

100 DAYS OF FAILURES AND BAD DECISIONS – FROM DAY 1

January

1. Gladys Berejiklian becomes the third Liberal Premier in their Government's six years in office.
2. Her first decision is to dump the Minister for Western Sydney from her ministerial responsibilities
3. Berejiklian says that housing affordability is the "biggest issue" – and 100 days later has done nothing about it.ⁱ
4. Factional deal-making forces the expansion of the ministry to 23, while the number of parliamentary secretaries reaches a bloated 17.ⁱⁱ
5. Creates administrative confusion with the factional appointment of a Minister for Counter Terrorism as a rival to the Minister for Police.ⁱⁱⁱ
6. After pledging to be strong on integrity matters, Berejiklian re-admits Mike Gallacher to the Liberals' party room despite ICAC finding that he had tried to evade electoral funding laws and was not always a truthful witness.^{iv}
7. It is revealed that Chatswood Public School is so overcrowded that students are being forced to walk across a busy road to attend classes in nearby Chatswood High School, because there is no room for them to learn at the primary school.^v
8. Record prison population approaches 13,000 with experts warning that the 37 per cent increase in assaults is due to overcrowding.^{vi}
9. Ploughs ahead with plan to re-introduce a toll on the M4^{vii}

February

10. Jillian Skinner delays her retirement in order to have taxpayers fund an approximately \$18,000 farewell newsletter.^{viii}
11. Berejiklian refuses to rule out a preference deal with One Nation for the 2019 election.
12. A Freedom of Information request reveals that the Government is allocating less than 10 per cent of the money needed to fix the school maintenance backlog, meaning at the current rate it will take 20 years to repair classrooms.
13. Berejiklian breaks the commitment to provide light rail from Parramatta to Olympic Park and Strathfield.^{ix}
14. Re-commits to the detested policy of forced Council mergers for councils in Sydney.
15. A video emerges of the Premier promising constituents before the 2015 election that there will not be forced council mergers, saying "There will be nothing people will be forced into; it's really a conversation councils are having."
16. A new report demonstrates that the mismanaged CBD Light Rail will exceed "crush capacity" when it opens, meaning that the buses it was intended to replace will still be needed to move passengers.^x
17. Revealed that NSW Treasury's most senior executives' combined salaries grew by 22.6 per cent in 2015-16 and now make up 40 per cent of all Treasury employees – making a mockery of the Government's pledge to make the public service "leaner and more efficient".

18. The Tomago aluminium smelter is forced to shed load as NSW runs short of electricity during a heat wave.
19. Mount Druitt hospital experiences a two hour power outage during the February heatwave.
20. The Daily Telegraph reveals that Minister for Multiculturalism, Ray Williams, is involved in the Hawkesbury Club which has collected thousands of dollars of political donations from property developers.^{xi}
21. Fails to dump plans to privatise four regional hospitals^{xii}

March

22. Stuart Ayres can't remember basic details about WestConnex in his first sit down interview as the new Minister for WestConnex.^{xiii}
23. Liberal MLC Catherine Cusack resigns as Parliamentary Secretary, after complaining about Energy Minister's Don Harwin's "dreadful performance" which has caused "gross embarrassment in the upper house."
24. The Berejiklian Government demolishes Parramatta Pool and refuses to fully fund a replacement.
25. The Sydney Morning Herald reveals that when Transport Minister, Berejiklian was sent details of a \$549 million blowout in the cost of the CBD light rail project before she issued information misleading the public about the reason for the increase.^{xiv}
26. Controversy over lengthy waits for orthopaedic surgery at South East Hospital in Bega in addition to the reinstatement of a sacked surgeon who purchased bolt cutters from a hardware store due to lack of equipment.
27. Berejiklian refuses to join her predecessors Mike Baird and Barry O'Farrell in supporting strong laws against racist hate speech and opposing changes to weaken section 18C of the Racial Discrimination Act.
28. There is a third 'water boil' alert in 15 months in the Bega Valley Shire affecting almost 3,000 residents in the Brogo River water supply catchment, putting residents' health at risk.
29. The Government enters into a controversial sponsorship agreement with GWS Giants to try and improve the tattered reputation of its Sydney Motorway Corporation. The details of the sponsorship are suppressed.
30. Berejiklian announces a "plan" for a tunnel under the northern beaches. The project is unfunded, uncosted and with no start or completion dates.
31. 65 hospital beds dumped in the Lismore hospital car park instead of being sent to charity or re-used.
32. A paramedic is punished for speaking out about patient safety under a new helicopter rescue service contract in southern NSW.
33. The Government's program of forced council mergers is reduced to a complete dog's breakfast after the Court of Appeal blocks the merger of Ku-ring-gai and Hornsby councils because the KPMG report was kept secret.
34. Records show John Sidoti MP serves as the Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier, Transport and Roads and Planning while at the same time owning property in north-west Sydney that benefits from planning decisions.^{xv}

35. A 23-year-old University of Sydney student is wrongly diagnosed with asthma and then lung cancer before realising it was TB – after three months. It has been revealed that he has infected about 10 other people.

April

36. The Liberal candidate for the North Shore, Felicity Wilson is caught out when it is revealed that she signed a statutory declaration with false information.^{xvi}
37. Three by-elections record large two party preferred swings against the Berejiklian Government of -17.8 in Manly, -17.2 in North Shore and -12.3 per cent in Gosford. Berejiklian says that the results are a “great result” for the Liberal Party.
38. Major preventable diseases outbreaks including measles in western Sydney and whooping cough on the North Coast due to dropping vaccination rates under the Baird and Berejiklian governments.
39. Google withdraws from The Bays precinct. The Government’s plan to develop the area into a tech hub is an embarrassing failure. Previously, Mike Baird had said it would be developed into a “hub for knowledge-intensive jobs in new economy areas.”^{xvii}
40. The NSW Government is warned that overcrowding at three Sydney train stations is so bad that commuters are at risk of being "crammed in like sardines" in environments that are "conducive to panic".^{xviii}
41. The Government rejects the recommendations of an independent report into scripture teaching that would have allowed students who opt out to get on with regular classes – a report it has been sitting on for almost 18 months.^{xix}
42. Berejiklian Government privatises the Land and Property Information’s (LPI’s) Land Titles Registry despite opposition from lawyers, surveyors, real estate agents, homeowners and the community.^{xx}
43. Enrolment data released by the Department of Education shows that Sydney schools are bursting at the seams with some overcrowded schools growing by 40 per cent.^{xxi}
44. Sydney median house price hits over \$1.15 million while Ms Berejiklian continues to sit on her hands.
45. Service NSW accidentally sent 104 gun licences to the wrong people prompting NSW Police to issue an urgent warning to firearm dealers to be on high alert.^{xxii}
46. It is revealed that the new Minister for WestConnex is not even a shareholder in the Sydney Motorway Corporation - the Government owned entity responsible for building WestConnex.^{xxiii}
47. In an unprecedented move, the Bowral Fire Station team takes itself offline amid claims of "burn out" due to low staffing levels.^{xxiv}
48. The ABC reveals that the Government is considering reducing peak-hour services from Penrith, Kingswood and Werrington.^{xxv}
49. A stroke patient was told to get himself to a Queensland hospital when he was unable to be treated at Byron Hospital and unable to get access to an ambulance – resulting in major delays in treatment.

50. It is revealed that the Liberal Party accepted donations from a charity – RSL LifeCare - which is under investigation for paying millions of dollars in consultancy fees, including to a former Liberal MP.^{xxvi}
51. The CEO of the Sydney Motorway Corporation refuses to appear before a parliamentary inquiry into tolling.^{xxvii}
52. Berejiklian breaks her predecessor’s promise to move the Powerhouse Museum to Parramatta.^{xxviii}
53. Berejiklian Government announces that Council that are to be forcibly merged will nonetheless go to the polls in September – even though they could be sacked just weeks later.
54. Latest data shows NSW has become the highest taxing state per capita for the first time in over a decade.
55. The cruise ship industry starts to shift operations from Sydney because the Government has failed to provide the necessary infrastructure. A cruise ship strategy for NSW – commissioned three years ago – is yet to appear.

ⁱ <http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/gladys-berejiklian-declares-housing-affordability-the-biggest-issue-20170123-gtwt4t.html>

ⁱⁱ <http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/news/nsw/gladys-berejiklian-supersizes-the-cabinet-frontbench-to-keep-faction-gangs-happy/news-story/5453bb80a340c89c75e6fda3d1c0c4d9>

ⁱⁱⁱ <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-01-30/nsw-cabinet-reshuffle:-police-surprised-by-the-ministry-split/8224068>

^{iv} <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/state-politics/mike-gallagher-eyes-return-to-nsw-liberal-party-room-amid-baird-exit/news-story/a3dfa21ee2f00e6770ece7de6fc6cebc>

^v <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-01-30/chatswood-public-starts-new-school-year-over-capacity/8223224>

^{vi} <http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/record-nsw-prison-population-rising-assault-rate-show-a-system-in-a-crisis-20170127-gtzzsg.html>

^{vii} <http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/premier-flags-tollfree-period-on-first-part-of-westconnex-20170131-gu24vp.html>

^{viii} <http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/the-18000-taxpayers-paid-to-bed-down-jillian-skinners-legacy-20170223-gukakl.html>

^{ix} <http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/premier-gladys-berejiklian-reveals-16-parramatta-light-rail-stops-20170217-guf6g3.html>

^x <http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/sydney-cbd-and-south-east-light-rail-crowding-rates-exceed-bus-and-train-crush-capacity-20170220-gugtx9.html>

^{xi} <http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/news/nsw/ray-williams-donations-scandal-cash-from-developer-funnelled-through-hawkesbury-club/news-story/6c93fbd75143833cc298d8fb3bdeec0a>

^{xii} <http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/newslocal/central-coast/angry-nurses-tackle-nsw-premier-over-plans-to-privatise-wyong-hospital/news-story/de2ee2a64e97734960736bd03191534d>

^{xiv} <http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/revealed-gladys-berejiklian-was-sent-light-rail-cost-blowout-details-20170308-gut7ch.html>

^{xv} <http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/news/nsw/mp-john-sidoti-has-clash-of-interests-over-land-opposition-claims/news-story/aca10bf29a1f938135d8c54c453b1208>

^{xvi} <http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/liberal-candidate-felicity-wilson-denies-misleading-about-mba-degree-20170408-gvgr8e.html>

^{xvii} <http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/google-pulls-out-of-bays-precinct-delivering-blow-to-nsw-government-20170411-gvisws.html>

^{xviii} <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-04-20/overcrowding-fears-for-sydney-train-stations/8449138>

^{xix} <http://www.smh.com.au/national/education/nsw-government-rejects-findings-of-independent-review-into-scripture-in-schools-20170411-gvis1c.html>

^{xx} <http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/nsw-land-titles-registry-leased-for-26-billion-to-hastings-funds-management-first-state-super-20170412-gvjcfw.html>

^{xxi} <http://www.smh.com.au/national/education/some-of-sydneys-most-overcrowded-schools-have-grown-by-40-per-cent-new-data-20170413-gvk49n.html>

^{xxii} <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4417140/Service-NSW-sends-104-gun-licences-wrong-people.html>

^{xxiii} <http://www.theage.com.au/nsw/westconnex-boss-to-be-forced-to-appear-before-inquiry-into-sydney-toll-roads-20170413-gvkef0?deviceType=text>

^{xxiv} <http://www.thecourier.com.au/story/4598885/firefighters-at-risk-of-burnout/?cs=2452>

^{xxv} <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-04-19/western-sydney-train-services-to-be-cut/8442164>

^{xxvi} <http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/charity-defends-donating-to-the-nsw-liberals-20170424-gvr92g.html>

^{xxvii} <http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/westconnex-boss-to-be-forced-to-appear-before-inquiry-into-sydney-toll-roads-20170413-gvkef0.html>

^{xxviii} <http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/government-hints-powerhouse-museum-may-stay-at-ultimo-site-20170419-gvo2u2?deviceType=text>

<http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/premier-flags-tollfree-period-on-first-part-of-westconnex-20170131-gu24vp.html>