



# Department of Justice

Police and Emergency Management

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Mr David Morris MP  
Chair  
Public Accounts & Estimates Committee  
Parliament House  
Spring Street  
EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3002

Dear Mr Morris

## 2013-14 Budget Estimates

Thank you for your letter of 20 June 2013, addressed to the Hon. Kim Wells MP, Minister for Bushfire Response and Minister for Police and Emergency Services, requesting further information be provided to the Public Accounts and Estimates Committee in relation to questions on notice taken at the Budget Estimates hearing held on 16 May 2013.

Minister Wells' response was provided electronically to Valerie Chong in your office on 12 July 2013, and I am pleased to confirm those responses to those questions in hard copy as requested:

Question 1: Please confirm whether funding will be restored to the Kinglake youth group for the co-ordinator position for which funding was cut.

- A wide range of services are available to youth in the Kinglake Ranges and surrounds through existing community support services and specific bushfire programs funded by the Victorian Bushfire Appeal Fund (VBAF) and other not-for-profit agencies.
- VBAF funds a statewide program of psychological support services for adults, children (0-10 years) and young people (10-26 years), including a flexible outreach approach.
- These programs include one-on-one counselling as well as a number of positions based part time in secondary schools attended by students from the Kinglake area. VBAF has recently extended funding for these services until November 2014.

- In addition, agencies including the Salvation Army, Berry Street, the Australian Centre for Grief and Bereavement and Catholic Care offer a variety of youth counselling services across the Kinglake Ranges.
- The Kinglake Youth Group (known as the Womenjika Youth Group) was funded through the Victorian Bushfire Appeal Fund (VBAF).
- The Youth Group was allocated \$261,000 for activities over 18 months. This funding, which included the employment of the youth coordinator, ended in March 2013.
- VBAF is now fully committed and is unable to provide any further funding for community projects.
- VBAF is governed by an independent Advisory Panel that allocates funds generously donated by the public to bushfire recovery. Government cannot influence decisions made by the Advisory Panel.
- The dedicated youth workers who run the Womenjika Youth Group recognise the need to find alternative funding sources. The Smouldering Stump Fundraising campaign has been initiated by community members in Kinglake who intend to source ongoing funding for the program.
- My office continues to be in contact with community members on this issue to examine further sources of funding.

Question 2: Please advise the amounts of fines revenue expected to be raised over the forward estimates from:

A: consumption of alcohol within cars; and

B: tailgating.

- Revenue estimates are not set for individual offences. Rather, revenue estimates for police on-the-spot fines are set using broad categories of offences, including public order and traffic offences.
- This reflects the fact that revenue for any one offence will fluctuate over time, given that operational priorities for police can change depending on the circumstances.
- The Victorian Budget Paper 5 indicates that police on-the-spot fines are expected to generate \$162.2 million in revenue in 2013-14. This represents an increase of 1.7 per cent on the revised 2013-13 figure of \$159.5 million.

Question 3: Please list the locations of the 10 highest-grossing speed cameras.

- The Government is committed to being open and transparent when it comes to Victoria's camera program. It is a fact that cameras save lives.
- To increase public trust in the camera program, the Government has developed the Cameras Save Lives website.
- This website provides a wealth of information on Victoria's road safety cameras, including the location of all fixed and mobile cameras. The website also provides quarterly information on the number and value of infringements issued for these cameras.
- In the period 1 July 2012 to 31 March 2013, the 10 sites issuing the most infringements were:
  - Western Ring Road, Keilor East, Northbound, Keilor Park Drive Bridge - Lane 2
  - Western Ring Road, Keilor East, Northbound, Keilor Park Drive Bridge - Lane 1
  - Princes Freeway, Hoppers Crossing, Forsyth Road Bridge, Geelong Bound - Lane 1, 2, 3, 4
  - Princes Freeway, Hoppers Crossing, Forsyth Road Bridge, Melbourne Bound - Lane 1, 2, 3, 4
  - Princes Freeway, Lara, Avalon Road Bridge, Melbourne Bound - Lane 1, 2, 3
  - At the Intersection of Dandenong-Frankston Road and Skye Road, Frankston - Lane 1, 2, 3
  - Western Ring Road, Sunshine West, Southbound, Boundary Road North Side Gantry - Lane 4
  - Eastlink, Rowville, Northbound, Wellington Road Bridge - Lane 3
  - Eastlink, Keysborough, Southbound, Dandenong Bypass Bridge - Lane 3
  - At the Intersection of Kings Way and Park Street, South Melbourne - Lane 1, 2, 3, 4.

Yours sincerely



Neil Robertson  
Executive Director  
Police and Emergency Management