

2016-2017

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## UNANSWERED QUESTIONS IN WRITING

as at

THURSDAY, 7 DECEMBER 2017

(8.30 am)

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*Questions unanswered*

Nos 14, 58, 620, 682, 804, 806, 814, 818-820, 822-823, 825-826, 828-837, 840, 842, 844-848, 850-895.

### QUESTIONS IN WRITING

On the first sitting day of each fortnight, a complete Notice Paper is published containing all unanswered questions. On subsequent days, only new questions for the sitting are included in the Notice Paper.

*1 September 2016*

- 14 **MRS ELLIOT:** To ask the Prime Minister—Will the Government honour all 2016 election funding commitments promised to the electoral division of Richmond.

*7 November 2016*

- 58 **MR KEOGH:** To ask the Prime Minister—In respect of the \$28,616.50 contract to Peppers Manor House (CN3384440) for hotels and lodging and meeting facilities, (a) for what purpose was the venue hired, (b) how many staff members attended the function for which the venue was hired, and (c) what is the itemised breakdown of the costs associated with the contract.

*10 November 2016*

- 620 **MS T. M. BUTLER:** To ask the Prime Minister—Is it a fact that an Executive Level 1 staff member within the Office for Women is eligible for a salary that is \$10,000 lower than an equivalent staff member within the general Social Policy Division of his department; if so, what steps has the Prime Minister or anyone within his department taken to address this pay disparity.

*15 February 2017*

- 682 **MR GEORGANAS:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) In light of the recent Government announcement that the ASC is to be split into three separate companies, can the Minister confirm that current workplace conditions and agreements for the ASC workforce will remain unchanged.
  - (2) Has the Government, through the Minister for Employment or any other Minister, directed the ASC to enforce its Public Sector Workplace Bargaining Policy on ASC workers; if so, (a) who, (b) on what basis, and (c) why.

*4 September 2017*

- 804 **DR LEIGH:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Financial Services—
- (1) Did an outbound mail outage occur at the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) in August 2017; if so, (a) for what length of time, and (b) has the Government sought or received correspondence from the ATO on this incident and its impact, if so, can it be provided.
  - (2) What is the average number of outgoing correspondence (letters) per week at the ATO, and what is the addressee breakdown by (a) tax agents, (b) tax payers, and (c) other.
- 806 **MR ZIMMERMAN:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) Is it the Government's official policy to accept and accede to the claim made by the English College of Arms that it possesses 'official heraldic authority' over Australia; if so, (a) when was this policy determined, (b) when and how was it made public, (c) is there an official Commonwealth record of this policy decision being determined, and (d) was it determined by a decision (i) of the Parliament, (ii) of the Cabinet, or (iii) by some other authority.
  - (2) If the above is not the official policy of the Government, has the Government delegated heraldic authority to the sovereign of the United Kingdom or any of her officers; if so, (a) when was this delegation made, (b) when and how was it made public, (c) is there an official Commonwealth record of this delegation being made, and (d) was it made by a decision (i) of the Parliament, (ii) of the Cabinet, or (iii) by some other authority.
  - (3) Is the Government aware that Canada and South Africa have established their own heraldic authorities independent of the English College of Arms.

*6 September 2017*

- 814 **MR ALBANESE:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Financial Services—In respect of the Northern Australia Insurance Premiums Taskforce report which the Minister received in November 2015, (a) when will the Government response be released, and (b) why was this response not provided by 30 June 2016, as committed to in a media release dated 4 March 2016.

*13 September 2017*

- 818 **MS SHARKIE:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Energy—
- (1) Does the Government project increases in severity and frequency of coastal storms in Australia, and (a) what is the summary of those projections, and (b) what are the projections for South Australia.
  - (2) In the wake of Cyclones Debbie and Yasi in northern Queensland, Cyclone Pam in the Pacific, and Hurricanes Harvey and Irma in the United States, how well prepared is Australia for future coastal storms and cyclones.
  - (3) Has the Government issued an official response to the communique of the 2017 Australian Coastal Councils Conference, and if not, why not.
  - (4) Does the Government have plans to develop an intergovernmental agreement on coastal zones, if so, what are those plans, and if not, why not.
- 819 **MS SHARKIE:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Financial Services—
- (1) What is the current full-time equivalent (FTE) staff resourcing for the Superannuation branch of the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).
  - (2) How many FTE staff are currently allocated to recovering unpaid Superannuation Guarantee Charge (SGC).
  - (3) What is the expenditure allocated by the ATO to recovering unpaid SGC.
  - (4) Has she considered conducting a moratorium for employers with unpaid SGC to provide them the opportunity to 'come clean and make good', and (a) if not, why not, (b) if so, (i) what models for a moratorium has she considered, and (ii) is she considering the introduction of a moratorium before the end of the current financial year.
  - (5) Has she reviewed how the fines and interest charges associated with unpaid SGC incentivise or deter the payment of superannuation to employees by employers, and (a) if so, what were the conclusions of that review, (b) if not, will she be conducting such a review, and (i) if so, when, (ii) if not, why not.

14 September 2017

- 820 **DR LEIGH:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Financial Services—
- (1) Has there been a delay in the release of the 2014-15 individual sample file (taxation statistics, 2 per cent sample of records) by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO); if so, (a) what is the cause of the delay, and (b) has the Government sought or received correspondence from the ATO on this incident and its impact, if so, will he provide it.
  - (2) On what dates were the previous three sample files released.
  - (3) When will the 2014-15 individual sample file be released.
- 822 **MS SHARKIE:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—In respect of allegations of widespread and increased electoral fraud in Papua New Guinea (PNG) in the recent national elections:
- (1) What lessons has her Department learned about the provision of effective electoral support in PNG.
  - (2) What measures will be taken by current and subsequent Australian-funded electoral support programs, to help reverse this trend.
  - (3) What was the level of Australian funding support for each national election in PNG since 2007, and if there has been a decline between the 2012 and 2017 elections, why.
  - (4) How much funding is Australia planning to provide to support the 2018 APEC meeting in PNG and why is this support greater than that for PNG's democratic processes.
  - (5) Does her department's analysis explain why no women were elected to PNG's national parliament in the 2017 election despite Australian training support for potential women candidates.
  - (6) Does her department's analysis explain why the PNG Government's Alotau Accord II (the Government's guiding policy document), which lists 90 key reforms it plans to deliver within five priority areas, fails to give a priority to women's social or political empowerment.
  - (7) What other measures is Australia taking to support and strengthen electoral democracy in PNG, including for the forthcoming referendum on Bougainville's independence.
- 823 **MR KATTER:** To ask the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources—
- (1) Is the Minister aware of the hydroelectricity proposal that was originally launched as the 'Tully Millstream', promised by the LNP in 1995 and then soon after abolished by LNP Energy Minister Gilmore, and which resurfaced as the 'Reverse Tully Millstream' and has now evolved into the 'Southern Tablelands Development Scheme' (STaDS).
  - (2) Is he aware that this scheme adds 50,000 ha of irrigated (sugar cane) farm lands south of Ravenshoe, west of Tully and moves the project from north of Tully, to south of Tully, and should deliver 600 MW of hydro and pump storage power from Tully.
  - (3) Is he aware that the Snowy Mountains 2.0 is ineffective in providing security on the north Queensland grid (1 million people), since that grid is nearly 5,000 km from Snowy Mountains 2.0 and line losses over that distance would be prohibitive, making the STaDS proposal a necessary adjunct to Snowy Mountains 2.0.
  - (4) Is he aware that when STaDS is added to the 'triangle of power' (Hell's Gates Dam, Kidston Pump Storage and Big Kennedy Wind Farm), the resulting 'quadrangle of power' will add 2,200 MW of baseload power and 400 MW of hydro.
  - (5) Is he aware that north Queensland's existing renewables will then be providing over 8 per cent of the entire national grid, which when added to the existing 6 per cent, will deliver nationwide 14 per cent renewables and that to go higher than 20 per cent would jeopardise the cheap \$28 per MWh coming out of existing coal fired power stations, versus renewables at over \$90 per MWh.
  - (6) As the STaDS proposal will provide 300 MW of hydro peaking power and 300 MW of pump storage peaking power; 300 million litres of ethanol; 300,000 tonnes of sugar (piped as liquor) to the Tully Mill for processing; and will fatten 500,000 cattle each year off algae ponds (grown from CO2 emissions which will be entirely 'carbon captured' in the algae ponds); when will the Minister commit to the Tully Hydro promised to the people of North Queensland and people of Tully/Ravenshoe 21 years ago.
- 825 **MS SHARKIE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Indigenous Affairs—In respect of the Minister's commitment to extend the Indigenous ranger program from June 2018 to June 2020, when will the Government be issuing the contract extensions for all Indigenous ranger groups.

826 **MS SHARKIE:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Energy—In respect of the Indigenous Protected Area (IPA) network which represents 44.6 per cent of Australia’s National Reserve System and for which funding is due to expire in June 2018:

- (1) Will the Government be extending the funding contracts of the IPA network to June 2023 in line with the National Landcare Program under which IPAs have been funded.
- (2) When will he (a) announce the future of IPAs, and (b) deliver contract extensions to the organisations managing IPAs.

*16 October 2017*

828 **MR KATTER:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment—A constituent has reported repeated occurrences of job seekers listing the constituent’s business as a job opportunity, attending the induction (at significant time and cost to the business) and then not turning up for any days of work and the business has not been contacted for a compliance check. After a welfare recipient notifies Centrelink that they are seeking a job opportunity, will he ensure welfare compliance is undertaken by Centrelink calling businesses to confirm recipients of job seeker income support turn up to work.

829 **MR KATTER:** To ask the Treasurer—In respect of the announcement that Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA) has appointed three CEOs as panel members to conduct the prudential inquiry into the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA):

- (1) Is he aware of the negative perception around the track record of those appointed to the panel, that it is a case of the people that have created the problem, now judging themselves and their own class of people.
- (2) Will he review the decision to appoint these panel members, as each of them comes from a CEO position, the new power group that runs society and pays themselves obscene amounts of money, and they are perceived as being from the group of people they are now going to judge.

830 **MR KATTER:** To ask the Treasurer—In respect of the decision to raise the Medicare levy from 2.0 per cent to 2.5 per cent on 1 July 2019—a 25 per cent increase—and given the Medicare levy is calculated from total income (not income after deductions), so it is directly tied to wage increases, can he explain why Medicare levy increases are not in line with CPI, where a 1.5 per cent CPI increase would instead see the Medicare levy increase from 2 per cent to 2.02 per cent.

831 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Treasurer—Given the Productivity Commission’s most recent public Migration Program data on taxes paid by immigrants only covers 2015-16, has further modelling based on current assumptions been done to show the tax base of immigrants (by each visa stream) on consolidated revenue; if so, can the Minister provide it.

832 **MR FITZGIBBON:** To ask the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources—In respect of the National Forest Industries Plan to be developed by the Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources as announced by the Prime Minister on 12 September 2017, (a) who will be engaged to develop the Plan, (b) what will be the cost of developing the Plan, (c) have funds been allocated for the development process of the Plan, (d) when is the Plan due for completion, (e) will consultation be undertaken during the development of the Plan; if so, with whom, (f) who will have input into the Plan, (g) will there be a discussion paper for comment prior to finalisation of the Plan, (h) what areas of the forest industry will be covered under the Plan, (i) who will be tasked with implementing the Plan, and (j) what is the timeframe for the implementation of the Plan.

833 **DR LEIGH:** To ask the Treasurer—Can he provide (a) a timeline for the past two years of COAG consideration of the National Injury Insurance Scheme (NISS), (b) the proposed timeline for future COAG consideration of the NIIS, (c) the minutes and/or details of COAG’s progress on the ‘general accident’ stream of the NIIS, and (d) the commitment to an ‘implementation review’ of the ‘general accident’ stream on behalf of COAG, and the details therein (including matters of consideration for implementation).

*17 October 2017*

834 **MS SHARKIE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment—

- (1) Has any material promoting the Seasonal Work Incentives Trial (Trial) been distributed; if so, (a) to whom, and (b) how.
- (2) What is the total budget for the promotion of the Trial.
- (3) What steps have been taken to date to inform (a) jobactive, (b) Transition to Work, and (c) Disability Employment Services providers, of the Trial.

835 **MS SHARKIE:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) What is the Government's official position on ethnic cleansing.
- (2) In respect of the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) resolution on the Extension of the mandate of the independent international fact-finding mission on Myanmar (A/HRC/36/L.31/Rev.1), did the Government seek to change the draft wording in the resolution from 'calling for an end to such violations and abuses' to 'calling for an end to violence'; if so, why.
- (3) Does Australia need to wait until the UNHRC fact-finding mission is complete to ascertain the scale of human rights violations and abuses in and around Rakhine State in Myanmar, or does it possess an independent capacity within her department to undertake such an analysis; if the latter, has an analysis been done and if so, what did it conclude about these human rights violations and abuses, including how the Government characterises them.
- (4) What diplomatic and humanitarian steps is the Government taking to help avoid an even larger scale human rights tragedy from occurring in this area.
- (5) Given the past effectiveness of sanctions, is the Government considering the reintroduction of an arms embargo or other sanctions to help signal concern about human right abuses and violations in this area.

*18 October 2017*

836 **MS SHARKIE:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Has the Government considered adopting a 'Glass-Steagall' style separation of Australia's banking system; if so, what were the conclusions; if not, why not.
- (2) What actions is the Government taking to guard against the collapse of 'too big to fail' financial institutions.
- (3) Is it a possibility that the Government will provide major financial support to Authorised Deposit-taking Institutions (ADIs) in the event of a severe financial or economic shock or downturn; if so, what steps is it taking to avoid the socialisation of ADI losses.

837 **DR LEIGH:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Financial Services—In respect of my letter dated 5 June 2015 to the then Assistant Treasurer signalling the potential for an amendment to the Tax and Superannuation Laws Amendment (Employee Share Schemes) Bill 2015 that would provide for continued deferred taxation after employment ceases where the circumstances for the cessation are beyond the employee's control (ie, redundancy, illness, or injury), could he confirm (a) receipt of the letter, (b) whether the Government considered the merits of the proposal, (c) the Government's position on the proposal, and (d) whether The Treasury was tasked with (i) modelling the proposal as an amendment, and (ii) providing any revenue estimates and advice.

*23 October 2017*

840 **MS T. M. BUTLER:** To ask the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources—

- (1) Is it a fact that the Department of Immigration and Border Protection has a zero tolerance approach to exposure to fumigant gases in respect of inspections on containers and containerised goods.
- (2) Is it a fact that his department does not adopt a zero tolerance approach to exposure to fumigant gases in respect of such inspections; if so, why.
- (3) Is it a fact that until November 2016 his department had a work instruction for tail gates where the only protection from fumigant gas exposure was a '10-minute 2 metre' rule.
- (4) Is it a fact that in November 2016 his department implemented mandatory usage of photoionisation detectors (ie, gas reading meters); if so, is it a fact that those devices detect, but do not prevent, exposure to fumigant gases.
- (5) Do his department and the Department of Immigration and Border Protection have different approaches to managing the risk of exposure to fumigant gases when performing inspections on containers and containerised goods; if so, why.

**MS SHARKIE:** To ask the Ministers listed below (question Nos. 842 to 843)—

- (1) Why is cider prepared from the juice or must of fruits other than apples and pears not included in the definition of cider under Standard 2.7.3 of the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code.
- (2) Why is raspberry, blackberry and blueberry cider currently classified as other excisable beverage not exceeding 10 per cent by volume of alcohol under the *Excise Tariff Act 1921* when cider is included in the definition of ‘wine’ under the *A New Tax System (Wine Equalisation Tax) Act 1999* (thereby, not attracting excise duty).
- (3) Will the Minister consider including cider prepared from the juice or must of fruits other than apples and pears (such as raspberries, blackberries and blueberries) as a class of beverage exempt from excise duty under the *A New Tax System (Wine Equalisation Tax) Act 1999*; if not, why not.

842 **MS SHARKIE:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Financial Services.

*26 October 2017*

844 **MR GEORGANAS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection—

- (1) Since 2 March 2015, how many people have been (a) suspected of travelling, or (b) attempting to travel, to conflict zone ‘declared areas’ from airports around Australia.
- (2) How many of these travellers were suspected supporters or sympathisers of terrorist organisations.
- (3) How many of these travellers were (a) able to continue their travel, and (b) prevented from boarding.
- (4) How many of these travellers have returned from these areas as suspected or confirmed ‘foreign fighters’, by state and territory.

845 **MR GEORGANAS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection—

- (1) From 1 September 2013, how many citizens from foreign countries made it to the Australian border and were turned back after national security concerns were discovered ‘in flight’.
- (2) What were the departure and arrival points for these travellers.
- (3) How many of these travellers were discovered to have national security concerns after clearing customs, and which airports did they enter.

846 **MR GEORGANAS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection—

- (1) Since 1 July 2013, (a) how many (i) drug, or (ii) contraband, seizures have occurred at Adelaide Airport, and (b) what was the total street value, and how does this value compare to the other states and territories (as a percentage).
- (2) Since 1 July 2013, (a) how many cash seizures have occurred at Adelaide Airport, (b) what was the total sum of cash seized, and (c) how does this value compare to the other states and territories (as a percentage).

847 **MR GEORGANAS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection—Have the Australian Federal Police or Australian Border Force requested further resources be allocated to Adelaide Airport or other airports around the country; if so, (a) what were the specific requests, and (b) have any such requests been actioned.

848 **MR GEORGANAS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection—

- (1) How many Counter Terrorism Unit Officers are based at airports around Australia.
- (2) Has the Australian Border Force requested additional resources at Australian airports; if so, have any such requests been actioned.

850 **MS SHARKIE:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) What will the Government do to encourage Cambodia to return to democracy and improve its human rights record (a) bilaterally, (b) through its newly acquired United Nations Human Rights Council membership, and (c) at the Australian-ASEAN Special Summit in March 2018.
- (2) Has the Government contacted the Indonesian and French co-chairs of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia to see whether there is interest in reinvigorating the mechanisms under the Paris Peace Agreements; if not, why not; if so, was there any such interest.
- (3) Has the Government considered attaching conditionality to its bilateral aid program with Cambodia in respect of seeking improvements in Cambodia’s democracy and human rights record.
- (4) Are Australian Government arrangements with the Cambodian Government concerning asylum seekers hampering efforts to encourage democracy and human rights in Cambodia; if so, how is the Government overcoming this obstacle.

4 December 2017

- 851 **MS SHARKIE:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection—
- (1) Prior to 31 October 2017, was the conduct of (a) Australian officials, (b) service providers, and (c) other private contractors, at the former Regional Processing Centre on Manus Island attributable to the Australian Government as a matter of international law; if so, on what grounds; if not, why not.
  - (2) Prior to 31 October 2017, did the Australian Government have any obligations under international law in relation to the men transferred to Manus Island; if so, (a) what was the scope of those obligations, and (b) does the Australian Government now have a duty to provide an effective remedy for any breach; if not, why not.
  - (3) Prior to 31 October 2017, did the Australian Government have any responsibility or obligations under domestic law in relation to the welfare of the former detainees at the Manus Processing Centre; if so, what (a) were the legal sources (ie, tort law, constitutional law) of those obligations, (b) was their scope, and (c) remedies are now available for any breach; if not, why not.
  - (4) Since 31 October 2017, has the Australian Government had any obligations to the men transferred to Manus Island under (a) international law, and/or (b) Australian domestic law.
- 852 **MS SHARKIE:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection—What is the Australian Government’s response to the statement from the Papua New Guinea (PNG) Minister for Immigration and Border Security on 29 October 2017 that the responsibility for pursuing third country options for the detainees transferred to PNG remains with Australia.
- 853 **MS SHARKIE:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection—What is the Government’s position on the statement by the spokesperson for the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on 3 November 2017, specifically (a) sentence one in paragraph two, (b) sentence one in paragraph three, and (c) sentence one in paragraph five.  
(see <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=22348&LangID=E>)
- 854 **MS SHARKIE:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection—Have there been any Australian Government officers on Manus Island at any time since 31 October 2017; if so, (a) in what capacity, and (b) what is the breakdown of the numbers by Government department and agency.
- 855 **MS SHARKIE:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection—
- (1) What is the Australian Government’s rationale for not accepting New Zealand’s offer to resettle some of the refugees from Manus Island.
  - (2) Does the Australian Government have a legal basis for preventing the resettlement of refugees to New Zealand.
  - (3) Other than the United States, what third party nations is the Australian Government considering for resettlement.
- 856 **MS SHARKIE:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection—
- (1) Should any former detainee on Manus Island require medical services that are not available in Papua New Guinea (PNG), is the Australian Government willing to transfer them to Australia for medical treatment if their life is at risk.
  - (2) Does the Australian Government have any legal or other obligation to assist men who were transferred to PNG if they have critical health conditions that cannot adequately be treated in PNG.
- 857 **MR JONES:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications—
- (1) How many of the 499 Round 1 base stations announced in 2013 under the Mobile Black Spots Program (MBSP) are currently operational.
  - (2) How many of the 429 Round 1 base stations announced in 2013 under the MBSP being built by Telstra are currently operational.
  - (3) How many of the 70 Round 1 base stations announced in 2013 under the MBSP being built by Optus are currently operational.
  - (4) How many of the 266 Round 2 base stations announced in 2015 under the MBSP are currently operational.
- 858 **MR JONES:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications—Are there any milestones for the commencement of construction and commencement of operations of base stations built under the Mobile Black Spot Program; if so, what are they.

- 859 **MR JONES:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications—
- (1) How many base stations in (a) the ACT, (b) the Northern Territory, (c) NSW, (d) Queensland, (e) South Australia, (f) Tasmania, (g) Victoria, and (h) Western Australia, have been funded under the Mobile Black Spots Program.
  - (2) Where are the above base stations located.
  - (3) Which of the above base stations are operational, and when are the remaining base stations expected to be operational.
- 860 **MR JONES:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications—
- (1) In respect of Mr Paterson's claim that there was \$2.1 million in unspent Commonwealth funding for Telstra under Round 1 of the Mobile Black Spots Program (see Senate Environment and Communications Legislation Committee, *Estimates*, 24 May 2017, page 102), what sum of unspent funding currently exists for each carrier under each round of the Mobile Black Spots Program.
  - (2) Has any of this unspent funding been allocated to other base stations since 24 May 2017; if so, (a) what sum, and (b) which stations.
- 861 **MR JONES:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications—How many base stations under the Mobile Black Spots Program are expected to be operational by 30 June 2018.
- 862 **MR JONES:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications—How many of the (a) Round 1, and (b) Round 2, base stations under the Mobile Black Spots Program will have more than one mobile network operator co-located on the base station, and which mobile network operators are co-locating on which mobile network operator's base station.
- 863 **MR JONES:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications—In respect of the answer to Senate Estimates Question on Notice No. 287 (Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications, *Budget Estimates*, Communications Portfolio, 28 July 2017), what criteria were used for funding the remaining nine priority locations on the Mobile Black Spot Program's database, and where are each of these nine black spots located.

*5 December 2017*

- 864 **MR ZAPPIA:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection—
- (1) How many overseas (a) doctors, and (b) nurses, were granted a work visa in 2016-17.
  - (2) How many overseas doctors granted a work visa in 2016-17 left Australia before their visa had expired.
  - (3) How many overseas doctors granted a temporary work visa since 1 January 2013 have been granted permanent residency.
- 865 **MR ZAPPIA:** To ask the Minister for Health—How many people in Australia are living with mesothelioma or another asbestos related disease, and are the numbers increasing.
- 866 **MR ZAPPIA:** To ask the Minister for Social Services—How many new jobs have been created since 1 July 2017 that are directly linked to the National Disability Insurance Scheme.
- 867 **MS SHARKIE:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—In respect of the following telephone lines for each month between 1 January 2017 and 1 December 2017, (a) myGov help desk (132 307), (b) Medicare general enquiries (132 011), (c) Older Australians (132 300), (d) Financial Information Service: Information on financial issues (132 300), (e) Child support enquiries (131 272), (f) People with disability (132 717), (g) Centrelink employment services (132 850), (h) Newstart Allowance—22 years of age and over (132 850), (i) Help in an emergency (132 850), (j) Job seekers: Youth Allowance—job seeker under 22 years of age (132 490), (k) Indigenous Australians: Centrelink Indigenous Call Centre (1800 136 380), (l) Centrelink complaints and feedback (1800 132 468), (m) Centrelink debt (1800 076 072), (n) Centrelink families (136 150), (o) Report income (133 276), (p) Aged Care Fee Assessments and Services (1800 227 475), and (q) National Disability Insurance Agency (1800 800 110), (i) what was the average telephone waiting time, (ii) what was the average telephone waiting time for callers who then speak to a human operator, (iii) what proportion (as a percentage) of telephone calls resulted in a conversation with a human operator, and (iv) what proportion (as a percentage) of telephone calls resulted in an engaged dial tone.



868 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Was there a vote in the United Nations General Assembly on 30 November 2017 concerning the city of Jerusalem; if so, (a) did the ensuing resolution refer to one of the main holy places in Jerusalem, namely the Temple Mount, only by its Islamic name, the Haram al Sharif, and (b) is it a fact that (i) Canada and the United States voted against the resolution, and (ii) Australia abstained from voting.
- (2) If Australia abstained from voting, how can this be justified given Australia's previously announced criticism of UNESCO for using only Islamic names for holy sites in Jerusalem, which the Government said 'could be seen as an attempt to alter the status quo at these Jewish and Islamic holy sites'.

*6 December 2017*

869 **MR KEOGH:** To ask the Minister for Social Services—In 2016-17, what total sum was spent by his department on credit card (a) interest, and (b) fees.

870 **MR KEOGH:** To ask the Minister for Social Services—

- (1) In 2016-17, what sum was spent on his (a) domestic travel, and (b) international travel.
- (2) Of this, (a) on what dates and to what locations did he travel, (b) how many departmental staff accompanied him on this travel, and (c) what was the purpose of the travel.

871 **MR KEOGH:** To ask the Minister for Social Services—In 2016-17, what sum was spent on replacing lost, stolen or misplaced equipment of his ministerial staff, and what goods were replaced.

872 **MR KEOGH:** To ask the Minister for Social Services—What sum was spent by his department on advertising and associated services in 2016-17, and what policy areas did this relate to.

873 **MR KEOGH:** To ask the Minister for Social Services—What sum was spent on promotional material and merchandise for his department in 2016-17, and of this, (a) what types of promotional material and merchandise were produced, and (b) what policy areas did this relate to.

874 **MR KEOGH:** To ask the Minister for Social Services—What sum was spent on replenishing his drinks cabinet in 2016-17, on what date were these purchases made, and what was purchased.

875 **MR KEOGH:** To ask the Minister for Social Services—Were there any instances of fraud or theft detected by his department from (a) internal sources, or (b) external sources, that incurred costs to his department in 2016-17; if so (i) what fraud or theft took place, (ii) when did the fraud or theft take place, (iii) what was the cost to his department of this fraud or theft, and (iv) what action has been taken to prevent such theft or fraud occurring again.

876 **MR KEOGH:** To ask the Minister for Social Services—In respect of staff in his department, (a) how many redundancies were made in 2016-17, (b) in what area(s) were these redundancies, and (c) what was the cost of payments associated with these redundancies.

877 **MR KEOGH:** To ask the Minister for Social Services—What sum was spent by his department on market research and associated services 2016-17, and what policy areas did this inform.

878 **MR KEOGH:** To ask the Minister for Social Services—In respect of the use of (a) consultants, and (b) contractors, by his department in 2016-17, (i) what total sum was spent, (ii) what services were provided, and (iii) which firms provided the services.

879 **MR KEOGH:** To ask the Minister for Social Services—In respect of labour hire firms contracted by his department in 2016-17, (a) how many positions were filled using casual staff from labour hire firms, (b) what sum was spent on the provision of these casual staff, and (c) what roles did these casual staff fill.

880 **MR KEOGH:** To ask the Minister for Social Services—In respect of costs for departmental media, what sum was spent on drones in 2016-17.

881 **MR KEOGH:** To ask the Minister for Social Services—In respect of costs for departmental staff, what sum has been spent on (a) gym, and (b) pool, memberships in 2016-17, and was this part of an enterprise agreement entitlement.

882 **MR KEOGH:** To ask the Minister for Social Services—What sum did his ministerial office spend on office furniture in 2016-17.

883 **MR KEOGH:** To ask the Minister for Social Services—What sum did his department spend on the end of 2016-17 party.

884 **MR KEOGH:** To ask the Minister for Social Services—What sum has been spent on media and public speaking training for Ministers within his portfolio since 2014.

- 885 **MR KEOGH:** To ask the Minister for Social Services—In respect of costs for departmental media, what sum was spent on (a) external social media and marketing consultants and/or agencies, (b) boosting or sponsoring Facebook posts, (c) boosting twitter posts, (d) advertising on YouTube, (e) advertising on Google, (f) advertising on snapchat, and (g) sponsored Instagram posts.
- 886 **MR KEOGH:** To ask the Minister for Social Services—In respect of non ‘.gov.au’ domain names for his department, (a) what sum was spent on domain names owned by his department in 2016-17, (b) how many domain names are owned by his department, (c) what are their urls, and (d) why does his department own these domain names.
- 887 **MR KEOGH:** To ask the Minister for Social Services—In respect of ministerial office expenses, what sum was spent on portrait photos of him in 2016-17.
- 888 **MR KEOGH:** To ask the Minister for Social Services—In 2016-17, what sum was spent on (a) indoor plants, (b) office decorations, and (c) artwork, in his (i) ministerial office, and (ii) department.
- 889 **MR KEOGH:** To ask the Minister for Social Services—In respect of ministerial office expenses in 2016-17, (a) what sum was spent on the use of private dining rooms, and (b) where were these dinners held.
- 890 **MR KEOGH:** To ask the Minister for Social Services—In respect of departmental office expenses, (a) what sum was spent on the use of private dining rooms, and (b) where were these dinners held.
- 891 **MR KEOGH:** To ask the Minister for Social Services—Were there any instances of cyber security breaches within his ministerial office concerning the hacking of (a) mobile phones, (b) social media accounts; if so, what sum did it cost to (i) investigate, and (ii) remedy, these breaches.
- 892 **MR KEOGH:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Energy—What sum was spent on advertising of the National Energy Guarantee policy (a) Australia wide, (b) in Western Australia, and (c) in the Perth Metropolitan Area, (i) on television, (ii) in newspapers, (iii) online, and (iv) in any social media sponsored or boosted posts.
- MR GEORGANAS:** To ask the Ministers listed below (question Nos. 893 to 894)—
- (1) How many tests have been conducted around Defence and non-Defence sites for perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) or other chemicals related to fighter fighting foams and retardants.
  - (2) What were the results, broken down by location tested, and including maps of the impacted areas.
  - (3) Specifically, have the estuaries, beaches and waterways around the Adelaide Airport been tested for contamination; if so, what were the results.
  - (4) What remediation, if any, has been considered for contaminated sites around Australia.
  - (5) Do any sites in South Australia require treatment or further testing; if so, what are the timelines.
  - (6) What resources have been allocated to test firefighters and other personnel exposed to PFOS and PFOA.
  - (7) What ongoing testing and treatment and or medial monitoring have been considered or implemented by the Government.
- 893 **MR GEORGANAS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence.
- 894 **MR GEORGANAS:** To ask the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport.
- 895 **MR GEORGANAS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications—
- (1) How many Australia Post posting boxes have been removed from around Australia over the last six years, broken down by (a) postcode, (b) state/territory, and (c) electorate.
  - (2) How many Australia Post (Government) owned post offices have been closed or transferred to private ownership/franchisee status over the last six years.

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**DAVID ELDER**

Clerk of the House of Representatives

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