

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

PREMIER, MINISTER FOR STATE DEVELOPMENT and MINISTER FOR CITIZENSHIP

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING - 28 AUGUST 2006

ANSWERS DUE 21 SEPTEMBER 2006

1. Ms LEE RHIANNON asked the Premier, Minister for State Development and Minister for Citizenship, the Hon MORRIS IEMMA MP (page 13 of transcript):

On your draft State Plan, how many randomly selected community members have been invited to attend each session? Of those invitations, how many community members have actually attended?

ANSWER

Precise records of attendance were not kept.

2. CHAIR asked the Premier, Minister for State Development and Minister for Citizenship, the Hon MORRIS IEMMA MP (page 20):

Was a guarantee given to the tunnel construction company that the road would be narrowed? Was that a requirement from the company?

ANSWER

I am advised that changes to Epping Road were part of the approved project and in the conditions of consent for the project. I am advised they were incorporated in response to community consultation which sought improvements to the local environment and public transport. I am advised that contractually there is an obligation for Stage 2 works, which includes surface road changes (including Epping Road), to be completed. Further details in relation to the contractual obligations should be sought from the Minister for Roads and Treasurer.

3. CHAIR asked the Premier, Minister for State Development and Minister for Citizenship, the Hon MORRIS IEMMA MP (page 20):

How many parties will confront the people of New South Wales, particularly in the Legislative Council, at the next election?

ANSWER

18 parties have been registered pursuant to Part 4A of the *Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act* and are eligible to contest the parliamentary General Election in 2007.

4. The Hon. CATHERINE CUSACK asked the Premier, Minister for State Development and Minister for Citizenship, the Hon MORRIS IEMMA MP (page 22):

(SOORT compensation determinations) Are they monitored overall? For example, would you have information on the value of determinations over a 12-month period?

ANSWER

Applications for compensation for termination of a contract of employment are determined by the Statutory and Other Offices Remuneration Tribunal (SOORT). SOORT has records of its determinations.

5. The Hon. CATHERINE CUSACK asked the Premier, Minister for State Development and Minister for Citizenship, the Hon MORRIS IEMMA MP (page 23):

What was the cost for 2005-06?

ANSWER

For 2005/6 SOORT made 31 compensation determinations. The cost of these determinations was \$3,850,000. The average compensation period was 31 weeks.

6. The Hon. CATHERINE CUSACK asked the Premier, Minister for State Development and Minister for Citizenship, the Hon MORRIS IEMMA MP (page 25):

(Mr Robb Griggs) What was his position in the Department of Gaming and Racing?

ANSWER

I am advised that Mr Griggs was employed by the former Department of Gaming and Racing. Details of Mr Griggs employment should be sought from the Minister for Gaming and Racing.

7. The Hon. CATHERINE CUSACK asked the Premier, Minister for State Development and Minister for Citizenship, the Hon MORRIS IEMMA MP (page 25):

For how long did this temporary arrangement continue?

ANSWER

This question is more appropriately addressed to the Minister for Gaming and Racing as the employment arrangement was with the former Department for Gaming and Racing.

8. The Hon. CATHERINE CUSACK asked the Premier, Minister for State Development and Minister for Citizenship, the Hon MORRIS IEMMA MP (page 25):

What was the cost of relocating another former Carr staffer, Brad Fitzmaurice, and his family from a government office in London to Sydney soon after Mr Iemma became Premier?

ANSWER

The cost of Mr Fitzmaurice's return to Australia was:

- Airfares \$13,125.78
- Removalists \$7,626.70

These arrangements were in accordance with Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade guidelines.

9. The Hon. CATHERINE CUSACK asked the Premier, Minister for State Development and Minister for Citizenship, the Hon MORRIS IEMMA MP (page 26):

(Mr Joseph Hanna) What are his substantial responsibilities?

ANSWER

Mr Hanna is acting in the position of Director Parliamentary Services within the Ministerial and Parliamentary Services Division of the Premiers Department. The responsibilities of this position are to ensure: The provision of executive support to the Statutory and Other Offices Remuneration Tribunal, the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal and the Parliamentary Remuneration Tribunal; the provision of executive support to the Sesquicentenary of Responsible Government in NSW Trust; the management of remuneration issues and appointments to part time Boards and Committees; the co-ordination of responses to Standing Order 52 requests, questions on notice and estimates committee briefs; the Department's Freedom of Information and Privacy function; and the entitlements of former office holders and the leaders of the opposition.

10. The Hon. CATHERINE CUSACK asked the Premier, Minister for State Development and Minister for Citizenship, the Hon MORRIS IEMMA MP (page 26):

Who previously held the position that Mr Hannah is holding at the moment?

ANSWER

The substantive occupant of the position of Director Parliamentary Services is Emanuel Sklavounos.

11. The Hon. MELINDA PAVEY asked the Premier, Minister for State Development and Minister for Citizenship, the Hon MORRIS IEMMA MP (page 27):

Was market research undertaken into the idea of the New South Wales State Plan before it was launched? If so, how much did the market research for the New South Wales State Plan cost? Who undertook the market research for the New South Wales State Plan? Where was the market research for the New South Wales State Plan undertaken? Generally, also, what market research was undertaken?

ANSWER

Yes.

\$35,725.

The Open Mind Research Group.

Sydney.

Strategic research to assist the Premier's Delivery Unit in developing a communication and consultation strategy for the NSW State Plan.

12. The Hon. MELINDA PAVEY asked the Premier, Minister for State Development and Minister for Citizenship, the Hon MORRIS IEMMA MP (page 27):

On notice, we would also like answers to the following questions. How were the 25 locations for consultations chosen? Where have all the consultations taken place? It has been very difficult to get an answer to that question in telephone calls to the State plan people. Can you also provide a list of where the consultancies will be, the invited guest lists and who actually attended each consultancy? Also, we would like to know who undertook the research, and what was the cost of the research of putting all programs together? And what consultancies were involved in developing the State plan, given that we have a department that is supposed to look at strategic projects and where the Government is heading, with a staff of 69 staff

ANSWER

The locations of the 31 meetings were chosen to best geographically cover the State based on advice by the Regional Co-ordinators.

Of the initial 31 meetings, 12 were in the Sydney area, 3 in the Outer Metro area (Wollongong, Gosford and Newcastle) and 16 were in the rest of the State. This over representation of the rest of the State (in terms of population represented) was done to reflect the greater distances that invitees living in rural areas may have to travel to attend a consultation meeting.

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Community feedback on the State Plan is available on the website at <http://www.nsw.gov.au/stateplan/page4.aspx?page=4>

\$35,725 was spent on market research for the NSW State Plan. This was necessary to assist the Premier's Delivery Unit in developing a communication and consultation strategy for the NSW State Plan. The market research was used to inform the design of the communications materials in order to facilitate and encourage community input in the Plan.

The cost of production and media placement for advertising the State Plan were \$1.061 million. It was produced by the Department of Commerce and coordinated by the Premier's Delivery Unit.

Governments have to communicate a wide variety of information to the public. Agencies may employ contractors to carry out media and/or communication functions to communicate important information to members of the public.

With regard to the State Plan, advertising was undertaken to ensure the population of NSW was aware that a Draft Plan had been released for public comment and of the mechanisms for providing feedback. Media interest alone was not considered to be sufficient to inform the public.

Invitations were sent to 10,600 random community members and approximately 1,450 community leaders. However, permission was not requested from these people to release their names publicly.

Precise records of attendance were not kept.

Elton Consulting were engaged to assist with the State Plan consultation process. Cap Gemini were engaged to assist with organisation and facilitation of a three day CEO's workshop in July to prepare the draft State Plan.

13. The Hon. MELINDA PAVEY asked the Premier, Minister for State Development and Minister for Citizenship, the Hon MORRIS IEMMA MP (page 28): Could we get a breakdown of the entire funding and expenditure?

ANSWER

Please refer to answer provided for Question 12.

14. The Hon. GREG PEARCE asked the Premier, Minister for State Development and Minister for Citizenship, the Hon MORRIS IEMMA MP (page 40):

We had some questions earlier on advertising. Have all of the advertising campaigns, in particular the State Plan and so on, complied with your Government's advertising peer review system?

ANSWER

The State Plan advertising wasn't part of the Peer Review system as it wasn't part of an advertising campaign. The advertisements were simply announcing the community consultation process for the State Plan and, as such, were public information. The advertising was approved by the Budget Committee.

15. The Hon. MELINDA PAVEY asked the Premier, Minister for State Development and Minister for Citizenship, the Hon MORRIS IEMMA MP (page 43):

The wages bill for registered displaced people has increased by \$340,000 since last year to an annual cost this year of \$17.9 million. It is not good, is it? How many SES employees are on the displaced list?

ANSWER

There are no SES employees on the displaced officer's list.

16. The Hon. MELINDA PAVEY asked the Premier, Minister for State Development and Minister for Citizenship, the Hon MORRIS IEMMA MP (page 43):

How many have been on it for longer than a month?

ANSWER

None

17. The Hon. MELINDA PAVEY asked the Premier, Minister for State Development and Minister for Citizenship, the Hon MORRIS IEMMA MP (page 43):

Could you provide the answer on notice for the Premier's Department? (*How many senior officers*)

ANSWER

Premier's Department employees 35 Senior Officers

18. The Hon. GREG PEARCE asked the Premier, Minister for State Development and Minister for Citizenship, the Hon MORRIS IEMMA MP (page 44):

Could you give us a breakdown of the \$5.8 million that was slotted into advertising in the Premier's Department?

ANSWER

The breakdown is \$2.3 million for infrastructure advertising and \$3.5 million for public sector recruitment.

19. Ms LEE RHIANNON asked the Premier, Minister for State Development and Minister for Citizenship, the Hon MORRIS IEMMA MP (page 47):

You may wish to take this question on notice. You mentioned a whole-of-government report on women. Can you tell us when that report will be finalised and when it will be publicly available?

ANSWER

It is anticipated that the whole-of-government report, entitled *Our Commitment to Women* will be publicly available by the end of 2006.

20. The Hon. MELINDA PAVEY asked the Premier, Minister for State Development and Minister for Citizenship, the Hon MORRIS IEMMA MP (pages 49-50):

On the issue of indulgence, do you recall receiving a letter from the Public Service Association [PSA] late last year in relation to, amongst other things, credit card expenses in relation to Paul Willoughby and inappropriate sexual relationships with young executives and young graduates by Paul Willoughby? A registered letter was sent to your office by the PSA. Do you remember reading that letter late last year?

ANSWER

Premier's Department has been unable to locate any correspondence on departmental records which notes a complaint from the PSA in relation to Mr Willoughby.

21. The Hon. GREG PEARCE asked the Premier, Minister for State Development and Minister for Citizenship, the Hon MORRIS IEMMA MP (page 52):

Do you charge back to the agencies and departments for the actual provision of that service? Is there a charge back?

ANSWER

Premier's Department does not charge agencies a fee for media monitoring services.

22. The Hon. MELINDA PAVEY asked the Premier, Minister for State Development and Minister for Citizenship, the Hon MORRIS IEMMA MP (page 52):

Who is employed in the Premier's Delivery Unit [PDU]? Numbers of people, their names and salary?

ANSWER

Executive Director	SES 6 (Ben Keneally)
Executive Assistant	Grade 5/6
Senior Officer	SO 1
Principal Project Officer	Grade 12
Senior Project Officer	Grade 9/10
Senior Project Officer	Grade 9/10
Assistant Project Officer	Grade 5/6