

PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA

**PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(HANSARD)**

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

FIFTY-EIGHTH PARLIAMENT

FIRST SESSION

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

3, 4 and 5 May 2016

(Extract from book 7)

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HANSARD¹⁵⁰



1866–2016

Following a select committee investigation, Victorian Hansard was conceived when the following amended motion was passed by the Legislative Assembly on 23 June 1865:

That in the opinion of this house, provision should be made to secure a more accurate report of the debates in Parliament, in the form of *Hansard*.

The sessional volume for the first sitting period of the Fifth Parliament, from 12 February to 10 April 1866, contains the following preface dated 11 April:

As a preface to the first volume of “Parliamentary Debates” (new series), it is not inappropriate to state that prior to the Fifth Parliament of Victoria the newspapers of the day virtually supplied the only records of the debates of the Legislature.

With the commencement of the Fifth Parliament, however, an independent report was furnished by a special staff of reporters, and issued in weekly parts.

This volume contains the complete reports of the proceedings of both Houses during the past session.

In 2016 the Hansard Unit of the Department of Parliamentary Services continues the work begun 150 years ago of providing an accurate and complete report of the proceedings of both houses of the Victorian Parliament.

The Governor

The Honourable LINDA DESSAU, AM

The Lieutenant-Governor

The Honourable Justice MARILYN WARREN, AC, QC

The ministry

Premier	The Hon. D. M. Andrews, MP
Deputy Premier and Minister for Education	The Hon. J. A. Merlino, MP
Treasurer	The Hon. T. H. Pallas, MP
Minister for Public Transport and Minister for Employment	The Hon. J. Allan, MP
Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade	The Hon. P. Dalidakis, MLC
Minister for Industry, and Minister for Energy and Resources	The Hon. L. D’Ambrosio, MP
Minister for Roads and Road Safety, and Minister for Ports	The Hon. L. A. Donnellan, MP
Minister for Tourism and Major Events, Minister for Sport and Minister for Veterans	The Hon. J. H. Eren, MP
Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Equality and Minister for Creative Industries	The Hon. M. P. Foley, MP
Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Consumer Affairs, Gaming and Liquor Regulation	The Hon. J. F. Garrett, MP
Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services	The Hon. J. Hennessy, MP
Minister for Training and Skills	The Hon. S. R. Herbert, MLC
Minister for Local Government, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Minister for Industrial Relations	The Hon. N. M. Hutchins, MP
Special Minister of State	The Hon. G. Jennings, MLC
Minister for Families and Children, and Minister for Youth Affairs	The Hon. J. Mikakos, MLC
Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water	The Hon. L. M. Neville, MP
Minister for Police and Minister for Corrections	The Hon. W. M. Noonan, MP
Attorney-General and Minister for Racing	The Hon. M. P. Pakula, MP
Minister for Agriculture and Minister for Regional Development	The Hon. J. L. Pulford, MLC
Minister for Women and Minister for the Prevention of Family Violence	The Hon. F. Richardson, MP
Minister for Finance and Minister for Multicultural Affairs	The Hon. R. D. Scott, MP
Minister for Planning	The Hon. R. W. Wynne, MP
Cabinet Secretary	Ms M. Kairouz, MP

Legislative Council committees

Privileges Committee — Mr Drum, Ms Hartland, Mr Herbert, Ms Mikakos, Ms Pulford, Mr Purcell, Mr Rich-Phillips and Ms Wooldridge.

Procedure Committee — The President, Dr Carling-Jenkins, Mr Davis, Mr Jennings, Ms Pennicuik, Ms Pulford, Ms Tierney and Ms Wooldridge.

Legislative Council standing committees

Standing Committee on the Economy and Infrastructure — #Ms Dunn, Mr Eideh, Mr Elasmarr, Mr Finn, Ms Hartland, Mr Leane, Mr Morris and Mr Ondarchie.

Standing Committee on the Environment and Planning — Ms Bath, #Mr Bourman, Mr Dalla-Riva, Mr Davis, Ms Dunn, #Ms Hartland, #Mr Purcell, #Mr Ramsay, Ms Shing, Mr Somyurek, Ms Tierney and Mr Young.

Standing Committee on Legal and Social Issues — Ms Fitzherbert, #Ms Hartland, Mr Melhem, Mr Mulino, Mr O'Donohue, Ms Patten, Mrs Peulich, #Mr Rich-Phillips, Ms Springle and Ms Symes.

participating members

Legislative Council select committees

Port of Melbourne Select Committee — Mr Barber, Mr Drum, Mr Mulino, Mr Ondarchie, Mr Purcell, Mr Rich-Phillips, Ms Shing and Ms Tierney.

Joint committees

Accountability and Oversight Committee — (*Council*): Ms Bath, Mr Purcell and Ms Symes. (*Assembly*): Mr Angus, Mr Gidley, Mr Staikos and Ms Thomson.

Dispute Resolution Committee — (*Council*): Mr Bourman, Mr Dalidakis, Ms Dunn, Mr Jennings and Ms Wooldridge. (*Assembly*): Ms Allan, Mr Clark, Mr Merlino, Mr M. O'Brien, Mr Pakula, Ms Richardson and Mr Walsh

Economic, Education, Jobs and Skills Committee — (*Council*): Mr Bourman, Mr Elasmarr and Mr Melhem. (*Assembly*): Mr Crisp, Mrs Fyffe, Mr Nardella and Ms Ryall.

Electoral Matters Committee — (*Council*): Ms Patten and Mr Somyurek. (*Assembly*): Ms Asher, Ms Blandthorn, Mr Dixon, Mr Northe and Ms Spence.

Environment, Natural Resources and Regional Development Committee — (*Council*): Mr Ramsay and Mr Young. (*Assembly*): Ms Halfpenny, Mr McCurdy, Mr Richardson, Mr Tilley and Ms Ward.

Family and Community Development Committee — (*Council*): Mr Finn. (*Assembly*): Ms Couzens, Mr Edbrooke, Ms Edwards, Ms Kealy, Ms McLeish and Ms Sheed.

House Committee — (*Council*): The President (*ex officio*), Mr Eideh, Ms Hartland, Ms Lovell, Mr Mulino and Mr Young. (*Assembly*): The Speaker (*ex officio*), Mr J. Bull, Mr Crisp, Mrs Fyffe, Mr Staikos, Ms Suleyman and Mr Thompson.

Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission Committee — (*Council*): Mr Ramsay and Ms Symes. (*Assembly*): Mr Hibbins, Mr D. O'Brien, Mr Richardson, Ms Thomson and Mr Wells.

Law Reform, Road and Community Safety Committee — (*Council*): Mr Eideh and Ms Patten. (*Assembly*): Mr Dixon, Mr Howard, Ms Suleyman, Mr Thompson and Mr Tilley.

Public Accounts and Estimates Committee — (*Council*): Dr Carling-Jenkins, Ms Pennicuik and Ms Shing. (*Assembly*): Mr Dimopoulos, Mr Morris, Mr D. O'Brien, Mr Pearson, Mr T. Smith and Ms Ward.

Scrutiny of Acts and Regulations Committee — (*Council*): Ms Bath and Mr Dalla-Riva. (*Assembly*): Ms Blandthorn, Mr J. Bull, Mr Dimopoulos, Ms Kilkenny and Mr Pesutto.

Heads of parliamentary departments

Assembly — Clerk of the Parliaments and Clerk of the Legislative Assembly: Mr R. W. Purdey

Council — Clerk of the Legislative Council: Mr A. Young

Parliamentary Services — Secretary: Mr P. Lochert

**MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
FIFTY-EIGHTH PARLIAMENT — FIRST SESSION**

President: The Hon. B. N. ATKINSON

Deputy President: Ms G. TIERNEY

Acting Presidents: Ms Dunn, Mr Eideh, Mr Elasmr, Mr Finn, Mr Morris, Ms Patten, Mr Ramsay

Leader of the Government:
The Hon. G. JENNINGS

Deputy Leader of the Government:
The Hon. J. L. PULFORD

Leader of the Opposition:
The Hon. M. WOOLDRIDGE

Deputy Leader of the Opposition:
The Hon. G. K. RICH-PHILLIPS

Leader of The Nationals:
The Hon. D. K. DRUM

Leader of the Greens:
Mr G. BARBER

Member	Region	Party	Member	Region	Party
Atkinson, Mr Bruce Norman	Eastern Metropolitan	LP	Mikakos, Ms Jenny	Northern Metropolitan	ALP
Barber, Mr Gregory John	Northern Metropolitan	Greens	Morris, Mr Joshua	Western Victoria	LP
Bath, Ms Melina ²	Eastern Victoria	Nats	Mulino, Mr Daniel	Eastern Victoria	ALP
Bourman, Mr Jeffrey	Eastern Victoria	SFP	O'Brien, Mr Daniel David ¹	Eastern Victoria	Nats
Carling-Jenkins, Dr Rachel	Western Metropolitan	DLP	O'Donohue, Mr Edward John	Eastern Victoria	LP
Crozier, Ms Georgina Mary	Southern Metropolitan	LP	Ondarchie, Mr Craig Philip	Northern Metropolitan	LP
Dalidakis, Mr Philip	Southern Metropolitan	ALP	Patten, Ms Fiona	Northern Metropolitan	ASP
Dalla-Riva, Mr Richard Alex Gordon	Eastern Metropolitan	LP	Pennicuik, Ms Susan Margaret	Southern Metropolitan	Greens
Davis, Mr David McLean	Southern Metropolitan	LP	Peulich, Mrs Inga	South Eastern Metropolitan	LP
Drum, Mr Damian Kevin	Northern Victoria	Nats	Pulford, Ms Jaala Lee	Western Victoria	ALP
Dunn, Ms Samantha	Eastern Metropolitan	Greens	Purcell, Mr James	Western Victoria	V1LJ
Eideh, Mr Khalil M.	Western Metropolitan	ALP	Ramsay, Mr Simon	Western Victoria	LP
Elasmr, Mr Nazih	Northern Metropolitan	ALP	Rich-Phillips, Mr Gordon Kenneth	South Eastern Metropolitan	LP
Finn, Mr Bernard Thomas C.	Western Metropolitan	LP	Shing, Ms Harriet	Eastern Victoria	ALP
Fitzherbert, Ms Margaret	Southern Metropolitan	LP	Somyurek, Mr Adem	South Eastern Metropolitan	ALP
Hartland, Ms Colleen Mildred	Western Metropolitan	Greens	Springle, Ms Nina	South Eastern Metropolitan	Greens
Herbert, Mr Steven Ralph	Northern Victoria	ALP	Symes, Ms Jaelyn	Northern Victoria	ALP
Jennings, Mr Gavin Wayne	South Eastern Metropolitan	ALP	Tierney, Ms Gayle Anne	Western Victoria	ALP
Leane, Mr Shaun Leo	Eastern Metropolitan	ALP	Wooldridge, Ms Mary Louise Newling	Eastern Metropolitan	LP
Lovell, Ms Wendy Ann	Northern Victoria	LP	Young, Mr Daniel	Northern Victoria	SFP
Melhem, Mr Cesar	Western Metropolitan	ALP			

¹ Resigned 25 February 2015

² Appointed 15 April 2015

PARTY ABBREVIATIONS

ALP — Labor Party; ASP — Australian Sex Party;
DLP — Democratic Labour Party; Greens — Australian Greens;
LP — Liberal Party; Nats — The Nationals;
SFP — Shooters and Fishers Party; V1LJ — Vote 1 Local Jobs

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Answers to the following questions on notice were circulated on the date shown.

Questions have been incorporated from the notice paper of the Legislative Council.

Answers have been incorporated in the form supplied by the departments on behalf of the appropriate ministers.

Headings reflect the portfolio of the minister answering the question.

Tuesday, 3 May 2016

Roads and road safety

4890. MS DUNN — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Roads and Road Safety): In relation to the VicRoads proposals for the Horsham Bypass, Western Highway:

- (1) Will you accept the Planning Panel Report Recommendations and commence work to ensure VicRoads carries out a more detailed examination of the following matters in relation to the Option D alignment, including —
 - (a) review the impact of Option D on planning for the extension of the North-South Runway at Horsham Aerodrome;
 - (b) review the design of the Option D Wimmera River floodplain crossing in conjunction with Wimmera Catchment Management Authority to confirm the appropriate design standard, including the length of the floodplain crossing, the required floodway structures and a more accurate estimate of costs;
 - (c) develop a revised Social Impact Assessment for Route D, including analysis of impacts on the Wimmera River Riverside environs and the Riding for the Disabled Centre, assessing ways that any future impacts can be mitigated;
 - (d) more accurately consider access arrangements for each stage of the Bypass to a higher level of detail, with a view to more accurately defining and reducing the Public Acquisition Overlay extent; and
 - (e) review other aspects of the project as required (e.g. visual impact, flora and fauna impacts, cultural heritage) if the above work results in changes to the alignment or built form of the project.
- (2) Will you consider including a reassessment of Option 5A, or a variation on that route.

ANSWER:

I am informed that, as at the date the question was raised:

- (1) The Panel's report will be considered before a decision is made. VicRoads is currently working through the recommendations of the report.

VicRoads advises me that it will wait until the Aerodrome Master Plan is completed and for the Horsham Rural City Council to confirm if it is possible to extend the north-south runway in a cost-effective manner in relation to Option D.

VicRoads recently met with the Wimmera Catchment Management Authority (WCMA) and it was confirmed that the 1:100 year flood level design standard is supported. VicRoads has discussed flooding details and mitigation cost estimates in with the WCMA. WCMA has confirmed that the information published and produced at the Panel hearing as appropriate and correct.

VicRoads will discuss the Panel's report and issues raised at the Hearing with the relevant stakeholders. Council is likely to undertake consultation as part of the Aerodrome Master Plan and Integrated Transport Plan, and VicRoads will take part in these processes.

VicRoads will also meet with Riding for the Disabled and Riverside Recreation Reserve Committee of Management to discuss how it may be able to refine the alignment to mitigate some of its concerns, and ensure its proposed mitigation measures are suitable.

VicRoads does not believe that a revised Social Impact Assessment is required due to the work it has already done, which details mitigation measures for various issues.

Investigations and further consultation regarding access arrangements and the extent of the proposed overlay is undertaken in more detail during the design phase of the project. There is currently no funding for the detailed design or construction of a Horsham bypass. If and when funding is made available, VicRoads will work with individuals regarding the existing environment at the time.

VicRoads will review Option D in line of any work done which may alter the alignment.

- (2) VicRoads will not consider reassessing other routes for a Horsham bypass until the current VicRoads and Council work is completed. Should the outcomes from the work recommended by the Panel suggest that Option D is no longer viable; VicRoads will need to consider its options.

Planning

4891. MS DUNN — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Planning): In relation to the VicRoads proposals for the Horsham Bypass, Western Highway:

- (1) Will you accept the recommendations of the Planning Panel Report titled Horsham Planning Scheme Amendment C72 of 23 December 2015.
- (2) In particular, will you accept the recommendation to defer Amendment C72 to the Horsham Planning Scheme, pending re-examination of the strategic assumptions that underpin the route selection choice.
- (3) Will any future review consider changed strategic directions arising out of Amendment C75 and will it be carried out in collaboration with Horsham Rural City Council and the community.

ANSWER:

Horsham Planning Scheme Amendment C72 proposes to reserve land for a future bypass road for Horsham. I understand that VicRoads is the planning authority for this amendment. As such VicRoads requested a planning panel after receiving 85 submissions during the exhibition period. The planning panel report was released to the public on 21 January 2016.

I am advised that a key recommendation of the planning panel report for C72 was for VicRoads to defer the amendment while they re-examine the strategic assumptions that underpinned their preferred bypass option in collaboration with Horsham Rural City Council and the community. I understand VicRoads is currently preparing its response to these recommendations. Once VicRoads has completed its consideration of the panel report, including addressing the issues of the Horsham aerodrome, Wimmera River floodplains crossing and social impact assessment, VicRoads will then advise my department of how it intends to proceed with Amendment C72.

Horsham Planning Scheme Amendment C75 is a review of its Municipal Strategic Statement. In this amendment, Horsham Rural City Council is the planning authority. I am advised that a planning panel heard submissions to Amendment C75 on 26 February 2016. I am also advised that Horsham Rural City Council has yet to receive the planning panel's recommendations for the amendment.

It is for VicRoads and Horsham Rural City Council as respective planning authorities to consider the planning panel's recommendations for both Horsham Amendments C72 and C75. If VicRoads and Horsham Rural City Council wish to proceed to requesting approval of either Amendment C72 or C75 they will need to consider and address any changed elements resulting from the re-examination of the strategic assumptions for the preferred bypass alignment and any future planning panel recommendations for Amendment C75. Until these steps have been completed it is premature for me to consider adopting a position on either of these Horsham Planning Scheme Amendments.

I am confident that these amendment processes will enable the planning merits of a Horsham bypass alignment and review of the Municipal Strategic Statement to be fully considered.

Small business, innovation and trade

4901. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade: Since being appointed a Minister of the Crown, have you received any gifts from the private sector up to the sum of AUD\$500 and if so, please specify —

- (a) the donor;
- (b) the gift;
- (c) the value of the gift; and
- (d) whether this gift was disclosed in a declaration.

ANSWER:

Members of the Victorian Parliament are required to declare personal interests in accordance with the Members of Parliament (Register of Interests) Act 1978.

Families and children

4939. MS SPRINGLE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In her answer to Question on Notice 1307, the Minister confirmed that the Department of Health and Human Services does not report on how much placement prevention program funding that goes to, or is available in, each Local Government Area: Why doesn't the Department report on the placement prevention funding by LGA.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Department of Health and Human Services funds a range of Community Service Organisations to deliver placement prevention activities across a broad range of service catchments including Divisions, Areas and in some cases Local Government Area. However, Local Government Areas are not used as consistent catchment areas across all placement prevention activities for either funding or reporting purposes.

Families and children

4940. MS SPRINGLE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In her answers to Questions on Notice 1318 and 1319, the Minister confirmed that the Department of Health and Human Services does not collect data on the number of children who are placed in the Circle and TRACK programs who have previously been in residential care placements:

- (1) why does the Department not collect this data; and
- (2) does the Department have any plans to collect this data in the future.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Member is incorrect in her assertion. Information regarding children placed in the Circle and TRACK programs who have previously been in residential care placements is contained in individual client records. A manual review of every client record would be required to provide this information.

Families and children

4941. **MS SPRINGLE** — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In her answers to Questions on Notice 1331, 1332, 1333 and 1334, the Minister confirmed that the information about whether children in out-of-home care see a therapeutic specialist, a counsellor or a psychologist/psychiatrist at least once a month, or whether children in residential care have a therapeutic specialist officially assigned to their case, is contained within the individual client records of those children, and that the Department of Health and Human Services does not collect and collate data about the aggregate number of children who see a therapeutic specialist, a counsellor or a psychologist/psychiatrist at least once a month, or who have a therapeutic specialist officially assigned to their case:

- (1) why does the Department not collect this data; and
- (2) does the Department have any plans to collect this data in the future.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Information on the emotional or psychological support services being accessed by children and young people in out-of-home care, including information on the number of children supported by a therapeutic specialist outside of therapeutic residential care, is contained in individual client records. A manual review of every client record would be required to provide this information.

The Program requirements for residential care in Victoria (April 2015) require community service organisations to ensure the health needs of children and young people in residential care are assessed and appropriate treatment is provided, including mental health and specialist needs.

Families and children

4944. **MS SPRINGLE** — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In her answer to Question on Notice 1348, the Minister confirmed that information about whether Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander children are living in residential care units where there are no Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander members of direct-care staff is contained only in the records maintained by the community service organisations that employ the staff:

- (1) Why does the Department of Health and Human Services not collect data or information about how many Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander children are living in residential care units where there are no Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander members of direct-care staff; and
- (2) does the Department have any plans to collect this data in the future.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The personal details of staff employed by community service organisations are managed by the community service organisations that employ the residential staff.

The Aboriginal Children's Forum has been established to strengthen the partnership between community and government and will assist in identifying actions that are needed to improve outcomes for Aboriginal children in out-of-home care, including necessary data requirements.

Families and children

4945. MS SPRINGLE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: Does the “Shared Stories Shared Lives” mandatory pre-service training for all prospective foster carers include an accredited mental health first aid training component.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Shared Stories Shared Lives Victoria is the first step of preparation to be an effective foster carer. Shared Stories Shared Lives Victoria touches on a number of issues relevant to children and young people in out-of-home care.

Community service organisations providing foster carer services are required to ensure carers have access to support, information, education and training that ensures they are competent to meet the specific needs of children in their care.

The Department of Health and Human Services also funds the peak body for foster carers, the Foster Care Association of Victoria, to deliver state-wide training sessions to foster carers.

Families and children

4946. MS SPRINGLE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: During 2014-15, how many Initial Screenings and Investigations of Allegations of Possible Abuse or Neglect in Residential Care that should have met the specific timelines outlined in the Department of Health and Human Service’s Guidelines for Responding to Quality of Care Concerns in Out-of-Home Care did not meet those guidelines, namely —

- (a) Within 24 hours of receiving a concern;
- (b) Within 3 working days of receiving a concern that constitutes an allegation of possible abuse or neglect;
- (c) Within five working days of receiving a concern that constitutes an allegation of possible abuse or neglect;
- (d) Within 28 working days of receiving a concern that constitutes an allegation of possible abuse or neglect;
- (e) Within 2 working days of completing the investigation outcome report; and
- (f) Within 5 working days of completing the investigation outcome report.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The quality of care process guides the Department of Health and Human Services response to allegations about the quality of care a child receives in out-of-home care placements.

Information about the number of quality of care cases investigated is provided in the Department of Health and Human Services annual report 2014-15.

Quality of care concerns can range from minor quality issues through to possible physical or sexual abuse. All reports are treated seriously at the outset of the process and the best interests of the child or young person are considered paramount.

All cases under investigation are carefully monitored to ensure the safety of children. This may involve removing the child from placement, negotiating the removal of the alleged perpetrator or, where the alleged perpetrator does not live in the placement, making arrangements for the child to have no further contact with them.

All endeavours are made to meet the relevant timelines in the quality of care process. A variety of factors may impact on the capacity to meet timelines, for example, ongoing police investigations.

Families and children

4948. MS SPRINGLE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: During 2014-15, what was the rate of successful transition to Permanent Care Orders in relation to children subject to protection orders.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The number of permanent care orders made by the Children’s Court of Victoria during 2014-15 is published in their annual report.

Environment, climate change and water

4953. MS SPRINGLE — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water): In relation to marine health in Victoria: I note from the Minister’s media release dated 31 January 2016 Keep Safe Around Seals And Marine Wildlife In The Bay, that Zoos Victoria has entered into a partnership with energy retailer AGL. The media release states in part that: ‘The AGL Marine Response Unit is Victoria’s first dedicated marine unit of its kind and responds to hundreds of calls each year to assist injured or distressed seals, turtles, dolphins and other marine wildlife. It relies on the community to act as its eyes and ears’:

- (1) How often does the Marine Response Unit report to the government on injured and distressed marine wildlife;
- (2) How much detail does the Marine Response Unit provide to the government about the causes of injury and distress to marine wildlife; and
- (3) Is this information available to the public and if not, are there any plans on the part of the Minister to compel public disclosure of this information.

ANSWER:

- (1) Every year, the AGL Marine Response Unit receives hundreds of calls relating to Victoria’s marine wildlife. Each call is recorded to capture the species involved, location, time, reason for the call, type of response required, outcomes and communications. The type of response will vary depending on the nature of the animal’s condition. The AGL Marine Response Unit will alert the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) about all reports that involve whales, dolphins and porpoises, or which raise concerns about animal welfare, risks to the public or if the animal is in highly frequented areas. Since 1 July 2015, the AGL Marine Response Unit has reported 74 cases involving marine wildlife to DELWP representing 44 per cent of cases received in that period.
- (2) The AGL Marine Response Unit provides ongoing communication to DELWP for cases meeting the aforementioned criteria. This will include, but not limited to, the type of injury, causes where understood, the response required, the animal’s prognosis, prospects for rehabilitation, and ongoing updates as required. The AGL Marine Response Unit also submits an annual report through to DELWP at the end of each financial year which provides an overview of the unit’s work over the previous 12 months.
- (3) The AGL Marine Response Unit releases its final report including the number of cases to the media each year to provide the public with updates about cases involving Victoria’s marine wildlife. Updates about specific cases are also provided using social media. The annual reports have not been made public to date. However, Zoos Victoria is able to provide copies on request.

Small business, innovation and trade

4968. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade: As at 29 February 2016 —

- (1) How many ministerial staff based in the Ministers Office are employed or engaged in communications, including public, corporate and media relations;
- (2) What is the salary band for each of these officers; and
- (3) What is the job title.

ANSWER:

Funding and tenure for Ministerial Staff is consistent with past practice. Ministerial staff are employed in accordance with the Public Administration Act 2004.

Remuneration for ministerial staff varies depending on experience and responsibility.

Ports

4974. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Ports): As at 29 February 2016 —

- (1) How many ministerial staff based in the Ministers Office are employed or engaged in communications, including public, corporate and media relations;
- (2) What is the salary band for each of these officers; and
- (3) What is the job title.

ANSWER:

I am informed that, as at the date the question was raised:

Funding and tenure for Ministerial Staff is consistent with past practice. Ministerial staff are employed in accordance with the Public Administration Act 2004.

Remuneration for ministerial staff varies depending on experience and responsibility.

Roads and road safety

5002. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Roads and Road Safety): As at 29 February 2016 —

- (1) How many ministerial staff based in the Ministers Office are employed or engaged in communications, including public, corporate and media relations;
- (2) What is the salary band for each of these officers; and
- (3) What is the job title.

ANSWER:

I am informed that, as at the date the question was raised:

Funding and tenure for Ministerial Staff is consistent with past practice. Ministerial staff are employed in accordance with the Public Administration Act 2004.

Remuneration for ministerial staff varies depending on experience and responsibility.

Public transport

5005. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport):

- (1) How many gift ‘Melbourne Monopoly’ board games were provided to Public Transport Victoria from Winning Moves Australia Pty Ltd as part of the Advertising Agreement.
- (2) What is the name and organisation of each person who received a Melbourne Monopoly board game from PTV.

ANSWER:

Public Transport Victoria (PTV) entered into a commercial partnership with Winning. This agreement is commercial in confidence.

Public transport

5034. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): Between 1 July 2015 and 31 December 2015, what is the total funding provided to the Frankston Station precinct project.

ANSWER:

The Frankston Station Precinct Redevelopment has been allocated \$12.13 million funding for the 2015-16 financial year.

Environment, climate change and water

5039. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water): Between 1 July 2015 and 31 December 2015, how many downloads has the Parks Discovery app received.

ANSWER:

Performance outcomes for the Parks Discovery app will be reported in the 2016–2017 Budget as per past practice.

Health

5040. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): Between 1 July 2015 and 31 December 2015, how many complaints of workplace bullying and harassment have been lodged at each Victorian hospital and health service network.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

In March 2015, I requested that the Victorian Auditor-General investigate the nature and extent of bullying and harassment within Victoria’s public hospitals and identify opportunities for promotion of positive workforce culture and behaviours.

The Auditor-General tabled its report *Bullying and Harassment in the health sector* in the Legislative Assembly on 23 March 2016.

A key finding of the audit was that insufficient priority was given to identifying and understanding the risk, causes, prevalence and impact of bullying and harassment in order to effectively prevent and respond. The audit made recommendations to improve reporting and record keeping as well as the need for the Department of Health and Human Services to take on a greater role in sharing data and developing and monitoring progress against key indicators.

The Department of Health and Human Services does not routinely collect data on the number of specific complaints lodged at each Victorian health service that relate to workplace bullying and harassment. However, as a result of the Auditor General's recommendations, the Department of Health and Human Services will be introducing collection of bullying and harassment data as well as utilising the results of the Victorian Public Sector Commission's People Matter Survey to identify health services at risk of poor workplace culture and bullying and harassment.

The Government has recently released its bullying and harassment strategy for the health sector. The strategy will detail our response to this important issue, and among other things, set out the actions that will be undertaken to establish indicators, improve data collection, reporting and monitoring of health service performance in addressing the issue of bullying and harassment.

I have also committed to establishing an advisory group to provide expert advice to the Department of Health and Human Services on options for developing an independent process for managing complaints. This, together with all other actions to increase the awareness of the issue and support health service leaders and staff to improve reporting, will give us a much better understanding of the problem to enable effective prevention, response and monitoring.

Public transport

5041. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): Since 1 July 2015, what is the breakdown of expenses claimed by the Chair of VicTrack.

ANSWER:

There have been no expenses claimed by the Chair of VicTrack since 1 July 2015.

Environment, climate change and water

5051. MS HARTLAND — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water): In relation to water and sewerage concessions as of June 2015 —

- (1) how many people received a water and sewerage concession in Victoria;
- (2) what number and/or percentage of these recipients were granted a concession due to possession of a Health Card;
- (3) what number and/or percentage of these recipients were granted a concession due to possession of a Pensioner Concession Card;
- (4) what number and/or percentage of these recipients were granted a concession due to possession of a DVA Gold Card; and
- (5) what were the demographics of water and sewerage recipients in relation to:
 - (a) age;
 - (b) gender;
 - (c) marital status;
 - (d) country of birth (top Ten Countries);
 - (e) language spoken at home;
 - (f) home ownership;
 - (g) rental status;
 - (h) low income earners; and
 - (i) income support type.

ANSWER:

Information on the number of households who receive water and sewerage concessions is compiled on a financial year basis and these numbers are compounded throughout the year. The number of water and sewerage concessions received by Victorian households as of June 2015 is addressed in question 5050.

Public transport

5062. **MS DUNN** — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): In relation to the recently announced removal of nine level crossings between Caulfield and Dandenong, there was no mention of the impact or integration of the Rowville rail line extension. The Caulfield and Dandenong project video (6/2/16) claims a 42 per cent increase in capacity —

- (1) what proportion, if any, of this capacity will be consumed by the Rowville extension; and
- (2) what will remain for Cranbourne/Pakenham growth;

ANSWER:

Works to upgrade the Cranbourne Pakenham corridor will boost capacity on the corridor by up to 42 per cent, accommodating an extra 11 000 passengers in the morning peak. The upgrades will include 65 next generation high capacity trains, removal of nine level crossings between Dandenong and Caulfield and new and upgraded infrastructure on the corridor, including power and signalling upgrades.

This will deliver benefits to current passengers on the Cranbourne Pakenham corridor and provide space to accommodate additional growth in travellers on these lines.

Delivering an extension to Rowville would require further capacity increases on the Cranbourne Pakenham corridor.

Further capacity increases on this corridor will require addressing the City Loop capacity constraints. The Melbourne Metro Rail Project will boost capacity on the Cranbourne Pakenham corridor by placing it in new twin tunnels through central Melbourne, creating a new end-to-end line from Sunbury in the west to Cranbourne Pakenham in the south-east. In addition to enabling more services to run on Melbourne's busiest train lines and making provision for longer high capacity trains through the new stations on the tunnel, Melbourne Metro will prove latent capacity to support further expansions of the rail network, which could include an extension to Rowville.

Public transport

5063. **MS DUNN** — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): In relation to the Rowville Feasibility study in June 2014: It was recommended that the connection of the Rowville line platforms sat underneath the Cranbourne Pakenham line platforms in the existing network at Huntingdale. The lines would then merge between Huntingdale and Oakleigh. Does the analysis in the Rowville Feasibility study stand, or will the proposed elevation of the Cranbourne-Dandenong segment require a new feasibility study into the connection of Rowville Rail?

ANSWER:

The Rowville Rail Feasibility Study investigated options to extend rail services to Rowville, through a connection to the Cranbourne Pakenham line at Huntingdale station.

Through the Level Crossing Removal Project: Caulfield to Dandenong the Government is removing nine level crossings and rebuilding five stations on the Cranbourne and Pakenham lines between Caulfield and Dandenong. This will include the grade separation of Clayton Road, where it is proposed to elevate the rail line in the vicinity of Clayton station.

The proposed grade separation works at Clayton will not impact the alignment or elevation of the rail line at Huntingdale station (which is located more than two kilometres away from Clayton station).

Accordingly, the analysis in the Rowville Rail Feasibility study still stands. The proposed elevation of the Cranbourne Pakenham line at Clayton does not require a new study to be undertaken to reassess the feasibility of the underground platforms and connection of the Rowville line at Huntingdale.

Families and children

5075. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: How many staff members in residential care facilities managed by the Department of Health and Human Services received training for managing ‘sexualised behaviour’ in 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Residential Care Learning and Development Strategy offers a range of training and professional development opportunities for residential care staff, including a course to support staff on managing sexualised behaviour.

In 2014-15, residential care staff participated in Managing Youth People with Sexually Abusive Behaviours training and Working with Adolescents at risk of Sexual Exploitation training. These courses continue to be available in 2015-16. In addition, a forum on normative sexual behaviour has been delivered to residential care staff in November 2015.

As funded in the 2015-16 Budget, four specialised child protection workers have been employed to target the sexual exploitation of children in out of home care. These specialised positions have been established for the first time under the Andrews Labor Government.

Community service organisations may undertake additional training outside of the Residential Care Learning and Development Strategy.

Families and children

5076. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: Does the Department of Health and Human Services require external contractors who manage residential care facilities to provide their direct care staff with ‘managing sexualised behaviour’ training.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Program requirements for residential care in Victoria (April 2015) require community service organisations delivering residential care to have practice guidelines in place for staff working with children who exhibit problem sexual behaviour or sexually abusive behaviour.

The Residential Care Learning and Development Strategy offers a range of training and professional development opportunities for residential care staff, including a course to support staff on managing sexualised behaviour.

As funded in the 2015-16 Budget, four specialised child protection workers have been employed to target the sexual exploitation of children in out of home care. These specialised positions have been established for the first time under the Andrews Labor Government.

Families and children

5084. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: As at 8 March 2016, how many free beds were there in residential care facilities in Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Daily average occupancy data is not collated on a point in time basis.

The rate of residential care vacancies reflects the matching of children and young people to residential care houses based on the best interest of the child or young person. It is important that any child or young person placed in residential care is placed in a safe environment, the effect of which may mean leaving some beds in a residential care facility vacant.

Families and children

5087. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: How many children aged between 13–17 were in residential care during the —

- (a) March 2015 quarter;
- (b) June 2015 quarter;
- (c) September 2015 quarter; and
- (d) December 2015 quarter.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Data relating to the number of children and young people in residential care by quarter is available on the Department's website.

In March 2015, the Andrews Labor Government announced \$43 million for Targeted Care Packages which aim to move children out of residential care and into home-based care.

A further \$19 million was allocated in October 2015 with a view to preventing children and young people coming into residential care in the first place.

As at 29 February 2016, 109 young people have moved from residential care into home-based care and are now with foster carers, extended family or their parents.

Families and children

5088. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to the Human service delivery data, child protection 2014-15 —

- (1) of the four cases where allegations of sexual or physical abuse were proven by the Suitability Panel and the carers disqualified, were the four disqualified carers foster carers, kinship carers or residential carers;
- (2) in the one matter decided by the Suitability Panel of a sexual or physical abuse case proven but the carer was not disqualified, why was the carer not disqualified;
- (3) of the five cases of sexual or physical abuse before the Suitability Panel where the allegations were not proven, were the carers foster carers, kinship carers or residential carers;
- (4) did the carers in the five cases of sexual or physical abuse where the allegations were unproven have a prior history of abuse; and

- (5) in the two undecided matters of sexual or physical abuse by out of home carers in 2014-15 data:
- (a) have the matters since been decided? If so, what is the outcome;
 - (b) are the carers foster carers, kinship carers or residential carers; and
 - (c) if the matters have not been decided, when will the two cases be decided.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Information about the Suitability Panel hearings 2014-2015 is made available on the department's website <http://dhhs.vic.gov.au/publications/annual-report-2014-15-additional/>.

This information is provided by the Suitability Panel which is established under the Children Youth and Families Act 2005. The Suitability Panel hears and determines allegations of physical or sexual abuse made against foster carers and residential carers.

Where a finding of misconduct is made, the Suitability Panel then determines whether or not the carer poses an unacceptable risk of harm to children and, if so, disqualifies the carer resulting in deregistration.

Families and children

5105. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: How many children aged 15 or below transitioned into a lead tenant care unit in 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

In 2015, four children aged 15 years or below transitioned into a lead tenant care unit. All four children were within three months of turning 16 years of age.

The Program requirements for lead tenant services in Victoria: September 2014 detail the broad target group and eligibility criteria for lead tenant care as including young people:

- Are at least 15 years and 9 months at the time of referral to enable transition by 16 years of age.
- Have been identified by the Community Service Organisation delivering the program or the division as being ready to progress to a semi-independent living arrangement.

Families and children

5112. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: What was the percentage change from 2013-14 to 2014-15 for the number of Aboriginal children in out of home care.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Data relating to the number of Aboriginal children in out of home care in 2014-15 is published in the 2016 Report on Government Services. This report was published on 27 January 2016. For information relating to 2013-14, refer to the 2015 Report on Government Services.

Families and children

5113. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: How many children identified to move from residential care to kinship or foster care from July 2015 to 8 March 2016 are indigenous.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The number of children who moved from residential care to kinship or foster care from July 2015 to 29 February 2016 who are indigenous, is 45.

Treasurer

5150. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Treasurer): What was the advertising expenditure including public, corporate and media relations but not including mandatory or staff recruitment for the Calendar year ending 31 December 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Victorian Government Advertising Report 2014–2015 is published on www.dpc.vic.gov.au. This report provides a reasonable overview of government advertising expenditure, including media expenditure and details on advertising categories.

Environment, climate change and water

5151. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water): What was the advertising expenditure including public, corporate and media relations but not including mandatory or staff recruitment for the calendar year ending 31 December 2015.

ANSWER:

The Victorian Government Advertising Report 2014–2015 is published on www.dpc.vic.gov.au. This report provides a reasonable overview of government advertising expenditure, including media expenditure and details on advertising categories.

Planning

5153. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Planning): What was the advertising expenditure including public, corporate and media relations but not including mandatory or staff recruitment for the Calendar year ending 31 December 2015.

ANSWER:

The Victorian Government Advertising Report 2014–2015 is published on www.dpc.vic.gov.au. This report provides a reasonable overview of government advertising expenditure, including media expenditure and details on advertising categories.

Creative industries

5156. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Creative Industries): What was the advertising expenditure including public, corporate and media relations but not including mandatory or staff recruitment for the Calendar year ending 31 December 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that, as at the date the question was raised:

The Victorian Government Advertising Report 2014–2015 is published on www.dpc.vic.gov.au. This report provides a reasonable overview of government advertising expenditure, including media expenditure and details on advertising categories.

Ports

5158. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Ports): What was the advertising expenditure including public, corporate and media relations but not including mandatory or staff recruitment for the Calendar year ending 31 December 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that, as at the date the question was raised:

The Victorian Government Advertising Report 2014–2015 is published on www.dpc.vic.gov.au. This report provides a reasonable overview of government advertising expenditure, including media expenditure and details on advertising categories.

Housing, disability and ageing

5164. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing): What was the advertising expenditure including public, corporate and media relations but not including mandatory or staff recruitment for the Calendar year ending 31 December 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Victorian Government Advertising Report 2014–2015 is published on www.dpc.vic.gov.au. This report provides a reasonable overview of government advertising expenditure, including media expenditure and details on advertising categories.

Mental health

5165. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Mental Health): What was the advertising expenditure including public, corporate and media relations but not including mandatory or staff recruitment for the Calendar year ending 31 December 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Victorian Government Advertising Report 2014–2015 is published on www.dpc.vic.gov.au. This report provides a reasonable overview of government advertising expenditure, including media expenditure and details on advertising categories.

Sport

5168. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Sport): What was the advertising expenditure including public, corporate and media relations but not including mandatory or staff recruitment for the Calendar year ending 31 December 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Victorian Government Advertising Report 2014–15 provides an overview of government advertising expenditure. This Report includes media expenditure and information on categories of advertising. The report is published on www.dpc.vic.gov.au

Veterans

5169. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Veterans): What was the advertising expenditure including public, corporate and media relations but not including mandatory or staff recruitment for the Calendar year ending 31 December 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Victorian Government Advertising Report 2014–15 provides an overview of government advertising expenditure. This Report includes media expenditure and information on categories of advertising. The report is published on www.dpc.vic.gov.au

Tourism and major events

5170. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Tourism and Major Events): What was the advertising expenditure including public, corporate and media relations but not including mandatory or staff recruitment for the Calendar year ending 31 December 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that, as at the date the question was raised:

The Victorian Government Advertising Report 2014–15 provides an overview of government advertising expenditure. This Report includes media expenditure and information on categories of advertising. The report is published on www.dpc.vic.gov.au

Families and children

5172. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: What was the advertising expenditure including public, corporate and media relations but not including mandatory or staff recruitment for the Calendar year ending 31 December 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Victorian Government Advertising Report 2014–2015 is published on www.dpc.vic.gov.au. This report provides a reasonable overview of government advertising expenditure, including media expenditure and details on advertising categories.

Attorney-General

5173. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Attorney-General): What was the advertising expenditure including public, corporate and media relations but not including mandatory or staff recruitment for the Calendar year ending 31 December 2015.

ANSWER:

The Victorian Government Advertising Report 2014–2015 is published on www.dpc.vic.gov.au. This report provides a reasonable overview of government advertising expenditure, including media expenditure and details on advertising categories.

Racing

5174. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Racing): What was the advertising expenditure including public, corporate and media relations but not including mandatory or staff recruitment for the Calendar year ending 31 December 2015.

ANSWER:

The Victorian Government Advertising Report 2014–2015 is published on www.dpc.vic.gov.au. This report provides a reasonable overview of government advertising expenditure, including media expenditure and details on advertising categories.

Police

5175. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Police): What was the advertising expenditure including public, corporate and media relations but not including mandatory or staff recruitment for the Calendar year ending 31 December 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Victorian Government Advertising Report 2014–2015 is published on www.dpc.vic.gov.au. This report provides a reasonable overview of government advertising expenditure, including media expenditure and details on advertising categories.

Corrections

5176. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Corrections): What was the advertising expenditure including public, corporate and media relations but not including mandatory or staff recruitment for the Calendar year ending 31 December 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Victorian Government Advertising Report 2014–2015 is published on www.dpc.vic.gov.au. This report provides a reasonable overview of government advertising expenditure, including media expenditure and details on advertising categories.

Energy and resources

5178. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Energy and Resources): What was the advertising expenditure including public, corporate and media relations but not including mandatory or staff recruitment for the Calendar year ending 31 December 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that, as at the date the question was raised:

The Victorian Government Advertising Report 2014–2015 is published on www.dpc.vic.gov.au. This report provides a reasonable overview of government advertising expenditure, including media expenditure and details on advertising categories.

Local government

5180. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Local Government): What was the advertising expenditure including public, corporate and media relations but not including mandatory or staff recruitment for the Calendar year ending 31 December 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Victorian Government Advertising Report 2014–2015 is published on www.dpc.vic.gov.au. This report provides a reasonable overview of government advertising expenditure, including media expenditure and details on advertising categories.

Aboriginal affairs

5181. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs): What was the advertising expenditure including public, corporate and media relations but not including mandatory or staff recruitment for the Calendar year ending 31 December 2015.

ANSWER:

The Victorian Government Advertising Report 2014–2015 is published on www.dpc.vic.gov.au. This report provides a reasonable overview of government advertising expenditure, including media expenditure and details on advertising categories.

Emergency services

5183. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Emergency Services): What was the advertising expenditure including public, corporate and media relations but not including mandatory or staff recruitment for the Calendar year ending 31 December 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Please see previous response to question number 5182.

Roads and road safety

5186. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Roads and Road Safety): What was the advertising expenditure including public, corporate and media relations but not including mandatory or staff recruitment for the Calendar year ending 31 December 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that, as at the date the question was raised:

The Victorian Government Advertising Report 2014–2015 is published on www.dpc.vic.gov.au. This report provides a reasonable overview of government advertising expenditure, including media expenditure and details on advertising categories.

Youth affairs

5187. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Youth Affairs: What was the advertising expenditure including public, corporate and media relations but not including mandatory or staff recruitment for the Calendar year ending 31 December 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Victorian Government Advertising Report 2014–2015 is published on www.dpc.vic.gov.au. This report provides a reasonable overview of government advertising expenditure, including media expenditure and details on advertising categories.

Police

5242. MS PATTEN — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Police): From 19-23 November 2015, how many random roadside alcohol and drug tests did Victoria Police conduct at the Victorian end of the Tocumwal Bridge.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

From 19-23 November 2015 at the Victorian end of Tocumwal Bridge, Victoria Police conducted 1064 roadside alcohol tests and 773 roadside drug tests.

Police

5243. MS PATTEN — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Police): Of the random roadside alcohol and drug tests conducted by Victoria Police from 19-23 November 2015 at the Victorian end of the Tocumwal Bridge:

- (1) how many produced preliminary positive results;
- (2) how many preliminary positive results were confirmed as positive results for traces of THC, MDMA, and/or methamphetamine by the laboratory; and
- (3) how many laboratory confirmed roadside drug test results led to criminal charges being laid.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (1) Of the random roadside alcohol and drug tests conducted by Victoria Police from 19-23 November 2015 at the Victorian end of the Tocumwal Bridge, there were no positive roadside alcohol tests and 76 produced positive oral fluid tests.
- (2) Of the positive road side drug tests, there were 74 laboratory confirmed positive for traces of THC, MDA and/or methamphetamine.

- (3) The 74 laboratory confirmed positive roadside drug test results led to 74 drivers being charged with an offence of driving with a prescribed illicit drug present under the Road Safety Act 1986.

Evidence obtained under the roadside drug testing provisions can only be used in prosecutions relating to the driving of motor vehicles.

Police

5244. MS PATTEN — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Police): In relation to car searches conducted by Victoria Police at the Tocumwal Bridge for the period 19-23 November 2015:

- (1) how many car searches were conducted;
- (2) how many of those searches required strip searches to be conducted;
- (3) of those strip searches, how many people were found in possession of illicit substances; and
- (4) what were those substances and in what quantities.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Victoria Police searched 141 vehicles at the Tocumwal Bridge for the period 19-23 November 2015.

In relation to questions 2, 3 and 4, Victoria Police advises that no strip searches were conducted at the Tocumwal Bridge for the period 19-23 November 2015.

Police

5245. MS PATTEN — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Police): How many cannabis cautions, drug diversions, and drug charges were laid as a result of the car searches conducted by Victoria Police with sniffer dogs at the Victorian end of the Tocumwal Bridge from 19-23 November 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

There were 29 cannabis cautions given, 30 drug diversions and 3 drug charges (2 drug possession charges and 1 drug trafficking charge) laid as a result of the car searches conducted by Victoria Police with sniffer dogs at the Victorian end of the Tocumwal Bridge from 19-23 November 2015.

Police

5246. MS PATTEN — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Police): How many of the 5688 preliminary positive drug test results obtained in 2014 were confirmed as positive results for traces of THC, MDMA, and/or methamphetamine by the laboratory.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

There were 5668 oral fluid tests conducted in the 2014–15 financial year.

Of the 5668 oral fluid tests conducted, 359 tests were negative and were therefore not sent to the laboratory.

Of the 5309 oral fluid samples sent to the laboratory for confirmatory analysis, one or more of the prescribed illicit drugs was confirmed to be present in 4968 samples.

Police

5247. MS PATTEN — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Police): Based on the technical capacity of both the equipment used by police at the roadside and the laboratories which confirm whether a preliminary positive result is an actual positive result, what is the practical cut off concentrations in saliva for methylamphetamine; 3,4-Methylenedioxy-N-Methylamphetamine (MDMA) and delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The threshold values for the laboratory confirmation of the presence of the three prescribed illicit drugs in oral fluid are:

- 25ng/mL for Methylamphetamine
- 25ng/mL for 3,4-Methylenedioxy-N-Methylamphetamine (MDMA)
- 10ng/mL for delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol.

Victoria Police has advised that the threshold values used for the laboratory confirmation of the presence of the three prescribed illicit drugs in oral fluid are consistent with the Australian Standard, AS 4760-2006, Procedures for specimen collection and the detection and quantitation in oral fluid.

The specific concentration of the illicit drugs found to be present in an oral fluid sample is not reported by the laboratory. The laboratory reports either the drug was detected or not detected against the conformation threshold as outlined in Australian Standards, AS 4760-2006, Procedures for specimen collection and the detection and quantitation of drugs in oral fluid.

Police

5248. MS PATTEN — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Police): How many of the 25 preliminary positive results produced at the random roadside alcohol and drug tests conducted by Victoria Police in Lexton and Beaufort for the period of 22-27 January 2015 were confirmed as positive results for traces of THC, MDMA, and/or methamphetamine by the laboratory.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The presence of one or more of the three prescribed illicit drugs was confirmed by laboratory analysis in all 25 positive results produced at the random roadside alcohol and drug tests conducted by Victoria Police in Lexton and Beaufort for the period of 22-27 January 2015.

Police

5249. MS PATTEN — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Police): What was the concentration of illicit substance found in each person with a laboratory confirmed positive result of THC, MDMA and methamphetamine obtained in 2014.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The specific concentration of the illicit drugs found to be present in an oral fluid sample is not reported by the laboratory. The laboratory reports either the drug was detected or not detected against the conformation thresholds

as outlined in Australian Standard, AS 4760-2006, Procedures for specimen collection and the detection and quantitation of drugs in oral fluid.

Victoria Police has advised that the threshold values for the laboratory confirmation of the presence of the three prescribed illicit drugs in oral fluid are:

- 25ng/mL for Methylamphetamine
- 25ng/mL for 3,4-Methylenedioxy-N-Methylamphetamine (MDMA)
- 10ng/mL for delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol.

Police

5250. **MS PATTEN** — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Police): In relation to the Victoria Police random roadside alcohol and drug tests conducted by Victoria Police in Lexton and Beaufort for the period of 21-27 January 2016:

- (1) how many preliminary roadside drug tests were conducted;
- (2) of those tests, how many preliminary positive drug results were produced at the roadside;
- (3) of those preliminary positive results how many were confirmed as positive results for traces of THC, MDMA and/or methamphetamine by the laboratory.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (1) Victoria Police conducted 449 roadside drug tests in Lexton and Beaufort for the period of 21-27 January 2016.
- (2) Of the 449 tests conducted there were 37 positive oral fluid tests.
- (3) Of the 37 positive oral fluid tests, 36 were laboratory confirmed for traces of THC, MDMA and/or methamphetamine.

Police

5251. **MS PATTEN** — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Police): In 2015 and 2016, how many laboratory confirmed results led to criminal charges being laid.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

In 2015, there were 7329 laboratory confirmed positive roadside drug test results which led to 7329 drivers being charged with the offence of driving with a prescribed illicit drug present under the Road Safety Act 1986.

As at 29 February 2016, there have been 1504 laboratory confirmed positive roadside drug test results which has led to 1504 drivers being charged with the offence of driving with a prescribed illicit drug present under the Road Safety Act 1986.

The laboratory confirmed positive roadside drug test results for 2015 and positive roadside drug test results as at 29 February 2016 have not led to any criminal charges being laid under other statutes. Evidence obtained under the roadside drug testing provisions can only be used in prosecutions relating the driving of motor vehicles.

Families and children

5257. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: How many staff position vacancies were there in the Secure Services division of the Department of Health and Human Services as at 22 March 2016.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Information regarding all departmental job vacancies, including Secure Services, is contained on the Department of Health and Human Services website.

Families and children

5258. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: How many staff left the Secure Services division of the Department of Health and Human Services in 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Data relating to employment levels of youth justice staff are publicly available in the Department of Health & Human Services Annual Report.

Families and children

5259. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: What was the percentage turnover of staff from the Secure Services division of the Department of Health and Human Services in 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Data relating to employment levels of youth justice staff are publicly available in the Department of Health & Human Services Annual Report.

Families and children

5261. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: Were any Category 1 incidents that occurred in 2015 later re-categorised to Category 2 incidents for:

- (a) Child protection; and
- (b) Youth justice.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Department of Health and Human Services' incident reporting system records the number of incidents that have been reported to the department as at a specific point in time. This system reflects the current category of a reported incident. The system does not capture the number of incidents that have been re-categorised from another category type.

Families and children

5262. **MS CROZIER** — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to the background culture of youths in Victoria’s youth justice facilities during the calendar year 2015, what percentage of youths identified as:

- (a) Maori or Pacific Island;
- (b) African; or
- (c) Indigenous.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

It is unclear from the Member’s question the time period for which data is being requested. Nevertheless, data relating to the cultural background of young people sentenced to detention is contained in the Youth Parole Board Annual Report.

Families and children

5263. **MS CROZIER** — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: What percentage of youths in Victoria’s youth justice facilities in 2015 were repeat clients.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Data relating to young people returning to sentenced youth justice supervision in Victoria is published on the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare’s website.

Families and children

5264. **MS CROZIER** — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: What percentage of youths in Victoria’s youth justice system between 1 January and 22 March 2016 were repeat clients.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Data relating to young people returning to sentenced youth justice supervision in Victoria is published on the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare’s website.

Families and children

5266. **MS CROZIER** — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: How many Indigenous youths in detention in Victoria were on remand and waiting to be sentenced as at March 2016.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

It is unclear from the Member’s question the time period for which this data is requested.

Families and children

5269. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to client absenteeism in child protection, residential care:

- (a) what is the reporting mechanism to the Minister;
- (b) what is the frequency of reporting client absenteeism to the Minister; and
- (c) how many accounts of client absenteeism were not the subject of Category one reports in 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Minister is notified of Category One incidents in the same manner as was the case for the previous Minister.

Families and children

5273. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to the pilot program trialling 550 kindergarten places at no cost announced on 26 February 2016 in media release ‘Securing Kinder places so no child misses out’:

- (a) what date did the trial commence;
- (b) when does the trial conclude;
- (c) how many evaluations throughout the year will be undertaken;
- (d) who will be conducting the evaluations;
- (e) when will the evaluation of the trial be made public;
- (f) how many places are reserved for children of family violence;
- (g) how many places are reserved for refugees; and
- (h) what is the total cost of the trial.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

A key barrier for disadvantaged children is the availability of kindergarten places when and where they are needed, including outside established enrolment times. That is why the Andrews Labor Government is piloting pre-purchased kindergarten places in 2016.

All kindergarten cluster managers and standalone kindergartens in areas of high need were invited to submit an expression of interest for up to four pre-purchased places per service in 2016. In total, 569 kindergarten places have been reserved across 196 services in metropolitan and regional Victoria. These places will be available for children experiencing vulnerability, such as children in Out-of-Home Care, children whose families are transient and recently arrived refugees. Any child exposed to family violence and known to child protection is eligible for a pre-purchased place.

An independent evaluation of the pilot will be undertaken to ascertain its effectiveness in improving access to kindergarten. Information about the outcome and benefits of the pilot for vulnerable and disadvantaged children will be made available to the sector in 2017 once the evaluation is complete.

The total cost of the trial will be determined later in the year depending on enrolments. Additional funding of \$548 000 will enable targeted Participation Support in 2016 in four catchment areas with high numbers of pre-purchased places and children in out of home care. This will help ensure children experiencing vulnerability and disadvantage can access available kindergarten places.

Families and children

5274. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to the participating services of the pilot program trialling 550 kindergarten places at no cost:

- (a) which services are participating;
- (b) how many fully funded places have been set aside for pilot programs at each of the participating services;
- (c) what criteria are used for determining which children are accepted in to the trial; and
- (d) does the Department of Early Childhood wholly accept each LGA council’s recommendation for placements.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

A key barrier for disadvantaged children is the availability of kindergarten places when and where they are needed, including outside established enrolment times. That is why the Andrews Labor Government is piloting pre-purchased kindergarten places in 2016.

As part of this trial, 569 kindergarten places have been reserved across 196 services in metropolitan and regional Victoria. The services participating are included at Attachment 1.

Four year old children can be allocated to a pre-purchased place if they meet one of the following criteria:

- identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander
- are known to Child Protection (including those in out-of-home care or referred to Child FIRST)
- hold, or have a parent or guardian who holds, a Commonwealth Government Health Care Card, Pensioner Concession Card, Veteran’s Affairs Card, or one of a number of refugee or humanitarian visas (including temporary visas); or
- are a multiple birth child (triplets or more).

Three-year-old children can be allocated to a pre-purchased place if they meet one of the following criteria:

- identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander; or
- are known to Child Protection (including those in out-of-home care or referred to Child FIRST).

Provided children meet the above criteria, the Department of Education and Training accepts service providers’ allocations to pre-purchased places.

Attachment 1: Kindergartens with Pre-purchased places (PPPs)

Service Name	PPPs
AG Leech Kindergarten	4
Albanvale Community Kindergarten	4
Albion Kindergarten	4
Allansford & District Preschool	2
Altona Gate Kindergarten	2
Arbourlea Kindergarten	2
Ascot Kindergarten	2
Audrey Brooks Memorial Preschool	4

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Service Name	PPPs
Autumn Place Kindergarten	2
Bairnsdale Early Learning Centre	4
Baranduda Community Centre Preschool	4
Barbary Crescent Preschool	2
Beamish Street Kindergarten	2
Belgrade Ave Preschool	4
Belgrave Preschool	4
Bell Park Kindergarten	2
Benalla Kids Cottage	2
Bilbungra Kindergarten	2
Bittern Preschool	4
Boroondara Kindergarten	4
Botanica Springs Kindergarten	4
Bowen Street Kindergarten	1
Briagolong Kindergarten	2
Bridge Road Kindergarten	4
Californian Gully Kindergarten	2
Cameron Street	3
Campbellfield Preschool	1
Carinya Early Learning Centre	3
Castlemaine Kindergarten	4
Central Kindergarten-Warrnambool	2
City Kindergarten	3
City Learning and Care-Trudy Moritz	1
Clarendon Street Kindergarten	2
Coldstream Preschool	4
Cooinda Kindergarten	1
Cooraminta Kindergarten	4
Cooraminta North Kindergarten	4
Copperfields Pre School	4
Crib Point Preschool	2
Croydon Gums	1
Dala Lidj-Woolum Bellum Kindergarten	2
Dalton Road Kindergarten	2
Dandenong Kindergarten	4
Dandenong North East Kindergarten	4
Dandenong South Primary Kindergarten	2
Dandenong West Kindergarten	4
Darren Reserve Kindergarten	3
Delacombe Community Kindergarten	4
Diggers Rest Preschool	2
Dover Street Kindergarten	2

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Service Name	PPPs
Drouin Kindergarten	4
Eaglehawk Preschool	4
Early Learning @ Rosewall	2
Early Learning and Family Centre @ Apollo	2
Eillean Taylor Kindergarten	4
Elizabeth Wilmont Kindergarten	2
Epalock Crescent Kindergarten	4
Fawkner Kindergarten	4
Featherbook Kindergarten	3
Felltimber Children's Centre	4
Glendonald Kindergarten	3
Gowrie Street Preschool	4
Gowrie Victoria Broadmeadows Valley	6
Grace Park Preschool	2
Haig Avenue Preschool	1
Hansen Park Preschool	1
Hastings Kindergarten	2
Havilah Road Preschool	4
Heatherhill Kindergarten	4
Heritage Preschool	4
Herne Hill K-6 Early Learning Centre	2
Heyfield Kindergarten	4
Inverloch Kindergarten	4
Jack and Jill Kindergarten	2
James Cook Kindergarten	2
James Tilson Kindergarten	4
Jamieson Court Preschool	4
Jeanette Loughridge Memorial Kindergarten	2
Jindalee Kindergarten	2
Joy Avenue Preschool	4
Kananook Preschool	2
Karma Community Children's Centre-Kindergarten	2
Kathleen Kelly Kindergarten	4
Kealba Kindergarten	2
Keilor Downs Kindergarten	2
Keilor Park Preschool	2
Keilor Village Preschool	4
Kent Road Uniting Church Preschool	2
Keon Park Children's Hub	4
Keysborough Kindergarten Inc.	2
Kings Park Kindergarten	4
Kingsville Kindergarten	4

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Service Name	PPPs
Kingsway Preschool	2
Kirrilee Kindergarten	2
Kookaburra Kindergarten-BUC	2
Lakes Entrance Preschool	4
Lara Kindergarten	2
Lara Lake Community Preschool	4
Launching Place Preschool	4
Lerderderg Children's Centre	4
Linda Brown Preschool	4
Lions Hopkins Kindergarten	2
Littlecroft Kindergarten	2
Longford Kindergarten	2
Lynbrook Kindergarten	4
Maffra Queen St Kindergarten	2
Marrang Kindergarten	1
Marriott Waters Kindergarten	4
Mayone Bulluk Kindergarten (Bradman)	2
McEwen Drive Preschool	1
McLeans Road Kindergarten	2
Meadows Primary School Kindergarten	4
Melton Central Kindergarten	4
Melton Uniting Kindergarten	2
Merinda Park Kindergarten	2
Mernda Villages Kindergarten	4
Merrilands Children's Centre and Kindergarten-BUC	2
Mid Valley Kinder and Childcare	4
Mildura South Kindergarten	1
Mill Park Preschool	2
Millgrove Preschool	4
Mooroolbark Early Childhood Education Centre Inc.	4
Mornington Park Preschool	2
Mt Pleasant Kindergarten	2
Mulgrave Park Kindergarten	3
Norlane Child and Family Centre	4
North Bendigo Kindergarten	4
North Maidstone Kindergarten	4
Oak Street Kindergarten	4
Oakbrook Kindergarten	2
Oatlands Kindergarten	2
Olinda Avenue Kindergarten	2
Olympic Village Preschool	4

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Service Name	PPPs
Paddy O'Donoghue Centre (Noble Park Community Service Centre)	4
Pax Hill Kindergarten	2
Paynesville Kindergarten	4
Pembroke Crescent Preschool Centre	1
Phillip Island Early Learning Centre	3
Poowong Kindergarten	2
Portarlington Preschool Centre	2
Punt Road Kindergarten	2
Red Cliffs Kindergarten	4
Remus Way Kindergarten	4
Ringwood Uniting Church Kindergarten	4
Rockbank Preschool	2
Rossmoyne Kindergarten	2
Rosswood Preschool	2
Rowan View Preschool	4
Roxburgh Park Community House and Children's Centre	4
Roycroft Kindergarten	2
Rupert Street Child Care and Kindergarten-BUC	4
Sandown Park Kindergarten	4
Sara Court Kindergarten	2
Sebastopol Kindergarten	4
Sebastopol South Kindergarten	2
Sebastopol West Kindergarten	2
Selandra Kindergarten	2
Shalimar Park Preschool	3
South Castlemaine Kindergarten	4
Southern Rise Children's Centre	4
Springvale Service for Children	4
St Albans East Preschool	2
St Albans North Preschool	2
St Albans West Preschool	4
St Andrew's Uniting Care Kindergarten	2
St Brendans Kindergarten	4
St Scholastica's Kindergarten	2
Stanley Street Preschool	4
Stratford Kindergarten	2
Sunningdale Children's Centre	1
Sunshine South Kindergarten	4
Sydenham Kindergarten	4
T L Stone Memorial Kindergarten	2

Service Name	PPPs
Tarneit Central Kindergarten	4
The Community Hub	4
Thomson Kindergarten	2
Tooradin Kindergarten	2
TRY Coburg Preschool	2
TRY Melton West Preschool	4
TRY Mt Carberry Preschool	4
TRY Youth South Yarra	4
Valley Brook Kindergarten	2
Vista Way Kindergarten	2
Warragul Community Kindergarten	4
Warrnambool East Kindergarten	3
Warrnambool South Kindergarten	2
Welwyn Kindergarten	2
Westerngate Kindergarten	4
Westmeadows Preschool	1
White Road Kindergarten Wonthaggi	4
Will Will Rook Preschool	2
Willis Street Kindergarten	4
Woodville Park Kindergarten	4
Woori Yallock Preschool	4
Yarraman Centre Kindergarten	2
York Street Kindergarten at Glenroy West PS	2

Small business, innovation and trade

5307. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade:

- (a) what was the Minister’s ‘Ministerial Office’ air travel expenditure from the beginning of calendar year 1 January 2015 to 29 February 2016; and
- (b) what is the breakdown of that expenditure, including but not limited to, flight locations, individual cost and type of class (i.e. first, premium economy or economy) of travel undertaken.

ANSWER:

See my previous answer to question 4802.

Tourism and major events

5326. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Tourism and Major Events):

- (a) what was the Minister's 'Ministerial Office' air travel expenditure from the beginning of calendar year 1 January 2015 to 29 February 2016; and
- (b) what is the breakdown of that expenditure, including but not limited to, flight locations, individual cost and type of class (i.e. first, premium economy or economy) of travel undertaken.

ANSWER:

I refer the Member to previous tabled responses 1472-1479.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Answers to the following questions on notice were circulated on the date shown.

Questions have been incorporated from the notice paper of the Legislative Council.

Answers have been incorporated in the form supplied by the departments on behalf of the appropriate ministers.

Headings reflect the portfolio of the minister answering the question.

Wednesday, 4 May 2016

Training and skills

5029. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills: Between 24 June 2015 and 31 December 2015, how much money has been provided to Box Hill TAFE to reopen the Lilydale Campus.

ANSWER:

Box Hill Institute was the successful respondent to the Request for Proposal process to find a TAFE or dual sector university to provide an education precinct for the Yarra Valley at the Lilydale Campus. Box Hill will provide the region with a viable and sustainable high quality TAFE and higher education precinct to enhance the future employment and career opportunities for people in the Yarra Valley and support the needs of local businesses.

In its first Education State Budget the Government provided a \$320 million TAFE Rescue Fund, of which \$10 million was committed to support the re-opening of the Lilydale campus, honouring an election commitment. This \$10 million included \$1 million to assist in providing Melba Support Service a permanent home on the site.

The Government continued its support in restoring TAFE and higher education to Lilydale with an additional \$10 million for Box Hill Institute to fast-track the new Integrated Children's Centre and Biosecurity Centre of Excellence.

Further, the Government has committed to open the Yarra Ranges Tech School on the site.

Women

5162. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Women): What was the advertising expenditure including public, corporate and media relations but not including mandatory or staff recruitment for the Calendar year ending 31 December 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Victorian Government Advertising Report 2014–2015 is published on www.dpc.vic.gov.au. This report provides a reasonable overview of government advertising expenditure, including media expenditure and details on advertising categories.

Prevention of family violence

5167. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Prevention of Family Violence): What was the advertising expenditure including public, corporate and media relations but not including mandatory or staff recruitment for the Calendar year ending 31 December 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Victorian Government Advertising Report 2014–2015 is published on www.dpc.vic.gov.au. This report provides a reasonable overview of government advertising expenditure, including media expenditure and details on advertising categories.

Premier

5314. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier):

- (a) what was the air travel expenditure incurred by the Deputy Premier acting in that capacity from the beginning of calendar year 1 January 2015 to 29 February 2016; and
- (b) what is the breakdown of that expenditure, including but not limited to, flight locations, individual cost and type of class (i.e. first, premium economy or economy) of travel undertaken.

ANSWER:

I refer the Member to my previous answer for LC 4770.

Premier

5316. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier):

- (a) what was the Premier’s ‘Ministerial Office’ air travel expenditure from the beginning of calendar year 1 January 2015 to 29 February 2016; and
- (b) what is the breakdown of that expenditure, including but not limited to, flight locations, individual cost and type of class (i.e. first, premium economy or economy) of travel undertaken.

ANSWER:

I refer the Member to my previous answer for LC 4770.

Special Minister of State

5327. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Special Minister of State:

- (a) what was the Minister’s ‘Ministerial Office’ air travel expenditure from the beginning of calendar year 1 January 2015 to 29 February 2016; and
- (b) what is the breakdown of that expenditure, including but not limited to, flight locations, individual cost and type of class (i.e. first, premium economy or economy) of travel undertaken.

ANSWER:

I am informed that: I refer the Member to previous tabled responses 1480-1487.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Answers to the following questions on notice were circulated on the date shown.

Questions have been incorporated from the notice paper of the Legislative Council.

Answers have been incorporated in the form supplied by the departments on behalf of the appropriate ministers.

Headings reflect the portfolio of the minister answering the question.

Thursday, 5 May 2016

Local government

5053. MS HARTLAND — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Local Government): In relation to rebates for municipal rates —

- (1) what number and/or percentage of 2014-15 rebate recipients were granted a rebate due to possession of a Pensioner Concession Card;
- (2) what number and/or percentage of 2014-15 rebate recipients were granted a rebate due to possession of a DVA Gold Card; and
- (3) what were the demographics of municipal rate recipients in 2014-15 financial year in relation to:
 - (a) age;
 - (b) gender;
 - (c) marital status;
 - (d) country of birth (top Ten Countries);
 - (e) language spoken at home;
 - (f) home ownership;
 - (g) rental status;
 - (h) low income earners; and
 - (i) income support type.

ANSWER:

This is a matter for the Minister for Families and Children.

Local government

5054. MS HARTLAND — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Local Government): In relation to rebates for municipal rates what was the total Victorian Budget expenditure on provision of municipal rate rebates in each of the following financial years —

- (a) 2009-10;
- (b) 2010-11;
- (c) 2011-12;
- (d) 2012-13;
- (e) 2013-14; and
- (f) 2014-15.

ANSWER:

This is a matter for the Minister for Families and Children.

Local government

5055. MS HARTLAND — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Local Government): In relation to rebates for municipal rates what was the total number of recipients of municipal rate rebates each year in the following financial years —

- (a) 2009-10;
- (b) 2010-11;
- (c) 2011-12;
- (d) 2012-13;
- (e) 2013-14; and
- (f) 2014-15.

ANSWER:

This is a matter for the Minister for Families and Children.