(s) Employees

- (46) 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

- (47) On what date were the annual report(s) from 2023-24 for each department / agency in your portfolio published?
- (48) 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?
- (49) 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?
- (50) In what month will the 2024-25 annual report(s) for each department / agency in your portfolio be published?
- (51) 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

- (52) 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

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

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

- (54) 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

- (55) 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?
- (56) 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

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

Credit Cards

(58) 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?

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

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

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

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

Senior Executive Drivers

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

GIPA Applications – Ministerial Office

(63) 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)

(64) 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

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

TikTok

(66) Are you on TikTok?

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

Signal

- (67) 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

- (68) 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

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

Parliamentary Secretary

- (70) Does your Parliamentary Secretary have pass access to your ministerial office?
- (71) Does your Parliamentary Secretary have a desk in your ministerial office?
- (72) Has your Parliamentary Secretary ever used your Ministerial Vehicle?

Media releases and statements

- (73) 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

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

Data Breaches

- (75) Does your portfolio department(s)/agency(s) keep a register of data breaches in accordance with the Privacy and Personal Information Protection (PPIP) Act?

(76) If yes, what is the website?

Discretionary Fund

(77) 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

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

Local Government Councillors

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

Questions from Ms Abigail Boyd MLC

Housing stock owned by DCJ used for disability accommodation

(80) According to evidence given in the Budget Estimates hearing, DCJ owns or manages 715 total properties which are occupied for disability accommodation and services. Can you confirm how many receive NDIS SDA funding?

- (a) Which providers are each of these leased to?
- (b) When do these leases expire?
- (c) What is the estimated value of this stock?
- (d) Can you break this down by LGA?
- (e) How many of these properties do not receive NDIS SDA funding?
 - i. Of these, how many are occupied as group homes?

(81) How many assisted boarding houses are owned by DCJ?

(82) Can you advise how many unauthorised assisted boarding houses there are across NSW?

(83) What is the NSW government doing to ensure alignment between state planning laws, federal design standards and SDA regulation?

- (a) Who has responsibility for this?

- (84) It is understood that the leases for SDA properties to community housing providers were due to expire on 30 June 2025 and have now been extended. What is the length of the extension?

Animal-inclusive accommodation

- (85) What data does DCJ collect or hold on the number of people who decline temporary, crisis, transitional or social housing, or who are turned away, due to it not being animal-inclusive?
- (a) Does DCJ collect or hold data on the number of people with animals (and the number of animals) who are being supported through SHS-funded services in NSW?

Domestic and family violence

- (86) Is the Department of Communities and Justice considering implementing the Safe and Together training and/or model into child protection? If not, why not?
- (87) What processes does DCJ have in place to hold perpetrators of violence to account, and keep protective parents safe and together with children?

Disability Royal Commission Taskforce

- (88) Of the 9 DCJ staff on the taskforce, how many were new roles and how many were sourced from within the department?
- (89) Can you please provide a breakdown of the \$7.1 million, including how much has been spent so far, and on what?
- (90) What are each of the roles and what are their responsibilities?
- (91) Why isn't there anyone on the taskforce who is external to DCJ or Cabinet, for example any representatives or people with lived experience?
- (92) What exactly is the taskforce tasked with doing?
- (a) Where is this recorded?
- (b) What has it achieved to date?
- (93) How many meetings has the taskforce held so far?
- (a) Do any ministers attend these, and if so whom?

Easy Read

- (94) In relation to progress achieved on delivering Easy Read government documents by 2025, what is being done to ensure that these documents are easy to find?
- (95) Given that beyond having these documents, we need to ensure communities on the ground are aware they exist and can easily access them, what is being done to ensure that services are easy to use and support is in place to help people with intellectual disability access and use services?

Restrictive practices - DCJ proposed framework

- (96) What is the reason for not coordinating a working group for this, similar to that which the Attorney General has done with the guardianship reforms?
- (97) How many people were involved in developing the consultation paper, and who were they?
- (98) What are the next stages for this?

Questions to the Ageing and Disability Commission

- (99) How many reports has the Commission received which involve group homes, assisted boarding homes or other disability accommodation?