

BUDGET ESTIMATES QUESTIONS

QUESTION 1 : NSWCC ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE BUDGET

The Hon. MICHAEL GALLACHER: You said that the money had been taken off you, yet the costs of both matters have blown out quite substantially. Although they have blown out in their costs it appears that, coincidentally, they have been delayed 12 months and you have had a reduction in your budget.

Mr BRADLEY: It really is a deferral, essentially, until we find a solution.

The Hon. MICHAEL GALLACHER: How can there be a blow out in costs if you do not have an answer?

Mr BRADLEY: Which line item are you referring to?

The Hon. MICHAEL GALLACHER: Information technology delays, which are shown in the budget papers in your capital program.

Mr BRADLEY: Is there a specific page or paragraph?

The Hon. MICHAEL GALLACHER: I do not have it before me, no.

Mr BRADLEY: I will take that question on notice because I am not sure about the appropriate response to the assertion that there is a blow out.

The Hon. MICHAEL GALLACHER: In 2006-07 the estimated cost for the electronic surveillance project was \$1.85 million, and the estimated cost in current dollars has now gone up to \$2.1 million.

Mr BRADLEY: I will take that question on notice.

ANSWER :

The NSW Crime Commission advises me that:

The infrastructure statement in Budget Paper Number 4 lists elements of the Commission's electronic surveillance response. The dates listed as "complete" represent the latest projected dates in a rolling program of expenditure. The expenditure does not vary substantially from year to year.

The total cost figures are estimates of cumulative expenditure for the period ending 2011.

Where there has been a deferral of expenditure in relation to one element of the program due to lack of solution, which has previously been funded, Treasury has indicated funding will be allocated when a solution is found.

David Campbell
Minister for Police
Minister for the Illawarra

BUDGET ESTIMATES QUESTIONS

QUESTION 2 : ORKOPOULOS LAWYER INQUIRY

The Hon. TREVOR KHAN: If it were the case that a lawyer had made inquiry into the progress of the investigation the police were undertaking into Mr Orkopoulos, it would indicate that there was either a leak from the New South Wales Police Force or from somewhere else in the system, would that be right?

Mr SCIPIONE: Well, if that sort of information was made available to somebody else, it could have been someone from within the New South Wales Police Force, but there are many other areas that that type of information can come from, you know, including witnesses that are involved. It could include those that are part of the investigation. But I certainly have no knowledge of any inquiry by any lawyer certainly in my office, and I was never inquired of, nor do I have any knowledge of the former commissioner. If there was an inquiry, if that information was provided, it could come from many different areas.

The Hon. TREVOR KHAN: Would you be able to go back and make inquiries particularly of senior police and the detectives who were involved in the case and get back to us to advise whether what I say is correct?

Mr SCIPIONE: Certainly. Yes, we can do that.

The Hon. TREVOR KHAN: And would you be able to indicate when precisely that inquiry was made by that lawyer?

Mr SCIPIONE: I can certainly make the inquiry. I do not know if I can because I do not know if it happened. If you can give me some advice in terms of when it may have happened, that would certainly be useful.

The Hon. TREVOR KHAN: I would like to suggest a time frame from, say, mid-September through to mid-October. You will be alive to the fact, will you not, that Mr Orkopoulos was charged I think on or about 6 November. So, we are talking about something in the order of a month or thereabouts prior to him being charged that he was making those inquiries?

Mr SCIPIONE: Thank you. I will take that.

ANSWER :

The NSW Police Force has advised me :

On 25 October 2006 a solicitor acting for Mr Orkopoulos contacted Charlestown police station, concerned that his client was about to be arrested. The solicitor was informed that this was not the case. Neither Mr Orkopoulos nor his solicitor was informed by police at, or prior to, this time that an investigation was underway into sexual assault allegations against Mr Orkopoulos.

David Campbell
Minister for Police
Minister for the Illawarra

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QUESTION 3 : ORKOPOULOS MATTER ADVISED TO MINISTRY

(a) The Hon. TREVOR KHAN: Are you able, if you cannot remember now, to get back to us and tell us what time the meeting started and what time the meeting finished?

Mr TREE: I could do that.

(b) The Hon. TREVOR KHAN: Are you able also, in the light of that, if you cannot remember now, to indicate by reference to your diaries and the like at what time, as best you can do, you were actually told?

Mr TREE: Okay. I will check my records.

The Hon. TREVOR KHAN: That is a yes?

Mr TREE: Yes.

ANSWER :

The Director General of the Ministry for Police has advised me :

- (a)** The meeting took place approximately from 9am to 10am.
- (b)** Prior to leaving the Commissioner's office at the conclusion of the meeting.

David Campbell
Minister for Police
Minister for the Illawarra

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QUESTION 4 : ORKOPOULOS MATTER - ADVISING EMMA MURPHY

The Hon. TREVOR KHAN: Would you be able, with the assistance of any documents that you have, to in due course be able to advise us as to when the telephone call was made?

Mr TREE: Yes.

ANSWER :

The Director General of the Ministry for Police has advised me :

"Although, as I advised the Committee, I have no relevant documents, to the best of my recollection it was the afternoon of Monday November 6, 2006."

David Campbell
Minister for Police
Minister for the Illawarra

BUDGET ESTIMATES QUESTIONS

QUESTION 5 : OC SPRAY CANS LOST OR STOLEN IN 2006-07

Ms SYLVIA HALE: Commissioner, how many Gloch pistols have been lost in the last financial year?

Mr SCIPIONE: Not having access to those documents with me, can I take that on notice?

Ms SYLVIA HALE: Yes. Would you also take on notice the number of capsicum sprays that have been lost or stolen in the last financial year, and the numbers of sets of handcuffs that were lost or stolen?

Mr SCIPIONE: So it was OC and handcuffs, was it?

Ms SYLVIA HALE: It was Gloch pistols, capsicum sprays and handcuffs.

Mr SCIPIONE: Actually, I have got some details that may be of some assistance to you, if I can. I understand that during the financial year 2006-07 not one Gloch handgun was lost or stolen.

Ms SYLVIA HALE: Did you say "not one"?

Mr SCIPIONE: Not one, yes. I can indicate though from a reading of this that there have been over that same period six sets of handcuffs lost and two stolen. I think your other related to cans of OC spray?

Ms SYLVIA HALE: Yes.

Mr SCIPIONE: I do not seem to have that figure here.

ANSWER :

The NSW Police Force has advised me :

During the financial year 2006-07, 11 cans of OC spray were lost or stolen. Two cans have since been recovered, with an offender charged in relation to one incident.

David Campbell
Minister for Police
Minister for the Illawarra

BUDGET ESTIMATES QUESTIONS

QUESTION 6 : THE APEC SECURITY FENCE

Ms SYLVIA HALE: As an item of security equipment it is presumably covered by the Security Industry Act 1997. In that case, could you please provide the name of the engineering firm that provided advice on the design and construction of the fence, as would be required in accordance with section 4 (1) (d) of the Security Industry Act?

.....

Ms SYLVIA HALE: I have a number of other questions about the fence. Namely, could you provide the name of the firm that installed the security fence in accordance with section 4 (1) (c) of the Act, the police master security industry licence number of that firm and the name of each individual who worked on the installation and their respective individual police security industry licence numbers, as required under the legislation?

Mr SCIPIONE: I am not sure that in fact it is covered by the security Act. I will take the question on notice and have a look at it.

ANSWER :

The NSW Police Force has advised me :

The different firms which engineered and manufactured the component parts of the fence were not required to comply with the Act as they were supplying fence parts to the NSW Police Force, which is not required to comply with the *Security Industry Act*. It was the NSW Police Force that called the fence a security fence.

David Campbell
Minister for Police
Minister for the Illawarra

BUDGET ESTIMATES QUESTIONS

QUESTION 7 : AUTHORITY TO WORK ON THE APEC FENCE

Ms SYLVIA HALE: Thank you. Could you also take on notice the following question: If the work was done without the necessary police security industry licences what steps will be taken to recover all moneys paid to those firms offering advice in respect of the fence and installing the fence in accordance with section 41 of the Security Industry Act? Section 41, "Payment of fees charged by unlicensed persons", states in subsection (1) that an unlicensed person is not entitled to charge any fee and in subsection (2) that if the fee has been paid it cannot be retained by that unlicensed person.

Mr SCIPIONE: I am not sure that I understand the question.

Ms SYLVIA HALE: The question is: If the work was done without the necessary authority and the necessary licences I am bringing to your attention the fact that the Act requires that any fees that have been paid will have to be refunded. In respect of those contracts to offer advice on and install the APEC security fence—again, assuming that the work was done without the necessary licences—will the police security industry unit be taking any action under section 7 of the Security Industry Act to prosecute those firms and their employees who provided advice on the design and actually worked on the construction of the fence?

Mr SCIPIONE: Our authority is in the Police Act not the security Act.

Ms SYLVIA HALE: But presumably the security Act would be applied to items of security equipment, and the police would be as cognisant of that Act as they are of any other Act that is in force in the State.

Mr SCIPIONE: Not that I am aware of. I could be corrected, and I will take those earlier questions on notice. But, having said that, the New South Wales Police Force is covered by the New South Wales Police Act, not the security Act. Therefore, I do not think we are bound by the same provisions. But again, as I indicated, I will take what I can on notice and we will come back to you.

ANSWER :

The NSW Police Force has advised me :

As previously stated, the NSW Police Force is not required to comply with the *Security Industry Act*. The work was appropriately done.

David Campbell
Minister for Police
Minister for the Illawarra

BUDGET ESTIMATES QUESTIONS

QUESTION 8 : APEC POLICE RESOURCES - 8 SEPTEMBER

(a) **Ms SYLVIA HALE:** Thank you. Can you tell the Committee how many members of the New South Wales Police Force were deployed on Saturday 8 September?

Mr SCIPIONE: I can take that question on notice. I know that over the entire event some 3,400 officers were involved in APEC. That is everything from providing security through to the planning and preparation, which was ongoing for two years prior to the event.

(b) **Ms SYLVIA HALE:** Focusing on Saturday 8 September, can you indicate how many of those police officers were paid overtime and what was the total overtime component of the total wages bill?

Mr SCIPIONE: Not being able to tell you how many officers, I cannot tell you what the totals are. I will take the question on notice.

(c) **Ms SYLVIA HALE:** Could you also take on notice how many members of the riot squad were present on 8 September?

Mr SCIPIONE: Yes, I will take that on notice.

(d) **Ms SYLVIA HALE:** What items were riot squad officers equipped with?

Mr SCIPIONE: I can certainly take that question on notice as well.

(e) **Ms SYLVIA HALE:** Could you also take on notice the average cost of the equipment for each riot squad officer?

Mr SCIPIONE: Yes.

(f) **Ms SYLVIA HALE:** Could you take this question on notice and provide the cost of each of the new capsicum spray backpacks? I want to know how many were used.

Mr SCIPIONE: Yes.

ANSWER :

The NSW Police Force has advised me :

- (a) 3,456 over the entire 24 hour period, including all duties and responsibilities at all sites, venues, declared areas, command posts, vehicles and personnel protection.
- (b) 894 Officers were paid a total of \$657,888 overtime.
- (c) 483 officers from the Operational Support Group, which includes the Public Order and Riot Squad, were on duty over the entire 24 hour period.
- (d) Public Order and Riot Squad officers were issued with riot shields, riot helmets, leg protectors and gloves.
- (e) \$840.
- (f) 6 units were purchased at a cost of \$1,200 each.

David Campbell
Minister for Police
Minister for the Illawarra

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QUESTION 9 : NATIONAL FIREARMS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The Hon. ROY SMITH: Minister, the Federal Government has commissioned the development of a business case for the establishment of a national firearms management system. Can you tell me whether the New South Wales Government has received a report on the proposal and whether it supports the proposal?

Mr DAVID CAMPBELL: I have not personally seen a report on the proposal. Having said that, I must say that the purpose of a national firearms management system is to increase efficiencies for firearms management and improved communication between firearms registries throughout Australia. The national firearms management system project is co-sponsored by the Commonwealth Government and Victoria Police. The project engaged an independent consultancy firm to develop the business case. It is understood that to the Ministerial Council for Police and Emergency Management will shortly be considering the business case that examines the feasibility of a national firearms management system. I am advised that the Police portfolio is critically examining the business case in order to determine whether the benefits of the project outweigh its costs. The business case is being prepared and people within the portfolio are looking at it. But, as I said earlier, I have not personally seen it or been briefed on it.

The Hon. ROY SMITH: If that is the case obviously the Government cannot have a position on the proposal at the moment. Can you please take that question on notice and follow it through for me? Can you confirm whether the ministry has received a report on the proposal as yet? Could you give me the ministry's attitude, or your attitude, to it when you come to a conclusion?

ANSWER :

A Business Case for the National Firearms Management System has been circulated for discussion at the Ministerial Council for Police and Emergency Management – Police (MCPEMP). New South Wales does not support the proposal in its current form.

David Campbell
Minister for Police
Minister for the Illawarra

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QUESTION 10 : HIGHWAY PATROL ACTUAL STRENGTH

The Hon. MICHAEL GALLACHER: Commissioner, can you indicate to the Committee what is the current authorised strength of the New South Wales highway patrol?

Mr SCIPIONE: I am trying to get that figure for you. As I do not seem to have that figure, I will take on notice your question concerning the current authorised strength of highway patrol officers in this State.

.....

Mr SCIPIONE: Can I go back and confirm the numbers of the highway patrol. We currently have 1,088 authorised positions for the New South Wales highway patrol.

The Hon. MICHAEL GALLACHER: And how many of them are actual?

Mr SCIPIONE: I would have to get you that information.

ANSWER :

The NSW Police Force has advised me :

As at 26 October 2007, Highway Patrol actual strength was 970.

David Campbell
Minister for Police
Minister for the Illawarra

BUDGET ESTIMATES QUESTIONS

QUESTION 11 : ROAD TOLL EXCLUSIONS

The Hon. MICHAEL GALLACHER: What impact has the agreement between the New South Wales police and the Roads and Traffic Authority, which was signed by both Chief Superintendent John Hartley on 28 November and Dr Soames Job also on 28 in November, which appears to be an agreement that basically redetermines what constitutes a death on our roads in New South Wales. Are you familiar with this document?

Mr SCIPIONE: Not with that document, no. I am not sure what the document is.

The Hon. MICHAEL GALLACHER: It is called the "NSW Police & Roads and Traffic Authority Procedures for Determining Exclusions from the NSW State Road Death Toll". It is quite interesting reading.

Mr DAVID CAMPBELL: I wonder if the Leader of the Opposition might table the document.

The Hon. MICHAEL GALLACHER: Yes. I am more than happy to do so. I prepared a copy for the commissioner's information. Commissioner, in the notes it actually indicates that if in the opinion of a police officer and or a witness that a person committed suicide, they are taken out of the road toll figures. The tests, according to this agreement, appear to be very thin. I am just interested to see whether this has been brought to your attention in your former role, which would have been under your watch as the Deputy Commissioner Operations. It is a bit like, if you like, a re-determination of on-time running for trains; we now have the redefinition of what constitutes a death on our roads.

.....

The Hon. MICHAEL GALLACHER: Madam Chair, this might be easily answered. Commissioner, do you know in fact if this procedure has been adopted and is now in place in New South Wales? Yes or no?

Mr SCIPIONE: You mean this document?

The Hon. MICHAEL GALLACHER: Yes?

Mr SCIPIONE: As I said, I have not seen the document.

The Hon. MICHAEL GALLACHER: Would you take that on notice and then report back to the Committee?

Mr SCIPIONE: I can.

ANSWER :

As later advised during the Budget Estimates hearing on 22 October :

"I have been given information that some staff have contacted some police officers, and I need to advise the Committee that suicides have never been taken into account as part of the road toll. The change that was referred to in a document earlier does not impact on final numbers regarding the road toll. It merely allows the suicides to be determined earlier when there is evidence, for example an autopsy, rather than wait for the Coroner's written notification. It is important to note that this makes no difference to the final number of the road toll; it merely allows police to track numbers more accurately during the year. This can also include those who had a medical condition, for example a heart attack, that resulted in a car crash and death. I was advised of this information by the Commander of Traffic Services."

David Campbell
Minister for Police
Minister for the Illawarra

BUDGET ESTIMATES QUESTIONS

QUESTION 12 : MIDDLE EASTERN ORGANISED CRIME SQUAD

The Hon. JOHN AJAKA: Are you aware of a report that mentions 396 arrests in 10 months by the Middle Eastern Organised Crime Squad?

Mr SCIPIONE: I would have to clarify those numbers, but certainly I am aware that they have done a lot of work and they have had significant arrests.

(a) The Hon. JOHN AJAKA: Whilst one of your staff members might be looking for that number, assuming that it is 396 as the report says, would you be able to tell many how many of those 396 are actually of middle-eastern background?

Mr SCIPIONE: I would have to take that on notice.

(b) The Hon. JOHN AJAKA: Would you also take on notice how many, of course, are not of middle-eastern background? Could you also take on notice, or answer it now, how you or whoever is responsible determines that someone is of middle-eastern background? By that, I mean, if I can assist, are we talking of someone who has just arrived from the Middle East, born in the Middle East, someone such as myself whose parents came from the Middle East and is born here, someone such as my children who, of course, are second and third generation? If that could be taken on notice, I would be interested?

Mr SCIPIONE: Certainly.

(c) The Hon. JOHN AJAKA: Also, what would occur if one of the parents was from the Middle East and the other one is not? Are they deemed to be of middle-eastern background by the crime squad? Also, you may need to take this on notice, if you can provide a detailed breakdown of the actual charges each of the 396 faced or some did not face any charges; just break it down to those who were charged and those who were not. Also, if you could table a copy of the report to the Committee, if the report is located, I would be grateful.

Mr SCIPIONE: I will take that on notice.

ANSWER :

The NSW Police Force has advised me :

(a) Police use ethnic descriptors, along with physical descriptors, in the pre-arrest phase only. The ethnicity of persons charged is not recorded on police

information systems and, as such, the ethnic breakdown of persons arrested by the Middle Eastern Organised Crime Squad (MEOCS) is not available.

- (b) MEOCS commenced operation on 1 May 2006, replacing Task Force Gain which was formed in October 2003 in response to an increase in violence between Middle Eastern groups in South West Sydney involved in organised crime activities. These organised criminal groups are comprised predominantly of interlinked families and associates of Middle Eastern background and some, such as the Assyrian Kings, proudly proclaim such origins. MEOCS investigates suspects based on their membership or association with these criminal groups rather than their ethnicity.
- (c) In the 9 months to 30 September 2007, the Squad had arrested 396 people and laid 1,069 charges including violence, firearms, traffic, fraud, theft and drug related offences.

MEOCS reports contain sensitive information and it would not be appropriate for them to be released. I provided a summary of the key results of the Squad during my appearance before the Committee on 22 October.

David Campbell
Minister for Police
Minister for the Illawarra

BUDGET ESTIMATES QUESTIONS

QUESTION 13 : APEC - DOGS AND SEIZED ITEMS

(a) **Ms SYLVIA HALE:** Commissioner, returning to APEC, can you tell the Committee how many dogs were deployed at the APEC rally?

Mr SCIPIONE: At the rally on the Saturday?

Ms SYLVIA HALE: Yes, the rally on the Saturday.

Mr SCIPIONE: Let me take it on notice.

(b) **Ms SYLVIA HALE:** Fine. Under what statute did police seize items from participants of the rally even though they were not inside a declared or restricted area?

Mr SCIPIONE: Again—

Ms SYLVIA HALE: I am thinking of poles, for example, that were holding up banners.

Mr SCIPIONE: How many, or under what statute?

Ms SYLVIA HALE: Yes, under what statute?

Mr SCIPIONE: Again, not being in the possession of that information, I will take that on notice. But certainly the statute that they did not use was the APEC legislation because, as you say, we were outside the footprint.

ANSWER :

The NSW Police Force has advised me :

- (a) There were 11 Firearms and Explosive Detection Dog handlers and 8 General Purpose Dog handlers rostered on day shift. 6 Firearms and Explosive Detection Dog handlers and 2 General Purpose Dog handlers were rostered on night shift.
- (b) On the basis that solid poles could be used as weapons, police were instructed to seize poles of solid construction over a certain length unless the person in charge of the pole reduced its length. It appears that many poles were shortened and retained for use.

The legal authority relied upon for the above direction to police was the common law duty of police to keep the peace in the community.

It is not necessary that police wait until after a person breaches the peace to take action. There is power at common law for police to take action before any harm occurs. The action must be reasonable in the circumstances and may include speaking with the persons so as to persuade them to keep the peace, or removing the articles that could cause a breach of the peace. Police carried out both of these activities on the day.

David Campbell
Minister for Police
Minister for the Illawarra

BUDGET ESTIMATES QUESTIONS

QUESTION 14 : APEC - PADDY GIBSON

Ms SYLVIA HALE: I referred earlier to the detaining of a Mr Paddy Gibson. Can you explain to the Committee why he was detained?

Mr SCIPIONE: No, I will need to take that question on notice. I am not sure whether it is the same Mr Gibson I have some information on. I will take the question on notice.

ANSWER :

The NSW Police Force has advised me :

Mr Gibson was an Excluded Person. He was detained and later released.

David Campbell
Minister for Police
Minister for the Illawarra

BUDGET ESTIMATES QUESTIONS

QUESTION 15 : BADGES USED AS WEAPONS AGAINST POLICE

Ms SYLVIA HALE: Okay. On 10 September the *Sydney Morning Herald* quoted you as saying that in the past protesters had used police badges as a weapon against police. Would you please provide the Committee with details of when badges have been used in that manner, the injuries that were sustained and any further details?

Mr SCIPIONE: Certainly we know that pin-backed identifications have been used in the past.

Ms SYLVIA HALE: Can you give examples of that—time, place and the damage caused?

Mr SCIPIONE: I will need to take the question on notice in terms of where and when.

ANSWER :

The NSW Police Force has advised me :

A search of available data has not identified any records of incidents where a pin badge has been used as a weapon. Records kept locally were unable to be collated in the timeframe supplied. However, there is direct evidence that police have suffered minor needlestick injuries in this regard. Police also have intelligence indicating that violent protest groups aim to use police badges to injure officers.

David Campbell
Minister for Police
Minister for the Illawarra

BUDGET ESTIMATES QUESTIONS

QUESTION 16 : RALLY IN MARTIN PLACE ON 15 SEPTEMBER

(a) **Ms SYLVIA HALE:** Commissioner, can I now draw your attention to a very small rally that was held in Martin Place on the following Saturday, 15 September? This was a rally to mark the issuing of the Petraeus report in the United States into the success or otherwise of American activities in Iraq. In attendance at that rally was a maximum of 30 people. Can you tell me why it was considered necessary to have 19 general duties police officers, 3 police cars and 2 vehicles with personnel from the public order and riot squad present at that rally?

Mr SCIPIONE: I have not got those details and therefore I do not even know if those numbers are accurate. I can take the question on notice.

Ms SYLVIA HALE: Please do, but if those numbers are accurate would you regard that as a somewhat overreaction to a threat posed by 30 people?

Mr SCIPIONE: I am not proposing to speculate on those types of numbers simply on the basis that I need to get the information.

(b) **Ms SYLVIA HALE:** Is the estimate of \$90 per officer for three hours including back-up, administrative costs and supplies factored in, as well as vacation and sick leave, return travel and swap time to other duties—what would be the cost of the police presence at that very small rally? Could you provide an estimate at some stage?

Mr SCIPIONE: If you are asking me to estimate what the cost of the police at that rally would be, I cannot even tell you how many police were there. I do not know what ranks, I do not know where they came from, were they specialists, and again it would be wrong of me to speculate. I would not want to mislead you potentially.

(c) **Ms SYLVIA HALE:** Why was the riot vehicle deployed at the rally? Could you take that on notice and respond?

Mr SCIPIONE: Yes.

ANSWER :

The NSW Police Force has advised me :

(a) Initial information was that there would be between 100-200 protestors. Attempts to contact the organiser, to confirm the anticipated numbers and establish the nature of the protest, as well as have him submit the appropriate

'Form 1", were unsuccessful. In the absence of any confirmation from the organisers as to the details of the protest, officers were deployed accordingly.

- (b) There were 19 officers of various ranks rostered to attend the rally from The Rocks Local Area Command. All police were paid their usual rate of pay.
- (c) Police planned for all possible outcomes. The Public Order and Riot Squad, along with their vehicles and equipment, are an asset used by Commands to assist in a policing response.

David Campbell
Minister for Police
Minister for the Illawarra

BUDGET ESTIMATES QUESTIONS

QUESTION 17 : COST TO RE-HIRE APEC FENCE

Ms SYLVIA HALE: Would you please supply the Committee with the cost of calling on Coates to provide the fence again?

Mr SCIPIONE: You mean the rental rate should we need to use it again?

Ms SYLVIA HALE: Yes, thank you.

ANSWER :

The NSW Police Force has advised me :

\$34.01 per metre per day.

David Campbell
Minister for Police
Minister for the Illawarra

BUDGET ESTIMATES QUESTIONS

QUESTION 18 : PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT

Ms SYLVIA HALE: Would you provide the Committee with the total cost of providing police services at Bega for the visit of the Prime Minister on 4 July 2007?

Mr SCIPIONE: I will take that on notice.

ANSWER :

The NSW Police Force has advised me :

The estimated cost is \$12,757 including salaries, shift penalties, overtime, meals and travelling allowance.

David Campbell
Minister for Police
Minister for the Illawarra

BUDGET ESTIMATES QUESTIONS

QUESTION 19 : BODALLA STATE FOREST LOGGING

Ms SYLVIA HALE: Would you also take on notice and answer the question: What was the total cost of providing police services during the logging of the Bodalla State Forest compartment 3046 from May to September 2007?

Mr SCIPIONE: I will take that on notice.

ANSWER :

The NSW Police Force has advised me :

The estimated cost is \$46,971 including salaries, shift penalties, overtime, meals and travelling allowance.

David Campbell
Minister for Police
Minister for the Illawarra

BUDGET ESTIMATES QUESTIONS

QUESTION 20 : ARREST + CHARGE STATISTICS

The Hon. JOHN AJAKA: Commissioner, noting the limited time, in addition to the other questions that you have taken on notice would you take on notice the following three questions. Would you advise the Committee of the number of persons in total who have been arrested in New South Wales over the last 12 months, the number of persons who have been charged in the last 12 months, and the total number of charges for the last 12 months?

Mr DAVID CAMPBELL: In order to ensure that we obtain accurate information, could I clarify which 12 months we are talking about—October to October, the financial year, or the calendar year?

The Hon. JOHN AJAKA: The last 12 months from today.

ANSWER :

The Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) analyses NSW recorded crime statistics. This question is more appropriately addressed to the Attorney General, within whose portfolio the Bureau resides.

David Campbell
Minister for Police
Minister for the Illawarra

BUDGET ESTIMATES QUESTIONS

QUESTION 21 : MARINE AREA COMMANDER TRANSFER

The Hon. JOHN AJAKA: Commissioner, as I understand it the Marine Area Command, the water police, are located at Balmain, Broken Bay, Newcastle, Port Stephens, Coffs Harbour, Botany Bay, Port Kembla and, most recently, Eden, with some remote country waterways serviced. From 15 to 20 July 2008 we will be hosting World Youth Day events. I understand that the commander was recently transferred from the Marine Area Command. Did the commander of the Marine Area Command request a transfer to another command?

Mr SCIPIONE: I am not aware of that. I can take that question on notice. However, I can tell you that within the force we have a superintendent's rotation policy. That transfer took place at the time of that other rotation arrangement. I can take that question on notice.

The Hon. JOHN AJAKA: If he has not been transferred or he has not requested a transfer, would you consider keeping him on until the end of the World Youth Day events, having regard to the success of the Marine Area Command in protecting all foreign leaders, including the United States President, while on and around the water during the Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation conference?

Mr SCIPIONE: As I indicated, I do not know the status of the commander's transfer. I would need to check to determine whether he sought a transfer.

The Hon. JOHN AJAKA: Would you agree with me that it would be prudent to keep the same commander?

Mr SCIPIONE: No. The fact that he has been on rotation would tell me that it has been deemed, operationally, not a risk and at this stage that transfer would stand.

ANSWER :

The NSW Police Force has advised me :

Superintendent Terence Dalton is being transferred in accordance with the NSW Police Force Superintendent Transfer Policy.

David Campbell
Minister for Police
Minister for the Illawarra

BUDGET ESTIMATES QUESTIONS

QUESTION 22 : CULLING OF CORPORATE SERVICE POSITIONS

The Hon. MICHAEL GALLACHER: Ms McPherson, earlier you spoke about the global savings strategy—the \$62 million savings from the police budget for 2007-08. Where are we up to with the 427 corporate service positions that are to be culled?

Ms McPHERSON: Those 427 positions are not over a 12-month period. Those savings have been accumulating since 2005-06. I can report to you that we are on target and the positions we are targeting in this 12-month period are, in the main, vacant positions, particularly in the local area commands.

The Hon. MICHAEL GALLACHER: How much of those specific savings are for the 2007-08 budget? I understand that this year the budget savings are in the vicinity of \$62 million. In the two previous years there have been savings of \$15 million each year. Is that correct?

Ms McPHERSON: It is not \$62 million; I think it is approximately \$32 million. There is \$6 million from the recurrent information technology budget, which is as a consequence of whole-of-government telecommunications savings. There was \$18 million with an additional \$8 million. I think it is round about that figure, but I could come back to you and confirm that.

The Hon. MICHAEL GALLACHER: In total, how many full-time equivalent positions will be culled?

Ms McPHERSON: This year, 248 positions.

The Hon. MICHAEL GALLACHER: How many for last year?

Ms McPHERSON: I will have to come back to you on the actual number. I can come back to you on what we did. The positions are non-individuals. We are working very hard with local area commanders to identify jobs that are vacant, that have nobody in them, that are funded, and that they are willing to put forward as part of the Government's global savings strategy.

ANSWER :

The NSW Police Force has advised me :

The \$62 million savings from the NSW Police Force budget includes an annual budget saving adjustment of \$32 million from 2007-08, which is in addition to the

annual \$30 million budget saving applied to the recurrent base since 2005-06. The \$32 million includes \$6 million central agency initiatives in telecommunications.

Corporate Services savings are summarised as follows :

2005-06

Command	No. of Positions
Shared Services 3 (Specialist and Corporate Services Commands)	74

2006-07

Command	No. of Positions
Internal Customer Services	23
Financial Services	3
Public Liability - Legal Services	10
Administration - Local Area Commands	80
Administration - Communications Command	6

2007-08 Savings Targets

Command	No. of Positions
Field Operations (incl. Local Area Commands)	66
Specialist Operations	44
Corporate Services	138

TOTAL 2005 - 2008	444
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David Campbell
Minister for Police
Minister for the Illawarra

BUDGET ESTIMATES QUESTIONS

QUESTION 23 : CULLING OF GSO / CPO POSITIONS

(a) The Hon. MICHAEL GALLACHER: I have a copy of a document entitled "New South Wales Police Force Global Strategy 2005 to 2008" which has total numbers as 321 general support officers. Is that correct?

Ms McPHERSON: I cannot comment on that, as I do not have that number. Could I have a look at the document you have?

(b) The Hon. MICHAEL GALLACHER: You will have to take that question on notice. It is, in fact, your document. I have also been told that 64 court process officers will be culled. These are important positions.

Mr DAVID CAMPBELL: I think again we should get the document tabled so that we are confident that it is a Police Force document and not something that someone has made up.

The Hon. MICHAEL GALLACHER: You will just have to trust me. Therefore, I take it you are not in a position to answer of those jobs that are going, you do not have a break-up of them?

Mr DAVID CAMPBELL: Madam Chair, could I ask again if we are able to get the document tabled?

The Hon. MICHAEL GALLACHER: I am asking it as a question.

CHAIR: The member has indicated he does not want to table the document.

The Hon. MICHAEL GALLACHER: No.

Mr DAVID CAMPBELL: So he has refused to table the document?

CHAIR: The question can be taken on notice if you are not in a position to answer.

Ms McPHERSON: I will take it on notice, but I would like to add through the Chair that whilst jobs maybe identified in a document, and I cannot comment on the document, I do stand by what I said, that it is a matter of multiskilling.

ANSWER :

The NSW Police Force has advised me :

- (a) There are currently approximately 316 General Support Officer positions.
- (b) There is no intention to cull 64 Court Process Officers.

David Campbell
Minister for Police
Minister for the Illawarra

BUDGET ESTIMATES QUESTIONS

QUESTION 24 : MIDDLE EASTERN DESCRIPTOR

Ms SYLVIA HALE: For the benefit of the Committee can you tell me what the police mean when they want someone of middle-eastern appearance?

Mr SCIPIONE: I will take that on notice. There is a published interpretation of middle-eastern description and I can provide that to the Committee.

Ms SYLVIA HALE: So, does it go to height, weight, colouring, do you know?

Mr SCIPIONE: It certainly does not go to height, weight, colour of hair, colour of eyes. That is certainly not the situation. We have classic descriptors and they are used across all law enforcement agencies. The reason we use middle-eastern description is that it is in order to ensure that we do not necessarily capture a lot of people by descriptions. It is about giving police the operational advantage of knowing to some extent the person they are looking for. But I can provide you with all of that information. There is a very detailed breakdown of what is included.

ANSWER :

The NSW Police Force has advised me :

In 1997 the then National Police Ethnic Advisory Bureau developed national guidelines on ethnic descriptors which were subsequently adopted by every jurisdiction. The Bureau's initial four descriptors, including 'Other', were proposed as the basis for a review of existing guidelines. In NSW this review resulted in the adoption of eight ethnicity based descriptors as part of the NSW Police Force Media Policy. They are :

- White / European appearance
- Aboriginal appearance
- Black / African appearance
- Pacific Islander appearance
- Asian appearance
- Mediterranean / Middle Eastern appearance
- Indian / Pakistani appearance
- South American appearance

As indicated, these descriptors relate to appearance, not actual ethnicity, and may only be used in describing people whose whereabouts or identity is not known.

They are solely used to assist police and members of the public to identify a person sought by police.

David Campbell
Minister for Police
Minister for the Illawarra