

PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA

**PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(HANSARD)**

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

FIFTY-EIGHTH PARLIAMENT

FIRST SESSION

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

20 and 22 February 2018

(Extract from book 2)

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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 Elasmarr, Mr Melhem, #Mr Purcell, #Mr Ramsay, Ms Shing, #Ms Symes and Mr Young.

Standing Committee on Legal and Social Issues — #Ms Crozier, #Mr Elasmarr, 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 Elasmarr 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:

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:

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

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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, 20 February 2018

Health

10 188. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): Regarding communications during the thunderstorm asthma event across Victoria on 21 November 2016, the State Emergency Warning System is designed to alert the public via a media announcement that an official emergency announcement is about to be made concerning an actual or potential emergency which has the potential to affect the public —

- (1) why wasn't there a State Emergency Warning at any stage on 21 November 2016;
- (2) which agency was responsible for determining if a warning should be issued and subsequently issuing a State Emergency Warning on the 21 November 2016;
- (3) advice via a tweet from Ambulance Victoria at 10.08pm on 21 November 2016 said that "high demand for ambulance breathing issues due to weather. Only call 000 in an emergency and consider other options for minor complaints", if demand for ambulances peaked at 7.30pm why was this advice tweeted 2 and a half hours later; and
- (4) does a tweet constitute a State Emergency Warning.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The events of 21 November, including communications, have been the subject of extensive inquiry by the Inspector General for Emergency Management. This final report can be accessed at <https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/emergencies/thunderstorm-asthma-event>.

[Question 10 188 reinstated by order of President on 2 May 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 7 February 2017, page 358.]

Health

10 572. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): In relation to the flying squad of specialists to be sent to hospitals to tackle bullying —

- (1) How many Victorian hospitals have been visited by the flying squads;
- (2) which hospitals have been visited by the flying squad, and when; and
- (3) what have been the outcomes of the visits by the flying squad at each hospital.

ANSWER:

In delivering upon the Government's new policy, the Department of Health and Human Services has identified a number of independent experts, who specialise in human resources, industrial relations and organisational culture. These experts may be engaged by the department in response to identified concerns and health services may utilise the panel to undertake their own review and inform improvements in organisational culture.

The department engaged independent experts to visit three hospitals in 2017: Goulburn Valley Health, West Wimmera Health Service and Central Gippsland Health Service. In addition, a number of health services have also

undertaken proactive reviews using either a member of the independent panel or have engaged other appropriately qualified experts.

Victorian health services that have undertaken a review by an independent expert receive a report that outlines key findings and recommendations to their relevant boards. Given that reports are completed under legal privilege they cannot be released.

In response to the independent expert reviews, each health service is implementing action plans to address any recommendations for improvement. The department continues to monitor progress at each health service.

Sport

10 599. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Small Business (for the Minister for Sport): How much government funding was provided for programs for young people in Nillumbik in —

- (a) 2015; and
- (b) 2016.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Sport portfolio funding is generally provided for programs and facilities for people of all ages, not just for young people.

The Andrews Labor government has committed to invest \$120 million into the Community Sports Infrastructure Fund and the \$22 million Better Indoor Stadiums Fund. Our Government recognises that local sports clubs are the lifeblood of our communities. They deserve modern, safe, inclusive and fully accessible facilities with room to grow and welcome more members than ever before.

Investment in Nillumbik by the Andrews Labor government is:

2015

– Research Park Pavilion \$200 000

2016

– Diamond Valley Sports and Fitness Centre Masterplan \$19 125

– Susan Street Reserve Sports Field Lighting Upgrade \$100 000

– Eltham High School Female Friendly Changerooms \$100 000

– Athlete Pathway Travel Grants Program

- Diamond Creek Womens Football Club Inc \$1500

– Sporting Club Grants Program — Uniforms or Equipment

- Diamond Creek Womens Football Club Inc \$1000
- Plenty Valley Cricket Club \$1000
- Eltham Lacrosse Club Inc. \$950
- Diamond Creek Netball Club Inc. \$320
- Diamond Creek Calisthenics Club Inc. \$1000
- Growling Frog Golf Club \$1000

– Sporting Club Grants Program — Skill Development

- Diamond Creek Womens Football Club Inc \$1900
- Diamond Creek Runners \$1320

– Defibrillator Program

- Eltham Rugby Union Football Club

We are also investing record amounts into Female Friendly Facilities to build or upgrade women's change rooms — meaning female players will never again have to use makeshift areas to prepare for competition and training.

This is one of the biggest ever investments in women's participation in sport by an Australian state government and is in stark contrast to that of the former Victorian Coalition Government.

[Question 10 599 reinstated by order of President on 28 November 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 20 June 2017, page 3838.]

Families and children

11 101. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister Families and Children: In relation to the family violence funding package of \$572 million announced on 13 April 2016, how much was funded from the Department of Health and Human Services budget, and of the amount funded from the Department of Health and Human Services budget, how much was expended as at 30 April 2017.

ANSWER:

The Andrews Labor Government is committed to addressing the issue of family violence in our society.

That is why we have developed a whole of government family violence package to deliver on the Government's 10-year strategy to fulfil every recommendation from the Royal Commission into Family Violence.

I note that the member and the Coalition are yet to indicate their support for each of these recommendations.

Funding and expenditure will be reported in the budget in the usual way, as was the practice under the previous government.

Health

11 378. MS SPRINGLE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): In relation to the Government's forecast of an increase of 4.5 per cent in the number of palliative care bed days for the next financial year (2017-18), over the expected number for this year (2016-17): Did planning for any increase take into account the recommendations around improved support for palliative care services in the Legal and Social Issues Committee report on End of Life Choices.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Throughout the consultations that informed both the Legal and Social Issues Committee report on End of Life Choices, and the Government's End of life and palliative care framework, carers and community members provided anecdotal testimony of issues accessing both bed-based and community palliative care services. This information helped inform the Government's outlook on the 2017-18 performance target.

On 16 November 2017, I announced an independent review of palliative care funding to address any inequities that exist within the current model. The review will consider how to improve sustainability and boost the capacity of services to deliver flexible patient-centred care. The review will explore future funding approaches for non-admitted activity, taking into account the diverse needs of the Victorian population, especially those living in regional and rural Victoria. A final report from the Expert Panel leading the review is expected at the end of March. The review may identify additional output measures to be considered for implementation in future years.

Industrial relations

11 481. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Industrial Relations): How many full time equivalent ministerial staff (including those working on secondment from departments or agencies) were working within your ministerial office, as of 1 July 2017.

ANSWER:

I can advise that no ministerial staff are employed by myself but rather employed by the Premier.

I refer you to his answer to Question on Notice 11476.

Please note that numbers regarding departmental staff on secondment are not held by my office or the Premier's office but their own relevant agency.

[Question 11 481 reinstated by order of President on 1 November 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 31 October 2017, page 5785.]

Families and children

11 488. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: How many full time equivalent ministerial staff (including those working on secondment from departments or agencies) were working within your ministerial office, as of 1 July 2017.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

No ministerial staff are employed by myself but rather employed by the Premier.

I refer you to his answer to Question on Notice 11565.

Please note that numbers regarding departmental staff on secondment are not held by my office or the Premier's office but their own relevant agency.

[Question 11 488 reinstated by order of President on 1 November 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 31 October 2017, page 5785.]

Women

11 491. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Women): How many full time equivalent ministerial staff (including those working on secondment from departments or agencies) were working within your ministerial office, as of 1 July 2017.

ANSWER:

I can advise that no ministerial staff are employed by myself but rather employed by the Premier.

I refer you to his answer to Question on Notice 11565.

Please note that numbers regarding departmental staff on secondment are not held by my office or the Premier's office but their own relevant agency.

Industrial relations

11 503. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Industrial Relations): How many female ministerial staff (including those working on secondment from departments or agencies) were working within your ministerial office, as of 1 July 2017.

ANSWER:

I can advise that no ministerial staff are employed by myself but rather employed by the Premier.

I refer you to his answer to Question on Notice 11498.

Please note that numbers regarding departmental staff on secondment are not held by my office or the Premier's office but their own relevant agency.

[Question 11 503 reinstated by order of President on 1 November 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 31 October 2017, page 5786.]

Families and children

11 511. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: How many female ministerial staff (including those working on secondment from departments or agencies) were working within your ministerial office, as of 1 July 2017.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

No ministerial staff are employed by myself but rather employed by the Premier. I refer you to his answer to Question on Notice 11565.

Please note that numbers regarding departmental staff on secondment are not held by my office or the Premier's office but their own relevant agency.

[Question 11 511 reinstated by order of President on 1 November 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 31 October 2017, page 5786.]

Women

11 514. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Women): How many female ministerial staff (including those working on secondment from departments or agencies) were working within your ministerial office, as of 1 July 2017.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

I can advise that no ministerial staff are employed by myself but rather employed by the Premier.

I refer you to his answer to Question on Notice 11565.

Please note that numbers regarding departmental staff on secondment are not held by my office or the Premier's office but their own relevant agency.

Industrial relations

11 526. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Industrial Relations): How many full time equivalent ministerial staff (including those working on secondment from departments or agencies) were working within your ministerial office, as of 1 July 2016.

ANSWER:

I can advise that no ministerial staff are employed by myself but rather employed by the Premier.

I refer you to his answer to Question on Notice 11521.

Please note that numbers regarding departmental staff on secondment are not held by my office or the Premier's office but their own relevant agency.

[Question 11 526 reinstated by order of President on 1 November 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 31 October 2017, page 5787.]

Families and children

11 533. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: How many full time equivalent ministerial staff (including those working on secondment from departments or agencies) were working within your ministerial office, as of 1 July 2016.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

No ministerial staff are employed by myself but rather employed by the Premier.

I refer you to his answer to Question on Notice 11565.

Please note that numbers regarding departmental staff on secondment are not held by my office or the Premier's office but their own relevant agency.

[Question 11 533 reinstated by order of President on 1 November 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 31 October 2017, page 5788.]

Women

11 536. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Women): How many full time equivalent ministerial staff (including those working on secondment from departments or agencies) were working within your ministerial office, as of 1 July 2016.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

I can advise that no ministerial staff are employed by myself but rather employed by the Premier.

I refer you to his answer to Question on Notice 11565.

Please note that numbers regarding departmental staff on secondment are not held by my office or the Premier's office but their own relevant agency.

Industrial relations

11 548. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Industrial Relations): How many female ministerial staff (including those working on secondment from departments or agencies) were working within your ministerial office, as of 1 July 2016.

ANSWER:

I can advise that no ministerial staff are employed by myself but rather employed by the Premier.

I refer you to his answer to Question on Notice 11543.

Please note that numbers regarding departmental staff on secondment are not held by my office or the Premier's office but their own relevant agency.

[Question 11 548 reinstated by order of President on 1 November 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 31 October 2017, page 5789.]

Families and children

11 555. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: How many female ministerial staff (including those working on secondment from departments or agencies) were working within your ministerial office, as of 1 July 2016.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

No ministerial staff are employed by myself but rather employed by the Premier. I refer you to his answer to Question on Notice 11565.

Please note that numbers regarding departmental staff on secondment are not held by my office or the Premier's office but their own relevant agency.

[Question 11 555 reinstated by order of President on 1 November 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 31 October 2017, page 5789.]

Women

11 558. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Women): How many female ministerial staff (including those working on secondment from departments or agencies) were working within your ministerial office, as of 1 July 2016.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

I can advise that no ministerial staff are employed by myself but rather employed by the Premier.

I refer you to his answer to Question on Notice 11565.

Please note that numbers regarding departmental staff on secondment are not held by my office or the Premier's office but their own relevant agency.

Industrial relations

11 570. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Industrial Relations): How many new employees commenced work within your ministerial office (including those working on secondment from departments or agencies) between 1 July 2015 and 1 July 2016.

ANSWER:

I can advise that no ministerial staff are employed by myself but rather employed by the Premier.

I refer you to his answer to Question on Notice 11565.

Please note that numbers regarding departmental staff on secondment are not held by my office or the Premier's office but their own relevant agency.

[Question 11 570 reinstated by order of President on 1 November 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 31 October 2017, page 5790.]

Women

11 580. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Women): How many new employees commenced work within your ministerial office (including those working on secondment from departments or agencies) between 1 July 2015 and 1 July 2016.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

I can advise that no ministerial staff are employed by myself but rather employed by the Premier.

I refer you to his answer to Question on Notice 11565.

Please note that numbers regarding departmental staff on secondment are not held by my office or the Premier's office but their own relevant agency.

Ambulance services

11 819. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Ambulance Services): In relation to the Independent Broad-Based Anti-Corruption Commission's report titled 'Operation Tone: Special report concerning drug use and associated corrupt conduct involving Ambulance Victoria paramedics' —

- (1) what specific actions have been taken by Ambulance Victoria to address the theft and use of drugs by paramedics, in the nearly two years since November 2015;
- (2) from 1 January 2017, Ambulance Victoria has had the ability to conduct random drug testing, why has the random breath testing program not commenced before now;
- (3) will the random testing of paramedics include alcohol testing;
- (4) what proportion of the Ambulance Victoria workforce will be randomly tested; and
- (5) will the number of random drug tests conducted be publicly reported by Ambulance Victoria and if so, in what form.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Ambulance Victoria has made significant changes which have been acknowledged by the Independent Broad-Based Anti-Corruption Commission in its report on Operation Tone. These changes have included:

- introducing a new Alcohol and Other Drugs Policy and Procedures, including alcohol and other drugs testing and psychometric testing for the first time for all new recruits.
- establishing a Professional Conduct Unit to strengthen the management of professional conduct reporting and investigation.
- increasing drug security and auditing including measures to make branches and medicine rooms more secure.
- commissioning an independent review of medication management at Ambulance Victoria, and
- accepting all recommendations from the Independent Broad-Based Anti-Corruption Commission's review and progressing implementation of all suggested improvements.

Ambulance Victoria assesses all paramedics and targeted testing is undertaken when its systems identify potential issues. Ambulance Victoria believed that targeted testing was sufficiently dealing with the issues of alleged drug use in the workforce. Ambulance Victoria will now extend its drug detection program and proceed with a random drug and alcohol testing program.

Random testing will include drug and alcohol testing.

Specific arrangements for random drug and alcohol testing will be determined in the coming weeks.

Ambulance Victoria will report testing volume and outcomes in its interim report and final report to the Independent Broad-Based Anti-Corruption Commission.

Health

11 823. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): In relation to the National Proton Beam Therapy Centre and the Government’s announcement that it will be built in conjunction with the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre and the University of Melbourne, have these, or any other, project partners officially committed funding to the National Proton Beam Therapy Centre and if so, how much has each partner committed.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The National Proton Beam Therapy Centre project full business case is in development.

Energy, environment and climate change

11 872. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): In relation to Parks Victoria —

- (1) what was the final cost to complete the —
 - (a) Falls to Hotham Alpine Crossing Master Plan;
 - (b) Point Nepean National Park Master Plan;
 - (c) Albert Park Master Plan;
 - (d) Olinda Golf Course Precinct Plan; and
- (2) for each of the plans listed above, what was the total printing and promotion cost invoiced to Parks Victoria.

ANSWER:

The Falls to Hotham Alpine Crossing Master Plan is currently under development, so final costs are not yet known.

The Point Nepean National Park Master Plan has just been released. Funding for the Point Nepean park establishment includes costs to develop the master plan. Details of this funding are provided in the Parks Victoria Annual Report 2016-17, page 71.

The Albert Park Master Plan is currently under consultation, so final costs are not yet known.

The Olinda Golf Course Precinct Plan has been finalised and is in the detailed design stage, with the costs to complete this plan being \$40 000.

The costs associated with printing and promoting the master plans listed above are captured in the total expenditure for development of the master plans.

[Question 11 872 reinstated by order of President on 14 December 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 12 December 2017, page 7044.]

Families and children

12 254. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: What funds has the Hohnes Road Playhouse in Eltham received from the State Government since 2014.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

As a former occasional care operator under the Take a Break Occasional Care Programme, the Hohnes Road Playhouse previously received approximately \$3500 under this program.

Since this program was cut under the previous Liberal Government in 2012, the Hohnes Road Playhouse has not received funding from neither the Department of Education and Training or the Department of Health and Human Services.

Families and children

12 255. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: How many young people resident in the 3095, 3094, 3093 and 3088 postcodes were incarcerated in youth justice centres in 2015 and 2016.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

Due to the often transient nature of young people who are engaged with youth justice, young people can have multiple addresses during any given period of time.

Noting this, I can advise that there were seven young people who were in a youth justice facility in the 2015 or 2016 calendar year who at some point in that period had a listed address in the 3095, 3094, 3093 or 3088 postcodes. These young people may have resided in one of these post codes either pre or post release from custody.

Families and children

12 258. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to Integrated Children’s Centre grants in the 2015-16 and 2016-17 financial years —

- (1) which facilities in Nillumbik and Banyule have received funding;
- (2) what was the amount of funding for each facility; and
- (3) what was the specific purpose of the funding as stated in the application.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

The Andrews Labor Government is committed to making Victoria the Education State.

We are investing a record \$74 million, including \$10 million for growth areas, to build, expand and upgrade kindergartens across Victoria to ensure local families can continue to access great local kindergartens. This investment is double what the former Liberal Government invested during their entire term.

A full list of major projects relating to new integrated children’s centres, new early childhood centres and early childhood upgrades can be found on the Victorian School Building Authority website.

Families and children

12 259. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to early learning facility grants in the 2015-16 and 2016-17 financial years —

- (1) which facilities in Nillumbik and Banyule have received funding;
- (2) what was the amount of funding for each facility; and
- (3) what was the specific purpose of the funding as stated in the application.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

The Andrews Labor Government is committed to making Victoria the Education State.

We are investing a record \$74 million, including \$10 million for growth areas, to build, expand and upgrade kindergartens across Victoria to ensure local families can continue to access great local kindergartens. This investment is double what the former Liberal Government invested during their entire term.

A full list of major projects relating to new integrated children's centres, new early childhood centres and early childhood upgrades can be found on the Victorian School Building Authority website.

Families and children

12 260. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to early learning facility upgrade grants in the 2015-16 and 2016-17 financial years —

- (1) which facilities in Nillumbik and Banyule have received funding;
- (2) what was the amount of funding for each facility; and
- (3) what was the specific purpose of the funding as stated in the application.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

The Andrews Labor Government is committed to making Victoria the Education State.

We are investing a record \$74 million, including \$10 million for growth areas, to build, expand and upgrade kindergartens across Victoria to ensure local families can continue to access great local kindergartens. This investment is double what the former Liberal Government invested during their entire term.

A full list of major projects relating to new integrated children's centres, new early childhood centres and early childhood upgrades can be found on the Victorian School Building Authority website.

Families and children

12 261. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to minor infrastructure expansion grants in the 2015-16 and 2016-17 financial years —

- (1) which facilities in Nillumbik and Banyule have received funding;
- (2) what was the amount of funding for each facility; and
- (3) what was the specific purpose of the funding as stated in the application.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Access to high-quality early years services is central to giving every Victorian child the best start in life.

Since coming to government, the Andrews Labor Government has committed \$74 million over four years to build, upgrade and develop modern and flexible early childhood facilities across Victoria to ensure that every child has access to high-quality services. This investment is double what the former Liberal Government invested during their entire term.

The Children's Facilities Capital Program Minor Grants support services delivering funded kindergarten programs that require minor infrastructure improvements and Information Technology assistance. The Minor Infrastructure Expansion stream of the program provides assistance to eligible applicants seeking to increase licensed capacity and/or available places, or enhance child-to-educator ratios.

The Diamond Creek Occasional Care Centre in Nillumbik received \$25 000 through the Minor Infrastructure Expansion Grants in 2015-16. I was also pleased to advise recently that the Hurstbridge Children's Centre in Nillumbik received \$25 000 through the Minor Infrastructure Expansion Grants in 2017-18.

Families and children

12 262. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to minor infrastructure refurbishment grants in the 2015-16 and 2016-17 financial years —

- (1) which facilities in Nillumbik and Banyule have received funding;
- (2) what was the amount of funding for each facility; and
- (3) what was the specific purpose of the funding as stated in the application.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Access to high-quality early years services is central to giving every Victorian child the best start in life.

Since coming to government, the Andrews Labor Government has committed \$74 million over four years to build, upgrade and develop modern and flexible early childhood facilities across Victoria to ensure that every child has access to high-quality services. This investment is double what the former Liberal Government invested during their entire term.

The Children’s Facilities Capital Program Minor Grants support services delivering funded kindergarten programs that require minor infrastructure improvements and Information Technology assistance. The Minor Infrastructure Refurbishment stream of the program provides assistance to eligible applicants seeking to undertake small refurbishment projects designed to enhance the indoor and outdoor space used by children.

A number of services received funding through this grant stream in both the 2015-16 and 2016-17 funding rounds including Eltham South Preschool (\$10 000), Morobe Street Children’s Centre (\$10 000), Watsonia Preschool (\$5645), Interlaken Kindergarten (\$10 000).

I encourage all eligible early childhood services and councils across the Eastern Metropolitan Region to consider opportunities to apply for a grant in the future.

Families and children

12 263. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to information technology grants in the 2015-16 and 2016-17 financial years —

- (1) which facilities in Nillumbik and Banyule have received funding;
- (2) what was the amount of funding for each facility; and
- (3) what was the specific purpose of the funding as stated in the application.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Access to high-quality early years services is central to giving every Victorian child the best start in life.

Since coming to government, the Andrews Labor Government has committed \$74 million over four years to build, upgrade and develop modern and flexible early childhood facilities across Victoria to ensure that every child has access to high-quality services. This investment is double what the former Liberal Government invested during their entire term.

The Children’s Facilities Capital Program Minor Grants support services delivering funded kindergarten programs that require minor infrastructure improvements and Information Technology assistance. IT grants provide eligible community-based kindergartens and kindergarten cluster managers with the opportunity to update their administrative technology hardware.

A number of services received funding through this grant stream in both the 2015-16 and 2016-17 funding rounds including Wattleree Preschool (\$1071), Watsonia Preschool (\$1450), Bundoora Preschool (\$1500) and Winston Hills Preschool (\$1500).

I encourage all eligible early childhood services and councils across the Eastern Metropolitan Region to consider opportunities to 'apply for a grant in the future.'

Families and children

12 312. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to the 'No Jab, No Play' legislation in 2017 —

- (1) how many children have a confirmed enrolment at an early childhood service while under the 16 week 'grace period' —
 - (a) for how many of these children has an immunisation status certificate been provided within 16 weeks of the child first attending the service;
 - (b) for how many of these children has an immunisation status certificate not been provided within 16 weeks of the child first attending the service; and
 - (c) for how many of these children is the immunisation status currently unknown.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Data from 2017 indicates that the provision in the legislation for a grace period had a positive impact on improving immunisation uptake among children from vulnerable and disadvantaged families.

At the time of data collection in August, the number of children who remained enrolled under the grace period was 0.6 per cent of total kindergarten enrolments.

The Department of Education and Training is continuing to work with all kindergarten service providers to ensure the immunisation status of all children is updated in the kindergarten data system when the immunisation status changes.

Corrections

12 313. MR O'DONOHUE — To ask the Minister for Corrections: In relation to the security failures at the Melbourne Assessment Prison during the integration of several security systems between 6 and 9 November 2017, has the Commissioner for Corrections or the Deputy Commissioner, Operations —

- (1) received any application under Section 58 of the Corrections Act 1986 to reduce sentences through the use of Emergency Management Days;
- (2) granted any application under Section 58 of the Corrections Act 1986 to reduce sentences through the use of Emergency Management Days, and if so —
 - (a) how many applications have been granted; and
 - (b) what is the sum total (in terms of days) of the reduced sentence.

ANSWER:

- (1) I am advised that the Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioner, Operations have to date not received any application under Section 58 of the Corrections Act 1986 to reduce sentences through the use of EMDs arising from the lock-downs that occurred at the Melbourne Assessment Prison during the period, 6 to 9 November 2017.
- (2) (a) I am advised that there have been no applications to date.
(b) I am advised that the sum total is Nil.

Corrections

12 314. MR O'DONOHUE — To ask the Minister for Corrections: Has the Commissioner for Corrections or the Deputy Commissioner, Operations received any application under Section 58 of the Corrections Act 1986 to reduce sentences through the use of Emergency Management Days between July 2016 and June 2017.

ANSWER:

I am advised that applications were received.

Corrections

12 315. MR O'DONOHUE — To ask the Minister for Corrections: Has the Commissioner for Corrections or the Deputy Commissioner, Operations granted any application under Section 58 of the Corrections Act 1986 to reduce sentences through the use of Emergency Management Days between July 2016 and June 2017, and if so —

- (a) how many applications have been granted; and
- (b) what is the sum total (in terms of days) of the reduced sentence.

ANSWER:

- (a) I am advised that during the period 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017, 39 applications were granted.
- (b) I am advised that during the period 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017, 52 Emergency Management Days (EMDs) were granted. Almost all of the 52 EMDs were granted to ensure that prisoners were not released on the Christmas, New Year and Easter public holidays. This is a practice that has occurred for many years including under the previous Liberal Government.

Corrections

12 316. MR O'DONOHUE — To ask the Minister for Corrections: If the Commissioner for Corrections or the Deputy Commissioner, Operations has granted an application under Section 58 of the Corrections Act 1986 to reduce sentences through the use of Emergency Management Days, how many applications have been granted and what is the total sum (in terms of days) of the reduced sentence.

ANSWER:

Individual records would need to be examined to determine whether the Commissioner for Corrections or the Deputy Commissioner, Operations have granted an application for EMDs since the commencement of this specific legislative provision in April 1992. This would lead to an unreasonable burden on the Department's time and would require an unnecessary diversion of Departmental resources as pursuant to Legislative Council Standing Order 8.12.3.

Corrections

12 317. MR O'DONOHUE — To ask the Minister for Corrections: In relation to the 24 individuals who were prosecuted for a breach of supervision orders in the 2016-17 financial year, what were the sentences that they received.

ANSWER:

I am unable to provide specific details in relation to individual cases. However, I am advised that in relation to the 24 individuals prosecuted for a breach of supervision order 23 of those individuals received a term of imprisonment and one received a fine.

Corrections

12 318. MR O'DONOHUE — To ask the Minister for Corrections: In relation to the 24 individuals who were prosecuted for a breach of supervision orders in the 2016-17 financial year, what was the average time of the sentences that they received.

ANSWER:

I am unable to provide specific details in relation to individual cases. However, I am advised that in relation to the 24 individuals prosecuted for a breach of supervision order:

- 23 of those individuals received a term of imprisonment and one received a fine;
- the terms of imprisonment ranged from two days to more than three years. The length of the sentence imposed reflects a range of factors including time spent on remand after being arrested and charged, and the nature of the breach offence (for example, a breach may involve access to a prohibited item, consumption of alcohol or drugs or reoffending).

Police

12 333. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Police): Will any of the 65 new police officers who graduated in late October be stationed at the Eltham Police Station.

ANSWER:

Victoria Police has advised the station allocation process is yet to commence for Squads, 23, 24, 25 and 26 which graduated in October 2017.

Squads 23 and 24 are due to receive their deployment notification in early February 2018, with a commencement date of early March 2018. Squads 25 and 26 are due to receive their deployment notification in mid February 2018, with a commencement date of late March 2018.

Through our unprecedented \$2 billion investment in Victoria Police, the Andrews Government is funding 3315 additional frontline police to prevent harm in our communities and hold perpetrators to account.

The allocation of police resources, including the remaining 2729 additional frontline police to be deployed over the next five years, will be determined by the newly-developed Staff Allocation Model (SAM).

The SAM was developed in conjunction with experts in modelling and resource allocation, and in consultation with The Police Association. I am advised that Victoria Police will use the SAM to determine the deployment of these squads.

Police

12 334. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Police): Will any of the 65 new police officers who graduated in late October be stationed at the Greensborough Police Station.

ANSWER:

Victoria Police has advised the station allocation process is yet to commence for Squads, 23, 24, 25 and 26 which graduated in October 2017.

Squads 23 and 24 are due to receive their deployment notification in early February 2018, with a commencement date of early March 2018. Squads 25 and 26 are due to receive their deployment notification in mid February 2018, with a commencement date of late March 2018.

Through our unprecedented \$2 billion investment in Victoria Police, the Andrews Government is funding 3315 additional frontline police to prevent harm in our communities and hold perpetrators to account.

The allocation of police resources, including the remaining 2729 additional frontline police to be deployed over the next five years, will be determined by the newly developed Staff Allocation Model (SAM).

The SAM was developed in conjunction with experts in modelling and resource allocation, and in consultation with The Police Association. I am advised that Victoria Police will use the SAM to determine the deployment of these squads.

Police

12 379. MR O'DONOHUE — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Police): How many female prisoners were held in police cells at 7.00 am on 30 November 2017.

ANSWER:

At 7.00am on 30 November 2017 there were 12 female prisoners in police cells.

Police

12 380. MR O'DONOHUE — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Police): How many male prisoners were held in police cells at 7.00 am on 30 November 2017.

ANSWER:

At 7.00am on 30 November 2017 there were 94 male prisoners in police cells.

Prevention of family violence

12 383. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for the Prevention of Family Violence): In relation to the 45 new projects which were launched in November 2017 to help Aboriginal people tackle family violence in communities, can the Minister please provide a list of the community service organisations who will be delivering said projects.

ANSWER:

I would like to thank the member for the Southern Metropolitan Region for her question.

As the member has been informed many times, the Minister for Families and Children is responsible for these projects and I ask that the member direct this question to them.

Prevention of family violence

12 384. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for the Prevention of Family Violence): In relation to the 45 new projects which were launched in November 2017 to help Aboriginal people tackle family violence in communities, how many will be delivered in regional Victoria.

ANSWER:

I would like to thank the member for the Southern Metropolitan Region for her question.

As the member has been informed many times, the Minister for Families and Children is responsible for these projects and I ask that the member direct this question to them.

Prevention of family violence

12 385. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for the Prevention of Family Violence): In relation to the 45 new projects which were launched in November 2017 to help Aboriginal people tackle family violence in communities, how many will be delivered in metropolitan Victoria.

ANSWER:

I would like to thank the member for the Southern Metropolitan Region for her question.

As the member has been informed many times, the Minister for Families and Children is responsible for these projects and I ask that the member direct this question to them.

Families and children

12 389. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to the expansion of the Malmsbury and Parkville Youth Justice Centres, has there been a Community Advisory Group established to consult the community about the project, if so —

- (1) who is in the advisory group;
- (2) how were the members chosen; and
- (3) how many times will the group meet prior to the construction of the project.

ANSWER:

A Malmsbury Youth Justice Precinct Community Advisory Group will be established to support the ongoing successful operation of Malmsbury Youth Justice Precinct as well as the expansion and strengthening of the Malmsbury Youth Justice Centre, by providing input on issues of community interest and a forum for information sharing as the expansion progresses.

Communications inviting expressions of interest from members of the community to participate were distributed throughout December 2017 and January 2018, and applications closed on 19 January 2018. Work is underway to finalise the membership of the group.

The expansion works at Parkville Youth Justice Centre are currently proposed for construction within the existing site footprint, so it is not expected that a Community Advisory Group will be required.

Families and children

12 390. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to the Department of Health and Human Services Concessions Assurance Engagement (Contract Number C5674), what is the \$4 million expenditure for.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This expenditure is for the cost of undertaking assurance engagements between December 2017 and December 2022 which will determine the extent to which, concession providers (that is, energy retailers, water corporations and municipal councils) are complying with their community service agreements with the Department of Health and Human Services.

Families and children

12 391. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to the request for tender for catering services in youth justice precincts (TEN 013 17-18), how much funding will be issued for the catering services of the Malmsbury and Parkville Youth Justice Centres.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

Catering services for youth justice precincts are subject to a public competitive tender process.

The current tender is based on the standards the previous Liberal government established in 2012.

I am unable to release information regarding the funding which may be issued as a result of this tender process at this time as it is commercial-in-confidence. To do so could impact tender negotiations.

The outcomes of the tender will be made public once the contractual process has been finalised.

Families and children

12 392. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: How many government-based student child protection programs currently exist in Victoria and can the Minister please advise how many of these programs will be based in —

- (1) metropolitan Victoria; and
- (2) regional Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Four government-based student child protection programs currently exist and all are available in both metropolitan and regional Victoria:

- Child Protection Student Placement Program
- Child Protection Summer Vacation Program
- Career Trackers Aboriginal Internship Program
- DHHS West Division Child Protection ‘Foot in the Door’ program

Families and children

12 393. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: Of the 162 000 children under 18 who received Child Protection Services in the 2015-16 financial year, how many children have received this service more than once.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The number used in the question appears to be an approximation to the 162 175 children 0-17 years old in Australia receiving child protection services in 2015-16 published by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare in its report Child Protection Australia 2015-16.

The corresponding number of children for Victoria was 37 357, 23.0% of the Australian total.

The Department of Health and Human Services has information only for Victoria about the number of children receiving child protection services more than once.

Details are: 2502, 6.7%, of the 37 357 children 0-17 years old receiving child protection services in 2015-16 received service in two or more child protection cases in the 2015-16 period.

Families and children

12 394. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: Of the children in out-of-home care, how many children are with their relatives or next of kin as at October 2017.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Kinship care is the largest group of Out of Home Care provision in Victoria.

Data on the number of children in specific out Of Home Care placements is published in the Department of Health and Human Services Annual Report. As at June 2017 there were 5143 children in kinship care placements. The state-wide average for 2016-17 was 5043.

On 12 December 2017, I announced \$33.5 million in funding for a new kinship care model to improve services and supports to kinship carers. This new model has been developed through extensive consultation with carers, young people, Community Service Organisations and Aboriginal agencies. Under the proposed new model there is a strong emphasis on identifying the needs of carers, children and young people. This includes linking them with the supports they require, strengthening connections for Aboriginal children and young people with family, culture and community and providing kinship carers with a key point of contact through 36 new dedicated kinship practitioners. This model aligns with the Government’s \$168 million Roadmap for Reform, specifically improving support and outcomes for children in out-of-home care.

On 24 November 2017, I also launched a new Manual for Kinship Carers for distribution to all kinship carers state-wide. The manual is a key resource to support kinship carers and is a first step in improving carer’s linkages to information and support services and includes a training newsletter that contains information on the free training available to carers. The new manual can be accessed from the Department of Health and Human Services’ (the department’s) Families & Children page and was emailed out to existing kinship carers in the coming weeks.

At this launch, I further announced a \$52 000 funding boost to Kinship Carers Victoria (KCV). This funding includes a Kinship Carer Wellbeing handbook, telephone call-back system, increased capacity for kinship carer support and a referral line.

Families and children

12 395. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to the 150 new child protection workers employed by the Government, in which Department of Health and Human Services areas will they be located.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

As at 1 January 2018 254 new child protection workers have been employed since the 2017-18 budget boost to the workforce.

These new child protection worker positions were allocated to the Department of Health and Human Services 17 management Areas based on relative levels of demand; all regional areas received additional workers.

Some of the new child protection positions have responsibilities across multiple areas.

Families and children

12 396. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: Of the \$72.2 million investment in 450 new child protection workers across the state, how much is allocated towards workers in —

- (1) regional areas; and
- (2) metropolitan areas.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The 150 new child protection worker positions are within the 450.

The new child protection worker positions were allocated to the Department of Health and Human Services 17 management Areas based on relative levels of demand; all regional areas received additional workers.

Some of the new child protection positions have responsibilities across multiple areas.

Families and children

12 398. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: Of the 6000 children, families and caregivers who have received support from the Victoria's Child Witness Service how many were —

- (1) regionally based;
- (2) metropolitan based; and
- (3) of Indigenous heritage.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This is a matter for the Attorney-General, the Hon Martin Pakula MP.

Families and children

12 399. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: What are the names of the 69 organisations that received Children's Week recipient grants.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

The 69 organisations that received Children's Week grants in 2017 were:

- Ballarat Council
- Banyule City Council
- Victorian YMCA Community Programming Pty Ltd
- Bass Coast Shire Council
- Baw Baw Shire Council
- Benalla Rural City Council
- Brimbank City Council
- Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand
- Charlton Maternal and Child Health Centre and Playgroup
- Wycheproof Community Resource Centre
- Kyabram Community and Learning Centre Inc
- Casey City Council
- Monash City Council
- Colac Otway Shire
- Darebin Council

-
- Yarralea Bush Playgroup
 - Orbost Regional Health
 - East Gippsland Shire Council
 - Gannawarra Shire Council
 - Glenelg Shire Council
 - Golden Plains Shire
 - City of Greater Bendigo
 - Ardoch Youth Foundation
 - City of Greater Geelong
 - Bluebird Foundation
 - Barwon Network of Neighbourhood Centres
 - Arapiles Community Theatre
 - Hobsons Bay City Council
 - Museums Victoria — Scienceworks
 - Broadmeadows Womens Community House — Anglicare Victoria
 - Sunbury Neighbourhood House
 - Indigo Shire Council
 - Liberty Avenue Playgroup
 - Latrobe City Council
 - Loddon Shire Council
 - Maroondah City Council
 - Caroline Chisholm Society
 - Melton City Council
 - Mildura Rural City Council
 - Sunraysia Community Health Service
 - Mitchell Shire Council
 - Moonee Valley City Council
 - Moorabool Shire Council
 - Murrindindi Shire Council
 - East Wimmera Health Service
 - Northern Grampians Shire Council
 - Polish Community Council of Victoria Incorporated — School Committee
 - Pyrenees Shire Council
 - Goulburn Valley Family Care Inc
 - Southern Grampians Shire — The Greater Hamilton Library
 - Surf Coast Shire Council
 - Swan Hill Regional Library
 - Towong Shire Council
 - Corryong Neighbourhood House Inc
 - Warrnambool Toy Library Inc 6 Warrnambool Art Gallery

- Sale Combined Kindergartens Inc
- City of Whittlesea
- Wyndham City Council
- Yarra City Council
- Collingwood Toy Library Inc
- Collingwood Children’s Farm
- Kimberley Place
- Woori Community House
- Dandenong Ranges Music Council Inc
- Eastern Domestic Violence Service Inc
- Belgrave Lake Park Cottage Playgroup
- Yarra Ranges Shire Council
- Yarra Valley ECOSS Inc.

Families and children

12 401. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to the Risk Assessments and Management Panels (RAMP), can the Minister please advise how many RAMP cases have been collected in each of the 17 Department of Health and Human Services local areas as at December 2017.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

To be eligible for referral and consideration by a RAMP, an assessment must be made that the victim’s life, health, safety or welfare are at serious and imminent threat from family violence.

Data is currently available for the 2016-17 financial year, and the first quarter of the 2017-18 financial year.

The number of RAMP cases in each of the 17 Department of Health and Human Services’ (DHHS) local areas in the period between 1 July 2016 and 30 September 2017 is provided in the following table.

DHHS Local Area	Number of RAMP cases
Barwon	32
Bayside Peninsula	44
Brimbank Melton	44
Central Highlands	23
Goulburn	43
Hume Moreland	80
Inner Eastern Melbourne	53
Inner Gippsland	47
Loddon	26
Mallee	61
North Eastern Melbourne	82
Outer Eastern Melbourne	56
Outer Gippsland	22
Ovens Murray	21
Southern Melbourne	45
Western Melbourne	64
Wimmera South West	33
Total	776

Families and children

12 403. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: Of the maternal and child health nurses the Department of Education and Training (DET) funded to do a postgraduate program since 2004, how many have resigned from DET.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

The Victorian Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Nursing Scholarships was first established in 2004, as a state-wide initiative to address identified workforce shortages. It has continued to provide financial support for registered nurses with midwifery qualifications to undertake the required postgraduate study to enable them to practice as a MCH nurse in Victoria.

In May 2017, the Victorian Government released the Early Years Reform Plan, which included an investment of \$5.2 million to attract new nurses into the Service, including through scholarships, and to support the ongoing professional development of all MCH nurses. It is anticipated that over 80 scholarships will be awarded in 2018.

The MCH Service is a free, universal primary health service for all Victorian families with children from birth to school age. The Service is funded by the Andrews Labor Government in partnership with local government, and is provided by local government.

All MCH nurses, with the exception of nurses that work on the MCH telephone information line are employed by local government, not the Department of Education and Training.

Early childhood education

12 420. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Early Childhood Education: In relation to the Pre-Purchased Places program in kindergartens, as at December 2017, how many children attended kindergarten —

- (1) 50 per cent of the time;
- (2) 80 per cent of the time; and
- (3) greater than 90 per cent of the time.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

As part of the 2017-18 State Budget, the Andrews Labor Government invested \$2.3 million to make the Pre-Purchased Places' program permanent.

This program enables vulnerable families and children known to child protection, refugees and Koorie children, and concession card holders to still attend a local kindergarten service at no cost, even if they miss the enrolment dates.

Kindergarten attendance data is only collected as a snapshot through the annual August kindergarten census.

Early childhood education

12 421. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Early Childhood Education: Of the 650 Pre-Purchased Places which will be available next year, how many kindergarten spots will each local government area have.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

In 2018, the following Pre-Purchased Places have been allocated:

Local government area	2018 PPPs
Ballarat	25
Banyule	11
Bass Coast	4
Baw Baw	6
Benalla	2
Brimbank	78
Campaspe	8
Cardinia	14
Casey	20
Central Goldfields	7
Darebin	5
Frankston	17
Greater Bendigo	47
Greater Dandenong	40
Greater Geelong	49
Greater Shepparton	8
Hobsons Bay	10
Hume	23
Kingston	5
Knox	9
Latrobe	8
Maribyrnong	8
Maroondah	6
Melbourne	2
Melton	44
Mildura	14
Mitchell	7
Moira	8
Monash	1
Moonee Valley	2
Moorabool	4
Moreland	11
Mornington Peninsula	13
Mount Alexander	4
Northern Grampians	4
Stonnington	4
Swan Hill	12
Wangaratta	4
Warrnambool	10
Whittlesea	37
Wodonga	32
Wyndham	21
Yarra	8
Yarra Ranges	20

Corrections

12 422. MR O'DONOHUE — To ask the Minister for Corrections: On 3 April 2017, how many full time equivalent positions existed in the Security and Emergency Services Group of Corrections Victoria.

ANSWER:

To protect the security of the correctional system, I am not in a position to publicly disclose this information.

Corrections

12 423. MR O'DONOHUE — To ask the Minister for Corrections: On 3 April 2017, how many vacant full time equivalent positions existed in the Security and Emergency Services Group of Corrections Victoria.

ANSWER:

To protect the security of the correctional system, I am not in a position to publicly disclose this information.

Corrections

12 424. MR O'DONOHUE — To ask the Minister for Corrections: On 1 July 2017, how many full time equivalent positions existed in the Security and Emergency Services Group of Corrections Victoria.

ANSWER:

To protect the security of the correctional system, I am not in a position to publicly disclose this information.

Corrections

12 425. MR O'DONOHUE — To ask the Minister for Corrections: On 1 July 2017, how many vacant full time equivalent positions existed in the Security and Emergency Services Group of Corrections Victoria.

ANSWER:

To protect the security of the correctional system, I am not in a position to publicly disclose this information.

Corrections

12 426. MR O'DONOHUE — To ask the Minister for Corrections: On 3 December 2017, how many full time equivalent positions existed in the Security and Emergency Services Group of Corrections Victoria.

ANSWER:

To protect the security of the correctional system, I am not in a position to publicly disclose this information.

Corrections

12 427. MR O'DONOHUE — To ask the Minister for Corrections: On 3 December 2017, how many vacant full time equivalent positions existed in the Security and Emergency Services Group of Corrections Victoria.

ANSWER:

To protect the security of the correctional system, I am not in a position to publicly disclose this information.

Health

12 428. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): How many, if any, of the recent 72 paramedic graduates will be assigned to the Eltham ambulance station.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

I am advised there are currently four Graduate Ambulance Paramedics assigned to the Eltham ambulance station, one of whom was part of the November 2017 induction group of 72 graduates.

Public transport

12 429. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): Will the Government install a reflective safety mirror or other safety measures at Eltham Railway Station to improve visibility for both buses and vehicles around the carpark and drop off area.

ANSWER:

Metro Trains Melbourne (MTM) conducted a safety assessment of the visibility within the carpark and drop off areas at Eltham railway station. Following MTM's assessment and bus driver consultations, it was determined that there is no case for the installation of a reflective safety mirror at Eltham railway station, given there are no blind spots within the area specified.

MTM also confirmed that there have been no recorded incidents involving vehicles or pedestrians within the station's drop off and bus interchange.

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, 22 February 2018

Health

11 782. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): Amongst the women who have been appointed to public hospital boards, how many come from metropolitan Victoria, and what are their names.

ANSWER:

The Government has gone above and beyond the diversity targets it set two years ago for health service board appointments. Metropolitan Victorian health service boards have seen female representation increase from 49 per cent in 2015 to 57 per cent in 2017.

For privacy reasons, I cannot provide you with a list of where each appointee resides, however, please visit <http://www.publicboards.vic.gov.au/> to review the members of each board.

Health

11 783. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): Amongst the women who have been appointed to public hospital boards, how many come from rural and regional Victoria, and what are their names.

ANSWER:

The Government has gone above and beyond the diversity targets it set two years ago for public health service and hospital board appointments. Rural and regional Victorian health service boards have seen female representation increase from 43 per cent in 2015 to 54 per cent in 2017.

For privacy reasons, I cannot provide you with a list of where each appointee resides, however, please visit <http://www.publicboards.vic.gov.au/> to review the members of each board.

Prevention of family violence

12 386. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for the Prevention of Family Violence): Aside from Gippsland Water, which other water agencies have provided tailored assistance for family violence victims in 2017.

ANSWER:

I would like to thank the member for the Southern Metropolitan Region for her question.

The Minister for Water is responsible for these projects and I ask that the member direct this question to them.

Families and children

12 397. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: As at October 2017, which Department of Health and Human Services area has seen the most child protection referrals in Victoria this year.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

As of 31 October 2017, the Southern Division of Department of Health and Human Services has seen the most child protection referrals in Victoria. That is why \$20 million for nine Roadmap for Reform Initiatives to provide early intervention and prevention is being rolled out in the South Division.

This includes:

- 2.8 million to reduce the need for out-of-home care
- \$12.6 million to improve the experience of out-of-home care
- \$5.8 million to support young people to transition from out-of-home care.

The activities — many of which will be co-designed with community services organisations — will include:

- Testing internationally proven models of foster care for children and young people with more complex support needs, including the evidence-based Treatment Foster Care Oregon model
- Designing an intensive support response that will transform residential care into a trauma-informed model for children and young people with complex needs
- A program that provides intensive interventions including brokerage funding, to help families prevent their children from entering out of home care
- Funding for Aboriginal and mainstream organisations to work with children and young people in kinship care who may be able to return to their families or primary carers — targeting an initial 32 children and young people — as well as their families
- Keeping Aboriginal children and young people connected to culture with a Return to Country program that is co-designed with Aboriginal organisations
- A Mentoring, Learning and Support program for young people in out-of-home care, with flexible support for young people from 16 or 17 years of age to develop life skills

Families and children

12 400. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to the \$49.5 million funding for perpetrator intervention programs to change the attitudes and behaviours of people committing family violence, can the Minister please advise how much funding has been allocated to each Department of Health and Human Services area.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The 2017-18 budget provided \$49.5 million for perpetrator intervention programs to change the attitudes and behaviours of people committing family violence. About 4000 perpetrators of family violence will have access to voluntary places in men’s behaviour change programs over the next two years.

Of the \$49.5 million, the following funds have been allocated to Department of Health and Human Services’ areas to support men’s family violence intake, men’s behaviour change programs and sexually abusive behaviour treatment services in 2017-18 and 2018-19:

- Goulburn — \$0.76m
- Inner Eastern — \$0.94m
- Outer Eastern — \$0.93m
- Ovens Murray — \$1.00m

- Hume Moreland — \$0.84m
- Loddon — \$0.77m
- Mallee — \$0.67m
- North East Melbourne — \$1.74m
- Bayside Peninsula — \$0.66m
- Inner Gippsland — \$0.92m
- Outer Gippsland — \$0.70m
- Southern Melbourne — \$1.22m
- Barwon — \$0.70m
- Brim bank Melton — \$0.66m
- Central Highlands — \$0.61m
- Wimmera South West — \$0.49m
- Western Melbourne — \$0.87m

In addition to these funds, the following allocations have been made to support state-wide perpetrator services in 2017-18 and 2018-19:

- No to Violence, including the Men’s Referral Service — \$3.01m
- Victorian AIDS Council — \$0.31m

The remaining funds are currently part of a co-design process with the family violence sector and the expert perpetrator panel. It will be allocated in the coming weeks and include funding to support:

- Additional men’s behaviour change programs
- Case management for perpetrators
- Trialling and evaluating of new perpetrator interventions.

Housing, disability and ageing

12 407. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing): In relation to the \$800 million allocated to housing and homelessness support —

- (1) how is the funding distributed;
- (2) how many homeless people will be provided housing;
- (3) how much is allocated to homelessness in regional Victoria; and
- (4) how much is allocated to homelessness in metropolitan Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Shadow Minister should be aware of Homes for Victorians, a landmark document which even drew praise from Scott Morrison for heavily investing in these services. I encourage the Member to read the document which is available online.

Housing, disability and ageing

12 414. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing): How many households with one child are being catered for in the state’s public housing program.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Household composition is liable to change on a regular basis, making such statistics unreliable. What we do know from the recent Auditor-General’s report is that there is a significant mismatch between our supply of existing stock, and the overwhelming demand for one and two bedroom units.

Housing, disability and ageing

12 415. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing): How many households with two children are being catered for in the state’s public housing program.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Household composition is liable to change on a regular basis, making such statistics unreliable. What we do know from the recent Auditor-General’s report is that there is a significant mismatch between our supply of existing stock, and the overwhelming demand for one and two bedroom units.

Housing, disability and ageing

12 416. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing): How many households with three children are being catered for in the state’s public housing program.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Household composition is liable to change on a regular basis, making such statistics unreliable. What we do know from the recent Auditor-General’s report is that there is a significant mismatch between our supply of existing stock, and the overwhelming demand for one and two bedroom units.

Housing, disability and ageing

12 417. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing): How many households with four children are being catered for in the state’s public housing program.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Household composition is liable to change on a regular basis, making such statistics unreliable. What we do know from the recent Auditor-General’s report is that there is a significant mismatch between our supply of existing stock, and the overwhelming demand for one and two bedroom units.

Housing, disability and ageing

12 418. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing): How many households with five children or more are being catered for in the state’s public housing program.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Household composition is liable to change on a regular basis, making such statistics unreliable. What we do know from the recent Auditor-General’s report is that there is a significant mismatch between our supply of existing stock, and the overwhelming demand for one and two bedroom units.

Housing, disability and ageing

12 419. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing): How many households with children with disabilities are being catered for in the state’s public housing program.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Household composition is liable to change on a regular basis, making such statistics unreliable. What we do know from the recent Auditor-General’s report is that there is a significant mismatch between our supply of existing stock, and the overwhelming demand for one and two bedroom units.

Planning

12 512. MS DUNN — To ask the Minister for Trade and Investment (for the Minister for Planning): In relation to signing the development agreement with Apple Corporation for the proposed flagship retail store at Federation Square, did the Minister take legal and policy advice as to the confidentiality provisions and what was that advice.

ANSWER:

This matter falls within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for Tourism and Major Events. The Member will need to redirect her question to the Hon John Eren MP.

Planning

12 513. MS DUNN — To ask the Minister for Trade and Investment (for the Minister for Planning): In relation to signing the development agreement with Apple Corporation for the proposed flagship retail store at Federation Square, when did negotiations with Apple commence and conclude.

ANSWER:

This matter falls within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for Tourism and Major Events. The Member will need to redirect her question to the Hon John Eren MP.

Planning

12 514. MS DUNN — To ask the Minister for Trade and Investment (for the Minister for Planning): In relation to signing the development agreement with Apple Corporation for the proposed flagship retail store at Federation Square, prior to the signing what public consultations took place regarding the siting of the Apple store.

ANSWER:

This matter falls within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for Tourism and Major Events. The Member will need to redirect her question to the Hon John Eren MP.

Planning

12 515. MS DUNN — To ask the Minister for Trade and Investment (for the Minister for Planning): In relation to signing the development agreement with Apple Corporation for the proposed flagship retail store at Federation Square —

- (1) what alternative options for the site were explored by the Government; and
- (2) what is the status of the negotiations with Apple.

ANSWER:

This matter falls within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for Tourism and Major Events. The Member will need to redirect her question to the Hon John Eren MP.

Planning

12 516. MS DUNN — To ask the Minister for Trade and Investment (for the Minister for Planning): In relation to signing the development agreement with Apple Corporation for the proposed flagship retail store at Federation Square, has a binding agreement been signed and if so —

- (1) what are the principal terms of that agreement;
- (2) under what conditions may it be terminated;
- (3) how long is the term of the agreement; and
- (4) what are the rights and obligations of Apple and the Government (or its authorities) upon termination of the agreement.

ANSWER:

This matter falls within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for Tourism and Major Events. The Member will need to redirect her question to the Hon John Eren MP.

Planning

12 517. MS DUNN — To ask the Minister for Trade and Investment (for the Minister for Planning): In relation to signing the development agreement with Apple Corporation for the proposed flagship retail store at Federation Square —

- (1) what is the anticipated revenue stream back to the Government from the Apple store; and
- (2) what contribution, monetary or otherwise, is the Government or any authority of the Government making to Apple in relation to the proposed store.

ANSWER:

This matter falls within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for Tourism and Major Events. The Member will need to redirect her question to the Hon John Eren MP.