



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEES

## **BUDGET ESTIMATES 2021-2022**

### **Supplementary Questions**

**Portfolio Committee No. 4 – Regional New South Wales, Water and Agriculture**

**WATER, PROPERTY AND HOUSING**

Hearing: 5 November 2021

**Answers due by: 8 December 2021**

**Budget Estimates secretariat**

Phone 9230 2898

[BudgetEstimates@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:BudgetEstimates@parliament.nsw.gov.au)

# WATER, PROPERTY AND HOUSING

## Questions from the Hon Mark Buttigieg MLC *(on behalf of the Opposition)*

### Social Housing

1. What has been the net increase in social housing stock since 30 June 2020?

#### Answer:

The Australian Government's Report on Government Services 2021 provides details about stock changes across the social housing system. Further details are available at <https://www.pc.gov.au/research/ongoing/report-on-government-services/2021/housing-and-homelessness>.

As at 30 June 2021, the Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) has committed 4,889 new social housing dwellings, 440 new affordable dwellings and 8,429 new private dwellings under Future Directions.

LAHC continues to progress its mixed tenure renewal projects below:

- 8 major sites in planning phase or under construction – Midtown Macquarie Park, Telopea, Arncliffe, Villawood, Riverwood, Airds, Claymore and Bonnyrigg.
- 4 sites under investigation, in planning or procurement phase – Waterloo, Franklyn Street Glebe, South Eveleigh, Redfern.
- Plus an additional urban renewal project for 75 new social apartments at Cowper Street and Wentworth Park Road, Glebe.
- 14 small to medium scale renewal projects delivering around 1000 new homes. Three projects have already been completed.

These are complex projects as they not only involve the planning system but there is also a human element

For every project redeveloped, Department of Communities and Justice's Relocations Team needs to work with existing tenants to relocate them into alternative housing that meets their needs. For major sites, LAHC has dedicated working groups to manage progress on the extensive relocations that are required as part of these redevelopments.

The NSW Government has committed significant stimulus funding to build and upgrade social homes as well as sustain jobs and local businesses through the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Since March 2020, LAHC has been allocated \$866.4 million for new social homes, capital upgrades and enhanced cleaning.
- \$250 million construction program to accelerate the building of nearly 600 new social homes, sustaining almost 1,100 jobs.
- \$150 million to fast track completion of the renewal projects at Airds-Bradbury and Claymore, delivering around 300 new social homes, complete relocation and demolition activities, and create over 750 jobs.
- \$80 million for 300 new housing sector apprenticeships, traineeships and cadetships, and around 100 new social homes being built by pre-apprentices in partnership with TAFE.
- An additional \$183 million for social housing was announced by the NSW Government on 16 October 2021, dedicated to fast-track more than 1,400 new social homes. Under this investment, LAHC will receive \$80 million:
  - \$50 million will unlock the delivery of around 2,800 future homes, including around 1,000 social homes, to be built in Western Sydney, Wagga Wagga and Coffs Harbour through Communities Plus projects in partnership with the private sector and community housing

- providers and
- \$30 million for about 80 new social housing properties, primarily in Western Sydney and regional NSW.

Further information is available at [www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/land-and-housing-corporation](http://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/land-and-housing-corporation).

2. How does the requirement for LAHC to be cost neutral impact social housing supply?

**Answer:**

LAHC is not required to be cost-neutral. It is required to be self-funding. Through this approach LAHC has seen a 10% increase in social housing supply over the past decade.

The *Housing Act 2001* (NSW) provides at s7(2) that “The Corporation is to manage financial risks associated with its activities.”

This means LAHC pays for its operating costs from tenant rents and capital maintenance and new housing from sales of older housing which is no longer fit for purpose.

More information about LAHC's business model is available at [www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/land-and-housing-corporation/about-us](http://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/land-and-housing-corporation/about-us).

3. Title transfer programs from LAHC to CHPs have been effective at increasing social and affordable supply. What is the intention in relation to future transfers?

(a) Does LAHC have a target for title transfers to CHP?

- i. How does LAHC make decisions about potential title transfers?

**Answer:**

The NSW Government's social housing policy, *Future Directions for Social Housing in NSW*, sets the intentions for use of land for social housing. The policy focuses on improving partnerships with CHPs through management transfers, however does not include any intention to transfer title of social housing properties to community housing providers.

(a) No.

- (i) Decisions about title transfers are based on government policy related to social housing and the use of government land.

4. The LAHC's (draft) Consent to Secure CHP Debt Policy has been withdrawn and is being revised. How will the revised policy promote the growth of CHPs as partners in the delivery of more social and affordable housing?

(a) What is the timeframe for the revised Consent to Secure CHP Debt policy?

**Answer:**

The draft Policy has not been withdrawn. The NSW Land and Housing Corporation is revising the draft Policy following consultation with the sector. When finalised, the Policy will support community housing providers (CHPs) to leverage their borrowing capacity. It will also ensure that social housing assets are protected and continue to be used for their original purpose, where acquired or developed by CHPs with Government assistance.

(a) It is expected that the Policy will be finalised in early 2022.

5. What percentage of the last social housing stock transferred from LAHC to CHPs was sub-standard (did not meet LAHC benchmark acceptable physical standard)?

(a) What was the cost of the repairs and maintenance to CHPs?

**Answer:**

All of the properties transferred met the requirements of the *Residential Tenancies Act 2010 (NSW)* (the Act).

(a). The Registrar of Community Housing Providers is responsible for the regulation of community housing providers and reports to the Minister of Families, Communities and Disability Services. The question should be directed to the Minister.

6. What is the plan for renewing the aging LAHC stock that is beyond its economic value?

(a) How many proposals have been approved under the renewal policies announced in 2020?

**Answer:**

Plans for renewing the NSW Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) portfolio are outlined in the LAHC Portfolio Strategy 2020. See [www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/land-and-housing-corporation/plans-and-policies/lahc-portfolio-strategy](http://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/land-and-housing-corporation/plans-and-policies/lahc-portfolio-strategy).

(a) So far, two proposals have been approved under the LAHC policies for direct dealing with community housing providers.

7. Other than Priority Pathways waitlist applicants, how many applicants have been housed off the waitlist?

(a) What is the projected demand for social housing?

(b) What is the plan to reduce the waitlist and how long will it take?

**Answer:**

This falls within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services.

8. How many affordable rental homes have been built by private developers using the SEPP 70 regulation?

**Answer:**

This falls within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces.

9. What impact will the ending of the Commonwealth's National Rental Affordability Scheme (NRAS) have on affordable rental supply in NSW?

**Answer:**

The NRAS is a matter for the Commonwealth Government.

The NSW Government recognises that social and affordable housing plays an important role in delivering safe, secure, and affordable housing solutions for those who need it most. It also facilitates transition pathways across the housing spectrum. Moreover, investing in social and affordable housing provides tangible economic benefits to tenants, communities, and the state and national economies, particularly in areas of employment, construction, productivity, fiscal policy, and social services. All levels of government have a role to play in facilitating the delivery of affordable rental housing.

The NSW Government is undertaking a number of actions to increase the provision of affordable housing in NSW as part of the NSW Housing Strategy Housing 2041. Further information is available at <https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Policy-and-Legislation/Housing/A-Housing-Strategy-for-NSW>.

10. What evidence does the government have that increasing the supply and/or diversity of housing will result in an increased supply of affordable rental stock?

**Answer:**

The NSW Government acknowledges that along with supply, we must also plan for and deliver housing that is diverse to meet the changing and varied needs of the people of NSW. The NSW Housing Strategy provides a framework in which we can create a system of change to improve housing outcomes aligned to the four pillars of supply, diversity, affordability and resilience. The Strategy recognises that the four pillars are interrelated, and action in all four areas will contribute to improved economic, health and social wellbeing outcomes for the people of NSW.

The Strategy enables the testing of new types of housing products, creating a more stable supply of housing that is less affected by market cycles. Through the collation of better housing data and dissemination, we will improve strategic planning and decision making about where and how to design and build housing, helping to increase housing affordability in both metropolitan and regional NSW.

The Government has detailed data on demand through the NSW Housing Register and the newly created Housing Evidence Centre, managed by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment. The Housing Evidence Centre provides better guidance, transparency and a more collaborative approach to housing data and information and supports evidence-based decision-making to achieve better and more diverse housing outcomes in line with the NSW Housing Strategy - *Housing 2041*. Over time, the Housing Evidence Centre will become the one-stop-shop for all NSW housing related data and analysis. This will happen gradually, and incrementally as more data comes online. The Centre is a key component to our ongoing approach to cross-sector collaboration on housing, better aligning housing initiatives to support the NSW community.

11. How much have CHPs contributed to the increase in social and affordable housing stock?

**Answer:**

This falls within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services.

12. What is the average turnaround time for vacant properties for CHPs vs LAHC?

**Answer:**

The NSW Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) works closely with its maintenance contractors and the tenancy manager, the Department of Communities and Justice, to ensure vacant properties are re-let in the shortest time possible. The average vacant turnaround time for LAHC as at 30 June 2021 was 16.13 days.

CHPs are regulated by the Registrar of Community Housing Providers, which reports to the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services.

13. How does the Minister ensure she is achieving outcomes for the most disadvantaged people when responsibility for housing is spread across two ministers and two departments in different clusters?
- (a) How do you achieve efficiencies with two sets of overheads?

**Answer:**

The Minister for Water, Property and Housing is responsible for housing stock. The Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services is responsible for client support and housing waitlist.

### **Communities Plus**

14. Given that the Communities Plus Program was announced in 2016 can the Minister confirm how many new social homes have been actually commenced under the program to date?

**Answer:**

4,889 new social homes have been committed as at 30 June 2021.

15. Can the Minister specify the current state of progress (e.g. pre-tender planning phase/development consortium appointed, works yet to begin/started on site) on the six large estates specified as part of Communities Plus and scheduled for demolition and replacement with good quality mixed-tenure housing, namely: Ivanhoe, Waterloo, Telopea, Riverwood, Villawood, Arncliffe.
- (a) Which will be completed by 2026?
- (b) Which will be started by 2026?

**Answer:**

Information about the progress of LAHC's major projects can be found at: [www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/land-and-housing-corporation](http://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/land-and-housing-corporation).

16. When Communities Plus was announced in 2016 it was stated that the program would generate 23,000 new social rental dwellings, 500 affordable rental dwellings and 40,000 dwellings for market sale, while 17,000 existing public housing dwellings would be demolished in the process. What are the currently estimated equivalent figures to those specified above?
- (a) By what date is it now expected that these will be delivered, if at all?

**Answer:**

As at 30 June 2021, the NSW Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) has committed 4,889 new social housing dwellings, 440 new affordable dwellings and 8,429 new private dwellings under

## Future Directions.

LAHC continues to progress its mixed tenure renewal projects below:

- Eight major sites in planning phase or under construction – Midtown Macquarie Park, Telopea, Arncliffe, Villawood, Riverwood, Airds, Claymore and Bonnyrigg.
- Four sites under investigation, in planning or procurement phase – Waterloo, Franklyn Street Glebe, South Eveleigh, Redfern.
- Plus, an additional urban renewal project for 75 new social apartments at Cowper Street and Wentworth Park Road, Glebe.
- 14 small to medium scale renewal projects delivering around 1000 new homes. Three projects have already been completed.

These are complex projects as they not only involve the planning system but there is also a human element. For every project redeveloped, the Department of Communities and Justice's Relocations Team needs to work with existing tenants to relocate them into alternative housing that meets their needs. For major sites, LAHC has dedicated working groups to manage progress on the extensive relocations that are required as part of these redevelopments.

The NSW Government has committed significant stimulus funding to build and upgrade social homes as well as sustain jobs and local businesses through the COVID-19 pandemic.

Since March 2020, LAHC has been allocated:

- \$866.4 million for new social homes, capital upgrades and enhanced cleaning
- \$250 million construction program to accelerate the building of nearly 600 new social homes, sustaining almost 1,100 jobs
- \$150 million to fast-track completion of the renewal projects at Airds-Bradbury and Claymore, delivering around 300 new social homes, complete relocation and demolition activities, and create over 750 jobs
- \$80 million for 300 new housing sector apprenticeships, traineeships and cadetships, and around 100 new social homes being built by pre-apprentices in partnership with TAFE.

An additional \$183 million for social housing was announced by the NSW Government on 16 October 2021, dedicated to fast-track more than 1,400 new social homes. Under this investment, LAHC will receive \$80 million, including:

- \$50 million which will unlock the delivery of around 2,800 future homes, including around 1,000 social homes, to be built in Western Sydney, Wagga Wagga and Coffs Harbour through Communities Plus projects in partnership with the private sector and community housing providers
- \$30 million for about 80 new social housing properties, primarily in Western Sydney and regional NSW.

Further information is available at [www.dpic.nsw.gov.au/land-and-housing-corporation](http://www.dpic.nsw.gov.au/land-and-housing-corporation).

17. How many new social rental homes have been commenced since 2016?

**Answer:**

See supplementary answer 14.

18. How many existing public housing dwellings have been sold on the open market?

- (a) How many dwellings have been demolished over this period?

**Answer:**

The NSW Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) is predominately self-funded. It sells properties which are not fit for modern use as social housing, with proceeds funding new homes and capital maintenance. Every dollar generated from a sale goes back to LAHC for more, and better, social housing. In 2020/21, 247 dwellings and 133 land lots were sold.

- a) 211 properties were demolished over this period.

19. According to the most recently available data, what number and proportion of NSW public housing dwellings is compliant with the Land and Housing Corporation's benchmark acceptable physical standard?

- (a) What is the estimated cost of bringing non-compliant dwellings up to the standard?
- (b) Does the LAHC have a target for increase in compliance with the benchmark acceptable standard?
- i. What is the target?
- ii. When is it expected to be met?

**Answer:**

In 2020/21, 90 per cent of properties were benchmarked as either "maintained" or "well maintained".

The 10 per cent of properties benchmarked below the NSW Land and Housing Corporation's (LAHC) maintained standard still met the requirements of the Residential Tenancies Act 2010 (NSW).

- (a) Annual maintenance expenditure is directly based on priority and need.

- (b) LAHC's target for properties maintained to standard is minimum 80 per cent of properties. LAHC has been achieving its target since 2012.

## **Dungowan Dam**

20. In relation to the Dungowan Dam:

- (a) Why has the Business Case been delayed again?
- (b) When is the Business Case now expected to be completed?
- (c) Will the detailed Business Case be released to the public?
- i. If not, why not?
- (d) When is the construction of Dungowan Dam expected to begin?



- i. Will construction contracts be signed before to March 2023 NSW election?
- (e) What is the current forecast cost for the construction of Dungowan Dam?
- (f) Will the NSW Government be increasing its commitment to fund this project in alignment with the increased cost forecast?
- (g) Has the NSW Government made further requests for contributions from the Commonwealth Government in anticipation of increased costs?
  - i. What was the response?
- (h) It was reported in Tamworth Media, (ABC New England North West, 29 October) that Minister Pavey had indicated that “the government is prepared to build the dam at whatever cost is necessary”. Is this an accurate report of the NSW Government’s financial commitment to the project?
  - i. Is there any upper-limit at which this dam would be considered uneconomical to construct?
- (i) Will the costs for the construction of Dungowan Dam be recovered from water users (consistent with the principles of the National Water Initiative (2004), a formal agreement

between the Commonwealth Government, the NSW Government and the other States and Territories)?

- (j) If the costs for construction of Dungowan Dam will be recovered from water users, how will this affect water bills for both irrigators and Tamworth Regional Council rate payers?
- (k) Will funding contributed by the Commonwealth Government be included in the costs to be recovered from water users?

**Answer:**

- (a) Work on the Final Business Case for the proposed Dungowan Dam and Pipeline project has been progressing since the completion of the Strategic Business Case in late 2020. Completion of the Final Business Case for an investment decision by the NSW Government remains a priority and is being completed in parallel with the Environmental Impact Statement for the project. Delays to the completion of the Final Business Case are due to environmental investigations, hydrological modelling, technical designs and additional options analysis, as well as delays from COVID-19 restrictions which limited the ability to undertake fieldwork that is critical to complete costings and understand environmental impacts.
- (b) The Final Business Case for the proposed Dungowan Dam and Pipeline project is due to be completed over the coming months.
- (c) Comprehensive project information as well as key information from the Final Business Case will be provided as part of the Environmental Impact Statement, which will be publicly exhibited following completion of the Final Business Case.
- (d) The Final Business Case and Environmental Impact Statement are both currently being prepared for the proposed Dungowan Dam and Pipeline project. Construction will only commence after the Australian and NSW Governments have reviewed the Final Business Case and all planning approvals are obtained.
- (e) The cost of constructing the proposed new dam at Dungowan has not yet been finalised. Cost estimates are being revised as part of preparing the Final Business Case, taking into consideration the outcomes of the environmental and cultural heritage assessments.
- (f) Early funding announcements were based on very early assumptions about the design and early estimates. The cost of the proposed new dam at Dungowan has not yet been finalised. In addition to the revised cost estimates, the Final Business Case will include a funding and financing strategy for the project, which will be considered by the NSW and Australian Governments.
- (g) The NSW and Australian Governments are working closely together on the project, and as part of the Final Business Case a funding and financing strategy for the project is being prepared for consideration by the NSW and Australian Governments.
- (h) A Final Business Case for the proposed Dungowan Dam and Pipeline project is required before an investment decision can be made. The Final Business Case is being developed in accordance with the NSW Government Business Case Guidelines (TPP18-06) as well as both the Infrastructure NSW (INSW) Infrastructure Investor Assurance Framework and the Infrastructure Australia Assessment Framework. Once the Final Business Case is complete, INSW and Infrastructure Australia will undertake an assurance review of the project. After this the NSW and Australian Governments will make their investment decisions, taking into consideration the costs, funding and financing strategy and outcomes of the assurance reviews.
- (i) A funding and financing strategy is being prepared as part of the Final Business Case for the Dungowan Dam and Pipeline project, which will consider the extent to which (if any) costs may be able to be recovered from water users.

- (j) The NSW Government is unable to provide an accurate assessment of the bill impact until the Final Business Case is completed. Until this time, the water bills for the Tamworth community are not expected to change
- (k) Funding from the Australian Government will not be recovered from water users.

## LAHC

21. LAHC was charged under the Future Directions Policy, which includes Communities Plus developments, to deliver 23,000 new and replacement social housing dwellings. With five years to on the project:
- (a) How many dwellings have been delivered to date?
  - (b) What is the number of dwellings now expected to be delivered by 2026?
  - (c) Of the dwellings delivered to date, what is the net increase in social housing (that is new dwellings less existing dwellings replaced) as a result of those developments?

**Answer:**

See supplementary answer 16.

22. LAHC has a significant amount of ageing housing stock, part of which requires significant repairs and maintenance work.
- (a) How many dwellings in LAHC's portfolio are currently uninhabitable and therefore unavailable to social housing tenants?
    - i. How many of these dwellings are either below LAHC's benchmark standard or not meeting legislative requirements?

**Answer:**

(a) and (i)

While 10 per cent of the portfolio was benchmarked below the NSW Land and Housing Corporation's (LAHC) maintained standard according to the 2020/21 Property Assessment Survey, these properties still met the requirements of the *Residential Tenancies Act 2010* (the Act).

The standard applied to LAHC's survey is superior to the requirements of the Act and is the basis for determining the overall condition of the LAHC portfolio.

As a landlord, LAHC ensures that a vacant property is clean, safe, and habitable in accordance with the Act before it is re-let. LAHC undertakes repairs so that properties meet the requirements of the Act.

23. What is the current unfunded estimated repairs and maintenance liability for LAHC?

**Answer:**

There has been no reported required (backlog) maintenance by the Audit Office of NSW since 2015.

24. Does the LAHC have a goal for revenue generated through the sale of social housing for 2021-to-2022?
- (a) Does Treasury provide LAHC with a goal or guidance for asset recycling in social housing?

- (b) Do you have an estimation of how much revenue will be generated from the sale of social housing in 2021-2022?

**Answer:**

(a) No

(b) Estimated gross sales proceeds for FY 2021-22 is \$345 million. The NSW Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) is predominately self-funded. It sells properties which aren't fit for modern use as social housing, with proceeds funding new homes and capital maintenance.

Every dollar generated from a sale goes back to LAHC for more, and better, social housing.

### **Career Pathways Programs**

25. How much has been spent to date of the \$60m allocated to new housing sector pre-apprenticeships, apprenticeships and cadetships to provide career pathways for young people and social housing tenants?

(a) How was this program advertised?

(a)

(b) How many pre-apprenticeships, apprenticeships and cadetships have been completed under this program?

**Answer:**

\$80 million has been allocated to fund apprenticeships, traineeships and cadetships. As at 31 October 2021, the NSW Land and Housing Corporation expended \$8.964 million.

a) By text message to social housing tenants and applicants. Peak body delivery partners promoted the program with school leavers, employment services, potential host employers in the building and construction sector and community housing sector, and their member networks.

b) No participants have completed the program to date as apprenticeships take up to four years, traineeships generally two years, and cadetships generally one year.

### **Macquarie Valley Approvals**

26. Minister, in relation to recent flood work approvals in Macquarie Valley:

(a) How many flood works on the Macquarie floodplain have been approved between 2018 and the gazettal of the Macquarie Floodplain Management Plan on 20 September 2021?

i. What type of works have been approved?


(b) What environmental assessment process was undertaken to assess these works?

(c) What level of community consultation was undertaken for the works approval process?

(d) How were objections to applications considered in the assessment process?

(e) How were impacts on downstream properties assessed?

(f) What feedback was received by objectors on the assessment process and final decision?

 How many of these works are capable of floodplain harvesting?

**Answer:**

- (a) WaterNSW approved 24 flood work applications (12 amended and 12 new) in the Macquarie between 1 January 2018 and 20 September 2021.
- (i) The works for these 24 flood work applications include above-ground channels (4), below-ground channels (7), head ditch (1), levees (18), and off-river storages (11). Note that one application can have multiple works.
- (b) For flood work applications WaterNSW undertakes environmental assessments under the following legislation, regulations and statutory instruments:
- *Water Management Act 2000*
  - Water Management (General) Regulation 2018
  - NSW Water Sharing Plans (if applicable)
  - Floodplain Management Plan
  - *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979*
  - Environmental Planning & Assessment Regulation 2000

WaterNSW documented processes include, but are not limited to, the following environmental assessments:

- Native Title/ Aboriginal Heritage
- Threatened Species
- Contaminated Land
- Fisheries
- NSW Heritage
- Flood modelling (impacts of the works on the flow of flood waters)

Where required, WaterNSW utilises suitably qualified and experienced third-party flood modelling consultants that provide the necessary assessment about flood risks and behaviours, including impacts arising from the proposed development.

- (c) Applications are required to be advertised in cases where they do not comply with the relevant floodplain management plan, or the floodplain management plan requires that applications be advertised. Anyone is eligible to make an objection.

WaterNSW actively engaged with applicants, offering pre-application consultation, conducting site visits, and making contact via email and/or phone.

- (d) Objections made to WaterNSW were reviewed by the assessing officers and resolved, wherever possible. WaterNSW communicates back to all objectors regardless of the final decision. WaterNSW is limited in the type of objections it can deal with under the *Water Management Act 2000*. If an objection is unresolved or refused, the objector can appeal to the Land & Environment Court within 28 days of receiving notification of the decision.
- (e) Where required, WaterNSW utilises a suitably qualified and experienced third-party flood modelling consultant that provides the necessary assessment about flood risks and behaviours, including impacts arising from the proposed development.

For further understanding of the standard WaterNSW process for a Flood Work

application, see table below:

| Step   | Action  |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| Step 1   | A Flood work application is lodged  |   |  |
| Step 2   | A pre-application meeting with a Water Regulation Officer occurs (if desired by the applicant).   |   |  |
| Step 3 a and b<br>(Which can occur concurrently) | <u>3a- WaterNSW Preliminary Assessment</u><br><br>WaterNSW determines whether advertising is required.  | <u>3b- WaterNSW Preliminary Assessment</u><br><br>WaterNSW determines whether Floodplain modelling is required. |  |
| Steps 4a,4b,4c<br>(Which can occur concurrently) | <u>4a- Advertising (if required)</u><br><br>If the application does not comply with the relevant floodplain management plan, or the plan requires advertising, the application will need to be advertised. Throughout this process, objections may be received.<br><br>(Applications subject to Integrated Development under the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i> do not require advertising under the <i>Water Management Act 2000</i> .) | <u>4b- Floodplain Modelling (if required)</u><br><br>Floodplain Modelling is then reviewed by WaterNSW          | <u>4c- WaterNSW undertakes a property inspection</u> |
| Step 5a,5b,5c<br>(Which can occur concurrently)  | <u>5a- Advertising Process Complete</u>   | <u>5b- Floodplain Modelling Process Complete</u>  | <u>5c- Inspection Complete</u>                       |

- (f) WaterNSW records do not indicate having received any formal complaints from objectors with regards to the assessment process or final decision. However, on some occasions objectors have expressed concerns with their ability to meet the mandated timeframe.
- (g) Flood work approvals are issued to landowners who wish to use flood work structures to divert the flow of floodwater away from a property, protecting the property from water inundation. Flood work approvals do not authorise approval holders to take water (i.e. to harvest or capture the flow of floodwater).

A Floodwork Approval cannot be linked to a Water Access Licence because, as described above, the purpose of the “work” is to divert, not capture water.

Under its current Operating Licence, WaterNSW is not authorised to issue approvals or Water Access Licences for Floodplain Harvesting.

## Macquarie Floodplain Management Plan (FMP)

27. Minister in relation to the Macquarie FMP:

- (a) Why is there a discrepancy of 73,600 ha of mapped protected areas between the 2018 draft

Macquarie Floodplain Management Plan and 2021 gazetted Macquarie Floodplain Management Plan?

- (b) How many of the unauthorised works on the Macquarie floodplain are being assessed for impact on downstream properties and environment?
- (c) How many unauthorised works on the Macquarie floodplain occur on properties being assessed for floodplain harvesting licences?
- (d) How many unauthorised works have been included in the capability assessment for floodplain harvesting in the Macquarie Valley?
- (e) How many unauthorised works have been identified to be granted a water supply works approval for floodplain harvesting in the Macquarie Valley?

**Answer:**

- (a) The 2018 draft FMP reflects the total area protected by flood works (regardless of approval status) within the Macquarie floodplain based on LiDAR - 106,200ha. The final FMP reflects only the area protected by approved flood works within the Macquarie floodplain based on advice from WaterNSW - 32,600ha
- (b) All unauthorised flood works will require assessment for their impacts on the environment and downstream properties. The rules and criteria for these assessments are established through the statutory based floodplain management plans in force across the northern Basin.
- (c) There are 80 unauthorised on-farm storages located on properties being assessed for floodplain harvesting licences in the Macquarie Valley. Applications exist for many of these storages and these applications will be assessed by WaterNSW against the rules and criteria in the floodplain management plan. Note that works that require a flood work approval (in addition to a water supply work approval to take water) but do not have one, will not be authorized for floodplain harvesting.
- (d) Only works that meet the eligibility criteria in the NSW Floodplain Harvesting Policy are included in the farm-based capability assessments which are used to determine the distribution of licence shares. Note that these assessments have no bearing on the volume of water take that is permissible from the water source, only the distribution of shares. There are 69 unapproved on-farm storages that meet the eligibility criteria because their construction date (prior to 7 July 2000) and location (not on a designated floodplain) meant that they did not require approval as at 3 July 2008. The purpose of including these as eligible works in the NSW Floodplain Harvesting Policy was to not disadvantage landholders in the distribution of licence shares who were doing what was required of them to comply with the law as at 3 July 2008.
- (e) No unauthorised flood works will be included in water supply work approvals for floodplain harvesting.

**Flood works in NSW Northern Basin valleys**

28. In relation to 'Hotspot' flood works in NSW Northern Basin valleys:

- (a) How many flood works on the NSW Border Rivers, Gwydir, Namoi, Macquarie and Barwon-Darling floodplains have been identified as 'hotspots' impeding critical flood flow paths?
- (b) How many of these 'hotspot' flood works have been removed?

- (c) What works program is in place to remove or modify 'hotspot' flood works?
- (d) How many 'hotspot' flood works have been included in the capability assessment for floodplain harvesting on the NSW Border Rivers, Gwydir, Namoi, Macquarie and Barwon-Darling floodplains?

**Answer:**

- (a) 110 priority areas (hotspots) have been identified for further investigation. These priority areas do not relate to individual flood works.
- (b) The program commences in January 2022, see (c) below.
- (c) NSW Government has recently secured \$10.2m in Commonwealth funding to deliver an accelerated compliance program over 2.5yrs that will focus on unapproved flood works in 110 high priority areas in the northern Basin. This program will commence in January 2022 and will be delivered in partnership with NSW Agencies including NRAR as well as WaterNSW.
- (d) The rules and assessment criteria in statutory floodplain management plans prevent the approval of flood works that have a significant impact on flood flow distribution or environmental or cultural assets – this assessment will preclude the approval of any unapproved storages within hotspot areas. Note also that no unauthorised flood works will be granted water supply work approvals for floodplain harvesting. The below table shows the intersection between eligible floodplain harvesting storages (important for share distribution only) that are unapproved and lie within identified hotspot areas.

| Valley         | Number of 'eligible' floodplain harvesting storages that are 'unapproved' and lie within identified 'hotspot' areas |
|----------------|---|
| Border Rivers  | 0   |
| Gwydir         | 0   |
| Namoi          | 1   |
| Macquarie      | 6   |
| Barwon-Darling | 1   |

**Menindee Lakes and Yanco Creek**

- 29. Can we have an update on proposed scope of works for the Menindee Lakes and Yanco Creek SDL Adjustment Mechanisms?

**Answer:**

The Menindee Lakes and Yanco Creek Offtake Sustainable Diversion Limit Adjustment Mechanism (SDLAM) Projects have been rescoped as part of the new A Better Baaka and A Better Bidgee programs. This new approach explores infrastructure solutions to deliver better system operational flexibility, address community concerns in areas such as water security, deliver social and economic outcomes for Aboriginal communities and deliver improved fish habitat and passage along the Murrumbidgee and Darling river systems.

The key components being considered through the Better Baaka program include:



- Morton Boolka enhancement
- Weir modifications (Menindee)
- Weir renewals on the Darling
- Weir modifications and assessments
- Menindee Local community benefits
- Wilcannia Weir (project underway – current phase: undertaking Environmental Impact Statement)
- Toorale Water Infrastructure Project (project underway)
- Water for cultural and environmental outcomes
- Town Water Supply (projects underway).

Further information about these components can be found on the program webpage: <https://water.dpie.nsw.gov.au/water-infrastructure-nsw/better-baaka-program>

The key components being considered through the Better Bidgee program include:

- Yanco Offtake - improved environmental outcomes
- Reconnecting the Murrumbidgee (fish passage)
- Addressing cold water pollution
- Fish friendly water extraction
- Gooragool and Mantangary lagoons
- Balranald Weir/Yanga Lake.

Further information about these components can be found on the program webpage: <https://water.dpie.nsw.gov.au/water-infrastructure-nsw/better-bidgee-program>.

Community consultation on these programs started late October 2021. Water Infrastructure NSW understands that communities are at the heart of project planning, and the NSW Government has committed that it will not proceed with projects that do not have broad community support.

## **Moratorium on Greenfield development**

30. Given the moratorium on Greenfield developments along the Murray in Victoria, and the increasingly unreliable flow of water due to climate change and over extraction, will the NSW government also introduce a moratorium on greenfield developments along the Darling?

### **Answer:**

The Barmah choke, along the River Murray, can represent a major constraint to water delivery, and this can be exacerbated when further development occurs downstream of the choke. Unlike the River Murray, the lower Darling River does not have any significant capacity constraints along its length. As a result, a moratorium is not required.

As is the case in all regulated rivers in NSW, any new agricultural enterprises along the lower Darling that require water, would have to purchase it from an existing entitlement holder. No “new” water entitlement is available.

## Floodplain Harvesting

31. Can you ensure connectivity along the Darling River by regulating Floodplain harvesting to sustainable limits and setting end of flow targets?

**Answer:**

Connectivity along the Barwon-Darling is influenced by both climate and development. Removing all development upstream of the Barwon Darling (all water extractions and infrastructure) would not be sufficient to ensure connectivity along the Barwon-Darling. We know that parts of the Barwon-Darling have stopped flowing for extended periods of time, even before there was extensive irrigation development upstream. For example, prior to 1940, the river stopped flowing at the following locations:

- Walgett: 270 days of no flow in 1902
- Brewarrina: 296 days of no flow in 1902
- Wilcannia: 130 days of no flow in 1927
- Weir 32: 236 days of no flow in 1919-1920

## Macquarie Marshes

32. How does the NSW Government intend to meet its legal obligations under the Ramsar Convention and the Water Management Act to ensure the resilience of the Ramsar listed Macquarie Marshes should the proposed Macquarie River re-regulating storage project (recently renamed the Macquarie Water Security Scheme) go ahead?

**Answer:**

The potential impacts from the Macquarie River re-regulating storage project will be assessed under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (EPBC Act). The EPBC Act includes provisions for the protection of Ramsar Wetlands (Part 3).

33. What resourcing will the NSW Government invest in monitoring the condition of the vegetation in the Ramsar listed Macquarie Marshes in the coming NSW budget?

**Answer:**

This is a matter for the Minister for Energy and Environment

## Executive Management LAHC

34. In relation to executive management for the LAHC, can the following be provided for FY 2019-20 and 2020-21 to date:
- (a) The total number of executive management positions
  - (b) The aggregate total remuneration payable for all executive management positions.
  - (c) The change in the number of executive manager positions.
  - (d) The change in aggregate total remuneration payable for all executive management

positions.

**Answer:**

- (a) The number of executive management positions can be found in the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's Annual Report at [opengov.nsw.gov.au](http://opengov.nsw.gov.au).
- (b) Remuneration information can be found in the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's Annual Reports at [opengov.nsw.gov.au](http://opengov.nsw.gov.au).
- (c) Refer to the answer provided in (a).
- (d) Refer to the answer provided in (b).

**Executive Management DPIE – Water**

35. In relation to executive management for the DPIE- Water, can the following be provided for FY 2019-20 and 2020-21 to date:
- (a) The total number of executive management positions
  - (b) The aggregate total remuneration payable for all executive management positions.
  - (c) The change in the number of executive manager positions.
  - (d) The change in aggregate total remuneration payable for all executive management positions.

**Answer:**

DPIE's Annual Report includes the information and detail on the number of and remuneration of Executives across the Department.

**Executive Management Sydney Water**

36. In relation to executive management for the Sydney Water, can the following be provided for FY 2019-20 and 2020-21 to date:
- (a) The total number of executive management positions
  - (b) The aggregate total remuneration payable for all executive management positions.
  - (c) The change in the number of executive manager positions.
  - (d) The change in aggregate total remuneration payable for all executive management positions.

**Answer:**

Numbers of senior executive, and remuneration information can be found in Sydney Water's Annual Report.

**Executive Management Water NSW**

37. In relation to executive management for the Water NSW, can the following be provided for FY 2019-20 and 2020-21 to date:

- (a) The total number of executive management positions
- (b) The aggregate total remuneration payable for all executive management positions.
- (c) The change in the number of executive manager positions.
- (d) The change in aggregate total remuneration payable for all executive management positions.

**Answer:**

Information on senior executive positions is available in WaterNSW's Annual Report.

**Ministerial Functions**

38. In relation to any functions or official receptions hosted by Ministers or Assistant Ministers in the portfolio since 1 July 2020, can the following be provided:
- (a) List of functions.
  - (b) List of all attendees.
  - (c) Function venue.
  - (d) Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive).
  - (e) Details of any food served.
  - (f) Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage.
  - (g) Any available photographs of the function.
  - (h) Details of any entertainment provided.

**Answer:**

Information regarding functions and venues is in the diary which is publicly available. In relation to questions b, d-h is not something that is kept on record.

**Executive Office Upgrades - LAHC**

39. Have any furniture, fixtures or fittings of the LAHC Chief Executive's office, or the offices of any Directors been upgraded since 1 July 2020. If so, can an itemised list of costs please be provided (GST **inclusive**).

**Answer:**

Nil furniture, fixtures or fittings were acquired for the NSW Land and Housing Corporation Chief Executive's office.

**Executive Office Upgrades – DPIE – Water**

40. Have any furniture, fixtures or fittings of the DPIE Water Deputy Secretary office, or the offices of any Executive Directors or Directors been upgraded since 1 July 2020. If so, can an itemised list of costs please be provided (GST **inclusive**).

**Answer:**

Corporate office refurbishments are based on open-plan, agile and flexible design principles, consistent with the NSW Government Office Accommodation Workplace Design Principles. These refurbishments do not include individual offices for any member of staff or executive.

### **Executive Office Upgrades – Sydney Water**

41. Have any furniture, fixtures or fittings of the Sydney Water Managing Director's office, or the offices of any General Managers or Directors been upgraded since 1 July 2020. If so, can an itemised list of costs please be provided (GST **inclusive**).

**Answer:**

The offices of Sydney Water's Managing Director, Chairman or Directors have not been upgraded during this period. Sydney Water's General Managers do not have offices assigned to them for exclusive use.

### **Executive Office Upgrades – Water NSW**

42. Have any furniture, fixtures or fittings of the Water NSW CEO's office, or the offices of any Executive Managers or Directors been upgraded since 1 July 2020. If so, can an itemised list of costs please be provided (GST **inclusive**).

**Answer:**

No. The WaterNSW CEO and Executives do not occupy offices.

### **Facilities Upgrades - LAHC, Minister's Office, DPIE-Water, Sydney Water, Water NSW**

43. Were there any upgrades to facility premises at any of the Departments or agencies (LAHC, Minister's Office or DPIE-Water, Sydney Water, Water NSW) since 1 July 2018. This includes but is not limited to: staff room refurbishments, kitchen refurbishments, bathroom refurbishments, the purchase of any new fridges, coffee machines, or other kitchen equipment?

**Answer:**

For WaterNSW, yes, there have been upgrades.

For Sydney Water, various Sydney Water facility premises have been upgraded. Improvements to these facilities relate to accommodation and use of offices, laboratories, storage, warehousing, meal areas, car parking, grounds and landscaped areas. Some of these improvements were carried out to comply with building standards as well as safety and environmental regulations. Sydney Water owns assets that provide public amenity, heritage cottages and open space (Prospect Reservoir).

For DPIE Water and LAHC, the Department has periodically upgraded corporate tenancies, converting older fixed desk tenancies to agile layouts to increase capacity, particularly in regional areas to accommodate additional staff. In some instances, these offices have housed some staff working in DPIE Water and LAHC but costs of upgrades have not been apportioned based on the Groups or roles held by the many Departmental staff located within those tenancies.

For the Minister's office there has been no upgrades.

44. If so, can a detailed description of the relevant facilities upgrades be provided together with an itemised list of costs (GST inclusive)?

**Answer:**

For DPIE Water and LAHC, refer to answer to question 43 above.

For WaterNSW, capital works within their Kenny Hill facility were undertaken to the kitchen and a workspace of essential nature to ensure the environment was suitable and safe for operational staff to perform their daily duties. A total of \$140,000 was spent.

At their Moree facility, upgrades of a sink and bench for staff in a mixed use site were undertaken to enable staff to have a proper lab and testing area with water available, draining sink, storage cabinets. A total of \$15,607.74 was spent.

At their Tumut facility, upgrades were undertaken to a staff kitchen to replace one that was beyond repair, to replace cabinetry, drawers and a sink bowl for appropriate services for staff. A total of \$20,070 was spent.

At Tamworth (Taminda), there was a lease for a replacement office and warehouse including 18 desks, laboratory, staff kitchen, depot, parking and some structural works. A total of \$240,000 was spent.

For Sydney Water, since 1 July 2018, facilities at 54 locations were improved to a value of \$13.9 million. A full list is attached.

45. If so, can any photographs of the upgraded facilities be provided?

**Answer:**

Photos are not readily available.

46. How much money was spent on plants at any of the Departments or agencies (LAHC, Minister's Office or DPIE-Water, Sydney Water, Water NSW) for FY 2020-21 and FY 2021-22 to date?

**Answer:**

For WaterNSW, the Financial Statements, including expenditure on any general costs, are available in the WaterNSW annual report. Flowers are not used in the office. Office plant maintenance is within the general costs.

For Sydney Water, this information can be found in Sydney Water's annual report.

For DPIE Water and LAHC, any costs incurred on office plants are captured in the operating expenses of the audited financial statements included in the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's Annual Report.

For Ministers office there are is no expenditure cost for plants or flowers

## **Travel**

47. What is the total cost of the Ministers travel for FY 2020-21 and FY 2021-22 to date?

**Answer:**

Cost for the Ministers travel is accordance within the applicable policies and procedures..

48. What is the total cost of the Minister's staff travel for FY 2020-21 and FY 2021-22 to date?

**Answer**

Cost for the Ministers staff travel is accordance within the applicable policies and procedures.

49. What is the total cost of staff travel for LAHC employees for FY 2020-21 and FY 2021-22 to date?

**Answer:**

All LAHC official travel is captured under the general recurrent operating expenses of LAHC which are published in the Audited financial statements of the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's annual report.

50. What is the total cost of staff travel for DPIE-Water employees for FY 2020-21 and FY 2021-22 to date?

**Answer:**

DPIE Water staff travelling costs are captured in the operating expenditure of the audited financial statements of the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE), which are included in the DPIE Annual Report.

## **Ministerial Travel**

51. Can an itemised list of the costs of all domestic and international travel undertaken by the Minister since 1 July 2020 be provided including:

- (a) Flights for the Minister as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the airline and class of travel.
- (b) Ground transport for the Minister as well as any accompanying departmental officials.
- (c) Accommodation for the Minister, as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the hotels the party stayed at and the room category in which the party stayed.
- (d) Meals and other incidentals for the Minister as well as any accompanying departmental officials. Any available menus, receipts for meals at restaurants and the like should also be

provided.

- (e) Any available photographs documenting the Minister's travel should also be provided.

**For the Minister:**

Cost for the Ministers travel is accordance within the applicable policies and procedures and is declared in accordance with the Ministerial code.

**For DPIE Water:**

**Answer:** All Deputy Secretary of DPIE – Water travel is captured in response to question 52. This includes travel undertaken with the minister. All costs associated with DPIE Water staff travel are captured in the general recurrent operating expenses of the Department which are published in the audited financial statements of DPIE's Annual Report.

**For Housing and Property:**

**Answer:** All departmental official travel is captured under the general recurrent operating expenses of the Department which are published in the Audited financial statements of DPIE's Annual Report.

**Executive Travel – LAHC, DPIE –Water**

52. Can an itemised list of the costs of all domestic and international travel undertaken by the Chief Executive of LAHC or the Deputy Secretary of DPIE –Water since 1 July 2020 be provided including:
- (a) Flights for the Chief Executive or Deputy Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the airline and class of travel.
  - (b) Ground transport for the Chief Executive or Deputy Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials.
  - (c) Accommodation for the Chief Executive or Deputy Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the hotels the party stayed at and the room category in which the party stayed.
  - (d) Meals and other incidentals for the Chief Executive or Deputy Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials. Any available menus, receipts for meals at restaurants and the like should also be provided.
  - (e) Any available photographs documenting the Chief Executive or Deputy Secretary travel should also be provided.

**Answer:**

**DPIE Water:**

Information on travel expenses is disclosed in the Annual Report.

**Housing and Property:**

Please see the answer to supplementary question 49.

**Executive Travel – Sydney Water. Water NSW**



53. Can an itemised list of the costs of all domestic and international travel undertaken by the CEO of Water NSW or the Managing Director of Sydney Water since 1 July 2020 be provided including:
- (a) Flights for the CEO or Managing Director as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the airline and class of travel.
  - (b) Ground transport for the CEO or Managing Director as well as any accompanying departmental officials.
  - (c) Accommodation for the CEO or Managing Director as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the hotels the party stayed at and the room category in which the party stayed.
  - (d) Meals and other incidentals for the CEO or Managing Director as well as any accompanying departmental officials. Any available menus, receipts for meals at restaurants and the like should also be provided.
  - (e) Any available photographs documenting the CEO or Managing Director travel should also be provided.

**Answer:**

For WaterNSW, information on travel expenses is disclosed in WaterNSW's Annual Report.

For Sydney Water, information on travel expenses is disclosed in Sydney Water's annual Report.

**Briefings**

54. Has the Minister's office provided briefings to independents/minor parties in the Legislative Council or Legislative Assembly. If so, can the following be provided:
- (a) The subject matter of the briefing.
  - (b) The location and date of the briefing.
  - (c) Who proposed the briefing.
  - (d) Attendees of the briefing by level/position

**Answer:**

Under the Ministerial code it is not required to keep documentation on briefings to members of the Legislative Council or Legislative Assembly

**Acting Minister Arrangements**

55. Can the Department provide all leave periods of the portfolio Minister from 24 August 2020 to date.

**Answer:**

Since 24 August 2020, Minister Pavey has not taken any leave.

56. Can the Department further provide acting Minister arrangements for each leave period.

**Answer:**

Minister Pavey acted for Minister Marshall between 24<sup>th</sup> August 2021 – 28<sup>th</sup> August 2021

## Ministerial staff allowances

57. Can a list of Ministerial staff allowances and reimbursements available to employees be provided.

**Answer:**

**Ministerial staff are employed as per the Members of Parliament Staff Act 2013. Allowances and reimbursements are in line with their employment under the Act.**

## Market research

58. Does the LAHC or DPIE –Water undertake any polling or market research in relation to government policies or proposed policies?

(a) If so, can the LAHC and DPIE –Water provide an itemised list of:

- i. Subject matter
- ii. Company
- iii. Costs
- iv. Contract date period

**Answer:**

No for both LAHC and DPIE Water. DPIE Water undertakes community and stakeholder engagement as per its statutory responsibilities. This engagement informs DPIE Water's water strategies, policies and plans.

59. Can the LAHC and DPIE –Water advise what, if any, research was shared with the Minister or their office and the date and format in which this occurred?

**Answer:**

**DPIE Water:** The results of engagement and consultation are regularly shared with the Minister's office and made publicly available in 'What we heard' reports on the department website.

**LAHC:** No market research has been conducted by the NSW Land and Housing Corporation.

60. Does Sydney Water or Water NSW undertake any polling or market research in relation to government policies or proposed policies?

(a) If so, can Sydney Water and Water NSW provide an itemised list of:

- i. Subject matter
- ii. Company
- iii. Costs
- iv. Contract date period.

**Answer:**

WaterNSW has advised that it does not undertake polling or market research in relation to government policies or proposed policies.

Sydney Water advises that it conducted research related to water supply augmentation options, which provided insights for the draft Greater Sydney Water Strategy, as well as Sydney Water's internal strategy and plans. This is also a key requirement of IPART to ensure business planning aligns to customer expectations.

- i. There were 3 projects: a) Customer acceptance of water restrictions; b) Attitudes to different water supply augmentation options; and c) Customer perceptions and attitudes to recycled water and desalination (qualitative study and establishment of ongoing tracker).
- ii. a) Kantar; b) Woolcott; c) Kantar
- iii. a) \$163,000; b) \$536,000; c) \$354,420
- iv. a) June - Dec 2020; b) April - Aug 2021; c) June 2021 – ongoing.

61. Can the Sydney Water and Water NSW –Water advise what, if any, research was shared with the Minister or their office and the date and format in which this occurred?

**Answer:**

For WaterNSW, refer to answer to question 60. Sydney Water advises that no research was shared with the Minister's Office.

**Advertising and information campaigns –LAHC**

62. What was the LAHC's total expenditure on advertising and information campaigns for FY 2020-21 and for the current financial year to date.

**Answer:**

While \$3,729 for financial year 2020/21 was charged against advertising or information campaigns, this expenditure did not specifically relate to campaigns.

63. What advertising and information campaigns did the LAHC run in each relevant period? For each campaign, please provide:

- (a) When approval was first sought.
- (b) The date of approval, including whether the advertising went through the Independent Campaign Committee process.
- (c) the timeline for each campaign, including any variation to the original proposed timeline.

**Answer:** See supplementary answer 62.

64. Can an itemised list of all eTenders offer notice ID numbers for all advertising and information campaign contracts in each period be provided.

**Answer:** See supplementary answer 62.

**Advertising and information campaigns –DPIE –Water**

65. What was the DPIE –Water’s total expenditure on advertising and information campaigns for FY 2020-21 and for the current financial year to date.

**Answer:**

DPIE Water expenditure on advertising is captured in the operating expenditure of the audited financial statements of the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE), which are included in the DPIE Annual Report. DPIE Water has advised it did not run advertising and information campaigns in financial year 2020-21.

In the current financial year to date, DPIE Water has advised \$249,000 has been expended.

66. What advertising and information campaigns did the DPIE –Water run in each relevant period. For each campaign, please provide:
- (a) When approval was first sought.
  - (b) The date of approval, including whether the advertising went through the Independent Campaign Committee process.
  - (c) the timeline for each campaign, including any variation to the original proposed timeline.

**Answer:**

DPIE Water did not run any advertising or information campaigns in 2020-21. For financial year 2021/22, and as at 30 November 2021 DPIE Water is presently running an advertising campaign for compliance with the Non-urban Metering roll-out.

- (a) Final approval for the Non Urban Metering compliance advertising campaign was sought on 1 November 2021.
- (b) Approval was via compliance certificate approved by the Department Secretary on 2 November 2021 as per the Government Advertising Act guidelines applicable for contracts of that value.
- (c) 4 November to 1 December 2021.

67. Can an itemised list of all eTenders offer notice ID numbers for all advertising and information campaign contracts in each period be provided?

**Answer:**

eTenders information is available on the NSW Government eTenders website

### **Advertising and information campaigns –Water NSW**

68. What was the Water NSW’s total expenditure on advertising and information campaigns for FY 2020-21 and for the current financial year to date?

**Answer:**

Contract details are published on the WaterNSW web page in line with the relevant requirements under the Government Information (Public Access) Act.

69. What advertising and information campaigns did the Water NSW run in each relevant period?

For each campaign, please provide:

- (a) When approval was first sought.
- (b) The date of approval, including whether the advertising went through the Independent Campaign Committee process.
- (c) the timeline for each campaign, including any variation to the original proposed timeline.

**Answer:**

WaterNSW undertakes information campaigns via social media based on WaterNSW products or Government changes such as WaterInsights, Active Management and Metering Reform.

- (a) –(c) WaterNSW has an internal approval process for social media campaigns noting that expenditure is relatively small (for example, around \$6,000 for FY20/21).

70. Can an itemised list of all eTenders offer notice ID numbers for all advertising and information campaign contracts in each period be provided?

**Answer:**

As a State-owned Corporation, WaterNSW complies with the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA) requirements.

**Advertising and information campaigns –Sydney Water**

71. What was the Sydney Water’s total expenditure on advertising and information campaigns for FY 2020-21 and for the current financial year to date?

**Answer:**

\$4,077,563 (2020-21), which is in accordance with the IPART allocation and expectation. Expenditure to date this financial year is approximately \$319,339.

72. What advertising and information campaigns did the Sydney Water run in each relevant period? For each campaign, please provide:

- (a) When approval was first sought.
- (b) The date of approval, including whether the advertising went through the Independent Campaign Committee process.
- (c) the timeline for each campaign, including any variation to the original proposed timeline.

**Answer:**

Campaigns included a drinking water quality campaign – in English and five key languages – Arabic, Cantonese, Mandarin (Simplified and Traditional Chinese), Vietnamese and Korean; a wastewater campaign on what not to flush down the toilet or put down the sink, also in English and the above key languages; and a water conservation campaign to reduce water usage, again in English and the above key languages.

- a) Drinking water campaign approval was sought in March 2021; wastewater campaign approval was sought in March 2021, and water conservation campaign approval was

sought in November 2020.

- b) Not applicable.
- c) The drinking water strategy development started in February 2021 with the campaign running until July 2021. The wastewater campaign strategy development started in January 2021, was tendered in April 2021, and ran until December 2021. The water conservation campaign was tendered for in November and awarded in December 2020, when development started. Following two major launch delays (one due to COVID and another due to heavy rainfall and flooding across Greater Sydney), the campaign's first phase launched in June 2021. Three advertisements were created and the campaign will continue to run during 2021-22.

73. Can an itemised list of all eTenders offer notice ID numbers for all advertising and information campaign contracts in each period be provided?

**Answer:**

As a State-owned Corporation, Sydney Water complies with the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA) requirements but is not required to use e-Tendering to disclose contracts and hence does not have contract award ID notices issued for its contracts.

**Promotional merchandise - LAHC**

- 74. What was the LAHC total expenditure on promotional merchandise for FY 2020-21?
- 75. Can an itemised list of all eTenders offer notice ID numbers for all promotional merchandise contracts in that period please be provided?
- 76. Can photographs or samples of relevant promotional merchandise please be provided?

**Answer 74-76:** Nil.

**Promotional merchandise – DPIE – Water**

- 77. What was the DPIE-Water total expenditure on promotional merchandise for FY 2020-21?
- 78. Can an itemised list of all eTenders offer notice ID numbers for all promotional merchandise contracts in that period please be provided?
- 79. Can photographs or samples of relevant promotional merchandise please be provided?

**Answer 77-79:**

DPIE Water is not aware of any merchandising purchases in 2020-21.

**Promotional merchandise – Water NSW**

- 80. What was the Water NSW total expenditure on promotional merchandise for FY 2020-21?

**Answer:**

Contract details are published on the Water NSW web page in line with the relevant requirements under the Government Information (Public Access) Act.

81. Can an itemised list of all eTenders offer notice ID numbers for all promotional merchandise contracts in that period please be provided?

**Answer:**

Contract details are published on the Water NSW web page in line with the relevant requirements under the Government Information (Public Access) Act.

82. Can photographs or samples of relevant promotional merchandise please be provided?

**Answer:**

N/A

**Promotional merchandise – Sydney Water**

83. What was the Sydney Water total expenditure on promotional merchandise for FY 2020-21?

**Answer:**

\$359,674.

84. Can an itemised list of all eTenders offer notice ID numbers for all promotional merchandise contracts in that period please be provided?

**Answer:**

As a State-owned Corporation, Sydney Water complies with the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA) requirements but is not required to use e-Tendering to disclose contracts and hence does not have contract award ID notices issued for its contracts.

85. Can photographs or samples of relevant promotional merchandise please be provided?

**Answer:**

Photos for all items of Sydney Water promotional merchandise are not readily available. Merchandise includes water bottles, care packs, face masks, branded clothing, magnets, umbrellas, shower timers, infuser bottles, ice cube trays, tote bags and plate scrapers.

**Social media influencers – LAHC**

86. What was the LAHC total expenditure on social media influencers for FY 2020-21 and 2021-22 to date?

87. What advertising or information campaigns did the LAHC use social media influencers to promote?

88. Can a copy of all relevant social media influencer posts please be provided?

89. Can an itemised list of all eTenders offer notice ID numbers for all relevant social media influencer contracts please be provided?

**Answer 86-89:**

The NSW Land and Housing Corporation did not engage social media influencers.

**Social media influencers – DPIE – Water**

90. What was the DPIE- Water total expenditure on social media influencers for FY 2020-21 and 2021-22 to date?

**Answer:**

Nil

91. What advertising or information campaigns did the DPIE – Water use social media influencers to promote?

**Answer:**

N/A

92. Can a copy of all relevant social media influencer posts please be provided?

**Answer:**

N/A

93. Can an itemised list of all eTenders offer notice ID numbers for all relevant social media influencer contracts please be provided?

**Answer:**

N/A

**Social media influencers – Water NSW**

94. What was the Water NSW total expenditure on social media influencers for FY 2020-21 and 2021-22 to date?

**Answer:**

WaterNSW did not engage any social media influencers.

95. What advertising or information campaigns did the Water NSW use social media influencers to promote?

**Answer:**

N/A

96. Can a copy of all relevant social media influencer posts please be provided?



**Answer:**

N/A

97. Can an itemised list of all eTenders offer notice ID numbers for all relevant social media influencer contracts please be provided?

**Answer:**

N/A

**Social media influencers – Sydney Water**

98. What was Sydney Water's total expenditure on social media influencers for FY 2020-21 and 2021-22 to date?

**Answer:**

Sydney Water did not pay any funds to influencers during 2020-21 nor in 2021-22 to date.

99. What advertising or information campaigns did Sydney Water use social media influencers to promote?

**Answer:**

Sydney Water used influencer content created during the 2019-20 drought campaign to promote water conservation and water saving behaviours. This was reshared between July and December 2020.

100. Can a copy of all relevant social media influencer posts please be provided?

**Answer:**

All drought campaign influencer material can be seen on the internet.

101. Can an itemised list of all eTenders offer notice ID numbers for all relevant social media influencer contracts please be provided?

**Answer:**

As a State-owned Corporation, Sydney Water complies with the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA) requirements but is not required to use e-Tendering to disclose contracts and hence does not have contract award ID notices issued for its contracts.

**Commissioned Reports and Reviews**

102. Since 24 August 2018, how many Reports or Reviews have been commissioned. Please provide details of each report including:

- (a) Date commissioned.

- (b) Date report handed to Government.
- (c) Date of public release.
- (d) Terms of Reference.
- (e) Committee members and/or Reviewers.

103. How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost?
104. The background and credentials of the Review personnel?
105. The remuneration arrangements applicable to the Review personnel, including fees, disbursements and travel?
106. The cost of any travel attached to the conduct of the Review?
107. How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level?
108. What is the current status of each report?
109. When is the Government intending to respond to each report, if it has not already done so?

## Answers 102-109 for DPIE Water:

The following three reports were commissioned by DPIE Water since 24 August 2018:

| Report Name  | Report Body                             | Report Date |
|--|---|-------------|
| Independent assessment of the 2018-19 fish deaths in the Lower Darling (Vertessy Report) | Independent Panel                       | 29/03/19    |
| Independent Assessment of the Northern Basin First Flush Event                           | Independent Panel                       | 01/03/20    |
| Independent Review of Floodplain Harvesting/ Floodplain Harvesting Action Plan           | Alluvium Australia Pty Ltd. /DPIE Water | 01/07/19    |

All commissioned reports and reviews, including NSW Government responses, are published on the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's website <https://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/our-work/water>

## Answers 102-109 for Housing and Property:

The following reports/reviews were commissioned since 24 August 2018, as follows:

| Report/review Name  | Report Body(s)                            | Report Date   | Website address   |
|---|---|---------------|---|
| Evaluation of the Crown Land Management Act 2016 Implementation   | Office of the Crown Land Commissioner     | July 2021     | <a href="https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/lands/what-we-do/crown-land-commissioner">https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/lands/what-we-do/crown-land-commissioner</a>   |
| The 11th hour Solving Sydney's Cemetery Crisis Statutory Review <i>Cemeteries AND Crematoria Act 2013</i> | DPIE/DAH Contracting/Whitella Consulting. | August 2020   | <a href="https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0008/353087/Statutory_Review_of_the_Cemeteries_Crematoria_Act.pdf">https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0008/353087/Statutory_Review_of_the_Cemeteries_Crematoria_Act.pdf</a>   |
| A Review of the Land Negotiation Program  | Chris Ronalds AO SC                       | 2 March 2020  | <a href="https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/lands/what-we-do/our-work/land-negotiation">https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/lands/what-we-do/our-work/land-negotiation</a>   |
| IPART's Review of Rental arrangements for communication towers on Crown land                              | IPART                                     | November 2019 | <a href="https://www.ipart.nsw.gov.au/Home/Industries/Special-Reviews/Reviews/Tower-Sites/Rental-arrangements-of-communication-towers-on-Crown-Lands-2018">https://www.ipart.nsw.gov.au/Home/Industries/Special-Reviews/Reviews/Tower-Sites/Rental-arrangements-of-communication-towers-on-Crown-Lands-2018</a> |

## Board Appointments

110. Can the Minister provide an update of portfolio boards, including board title, terms of appointment, tenure of appointment and members she had made since 30 June 2020?
111. What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio?
112. What has been the total value of all Board Director fees and disbursements paid?
113. What is the value of all domestic travel by Board Directors?
114. What is the value of all international travel by Board Directors?

### Answers 110-114:

Details of NSW Boards and Committees within the DPIE Water and Housing and Property portfolios are provided in the attached spreadsheet.

All boards and committee members are remunerated in accordance with the NSW Public Service Commission's Classification and Remuneration Framework for NSW Government Boards and Committees. This can be found on the Public Service Commission's website at <https://www.psc.nsw.gov.au/legislation-and-policy/nsw-government-boards-and-committees#classification-and-remuneration-framework>

## Appointments – briefs prepared

115. How many times has the LAHC or DPIE – Water prepared a brief for statutory authorities, executive agencies, advisory boards, government business enterprises or any other Commonwealth body which includes a reference to a former Liberal or National member of parliament at a state, territory or federal level?

### Answer DPIE Water:

Appointments to NSW Government boards and committees are based on merit, in accordance with the NSW Government Boards and Committees Guidelines (refer M2013-06) and the Public Service Commission's Appointment Standards for Boards and Committees in the NSW public sector.

### Answer LAHC: Nil.

116. For each brief prepared, can the LAHC and DPIE – Water advise:
  - (a) The former member.
  - (b) The board or entity.
  - (c) Whether the request originated from the Minister's office.
  - (d) Whether the appointment was made.

**Answer:**

Refer to the answer to Question 115 above.

**Stationery**

117. How much has been spent on ministerial stationery requirements in FY 2020-21 and FY 2021-22 to date?

**Answer:**

Stationery purchases by the Ministerial office are made in accordance with the applicable policies and procedures on procurement. Staff also fund their own stationary needs, especially through the recent lockdown period.

**Communications staff**

118. For all departments and agencies, please provide – in relation to all public relations, communications and media staff – the following:

By Department or agency:

- (a) How many ongoing staff, the classification, the type of work they undertake and their location?
- (b) How many non-ongoing staff, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location?
- (c) How many contractors, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location?
- (d) How many are graphic designers?
- (e) How many are media managers?
- (f) How many organise events?

**Answer for DPIE Water:**

- a) 15 ongoing staff. Their duties include Communications (10), Media (4), Digital (1). The locations of these staff are Parramatta (12), Maitland (1), Newcastle (1), Ballina (1).
- b) One non-ongoing Communications advisor (Ourimbah)
- c) Nil
- d) Nil
- e) One.
- f) No specific roles are dedicated to events. Communications staff organise webinars and meetings as part of their community engagement with stakeholders as part of core business.

**For the Natural Resources Access**

**Regulator(NRAR):**

- (a) 2 ongoing staff - Manager Strategic Communications (Gr11/12) and Designer (Gr 7/8), both based in Parramatta
- (b) 4 non-ongoing staff - three communications project officers (Gr 7/8) based in Parramatta and one administration officer (Gr 3-4) based in Newcastle.
- (c) nil

- (d) one
- (e) one
- (f) none.

**For Hunter Water Corporation:**

- (a) 8 ongoing staff engaged under the Hunter Water Employees Enterprise Agreement 2021 and a common law contract. Staff are responsible for external communications including water conservation campaigns, capital works delivery and community engagement, website management, community research and education, media and stakeholder liaison, and internal communications.
- (b) 4 non-ongoing staff, assisting in performing functions as outlined (a)
- (c) 2 contractors, assisting in performing functions outlined in (a)
- (d) Nil
- (e) Nil
- (f) Nil

**For WaterNSW:**

- (a) 13 ongoing staff in public relations, communications and media. They are located at Dubbo (2), Coffs Harbour (1), Tamworth (1), Cowra/Orange (1), Parramatta (7) and Warragamba (1).
- (b) No non-ongoing staff are engaged for public relations, communications and media.
- (c) One contractor is currently engaged for social media. Four communications and engagement contractors are currently engaged for the Warragamba Dam Wall Raising Environmental Impact Statement. Contractors continue to work remotely as many WaterNSW offices remain closed.
- (d) None
- (e) One
- (f) No specific roles are dedicated to events. Community relations staff organise onsite meetings, webinars and consultation as part of WaterNSW's community engagement with stakeholders as part of core business.

**For Sydney Water:**

- (a) Two media staff respond to media enquiries and promote key business initiatives. Five staff manage strategic communications across the business and support business development, community and stakeholder engagement initiatives, customer engagement and strategic planning. Five staff support employee communication and engagement. All are based at Parramatta and required to work from other sites as needed.
- (b) Nil.
- (c) Four of the roles stated in (a) above were contractors while permanent roles were being advertised. These are based in Parramatta and required to work from other sites as needed.
- (d) One full time, two contractors (full-time roles currently advertised), based in Parramatta.
- (e) One, based in Parramatta.
- (f) One, based in Parramatta.

**For Housing and Property:**

As at 23 November 2021:

- (a) There are currently 12 ongoing staff working in the Media and Communications Team that support the Housing and Property portfolios. The team is currently working from home but is

traditionally based in Parramatta and Newcastle. Includes 1x SEB 1, 4x Grade 11/12, 4x Grade 9/10, 3x Grade 7/8

(b) N/A

(c) N/A

(d) None

(d) Two

(f) None. However, Senior Communications Advisors often provide event management assistance.

119. Do any departments/agencies have independent media studios.

(a) If yes, why?

(b) When was it established?

(c) What is the set up cost?

(d) What is the ongoing cost?

(e) How many staff work there and what are their classifications?

**Answer:**

Yes, the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) has a media studio.

(a) The media studio was established so that DPIE could achieve cost savings by no longer using external virtual event contractors.

(b) The media studio will begin operation on 1 December 2021.

(c) Set-up cost was \$113,856.

(d) There is no ongoing cost.

(e) Two clerk grade 7/8 roles will operate the media studio.

**Ministerial Staffing**

120. How many full-time equivalent staff are engaged at 15 October 2020?

**Answer:**

6

121. How many of these positions are (a) on-going and (b) non-ongoing?

**Answer :**

All positions were ongoing

122. How many redundancies have occurred in FY 2020-21 and FY 2021-22 to date?

**Answer :**

Nil

123. How many were:

(a) Voluntary?

(b) Involuntary?

**Answer:**

Nil

124. What was the total value in dollar terms of all termination payments paid to exiting staff?

**Answer:**

Nil

### **Credit Cards – Sydney Water**

125. Please provide credit card statements for Sydney Water Executives from 1/1/20 to date for the following:

- (a) Chair
- (b) Managing Director
- (c) GM Customer, Strategy and Engagement
- (d) GM Asset Lifecycle
- (e) GM Customer Service
- (f) GM Customer Delivery
- (g) GM Governance and Assurance
- (h) GM Finance and Business Performance
- (i) GM Business Development

ANSWER:

- (a) The current and previous Chairs do not have a Sydney Water credit card.
- (b) Please see attached.
- (c) The GM of Customer, Strategy and Engagement does not have a Sydney Water credit card.
- (d) Please see attached. Please note that there were a number of fraudulent transactions from an unknown third party which was refunded by the bank.
- (e) Please see attached.
- (f) Please see attached.
- (g) Please see attached.
- (h) No transactions were recorded during this period.
- (i) The GM Business Development does not have a Sydney Water credit Card.

### **Consultants – LAHC, DPIE- Water, Water NSW, Sydney Water**

126. Please provide for the following agencies LAHC, DPIE- Water, Water NSW, Sydney Water:

- (a) Total number and cost of consultants used for each agency/department
- (b) Itemised list of consultants used for each agency/department



(c) Copies of the contract award notice IDs for each consultant used

**Answer:**

**For LAHC:**

Nil.

**For DPIE Water:**

(a)-(c) Consultancy details are disclosed in the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's Annual Report. Disclosure requirements for consultancies are specified in the Annual Reports (Departments) Regulation 2015 (Schedule 1). Contract Award notices are available on the NSW eTendering site - <https://www.tenders.nsw.gov.au/>

**For WaterNSW:**

Information on Consultancy expenses is disclosed in WaterNSW's Annual Report.

**For Sydney Water:**

(a) This is disclosed per the consultancy spend section in Sydney Water's Annual Report. An extract of this disclosure is below.

(b) The legislation covering consultancy disclosures is the Annual Reports (Statutory Bodies) Regulation 2015. Schedule 1 to this Regulation requires disclosure of consultancy spend for individual consulting engagements that cost more than \$50,000. Where the consultancy spend individually costs less than \$50,000, the following is only disclosed – the total number of engagements costing less than \$50,000 and the total cost of all those engagements. This is also captured in the separate extract of the disclosure attached below. Sydney Water also leverages the NSW Government's Professional Services and Consulting Scheme for each engagement with suppliers included in this scheme.

(c) As a State-owned Corporation, Sydney Water complies with the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA) requirements but is not required to use e-Tendering to disclose contracts and hence does not have contract award ID notices issued for its contracts.

| Vendor name   | Contract description  | Category            | Amount (\$)         |
|---|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| Kelleher Nightingale Consulting   | Upper South Creek - Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment.   | Management Services | 558,345.00          |
| Frontier Economics  | Economic and cost analysis report prepared for Upper south creek and Greater Parramatta to Olympic Peninsula. | Management Services | 318,105.49          |
| KPMG  | Commercial strategy support – Upper South Creek   | Management Services | 247,554.63          |
| Bowery Consulting Pty Ltd   | Risk based cost estimate Upper South Creek and Aerotropolis Advanced Water Treatment Plant                    | Management Services | 167,950.00          |
| <b>For 2020-21, Sydney Water engaged 4 consultants for \$50,000 or more totaling</b>  |   |                     | <b>1,291,955.12</b> |
| <b>For 2020-21, Sydney Water engaged 26 consultants for \$50,000 or less totaling</b> |   |                     | <b>356,454.89</b>   |
| <b>Total consultancy spend across 30 consultants</b>                                  |   |                     | <b>1,648,410.01</b> |

## Questions from Ms Abigail Boyd MLC

### Housing support for older people

127. What specific measures are in place to support older people over 55 in regard to the housing system?

**Answer:**

The NSW Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) is delivering new homes for seniors. More information is available on the LAHC website: [www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/land-and-housing-corporation](http://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/land-and-housing-corporation).

Questions relating to housing support should be directed to the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services as the responsible Minister for housing assistance.

128. What specific measures are in place to support older women in relation to housing?

**Answer:**

The NSW Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) is delivering new homes for older women. More information is available on the LAHC website at [www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/land-and-housing-corporation](http://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/land-and-housing-corporation).

Questions relating to housing support should be directed to the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services as the responsible Minister for housing assistance.

### Minimum accessibility standards

129. Why has the NSW Government decided not to adopt the minimum accessibility provisions for residential housing and apartments under the National Construction Code 2022?

**Answer:**

The question should be referred to the Minister for Better Regulation, who is responsible for NSW changes to the National Construction Code.

130. Will the Government be mandating the Silver Liveable Housing Design Standards on all new social and affordable housing?

(a) If no, why not?

**Answer:**

Information about social housing design standards and the NSW Land and Housing Corporation 'Dwelling Requirements' is available at [www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/land-and-housing-corporation/news/good-design-for-social-housing](http://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/land-and-housing-corporation/news/good-design-for-social-housing).

### Social Housing Investment Key to Recovery Roadmap

In the Government's Social Housing Investment Key to Recovery Roadmap released October 2021,

there is no mention of allocation to older people.

131. Will a dedicated proportion be allocated to older people?

**Answer:**

The NSW Land and Housing Corporation is continually reviewing the State's portfolio of social housing assets to identify opportunities to deliver more and better housing for vulnerable people and families.

Information on the social housing package can be found at [www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/land-and-housing-corporation/plans-and-policies/accelerating-the-delivery-of-more-than-1,400-homes-across-nsw](http://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/land-and-housing-corporation/plans-and-policies/accelerating-the-delivery-of-more-than-1,400-homes-across-nsw).

132. Will a dedication be allocated specifically to older women?

**Answer:**

The question should be referred to the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services, who is responsible for housing assistance.

### **Together Home**

The Government has emphasised in several housing and homelessness strategies that older women are experiencing an increased risk of homelessness.

133. Has the Government made specific allocations for older women to receive Together Home packages?

134. Of the people allocated Together Home packages in 2020-21, how many were men and how many were women?

**Answer to 133-134:**

This falls within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services.

### **Link2Home**

135. What is the age and gender profile of people who interact with the Link2Home program?

136. Has the Government undertaken an evaluation of the effectiveness and reach of the Link2Home program?

- (a) If yes, what were the findings of the evaluation?
- (b) If no, does the Government have plans to do so?

137. Why does the Link2Home program not provide comprehensive support to older people who need assistance with navigating the system?

138. The Home at Last Model used in Victoria utilises specific measures of early intervention and crisis response designed for older people. Does the Government have plans to integrate similar

measures?

**Answer to 135 – 138:**

This falls within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services.

**Social and Affordable Housing Fund**

139. In the Social and Affordable Housing Fund (SAHF), how much total funding is allocated for programs addressing social and affordable housing and homelessness in 2021-22?
140. How much funding is allocated for older people?
141. Since its inception in 2017, SAHF has returned an 8.2% yield. Considering its success, does the Government plan to expand this program?
142. What are the Government's projections for SAHF over 2022-23 to 2024-25?

**Answer to 139 – 142:**

This falls within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services.

# Attachment to Question 44

| LOCATION                           | 18/19      | 19/20        | 20/21      | 21/22 | with uplift & GST | WORKPLACE ACCOMODATION PROGRAM CORPORATE AND OPERATIONAL 18/19 TO 19/20 SCOPE OF WORKS   |
|------------------------------------|------------|--------------|------------|-------|-------------------|--|
| ALEXANDRIA                         | -          | 23,800.00    | -          | -     | 36,449.85         | Fencing works to Bourke Street   |
| ALLAWAH DEPOT                      | -          | 44,675.00    | -          | -     | 68,420.04         | Reinstatement of Depot Building and Roads for Operational Use  |
| ASHBY AVE                          | 43,597.00  | -            | -          | -     | 66,769.08         | Stomwater swale (earth drain) to rear boundary adjacent to residential dwellings   |
| BARGO                              | 16,206.00  | 140,719.00   | -          | -     | 240,331.62        | Cottage upgrade for Site Project, National Parks and Wildlife Service use. Further conversion for Covid Response.  |
| BEACON HILL                        | -          | 122,998.00   | 50,000.00  | -     | 188,372.21        | Erosion stabilisation and retaining wall. Swale (earth drain) installation. Vegetation clearing. Landscaping.  |
| BELFIELD                           | 44,605.00  | -            | -          | -     | 68,312.84         | Boundary fencing replacement and disposal.   |
| BONDI                              | 81,600.00  | 190,459.00   | 45,000.00  | -     | 416,660.07        | Administration office upgrade. Electrical safety & callout. Locker replacements. Blair Street landscaping / cottages improvements. Heating ventilation and cooling replacement.              |
| CASTLE HILL                        | 33,273.00  | 51,387.00    | -          | -     | 129,657.32        | Termite treatment and improvements. Administration area upgrade.   |
| CBD OFFICE                         | -          | 47,690.00    | -          | -     | 73,037.53         | Carpet replacement to open area and sub tenancy (leased to Water Services Association Australian or WSAA)  |
| CHATSWOOD                          | -          | 47,649.00    | -          | -     | 72,974.74         | Amenities upgrade to network operations building.  |
| CROWN ST                           | 22,408.00  | 68,551.00    | -          | -     | 139,304.28        | Arborist (tree) report and clear vegetation. Stonemason assessment along with some stone work.   |
| CRONULLA                           | -          | -            | 60,000.00  | -     | 84,000.00         | Female amenities upgrade (showers)   |
| CUST HUB - LIVERPOOL               | 94,572.00  | 2,300,000.00 | 70,000.00  | -     | 2,957,486.40      | Customer Experience Project (CxP). Call centre facility upgrade including kitchens, meeting rooms, breakout areas, storm and surge (Emergency response) team incident room                   |
| DACEYVILLE                         | -          | 14,160.00    | 50,000.00  | -     | 21,686.13         | Furniture. Stormwater & drainage assessment. Air Conditioning and kitchen upgrades   |
| DRUMMOYNE                          | 15,000.00  | -            | -          | -     | 22,972.59         | Fencing works (Heritage)   |
| EARLWOOD                           | 22,180.00  | 22,180.00    | -          | -     | 67,937.62         | Heritage graffiti treatment. Vegetation clearance to asset.  |
| FAIRFIELD                          | -          | 79,610.00    | -          | -     | 121,923.22        | Improve and upgrade roofing to vacant depot buildings.   |
| FRENCHS FOREST                     | -          | 11,840.00    | -          | -     | 18,133.03         | Arborist inspection, report with improvements including landscaping to increase environmental protection   |
| GLENFIELD                          | -          | 33,927.00    | -          | -     | 51,959.41         | Civil construction services.   |
| GUILDFORD                          | 390,683.00 | 64,412.00    | -          | -     | 546,114.00        | Landscaping along with building structure improvements. Electrical safety improvements with installation. Remove cooling towers. Administration building upgrade.                            |
| HEATHCOATE                         | -          | 53,405.00    | -          | -     | 81,790.09         | Upgrade to office and amenities area with electrical works.  |
| HOME BUSH                          | 23,085.00  | 22,216.00    | -          | -     | 69,378.77         | Installed roof anchor points (for roof access to inspect gutters along maintenance activities. Landscaping works and generator works.  |
| HORNSBY Wastewater Treatment Plant | -          | 57,775.00    | -          | -     | 88,482.78         | Structural improvements to water chlorination building.  |
| KIRA CHILDCARE                     | -          | 21,035.00    | -          | -     | 32,215.23         | Playground improvements.   |
| LIVERPOOL                          | 64,260.00  | 66,329.00    | 80,000.00  | -     | 252,706.80        | Water proofing, box gutter and ceiling repairs. Air conditioning upgrade. Disabled toilet. Audio Video upgrade. Fit Out. Innovation Project building improvements.                           |
| MALABAR                            | -          | -            | 10,000.00  | -     | 14,000.00         | Installation of additional demountable amenities (toilets / showers)   |
| MIRANDA                            | -          | 5,455.00     | -          | -     | 8,354.37          | Intercom installation.   |
| NORTH HEAD                         | -          | 183,652.00   | 70,000.00  | -     | 304,382.40        | Scada (operational Information Technology) Room upgrade. Passenger Lift Upgrade. Demountable installations.  |
| ORCHARD HILLS                      | -          | 53,665.00    | -          | -     | 82,188.29         | Admin building upgrade.  |
| PARKLEA RESERVOIR                  | -          | 34,825.00    | -          | -     | 53,334.71         | Stormwater drainage improvements.  |
| PARRAMATTA                         | 224,142.00 | 372,768.00   | 350,000.00 | -     | 914,171.42        | Numerous tenancy works. Level 2,3,8,9. Air Conditioning upgrade to Data Hall. Audio visual upgrades. Furniture. Fit Out. Data. Electrical. Relocations.                                      |
| PENANT HILLS                       | -          | 31,310.00    | -          | -     | 47,951.46         | Improvements to Cottage.   |
| PENRITH                            | 155,822.00 | 204,404.00   | -          | -     | 551,688.38        | Asphalt remediation to roadway. Education centre fitout. Audio visual meeting room install. Install toilet block. Laboratory upgrade.  |
| PICTON                             | -          | 91,561.00    | -          | -     | 140,226.25        | Improvements to residential buildings and grounds.   |
| POTTS HILL                         | 91,017.00  | 114,786.00   | 450,000.00 | -     | 315,188.59        | Upgrade to paved walkway. Installation of traffic island to Nelson Short Street. Upgrade of chlorination building. Workstations. Lewis Street gates / access. Learning centre refurbishment. |
| PROSPECT                           | 84,707.00  | 793,855.00   | 30,000.00  | -     | 1,345,523.23      | Cottages x 4 upgrades. Fit out. Heritage Landscaping. Stonemasonry. Picnic Grounds amenities improvements. Fencing replacements. Road repairs. Relocation of Heritage Trust building.        |
| PYMBLE                             | -          | -            | 200,000.00 | -     | 280,000.00        | Upgrade of ex-depot for office and kitchen amenities for grounds maintenance and Facilities Management team North  |
| RIVERSTONE                         | -          | 288,075.00   | -          | -     | 441,188.67        | Amenities upgrade to administration building   |
| ROCKDALE                           | -          | 80,049.00    | -          | -     | 122,595.55        | Electrical upgrade to licenced area of depot building. Lighting and power supply. Roof repairs with anchor points.   |
| ROUSE HILL                         | 245,559.00 | 36,797.00    | -          | -     | 432,429.99        | Amenities upgrade to administration building for compliance  |
| RYDE                               | -          | -            | 30,000.00  | -     | 42,000.00         | Upgrade to office areas.   |
| SHELLHARBOUR                       | 53,946.00  | 399,847.00   | 600,000.00 | -     | 694,986.83        | Amenities upgrade to administration building. Demountable hire. Conference Room upgrade. Chemical Storage, Toilets, Lockers, Kitchens, Landscaping.  |
| ST MARYS                           | -          | 5,400.00     | -          | -     | 8,270.13          | Audio visual improvements to facilitate remote working (Covid)   |
| TURELLA                            | 27,720.00  | -            | -          | -     | 42,453.35         | Treatment of aquaduct for remedial works and graffiti. Excavations and gate replacement.   |
| ULTIMO                             | -          | 5,520.00     | -          | -     | 8,453.91          | Supply and installation of flooring.   |
| UNANDERRA                          | 4,760.00   | 96,875.00    | -          | -     | 155,654.64        | Roof upgrade and anchor points. Power & data to offices. Gate installations.   |
| PORT KEMBLA                        | -          | -            | 30,000.00  | -     | 42,000.00         | Kitchen upgrade.   |
| WARRIEWOOD                         | -          | 7,560.00     | 40,000.00  | -     | 11,578.19         | Furniture supply to depots.  |
| WATERLOO                           | -          | 44,134.00    | -          | -     | 67,591.50         | Restoration of heritage brickwork.   |
| WEST RYDE                          | -          | 551,889.00   | 750,000.00 | -     | 1,562,266.80      | Roof repairs to various buildings. Anchor point installations. Access. Air conditioning installation. Handrail to ramp. Traffic management plan. Response and improvements to fire safety.   |
| WARWICK FARM                       | -          | -            | 40,000.00  | -     | 48,000.00         | Improvements to outbuildings and hardstand.  |
| WETHERILL PARK                     | 61,687.00  | -            | -          | -     | 94,474.03         | Landscaping and make-good buildings.   |
| WILBERFORCE                        | 48,286.00  | -            | -          | -     | 73,950.31         | Civil and resurfacing works to roadway.  |
| WOLLONGONG                         | 75,822.00  | 39,144.00    | -          | -     | 176,071.15        | Fencing. Wastewater Treatment Plant lighting upgrade. Furniture & fit out.   |