



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEES

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2022-2023 **Further Supplementary Questions**

Portfolio Committee No. 4 – Customer Service and Natural Resources

Fair Trading

Hearing: Tuesday 30 August 2022

Answers due by: 4.00 pm, Thursday 20 October 2022

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Fair Trading

Questions from the Hon Peter Primrose MLC

Audiometric Testing

1. Why did the Deputy Secretary say that there had been a cost-benefit analysis for the audiometric testing exemption when answers to supplementary questions show there was no formal cost-benefit analysis?
2. What process did Safework undertake before deciding to extend the exemption for audiometric testing?
 - (a) Please include any consultations or studies that were undertaken to justify this decision?
 - (b) On what basis did Safework decide the testing exemption should continue in NSW even after the model laws were introduced?
3. For supplementary question 4a the question asks how many onsite inspections have occurred at PCBU's around noise risk, please clarify the answer that 75 'on site visit type actions' refer to inspector visits specifically relating to noise?
4. For supplementary question 6d asking about examination of workers compensation claims for hearing, please provide information about whether the link between the exemption and workers compensation claims has been analysed?
 - (a) If so, how has it been analysed and what data has been produced to examine the link?
5. For supplementary question 5 around how Safework is regulating noise at the source, the answer points to intervention from requests for service and notifiable incidents. How many requests for service and notifiable incidents have there been around noise since 2018?
 - (a) Please provide a breakdown by year.
 - (b) Please provide information as to how many of these received an onsite inspection as a result of this request or notification, broken down by incident or request per year.
 - (c) How many people attended these online forums "Ask an inspector about noise" and how were they advertised?
 - (d) For the mid 2021 program, how many compliance visits to manufacturing workplaces were there?

Responses to Landcom notification

6. Why did Safework fail to answer the question posed in initial hearings on 7 September Safework where they were asked about their response to a notification from Landcom regarding safety issues on the North Ryde site about a year before Christopher Cassanidi died?
7. Why does the answer refer to an ‘inspector attending the site on 6 December 2017’ when this was a Landcom inspector, whose report led to the notification referred to in estimates?
8. What was the Safework response to the query about the safety of the site in the year before Christopher Cassanidi’s death?
9. How many onsite inspections of the site did SafeWork inspectors undertake after they received that correspondence, in the year before the fatality?
10. How many requests for service or notifiable incidents for the site did SafeWork receive in the year before the fatality?
 - (a) What were these request for service or notifiable incidents for?
 - (i) Please provide the dates of these requests for service or notifiable incidents.
 - (b) How did Safework respond to each of these requests or notifications?
 - (ii) Please provide the dates of these responses.
 - (iii) How many of these received an onsite inspection by Safework?
11. Did _____ or any other Safework inspector undertake an onsite inspection of the site in February 2018?
 - (a) If so, what actions did Safework take in response to this inspection?

Aussie Skips incident

12. In responses to questions on notice about Aussie Skips, it is not clear whether each request for service (which appears to be 4) received an onsite inspection, please indicate whether each request for service received an onsite inspection?
 - (a) What was each request for service for? Please include the date.
 - (b) What was the project visit in relation to? Please include the date.
 - (c) Please outline the date of every onsite inspection to that site?

- (d) Please outline how the request for service was dealt with, for example through correspondence, phone call or onsite visit?

Ability Barge Services

- 13. In responses to questions on notice about Ability Barge Services, please provide clear information about whether there were any notifications for the site in the time specified?
- 14. For any requests for service or notifications, what were they for and when did they occur?
 - (a) Were the request for service followed up with an onsite visit?
 - (b) If so, when did this occur?
- 15. For the two inspections, were they both onsite inspections?
 - (a) Please indicate what the two inspections were for.
- 16. Please provide details of any notices given to Ability Barge services between 2019 and 2022, providing dates and types of notices.

Safework Inspector resignations

- 17. For the 26 resignations please specify how many resignations were alone and do not include retirements or transfers to other agencies.

Safework People Matters Survey

- 18. Mr D'Adam asked for 5 years of People Matters Surveys for Safework, why were they not submitted?
- 19. Please provide information about the reporting the PMES Survey for the Department of Customer Service, including the levels of reporting for Business Units and names of those Business Units.
- 20. The People Matters Survey 2018 generated a report, Large Business Unit, Finance and Services, Better Regulation, Safework NSW, why was this not submitted given it separates results by regulator?
- 21. Given the above information from the Government that the surveys are not separated by regulator, from what date were PMES survey results no longer separated by regulator?

22. Please supply the Large Business Unit, Finance and Services, Better Regulation, Safework NSW results for 2019, 2020, 2021.
- (a) If these reports are not available for Safework, please provide the results for Better Regulation for those years.
23. As requested at estimates, and in question 75-please provide all survey results for the following areas, to the closest possible survey level:
- (a) Investigation and Emergency Response Directorate,
- (b) Metro Operations and Strategic Interventions.

Psychological claims

24. On page 24 of the hearing itself Mr D'Adam asked for 3 years data on psychological claims in Safework NSW – please provide the answer for this, including information on how many claims were submitted, accepted and rejected?

Authorised inspector numbers

25. The clear intention of supplementary questions question 19 - 21 were for numbers of roles for authorised inspectors for Safework, Fair Trading, and Liquor and Gambling, what are the numbers?
- (a) How many of these positions are filled?

Resource Regulator

26. For question 92 which asked for referrals to the Resource Regulator how many were there in 2022?
- (a) Please provide type of matter?
- (b) How many requests for investigations the Resource Regulator were there during this period?