

Page 6 - QON 1 – Crown Land and Housing Supply

Mr STEPHEN KAMPER: I think it's important that we—it's probably relevant to the housing Minister as well, this question. It's probably more relevant there. Maximising the use of government land for critical housing supply is a key priority of this Government. I think that's pretty well known with the land audit and everything that we've been working on the last year. Crown land has a role to play in improving housing outcomes in regional New South Wales. This is balanced against the other important benefits Crown land provides to New South Wales communities and takes into account the rights and interests of native title holders and Aboriginal land councils.

While Crown land makes up a substantial proportion of New South Wales, only a small fraction of this land is suitable for housing and it is important to be clear about when and how Crown land is best used to address housing supply gaps. In late 2021 Crown Lands and the Land and Housing Corporation—now Homes NSW—signed a historic memorandum of understanding to support the identification of suitable Crown land in regional areas that could be used for housing development. To date Crown land parcels in Cooma and Forbes have been activated for housing development. Work is also underway to explore the suitability of Crown land sites in the Albury region through a partnership between Crown Lands, Homes NSW and the local council. A partnership to explore housing opportunities in Tamworth has also been established between Crown Lands, Homes NSW, Landcom and the land council.

The CHAIR: In those locations that you've just listed—and you might have to take this on notice—how many homes are we looking at potentially creating.

Mr STEPHEN KAMPER: I might throw that to Mel to give you detail on that.

MELANIE HAWYES: Thanks, Minister. Thanks, Chair. In terms of the Crown Lands' role in this, obviously we've provided input into the audit conducted by colleagues about land that may be suitable for housing but, as the Minister said, we do have a partnership arrangement with Homes. That has involved, generally, negotiating outcomes with local Aboriginal land councils on land that may be suitable but is currently under claim. We have a number of those projects underway at the moment. As an example, you spoke about the number of homes they may be able to bring online. In Cooma, the partnership approach there is likely to bring online up to 300 homes. We have other partnerships.

In Cooma those are mixed-tenure dwellings, which also include a component of social, affordable and private homes. That's being progressed through this partnership with Homes and with the local Aboriginal land council. Similarly, we have a project in Forbes that we are hoping will be able to deliver up to 101 housing lots, again with a mix of social, affordable, private and key-worker housing. So they're two examples of regional projects that are more progressed, and we have number of others that are undergoing due diligence work and assessment as to the feasibility and the number of lots that may be able to be yielded.

The CHAIR: The ones that are obviously more progressed—Cooma and Forbes—is the aim to build those 300 homes or 100 homes in reasonably quick secession?

I am advised:

See tables below for details of the potential homes being created at various regional sites.

Active Regional Housing Projects proceeding to development:

	Cooma	Forbes
Lot Yield	140 Note - potentially a further 160 subject to planning approval on adjoining LALC owned land	102
Dwelling Yield	177	124

	Note - this does not include the yield for the LALC owned land - TBD)	
Typology	2 Social 26 Social Seniors 6 Affordable 6 Key Worker 127 Market	4 Social 20 Social Seniors 8 Affordable 4 Key Worker 88 Market
Subdivision construction indicative commencement	December 2024	March 2025

Regional Housing Projects progressing through active due diligence:

	Albury	Tamworth
Lot Yield	~ up to 550	~ up to 134

Crown Lands, although not directly involved in delivery, is committed to the activation of Crown land sites for regional housing projects, as soon as practicable. This includes partnering with agencies such as Homes NSW or Landcom, NSWALC and Local Aboriginal Land Councils, as well as providing advice and assistance to Local Councils that have identified suitable parcels of Crown land for activation for housing purposes.

Homes NSW is the delivery partner for the Cooma and Forbes projects. Specifics relating to construction timeframe and dwelling typology should be referred to Homes NSW.

The Albury and Tamworth sites are progressing through due diligence and detailed design. Final configurations relating to dwelling yield, typology and commencement dates for subdivision construction are yet to be determined. Homes NSW is the delivery partner undertaking these assessments.

Page 7 – QON2 - Small Business Insolvency Figures

Mr STEPHEN KAMPER: I think I've got some numbers on that—4,634 companies entered external administration last year.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Minister, how many of those were small businesses?

Mr STEPHEN KAMPER: I'll take that on notice. I haven't got the exact number or percentile in my head. I don't carry that in my head.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Minister, have you made any inquiries before as to how many of those businesses are small businesses?

Mr STEPHEN KAMPER: Yes, we have, but I don't hold numbers like that in my head so I'll take it on notice, if you like.

I am advised:

Please refer to response provided on pages 47 and 48 of the hearing transcript.

Page 11 – QON 3 - Small Business Meetings

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: Minister, to consider the needs of small business, I presume you would have to meet with them. Could you share with the Committee how many times you've met with small businesses from April to June, for example?

Mr STEPHEN KAMPER: I think you should refer to my diary for that. I'll take that on notice. I can't—I've met with many small businesses.

I am advised:

The Minister regularly meets with representatives from the small business community across a range of events. Events are generally not recorded in Ministers' Diary Disclosures.

Ministers' Diary Disclosures are published on The Cabinet Office website:

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/the-cabinet-office/access-to-information/ministers-diary-disclosures>

Page 21 – QON 4 - Community Sport Support

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: We've spoken about better playing surfaces, but also drainage would avoid field closures in some instances. Have you taken any steps to rectify the situation around playing surfaces and drainage to provide better access to communities who are using these facilities?

Mr STEPHEN KAMPER: I'll see what the Office of Sport's been doing, through Karen. It's an operational—

KAREN JONES: Like I've said before in my evidence this morning, drainage projects have been eligible under our grant programs that we've had. In fact, with all the grant programs that we've run in former years, there are around about 400-odd projects that are currently in delivery across the State as we speak. Of those projects, a number of those—I can take the number on notice, if you like—refer to drainage.

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: Yes, that would be helpful.

KAREN JONES: We can provide that figure.

I am advised:

Over the past three (financial) years, the NSW Office of Sport has provided \$85 million in grant funding for 112 projects, where irrigation/drainage or turf and synthetic field resurfacing is the primary objective of the project.

And, over the past three (financial) years, the NSW Office of Sport has provided \$285 million in grant funding for 226 projects, where irrigation/drainage or turf and synthetic field resurfacing is either the primary or secondary objective of the project.

Page 21 and 22 – QON 5 - Game cancellations

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: Could you also please provide on notice the number of games that you're aware of that have been cancelled?

KAREN JONES: Through the Minister, we can do that. That would take significant time. We don't actually have collected data on the draws of every sporting organisation across the State every weekend. I think at the last count, roughly, there are around 12,000 clubs across the State. To actually draw that figure out would take the Office of Sport some time. By all means, as the Minister has already alluded to, we are happy to have those conversations with State sporting organisations as the peak bodies in this State to talk about the weather impacts on sport. Unfortunately, I don't think there is a quick solution. But for us, again, there is a very limited impact that the State Government can have at this stage, given that the vast majority of those fields, as I've already said, are actually owned and controlled by local councils and they're the ones who make the decisions around closures.

I am advised:

The Office of Sport does not currently collect data about game cancellations. To do this would take a considerable amount of time and would rely on the accuracy of data and information from local councils and sporting organisations.

Page 24 – QON 6 - Diary Meeting

The Hon. EMMA HURST: Your ministerial diary shows that you met with Mr Peter V'landys and Premier Chris Minns on 25 January this year. Can I ask what the purpose of that meeting was?

Mr STEPHEN KAMPER: On 25 January. It should be recorded in the—

The Hon. EMMA HURST: I don't think that there was much detail, actually. You don't recall that meeting at all?

Mr STEPHEN KAMPER: Not specifically on that day. Whatever is in the diary is what we would have met on. I'm not really sure whether it was with the—I can't really recall.

The Hon. EMMA HURST: You don't recall what that meeting was, and you don't recall what was discussed?

Mr STEPHEN KAMPER: No, that was eight or nine months ago.

The Hon. EMMA HURST: Do you recall who sought to arrange that meeting? Did Mr V'landys reach out to you to organise that meeting?

Mr STEPHEN KAMPER: I would have to have a look at the diary entry. Have you got a copy of the diary entry or what the purpose of the meeting was?

The Hon. EMMA HURST: I don't actually think I have one on me.

Mr STEPHEN KAMPER: It generally has the purpose of the meeting.

The Hon. EMMA HURST: The purposes of some of these other meetings are very broad.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Typically, your diary says "portfolio matters".

The Hon. EMMA HURST: "Portfolio matters" is usually what it says. That doesn't really give us much detail.

Mr STEPHEN KAMPER: Yes, it could have been—I'm not sure, as I said—in relation to the NRL, was it? I'm not sure. I'll take it on notice, if I can?

The Hon. EMMA HURST: If you can take that on notice in regard to who actually sought to arrange the meeting, that would be really useful.

Mr STEPHEN KAMPER: Yes, okay.

I am advised:

Ministers' Diary Disclosures are published on The Cabinet Office website:

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/the-cabinet-office/access-to-information/ministers-diary-disclosures>

Page 27 – QON 7 - Crown Lands transfer to National Parks

Ms SUE HIGGINSON: What is the view in terms of internally? When would you do that and why? What drives that process?

MELANIE HAWYES: The whole portfolio is managed from a perspective of delivering community value in context, so there are times when there is land that's recognised for having high conservation value that might be neighbouring a national park, and there have been situations where that makes more sense for it to belong and be managed as part of the reserve estate. We've done that in the past. I don't have a list here, but I can provide a list on notice. Similarly, for example, former forestry sites come into Crown estate when they're no longer being used for forestry. It is a diverse and dynamic portfolio, but where there's a merit-based case and there's an area with really strong conservation values that national parks colleagues are interested in as well, then we can work collaboratively around it.

I am advised: The Crown estate is vast and diverse and can be used for many different purposes. Protecting environmental assets on Crown land is a principle of Crown land management in the *Crown Land Management Act 2016* and a key priority under *Crown land 2031: State Strategic Plan for Crown land*. One of the primary ways this is achieved is by reserving land for protection and conservation purposes. In addition, 26 Crown land sites have established Biodiversity Conservation Agreements in place to conserve and protect areas of high environmental value.

In some circumstances, it may be appropriate for Crown land to become part of the National Parks estate. These circumstances may include where a piece of Crown land adjoins an existing National Park, or significant environmental values have been identified which would benefit from inclusion in the National Parks estate. During the 2023/24 financial year, over 45,000 hectares of Crown land was dedicated as a National Park and is now managed as part of the National Park estate. Crown land can also be compulsorily acquired by or vested to the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

A recent example of the transfer of Crown land to the National Parks estate is Killalea State Park, a 260-hectare site on the NSW South Coast, which holds significant biodiversity values.

In addition to protecting the environmental values on Crown land, Crown Lands also has a role to play in a whole-of-government approach to biodiversity conservation. Crown Lands will be a key contributor to the Government's new Nature Strategy, which will set goals and targets for conservation committed to in response to the statutory review of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*. As part of this process Crown Lands will work with the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water to consider how to improve the identification and conservation of biodiversity values across the Crown estate.

Page 28 – QON 8 - Land Audit and threatened ecological communities

Ms SUE HIGGINSON: In questions taken on notice at last estimates, I received a response that details identifying individual lots as part of the land audit are Cabinet in confidence, understandably, but is the number of sites that have been processed as part of the audit that have threatened ecological communities considered Cabinet in confidence, or can I be told the number of sites?

LEON WALKER: Can I take that on notice?

Ms SUE HIGGINSON: Thank you, I'd be very grateful. If that's the case, can information also be provided about the audit statistics in terms of pollution statistics as well?

LEON WALKER: We definitely have those issues included in the criteria. I don't know if the team are tracking in terms of their filtering those specific issues to be able to give you a count quickly, but we could do it.

I am advised:

Of the 8882 lots currently analysed under the audit (10/08/2024), 541 are wholly or partially affected under the Threatened Ecological Communities Greater Sydney dataset (<https://datasets.seed.nsw.gov.au/dataset/threatened-ecological-communities-greater-sydney>).

The audit team is not directly aware of any singular data source that contains wide-scale site-specific pollution statistics, and as such is unable to provide this data for sites under the audit.

Page 30 – QON 9 - 301 Samantha Riley Drive, Kellyville

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: You've announced four sites. One of those is 301 Samantha Riley Drive in Kellyville. Why was the parcel at 301 Samantha Riley Drive, Kellyville, listed for sale through Colliers Sydney West, with expressions of interest to close on Wednesday 13 March 2024?

Mr STEPHEN KAMPER: I can't answer that question.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: You're not aware of that.

Mr STEPHEN KAMPER: No.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: You had no knowledge of that before? You didn't step in to stop it being sold off or marketed by Colliers West at all?

Mr STEPHEN KAMPER: No.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Do you have any idea how much was paid to Colliers to market this property?

Mr STEPHEN KAMPER: I've got no idea. I'll take it on notice.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Can you also take on notice the final cost of Colliers for marketing the property?

Mr STEPHEN KAMPER: Yes.

I am advised:

This matter falls under the responsibility of the Minister for Water and should be referred to that Minister.

Page 31 – QON 10 – 301 Samantha Riley Drive, Kellyville

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: With respect to 301 Samantha Riley Drive at Kellyville, does that also include the parcel at 301B, or is it just 301?

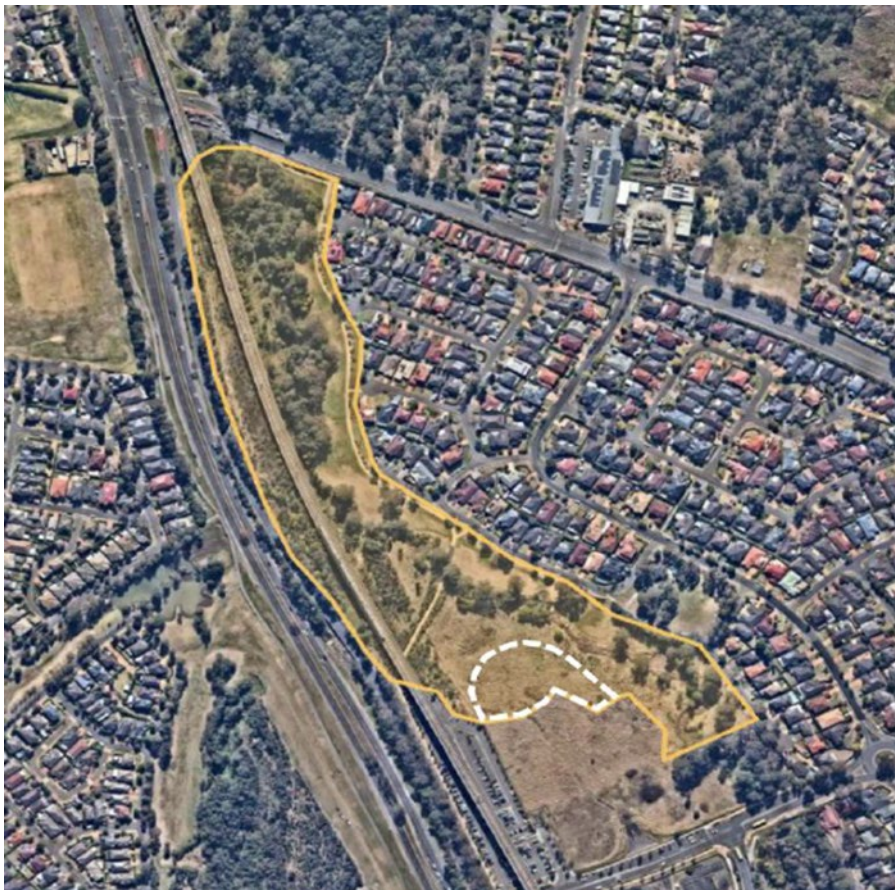
Mr STEPHEN KAMPER: I don't have particular—

LEON WALKER: We can take that on notice.

I am advised:

The site announced at 301 Samantha Riley Drive, Kellyville is a Sydney Water owned site which is separate to the site taken to market by Colliers early in 2024. These two allotments share a street address given the englobo nature of these parcels. The site proposed for transfer to Homes NSW is a 6,450m² part of the Sydney Water site, which is currently zoned for residential use, the balance of 90,770m² is zoned SP2 and proposed to remain with Sydney Water post subdivision.

The site proposed for transfer is legally described as Part Lot 192//DP1249550, with the proposed subdivision outlined in white below;



Page 31 – QON 11 - Kellyville – Homes to be delivered

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Minister, given that your EIE for Kellyville and Bella Vista TOD proposes to increase heights on the site to 67.5 metres, with a floor-space ratio of 2:2 on a site that's more than 21,000 square metres, why are you only proposing to deliver 75 to 83 new homes on that site?

LEON WALKER: We'll take that on notice.

I am advised:

The estimated dwelling yield is consistent with the 6,450m² parcel of Sydney Water land, which is currently zoned for residential use.

Page 31 – QON 12 - Kellyville – Homes to be delivered

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Minister, you've indicated Homes NSW were developing this site, and 50 per cent are to be social and affordable homes. What is the breakdown for social and affordable on the site?

Mr STEPHEN KAMPER: I will take it on notice.

I am advised:

This matter falls under the responsibility of the Minister for Housing and should be referred to that Minister.

Page 31 – QON 13 - Kellyville – Homes to be delivered

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Will the affordable homes be managed by Homes NSW?

Mr STEPHEN KAMPER: On that particular site?

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Yes.

Mr STEPHEN KAMPER: I'll take that on notice, too.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: We've got a lot on notice.

I am advised:

This matter falls under the responsibility of the Minister for Housing and should be referred to that Minister.

Page 31 – QON 14 - Kellyville – Homes to be delivered

Mr STEPHEN KAMPER: I don't know whether final decisions have been made with these things.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Who is the current entity that owns that site at 301 Samantha Riley Drive in Kellyville?

Mr STEPHEN KAMPER: I'll take it on notice. They're really specific details.

I am advised:

Sydney Water Corporation.

Page 31 – QON 15 - Land owner / title holder of 4 sites announced

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Minister, it's budget estimates. You're the Minister for Lands and Property. You're the "Land Audit King".

Mr STEPHEN KAMPER: I'll take it on notice. Do you think I've got the titleholder and every single bit of detail on hundreds and thousands of properties?

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: You've only got four sites. It's not like I'm asking you to go through thousands. These are the four that have been announced. You'll take on notice as to who is the current holder at the site?

Mr STEPHEN KAMPER: Yes, I'll take it on notice.

I am advised:

The four sites announced and their current landowners are:

Property	Landowning Agency
Clothing Store sub-precinct in the Carriageworks Precinct, North Eveleigh	Transport Asset Holding Entity of NSW
301 Samantha Riley Drive, Kellyville	Sydney Water Corporation
72, 84 and 86 Menangle Drive, Camden	Health Administration Corporation
WestConnex Dive Site, Parramatta Road, Camperdown	Transport for NSW

Page 32 – QON 16 - The Clothing Store/ Paint shop site within the Carriageworks Precinct

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Have those other sites formed part of your land audit at all—that being the paint shop site and the Carriageworks precinct?

LEON WALKER: I'd have to take it on notice. It is likely that we reviewed that. I'll take it on notice and come back to you later.

I am advised:

Yes, these sites have been reviewed as part of the land audit.

Page 39 – QON 17 - Las Vegas

The Hon. EMMA HURST: Did the UFC pay for your ticket for that event?

Mr STEPHEN KAMPER: Yes. I was asked to attend to watch a fight within—it wasn't a large stadium—their little boutique facility there.

The Hon. EMMA HURST: It was a small event. What about the Sphere event. Who was that provided by?

Mr STEPHEN KAMPER: The operators of the Sphere, I think. I'll take that on notice.

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.

Page 41 – QON 18 - Faith Affairs Council

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Thank you, Mr La Posta. Minister, during any of these meetings, was the Equality Legislation Amendment Bill listed as an agenda item?

Mr STEPHEN KAMPER: Not in my presence.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Not in your presence but, Mr La Posta, for any of the other meetings?

JOSEPH LA POSTA: Can take it on notice? I'm not sure if it was listed as an agenda item. I think it was raised and there a course of action, but can I just take that on notice and I'll come back to you this afternoon.

I am advised:

At the request of members, the Equality Legislation Amendment (LGBTIQA+) Bill 2023 was listed as an agenda item for the NSW Faith Affairs Council meetings on 31 January 2024 and 30 April 2024.

Page 46 – QON 19 – Regional Housing

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Are any of the 40 remaining sites that you've identified in regional New South Wales?

LEON WALKER: I'll take that on notice.

Mr STEPHEN KAMPER: We'll take that on notice.

I am advised:

Yes.

Page 46 – QON 20 – Dubbo Regional Sports Hub

The Hon. WES FANG: Can you advise when the successful tender of the Dubbo regional sports hub will be announced?

Mr STEPHEN KAMPER: Are you familiar with that information, Karen?

KAREN JONES: I am familiar with that project, Minister. In terms of actual tender documents and any announcement around that, I will take it on notice.

The Hon. WES FANG: We asked about the project in November last year. Can you let the community know when construction is going to commence and shovels will be in the ground?

KAREN JONES: Through the Minister, I am happy to take all of that on notice and provide you with project timelines.

I am advised:

The project is currently subject to a variation request. The dates cannot be confirmed until the variation is resolved.

Page 47 – QON 21 – Safe Places for Faith Communities Program

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Minister, in the first round of the Safe Places for Faith Communities Program, 103 community faith organisations received funding. Who had a role in assessing which applicants would be successful? Was that you, or was there a panel?

Mr STEPHEN KAMPER: There was a panel. There was a process put in place.

JOSEPH LA POSTA: Yes, my goodness, extensive—very extensive—and we brought all different parts of government to help us.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: We might come back to that. Minister, did you have any role in making any of the assessments or approving the final list?

Mr STEPHEN KAMPER: No. At the end of the day, I got the recommendations that came through the assessment process and embraced that assessment.

JOSEPH LA POSTA: Just for complete transparency, the Minister got a brief. He signed the approved brief.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Minister, would you be able to provide this Committee—on notice, of course—with those 103 successful applicants?

JOSEPH LA POSTA: Absolutely, not a problem.

Mr STEPHEN KAMPER: Absolutely, yes.

I am advised:

Information on Safe Places for Faith Communities funding will be available in the Multicultural NSW 2023-24 Annual Report.

Page 47 – QON 22 – Safe Places for Faith Communities Program

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: We can come back to it in the afternoon, Mr La Posta. For the first round, an initial \$3 million that groups were going to have access to was increased to \$5 million. Is the Government going to consider increasing the funding available for the next round to ensure that as many organisations as possible can improve security to their places of worship and other facilities eligible under the program?

JOSEPH LA POSTA: It's a budgetary related question, Mr Farlow. There is an amount in the budget for this year. I can take the specifics on notice in terms of how much it is, but it was part of the Minns Government commitment of 15 million over four years—not 15 million a year, 15 million over four years. We've delivered the first tranche of funding, which was \$5 million, brought forward because of current issues in community, and absolutely can take it on notice and check in terms of what our budget amount is for next year—or this year, sorry.

I am advised:

The next round of the grant program will open in the 2024-25 financial year and the available funding pool will be announced when the program opens.

Page 48 – QON 23 – Level the Playing Field Program

Dr AMANDA COHN: The primary objective of that program, as I understand it, was equitable access for women and girls, and there was an additional objective to increase utilisation of sports facilities for people with disability, First Nations people, LGBTQIA+ people and people from culturally and linguistically diverse communities, which is a huge remit. How many of the projects that were funded address those additional objectives?

KAREN JONES: I will have to take that on notice, to go through each one of those. It was part of our guidelines and part of the assessment criteria. That element was given a weighting in terms of the assessment. In terms of those projects that were successful, that covered off on that area or that had a high score in that area, I can come back to you on notice for that.

I am advised:

Of the 24 projects funded for Level The Playing Field Program, the applicants identified the following communities as benefiting from the project (in addition to women and girls):

People from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds - 8 projects

First Nations/Aboriginal people - 12 projects

LGBTQIA+ community - 13 projects

People with a Disability - 4 projects

Page 49 – QON 24 – Level the Playing Field Program

Dr AMANDA COHN: I expect you'll take my next question on notice as well. Similarly, I'm really interested in the projects for construction of new or upgraded universal design change rooms, toilets, and parent and child change rooms or creche facilities. I understand those projects were eligible and I'd be keen to understand how many funded projects provided new or upgraded universal design facilities but also how many unsuccessful applications there were for universal design facilities.

KAREN JONES: Again, I can take that on notice. I think it's important to make the distinction between female-friendly facilities and universal design. Universal design is an architectural term that means that the facilities will be highly accessible, regardless of disabled access or whether it's for women and girls. Ideally, you want all the facilities universally designed. I'm pretty confident that if not all then most of the facilities that were successful in that grant program would have met that criteria. But, specifically around female access and prioritising female access, both successful and unsuccessful, I'll take it on notice.

I am advised:

All funded applicants of the Level The Playing Field Program committed to a Statement of Intent that gender equality is considered and prioritised in all current and future planning, policy, service delivery and practice as they relate to community sports infrastructure. They also provided an approved Equitable Access and Usage Policy and a supporting action plan for how participation of women and girls would be increased.

Page 50 – QON 25 – Synthetic Turf Fields

Dr AMANDA COHN: I'm trying to understand the process for certification of football grounds. I understand there's a process to get certification under FIFA to hold soccer matches. It has been brought to my attention that, particularly for new synthetic turf fields, there are some clubs and councils that are not pursuing that recertification because of the costs involved. How does that process work, and is it something that you have any input into?

KAREN JONES: No, we don't have any input into that. As you mentioned, it is something that's controlled by FIFA and then it sort of filters down through the federated sports model into Football Australia and then into the State sporting organisations for football. I suspect that there would be different categories whether or not they are planning on hosting international-type events, through to national events, through to State events, through to community events, in terms of what type of grading the actual pitch would need to have. But any further questions on that, in terms of cost implications, I can take on notice and see what I can find out for you. But ultimately it is something for FIFA and Football Australia.

I am advised:

See FIFA website for FIFA certification process <https://www.relyir.com/fifa-artificial-turf-certification/>

The Office of Sport has no input into this process.

Page 53 – QON 26 – Enclosure Permit Fees

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: Are you aware of where that additional revenue is going? Will that go to consolidated revenue?

MELANIE HAWYES: No. Part of our budget requirement is that we are required to raise an element of revenue for the purpose of reinvestment in the estate. Revenue we generate through leases, licences and these permits is used for core land management activity. It might be bushfire mitigation, it might be asset renewal, it might be contaminated site clean-up. There is a range of normal activity, our BAU, that we would use the revenue for.

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: So it goes back into the department. Do you have an idea of how much additional revenue will be generated from the shift?

MELANIE HAWYES: Yes, but I might need to take it on notice because I can't see it right in front of me. Yes, I do have it here. These settings have been since 2004, and in total that's about \$9.6 million a year in revenue from having the concession applied, bringing the fees below statutory minimum rent.

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: How much revenue are you anticipating in this budget year, also 2025-26 and 2026-27?

MELANIE HAWYES: That does depend. The first batch of invoices has only just gone out and we have seen people making inquiries. It really does depend on how many people might opt to buy that parcel of land, seek to purchase it, so I can't set a definitive figure until we've seen the response to the first batch of invoices.

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: Is there an estimation in the budget at all?

MELANIE HAWYES: I would have to take that on notice because, as I say, the invoices have gone out, along with communications to people. It's a matter for individuals to assess whether they want to do something different—for example, purchase that parcel of land.

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: Do you have an understanding of the urban, rural, regional, remote breakdown?

MELANIE HAWYES: These exist across the State. Obviously not many are in metropolitan areas, but they are across the State. I can get that information for you, if you're after a sense of what areas have the greatest—

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: That would be excellent.

MELANIE HAWYES: I don't have that to hand.

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: I understand. Thank you.

I am advised:

As reflected in Ms Hawyes' answer to the Committee, revenue is reinvested in land management activities on the Crown estate.

Returning to statutory minimum rent will increase annual revenue by up to \$9.6 million over a two-year period, subject to decisions made by individual permit holders about the renewal of their permits. Revenue will be re-invested in critical land management activity across the estate.

Revenue from enclosure permits is not specifically identified in the department's budget.

Crown Lands' data on enclosure permits is not classified by urban, rural, regional or remote areas and cannot be reported in that way.

Page 55 – QON 27 – Land Leaving Crown estate

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: How much land, by both area and value, has left the Crown estate in the last financial year?

MELANIE HAWYES: Do you mean by way of land claims or by way of everything?

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: By way of everything, in terms of disposal, in terms of land claims—yes.

MELANIE HAWYES: I'll need to take that on notice because I don't have it aggregated here. For Aboriginal land claims, I think it's around 1,200 hectares. I would need to come back to you to add together the amount, which would be sales of enclosure permits and closures of small parcels of paper roads. That would be a significant undertaking to do that and bring it back. I don't have it to hand.

I am advised:

Land can be added through escheatment, purchase, excess and exchange with private land owners, and reduced through vesting, sales, compulsory acquisition, Western Division conversions, Hay Irrigation conversions, Aboriginal Land Claims, Aboriginal Land Agreements and Native title claims (this includes Crown roads).

Page 56 and 73 – QON 28 – Reflections Wyangala Waters

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: The determination's been made not to increase the wall of Wyangala Dam. Is there still a commitment with respect to Reflections Wyangala Waters holiday park and the upgrade of that facility?

MELANIE HAWYES: I'm going to need to take that on notice.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: No updates on the Reflections Wyangala Waters holiday park, are there?

MELANIE HAWYES: No. It hasn't come up for a while so, I'm sorry, I'll need to take that on notice.

MELANIE HAWYES: Thank you. Can I just complete—I took a few questions on notice and I have the answers. I may as well do it now to save the teams. This morning Ms Higginson asked me about biodiversity conservation agreements. We have approved the use of Crown land for those agreements on 28 sites across the State. Mr Farlow, you asked me about Reflections Wyangala holiday park. Post the Government's decision not to proceed with the expansion of the dam wall, we have been working with Reflections and council. Reflections is committed to a short-term fix to the park sewerage system but, more importantly, a review of future needs and expansion that will lead to a master plan for the park, including its water sewerage. Council and Reflections are working together on that matter, which explains why they've gone quiet, from my perspective.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Is there any budgetary allocation for that work?

MELANIE HAWYES: Not from Crown Lands, but I can take on notice how that work is going and where it's up to. My last point is: You asked about the number of land claims before—and I do really need to shout out to the team. You asked about the efforts we've made to accelerate progress in land claims. I need to shout out to the team on this because in the last three years we've done more land claims and land grants than in the previous 40 years of the statute. So I really need to acknowledge the team's efforts for that. That unlocks so many opportunities on land that was previously stuck. I just wanted to put that on record while I had the chance.

I am advised:

NSW Crown Holiday Parks Land Manager, trading as Reflections Holidays, is the appointed Crown Land Manager of Wyangala Waters Holiday Park and is responsible for all operational requirements at the Park.

Work will commence this financial year on a Strategic Master Plan for the Wyangala Waters Holiday Park, which will inform future capital investment into the Park.

All Crown land holiday parks managed by Reflections Holidays, have a repairs and maintenance budget allocation. This financial year, Reflections Holidays is projected to spend just over \$500,000 in repairs and maintenance at Wyangala Waters Holiday Park. The spend is consistent with other holiday parks managed by Reflections Holidays.

Page 57 – QON 29 – Multicultural NSW Advisory Board

What we sought to do was to run an expression-of-interest process, as you said before. Through that expression of interest process, we've effectively built a talent pool of people that's there. We're also quite cognisant of people going through the effort if they did it, say, six months ago, to then have to go through the effort to do it again, so we've got all of their details on file. When we're making a recommendation around suitability, we're trying to understand authenticity within their community—that they're actually what they say that they are—relationship current to Multicultural NSW or various different parts of government. Some of them are wonderful members of Sydney local health districts or are on their local health district boards, or are a part of mental health, or DCJ, or Office of Sport, multicultural advisory groups—all those. We try to understand what their existing level of engagement is and then once we've done all of that, we put a sort of shortlist in front of the Minister.

I can give you the exact specifics in terms of how many were on that list on notice but let's just, for the sake of this conversation, say there were 40 shortlisted names. We give the Minister a matrix of the skills that are on the board, the ancestry on the board, the professional background of those who are on the board and then talk about where we think there are shortcomings on the board or opportunities on the board. For example, someone, as I used David Giang as an example before, runs a very successful multicultural media business and we didn't have someone with that skill set on the board. He comes from a great, significant community, a Vietnamese community down in Cabramatta, and they didn't have representation. That made a lot of sense in terms of having someone that brought different skills and came from a different community. I am so proud of how interested people are in our board, but obviously 250-odd doesn't go into two or three spaces.

I am advised:

The shortlist contained 55 recommended part-time member applicants and 10 part-time youth member applicants.

Page 59 – QON 30 – Sydney Fish Market

The CHAIR: In the brief minute I have left I might turn to Sydney Fish Market, which I think is Mr Gellibrand. What's been the total number of requests for variations over the life of this project? I'm happy if you have to take these on notice. That's fine.

TOM GELLIBRAND: I'd probably seek a clarification first. Variations from the Sydney Fish Market or from Multiplex or from—

The CHAIR: Just a broad total. I'm not after delineation between who asked for what; I just want a broad—

TOM GELLIBRAND: I'd be happy to take that on notice.

The CHAIR: When you're doing that, how many were accepted versus not accepted? For the ones that were accepted, what was the total cost of those variations?

TOM GELLIBRAND: Happy to do so.

The CHAIR: And also, probably on notice, how many extensions of time requests or claims have been submitted by Multiplex? What does that equate to in terms of total workdays? Does that make sense?

TOM GELLIBRAND: Certainly. We'll take that on notice and I'll tabulate it for you.

I am advised:

The information sought in these questions relates to documents that are currently part of a proceeding in the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal (NCAT) regarding a dispute arising from an access application under the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009.

Information related to these questions has also been sought and provided under a Standing Order 52 return which is subject to a claim of privilege. These documents are already available to members of the Legislative Council.

Page 61 – QON 31 – Covid-19 Microbusiness Grants

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: How many small businesses or microbusinesses have you reached out to who haven't sent through their proof of eligibility?

GREG WELLS: I'll get the exact number on notice for you, if that's okay. We're sort of in the final 20 per cent of the businesses that went through that process. What we have done, as we talked about before, is removed anyone that we've been aware of that's been experiencing hardship. That could be an ABN that's no longer in operation. Certainly for the businesses that operated in LGAs impacted by flood, or for any hardship reason that we can ascertain. I've not contacted those businesses, obviously. What I would say, though, it's really important that businesses get in contact with us. If you do, we will be able to find potentially alternative means to prove your eligibility. We can provide more time, and we can connect you with independent business advisers—that Ms Gibbens talk about as well—to help you get documentation ready. We can really make sure that we understand that business's circumstances. If you're under financial hardship, there are ways we can work through those things too.

I am advised:

The responsibility for the JobSaver and Micro-Business Grants Audit is held by the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government.

This question should be directed to the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government.

Page 61 – QON 32 – Covid-19 Microbusiness Grants

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: How many have been deemed to be ineligible?

GREG WELLS: Again, I'll get that on notice for you. I will come back on notice, if that's okay.

I am advised:

The responsibility for the JobSaver and Micro-Business Grants Audit is held by the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government.

This question should be directed to the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government.

Page 61 – QON 33 – Covid-19 Microbusiness Grants

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: Thank you, that would be excellent. In terms of those hardship provisions, who is making those judgements? How does a calculation get made? Obviously with something like floods, you've got some postcodes that have been specifically affected, but what are some of the calculations or decisions being made there?

GREG WELLS: We look at the eligibility first of all which was, of course, \$30,000 to \$75,000—businesses receiving 50 per cent of their income from that process and having it reduced by 30 per cent. We look at that to start with. We look at things like if people have had an ongoing income less than those amounts, for example. That would be one indicator. There's a range of hardship indicators that, if we get in contact with these businesses, we can walk through and determine ways through those things.

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: Is that information all public? Is it all online?

GREG WELLS: We are progressively updating our website in terms of that process. I'll confirm that for you on notice.

I am advised:

The responsibility for the JobSaver and Micro-Business Grants Audit is held by the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government.

This question should be directed to the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government.

Page 62 – QON 34 – Level The Playing Field Program

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Ms Jones, I understand from an article in the *South Coast Register* on 8 May 2024, that the \$2 million Level the Playing Field program for the proposed Bob Proudfoot Pavilion was returned by Shoalhaven City Council. Is that correct?

KAREN JONES: Yes. I think Dr Cohn was referring to that one previously in her questioning too.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Did the member for South Coast make formal representations, seeking to amend the scope of the project before it was returned?

KAREN JONES: I'll have to take that on notice.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Since Shoalhaven City Council returned the funding, has the member for South Coast made any formal representations to you on the importance of funding for this project or to the Minister?

GREG WELLS: Again, I'd have to take that on notice.

CORRECTION: On Page 62, Greg Wells has been incorrectly recorded as taking a question from The Hon. Scott Farlow on notice. This should be Karen Jones.

I have had multiple conversations with the Member for South Coast on matters pertaining to her electorate, including funding for grassroots sporting facilities.

Page 62 – QON 35 – Level The Playing Field Program

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Since Shoalhaven City Council returned the funding, has the member for South Coast made any formal representations to you on the importance of funding for this project or to the Minister?

GREG WELLS: Again, I'd have to take that on notice.

I have had multiple conversations with the Member for South Coast on matters pertaining to her electorate, including funding for grassroots sporting facilities.

Page 62 – QON 36 – West Ryde Multi Sports Facility

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: With respect to the West Ryde multi-sports facility, does the Government remain committed to delivering the 5,000 square metre indoor courts and 29 outdoor netball courts as part of the West Ryde multi-sports facility?

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: If you're referring to a grant with PCYC—is that the one you are referring to?

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: It could potentially be.

KAREN JONES: As I think I alluded to earlier on in today's session, we've got about 450 projects.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: It's the old Marsden High School site.

KAREN JONES: Yes, that's the one I'm thinking of. We do have a grant commitment with PCYC at the moment in terms of delivery of a portion of that project. I understand that funding agreement is still in place.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Have you had any communication with the Eastwood Ryde Netball Association with respect to the delivery of the project?

KAREN JONES: Not recently. I think the last meeting I had with them was well over a year ago.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Do you understand that the City of Ryde council is not investing any money into existing netball facilities in the interim because they're waiting for this site to effectively become available?

KAREN JONES: I'm not aware of that specific issue, but I'm happy to take it back to our grants team to see if they're aware.

I am advised:

Delivery of the 5000m indoor court and the 29 outdoor netball courts is the responsibility of Department of Education - School Infrastructure, which is Stage 1 of the project. Office of Sport has an executed funding agreement with PCYC NSW for additional items to be delivered in Stage 2.

Page 63 – QON 37 - Level The Playing Field Program

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: When can the netballers expect to be able to play at this facility? Is there any indication of that at this stage?

KAREN JONES: Again, I'd have to go through the funding agreement and have a look at the different milestones. In particular, what components of the project we can actually control.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: If you could take that on notice, that would be great.

KAREN JONES: Absolutely.

I am advised:

Delivery of the 5000m indoor court and the 29 outdoor netball courts is the responsibility of Department of Education - School Infrastructure, which is Stage 1 of the project. Office of Sport has an executed funding agreement with PCYC NSW for additional items to be delivered in Stage 2.

Page 65 – QON 38 – Sydney International Regatta Centre

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: Do you have the annual income that was generated by the centre in financial year '23-24?

KAREN JONES: For the regatta centre, no, I don't have it handy, but I will see if I can try to get that for you.

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: So take that on notice?

KAREN JONES: Yes.

I am advised:

Annual income for the Sydney International Regatta Centre for FY 2023/24 was \$987,845.

Page 65 – QON 39 – Sydney International Regatta Centre and Penrith Whitewater Stadium

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: Do you know how many events have been cancelled or postponed as a result of the algae blooms?

KAREN JONES: I can find that for you. No, I will have to take that on notice. What I can say that kind of goes towards that question, though, is that in '23-24 the Sydney International Regatta Centre lost an estimated \$90,000 in revenue due to event cancellations and the Penrith Whitewater Stadium lost an estimated \$306,000 in revenue due to cancellations.

I am advised:

The Office of Sport assumed operations of Penrith Whitewater Stadium from 1 July 2023 and have no records prior to that date. Since 1 July 2023, one event has been cancelled or postponed. In addition, venue bookings were cancelled/postponed for paddle and canoe training, whitewater rafting activities and emergency services training.

Between 2019 and 30 June 2024, 63 events were cancelled or postponed at Sydney International Regatta Centre due to either the presence of blue-green algae or water quality impacts of flooding. In addition to these event cancellations, venue bookings were cancelled or postponed for water-based training sessions as well as community and club activities.

Page 65 – QON 40 – Active Kids Program

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Ms Jones, in the 2023-24 financial year, how many children were eligible for Active Kids vouchers?

KAREN JONES: Let me find that figure for you. I'll take that on notice and I might come back to you.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Sure, okay. I might put all of these on notice because I suspect you're going to have to take all of them on notice.

KAREN JONES: Okay.

I am advised:

According to the 2021 Census, there are 1,351,658 people in NSW aged 5 to 18. This is our best estimate of the eligible population.

Page 66 – QON 41 – Surf Club Facility Program

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: Maybe you can take on notice how many variations have been requested and how many have been approved?

KAREN JONES: For the Copacabana project?

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: For the Surf Club Facility Program.

KAREN JONES: I can take that on notice.

I am advised:

In the last four years, the Surf Club Facility Program has had 131 successful projects, of which 27 projects have requested variations of varying degrees.

Page 67 – QON 42 – Local Sport Grant Program

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: When will the outcomes of the program from the current financial year be advised?

KAREN JONES: They will be published in our annual report.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Nothing before then?

KAREN JONES: I can take it on notice for you if you'd like it before then, but I know that our annual reports are due in October.

I am advised:

Successful projects for the Local Sport Grant Program 2023/24 were published in May 2024 on the NSW Government Grant Finder website and the Office of Sport website.

The Program for the current financial year is yet to be finalised.

Pages 67 and 68 – QON 43 – Penrith Lakes – Blue Green Algae

LEON WALKER: The Office of Strategic Lands sits within my space. The question should probably come in through Minister Scully's session on Friday, but some money was allocated in the budget this year to look at the series of waterways in Penrith Lakes. I know work's being done to look at how this issue can be addressed.

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: In in terms of the work that you're doing together, is there any work that's happening between the offices?

LEON WALKER: I think it's fair to say it's early days. The money was only recently approved. It has been identified as a key issue.

KAREN JONES: I can say that our teams have been working together around identifying the issue and communicating the extent of the issue.

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: There is no timeline at this stage in terms of having some milestones to hit for reporting?

LEON WALKER: We can take that on notice, or you can raise it on Friday.

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: That sounds good.

I am advised:

Office of Strategic Lands undertakes regular water quality monitoring and aquatic weed management.

Flood mitigation works include:

- Installation of a new sluice gate (a device to control the flow of water) between the Final Basin and the Regatta Lake to assist with flood mitigation. To be completed 30 June 2025
- Protection of the Penrith Whitewater Stadium pump electrical cabling. This pump pumps the water from the lake into the stadium to make the "whitewater". Works to be completed by January 2025

A flood mitigation modelling study is due mid-September 2024.

Other works include the Wildlife Lake Boat Ramp upgrade to facilitate access for water quality monitoring and management at the Wildlife Lake which is to be completed early 2025.

Page 68 – QON 44 – Small business micro grants

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: I have one question for Mr Wells. Going back to the micro grants, I want to understand in more detail what businesses are being asked to provide.

GREG WELLS: Some standard documentation that we suggested in the application process that would have proven eligibility would have been things like tax returns or business activity statements et cetera. If they're not available—if you haven't submitted a tax return for a couple of years—there are lots of alternative ways to prove that documentation. I think that's on our website, but I'm happy to come back on notice and provide that as well.

I am advised:

The responsibility for the JobSaver and Micro-Business Grants Audit is held by the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government.

This question should be directed to the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government.

Page 70 – QON 45 – Small business digital transformation process

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Have you provided the Government with any advice in respect to assisting small business with digital transformation programs and what it can do to support, particularly when it come to cybersecurity concerns that small business may have across New South Wales?

CHRIS LAMONT: Not necessarily in respect to New South Wales. I think we have made a number of submissions to Federal committees and inquiries. Perhaps I will take that on notice and come back to you.

I am advised:

The NSW Small Business Commissioner (the Commission) has contributed submissions to various inquiries and reviews related to small business digital transformation and cybersecurity.

Relevant contributions include:

- <https://www.smallbusiness.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2023-07/Submission%20to%20Parliament%20of%20Australia%20-%20Influence%20of%20international%20digital%20platforms.pdf>
- <https://www.smallbusiness.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2023-11/Submission%20to%20the%20Australian%20Government%27s%20Department%20of%20Finance%20-%20Feedback%20on%20the%20proposed%20Digital%20ID%20legislation.pdf>
- https://www.smallbusiness.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2024-08/Submission%20to%20Australian%20Competition%20and%20Consumer%20Commission%20%28ACCC%29%20-%20Digital%20Platform%20services%20inquiry_0.pdf
- <https://www.smallbusiness.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2024-05/Submission%20to%20the%20Select%20Committee%20-%20Adopting%20Artificial%20Intelligence%20AI.pdf>

The Commission publishes all our public submissions to our website. The Commission also publishes guidance on our website to assist businesses. Relevant guidance includes:

- <https://www.smallbusiness.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2024-07/Digital%20platforms%20guide%20-%20factsheet.pdf>
- <https://www.smallbusiness.nsw.gov.au/help/common-questions/can-artificial-intelligence-help-your-business>
- <https://www.smallbusiness.nsw.gov.au/help/common-questions/protect-your-business-from-online-threats>

Page 72 – QON 46 – Griffith City Council housing proposal

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Ms Hawyes, are you familiar with this Griffith City Council proposal?

MELANIE HAWYES: Not in detail but, as I say, I think you cited one of my execs—Greg.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Yes.

MELANIE HAWYES: He works with a number of local government reps, councils et cetera, and they range from projects like the Cooma housing project through to projects where we're helping councils relocate buildings and depots and infrastructure so that they can free up other parcels. I'm not familiar in-depth, but we work with a range of councils on a number of projects.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: With respect to this Griffith City Council proposal, Ms Hawyes, will you take the question on notice and potentially come back to the Committee with further advice? And will you perhaps undertake to see if you can progress this at all with Argyle Housing and Griffith City Council?

MELANIE HAWYES: Absolutely.

I am advised:

Crown Lands has been in discussion with Griffith City Council over the past three years in relation to activation of Crown land for housing opportunities. Crown Lands has met with Council on a number of occasions regarding its proposal to activate Crown land on Kookora and Bromfield Streets in Griffith for housing purposes.

Council has been provided with information about the process to be undertaken, in addition to the mandatory legislative requirements to be met.

Council initially requested Crown Lands gift the land to Council, which could not be supported in light of Treasury Direction 92.2 that seeks return of market value for the transfer of land. A key element of advice provided to Council was for it to investigate an exemption from this requirement.

At the most recent meeting between Crown Lands and the General Manager of Council in July 2024, it became apparent Council had not yet commenced the steps provided in Crown Lands' previous advice.

Crown Lands will follow up with Council to confirm its intentions in the matter. Crown Lands will continue to support Council to progress the housing projects it has identified.

Page 73 – QON 47 – \$45.5 million property development program

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Mr Walker, with respect to some of the budget items for Property and Development NSW, there's the allocation of the \$45.5 million property development program. What are the new works that are part of that program?

LEON WALKER: The projects that we have underway include the completion of works at the Macquarie Street East Precinct. That's the works to, primarily, the Registrar General's building. Sorry, I don't have the breakdown of the \$45.5 million.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Can you take that on notice?

LEON WALKER: Yes, I can take that on notice.

I am advised:

In the 2021 – 2022 NSW Budget, \$119.3 million was approved to enhance the Macquarie Street East precinct, including early works to the Registrar General's Building. This funding was planned to be spent in stages across future financial years, with programs of work and funding in place until 30 June 2026. With this funding, PDNSW has delivered:

- a 20-year vision and precinct master plan
- heritage restoration works at the RGB, in alignment with heritage controls and conservation plans, restoring its original 1913 character
- new public domain on the northern side of the RGB, linking Macquarie St and The Domain
- business cases to investigate future adaptive reuse at the RGB and Chief-Secretary's Building (CSB)

Plans to commemorate Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II with a public square, named in her honour, were announced by the Federal Government in September 2022. QEII Place will be established by the creation of a new public space on the northern side of the RGB, providing a gateway through to The Domain. These are the first steps in giving the RGB a new lease of life – all while protecting historic integrity and respecting original character. Planning for the design and delivery of QEII Place will progress separately.

Page 74 – QON 48 – Coffs Jetty program of works

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: When do you expect that program to be completed?

LEON WALKER: The overall works to the whole precinct?

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Coffs Jetty, yes.

LEON WALKER: It is a long-term program of works. I'd take it on notice, but it is in the order of 15 to 20 years.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: What is the total projected cost over the next four financial years?

LEON WALKER: I'll take that on notice.

I am advised:

As part of the 2020-21 and 2021-22 State Budgets for Regional NSW, PDNSW was awarded \$20 million in stimulus funding to progress the revitalisation. This funding was planned to be spent in stages across future financial years, with programs of work and funding in place until 30 June 2025.

With this funding, PDNSW has delivered a flagship multi-purpose community building, strategically acquired underutilised land from Transport for NSW, and continued the masterplan process (preparation, technical studies, design and planning), inclusive of extensive community consultation, to support the revitalisation.

PDNSW is currently undertaking a rezoning application via a State assessed planning proposal, which is a legislated process. The proposal was submitted to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) at the end of March 2024 and is anticipated to be publicly exhibited before the end of 2024.

Page 75 – QON 49 – Property and Development NSW’s Year in Review 2022/2023

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Property and Development NSW's *Year in Review 2022/2023* stated there'd be \$231 million in savings and benefits in 2022-23. Were those savings and benefits realised?

LEON WALKER: Yes. We're recording actual savings that we've realised in undertaking our work.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Is there an updated target for 2023-24 and 2024-25?

LEON WALKER: I can take it on notice.

I am advised:

PDNSW does not establish targets, nor has it got targets imposed on it. It does, however, negotiate each lease transaction to maximise savings generated to the sector. PDNSW is not able to advise savings realised from lease transactions completed in the year to date at this early stage in the financial year.

Pages 75 – QON 50 – 301 Samantha Riley Drive, Kellyville

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Can you tell us—because quite legitimately it was advertised as 301 to 301B. That was expressions of interest—Samantha Riley Drive. What was announced was 301 Samantha Riley Drive, Kellyville, in terms of the Minister's press release. What is actually the demarcation on that site in terms of what forms part of the land that's been made available? And then what is being retained by others, or marketed by others, so to speak?

LEON WALKER: That's something that I probably will continue to take on notice because—

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: If you could take it on notice as to what the actual parcel is, that would be helpful.

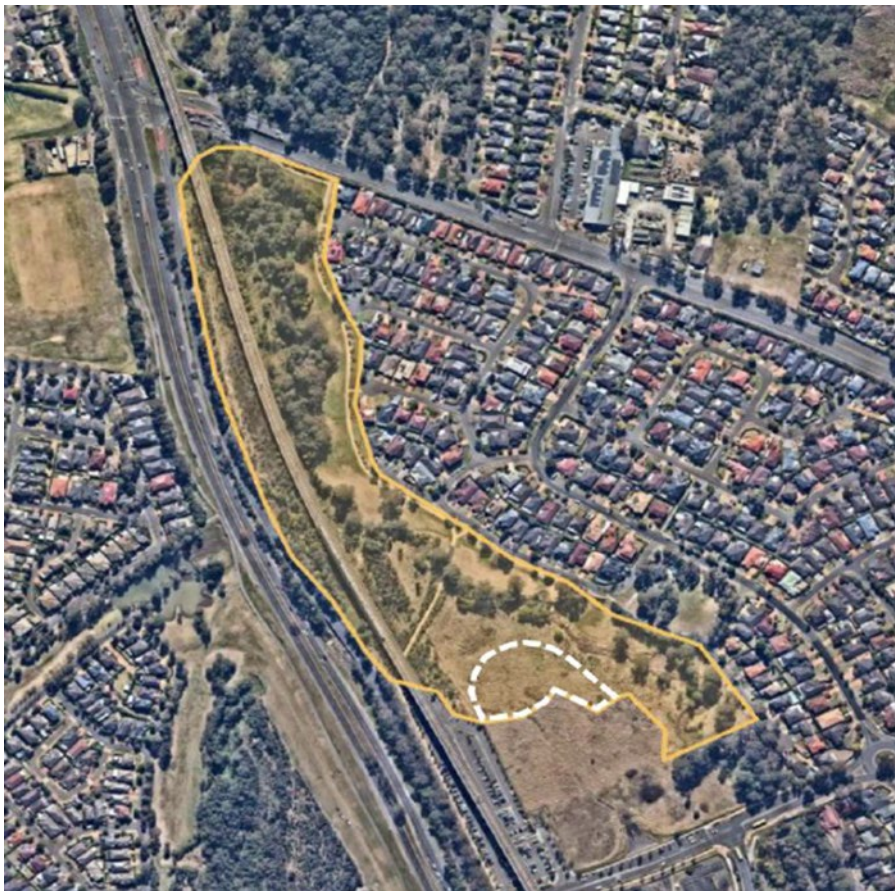
LEON WALKER: Yes, because it's quite a substantial lot, and it's a portion thereof.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: At least what was marketed was a 21,000 square metre site so—

I am advised:

The site announced at 301 Samantha Riley Drive, Kellyville is a Sydney Water owned site which is separate to the site taken to market by Colliers early in 2024. These two allotments share a street address given the englobo nature of these parcels. The site proposed for transfer to Homes NSW is a 6,450m² part of the Sydney Water site, which is currently zoned for residential use, the balance 90,770m² is zoned SP2 and proposed to remain with Sydney Water post subdivision.

The site proposed for transfer is legally described as Part Lot 192//DP1249550, with the proposed subdivision outlined in white below:



Page 76 – QON 51 – 301 Samantha Riley Drive, Kellyville

LEON WALKER: From the information I've got here, it's a 97,000 square metre site overall and we're looking at 6,400 square metres of it.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: So it's a 97,000 square metre site and you've got 6,400, is it?

LEON WALKER: Yes, and that's why when you mentioned earlier that it didn't seem right that there was a relatively small number of dwellings coming off that is because it's a small portion of the overall site.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Anything else you could provide on notice would be helpful as well, Mr Walker.

LEON WALKER: Certainly.

I am advised:

The site announced at 301 Samantha Riley Drive, Kellyville is a Sydney Water owned site which is separate to the site taken to market by Colliers early in 2024. These two allotments share a street address given the englobo nature of these parcels. The site proposed for transfer to Homes NSW is a 6,450m² part of the Sydney Water site, which is currently zoned for residential use, the balance 90,770m² is zoned SP2 and proposed to remain with Sydney Water post subdivision.

The site proposed for transfer is legally described as Part Lot 192//DP1249550, with the proposed subdivision outlined in white below:

Page 77 – QON 52 – Rezoning / Sales evidence – distance

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: In Lake Macquarie, certainly, but—

STEWART McLACHLAN: —and in Teralba. But, if not, again, we would look further afield at similar-zoned properties or make relevant adjustments. Again, it is based sales evidence and appropriate adjustments.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: With respect to that, the sales evidence—how far afield do you look in terms of that?

STEWART McLACHLAN: I think we would need to potentially take that on notice, because obviously we do look further afield depending on the property type. Residential, it's generally not that far. For instance, as you can appreciate there's unique—

I am advised:

Please refer to response provided on page 77 of the hearing transcript.

Page 78 – QON 53 - Remove Hate from the Debate Program

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: Back to the Remove Hate From The Debate conversation, how much funding and resources have been dedicated to the renewal of the program?

JOSEPH LA POSTA: As I said before, in terms of the exact breakdown, I will need to take that on notice. As I mentioned before, we have about \$1 million outside of the COMPACT grant program that's for ancillary programs, which includes Remove Hate From The Debate.

I am advised:

\$800,000 was committed to the renewal of the Remove Hate From The Debate program.

Page 79 – QON 54 – Remove Hate from the Debate Program

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: More specifically, can you explain some of the measures that you are looking at to measure that?

JOSEPH LA POSTA: I can't, only because I have a small dedicated team that do all of this critical thinking and I have not yet been briefed on where they are at. I'm very enthusiastic about being briefed on where they are at, but I'll take that on notice and get an update for you holistically as to where they're at.

I am advised:

In addition to quantitative measures such as social media reach, the evaluation of the Remove Hate From the Debate program will include qualitative measures that align with the robust evaluation framework developed for the proven Multicultural NSW COMPACT Program. These include measures such as developing critical thinking skills, increased agency, advocacy, and leadership capacity, and greater capacity to create and share positive narratives in the face of threats to community harmony.

Page 80 – QON 55 – Multicultural NSW Funding

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Mr La Posta, I just to return to a question that we asked earlier and was asked of the Minister, and I think you contributed to, around the quantum of funding for Multicultural NSW, the \$73 million I think was put previously by Ms Munro. That is in the budget overview and I'll cite the pages for assistance: page 43, Community Harmony, \$73 million in a permanent boost in funding to support social cohesion and community harmony through Multicultural NSW. When you turn to the agency financial statements in *Budget Paper No. 02*, and I'll cite pages 4-1 and 4-35, we come to Multicultural NSW, which has, in the '24-25 budget, \$71.3 million in expenses and you rightly pointed out before the capital expenditure, which is \$0.3 million, so that gets you to 71.6. Is there 1.4 million we're missing somewhere else, or is it an error perhaps in the budget overview?

JOSEPH LA POSTA: I'm always looking for more, Mr Farlow.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Or do you want another 1.4 million?

JOSEPH LA POSTA: I'm always looking for more, so if the outcome of me being the last person standing at this table is that I can go back and try and find the extra 1.4, I will. The information that I've got is it's \$71.6 million with the additional \$12 million on top, as Ms Munro was asking about the COMPACT program and our CVE work. I'm happy to take the specifics in terms of that on notice and come back to you around the differential between 71.6 and 73, but my number that I'm working off is 73 with Treasury.

I am advised:

The 2024/25 Multicultural NSW budget is \$71.6 million.

The new funding announced for Multicultural NSW over the next four years is \$73 million which is a record investment over the four-year budget forwards.

On top of this there is an additional \$12 million for COMPACT. This brings the total to \$85 million over four years.

Page 80 – QON 56 - Multicultural NSW Funding

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Okay, 71.6. To strengthen your arm, page 43 of the New South Wales budget *Overview: Our Plan for New South Wales* says you have \$73 million.

JOSEPH LA POSTA: Great news.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: See where you can spend that 1.4 million.

JOSEPH LA POSTA: Thank you, Mr Farlow. I'm just thinking that part of the response off the back of Wakeley was to seek to provide a small and modest but important amount to the tune of roughly about \$665,000 a year for the next four years, so that might be the shortfall in the 1.4, but I'll take the specifics on notice and come back to you.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Take it on notice and see what you can provide.

JOSEPH LA POSTA: Yes, thank you.

I am advised:

The 2024/25 Multicultural NSW budget is \$71.6 million.

The new funding announced for Multicultural NSW over the next four years is \$73 million which is a record investment over the four-year budget forwards.

On top of this there is an additional \$12 million for COMPACT. This brings the total to \$85 million over four years.

Pages 81 and 82 – QON 57 – Community Connection and Wellbeing Program

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: Perhaps this is something you can take on notice: The kinds of projects, initiatives or organisations that are receiving grants and money from the Community Connection and Wellbeing Program, community cohesion grants and also the fund that is going to those significant State events that were referred to in the budget media release.

JOSEPH LA POSTA: Yes, so significant State events—think Premier's Harmony Dinner, which we try to do as close to cost-neutral as possible, but we're not quite there. The fact that I even mention cost-neutral, there will be people in my office right now shaking their head. We try to get sponsorship and other things, but there's an inordinate amount of MPs that are always looking for free tickets, so we have to build that into our thinking as well from time to time—none in here obviously.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: I don't think we get any invites anymore.

JOSEPH LA POSTA: It's a balanced approach. Then you've got things like Diwali, Hanukkah event, Lunar New Year, Premier's multicultural events, so these sorts of big events where it's about celebrating significant milestones in our community. Those sorts of things—that's where that fund comes out of. In terms of the grants and community connection and the wellbeing things, Ms Munro, I'm happy to take some of those on notice. There's a whole series of them and, to be honest, the majority of them will be in our annual report because a part of it is restoring what we've historically done because some of it was previously funded. There are some opportunities to tweak some of the grants in line with new priorities, but things like our partnership with community hubs is something where we support 23 community hubs in New South Wales to empower migrant women, to give them a safe space in schools to be able to help them, in partnership with the Commonwealth, Scanlon and community hubs, for things like education, language proficiency and skill acquisition. They're pretty cool. That's an example of some of the programs that we do.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: On the multicultural capital partnerships fund, in the last hearing the Committee was advised that Multicultural NSW was still working through these groups and developing MOUs for the Government in the delivery of public outreach programs upon completion of capital works projects. What's the status of those MOUs?

JOSEPH LA POSTA: The multicultural capital programs were the ones that were part of commitments made to communities in the lead-up to the election. You had the \$15 million for safety and security for religious institutions. Then you had the \$30 million of capital partnership over four years, and then you had another about \$1.47 million one-off partners. In the \$30 million capital partnership, we've got 11 recipients, and then in the small capital works programs, we've got nine recipients that just receive under \$1.7 million. The status of each of those projects is varied, but I am reliably told by my team that almost all of those projects have agreements in place and funding—some where their projects are completed and others where they're just starting some of their projects. I've got four or five detailed pages on that, but it depends how much information, Mr Farlow. If there's a specific one?

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: If I could request that perhaps you provide that detail on notice, that would be appreciated.

JOSEPH LA POSTA: Unless there is anything commercially in confidence that I can't share with you, I can't see why I couldn't.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Since the last budget estimates hearing, have any requests been made by any organisation to receive additional funding as part of this program, in order to complete their project?

JOSEPH LA POSTA: I'd need to take that on notice because the line of questioning that Ms Munro had before for Ms Jones is systemic across all parts of government, which is cost escalation on projects. I think a number of projects were delayed because of the pandemic. Wherever possible, whether they've been Liberal-Nationals Government commitments or the current Government commitments—

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: You've sought to honour them?

JOSEPH LA POSTA: We've tried to extend them as much as possible. Say, the Melkite community, which was an election commitment in 2019, we've carried forward because we know the issues that they experienced because of flooding on the site, delays of COVID and all of those sorts of things. I'm sure there have been a number of instances where communities have sought additional funds. They're always looking for additional funds, but if there are any specific to these partnerships programs, I'm happy to take that on notice.

I am advised:

Information on projects, initiatives and organisations that receive funding under the Community Connection and Wellbeing Program is published in the Multicultural NSW Annual Report.

Funding agreements have been entered into with all recipients of the \$30 million capital works program.

The Melkite Catholic Eparchy of Australia has sought additional funding.

Page 82 – QON 58 – NSW Settlement Strategy

The Hon. JACQUI MUNRO: I will go to the NSW Settlement Strategy. There were a number of objectives that had completion dates of both April and June this year. Have they been completed?

JOSEPH LA POSTA: Can I take that on notice? I think, from memory, there are about 150 actions in the Settlement Strategy. There were some challenges around machinery of government changes off the back of the election and subsequently since. With those machinery of government changes, there have been movements from one part to another. There have also been reconfigurations of existing teams and it has been bedding them down. As an overall principle, Ms Munro, the document is progressing well. I'm also pleased to say that this is a document that has been supported with bipartisan support from the previous Government and current Government, which is very important, as conversations, particularly around immigration and the settlement of humanitarian refugees and refugee-like cohorts, become more and more topical. I am very pleased and proud of the work of our team, and the settlement team particularly, in terms of having this document and their ability to collaborate across government. With the specifics of those action items that were due to be completed, I'll take that on notice and come back to you. But overall, as a principle, it's progressing well.

I am advised:

Multicultural NSW completed all of its designated actions due by June 2024, with the exception of some initiatives which are now continuing due to securing longer-term funding.