



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 4

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013-2014

Supplementary Questions on Notice

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 4

Police and Emergency Services, The Hunter

Wednesday 14 August 2013

Answers to be returned by: Monday 9 September 2013.

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Police

1. In May and June of this year, three pork produces located around Young, were the subject of an unauthorised visit by animal activist. Two of the farms were filmed and the footage posted on the internet without the permission or right of reply of the property owners. Animal Liberation have since indicated they were involved in each of these and have indicated that they will do so again. Animal Liberal has also announced it has purchased an unmanned drone for aerial surveillance of on-farm animal welfare and husbandry practices. Is the NSW Police/Attorney General's office considering how adequate current trespass, privacy and nuisance laws are in relation to such land and aerial trespass?
2. In light of these incidences what support will the Rural Crimes Investigators receive from NSW Police and the Attorney General to deal with legal framework associated with new technology such as drones?
3. Has the establishment of the IWATCH Facebook page assisted the NSW Police force with the reporting of incidences of criminal activity, specifically rural stock theft?
4. When was the IWATCH Facebook page reviewed to determine its effectiveness? Who was this review conducted by?
5. Between March 2011 and August 2013, how many incidences of Gun Related crime have occurred in the suburb of Kurringah?
6. How many arrests have been made in relation to drug or gun related crime by the Kurringah LAC?
7. As of August 14, 2013 how many child abuse officers are employed in the Child Abuse Squad?
8. As of August 14, 2013 on average how many cases do child abuse officers deal with
9. What is the longest average turn around period on child abuse case?
10. How many Child Abuse Officers are located in the following regions or cover the following regions:
 - Wollongong
 - Western Region
 - Central West
 - North Coast
 - Mid North Coast

- Central Cost
 - Hunter
 - Newcastle
 - Western Sydney
 - South Western Sydney
 - South Eastern
 - Northern Sydney
 - Eastern Sydney
 - Inner Western Sydney
11. Between August 2012 and August 2013, which region/suburb had the highest incidences of child abuse reported to the Child Abuse Squad? How many of these were considered as emergency situations (24 hour response)?
 12. The Commissioner of Police in the estimates hearing identified that 30 new Child Abuse Officers positions have been made available, of those 30, 10 have been filled already with another 5 expected in the short term and the other 15 positions subject to a recruitment process which finished in July. When will the other 15 positions be filled? And when staff will be on active duty?
 13. As at 15 August 2013 how many tattoo parlours were there estimated to be in NSW?
 14. As at 15 August 2013 how many body art tattoo artists were there estimated to be in NSW?
 15. As at 15 August 2013 how many applications had been received from tattoo parlours for licensing under the new scheme?
 16. As at 15 August 2013 how many applications have been received from tattoo artists for licensing under the new scheme?
 17. As at 15 August 2013 how many applications had been processed from tattoo parlours for licensing under the new scheme?
 - (a) Of these, how many were approved?
 - (b) Of these, how many were refused?
 18. As at 15 August 2013 how many applications have been processed from tattoo artists for licensing under the new scheme?
 - (a) Of these, how many were approved?
 - (b) Of these, how many were refused?
 19. What other industries were considered for licensing and criminal record checks?
 20. How was the \$2,094 licensing fee for tattoo operators calculated?
 21. What do these funds go to?

22. What steps have been taken to ensure that tattoo parlour operators are clear on their disclosure obligations?
23. What steps have been taken to ensure that the closure of legitimate tattoo parlours does not result in an increase of the black market for tattoos?
24. Has consideration been given to bringing in an independent person or body to handle police complaints to address the inherent conflict of interest of police investigating their colleagues?
25. What is the average time for dealing with complaints?
26. How much does it cost to handle police complaints internally?
27. How much does it cost to handle investigations into critical incidents internally?
28. What guidelines are there about when officers should be suspended from active duty following:
 - (a) Critical incidents?
 - (b) Serious police complaints?
 - (c) Other issues identified?
29. What is the estimated annual cost of police prosecutions that do not result in a conviction?
30. What consideration has been given to the guidance provided to police prosecutors on when to pursue prosecutions?
31. Has consideration been given to imposing requirements for legal qualifications on police prosecutors?
32. What is the average cost for a prosecution by the police?
 - (a) Of this, how much is court costs?
 - (b) Of this how much is Police costs?
 - (c) Of this, how much are other costs?
33. Has consideration been given to an independent prosecutor model like that used in New Zealand and the UK for all Local Court prosecutions?
34. Has consideration been given to expanding the role of the DPP for all Local Court prosecutions?
35. Where cases are thrown out of court, what instructions if any are given to the person regarding their rights to make a complaint?

36. How many cases are there each year where charges are laid and later withdrawn by the NSW Police?
37. The NSW Ombudsman's report for 2011-12 advises the police internal reporting policy includes only one person other than the Commissioner who can receive public interest disclosures – the manager of the Internal Witness Support Unit – is this still the case?
38. What steps are being taken to remedy this potentially unfair situation and ensure it does not mean officers are denied appropriate legislative protections?
39. How much did the NSW Police spend in 2011-2012 on training for NSW Police officers in relation to:
 - (a) Developing proficiency and competency in the use of the information and computer systems used by NSW Police
 - (b) Developing proficiency and competency in the use of the Computer Operational Policing System (COPS)
 - (c) Developing or upgrading information and computer systems used by NSW Police to ensure they are reliable?
40. What has been done to address weaknesses in the NSW Police computer system where it contains incorrect or out of date bail information?
41. How many arrests have there been where it was subsequently found that the COPS information relied upon for the arrest for breach of bail was incorrect?
42. What further steps are police taking to address any wrongful arrests that have occurred as a result of this?
43. What protections are there for post editing of COPs entries?
44. Regarding sniffer dogs indications – how many times does the dog have to be wrong over the course of the shift before its indications no longer give rise of reasonable suspicion?
45. When will the police drug detection dog Standard Operating Procedures be made publicly available?
46. Since the changes to the move on orders, has there been any monitoring of the impact of these laws by your department on vulnerable groups such as Aboriginal people and the homeless?
47. How many move on orders were given to aboriginal people?
48. How many move on orders were given to homeless people?
49. How many prosecutions for breaches of move on orders were have been commenced?

Emergency Services

1. Botany Fire Station was recently closed as of 12 July 2013 whilst there was a fuel leak at the Caltex Terminal at Kurnell. Why was this station closed?
2. Was the fire station temporarily offline?
3. What is the closest station to Botany Fire Station which would be able to respond to emergencies in the Botany area?
4. For the fuel leak at the Caltex Terminal, why were officers sent from the Campsie Fire Station? Was there a closer station that could have responded to this incident?
5. Please list the average level of emergency calls for the 2012/13 period for the following stations:
 - Ingleburn
 - Marrickville
 - Newtown
 - Menai
 - Merrylands
 - Mortdale
 - Rhodes
 - Bundeena
 - Helensburgh
 - Campbelltown
 - Queanbeyan
 - Carrington
 - Stockton
 - Merewether
 - New Lambton
 - Lambton
 - Mayfield West
 - Kiama
 - Shellharbour
 - Albion Park Rail
 - Unanderra
 - Berry
 - Nowra
 - Casino
 - Lismore
 - Goonellabah
 - Alstonville
 - Bangalow
 - Coraki
 - Penrith
 - Glenbrook

- Springwood
 - Riverstone
 - Warragamba
6. Of the fires stations listed above, how many times were they registered as being offline during the months of July– December 2012 and January – August 2013?
 7. This year’s Coonabarabran bush fire saw a great deal of very brave action from firefighters but unfortunately saw the loss of a significant number of properties. I understand there is currently an enquiry into the fire, what is the timeframe for that enquiry?
 8. What is your response to criticism from the VFFA about handling of the fire?
 9. What is the current average age of the RFS fleet ?
 10. Were the Rural Fire Service involved in catering for the riot squad who were protecting Metgasco operations at Doubtful Creek near Kyogle earlier this year?
 - (a) If so, what actions were they undertaking?
 11. What are the details of the Priority Plan put together by Fire and Rescue NSW Executive Team to deal with labour cap expenses? (mentioned by Commissioner Mullins to the General Purpose Standing Committee No 4 on Wednesday 14 August 2013)
 12. Given population growth in the surrounding area, what is the reason for the downgrading of Holmesville Fire Station, from 10/14 roster to day shift Monday to Friday supplemented by retained firefighters at nights and on weekends?
 13. What is being done to cater for the increase in population numbers in the area?
 14. What contingency plans will FRNSW put into place to account for the population growth in the Newcastle area which has been forecast to occur in 10 years time?
 15. Are the two operational reviews, by FRNSW & NSW Emergency Services, into staffing at Holmesville publicly available?
 - (a) If so, where?
 - (b) If not, why not?
 16. Are there ongoing anomalies in the FireCAD communications system whereby crews at both Hornsby and Holmesville are not being turned out to incidents within their area?
 - (a) Has this issue been rectified?
 - (b) If not, when does FRNSW expect this to be fixed?
 17. Has this anomaly been considered in calculating the Holmesville call out rate?

18. Will FRNSW instigate a Memorandum of Understanding with Rural Fire Service in relation to joint response by FRSW and RFS to incidents in the Cameron Park area?
19. Does FRNSW have any evidence that firefighters are being exposed to PTSD in their day to day activities as a firefighter?
 - (a) If so, what is the evidence?
20. Has FRNSW made any forward budget plans, to deal with future cuts or required savings from labour cap expenses in the next few years?
 - (a) What are these plans and how they are to be implemented?
 - (b) If not, why not?
21. Do you have records of response times to incidents since TOLing started that indicate that crews are responding to incidents within 10 minutes?
22. Are there any examples where response times have exceeded 10 mins?
23. How does FRNSW account for the occasions when stations within Sydney GSA are TOLed when there has been no absence of staff from sick leave but other forms of planned leave, such as Consolidated Leave, Long Service Leave or Annual Leave?

The Hunter

1. The Hunter Valley Research Foundation had funding withdrawn by the NSW Government in the 2012-13 Budget. The Minister for the Hunter told the HVRF luncheon in June 2012 that they would be able to realise Government funding through the process of the government paying for research to be done by HVRF during the course of the 2012-13 year. How many projects did the NSW Government engage HVRF to complete during 2012-13 and at what value?
2. Within the Budget Estimates hearing you told the committee that the investment in roads in the Pokolbin vineyards of the Hunter Valley would help the visitor economy. At the same time, the Government has also withdrawn the \$3 million p.a. Cellar Door Subsidy in the Hunter Valley vineyards, a subsidy that supports economical pricing of wine sales at the cellar door, a key driver of the visitor economy. What representations have you made as Minister to have the cellar door subsidy reinstated so that the road budget to improve visitor economy is supported by the subsidy that supports the cellar door experience?
3. Are you aware of how many jobs have been directly lost in the vineyards due to removal of the CDS?
4. Are you aware of, read or been briefed on the Hunter Valley Research Foundation report that was prepared for the Hunter Valley vigneronians?

5. Are you aware of the number of jobs that have been lost at the Volgren factory, a bus manufacturing factory, as a result of the NSW Government decision to have buses made in Queensland instead of NSW?
6. Do you know what the economic impact to the Hunter Valley and NSW is as a result of these job losses and the closure of the factor at Tomago?
7. Are you aware as to whether United Group Rail (UGL) train manufacturing base at Broadmeadow may lose staff due to the company's loss of NSW Government contracts?
8. Are you aware as to whether Downer train manufacturing base at Glendale/Cardiff mas lose jobs due to the company losing NSW government contracts?
9. When were you made aware that the Minister for Planning would announce the truncation of the heavy rail line at Wickham and replace the rail line with an integrated bus service?
10. Does the State government intend to develop a regional Transport Plan for the Hunter?
11. Are you aware of the Hunter's significance in the history of Aboriginal communities across NSW? Have you visited any aboriginal sites of significance in the Hunter? Have you met with and discussed Aboriginal heritage with any indigenous groups in the Hunter?
12. As Minister for the Hunter what do you perceive as the opportunities for diversification for the Hunter's economy to reduce its heavy reliance on coal?
13. Have you made any representation to the Deputy Premier following the exclusion of the Electorates of Maitland, Cessnock and Lake Macquarie from the Resources for Regions program?
14. Does the State Government have a plan to guarantee that Newcastle will develop new residential developments over the next 10 years?
15. When were you informed that Hunter Health would not be moving 420 workers into a Newcastle CBD site?
 - (a) Did you make any representations to the Minister for Health to oppose this decision and seek to support the revitalisation of the Newcastle CBD by having government departments located into the city centre?
16. What steps have you taken to lobby for funding for the development of the 5th and final stage of the Newcastle City By-Pass road built?
17. Have you asked for or been briefed on the expected changes to traffic flow throughout the Hunter as a result of the urban sprawl, construction of the Hunter Expressway and decision to cut the Newcastle Rail Line at Wickham?
18. In August 2012 the O'Farrell Government announced that it had awarded a contract to build double decker deck buses to Bustech, a company that operates out of Queensland's Gold Coast. In same month Volgren, a bus manufacturer with a new, purpose built facility to build double deck buses in Tomago near Newcastle, made the last of its 150 workers redundant because it had no work for them. Volgren was not given the opportunity to tender for the

contract that you awarded to Queensland. Why is the O'Farrell Government sending NSW jobs to Queensland?

19. In last year's Budget Estimates hearings on the Hunter, the Minister undertook to raise with the Minister for the Environment and the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure concerns I raised with the Minister in those hearings with respect to the cumulative environmental, human health, safety, traffic and air pollution impacts of a large number of developments in the Newcastle port area, including:
- (a) Port Waratah Coal Service's proposed T4 coal terminal,
 - (b) The redevelopment of port-side land at Mayfield into a container, bulk and liquid cargo precinct,
 - (c) Coal rail infrastructure,
 - (d) A gas export terminal on Kooragang Island,
 - (e) Coal seam gas drilling at Fullerton,
 - (f) Expansion of the infamous Orica plant, and
 - (g) The Marstel Fuel Storage at Mayfield.

Can the Minister please state if he has indeed raised these issues with the two ministers and if so, what has been the result?

20. Is the Minister aware of widespread community concerns about existing large stockpiles of ammonium nitrate at Sandgate and on Kooragang Island, and proposals for more? What steps has the Minister taken to address these concerns and in particular, the low probability, high consequence risk of a major explosion and fire that could be 50 times more intense than the explosion that destroyed a plant and much of its surroundings in the city of West in Texas, USA, in April this year?
21. Why has the government allowed both Orica and Incitec to not release the blast 'overpressure' maps for their ammonium nitrate facilities in Newcastle?
- (a) Does the Minister believe that the community has a right to know the potential impacts of a blast at either of these facilities?
22. What steps has the Minister taken to support the development of a port-side rail line at Mayfield on the banks of the South Arm of the Hunter River to relieve the adverse impacts of the transport of coal to Kooragang Island, on passenger train movements, on urban motor vehicle traffic (because of crossings closures) and on urban amenity and health (because of the proximity of the existing line to residents including the noise impacts of night-time train movements)?
23. Have plans of the proposed Western Freight By-Pass line been advanced?
- (a) If so, what progress has been made?

- (b) What steps has the Minister taken to promote the project?
24. At what stage did the O'Farrell government decide that their co-sponsorship of the Art Gallery re-development was no longer a priority?
- (a) Given the considerable leverage the state could have had from the matching funds offered by the Commonwealth and the substantial local government and community contributions, why did the Government decide that this was not a cost-effective investment?
- (b) Has the O'Farrell government entirely abandoned a new art gallery for Newcastle or is there some chance that the project can be revived at a later date?
25. Given that the long-awaited and much-debated Newcastle Urban Renewal Strategy (NURS) advocated a bus-based transport replacement for heavy rail services between Wickham and Newcastle, what additional data or other information did the government receive between December 2012 when it was finally released and the June 2013 announcement of a light-rail alternative?
26. Is it correct that the Environment Protection Authority's Newcastle Particle Characterisation study will only measure PM2.5 particles (i.e. particles with an aerodynamic diameter less than 2.5 micrometers) and not other size classes such as PM10 and PM1, and will use only two samplers for a single year?
- (a) Is this because budget constraints prohibit the measurement of other particle size classes and the provision of more samplers for a longer period?

General Questions (across all portfolio areas)

1. On how many occasions have you met with a lobbyist, and what were the dates of these meetings?
2. Which lobbyists have you met with, and what was discussed?
3. On how many occasions have you declined to meet with a lobbyist?
4. To deliver greater transparency and accountability, will you publish a monthly online diary of all meetings with lobbyists?
5. In order to deliver greater transparency and accountability, as promised by the Premier, will you commit to keeping a record of all lobbying activities and documentation and allow them to be subject to the Government Information (Public Access) Act?
6. Since becoming a Minister, have you taken any interstate or intrastate trips involving overnight accommodation or flights?
7. Will you provide a list to the committee of the details of all travel?

8. Have you taken any trips intrastate or interstate to attend Liberal/National Party functions?
9. What are the details of the trips including dates and costs?
10. Have you taken any trips intrastate or interstate to attend lobbyists' functions? What are the details of the trips including dates and costs?
11. Were these trips paid for by the taxpayer?
12. Were these trips booked through the government travel management system?
13. Since becoming a Minister, have you paid back money to the state because you booked unauthorised travel with the government travel management system? How much? When did you travel? When did you pay back the money? How many occasions has this happened?
14. Have you had meetings scheduled interstate or intrastate on Fridays or weekends which involved you staying overnight?
15. Did you take your spouse/partner on these trips?
16. Have any members of your staff made complaints to or raised concerns with you, your Chief of Staff or the Department of Premier and Cabinet about bullying in your office?
17. If so, have any members of your staff resigned or been removed from their position after making such a complaint or raising such concerns?
18. How many blackberries or smart phones are assigned to your staff?
19. For each phone, how much was each bill in the 2012/13 financial year?
20. How many have phones have been lost in your office?
21. What is the cost of replacing those phones?
22. How many iPads or tablet computers does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?
23. How many iPads or tablet computers have you purchased for your office and to whom have they been issued?
24. How many iPhones or other smart phones does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?
25. How many iPhones or other smart phones have you purchased for your office and to whom have they been issued?
26. How many iPhones or other smart phones have been lost in your office?
27. How many iPads or tablet computers have been lost in your office?

28. What is the cost of replacing those phones or iPads or tablet computers?
29. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies?
30. What is the forecast for 2013/14 for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost?
31. Have any of your overseas trips in the past year been paid for in part or in full by using public money?
32. If so, did any of your relatives or friends accompany you on these trips?
33. What is the annual remuneration package for your chief of staff?
34. What is the annual remuneration package for your head media advisor?
35. What is the annual remuneration package for each of your staff?
36. What is the estimated expenditure for your office budget in 2012-13?
37. Have any office renovations or fit outs been undertaken in your ministerial office since April, 2011?
38. If so, could you give details of contracted costs?
39. What is your Ministerial office budget for 2013/14?
40. How many political advisors are in your office?
41. How many administration staff?
42. How many Department Liaison Officers are assigned to your office?
43. How many staff in the Department are assigned to Ministerial support duties?
44. Are any contractors or consultants working in your ministerial office? If so, in what capacities?
45. How much did your Ministerial office spend on contractors or consultants?
46. How much did your Ministerial office spend on taxi fares, including Cabcharge in the 2012/13 financial year?
47. Are any of your portfolio agencies undergoing a restructure?
48. How many jobs are expected to be cut as a result of that restructure?
49. How many people are expected to have their wages cut as a result of that restructure?
50. How many voluntary redundancies were offered in your Departments since April 2011?

51. How many voluntary redundancies were accepted from employees in your Departments since April 2011?
52. How many voluntary redundancies are expected to be offered in 2013/14?
53. How much did your Department(s) spend on catering in 2012/13?
54. How much did your Department(s) spend on stationary in 2012/13?
55. What is your Department's catering budget?
56. What is your Department's stationary budget?
57. Since April 2011 have any of the agencies in your Department(s) changed their branding?
58. If so, how much was spent on rebranding the agency?
59. How long is the average turnaround for responding to correspondence in your Department(s)?
60. How many pieces of correspondence have been outstanding for more than 60 days?
61. In 2012/13 how many invoices has your Department(s) failed to pay a supplier or contractor for more than 30 days?
62. As a result of late payment, how much penalty interest has been paid to contractors since 1 January 2011?
63. How many invoices have been outstanding for longer than 60 days?
64. Does your department provide recurrent grant funds to non-government organisations? If yes,
 - (a) What are the names of all organisations in receipt of funding?
 - (b) What is the total amount of funding received by each organisation including goods and services tax?
 - (c) On what date was the funding advanced?
 - (d) What was the purpose for each grant or funding advance?
 - (e) Was any funding withheld or returned?
 - (f) If so, what were the reasons for withholding or requiring the funding to be returned?
 - (g) What is the indexation rate applied to non - recurrent grant fun
 - (h) What are the details of any costs involved in each study, audit, taskforce or review?
 - (i) Have any provisions been included in grant agreements to prohibit these organisations from criticising the Government or any of its policies?

65. How many contractors has your Department(s) retained since 1 July 2013 and at what cost?
66. What is the current level of Aboriginal employment within your Department(s)?
67. How has that changed since 1 July 2012?
68. Since 1 July 2011, how much has been spent on charter air flights by your Department(s)?
69. Is your department currently undertaking any feasibility studies, audits, taskforces or reviews? If so; then;
- (a) What are the terms of reference or details of each study, audit, taskforce or review?
 - (b) Who is conducting the study, audit, taskforce or review?
 - (c) Was each study, audit, taskforce or review was publically advertised seeking expression of interest or competitive tenders?
 - (d) Is there a contract in place detailing terms of engagement for the study, audit, taskforce or review?
 - (e) What is the timeline of each study, audit, taskforce or review?
 - (f) What are the details of any costs involved in each study, audit, taskforce or review?
70. Can you please list all travel related costs for your Parliamentary Secretary incurred in their capacity as Parliamentary Secretary since 1 July 2012
- (a) kilometres travelled
 - (b) accommodation
 - (c) air fares
 - (d) meals/entertaining?
71. Can you please provide details of the following activities undertaken by your Parliamentary Secretary since 1 July 2012;
- (a) meetings attended in their capacity as Parliamentary Secretary?
 - (b) functions attended in their capacity as Parliamentary Secretary?
72. How often do you meet with your Parliamentary Secretary?
- (a) Are these meetings documented?
 - (b) Who attends these meetings?

73. Who provides instructions and direction to your Parliamentary Secretary, you or your Chief of Staff?
74. Has the Minister been provided with Speech, Voice or Media Training since becoming Minister? If so, then;
- (a) Who conducted the training?
 - (b) When was it conducted?
 - (c) Where was it conducted what were the costs of the training?
 - (d) Who paid for the training?
75. Has the Parliamentary Secretary been provided with Speech, Voice or Media Training since becoming Parliamentary Secretary? If so, then;
- (a) Who conducted the training?
 - (b) When was it conducted?
 - (c) Where was it conducted what were the costs of the training?
 - (d) Who paid for the training?