

## Responses to Questions on Notice or further information agreed to be supplied at the hearings

Witness	Premier Jacinta Allan
Committee member	Bev McArthur
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### Question:

**Bev McARTHUR:** Premier, have you received any advice on the cost of requiring existing premises to move off gas?

**Jacinta ALLAN:** Did you say the cost of acquiring?

**Bev McARTHUR:** Requiring.

**Jacinta ALLAN:** Oh, requiring. I thought you asking us to acquire properties.

**Bev McARTHUR:** Requiring – existing premises. What is the cost for people? Have you got any advice on the cost of requiring existing premises to move off gas to electricity?

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**Jacinta ALLAN:** Chair, I am happy to take that on notice –

### Answer:

Converting an existing home with solar panels from gas to electricity can save around \$1,700 a year on energy bills. This is in addition to around \$1,000 of savings per year from an existing 6.6kW solar system. The cost of converting to all-electric appliances can vary depending on individual consumer preferences.

Examples of the costs and bill savings are available online here:

[https://www.energy.vic.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0039/579882/Victorias-Gas-Substitution-Roadmap-Embracing-electricity-to-cut-your-bills-at-home..pdf](https://www.energy.vic.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0039/579882/Victorias-Gas-Substitution-Roadmap-Embracing-electricity-to-cut-your-bills-at-home..pdf)

Witness	Premier
Committee member	Nick McGowan
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**Question:**

**Nick McGOWAN:** I might throw a quick question to the Premier about the Ringwood East train station and whether we can have a toilet there – a public toilet at Ringwood.

**Answer:**

The new Ringwood East Station will be open by spring, a year ahead of schedule, and will create seamless connections and a direct link to the shops and car parking.

The Ringwood East Station is an unstaffed station and did not have a toilet before works to remove the dangerous and congested Dublin Road level crossing started and will be unstaffed once works are completed later this year.

Station toilets are delivered as part of projects where new premium stations are built, which are staffed from first to last train.

Public toilets are available within the Railway Avenue shopping precinct, a short three-minute walk from Ringwood East station.

Witness	Premier
Committee member	Nick McGowan
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**Question:**

**Nick McGOWAN:** I noticed that in terms of women’s policy there appears to be what looks like a cut in funding – I cannot quite explain it myself – of \$300,000 from 2023–24 to 2024–25. It is budget paper 3, page 116.

**Jacinta ALLAN:** Sorry, budget paper 3, page 116?

**Nick McGOWAN:** Yes, budget paper 3, page 116, and it is ‘Women’s policy’. It started off at \$18.7 million – and admittedly I need glasses – and now it is down to \$18.4 million.

**Answer:**

The variance reflects the successful completion of government commitments including a one-off grant and fixed term funding for implementation of recommendations under the Inquiry into Economic Equity.

Witness	Premier
Committee member	Nick McGowan
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**Question:**

**Nick McGOWAN:** Premier, Maroondah Hospital – any chance that that will begin construction in the next 12 to 18 months?

**Answer:**

The Government is continuing project planning for the redevelopment and expansion of the Queen Elizabeth II Hospital, through the Health Infrastructure Delivery Fund, which was established in the 2023–24 Budget.