



HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

SESSION OF 2024 - 2025

(FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-FIRST PARLIAMENT)

NOTICES OF QUESTION

No. 17

TUESDAY, 3 JUNE 2025

Notices of Question

- 33** Dr *Woodruff* to ask the Premier, in relation to the allocation of money to community groups during the 2024 election campaign:
- (1) Please provide a full list of the community grants awarded during the 2024 election campaign.
 - (2) Both the Integrity Commission and the Auditor-General have made recommendations for the proper use of public money. Will you implement these recommendations, and if so, when? (17 October 2024)
- 46** Ms *Badger* to ask the Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management, in relation to rescues in Tasmania's national parks, broken down by year and by national park, have there been any rescues in Tasmania's National Parks in the years 2018 to 2024, and if so, how many? (11 March 2025)
- 47** Ms *Badger* to ask the Minister for Skills and Training in relation to TasTAFE – Please detail, in the past five years, with an annual breakdown on how many:
- (a) TasTAFE employees are on stress leave?
 - (b) bullying complaints have been lodged; and
 - (c) worker compensation claims have there been and what for? (12 March 2025)
- 48** Ms *Rosol* to ask the Minister for Children and Youth, in relation to third party guardianship, have any children been transferred to third party guardianship in the last five years, and if so, how many by each year? (13 March 2025)
- 51** Ms *Badger* to ask the Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management, in relation to the status of recommendations of the Weiss Independent review, please detail steps taken and planned steps to take, to implement each of the recommendations of the Weiss Independent Review. (1 April 2025)
- 52** Ms *Brown* to ask the Premier, in relation to the relocation of Heritage Tasmania staff in Launceston:
- (1) Is there an intended use of the vacated offices of Heritage Tasmania in the Public buildings in Launceston, and if so, what is it?
 - (2) Will the Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPAC) pay rent to Treasury for the rooms used by Heritage Tasmania, and if so, what is the difference in rent to their current premises?
 - (3) Was the Premier informed that these rooms were needed for DPAC, and if so, when?
 - (4) Has the Premier met with the affected Heritage Tasmania staff, and if so, when?
 - (5) Has the Premier met with the Community and Public Sector Union to also hear the concerns of staff, and if so, when?
 - (6) How many DPAC staff currently work in the Public Buildings, Launceston?
 - (7) How many DPAC staff were working in the Public Buildings on:
 - (a) 1 July 2014;
 - (b) 1 July 2018; and
 - (c) 1 July 2022?
 - (8) What is the total cost spent on works to the Public Buildings since 1 July 2020? Please provide a breakdown of these costs for painting, carpet, whitegoods, equipment and furniture.

- (9) Has Cabinet met in the Public Buildings in Launceston, and if so, how many times in 2024 and in 2025?
- (10) Are any car parking spaces available to DPAC staff in the Public Buildings, Launceston, and if so, how many?
- (11) If there are car parking spaces available to DPAC staff in the Public Buildings, Launceston, who is responsible for the costs of these spaces? (2 April 2025)

53 Ms *Rosol* to ask the Minister for Arts and Heritage, in relation to Heritage Tasmania:

- (1) Provide a breakdown of Heritage Tasmania and the Tasmanian Heritage Council's expenditure for this financial year on:
 - (a) consultancies; and
 - (b) events.
- (2) In relation to conservation grant rounds:
 - (a) please provide the names of panel members for all conservation grant rounds since 2022;
 - (b) does the Minister have veto over the final list of successful candidates?
 - (c) have any Tasmanian Heritage Council members, or companies owned by them, applied for conservation grants, and if so, were they successful, and did they declare a conflict of interest?
- (3) Will you provide a guarantee the Conservation Fund will not be completed early due to budget cuts?
- (4) Will the funding for the Conservation Fund, as listed in the Forward Estimates be guaranteed?
- (5) In relation to the proposed relocation of Heritage Tasmanian staff in Launceston:
 - (a) have you met staff affected by the proposed relocation, and if not, will you meet with them to hear their concerns? and;
 - (b) have you received correspondence from the CPSU regarding the proposed relocation of Heritage Tasmania Northern Office staff, and if so, please outline the concerns raised by the CPSU about the relocation (8 April 2025).

54 Ms *Rosol* to ask the Minister for Children and Youth in relation to Child Safety Services staff qualifications:

- (1) What is the minimum qualification required by Child Safety Services staff employed as:
 - (a) Youth Worker;
 - (b) Child Safety Officer;
 - (c) Practice Manager, Child Safety Services;
 - (d) Practice Leader, Child Safety Services;
 - (e) Child Safety and Wellbeing Worker, Advice and Referral Line;
 - (f) Child Safety and Wellbeing Liaison Officer, Advice and Referral Line;
 - (g) Intensive Family Engagement Specialist worker, Advice and Referral Line;
 - (h) Practice Leader, Advice and Referral Line; and
 - (i) Practice Manager, Advice and Referral Line.
- (2) What proportion of staff in Child Safety Services hold at least the minimum qualification for the following positions:
 - (a) Youth Worker;
 - (b) Child Safety Officer;
 - (c) Practice Manager, Child Safety Services;
 - (d) Practice Leader, Child Safety Services;
 - (e) Child Safety and Wellbeing Worker, Advice and Referral Line;
 - (f) Child Safety and Wellbeing Liaison Officer, Advice and Referral Line;
 - (g) Intensive Family Engagement Specialist worker, Advice and Referral Line;
 - (h) Practice Leader, Advice and Referral Line; and
 - (i) Practice Manager, Advice and Referral Line. (8 April 2025)

55 Mr *Bayley* to ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Consumer Affairs, in relation to the Government's commitments to build homes:

- (1) What was the Government's commitment towards building more social and affordable homes taken to the last election?
- (2) Does the Government still stand by its commitment regarding the number of new and affordable homes committed to be built at the last election?

- (3) What progress has been made on the commitment to build more social and affordable homes, as made at the last election, including:
 - (a) have any social and affordable homes been built, and if so, how many of each?
 - (b) once a home is built on an affordable residential lot, is this counted under the figures for affordable homes purchased?
 - (c) have any homes been built for women and children escaping family violence, and if so, how many, and were they added to the Rapid Rehousing stock?
 - (d) how many affordable rentals have been delivered through the Private Rental Incentive Scheme?
 - (e) have any Key Development Coaches in Safe Space facilities been established, and if so, how many in each region?
 - (f) how many women and children at risk of or experiencing homelessness have been supported?
 - (g) have any energy efficient households been delivered, and if so, how many?
 - (h) have any social houses received maintenance upgrades, and if so, how many?
 - (i) do any social houses need maintenance upgrades and if so, how many?
 - (j) have any of the 450 new homes for the Elwick Showgrounds housing project been delivered, and if so, how many? and;
 - (k) has any progress been made on the two Wintringham supported accommodation facilities in the North and North-West, and if so, what is the progress?
- (4) What progress, if any, has been made regarding the Government's funding commitments to build social and affordable homes, made at the election, including:
 - (a) has an extra funding for the Governments commitments been secured, and if so, how much?
 - (b) has any extra funding been given to Jireh House and McCombe House for additional support workers and wrap around services, and if so, how much?
 - (c) has any increased funding for social housing been given to Shelter Tasmania, and if so, how much?
 - (d) has any extra funding for social housing maintenance upgrades been delivered, and if so, how much? and;
 - (e) has any funding measures for energy efficiency measures been delivered, and if so, how much?
- (5) How does the Government plan to reach its 2032 housing target? (8 April 2025)

56 Mr Bayley to ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Consumer Affairs, in relation to Homes Tasmania grant applications:

- (1) Has Homes Tasmania applied for any Federal Government grants since inception, and if so, which ones?
- (2) If Homes Tasmania has not applied for any Federal Government grants for which it is eligible since inception, which grants has it not applied for and why not?
- (3) Has Homes Tasmania successfully received any Federal Government grants since inception, and if so, which ones and what were the outcomes achieved with these grants?
- (4) Has Homes Tasmania applied for any grants since inception that were rejected, and if so, what were they and what were the reasons for rejection? (8 April 2025)

57 Mr Bayley to ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Consumer Affairs, in relation to Homes Tasmania:

- (1) Are Homes Tasmania doing any work towards urban densification, and if so, what?
- (2) Since Homes Tasmania's inception, have any of the social and affordable homes built or purchased been three or more bedrooms, and if so, how many?
- (3) Are any of the houses built or purchased by Homes Tasmania since inception disability compliant, and if so, how many?
- (4) Are there guidelines for disability access in place for Homes Tasmania, and if so, what are they? (8 April 2025)

58 Mr Bayley to ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Consumer Affairs, in relation to determinations by the Residential Tenancy Commissioner, how many determinations has the Residential Tenancy Commissioner made confirming that a tenants' rent was unreasonable every year, for the last five years? (9 April 2025)

- 59** Mr *Bayley* to ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Consumer Affairs, in relation to the social housing waitlist:
- (1) How many people are currently on the social housing waitlist?
 - (2) What is the average time an applicant is on the social housing waitlist for?
 - (3) How many people who have been on the social housing waitlist for more than one, two, three, four or five years? (9 April 2025).
- 60** Mr *Bayley* to ask the Minister for Housing, Planning and Consumer Affairs, in relation to short-stay accommodation:
- (1) How many homes were converted to short-stay accommodation in the last five financial years?
 - (2) How many rentals have been converted to short-stay accommodation in the last five years?
 - (3) What are the Government's policy objectives in not regulating short-stay accommodation?
 - (4) Has any progress been made to the Government's election commitment to introduce a 5% levy on short-stay accommodation, and if so, what?
 - (5) Do any Liberal members of Parliament have a permit for a whole-home short-stay accommodation premises, and if so, how many? (9 April 2025).
- 61** Mr *Bayley* to ask the Minister for the Environment, in relation to state responsibilities for wildlife:
- (1) How many wildlife rehabilitators were/are registered with the department, by year, since 2014?
 - (2) Who is responsible for the welfare and coordination of the cohort of wildlife rehabilitators?
 - (3) What was the total government funding for wildlife rehabilitation in Tasmania, by year, since 2014?
 - (4) Of the total investment in wildlife rehabilitation, what are the specific elements that were funded year by year, since 2014?
 - (5) Who owns, and therefore has responsibility for, native fauna in Tasmania?
 - (6) Do members of the public need a permit to raise or care for a wallaby, brushtail possum or pademelon in Tasmania, and if not, why not?
 - (7) Which individuals or entities have received government funding for wildlife rescue, wildlife hospital care and/or wildlife rehabilitation/release, by year, since 2014?
 - (8) How are funds dispensed to individuals and entities acquitted and against which criteria?
 - (9) Are there investigations or proceedings against any individual or entity for not expending allocated funding in line with grant requirements? And if so, please detail the individual/entity and the issue. (10 April 2025)
- 62** Ms *Badger* to ask the Minister Police, Fire and Emergency Management, in relation to young people held in police watchhouses:
- (1) Were any children or young people held in police watch house facilities in 2024, and if so, how many were held in these facilities for each of the following durations?
 - (a) less than six hours;
 - (b) between six hours and twelve hours;
 - (c) between twelve and twenty-four hours;
 - (d) between twenty-four hours and thirty-six hours;
 - (e) between thirty-six and forty-eight hours;
 - (f) between forty-eight and sixty hours;
 - (g) between sixty and seventy-two hours; and
 - (h) longer than seventy-two hours?
 - (2) If any children and young people were held in police watch house facilities for longer than twenty-four hours in 2024, what percentage of them were brought into the facility on a Friday?
 - (3) If any children and young people were held in police watch house facilities for longer than forty-eight hours in 2024, what percentage of them were brought into the facility on a Friday?
 - (4) If any children and young people were held in police watch house facilities in 2024, what percentage of them were subject to the following circumstances:
 - (a) released without charge;
 - (b) released on police bail; or
 - (c) transferred to another facility? (10 April 2024)
- 63** Ms *Rosol* to ask the Minister for Health, in relation to the increased gap between routine review appointments for glaucoma:

- (1) Was a decision made to increase the time between routine reviews for stable glaucoma at the Royal Hobart Hospital Eye Clinic from the recommended 3 to 6 months to 6 to 12 months, and if so, when was this decision made?
- (2) Which staff were involved in the decision to increase the time between routine reviews for stable glaucoma?
- (3) Was any evidence used to justify the decision to increase the time between routine reviews for stable glaucoma, and if so, what was this evidence?
- (4) Have any patients had the time between their routine reviews for stable glaucoma increased since the practice was commenced, and if so, how many?
- (5) Please provide a breakdown of ophthalmology clinic waiting list numbers for the north, north-west, and south regions of the state for the past twelve months (8 May 2025).

64 Ms *Burnet* to ask the Minister for Transport, in relation to Metro real time tracking:

- (1) What percentage of Metro service are live tracked?
- (2) Has the number of Metro services tracked changed from when first introduced?
- (3) Have the number of Metro services tracked gone down, and if so, why?
- (4) Is anything been done to improve the reliability of bus services across Tasmania, and if so, what?
- (5) Is the tracking integrated into Google maps, and if so;
 - (a) how well is it integrated? and
 - (b) is there a plan to integrate the two?
- (6) Are the Metro services tracked for the entire journey?
- (7) When there is a changeover for new buses, is this adapted to reflect the new time? (8 May 2025)

65 Ms *Burnet* to ask the Minister for Environment, in relation to the Blackmans Bay Waste Treatment Plant (WWTP) Upgrade, its capacity and biosolids management:

- (1) Is the upgraded facility currently capable of producing Class A or B biosolids in accordance with national environmental standards?
- (2) If the facility is not in accordance with these standards, why was the upgrade approved and completed without ensuring the facility would meet these fundamental treatment and classification requirements?
- (3) Delegates at the National Biosolids Conference held in Hobart in March 2025 were reportedly informed by TasWater staff that the WWTP is not fit for purpose and that the installed digester cannot produce Class A or B biosolids;
 - (a) if this is the case, is there an interim or long-term plan in place to rectify the issue? and;
 - (b) when does TasWater expect the facility to meet biosolid classification standards fit for safe reuse or disposal?
- (4) Are biosolids from the Blackmans Bay WWTP transported elsewhere, and if so, where, and what happens to them?
- (5) Are any of the biosolids from the Blackmans Bay WWTP sent to Plenty Compost, and if so;
 - (a) is biosolid material from other WWTP's, such as Ranelagh and Sorell, also been sent to Plenty Compost?
 - (b) if so, how long has this been occurring?
 - (c) was this waste being delivered to the site at the time of the compost pad overflow and the subsequent fish kill event in the Plenty River? and;
 - (d) did deliveries to Plenty Compost continue, or cease, while the Environmental Protection Authority investigation and subsequent court proceedings were ongoing?
- (6) According to a 2022 Right to Information response, the Plenty Compost site and associated farmland had reached their maximum biosolid application rate. What is the current volume, either weekly or annual, of biosolids sent from Blackmans Bay WWTP, Ranelagh WWTP and Sorell WWTP to Plenty Compost?
- (7) Is there any plan for the practice of sending biosolids to Plenty Compost to cease, given the known environmental risks and site limitations, and if so, when?
- (8) Given the significant environmental and public health implications of the above, has this situation been proactively disclosed to the public, and if not, why not, and how will the Government ensure that the public and those affected know? (8 May 2025)

LAURA ROSS, *Clerk of the House.*