

PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA

**PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(HANSARD)**

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

FIFTY-EIGHTH PARLIAMENT

FIRST SESSION

ANSWERS TO CONSTITUENCY QUESTIONS

23 February to 8 March 2018

(Extract from book 3)

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By authority of the Victorian Government Printer

The Governor

The Honourable LINDA DESSAU, AC

The Lieutenant-Governor

The Honourable KEN LAY, AO, APM

The ministry

(from 16 October 2017)

Premier	The Hon. D. M. Andrews, MP
Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Minister for Emergency Services	The Hon. J. A. Merlino, MP
Treasurer and Minister for Resources	The Hon. T. H. Pallas, MP
Minister for Public Transport and Minister for Major Projects	The Hon. J. Allan, MP
Minister for Industry and Employment	The Hon. B. A. Carroll, MP
Minister for Trade and Investment, Minister for Innovation and the Digital Economy, and Minister for Small Business	The Hon. P. Dalidakis, MLC
Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change, and Minister for Suburban Development	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 Health and Minister for Ambulance Services	The Hon. J. Hennessy, MP
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Women and Minister for the Prevention of Family Violence	The Hon. N. M. Hutchins, MP
Special Minister of State	The Hon. G. Jennings, MLC
Minister for Consumer Affairs, Gaming and Liquor Regulation, and Minister for Local Government	The Hon. M. Kairouz, MP
Minister for Families and Children, Minister for Early Childhood Education and Minister for Youth Affairs	The Hon. J. Mikakos, MLC
Minister for Police and Minister for Water	The Hon. L. M. Neville, 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 Finance and Minister for Multicultural Affairs	The Hon. R. D. Scott, MP
Minister for Training and Skills, and Minister for Corrections	The Hon. G. A. Tierney, MLC
Minister for Planning	The Hon. R. W. Wynne, MP
Cabinet Secretary	Ms M. Thomas, MP

Legislative Council committees

Privileges Committee — Ms Mikakos, Mr O’Sullivan, 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 — Mr Bourman, Ms Dunn, Mr Eideh, Mr Finn, Mr Gepp, Mr Leane, #Mr Melhem, Mr Ondarchie, Mr O’Sullivan and #Mr Rich-Phillips.

Standing Committee on the Environment and Planning — Ms Bath, #Mr Bourman, Mr Dalla-Riva, Mr Davis, #Ms Dunn, Mr Elasmr, Mr Melhem, #Mr Purcell, #Mr Ramsay, #Dr Ratnam, Ms Shing, #Ms Symes, Ms Truong and Mr Young.

Standing Committee on Legal and Social Issues — #Ms Crozier, #Mr Elasmr, Ms Fitzherbert, Mr Morris, Mr Mulino, Ms Patten, Mrs Peulich, #Dr Ratnam, #Mr Rich-Phillips, Mr Somyurek, Ms Springle and Ms Symes.

participating members

Legislative Council select committees

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

Fire Services Bill Select Committee — Ms Lovell, Mr Melhem, Mr Mulino, Mr O’Sullivan, Mr Rich Phillips, Ms Shing and Mr Young.

Joint committees

Accountability and Oversight Committee — (*Council*): Mr O’Sullivan, Mr Purcell and Ms Symes. (*Assembly*): Mr Angus, Mr Gidley, Mr Noonan and Ms Thomson.

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

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

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

Environment, Natural Resources and Regional Development Committee — (*Council*): Mr O’Sullivan, Mr Ramsay and Mr Young. (*Assembly*): Mr J. Bull, Ms Halfpenny, Mr Richardson and Mr Riordan.

Family and Community Development Committee — (*Council*): Dr Carling-Jenkins and Mr Finn. (*Assembly*): Ms Britnell, Ms Couzens, Mr Edbrooke, Ms Edwards and Ms McLeish.

House Committee — (*Council*): The President (*ex officio*), Mr Eideh, 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 Gepp and Ms Patten. (*Assembly*): Mr Dixon, Mr Howard, Ms Suleyman, Mr Thompson and Mr Tilley.

Public Accounts and Estimates Committee — (*Council*): Ms Patten, 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 — Acting Clerk of the Legislative Assembly: Ms Bridget Noonan

Council — Acting Clerk of the Parliaments and 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:

Mr K. EIDEH

Acting Presidents:

Ms Dunn, Mr Elasmr, Mr Melhem, Mr Morris, Ms Patten, Mr Purcell, Mr Ramsay

Leader of the Government:

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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:

Mr L. B. O'SULLIVAN

Leader of the Greens:

Dr S. RATNAM

Member	Region	Party	Member	Region	Party
Atkinson, Mr Bruce Norman	Eastern Metropolitan	LP	Mikakos, Ms Jenny	Northern Metropolitan	ALP
Barber, Mr Gregory John ¹	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	SFFP	O'Brien, Mr Daniel David ⁸	Eastern Victoria	Nats
Carling-Jenkins, Dr Rachel ³	Western Metropolitan	AC	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	O'Sullivan, Luke Bartholomew ⁹	Northern Victoria	Nats
Dalla-Riva, Mr Richard Alex Gordon	Eastern Metropolitan	LP	Patten, Ms Fiona ¹⁰	Northern Metropolitan	RV
Davis, Mr David McLean	Southern Metropolitan	LP	Pennicuik, Ms Susan Margaret	Southern Metropolitan	Greens
Drum, Mr Damian Kevin ⁴	Northern Victoria	Nats	Peulich, Mrs Inga	South Eastern Metropolitan	LP
Dunn, Ms Samantha	Eastern Metropolitan	Greens	Pulford, Ms Jaala Lee	Western Victoria	ALP
Eideh, Mr Khalil M.	Western Metropolitan	ALP	Purcell, Mr James	Western Victoria	VILJ
Elasmr, Mr Nazih	Northern Metropolitan	ALP	Ramsay, Mr Simon	Western Victoria	LP
Finn, Mr Bernard Thomas C.	Western Metropolitan	LP	Ratnam, Dr Samantha Shantini ¹¹	Northern Metropolitan	Greens
Fitzherbert, Ms Margaret	Southern Metropolitan	LP	Rich-Phillips, Mr Gordon Kenneth	South Eastern Metropolitan	LP
Gepp, Mr Mark ⁵	Northern Victoria	ALP	Shing, Ms Harriet	Eastern Victoria	ALP
Hartland, Ms Colleen Mildred ⁷	Western Metropolitan	Greens	Somyurek, Mr Adem	South Eastern Metropolitan	ALP
Herbert, Mr Steven Ralph ⁶	Northern Victoria	ALP	Springle, Ms Nina	South Eastern Metropolitan	Greens
Jennings, Mr Gavin Wayne	South Eastern Metropolitan	ALP	Symes, Ms Jaclyn	Northern Victoria	ALP
Leane, Mr Shaun Leo	Eastern Metropolitan	ALP	Tierney, Ms Gayle Anne	Western Victoria	ALP
Lovell, Ms Wendy Ann	Northern Victoria	LP	Truong, Ms Huong ¹²	Western Metropolitan	Greens
Melhem, Mr Cesar	Western Metropolitan	ALP	Wooldridge, Ms Mary Louise Newling	Eastern Metropolitan	LP
			Young, Mr Daniel	Northern Victoria	SFFP

¹ Resigned 28 September 2017

² Appointed 15 April 2015

³ DLP until 26 June 2017

⁴ Resigned 27 May 2016

⁵ Appointed 7 June 2017

⁶ Resigned 6 April 2017

⁷ Resigned 9 February 2018

⁸ Resigned 25 February 2015

⁹ Appointed 12 October 2016

¹⁰ ASP until 16 January 2018

¹¹ Appointed 18 October 2017

¹² Appointed 21 February 2018

PARTY ABBREVIATIONS

AC — Australian Conservatives; ALP — Labor Party; ASP — Australian Sex Party;
DLP — Democratic Labour Party; Greens — Australian Greens;
LP — Liberal Party; Nats — The Nationals; RV — Reason Victoria
SFFP — Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party; VILJ — Vote 1 Local Jobs

CONTENTS

ANSWERS TO CONSTITUENCY QUESTIONS

23 FEBRUARY TO 8 MARCH 2018

<i>Western Victoria Region</i>	945
<i>Western Metropolitan Region</i>	945
<i>Western Victoria Region</i>	946
<i>Western Metropolitan Region</i>	946
<i>Eastern Metropolitan Region</i>	947
<i>Northern Victoria Region</i>	947
<i>Eastern Metropolitan Region</i>	948
<i>Southern Metropolitan Region</i>	948
<i>Eastern Victoria Region</i>	948
<i>Western Metropolitan Region</i>	949
<i>South Eastern Metropolitan Region</i>	949
<i>Eastern Victoria Region</i>	949
<i>Northern Victoria Region</i>	950
<i>Northern Metropolitan Region</i>	951
<i>Southern Metropolitan Region</i>	951

ANSWERS TO CONSTITUENCY QUESTIONS

Answers have been incorporated in the form supplied by the departments on behalf of the appropriate ministers and received by Hansard in the period shown.

23 February to 8 March 2018**Western Victoria Region**

Question asked by: Mr Morris
Directed to: Minister for Health
Asked on: 9 May 2017

ANSWER:

In 2017, a \$4 million boost for Ballarat Health Services was announced to celebrate the official opening of the new Drummond Street building. As part of this investment \$1 million was provided to start planning for future needs of the Health Service, including the fit out of a shell space on level one of the new Drummond Street building.

The Andrews Labor Government is committed to enhancing Ballarat Health Services and its capacity to fulfil its role as the regional referral centre for health services in the Grampians region. As part of the 2017-18 Budget, \$6 million has been allocated for the development of a Ballarat Health Mental Health Prevention and Recovery Care service in Ballarat, whilst the hospital's second cardiac catheterisation laboratory, a key election commitment, has recently commenced operations, providing people across western Victorian improved access to cardiac surgery and care.

The 2017-18 State Budget committed an extra \$174.3 million to provide extra operations and cut down elective surgery waiting lists. Ballarat Health Services is working in partnership with a number of other health services to maximise appropriate surgical capacity across the Grampians region.

Western Metropolitan Region

Question asked by: Mr Finn
Directed to: Minister for Early Childhood Education
Asked on: 1 November 2017

ANSWER:

Victoria has a strong history of leading the nation with high-quality early childhood services. We know that providing high quality support to families and children during the early years pays off now, and in the long run.

As part of the Andrews Labor Government's \$202.1 million investment through the Education State Early Childhood Reform Plan, we are investing \$22.8 million to increase support provided to kindergartens to improve their quality, along with \$55.3 million in an Australian-first for 'school readiness' funding to support kindergartens based on children's level of need.

This builds on the \$87.3 million that has been committed to improve educator-to-child ratios from 2016, something that the previous Coalition government provided no funding for. Lowering the ratio from 1:15 to 1:11 supports higher quality kindergarten programs and enables more individualised care and attention for children.

I am aware of the impact that population growth has on Melbourne's growth areas, including in Wyndham, and the importance of ensuring all families have timely access to local services and facilities.

This is why the Andrews Labor Government has invested a record \$76.4 million to build, expand and upgrade kindergartens across Victoria, more than double what the previous Liberal Government appropriated in its entire term. This includes \$10 million specifically for infrastructure in seven growth-defined suburbs, including Wyndham, as well as \$10 million to build three early learning facilities on school sites.

The Government is partnering with Wyndham Council to deliver two relocatable kindergarten buildings in Wyndham Vale and Tarneit for 2018. This is an innovative initiative that can be delivered quickly to address demand for kinder places in Wyndham and Hume. These will be brand new, purpose built buildings that will provide high quality learning environments.

The Government has also delivered a range of grants through the Children's Facilities Capital Program for projects to improve and expand the capacity of kindergartens across Wyndham, including \$650 000 for the Truganina South New Early Learning Centre.

The Department will continue to work closely with Wyndham. City Council and the Municipal Association of Victoria to support all eligible children to access a funded kindergarten program in 2018.

Western Victoria Region

Question asked by: Mr Morris
Directed to: Minister for Ambulance Services
Asked on: 16 November 2017

ANSWER:

I am advised that, based on the information provided, Ambulance Victoria were unable to locate a record of the incident in question at the Lucas Town Centre.

I am further advised that Ambulance Victoria responded to an incident in Edmonston Road Addington on the day in question. It was only after police arrived and assessed the situation that an ambulance was requested, and based on the information provided by the police at the scene, two ambulance resources were simultaneously dispatched.

Western Victoria Region

Question asked by: Mr Ramsay
Directed to: Minister for Health
Asked on: 29 November 2017

ANSWER:

Early works commenced on site in Norlane in December 2017. This is one of a number of botched projects left for us by the previous Liberal Government with virtually no planning having been done. We are left to clean up a mess created by the former Liberal Government, but thanks to the hard work of Barwon Health working in partnership with the City of Greater Geelong, we have overcome a range of land sale and access, ensuring that we're on track to deliver more health care services to the people of North Geelong closer to home.

Western Metropolitan Region

Question asked by: Mr Finn
Directed to: Minister for Roads and Road Safety
Asked on: 12 December 2017

ANSWER:

VicRoads advises me that it has completed a planning investigation for the Bulla Bypass and has undertaken further work to consider additional options that address safety and congestion for the Sunbury community. This is in response to a request from the Minister for Planning, the Hon Richard Wynne MLA.

Eastern Metropolitan Region

Question asked by: Ms Wooldridge
Directed to: Minister for Roads and Road Safety
Asked on: 6 February 2018

ANSWER:

We're almost finished on this important upgrade.

Locals waited for decades for the councils to do something about traffic on Bolton street but nothing happened.

The Andrews Government took over, declared Bolton Street a state managed road last year and got to work right away on the upgrade the locals need.

The project works have been fast-tracked by increasing the number of construction workers and having multiple work zones. This was achieved through the northbound closure between Grand Boulevard and Walsh Street.

Due to limited lighting along Bolton Street, there are safety and traffic risks for workers undertaking works at night. Residents along Bolton Street would be significantly affected due to continuous construction noise at night.

VicRoads continue to work closely with local traders and the community while works are being finished.

We know the road works have been frustrating for the Bolton Street traders — but not as frustrating as another decade of gridlock.

Northern Victoria Region

Question asked by: Ms Lovell
Directed to: Premier
Asked on: 6 February 2018

ANSWER:

I understand the Member raises this important issue with the Minister for Health frequently and that the Minister has addressed this issue numerous times.

As the Member would be aware, as part of this Labor Government's record investment in health in Victoria, Goulburn Valley Health received \$168.6 million in the 2016-17 State Budget.

Our Government is committed to meeting the health needs of all the citizens of the Victoria and stands in contrast to the \$1 billion in cuts to health imposed by the previous Coalition Government.

I would like to thank the Member for Shepparton, Ms Sheed, who has raised the need for to expand cancer services with the previous Federal Minister for Health and our Minister for Health.

Ms Sheed has been assured that a Labor government will always work with regional areas of Victoria on the development of cancer services to ensure patients have access to high quality and safe treatment as close to home as possible.

I would also note that the previous Coalition Government had four years to build additional services in the Goulburn Valley but failed to do anything to support rural and regional Victorians gain access to services.

Eastern Metropolitan Region

Question asked by: Ms Dunn
Directed to: Minister for Roads and Road Safety
Asked on: 6 February 2018

ANSWER:

Yes. If a property is compulsorily acquired by the North East Link Authority, compensation will be assessed in accordance with the Land Acquisition and Compensation Act 1986. On behalf of the Authority, an independent certified valuer will be instructed to assess the unaffected market value of the property based on its highest and best use. This means that if the valuer believes the property has a higher value as a subdivided development site then compensation will be assessed on this basis. The owner of the acquired property is also entitled to engage their own valuer to assess the market value of their property at the cost of the Authority.

Southern Metropolitan Region

Question asked by: Mr Davis
Directed to: Minister for Public Transport
Asked on: 6 February 2018

ANSWER:

The greatest threat to public safety in relation to level crossings is to keep them in place. The nine level crossings between Caulfield and Dandenong are among the most dangerous in the state and have been the scene of tragic fatalities.

It is noted that the Member for Southern Metropolitan has sought to prevent the removal of these crossings in Parliament and supported Supreme Court action that attempted to prevent their removal.

Safety is a priority for everyone involved in the removal of level crossings and everyone has a responsibility to ensure they are complying with relevant safety legislation, regulations and management plans.

The advice from the Secretary of the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources referred to by the Member for Southern Metropolitan is correct. The Office of the National Safety Regulator provides Metro Trains Melbourne (MTM) with accreditation to operate trains on this corridor. It is the responsibility of MTM to do this in accordance with rail safety laws.

Eastern Victoria Region

Question asked by: Ms Bath
Directed to: Minister for Health
Asked on: 6 February 2018

ANSWER:

South Gippsland Hospital has been allocated \$1 650 000 in Round 2 for the reconfiguration of both their operating and maternity suites. In addition the allocation will support safety, compliance and efficiency standards by creating an additional teleconference facility and call bell system.

Western Metropolitan Region

Question asked by: Mr Finn
Directed to: Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change
Asked on: 6 February 2018

ANSWER:

I advise the member to contact the relevant privatised distribution business.

South Eastern Metropolitan Region

Question asked by: Mrs Peulich
Directed to: Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change
Asked on: 7 February 2018

ANSWER:

At all times during the outage event there was sufficient electricity generation to supply Victoria's electricity demand.

Eastern Victoria Region

Question asked by: Ms Shing
Directed to: Minister for Education
Asked on: 7 February 2018

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

The Andrews Labor Government has committed \$7.05 million to the Victorian Anti-Bullying and Mental Health Initiative to prevent and respond to all forms of bullying in schools, and to support the mental health, wellbeing and learning outcomes of students. This initiative will further equip schools to provide a nurturing, safe and rich learning environment to ensure children and young people feel connected and engaged and achieve their best. To ensure that the resources can make a difference, the needs of students and the local context of schools across the state will inform implementation.

The Victorian Anti-Bullying and Mental Health Initiative will:

- Provide parents and school communities with a single portal on the Department's website that brings together and supplements existing health and wellbeing programs and supports schools to prevent and respond to all forms of bullying and unacceptable behaviour
- Pilot a suicide prevention capacity building initiative that provides schools with access to skills and resources that aim to reduce the risk of suicide, and to manage recovery
- Provide secondary students with better access to mental health workers and supports
- Ensure schools have evidence-based, practical advice and resources to empower principals, teachers, parents and students to prevent and respond to racist bullying and support intercultural capability building for students.

Of this funding, \$4.8 million will be put towards improving access to mental health services for government schools right across Victoria. This will support schools to respond to complex issues, including addressing depression, anxiety and trauma, so students can get help when they need it.

We know that getting access to services can be challenging in rural and regional communities, so access in these areas will be a key consideration in the design and implementation.

The initiative will enhance the capacity of government schools to identify and support students experiencing mental health difficulties, including those at risk of suicide. Schools will receive the training and resources to manage a student's recovery in the immediate, short and longer term.

The Government takes the issue of bullying seriously, and is committed to ensuring schools are an inclusive and safe learning environment for all students. All schools will have access to the tools, advice and resources needed for students and parents to prevent all forms of bullying including racist bullying. This initiative will affirm the culture of respect and understanding that is paramount in schools. Students will be empowered to stand up and speak out when they see bullying.

Cyber bullying is a particular concern for children and parents. In addition to the Victorian Anti-Bullying and Mental Health Initiative, the Premier recently announced our Government's \$2.5m commitment to support all Victorian schools — government, Catholic and independent — to join the eSmart Schools program run by the Alannah and Madeline Foundation. Victoria is the only State or Territory to make this commitment.

The Victorian Anti-Bullying and Mental Health Initiative will also build on highly successful initiatives that are already available to schools, including:

- Bully Stoppers is available to all Victorian schools. The online toolkit, developed by the Department in partnership with national and international experts, provides evidence-based, practical advice and resources to empower school leaders, teachers, parents and students to understand what to do when they see bullying or if they are being bullied for any reason.
- SAFEMinds is a professional learning package for schools and families that focuses on early identification and intervention to support students with mental health issues. The package supports schools to identify young people exhibiting signs of psychological distress and provides advice how to refer them to the services they need.
- Safe Schools aims to ensure schools are safe places for all students, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) students, and are free of discrimination. Safe Schools has conducted training sessions in regional cities and towns across Victoria throughout 2017.
- Respectful Relationships is being implemented across Victorian schools to support over 1000 schools and early childhood settings to promote and model respect, positive attitudes and behaviours, to teach children how to build healthy relationships, resilience and confidence.
- The Guidelines to assist in responding to attempted suicide or suicide by a student outline how to respond to a suicide or a suicide attempt by a student over the first 24 hours, over the first 48-72 hours, during the first month and over the longer term.
- Student Support Service Officers are also available in schools to assist children and young people who need extra mental health support. The Department also works closely with headspace to ensure appropriate and timely postvention supports are available to support schools when an attempted suicide or suicide occurs.

Northern Victoria Region

Question asked by: Ms Lovell
Directed to: Minister for Public Transport
Asked on: 7 February 2018

ANSWER:

The heritage Mooroopna railway station building was destroyed by fire on 13 January 2018. V/Line acted promptly to make the site safe. Train services resumed stopping at Mooroopna on 14 January 2018. V/Line has installed a temporary shelter at the station.

The destruction of the station due to fire is a significant loss to the local community and I understand what a shock this has been for many locals.

I have discussed this matter with the local Member for Shepparton, Suzanna Sheed MP, and have committed to keep her informed of future plans for the station as they progress.

V/Line is currently preparing advice on options for the station and I will ensure that the community is adequately informed of these plans as soon as possible.

Northern Metropolitan Region

Question asked by: Mr Elasmar
Directed to: Minister for Sport
Asked on: 8 February 2018

ANSWER:

The Victorian Government is proud of the work that is being done to address gender equality and increase participation in sport and recreation by females.

The Inner City Netball Program was established to deliver on the government's election commitment to deliver 64 competition compliant netball courts, in the inner north of Melbourne.

Of the 64 netball courts, 23 courts are being delivered in Darebin, including:

- Darebin Community Sports Stadium — 3 netball courts with lights (completed)
- JC Donath Reserve — 3 netball courts with lights (completed)
- JE Moore Park — 2 netball courts with lights (completed)
- Fairfield Primary School — 1 netball court with lights (under construction, to be completed for use in April)
- Northcote High School — 2 netball courts with lights (under construction, to be completed for use by May)
- Thornbury High School — 6 netball courts with lights (construction to commence mid-late March, to be completed for use by June)
- Reservoir High School — 2 netball courts with lights (tender documentation being completed, construction to commence in the middle of 2018, to be completed for use by October 2018)
- John Cain Memorial Park — 4 netball courts with lights (design work underway, construction to commence in the middle of 2018, to be completed for use by October 2018).

All courts can be line marked with additional sports lines to ensure maximum use of these facilities and provide even more opportunities for women and girls to get active in their local community.

This is an exciting time for the residents of Darebin who are the recipients of much needed sports infrastructure thanks to this significant investment by the Andrew's Labor Government.

Southern Metropolitan Region

Question asked by: Ms Crozier
Directed to: Minister for Planning
Asked on: 8 February 2018

ANSWER:

The Glen Eira City Council is the responsible authority for administration and enforcement of the Glen Eira Planning Scheme and. Ms Crozier's constituent should be directed to the council's Statutory Planning and Building units to seek advice on these matters. The planning scheme and building regulations set out certain requirements for building design, setbacks and overlooking. As the responsible authority, the council can advise if any of these requirements are relevant to the complaint.