



Select Committee on the 2026 Commonwealth Games Bid

DEPARTMENT / AGENCY QUESTIONNAIRE: VISIT VICTORIA'S RESPONSE

The Inquiry

On 2 August 2023, the Legislative Council resolved to establish a select committee to investigate and report on the 2026 Commonwealth Games and the progress of the regional infrastructure build. An interim report is due by April 2024 and a final report is due by April 2025.

Terms of Reference

A Select Committee of nine members be appointed to inquire into, consider and report on the 2026 Commonwealth Games and the progress of the regional infrastructure build, including but not limited to —

- (a) the potential failures in governance, probity and procurement processes in the Victorian Government's bid, contract, and termination of the 2026 Commonwealth Games;
- (b) the impacts of the contract termination of the Commonwealth Games on Victoria's reputation, business community, tourism, and major events;
- (c) the Victorian Government advice received from government departments, councils, agencies, consultants, and contractors;
- (d) the potential of undue influence by the executive on the independence of the public service;
- (e) the timeline, progress and budget of the Victorian Government's regional infrastructure and housing build;
- (f) the impact on community, social, amateur, and professional sport in Victoria;
- (g) any other relevant matter.

Questionnaire to relevant departments and agencies

This questionnaire seeks information about how the terms of reference affects each department or agency including budget allocations, infrastructure projects and assets, and other key economic, financial management and emerging issues.

Please answer all questions that may be applicable to your department/agency and advise if some, or all questions are not applicable.

Timeline and format

Responses to this questionnaire are due by **5.00pm on Wednesday, 11 October 2023**. It is essential that the Committee receive responses by this date to allow sufficient time to consider them before public hearings which are likely to commence in early October 2023. The completed questionnaire should be sent (in the format received) to: commonwealthgames@parliament.vic.gov.au

Visit Victoria explanatory notes:

- a) Visit Victoria (VV) is the State’s tourism and events company. Its role is to drive visitation and expenditure to Victoria through destination marketing and delivering a world-class calendar of major, regional and business events.
- b) VV is a public company limited by guarantee with a board of directors and is divided into three business functions: Destination Marketing, Major Events and Melbourne Convention Bureau. VV’s Major Events team led the initial bid for the 2026 Commonwealth Games (the Games), after which the Destination Marketing team was to design and implement a Destination Marketing Strategy to increase global awareness and interest in regional Victoria through the Games.
- c) VV engaged with the following key stakeholder groups:
 - i. Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) – international rights holder;
 - ii. Commonwealth Games Australia (CGA) – Australian member organisation of CGF; and
 - iii. Commonwealth Games Federation Partnership (CGFP) – joint venture between CGF and international sports agency SPORTFIVE, which owns the commercial rights for the Commonwealth Games, such as broadcast, merchandise and sponsorship revenues.

1) What progress had been made in implementing the major initiatives/programs for the department/agency relevant to the 2026 Commonwealth Games. Please identify a minimum of ten initiatives/programs.

Response

Major milestone/ initiative	Objective	Financial Output (to date)	Allocated Budget	Activities undertaken
Victoria 2026 Bid	Explore potential to host 2026 Commonwealth Games and prepare Victoria’s bid.	\$0.376M	\$NIL (no funding allocated)	Initial scoping of bid opportunity. Letter of agreement (to establish exclusive window). Meetings with CGA, CGF, CGFP. Supporting Government in preparing formal bid documentation and presentation.
Victoria 2026 Regional Event Fund	Modelled on the current Regional Event Fund, a grants program with specific Commonwealth Games connections to	\$0.073M	\$2.563M	Meetings with Organising Committee and DJPR. Developed guidelines and implementation plan. Executed Grant Agreement between Organising Committee and VV.

	drive visitation and community benefits to regional Victoria.			<p>Developed guidelines and implementation plan (not approved).</p> <p>Secured licence for grants system.</p> <p>Staff member engaged to deliver program.</p> <p>Bid work commenced on attracting international teams for training camps.</p> <p>Scoping of regional venues undertaken through consultant.</p> <p>Fund was not opened; however scoping work will be valuable in VV's broader Regional Event Fund work.</p>
Victoria 2026 Destination Marketing Program		\$1.909M	\$26.0M	<p>Development of marketing campaign <i>A Games Like No Other</i>, which was launched through Australian broadcast of the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games (Birmingham Games).</p> <p>Implemented programs to prepare regional tourism businesses for the opportunities associated with the Games including international markets.</p> <p>Commissioned international consumer research to inform marketing programs. Commenced design of Marketing Excellence Program to ensure tourism businesses had a clear understanding of their audiences and how to reach them.</p> <p>Commenced design of International Mentoring Program to ensure Victorian tourism businesses were</p>

				equipped to work with key distribution partners.
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- 2) Budget Paper No. 5: Statement of Finances provides a comprehensive operating statement that details each department’s revenue and expenses on an accrual basis reflecting the cost of providing its output. Please provide a line-item breakdown of departmental/agency expenditure for the 2026 Commonwealth Games.**

Response

Not applicable to VV. VV’s expenses are not set out in Budget Paper 5. VV received funding through an overarching Grant Agreement from the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions (DJSIR).

- 3) For all programs (output initiatives, including grants) with total funding of equal to or greater than \$2.5 million that will now be cancelled, please provide the following:**

- a) name of the program
- b) objective/s of the program
- c) expenditure in the financial years 2022-23 and 2023-24 (and where relevant, future years including any projected or actual contract termination costs)
- d) details of how the program was to be funded (i.e. through new output appropriation, Commonwealth funding, internal reprioritisation etc.)
- e) evidence of the need for the program, and Government’s role in delivering it
- f) evidence of the program’s progress
- g) evidence of the program being delivered within or outside of scope, budget, expected timeframe and in line with appropriate governance and risk management practices
- h) information about the nature of the impact of the program ceasing and what strategies have been identified to minimise any negative impacts.

Response

a)	Name of the program	Victoria 2026 Regional Events Fund
b)	Objective/s of the program	The Victoria 2026 Regional Events Fund was established to drive visitation to the regions and deliver positive economic impacts and legacy outcomes from the Games.
c)	Expenditure and projected costs in 2022-23 and 2023-24	2022-23: projected \$2.563M; expended \$69,545 2023-24: projected \$0; expended \$3,750
d)	Details of how the program was to be funded	VV was provided funding through a Grant Agreement with DJSIR (executed 29 June 2023).
e)	Evidence of the need for the program, and Government’s role in delivering it	The Victoria 2026 Regional Events Fund was intended to attract visitation across regional Victoria which would contribute to the economic benefits from hosting the Games, both during and after the Games.
f)	Evidence of the program’s progress	Prior to the cancellation of the Games, the program was in a planning and development

		stage, including the development of fund guidelines.
g)	Evidence of the program being delivered within or outside of scope, budget, expected timeframe and in line with appropriate governance and risk management practices	VV entered into a Grant Agreement with DJSIR for the delivery of the program. The agreement included a range of governance and risk management provisions, which had been met for the relevant milestones prior to cancellation of the Games.
h)	Information about the nature of the impact of the program ceasing and what strategies have been identified to minimise any negative impacts	<p>The Victoria 2026 Regional Events Fund was intended to increase regional tourism and visitation in conjunction with the Games.</p> <p>Since the cancellation, the new \$2 billion Regional Package is intended to ensure that regional Victoria still receives the benefits that would have been facilitated by the Games, and includes funding for regional events as a part of the broader \$170M for tourism events, marketing and the visitor economy.</p>

a)	Name of the program	Victoria 2026 Destination Marketing program
b)	Objective/s of the program	Objectives of the \$26 million four-year 2026 Commonwealth Games Destination Marketing program included to drive interstate, intrastate and international visitation during and after the Games, support industry to be ready to welcome visitors to the Games and beyond.
c)	Expenditure and projected costs in 2022-23 and 2023-24	2022-23: projected \$3.0M; expended \$1.909M 2023-24: projected \$6.5M; expended \$6,575
d)	Details of how the program was to be funded	VV was provided funding through a Grant Agreement with DJSIR (executed 22 May 2023).
e)	Evidence of the need for the program, and Government's role in delivering it	Destination marketing activities were designed to complement the Organising Committee's event and ticketing specific marketing, to showcase Victorian tourism experiences to achieve legacy outcomes.
f)	Evidence of the program's progress	Prior to cancellation, VV had developed and submitted its Games Destination Marketing Strategy and commenced funded activities outlined for year one of the strategy.
g)	Evidence of the program being delivered within or outside of scope, budget, expected timeframe and in line with appropriate governance and risk management practices	VV's Marketing Strategy was progressing in line with its scope and expected timeframes. At the time of cancellation VV had received payments totalling \$3 million under the Grant Agreement, and had completed several funded activities under that agreement, e.g. delivery of <i>A Games Like No Other</i> marketing campaign to leverage the broadcast of the Birmingham Games, implementation of programs to support the regional tourism industry prepare for international

		visitation, undertaking research, and implementation of promotional activities to raise the profile of regional Victoria.
h)	Information about the nature of the impact of the program ceasing and what strategies have been identified to minimise any negative impacts	<p>The Destination Marketing Strategy was focused on delivering legacy benefits for the visitor economy through the implementation of a new brand framework, marketing campaigns and industry programs.</p> <p>The new \$2 billion Regional Package is designed to deliver many of the benefits to regional Victoria that would have been facilitated by hosting the Games, and includes \$20 million for Regional Tourism Marketing and \$170 million for tourism, events, marketing and the visitor economy.</p>

4) For all programs (output initiatives, including grants) with total funding of equal to or greater than \$2.5 million where funding is to be continued, please provide the following:

- a) name of the program
- b) objective/s of the program
- c) expenditure in the financial years 2022-23 and 2023-24 (and where relevant, future years)
- d) details of how the program will be funded (i.e. through new output appropriation, Commonwealth funding, internal reprioritisation etc.)
- e) evidence of the continued need for the program, and Government's role in delivering it
- f) evidence of the program's progress toward its stated objectives and expected outcomes, including the alignment between the program, departmental objectives and any government priorities
- g) evidence of the program being delivered within its scope, budget, expected timeframe and in line with appropriate governance and risk management practices
- h) extent and level of efficiencies realised in the delivery of the program
- i) information about the nature of the impact of the program continuing and what strategies have been identified to minimise any negative impacts
- j) evidence that the further funding reflects the actual cost required to deliver the program

Response

There are no Victoria 2026 Commonwealth Games related programs continuing within VV. However, it is noted that a number of events and destination marketing activities will be delivered by VV under the Victorian Government's \$2 billion Regional Package as announced on 18 July 2023.

5) For grant programs announced as part of the 2026 Commonwealth Games expenditure, please provide the following:

- a) name of the program
- b) objective/s of the program
- c) estimated expenditure in 2022-23 and forward estimates
- d) actual expenditure as at 1 August 2023
- e) source of funding

- f) number of applications received and number of total eligible applicants as at 1 August 2023
- g) number of successful applicants
- h) the status of the program
- i) outcomes achieved as at 1 August 2023
- j) performance measures associated with the grant programs
- k) any budget allocation for the program in the 2023-24 budget

Response

Not applicable to VV.

- 6) For the 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 financial years, please identify all output(s) for which the department/agency received additional funding through the Treasurer’s Advances for the 2026 Commonwealth Games, why additional funding was required and where it is reported.**

Response

Not applicable to VV.

- 7) Please list the internal departmental/agency performance measures relevant to the 2026 Commonwealth Games including:**

- a) description/purpose of the measure
- b) the target
- c) how it was set
- d) the latest measure outcome

Response

Program	Victoria 2026 Regional Events Fund
a) description/purpose of the measure	Performance measures were not endorsed at the time of the cancellation of the Games.
b) the target	N/A
c) how it was set	N/A
d) the latest measure outcome	N/A

Program	Destination Marketing program
a) description/purpose of the measure	Performance measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct and induced visitation and economic impact for Victoria and regions. • Targeting participation of 200 Victorian businesses in each of Marketing Excellence Program and International Mentoring Program. • Targeting up to 200 tourism businesses across the five host locations trained to be Games-ready, and a further 100 businesses across the state in surrounding regions. • Connecting Victorian tourism businesses with more than 1,000 overseas delegates at the Australian Tourism Exchange 2024.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connecting more than 100 Victorian tourism businesses with international markets through attendance at overseas trade shows and missions. Increased awareness of regional Victoria and consideration as a holiday destination in Melbourne, interstate and international markets, tracked via a four-year research program. <p>These measures were to be supplemented by more specific campaign targets as the plan was implemented.</p>
b) the target	See above
c) how it was set	Through a Grant Agreement between VV and Office of the Commonwealth Games (OCG), executed 22 May 2023.
d) the latest measure outcome	N/A

8) Please provide the department's/agency's (actual/expected/forecast) headcount and Full Time Equivalent (FTE) staff numbers and recruitment costs for the 2026 Commonwealth Games for the financial years ending 30 June 2022, 30 June 2023 and 30 June 2024:

- broken down into employee classification codes
- broken down into categories of on-going, fixed term or casual
- according to their gender identification
- employees identifying as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander or having a disability.

FY 2021-22			
Classification	On-going, fixed term, casual	Gender Identification	Headcount
N/A			

FY 2022-23			
Classification	On-going, fixed term, casual	Gender Identification	Headcount
Acquisitions Project Manager, Regional Events Fund	Fixed term	Male	1

To deliver the \$26 million Destination Marketing strategy associated with the Commonwealth Games, VV identified several fixed term positions would be required from 2023-24 to 2025-26 to supplement the existing capability within the organisation.

These positions were identified and scoped within the context of the strategy, however, were never hired due to the cessation of the Games.

FY 2023-24			
Classification	On-going, fixed term, casual	Gender Identification	Headcount
Manager Industry Development	Fixed term	Not hired	Not hired
Coordinator Industry Development	Fixed term	Not hired	Not hired
Marketing Project Manager Commonwealth Games	Fixed term	Not hired	Not hired
Market Development Manager UK	Fixed term	Not hired	Not hired

No employees identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islanders or had a disability.

- 9) Please provide the number and total value of employee termination payments as of 1 August 2023 relevant to employees working on the Commonwealth Games.**

Response

Not applicable to VV.

- 10) Please provide an organisational executive chart for the 2026 Commonwealth Games, relevant for your department/agency as of 1 June 2022, 1 January 2023 and 1 August 2023.**

Response

Not applicable to VV.

- 11) What were the main identified gaps in the department's/agency's capability and capacity to deliver the 2026 Commonwealth Games?**

Response

To deliver the Victoria 2026 Regional Events Fund, VV allocated an amount (outlined in response to question 8) towards a resource from the Major Events business unit in 2022-23.

To deliver the Games Destination Marketing strategy, VV identified several fixed term positions would be required from 2023-24 to 2025-26 to supplement the existing capability within the organisation (refer to response to question 8).

These positions were identified and scoped within the context of the strategy, as outlined above, however they were never hired due to the cancellation of the Games.

- 12) Please provide an itemised list for the 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 financial years of the department/agency expenditure on consultants and contractors for the 2026 Commonwealth Games, including the following:**

- a) Name of consultant/contractor
- b) Project title
- c) Contract cost
- d) Start date
- e) End date
- f) Description
- g) Buying for Victoria website URL
- h) Report to Government finalised (Yes/No)
- i) URL to the finalised report (if public)

Response

FY 2021-22					
Name	Project title	Contract cost (\$)	Start date	End date	Description
Global Media & Sports	Bid	\$36,000	9/6/21	9/7/21	Initial scoping review for a regional Games
Global Media & Sports	Bid	\$19,500	1/8/21	31/3/22	Additional advice on Games venues, sports program, commercial model
Vantage Design Group	Bid	\$27,700	30/11/21	28/2/22	Design and development of Games presentation documents
Clockwork Projects & Events	Bid	\$17,460	1/12/21	8/3/22	Initial regional venue audit
Six O'Clock Advisory	Bid	\$24,280	1/1/22	31/1/22	Development of Games concept document
Harriet Edmund	Bid	\$1,800	14/2/22	3/3/23	Proof reading
Office of the Governor	Bid	\$5,222	28/2/22	28/2/22	Function costs to host CGF dinner
The Event Planning Group	Bid	\$27,100	1/3/22	31/3/22	Preparation of venue block plans
The Big Picture Strategic Services	Bid	\$43,750	3/3/22	14/3/22	Bid presentation support (speeches, brochures, presentation and showreel)
Crown Resorts	Bid	\$1,223	6/3/22	6/3/22	Meeting room hire for CGF meeting
Kall Kwik Printing	Bid	\$536	11/3/22	11/3/22	Printing presentation materials in Birmingham
SSS Management	Bid	\$4,375	27/4/22	27/4/22	Advice on potential road cycling course
Office of the Governor	Bid	\$52,143	6/6/22	6/6/22	Office of the Governor's participation in Games final bid presentation in Birmingham
Total FY 2021-22		\$261,089			

FY 2022-23					
Name	Project title	Contract cost (\$)	Start date	End date	Description
AJF Partnerships	<i>A Games Like No Other</i>	\$598,712	22/7/22	28/7/22	Campaign creative concept development
OMD	<i>A Games Like No Other</i>	\$589,786	29/7/22	9/8/22	Media buy to support campaign during Birmingham Games (July/Aug 2022)
Caitlin Mills	<i>A Games Like No Other</i>	\$47,008	21/9/22	21/9/23	Stills photography capture
Dash Pictures Distribution	Tourism travelogue episode	\$222,757	16/12/22	29/1/23	Travelogue shoot for international markets (contribution to travel and production costs)
OMD	International Market Research	\$29,225	14/4/23	18/7/23	Research specific to Games to inform international and domestic broadcast negotiations
Fifty Five Five Pty Ltd	International Market Research	\$92,250	4/8/22	2/3/23	Research (India, UK, Singapore) findings used to inform strategy ahead of Games
Hall & Partners Pty Ltd	Campaign Tracking	\$19,275	22/8/22	21/9/22	Interstate tracking wave (Sep 2022) to test response to Games launch TV advertisement.
YouGov Galaxy Pty Ltd	Kabaddi	\$14,000	24/1/23	15/3/23	Research into popular sport in India, test engagement with events in terms of local diaspora and international population in lead up to Games
Bastion Insights Pty Ltd	Bastion Omnibus	\$8,000	30/3/23	31/5/23	Research into culturally diverse audiences including India, to inform Games strategy for CALD audiences
The Lumery	Advisory Support DAM Selection	\$51,598	3/5/23	19/6/23	Data asset management discovery and research to support Games material
Total FY 2022-23		\$1,672,611			

FY 2023-24					
Name	Project title	Contract cost (\$)	Start date	End date	Description
Clockwork Projects & Events	Victoria 2026 Regional Events Fund	\$3,750	11/7/23	8/8/23	Scoping regional venues in relation to Victoria 2026 Regional Events Fund
OMD	Social Media analysis	\$6,575	24/7/23	31/7/23	Analysis of social media coverage to identify key themes
Total FY 2023-24		\$10,325			

13) Please provide a list of 2026 Commonwealth Games advertising expenditure for the department/agency in 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24, including the following:

- Total expenditure
- Breakdown of expenditure by medium (for example, radio/TV/print/social media etc.)
- Campaign title and date
- Objectives and outcomes

Response

FY 2021-22					
Campaign Name	Medium	Total Expenditure (\$)	Start date	End date	Objective/Outcomes
N/A					

FY 2022-23					
Campaign Name	Medium	Total Expenditure (\$)	Start date	End date	Objective/Outcomes
<i>A Games Like No Other</i>	Various	\$589,786	29/07/22	9/08/22	Leverage Birmingham Games to generate awareness and interest in the Games and Victoria. Generate increased visitation in Victoria by showcasing the state, reaffirm its position as an enriching destination and Australia's major events/sporting capital.
Total		\$589,786			

FY 2023-24					
Campaign Name	Medium	Total Expenditure (\$)	Start date	End date	Objective/Outcomes
N/A					

14) Please provide a list of 2026 Commonwealth Games booked advertising for the department/agency in 2023-24 and across the forward estimates, including the following:

- a) Total expenditure
- b) Breakdown of expenditure by medium (for example, radio/TV/print/social media etc.)
- c) Campaign title and date
- d) Objectives and outcomes

Response

There was no advertising booked by VV in FY 2023-24.

15) What impact, if any, did funding issues from local government or the Federal Government have on the department's/agency's Commonwealth Games budget and expenditure?

Response

There was no impact on VV relating to funding issues from local government or the Federal Government.

16) Please provide a list of financial delegation powers for your department/agency including executive names or positions and value of delegation power.

Executive title	Executive name	Financial Delegation
Board Chair	Janet Whiting	>\$1.5M
CEO	Brendan McClements	<\$1.5M
Director Corporate Operations	Su Ann Teoh (commences 2/11/23)	<\$500,000
Chief Marketing Officer	Shae Keenan	<\$250,000
Director Major Events	Kelly Dickson	<\$250,000
Director Corporate Relations	Holly Little	<\$50,000
Director Strategy & Transformation	Anthony Ilott	<\$50,000

17) Regarding the 2026 Commonwealth Games, which relevant and interested community groups and stakeholders did the department/agency consult or engage with? Please detail the budget expenditure related to and the final outcomes of consultation.

Bid stage: Consultation was determined by DJPR. VV led engagement with CGF and CGA until such engagement was transferred to DJPR/the Organising Committee.

Victoria 2026 Regional Events Fund: Project ceased prior to consultation commencing.

Victoria 2026 Destination Marketing program: VV's Destination Marketing team engaged with a number of Regional Tourism Boards and industry members.

There was no budget expenditure relating to the above consultation.

18) Please provide a list of all interstate and international travel for department/agency staff related to the 2026 Commonwealth Games, including:

- a) Name of traveller(s)
- b) Destination (s)
- c) Date of travel
- d) Number of official travel days (include day of departure and day of return)
- e) Purpose of travel
- f) Benefit of travel to the State of Victoria
- g) Funding source (please detail the internal account code or external organisation)
- h) Expenses – Air fares (including taxes and fees)
- i) Expenses - Accommodation (including taxes and fees)
- j) Expenses - Other expenses (including surface travel and travel allowances)
- k) Expenses - Total cost
- l) Expenses - Are the above costs final and complete?

a) Name of traveller(s)	Brendan McClements, CEO
b) Destination	Trip 1: London – November/December 2021 Trip 2 Birmingham - March 2022 Trip 3 Birmingham - July/August 2022
c) Date of travel	Trip 1: 26/11/21 – 12/12/21 (17 days) Trip 2: 12/3/22 – 23/3/2022 (12 days) Trip 3: 31/7/22 – 14/8/22 (15 days)
d) Number of official travel days	44 days across three trips (refer to note below)
e) Purpose of travel	Trip 1: Presentation of Games proposal to CGF Trip 2: Formal presentation of State’s bid to CGF Trip 3: Primary purpose was to meet with international stakeholders about future major event opportunities; secondary purpose was to attend Birmingham Games.
f) Benefit of travel of the State of Victoria	Secure Games for regional Victoria. Secure future event opportunities that drive economic and branding benefits for Victoria.
g) Funding source	VV operational funding
h) Expenses – Airfares	\$17,632
i) Expense – Accommodation	\$19,416
j) Expenses – Other expenses	\$3,984
k) Expenses – Total cost	\$41,032

a) Name of traveller(s)	Kelly Dickson, Director – Major Events
b) Destination	Trip 1: London – November/December 2021 Trip 2: Birmingham - March 2022 Trip 3: Birmingham - July/August 2022
c) Date of travel	Trip 1: 26/11/21 – 13/12/21 (18 days) Trip 2: 12/3/22 – 23/3/2022 (12 days) Trip 3: 26/7/22 – 12/8/22 (18 days)

d) Number of official travel days	48 days across three trips (refer to note below)
e) Purpose of travel	Trip 1: Presentation of Games proposal to CGF Trip 2: Formal presentation of State's bid to CGF Trip 3: Primary purpose was to meet with international stakeholders about future major event opportunities; secondary purpose was to attend Birmingham Games.
f) Benefit of travel of the State of Victoria	Secure Games for regional Victoria. Secure future event opportunities that drive economic and branding benefits for Victoria.
g) Funding source	VV operational funding
h) Expenses – Airfares	\$36,445
i) Expense – Accommodation	\$9,941
j) Expenses – Other expenses	\$6,161
k) Expenses – Total cost	\$52,547

Note VV's CEO and Director of Major Events made three trips to the UK (London and Birmingham) in 2021 and 2022 as part of a broader itineraries, some of which also included travel to the USA. These trips included meetings about a range of future major event opportunities in sport and culture (arts, theatre, exhibitions), e.g. to progress work by VV with key sports unrelated to Victoria 2026. Mr McClements and Ms Dickson were not part of the State's official contingent to the Birmingham Games.

a) Name of traveller(s)	Marcia Endacott, Specialist, Strategy & Planning
b) Destination	Birmingham – July/August 2022
c) Date of travel	31/7/22 – 10/8/22
d) Number of official travel days	11 days
e) Purpose of travel	Observe Birmingham Games' business and tourism program, with a view to developing VV's approach to delivering tourism and events benefits to the State.
f) Benefit of travel of the State of Victoria	Ms Endacott was responsible for helping develop VV's 2026 Games Destination Marketing strategy.
g) Funding source	VV operational funding
h) Expenses – Airfares	\$8,590
i) Expense – Accommodation	\$0
j) Expenses – Other expenses	\$94
k) Expenses – Total cost	\$8,684

a) Name of traveller(s)	Kirsty Johannsen, Manager, Media & Communications
b) Destination	Birmingham - July/August 2022
c) Date of travel	31/7/22 – 10/8/22

d) Number of official travel days	11 days
e) Purpose of travel	Ensure that the sensitivities and uniqueness around the Birmingham Games' Closing Ceremony (with Handover element) featuring the Elders representing the four mobs where the Games will take place was well understood by global and Australian media and reflected in the coverage.
f) Benefit of travel of the State of Victoria	Ensure Victoria's successful participation in official Handover Ceremony. Once on site, Ms Johannsen's role evolved into providing media relations support to the OCG's CEO.
g) Funding source	VV operational funding
h) Expenses – Airfares	\$4,529
i) Expense – Accommodation	\$1,170
j) Expenses – Other expenses	\$829
k) Expenses – Total cost	\$6,528
Total travel expenses	\$108,792

The above costs are final and complete.

19) Please detail the extent of departmental/agency interactions with the First Nations People of Victoria in preparation for the 2026 Commonwealth Games

VV did not interact directly with First Nations People of Victoria, as such interaction and consultation was led through the Organising Committee and the OCG in DJPR/DJSIR and Department of Premier and Cabinet's First Peoples State Relations Group.

END