

## **APPENDIX 2: QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

## 2.1 Introduction

Appendix Two lists the asked and unasked questions taken on notice by the Presiding Officers, Premier, Treasurer and ministers at each of the estimates hearings. The questions have been organised by portfolio within each department, in the same manner as the summary chapters of this report.

## 2.2 All departments

The chair asked the following question of all portfolios:

- please provide a list and description of Federal Government grants received by departments and agencies in relation to your portfolios, and detail the accountability measures employed to deal with those grants.

## 2.3 Parliamentary Departments

- A reconciliation of estimated Parliamentary expenditure between the budget papers and the Appropriation Bill.

*(Pages 3 and 4 of the Parliamentary Departments verified transcript)*

- Further information regarding the adjustments made to budget output targets for the Parliamentary Services output.

*(Page 5 of the Parliamentary Departments verified transcript)*

- Details of response rates for Parliamentary Client Satisfaction Surveys.

*(Page 5 of the Parliamentary Departments verified transcript)*

- Breakdown of revenue generated through the activities of the catering division and information about how these receipts are accounted for.

*(Page 9 of the Parliamentary Departments verified transcript)*

- Statistics on the uptake of audio broadcasting of Parliamentary proceedings, including the number of people listening to the broadcast on an average sitting day.

*(Page 12 and 13 of the Parliamentary Departments verified transcript)*

## 2.4 Department of Education and Early Childhood Development

### 2.4.1 Education Portfolio

- Advice on the availability and comparability of regional and rural school performance data for year 12 completions.

*(Page 12 of the Education portfolio verified transcript)*

- Policy background information on the Government's approach to narrowing the gap between city and rural year 12 completion rates.

*(Page 13 of the Education portfolio verified transcript)*

- Regarding school maintenance and rebuilding programs, please provide further information on how depreciation and amortisation will be accounted for over time.

*(Page 18 of the Education portfolio verified transcript)*

- Details, including possible school closures, of school regeneration projects included in the 2009-10 State Budget.

*(Pages 20 and 24 of the Education portfolio verified transcript)*

- Details of the result for 2008-09, of the computer-to-student ratio output targets as set out on pages 74 and 75 of Budget Paper No. 3.

*(Pages 24 and 25 of the Education portfolio verified transcript)*

- Regarding the Federal Government commitment to provide a computer for every secondary student in years 9 to 12 by 2011, outline the ratio of computers to students in this category at the time that the Federal Government introduced this target, the current ratio, and clarification on how the Federal Government funding is being used, for example, putting new computers into the system or replacing old computers.

*(Page 25 of the Education portfolio verified transcript)*

- The number, compared to the targets in pages 80 and 81 of Budget Paper No.3, of students who currently require additional support and the number that receive disability support.

*(Page 26 of the Education portfolio verified transcript)*

- A comprehensive list of the State Government's investment in non-government schools.

*(Page 29 of the Education portfolio verified transcript)*

- The estimated annotated receipts to be obtained from possible land sales as a result of school closures over the forward estimates period.

*(Page 31 of the Education portfolio verified transcript)*

- Regarding both Government and non-government schools, please provide a detailed explanation of how the prioritisation system for determining infrastructure funding works to address inequality or inequity, including how funding decisions are made and information on the assessment criteria used.

*(Page 34 of the Education portfolio verified transcript)*

## **2.4.2 Children and Early Childhood Development Portfolio**

- Details on the Cairnlea Community Hub and eligibility criteria for funding.

*(Page 6 of the Children and Early Childhood Development portfolio verified transcript)*

- The final outcome for the number of families receiving enhanced maternal and child health services.

*(Page 12 of the Children and Early Childhood Development portfolio verified transcript)*

## **2.5 Department of Human Services**

### **2.5.1 Health Portfolio**

- Further information regarding the rollout of additional ambulance services, including the asset investment program and additional paramedics.

*(Page 10 of the Health portfolio verified transcript)*

- Details of recent or current reviews of ambulance service delivery in country Victoria.

*(Page 11 of the Health portfolio verified transcript)*

- Further examples of health protection and health advancement measures, including primary prevention, secondary prevention, diversion programs and other behavioural change work.

*(Page 14 of the Health portfolio verified transcript)*

- Update on the Rural Maternity Initiative (RMI).

*(Pages 26 and 27 of the Health portfolio verified transcript)*

- Details of the performance monitoring framework and reporting of hospital performance data, including copies of relevant reports since July 2008.

*(Page 38 of the Health portfolio verified transcript)*

- Further information regarding policy and approaches that Ambulance Victoria has put in place in relation to fatigue prevention in ambulance paramedics, including meal break management initiatives.

*(Pages 39 and 40 of the Health portfolio verified transcript)*

### **2.5.2 Housing Portfolio**

- Overarching strategy for the acquisition and disposal of properties.

*(Pages 8 and 9 of the Housing portfolio verified transcript)*

- Reconciliation between the number of social housing properties disclosed in the Ministerial press release of 12 May 2009 and the forward estimates.

*(Pages 11 and 12 of the Housing portfolio verified transcript)*

### **2.5.3 Community Services Portfolio**

- In relation to Budget Paper 3, pages 110 and 111, further information in relation to the additional Federal Government funding and how it is reflected in the increases in funding.

*(Pages 15 and 16 of the Community Services portfolio verified transcript)*

- Breakdown of funding provided to the non-government disability sector in relation to residential accommodation services and DHS services, and an explanation of the disparity, should it exist.

*(Pages 15 and 16 of the Community Services portfolio verified transcript)*

- The cost per place of non-government organisations versus DHS places.

*(Pages 15 and 16 of the Community Services portfolio verified transcript)*

- The number of child protection staff employed by DHS that have direct contact with children and an estimate of the number of child protection staff that will have direct contact with children for the forward estimates.

*(Pages 17 and 18 of the Community Services portfolio verified transcript)*

- A breakdown of VPS staff.

*(Page 19 of the Community Services portfolio verified transcript)*

### **2.5.4 Mental Health Portfolio**

- A table containing the seven headings and subheadings, which appear in the introductory slide presented at the hearing, over the four years in terms of the expenditure under the various programs in the budget.

*(Page 3 of the Mental Health portfolio verified transcript)*

## **2.6 Department of Transport**

### **2.6.1 Public Transport Portfolio**

- Details of variations to the Myki contract, including changes in scope and payment variations.

*(Pages 7 and 14 of the Public Transport portfolio verified transcript)*

- A copy of the Victorian Transport Plan.

*(Page 19 of the Public Transport portfolio verified transcript)*

- Additional information regarding public transport compliance with the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and performance against measures used by the Department to assess compliance with the Act.

*(Page 23 of the Public Transport portfolio verified transcript)*

- Explanations for delayed, substituted and cancelled V/Line rail services during 2008-09.

*(Page 25 of the Public Transport portfolio verified transcript)*

## **2.6.2 Roads and Ports Portfolio**

- Budget Paper No.3 page 285. Can the Minister provide a breakdown of what is involved in the:
  - facilities improvement program;
  - grants for business support;
  - Multi-stage Tourism Marketing Campaign; and
  - small business education aspects of the channel deepening support package.

*(Page 9 of the Roads and Ports portfolio verified transcript)*

- A list of specific road resurfacing projects that VicRoads intends to undertake in 2009-10.

*(Pages 23 and 24 of the Roads and Ports portfolio verified transcript)*

- Correction for possible erratum identified in the 2009-10 State Budget.

*(Pages 23 and 24 of the Roads and Ports portfolio verified transcript)*

- Reason why \$22 million in road maintenance costs are not included in an output group.

*(Pages 23 and 24 of the Roads and Ports portfolio verified transcript)*

## **2.7 Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development**

### **2.7.1 Financial Services Portfolio**

- Financial services initiatives – jobs and exports.

*(Pages 4 and 5 of the Financial Services portfolio verified transcript)*

### **2.7.2 Information and Communication Technology Portfolio**

- Access by nearby communities to the broadband connected to government schools.

*(Pages 6 and 7 of the Information and Communication Technology portfolio verified transcript)*

### **2.7.3 Small Business Portfolio**

- A list of the regulations under the small business portfolio that have been removed in the last year, and those planned for removal over the forward estimates period.

*(Page 7 of the Small Business portfolio verified transcript)*

### **2.7.4 Tourism and Major Events Portfolio**

The following question on notice was not asked at the hearing.

- The bushfire recovery package included promotion of the Falls Creek Easter Festival and the Myrtleford Festival. How much money was spent on promoting each of these events and what was the money spent on.

### **2.7.5 Major Projects Portfolio**

- Details of the rating system used by the Green Building Council of Australia.

*(Page 11 of the Major Projects portfolio verified transcript)*

- Department to complete question 9.1 of the Committee's 2009-10 Budget Estimates Questionnaire.

*(Page 16 of the Major Projects portfolio verified transcript)*

### **2.7.6 Regional and Rural Development Portfolio**

- Commentary on the breakdown of funding from the Regional Infrastructure Development Fund by local government according to dollars per head of community member.

*(Pages 9 and 10 of the Regional and Rural Development portfolio verified transcript)*

- Clarification of new money in the budget for airports.

*(Page 14 of the Regional and Rural Development portfolio verified transcript)*

- Bushfire rebuilding – financial assistance and support.

*(Page 15 of the Regional and Rural Development portfolio verified transcript)*

### **2.7.7 Skills and Workforce Participation Portfolio**

- Breakdown of additional revenue from the new fee structure for all students across all qualification levels.

*(Page 9 of the Skills and Workforce Participation portfolio verified transcript)*

- Reconciliation between Skills and Workforce Participation output cost variances supplied to the Committee (p.22 of questionnaire response) and information disclosed in the Output Summary in Budget Paper No.3 p.125.

*(Page 9 of the Skills and Workforce Participation portfolio verified transcript)*

- Clarification of funding arrangements with the Commonwealth

*(Page 9 of the Skills and Workforce Participation portfolio verified transcript)*

- Market contestability between TAFEs and private providers – monitoring, teaching and course delivery standards; information campaigns about courses; and course selection and career advice

*(Pages 10 and 11 of the Skills and Workforce Participation portfolio verified transcript)*

## **2.7.8 Industrial Relations Portfolio**

- Provision of relevant information pertaining to the union demarcation and the planned construction of a desalination plant in Victoria.

*(Page 4 of the Industrial Relations portfolio verified transcript)*

- Future compliance of Victorian government contracts with the code of industrial relations practice established under the previous Federal government.

*(Page 9 of the Industrial Relations portfolio verified transcript)*

## **2.8 Department of Justice**

### **2.8.1 Police and Emergency Services Portfolio**

- Road safety initiatives in 2009-10 and over the forward estimates (include a breakdown of funding between output and asset components per initiative).

*(Page 27 of the Policy and Energy Services portfolio verified transcript)*

### **2.8.2 Corrections Portfolio**

- Details of the accommodation provided to ex-prisoners, both male and female, post-release.

*(Page 4 of the Corrections portfolio verified transcript)*

- Information on sentence length for serious offenders compared with other types of offenders.

*(Pages 7 and 8 of the Corrections portfolio verified transcript)*

- The Minister undertook to provide the Committee with further information on home detention order breaches in metropolitan and rural Victoria.

*(Page 9 of the Corrections portfolio verified transcript)*



- Cost of keeping prisoners in a private prison compared to the public system, including a comparison of Port Phillip prison and Barwon prison.

*(Pages 11 and 12 of the Corrections portfolio verified transcript)*

### **2.8.3 Attorney General Portfolio**

- Details of the amount and value of pro-bono work undertaken by firms for Victorian Legal Aid.

*(Page 4 of the Attorney General's portfolio verified transcript)*

- Information on the background of Justices of the Peace.

*(Page 9 of the Attorney General's portfolio verified transcript)*

- An estimation of the cost of family violence on government services?

*(Pages 14 and 15 of the Attorney General's portfolio verified transcript)*

### **2.8.4 Racing Portfolio**

- Budget Paper No.4, page 45 lists the forward estimates for revenue from gambling taxes, listing racing industry revenue separately. Please provide details of the proportion of the forward estimates that is derived from jumps racing revenue.

*(Page 7 of the Racing portfolio verified transcript)*

### **2.8.5 Gaming Portfolio**

- Effective date when the Director was given regulatory powers concerning the promotion of gambling.

*(Page 13 of the Gaming portfolio verified transcript)*

- Transition measures from gaming operators to venue ownership.

*(Page 15 of the Gaming portfolio verified transcript)*

### **2.8.6 Consumer Affairs Portfolio**

- What proportion of the appropriation fund is given to key protection activities?

*(Page 8 and 9 of the Consumer Affairs portfolio verified transcript)*

- How many instances of legal proceedings has Consumer Affairs Victoria initiated under the Retirement Villages Act and how many of the targeted compliance activities for 2009-10 relate to the Retirement Villages Act?

*(Page 9 and 10 of the Consumer Affairs portfolio verified transcript)*

## 2.9 Department of Planning and Community Development

### 2.9.1 Veterans' Affairs Portfolio

- Details of annual variations within departmental estimates.

*(Page 5 of the Veterans' Affairs portfolio verified transcript)*

### 2.9.2 Senior Victorians Portfolio

- Estimated completion date for the Residential Aged Care fabric survey.

*(Pages 4 and 5 of the Senior Victorians portfolio verified transcript)*

- Total output cost of the Residential Aged Care fabric survey.

*(Page 4 of the Senior Victorians portfolio verified transcript)*

- Breakdown of the increase in Federal Government and third-party revenue, as referenced in footnote (d) on page 99 of Budget Paper 3.

*(Page 4 of the Senior Victorians portfolio verified transcript)*

- The number of residential aged-care facilities in category 1, 2 and 3 as a result of the 2008 fabric survey.

*(Page 4 of the Senior Victorians portfolio verified transcript)*

- The number of residential aged-care facilities identified in 2001 but not developed as of last year that are now in category 1 and 2, and whether they have been funded to fix their facilities.

*(Page 4 of the Senior Victorians portfolio verified transcript)*

- Amount of funding provided for cognitive dementia and memory services.

*(Pages 6 and 7 of the Senior Victorians portfolio verified transcript)*

### 2.9.3 Community Development Portfolio

- Breakdown of the output cost of the Community Development output group.

*(Pages 10 and 11 of the Community Development portfolio verified transcript)*

### 2.9.4 Planning Portfolio

- Further information on the rebuilding currently underway in bushfire affected communities.

*(Pages 10 and 11 of the Planning portfolio verified transcript)*

### **2.9.5 Women's Affairs Portfolio**

- The website address and the date the Women's Safety Strategy was published on the internet.

*(Page 4 of the Women's Affairs portfolio verified transcript)*

- Further information on the number of tenants, the amount of rent and the metreage being occupied in the Queen Victoria Women's Centre.

*(Pages 5 and 6 of the Women's Affairs portfolio verified transcript)*

## **2.10 Department of Premier and Cabinet**

### **2.10.1 Premier's Portfolio**

- Funding details for drought outreach workers.

*(Page 13 of the Premier's portfolio verified transcript)*

- A breakdown of the expenditure components of the output Developing the Local Government Sector.

*(Page 17 of the Premier's portfolio verified transcript)*

- Projected annual savings, from the Northern Victoria Irrigation System, in years when the losses from the systems are less than 400,000 mega litres per year and the cost per mega litre of water saved in such years.

*(Page 24 of the Premier's portfolio verified transcript)*

### **2.10.2 Multicultural Affairs Portfolio**

- Details of funding to support refugee students within the Victorian school system.

*(Page 6 of the Multicultural Affairs/Veteran's Affairs portfolio verified transcript)*

### **2.10.3 Arts Portfolio**

- Breakdown of performance against established targets for the Melbourne Recital Centre including programming and hiring out.

*(Pages 4 and 5 of the Arts portfolio verified transcript)*

- Budget Paper No.3 page 194 identified declines in actual and expected attendance at major performing arts organisations in Victoria. Please provide a breakdown of attendances across individual agencies/institutions during the last three years.

*(Page 6 of the Arts portfolio verified transcript)*

## 2.11 Department of Primary Industries

### 2.11.1 Agriculture Portfolio

- Amount of funding committed to fruit fly control in Victoria.

*(Page 7 of the Agriculture portfolio verified transcript)*

## 2.12 Department of Sustainability and Environment

### 2.12.1 Environment and Climate Change Portfolio

- Budget Paper No.3 page 213 states that improved environmental flow regimes were applied to 20 rivers during 2008-09 and the target for 2009-10 is 20 rivers. Please provide details of the rivers where improved environmental flow regimes were applied in 2008-09 and where they will be applied in 2009-10.

*(Pages 9 and 10 of the Environment and Climate Change portfolio verified transcript)*

- Details of where the \$4 million funding for beach renourishment and coastal risk mitigation will initially be targeted and where funds have already been targeted.

*(Pages 14 and 15 of the Environment and Climate Change portfolio verified transcript)*

- Details of the number of staff and the costs of employing them in the Environmental Policy and Climate Change division of the Department of Sustainability and Environment.

*(Page 19 of the Environment and Climate Change portfolio verified transcript)*

- Details of consultancies ordered or undertaken by the Environmental Policy and Climate Change division of the Department of Sustainability and Environment during the previous financial year and for the forthcoming estimates period. Please include the cost expended or expected to be expended on each consultancy, the purpose of the consultancy and a description of each consultancy task.

*(Page 19 of the Environment and Climate Change portfolio verified transcript)*

- A detailed breakdown of what the output and asset funding associated with the River Red Gums project will be used for including the phasing of the funding over the four years covered by the budget.

*(Page 20 of the Environment and Climate Change portfolio verified transcript)*

### **2.12.2 Water Portfolio**

- Please provide a detailed explanation for the changes in the performance output measures on page 214 of Budget Paper No.3.

*(Page 6 of the Water portfolio verified transcript)*

- Details of the policy timeframes for the release of public sector comparator information in the Partnerships Victoria framework.

*(Pages 6 and 7 of the Water portfolio verified transcript)*

- A breakdown of the number of temporary and ongoing jobs that will be created as a result of major water projects including specific details relating to the 2,300 jobs identified in the Minister's media release Water projects secure 2,300 jobs and our water supply on 5 May 2009.

*(Page 7 of the Water portfolio verified transcript)*

- Details of the cost of piping water down the north-south pipeline.

*(Page 15 of the Water portfolio verified transcript)*

The following questions on notice were not asked at the hearing.

- In regard to Metropolitan stockhold water savings, how many megalitres of water have been saved and what was the cost per megalitre.
- In relation to the North-South Pipeline, how many Kilowatts of energy will be required to pump each megalitre of water to the Sugar Loaf Reservoir. Please also detail the cost per kilowatt and the cost per megalitre.
- Regarding the water rebate for irrigators and S&D farmers who received less than 30% of water entitlements as of 1 December 2008. Please explain whether, if the drought continues, the threshold for this rebate will remain at 30% or if it will be reduced to 20%.
- What is the volume and cost (\$/megalitre), including capital and operating costs, for water produced by the desalination plant and piped to Melbourne.
- With the fast-tracking of the Wimmera-Mallee pipeline and the subsequent savings achieved, will the Government honour the Premier's promise of July 2006, to fund 50% of the cost of fire hydrants on the Wimmera-Mallee pipeline.

## 2.13 Department of Treasury and Finance

### 2.13.1 Treasury Portfolio

- Clarification of investment return achieved by the Victorian Funds Management Corporation for the quarter ended 31 March 2009.

*(Pages 10 and 12 of the Treasury portfolio verified transcript)*

- Estimated losses across the general government sector from investments made by the Victorian Funds Management Corporation factored into the revised budget for 2008-09.

*(Pages 10 and 12 of the Treasury portfolio verified transcript)*

- Details relating to the composition of the state's biological assets

*(Pages 16 and 17 of the Treasury portfolio verified transcript)*

- Explanation for the anticipated reduction in revenue derived from landfill levies given trends in waste generation per capita in the long term.

*(Pages 31 and 32 of the Treasury portfolio verified transcript)*

- Policy for raising the landfill levy.

*(Page 31 of the Treasury portfolio verified transcript)*

### 2.13.2 Finance, Workcover and the Transport Accident Commission Portfolio

- Does the number of workplace inspectors per head of employee meet the number specified by the International Labour Organisation's (ILO) benchmark?

*(Page 6 of the Finance, Workcover and the Transport Accident Commission portfolio verified transcript)*

- In regards to WorkCover premiums, the Minister mentioned a 1.387 buffer. Can you provide the breakeven figure for WorkCover premiums?

*(Page 10 of the Finance, Workcover and the Transport Accident Commission portfolio verified transcript)*

- Can you provide information on why the senior ongoing positions, such as Chief Operating Officer and Chief Information Officer for CenITex are contractors?

*(Page 11 of the Finance, Workcover and the Transport Accident Commission portfolio verified transcript)*

- In regards to State Purchase Contracts, can you provide information as to what extent these are used or available to public non-financial corporations, other agencies outside the departmental structure and non-government agencies implementing government programs?

*(Pages 11 and 12 of the Finance, Workcover and the Transport Accident Commission portfolio verified transcript)*

- In regards to ancillary service savings, can you please provide information on the savings made as a result of this initiative?

*(Pages 15 and 16 of the Finance, Workcover and the Transport Accident Commission portfolio verified transcript)*