

**RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE AND FURTHER INFORMATION AGREED TO
BE SUPPLIED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND REGULATION**

Q. 1 Please provide a breakdown of police by country of birth.

(Page 6 of the Department of Justice and Regulation transcript)

Victoria Police employee country of birth breakdown as at 31/12/2016 (Headcount)

Country of Birth	Police
Afghanistan	2
Albania	1
Angola	1
Argentina	1
Australia	9,793
Austria	17
Bahrain	1
Belgium	2
Bosnia and Herzegovina	5
Brazil	3
British Indian Ocean Territory	1
Bulgaria	1
Burma (Republic of Union of Myanmar)	1
Cambodia	2
Canada	23
Chile	2
China (excludes SARs and Taiwan)	8
Colombia	1
Croatia	7
Cyprus	3
Czech Republic	1
Democratic Republic of the Congo	1
Egypt	2
El Salvador	2
F Y R of Macedonia (FYROM)	3
Fiji	4
Finland	1
France	2
Germany	25
Greece	12
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	3
Hungary	2
India	45
Indonesia	2
Iraq	1
Ireland	38
Israel	4

Attachment One

Country of Birth	Police
Italy	9
Japan	2
Kazakhstan	1
Kenya	2
Korea, Republic of (South)	2
Lebanon	2
Libya	1
Luxembourg	1
Malaysia	9
Maldives	1
Malta	4
Mauritius	7
Nepal	1
Netherlands	13
New Zealand	129
Pakistan	11
Papua New Guinea	7
Philippines	6
Poland	6
Portugal	1
Romania	8
Russian Federation	2
Samoa	1
Saudi Arabia	2
Scotland	9
Serbia and Montenegro	8
Singapore	9
Slovenia	1
South Africa	36
Spain	3
Sri Lanka	11
Sweden	2
Switzerland	3
Taiwan	2
Thailand	1
Timor-Leste	2
Turkey	7
UK, Channel Islands , nfd	329
Ukraine	4
Uruguay	1
USA	17
Vietnam	8
Wales	2

Country of Birth	Police
Zimbabwe	3
No Response	3,072
	13,781

Note, in addition to the above totals, Victoria Police has two Australian Reservists.

Q. 2 – In respect to bail, did the department obtain any legal advice, or expert independent advice on the possible effects of the Bail Amendment Bill 2015, in particular on the repeal of the offence of breaching bail for people under the age of 18? If there was expert independent advice what was the cost?

(Page 6 of the Department of Justice and Regulation transcript)

The department did not obtain any independent legal advice, or expert independent advice on the possible effects of the Bail Amendment Bill 2015. The Bill was developed by the department's legal policy lawyers and drafted by the Office of the Chief Parliamentary Counsel. A number of stakeholders were consulted on a draft of the Bill, including the Children's Court, Magistrates' Court, County Court, Supreme Court, Victoria Police, Victoria Legal Aid, the Office of Public Prosecutions, the Victorian Aboriginal Legal Service, the Commission for Children and Young People, the Law Institute of Victoria and the Victorian Bar.

Q. 3 Please provide any data for 2015-16 on the number of time bail justices remanded people before them versus how many magistrates did?

(Page 6 of the Department of Justice and Regulation transcript)

Response in relation to Bail Justice data

Data for the 2015-16 financial year:

Total number of hearings (Bail/Remand and Interim Accommodation Orders) = 10,930

Total number of Bail/Remand hearings = 10,089

- Total bail with conditions outcomes = 1393 - 13.80% of Bail/Remand hearings
- Total bail without conditions outcomes = 143 - 1.42% of Bail/Remand hearings
- Total remand outcomes = 8553 - 84.78% of Bail/Remand hearings

Total number of Interim Accommodation Order hearings = 841

- Total orders granted = 832 - 98.9% of IAO hearings
- Total orders refused = 9 - 1.07% of IAO hearings

Total number of hearings cancelled = 237

- Total Bail/Remand hearings cancelled = 222
- Total IAO hearings cancelled = 15

No outcome recorded = 72

A further 93 cases with data errors were recorded. These were not included in the analysis.

Response in relation to Magistrates' Court data

The Department of Justice and Regulation has referred this aspect of PAEC's question to Court Services Victoria (CSV) for direct response by CSV.

Q. 4 Could you please advise which police stations had their opening hours cut during the 2015–16 financial year? Could you please advise why the New South Wales crime rate is declining, with major crime categories at 20-year lows while in Victoria total offences during the 2015–16 financial year increased by 13.4 per cent? Why is there such a difference?

(Page 9 of the Department of Justice and Regulation transcript)

Police station opening hours

Victoria Police is moving towards a model of having more police on the road where they are required, thus there are variations in the opening hours of police stations across Victoria, according to resourcing and area needs. This allows Victoria Police to be more responsive to community needs and increase public safety.

Station counter hours vary across the state according to demand and are adjusted depending on patrol patterns across various locations. Where counter service maybe unavailable, the public can still contact police via the police station intercom or calling the station.

There will always be police stations across the state that are accessible to community, and stations that are purely for operational deployment (non-public access).

Victoria Police always provides a 24 hour police service across the state.

Difference between NSW and Victorian crime rates

Victoria and New South Wales do not have identical rules for recording crime statistics. National offender statistics are compiled in order to maximise comparability across states and territories via the application of common national statistical standards and counting rules. As such crime statistics are not completely comparable between jurisdictions due to differing legislation, offences, policing strategies and levels of reporting.¹

Q. 5 In the 2015-16 financial year, on an average week how many CFA professional firefighters work in difficult to fill areas (e.g. outside of Melbourne, Geelong, Bendigo and Ballarat)?

(Page 13 of the Department of Justice and Regulation transcript)

Over the 2015-16 period, an average of 279 FTE CFA operational firefighters including Operations Managers, Operations Officers, Senior Station Officers, Station Officers, Leading Firefighters, Firefighters, Instructors and PAD Operators worked at CFA locations outside of the City of Greater Geelong, Bendigo, Ballarat and the Melbourne Statistical Division.

Q. 6 How many juvenile fire awareness programs are run each year. In 2015–16 how many CFA firefighters were permanently relocated? And how many communications controllers have a year of experience or more?

(Page 14 of the Department of Justice and Regulation transcript)

In 2015-16, the CFA and the MFB case managed 180 people through the Junior Fire Awareness and Intervention Program. The average per year is 182. In 2015-16, the CFA case managed approx. 99 people through the program.

The CFA does not retain information on how many firefighters are relocated in each financial year. It does, however, have information on claims made for relocation assistance in 2015-16. During that period, eight station staff (Firefighters, Leading Fire Fighters and Station Officers only) have claimed relocation assistance in relation to the purchase of a new residential property due to a permanent transfer or promotion.

The CFA has seven communications controllers all of whom have more than one year of experience.

¹ ABS: 4519.0 Recorded Crime – Offenders, 2015-16

Q. 7 What was the sum that was paid in terms of the costs to the UFU during 2010 to 2014? What was the actual arbitration figure?

(Page 15 of the Department of Justice and Regulation transcript)

The department has confirmed with the Country Fire Authority that the arbitrated figure and sum paid to the UFU in relation to this litigation was \$484,045.

Q. 8 Where did Victorian Legal Aid direct the \$13.1 million in additional grants? Please provide a breakdown.

(Page 17 of the Department of Justice and Regulation transcript)

In 2015-16, Victoria Legal Aid (VLA) was provided with \$13.1 million in grants, predominantly comprising:

- \$9.7 million in Commonwealth funding to community legal centres (CLC) under the National Partnership Agreement on Legal Assistance Services (NPALAS). Under the NPALAS, 14 CLCs received guaranteed funding with the allocation of the balance of funds to CLCs being approved by the Victorian Attorney-General.
- \$1.2 million in Commonwealth funding, as per the Commonwealth Budget Papers (Commonwealth Budget Paper No. 3, 2015-16, p72).
- \$2.1 million in State funding for VLA to provide free family violence legal advice and support services in the Magistrates Court (2015-16 BP3 page 5)

Q. 9 The 2015–16 budget funded 15 additional new police for Geelong and the Bellarine Peninsula. Victoria Police employees by location data for June 2016 revealed that Geelong-Bellarine had only received an extra 0.68 police FTE since December 2014. The latest data from December 2016 shows that there is an actual decrease in that two-year period to minus 5 police FTE. Could you please advise where the extra 15 new police have gone in this part of Victoria?

(Page 20 of the Department of Justice and Regulation transcript)

In line with the 2015-16 funding, 15 additional new police were allocated to Western Region Division 1 (which covers the Geelong and Bellarine Peninsula area). At any point in time, the number of resources within a particular service area may change, based on operational decisions that ensure resources are allocated to match service demand. While the resources within Western Region Division 1 guarantee police presence in the Geelong and Bellarine Peninsula, how those resources are used will vary based on local operational needs.

The number of divisional resources is dynamic and will change dependent on the time of reporting.

Q. 10 How many video links are occurring in place of prisoners going to court for hearings?

(Page 25 of the Department of Justice and Regulation transcript)

Over the 2015-16 financial year there were 12,131 court hearings from prisons via videolink compared with 9207 in 2014-15, representing an increase of 32 per cent.

The 2015-16 State Budget provided funding of \$14.7M to the Magistrates Court over two years to increase the video-conferencing capacity across the court system.

Corrections Victoria has actively funded its own expansion of video-conferencing facilities within prisons, estimating it will have spent approximately \$6 million by 30 June 2017.

Q. 11 How is success in the crime prevention area gauged through output measures?***(Page 28 of the Department of Justice and Regulation transcript)***Crime Prevention response:

The formal BP3 output measure for the Community Crime Prevention Program (CCPP) relates to 100% of grants being properly acquitted. This performance measure is consistently achieved and built into the Community Crime Prevention Unit's business processes.

More generally, the CCPP grants are designed to support practical local initiatives which international research shows deliver crime prevention and community safety benefits. For example, the grants are primarily directed to funding situational and environmental initiatives, such as target hardening through security infrastructure, and urban design initiatives that are strongly supported by the crime prevention evidence base as being effective in reducing the risks of crime and improving amenity and perceptions of safety.

Evaluation processes, proportionate to the level of grant funding and tailored to individual projects, are used to assess the impact of individual projects. This ranges for self-reported results from small grants (less than \$10,000), to more formal evaluation requirements for grant recipients for larger grants (up to \$250,000). The Community Crime Prevention Unit also engages external evaluators to undertake programmatic evaluations on larger grants programs. For example, Urbis has been engaged to undertake an evaluation of the 2015-16 Place Based Targeted Grants program and grant recipients have been supported to develop an individualised project logic to articulate a clear link between inputs, activities, outputs and short, medium and longer term crime prevention outcomes for each project. This evaluation will be completed in 2018/19.

The Community Crime Prevention Unit continues to work to build capability among councils and the community sector to undertake evidence-based initiatives and to evaluate outcomes. This includes undertaking targeted in-depth evaluations of a sample of projects funded under the Graffiti Prevention Grants and Public Safety Infrastructure Fund, and developing and publishing case studies. The Unit also partnered with the Australian Institute of Criminology to develop an evaluation toolkit and training for councils.

A review of the CCPP undertaken by the Parliamentary Secretary for Justice, Ben Carroll MP, was published in April 2016. This review confirmed the findings of the independent evaluation undertaken by the Australian Institute of Criminology in 2014 that the CCPP was a highly effective and efficient crime prevention program. The CCPP was found to be evidence-based, aligned to best practice principles of crime prevention and delivering sustainable crime prevention outcomes for Victorian communities. In particular, the Australian Institute of Criminology found the CCPP was "clearly an effective and efficient program both in terms of its current and potential capacity to deliver sustainable crime prevention and community safety outcomes for Victorian communities as well as its performance as a good practice grants administration program."

Q. 12 How many Metropolitan Remand Centre prison officers are still off duty as a result of WorkCover claims as a result of the riot?***(Page 33 of the Department of Justice and Regulation transcript)***

As at 15/2/2017, 10 staff are currently incapacitated and not able to work as a result of the MRC riot in June 2015.

Q. 13 Youth justice riots or serious incidents occurred on 31 October 2015; 6, 7, 23, 26 March 2016; and 6 May 2016. With regard to each of those riots/incidents how many of those young offenders charged have been convicted and given extended time in the Victorian youth justice system?***(Page 36 of the Department of Justice and Regulation transcript)***

Youth justice riots or serious incidents which occurred on 31 October 2015; 6, 7, 23, 26 March 2016; and 6 May 2016. Victoria Police data includes charges but total convictions are unable to be confirmed.

Attachment One

Committed Date	Charged offence	No. of offenders processed
31 October 2015 South Yarra	Theft of Motor Vehicle	9
	Burglary	9
31 October 2015 Parkville	Riot (Common law)	11
	Criminal Damage	11
	Unlawful Assault	3
	Intentionally cause injury	3
	Assault with weapon	b/n 0 – 3
6 March 2016 Sunshine West	Criminal Damage	4
6 March 2016 Parkville	Criminal Damage	10
	Burglary	5
6 March 2016 Prahan	Behave in disorderly manner public place	b/n 0 – 3
	Behave in riotous manner in public place	b/n 0 – 3
	Resist emergency worker on duty	b/n 0 – 3
7 March 2016 Parkville	Criminal Damage	6
	Burglary	b/n 0 – 3
	Assault with weapon	6
	Throw missile injure/ danger/ damage prop	b/n 0 – 3
	Criminal Damage	4
23 March 2016 Broadmeadows	Burglary	3
	Criminal Damage (Multiple offences)	3
26 March 2016	No recorded serious incident or youth justice riot	0
6 May 2016 Parkville	Criminal Damage	b/n 0 – 3
	Unlawful Assault	b/n 0 – 3
	Assault with weapon	b/n 0 – 3
	Burglary	b/n 0 – 3
	Discharge missile to cause injury / danger	b/n 0 – 3
	Counsel/ assist/ induce escape from YJC	b/n 0 – 3

b/n 0-3: Ranges are used when a small number of youth offenders could lead to the identification of a youth offender.

The data is not to be totalled as there may be multiple charges per youth offender.

Q. 14 Were there any outcomes in terms of crime prevention by working alongside creative industries in 2015–16?

(Page 37 of the Department of Justice and Regulation transcript)

The Graffiti Prevention Grants program supports a high number of public art and mural projects to address illegal graffiti hotspots. These projects typically engage young people in the design and

creation of public art or murals, usually involving mentorship by an established artist. These initiatives, which also incorporate an anti-graffiti education component for young people, help provide a creative outlet and pathway for young people into legal art and future career options, while also improving public amenity and deterring graffiti vandalism. Evaluation of a sample of the 2015-16 funded projects has demonstrated an early indication of reduced graffiti and improved community ownership of problem sites, as well as improved amenity and community confidence.

Torch program

Corrections Victoria, through its Aboriginal Programs Unit, is currently funding The Torch approx. \$750,000 over three years to run the Statewide Indigenous Arts in Prison and Community (SIAPC) program. Set within the context of the Victorian Aboriginal Justice Agreement, the program's focus is on strengthening cultural identity to support the rehabilitation of Indigenous prisoners. Specifically, the program aims to make a positive change in the disproportionately high rates of Indigenous recidivism by increasing the confidence of offenders to participate in the arts industry. The program engages both offenders and ex-offenders in skill development opportunities that are socially and culturally relevant and practical to achieve.

The Corrections Victoria Aboriginal Art Policy was released in January 2016 and allows Aboriginal prisoners to sell artwork that is produced in the SIAPC program. Artworks are mainly available for sale through the annual 'Confined' exhibition. Two such exhibitions have been held during the current funding period. The policy also allows for prisoners to license their work and exhibit in other exhibitions when invited. Prisoners are not allowed to have solo exhibitions. A substantial proportion of the funds that prisoners make with the sale of work goes into their trust accounts, which are managed as per the Corrections Commissioner's Requirement – some prisoners have used their funds to support transition back into community and support their families.

The Torch facilitate their own sessions on rotation around all prison facilities. Participants are provided with art materials and receive important cultural reference material. The program also links in with existing courses run by mainstream Vocational and Education providers (see below). Prisoners may either do their art practice in classes or in their own time in the cultural centres and art rooms available.

Participation: in 2015/16, 418 prisoners accessed the program and 112 post-release participants were also engaged in the program. In 2016-17, from July to December 2016, 111 prisoners have accessed the program and a further 76 post-release participants have also been involved. The current contract is due to cease in June 2018.

Vocational and Education (VET) provision

In addition to the Torch program, a Koori art and design course is offered across all prisons as part of Corrections VET delivery. The Certificate of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Arts course is aimed at fostering cultural pride and developing artistic skills to reflect cultural identity. It also functions in part as a mechanism to re-engage Aboriginal participants back into more formal education and training. In 2016, 401 individual Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander prisoners were enrolled in Certificates 1, 2 and 3 in Cultural Arts.

Q. 15 Please provide a de-identified list of venues that returned their gaming machine licences in 2015-16, by location or LGA.

(Page 38 of the Department of Justice and Regulation transcript)

Liquor, Gaming and Racing response:

There were four gaming venues that forfeited entitlements in 2015-16. A total of 155 entitlements were forfeited by these venues.

This response does not disclose the local government area for these venues as this information would allow them to be identified.

Q. 16 Has the prison Pet project resulted in better inmate engagement and rehomed animals?

(Page 38 of the Department of Justice and Regulation transcript)

Corrections Victoria response:

The partnership between Greyhound Racing Victoria and Corrections Victoria (through Dhurringile and Tarrengower Prisons) is mutually beneficial. Greyhounds are re-socialised and are given an opportunity to be rehomed into families after a life of racing, and prisoners are able to be involved in an innovative project that assists in their rehabilitation and allows them to give something meaningful back to the community. During the program, prisoners develop practical life skills through caring for the dogs and working with the qualified dog trainers, as well as important emotional skills such as building trust, empathy, and responsibility, and the positive impact of companionship.

