

RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE – PAEC Inquiry into 2021-22 Budget Estimates – Minister for Regulatory Reform

Wednesday 16 June

1. What are the details of the heavy vehicle permit and big build projects on slide 4?

(Asked by Mr Richardson Page 4 of the transcript)

Transcript extract:

Mr RICHARDSON: In the short time I have got left—and we might need to take some of this on notice— you talked a little bit about the projects on slide 4. Are you able to provide any more detail on some of those projects?

Mr PEARSON: Yes, sure. So if we look at the heavy vehicle permit, over the last five years the Department of Transport has seen a 400 per cent increase in heavy vehicle permit applications, and that is requiring what is called a structural assessment. So the need for more larger vehicles to transport goods and construction material around Victoria has been fuelled by our Big Build. So therefore there is a need to try and provide a level of innovation around that, but I am happy to provide more information to the committee.

Response

The Heavy Vehicles Permit Reform looks to expand on the current pre-approved and gazetted network mapping on the VicRoads website, allowing streamlined, pre-approved access for larger oversize vehicles, mobile cranes and High Productivity Freight Vehicles.

2. What is the total budget for 21/22 for the Regulatory Reform portfolio after cuts and rollovers?

(Asked by Mr Riordan Page 4 of the transcript)

Transcript extract:

Mr RIORDAN: Okay. So, Mr Martine, you might be able to get to the nub of this one. What is the total budget for the regulatory reform portfolio in 2021–22 after cuts and rollovers?

Mr MARTINE: Thanks, Deputy Chair. I will probably have to take that on notice, because the work is embedded in Mr Barrett’s division. So the \$74.8 million you referred to, \$40 million of that is the incentive fund that the minister spoke about, and then some additional funding for the fast-tracking, you know.

Mr RIORDAN: All right. If we could take that on notice, that would be great.

Mr MARTINE: We are happy to take that on notice.

Response

Of the \$74.8 million allocated to the regulatory reform package in the 2020-21 Budget, \$38.6m was allocated to 2021-22. Unspent funds from 2020-21 may also be carried over to 2021-22; this is yet to be determined.

3. Can you supply us with who the 22 recipients are and the assessment criteria for funding?

(Asked by Mr Riordan Page 5 of the transcript)

Transcript extract:

Mr RIORDAN: Thanks. Just in the last minute we have got, Mr Martine, assuming the minister will not be able to give us the list—we do not expect him to know—could you supply us with the who the 22 recipients are?

Mr MARTINE: Yes, I am happy to take that—

Mr RIORDAN: Take that on notice? Yes, that would be great. Could we also have on notice the assessment criteria that is being used to understand who gets—

Mr MARTINE: Happy to take that on notice. I guess the other point perhaps, just to quickly add, some of the amounts that are paid are actually quite small. Some of them are actually in the hundreds of thousands of dollars to then deliver savings in the tens of millions.

Mr RIORDAN: Right.

Mr MARTINE: We will provide that on notice.

Response

The Regulatory Reform Incentive Fund (RRIF) assessment criteria prioritise projects:

- with highest overall economic benefits (and a benefit-cost ratio of at least one);
- that are feasible and can be delivered in a timely manner;
- that are consistent with the RRIF objective to support economic recovery and job creation through improvements to Victoria's regulatory system; and
- that contribute to broader Victorian Government policy and State Budget objectives.

Recipient of funding for the 22 initiatives is as follows:

Department	Number of RRIF initiatives
Department of Environment, Land Water and Planning (DELWP)	6
Department of Health (DH)	2
Department of Transport (DoT)	5
Department of Education (DET)	3
Department of Justice and Community Safety (DJCS)	5
Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions (DJPR)	1