

PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA

**PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(HANSARD)**

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

FIFTY-EIGHTH PARLIAMENT

FIRST SESSION

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

8, 9 and 10 May 2018

(Extract from book 6)

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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 — Mr Dalidakis, Mr Mulino, Mr O’Sullivan, Mr Purcell, Mr Rich-Phillips, Ms Springle, Ms Symes 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, #Mr Davis, 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, #Dr Ratnam, Ms Shing, #Ms Symes, Ms Truong 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, 8 May 2018

Health

11 233. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): Is there any new funding in the 2017-18 budget for Electronic Medical Records (EMR), if so, where will that funding come from and how much is available for EMR.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

In contrast to the previous government, which cut by half its funding for health sector ICT, this Government continues to invest in digital health clinical systems including electronic medical records that will enable the delivery of person-centred health and wellbeing, as well as improving the safety and quality of care.

Health

11 234. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): In the 2016-17 Budget \$5 million was provided for a Parkville Precinct Electronic Medical Record (EMR) —

- (1) has the business case been completed, if so, what is the cost for an EMR for the Parkville hospitals; and
- (2) what is the timeframe for an EMR for the Parkville hospitals.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

\$5m was allocated across 2 years in the 2016–17 Victorian Budget to support planning for an Electronic Medical Records system across the health services of the Parkville precinct. Planning work continues.

Health

11 235. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): In relation to development of a unique patient identifier:

- (1) what work has been done on the development of a unique patient identifier; and
- (2) is any new or ongoing funding in the 2017-18 Budget for this, if so, how much.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

In contrast to the previous government, which cut its health sector ICT investment by half, this Government continues to invest in important clinical and health system ICT infrastructure including by progressing work towards implementation of a Unique Patient Identifier (UPI) to link clinical information and improve safety and quality of care.

Treasurer

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

ANSWER:

My answer was fulsome and complete. I refer you to the Premier’s response to your question.

[Question 11 477 reinstated by order of President on 21 February 2018. Hansard reference to original answer: 6 February 2018, page 315.]

Finance

11 478. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Finance): 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:

My answer was fulsome and complete. I refer you to the Premier’s response to your question.

[Question 11 478 reinstated by order of President on 21 February 2018. Hansard reference to original answer: 6 February 2018, page 316.]

Major projects

11 482. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Major Projects): 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:

My answer was fulsome and complete. I refer you to the Premier’s response to your question.

[Question 11 482 reinstated by order of President on 21 February 2018. Hansard reference to original answer: 6 February 2018, page 317.]

Small business

11 484. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Small Business Innovation and Trade: 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:

My answer was fulsome and complete. I refer you to the Premier’s response to your question.

[Question 11 484 reinstated by order of President on 21 February 2018. Hansard reference to original answer: 6 February 2018, page 317.]

Sport

11 486. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Small Business Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Sport): 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:

My answer was fulsome and complete. I refer you to the Premier’s response to your question.

[Question 11 486 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:

My answer was fulsome and complete. I refer you to the Premier’s response to your question.

[Question 11 488 reinstated by order of President on 21 February 2018. Hansard reference to original answer: 20 February 2018, page 624.]

Education

11 494. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Education): 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:

My answer was complete. I refer you to the Premier’s response to your question.

[Question 11 494 reinstated by order of President on 21 February 2018. Hansard reference to original answer: 6 February 2018, page 318.]

Treasurer

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

ANSWER:

My answer was complete. I refer you to the Premier’s response to your question.

[Question 11 499 reinstated by order of President on 21 February 2018. Hansard reference to original answer: 6 February 2018, page 319.]

Finance

11 500. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Finance): 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:

My answer was complete. I refer you to the Premier's response to your question.

[Question 11 500 reinstated by order of President on 21 February 2018. Hansard reference to original answer: 6 February 2018, page 319.]

Major projects

11 504. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Major Projects): 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:

My answer was complete. I refer you to the Premier's response to your question.

[Question 11 504 reinstated by order of President on 21 February 2018. Hansard reference to original answer: 6 February 2018, page 320.]

Small business

11 507. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Small Business Innovation and Trade: 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:

My answer was complete. I refer you to the Premier's response to your question.

[Question 11 507 reinstated by order of President on 21 February 2018. Hansard reference to original answer: 6 February 2018, page 321.]

Sport

11 509. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Small Business Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Sport): 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:

My answer was fulsome and complete. I refer you to the Premier's response to your question.

[Question 11 509 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:

My answer was fulsome and complete. I refer you to the Premier's response to your question.

[Question 11 511 reinstated by order of President on 21 February 2018. Hansard reference to original answer: 20 February 2018, page 625.]

Education

11 517. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Education): 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:

My answer was complete. I refer you to the Premier's response to your question.

[Question 11 517 reinstated by order of President on 21 February 2018. Hansard reference to original answer: 6 February 2018, page 322.]

Treasurer

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

ANSWER:

My answer was fulsome and complete. I refer you to the Premier's response to your question.

[Question 11 522 reinstated by order of President on 21 February 2018. Hansard reference to original answer: 6 February 2018, page 322.]

Finance

11 523. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Finance): 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:

My answer was fulsome and complete. I refer you to the Premier's response to your question.

[Question 11 523 reinstated by order of President on 21 February 2018. Hansard reference to original answer: 6 February 2018, page 323.]

Major projects

11 527. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Major Projects): 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:

My answer was fulsome and complete. I refer you to the Premier's response to your question.

[Question 11 527 reinstated by order of President on 21 February 2018. Hansard reference to original answer: 6 February 2018, page 324.]

Small business

11 529. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Small Business Innovation and Trade: 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:

My answer was fulsome and complete. I refer you to the Premier's response to your question.

[Question 11 529 reinstated by order of President on 21 February 2018. Hansard reference to original answer: 6 February 2018, page 324.]

Sport

11 531. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Small Business Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Sport): 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:

My answer was fulsome and complete. I refer you to the Premier's response to your question.

[Question 11 531 reinstated by order of President on 1 November 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 31 October 2017, page 5788.]

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:

My answer was fulsome and complete. I refer you to the Premier's response to your question.

[Question 11 533 reinstated by order of President on 21 February 2018. Hansard reference to original answer: 20 February 2018, page 626.]

Education

11 539. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Education): 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:

My answer was complete. I refer you to the Premier's response to your question.

[Question 11 539 reinstated by order of President on 21 February 2018. Hansard reference to original answer: 6 February 2018, page 325.]

Treasurer

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

ANSWER:

My answer was fulsome and complete. I refer you to the Premier's response to your question.

[Question 11 544 reinstated by order of President on 21 February 2018. Hansard reference to original answer: 6 February 2018, page 326.]

Finance

11 545. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Finance): 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:

My answer was fulsome and complete. I refer you to the Premier's response to your question.

[Question 11 545 reinstated by order of President on 21 February 2018. Hansard reference to original answer: 6 February 2018, page 326.]

Major projects

11 549. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Major Projects): 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:

My answer was fulsome and complete. I refer you to the Premier's response to your question.

[Question 11 549 reinstated by order of President on 21 February 2018. Hansard reference to original answer: 6 February 2018, page 327.]

Small business

11 551. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Small Business Innovation and Trade: 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:

My answer was fulsome and complete. I refer you to the Premier's response to your question.

[Question 11 551 reinstated by order of President on 21 February 2018. Hansard reference to original answer: 6 February 2018, page 327.]

Sport

11 553. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Small Business Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Sport): 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:

My answer was fulsome and complete. I refer you to the Premier's response to your question.

[Question 11 553 reinstated by order of President on 1 November 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 31 October 2018, 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:

My answer was fulsome and complete. I refer you to the Premier's response to your question.

[Question 11 555 reinstated by order of President on 21 February 2018. Hansard reference to original answer: 20 February 2018, page 627.]

Education

11 561. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Education): 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:

My answer was complete. I refer you to the Premier's response to your question.

[Question 11 561 reinstated by order of President on 21 February 2018. Hansard reference to original answer: 6 February 2018, page 328.]

Treasurer

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

ANSWER:

My answer was fulsome and complete. I refer you to the Premier’s response to your question.

[Question 11 566 reinstated by order of President on 21 February 2018. Hansard reference to original answer: 6 February 2018, page 329.]

Finance

11 567. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Finance): 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:

My answer was fulsome and complete. I refer you to the Premier’s response to your question.

[Question 11 567 reinstated by order of President on 21 February 2018. Hansard reference to original answer: 6 February 2018, page 329.]

Major projects

11 571. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Major Projects): 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:

My answer was fulsome and complete. I refer you to the Premier’s response to your question.

[Question 11 571 reinstated by order of President on 21 February 2018. Hansard reference to original answer: 6 February 2018, page 330.]

Small business

11 573. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Small Business Innovation and Trade: 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:

My answer was fulsome and complete. I refer you to the Premier’s response to your question.

[Question 11 573 reinstated by order of President on 21 February 2018. Hansard reference to original answer: 6 February 2018, page 330.]

Sport

11 575. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Small Business Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Sport): 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:

My answer was fulsome and complete. I refer you to the Premier’s response to your question.

[Question 11 575 reinstated by order of President on 1 November 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 31 October 2017, page 3790.]

Education

11 583. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Education): 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:

My answer was complete. I refer you to the Premier’s response to your question.

[Question 11 583 reinstated by order of President on 21 February 2018. Hansard reference to original answer: 6 February 2018, page 332.]

Special Minister of State

11 597. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State: In relation to the Victorian Government IT Strategy, what did the Government spend on implementing the IT Strategy in 2016-17, excluding spending directly related to the Service Victoria project.

ANSWER:

The direct expenditure for delivery of actions from the IT strategy in 2016-17 was \$3.25 million.

In addition, all government departments utilised ‘business-as-usual’ staffing resources to deliver the actions of the IT strategy.

Further the IT Strategy provides guidance to the government’s IT portfolio, including departmental funds used for IT projects which are visible on the Victorian Government ICT Dashboard.

Special Minister of State

11 818. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State: In relation to the use of Snow Software as the Software Asset Management (SAM) tool for Microsoft applications —

- (1) is the use of Snow Software as a SAM tool mandated across the general government sector;
- (2) is the use of Snow Software as a SAM tool mandated beyond the general government sector, and if so for which agencies;
- (3) how was Snow Software selected as the Government’s mandated SAM tool provider;
- (4) when was the requirement to use a whole-of-government SAM tool provider first imposed on departments and agencies; and
- (5) how many departments or agencies had commenced or undertaken their own tender processes to select SAM tool providers at the time the government mandate was imposed.

ANSWER:

The use of the Snow Software Asset Management product (Snow) is not mandated for use by the general Victorian government sector or beyond.

In 2016 following a formal tender process a State Purchase Contract was awarded to Data#3 to act as the Licensed Solutions Provider (ISP) for Microsoft to the Victorian Government (as Microsoft does not deal directly with customers but via LSPs).

The LSP role is to transact all Microsoft purchases and coordinate the annual licence reconciliation required under the Microsoft Enterprise Agreement. The tender and subsequent State Purchase Contract included an option to undertake a managed software asset management process.

The Microsoft Enterprise Agreement that came into effect on 1 April 2017 obligates participating entities to implement a software asset management process by 1 October 2017. From September 2016 through to March 2017 DPC engaged with the Victorian Government's Microsoft User Reference Group (which is comprised of sixteen key departments and agencies) to prepare for the implementation of the new Microsoft Enterprise Agreement. The requirement to deploy a software asset management process was discussed at most meetings, including the choice to exercise the option under the State Purchase Contract.

In August 2017 DPC obtained Ministerial approval to exercise the State Purchase Contract option for provision of the Data#3 managed software asset management process to meet this contractual obligation. Data#3 uses the Snow product as part of its software asset management process.

As such, the Snow Software Asset Management product was not directly selected by the Victorian Government but is provided as part of a bundled managed service provided by the Government's LSP.

DPC is presently aware of one department that has considered tendering for a software asset management product instead of exercising the option under the contract with Data#3. DPC is unaware of any other departments or agencies that have commenced or undertaken their own tender process to select software asset management providers outside of the SPC but departments and agencies remain free to pursue this, if they so choose.

Health

12 469. DR CARLING-JENKINS — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): On page 111 of the Victoria's Mothers, Babies and Children 2016 report by the Consultative Council on Obstetric and Paediatric Mortality and Morbidity, 33 babies are identified as live born at 20 weeks gestation or more (or, if gestation was unknown, weighing 400 grams or more), following a termination of pregnancy for suspected or confirmed congenital anomalies, in relation to these 33 babies —

- (1) how many were born at 22 weeks gestation or more;
- (2) how many were born at 24 weeks gestation or more;
- (3) how many were born at 26 weeks gestation or more;
- (4) what was the latest gestation at which any of these babies were born;
- (5) what was the longest that any of these babies survived after birth;
- (6) how many of these babies, if any, were given resuscitation;
- (7) how many of these babies were given medical treatment of any kind;
- (8) how many of these babies were born following a diagnosis of suspected, as distinct from confirmed, congenital anomalies;
 - (a) of those babies born following a diagnosis of suspected congenital anomalies, what steps, if any, were taken after birth to determine whether or not the baby in fact had the suspected congenital anomaly; and
 - (b) in how many cases was the baby found not to have the suspected congenital anomaly.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question is inconsistent with rule 8.02 (3)(b) as it relates to the subject matter of proceedings of a current inquiry of the Family and Community Development Committee.

Health

12 470. DR CARLING-JENKINS — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): On page 111 of the Victoria’s Mothers, Babies and Children 2016 report by the Consultative Council on Obstetric and Paediatric Mortality and Morbidity, a total of 185 babies are identified as either stillborn (152) or live born (33) at 20 weeks gestation or more (or, if gestation was unknown, weighing 400 grams or more), following a termination of pregnancy for suspected or confirmed congenital anomalies, in relation to these 185 babies —

- (1) how many were aborted following a diagnosis of suspected, as distinct from confirmed, congenital anomalies;
 - (a) of those babies delivered following a diagnosis of suspected congenital anomalies, what steps, if any, were taken after birth to determine whether or not the baby in fact had the suspected congenital anomaly;
- (2) what were the five most frequent congenital anomalies for which these 185 babies were aborted;
- (3) how many of these babies were aborted for Down syndrome; and
- (4) how many of these babies were aborted for spina bifida.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question is inconsistent with rule 8.02 (3) (b) as it relates to the subject matter of proceedings of a current inquiry of the Family and Community Development Committee.

Roads and road safety

12 485. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Roads and Road Safety): Is consideration being given to strengthening and/or widening the bridge on the Greensborough Bypass in light of the Government’s proposed construction of the North East Link?

ANSWER:

As part of the planning and development of the North East Link, the North East Link Authority is investigating the condition of the existing bridges over Plenty River to determine what strengthening work may be needed. There may need to be some structural strengthening completed as part of the works.

The design of North East Link is evolving, however it is unlikely at this stage that the bridge on Greensborough Bypass will need to be widened.

Roads and road safety

12 556. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Roads and Road Safety): In relation to the press release of 19 January 2018 regarding the completion of the M80 Ring Road upgrade, how much travel time will be cut for drivers using the M80 Ring Road once the remaining sections have been upgraded.

ANSWER:

Upon completion, the M80 Ring Road Upgrade will deliver vast improvements along 38 kilometres from the Princes Freeway at Laverton North, to the Greensborough Highway, Greensborough. On average, Greensborough-bound drivers will save up to 15 minutes and Altona-bound drivers up to 10 minutes during peak times.

Tourism and major events

12 573. MS DUNN — To ask the Minister for Trade and Investment (for the Minister for Tourism and Major Events): 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:

The Victorian Government regularly has discussions with a range of private companies about proposals across all sectors. Often these discussions are commercial in confidence and it is not appropriate to comment on them.

Early childhood education

12 600. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Early Childhood Education: In relation to Victoria's three year old kindergarten participation rates, how many children have joined the program between —

- (1) 1 January 2015 and 31 December 2015;
- (2) 1 January 2016 and 31 December 2016; and
- (3) 1 January 2017 and 31 December 2017.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Early Start Kindergarten which provides funding for children enrolled in a kindergarten program two years before school. It is available for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) children and children known to Child Protection. This data does not include children who attended 3 year old kindergarten without government funding assistance.

Between 1 January 2015 and 31 December 2015, ESK was provided for 1006 children. Between 1 January 2016 and 31 December 2016, ESK was provided for 1189 children. Between 1 January 2017 and 31 December 2017, ESK was provided for 1527 children.

In the 2017-18 State Budget, the Andrews Labor Government provided an additional \$6.3 million to meet the growing demand for Early Start Kindergarten. This will help more Koorie children and children known to child protection access to two years of kinder for free.

Housing, disability and ageing

12 609. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing): In relation to the Rapid Housing Assistance Program, as at 1 March 2018 —

- (1) which community housing organisations were granted funding to support women and children; and
- (2) how many rental properties are being leased through the program.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Family violence is a national emergency and the Andrews Labor Government is leading the nation on how best to respond- to keep women safe and reduce the prevalence of violence against women.

That's why we have committed to implementing all 277 recommendations of the Royal Commission into Family Violence. Given that family violence is Victoria's number one law and order issue it is disappointing that the Coalition has not matched this commitment.

The rapid housing assistance funding has secured safe and stable accommodation for over 300 families.

Housing, disability and ageing

12 610. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing): Of the \$74 million that the Labor Government invested for the Rapid Housing Assistance Program, how much was expended as at 31 December 2017.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

We know that providing secure and stable accommodation for those escaping family violence is key to supporting them to get on with their lives.

That's why the Andrews Labor Government has invested \$289 million to boost social housing stock, redevelop refuges, expand Safe at Home programs and provide rental assistance to get women and children escaping family violence housed quickly and safely.

Since the 2015–16 budget over \$1 billion has been invested in housing and homelessness support by the Government.

Our investment stands in stark contrast to the \$330 million cut made by the previous Liberal Government as outlined by the Royal Commission into Family Violence.

As at 31 December 2017, all \$74 million had been committed to community housing organisations to deliver rapid housing assistance.

Housing, disability and ageing

12 611. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing): In relation to the Rapid Housing Assistance Program, as at 1 March 2018, how many households/families have availed for the relocation grants.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Family violence is a national emergency and the Andrews Labor Government is leading the nation on how best to respond- to keep women safe and reduce the prevalence of violence against women.

That's why we have invested \$40 million over two years in Safe at Home flexible support packages. These packages provide flexible tailored support for people experiencing family violence that can be used in a way that suits them, including relocation costs.

Since September 2016, over 8000 flexible support packages have been provided to meet the needs of individual victim survivors.

Public transport

12 625. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): Is the Government committing any funds to maintaining or upgrading the Greensborough Railway Station in the 2017-18 or 2018-19 financial years.

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Eastern Metropolitan for her continued interest in the Andrew Labor Government's investments along the Hurstbridge line as we are planning ahead for more long-term solutions for the northeast.

After four years of cuts from the Liberal Party, we're delivering the biggest investment in public transport in the state's history, providing extra services, including more than 5000 new car parks at stations across Victoria.

The Level Crossing Removal Authority is currently in construction to remove two level crossings at Grange Road in Alphington and Lower Plenty Road in Rosanna, build a second track from Heidelberg to Rosanna, and build a new Rosanna Station.

Removing the level crossings and building a second track from Heidelberg to Rosanna will allow for more services, reducing crowding and carrying more people every single day.

The Victorian Budget 2017–18 provided \$5 million to finalise planning and start crucial technical and design work on the second stage of the Hurstbridge Line Upgrade, which will duplicate the single-track section between Greensborough and Eltham.

Additionally, we extended two morning peak trains on the Hurstbridge line every day from August last year, boosting services for people between Rosanna and Eltham.

The Andrews Labor Government and the Treasurer will hand down the 2018-19 Budget on 1 May 2018.

Public transport

12 626. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): Is the Government committing any funds to maintaining or upgrading the Montmorency Railway Station in the 2017-18 or 2018-19 financial years.

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Eastern Metropolitan for her continued interest in the Andrew Labor Government's investments along the Hurstbridge line as we are planning ahead for more long-term solutions for the northeast.

After four years of cuts from Liberal Party, we're delivering the biggest investment in public transport in the state's history, providing extra services, including more than 5000 new car parks at stations across Victoria.

The Level Crossing Removal Authority is currently in construction to remove two level crossings at Grange Road in Alphington and Lower Plenty Road in Rosanna, build a second track from Heidelberg to Rosanna, and build a new Rosanna Station.

Removing the level crossings and building a second track from Heidelberg to Rosanna will allow for more services, reducing crowding and carrying more people every single day.

The Victorian Budget 2017–18 provided \$5 million to finalise planning and start crucial technical and design work on the second stage of the Hurstbridge Line Upgrade, which will duplicate the single-track section between Greensborough and Eltham.

Additionally, we extended two morning peak trains on the Hurstbridge line every day from August last year, boosting services for people between Rosanna and Eltham.

The Government is already upgrading Montmorency Station by building 35 car spaces and will also install new lighting, line markings, CCTV and signage to make the car park safer and easier to use. We also have added a new shelter and myki reader at the station.

A new footpath, ramp and stairs will also be built to link the new car park area with the station, also making it easier for people who need to access the station from Binns Street.

The Andrews Labor Government and the Treasurer will hand down the 2018-19 Budget on 1 May 2018.

Public transport

12 627. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): Is the Government committing any funds to maintaining or upgrading the Eltham Railway Station in the 2017-18 or 2018-19 financial years.

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Eastern Metropolitan for her continued interest in the Andrew Labor Government's investments along the Hurstbridge line as we are planning ahead for more long-term solutions for the northeast.

After four years of cuts from Liberal Party, we're delivering the biggest investment in public transport in the state's history, providing extra services, including more than 5000 new car parks at stations across Victoria.

The Level Crossing Removal Authority is currently in construction to remove two level crossings at Grange Road in Alphington and Lower Plenty Road in Rosanna, build a second track from Heidelberg to Rosanna, and build a new Rosanna Station.

Removing the level crossings and building a second track from Heidelberg to Rosanna will allow for more services, reducing crowding and carrying more people every single day.

The Victorian Budget 2017–18 provided \$5 million to finalise planning and start crucial technical and design work on the second stage of the Hurstbridge Line Upgrade, which will duplicate the single-track section between Greensborough and Eltham.

Additionally, we extended two morning peak trains on the Hurstbridge line every day from August last year, boosting services for people between Rosanna and Eltham.

The Andrews Labor Government and the Treasurer will hand down the 2018-19 Budget on 1 May 2018.

Public transport

12 628. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): How much money did the Level Crossing Removal Authority and/or VicRoads spend supporting traders, and in what form did the support take, along —

- (1) Centre Road, Bentleigh;
- (2) McKinnon Road, McKinnon; and
- (3) North Road, Ormond.

ANSWER:

The former Liberal Government did not remove a single level crossing on the Frankston line. The Andrews Labor Government is getting rid of 13 on this line, with the level crossings at North Road in Ormond, McKinnon Road in McKinnon and Centre Road in Bentleigh removed in 2016. The removal of these dangerous level crossings has improved public safety and provided enormous benefits to traders by freeing up traffic flow in the area.

During the projects some impacts to traders and residents were unavoidable. To support traders during this time, the Level Crossing Removal Authority's project team put in place a number of targeted initiatives. These included a specific advertising campaign across radio and print, and an 'Open for Business' campaign to encourage locals to continue using local shops during the works which proved to be very popular and had a high level of awareness and

uptake from locals. Traders also had the opportunity to participate in business mentoring support, and a traders' working group was established to assist with planning local community celebrations connected to the station openings.

Support was also provided once the projects were complete to continue to encourage local residents to use and support their local shops. Support for businesses, including financial expenditure, was part of the construction contract.

Beyond these specific trader support activities, the schedule of works was also tailored in response to traders' concerns. The major rail and road disruptions were re-scheduled six months early in order to avoid the busy summer trading time and to reduce the overall works program by six months, thereby minimising disruptions and impacts of construction.

Roads and road safety

12 633. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Roads and Road Safety): When will design update one for the North East Link be announced.

ANSWER:

The North East Link Authority (NELA) is working towards being able to share updates on the project design area in the coming months.

Roads and road safety

12 634. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Roads and Road Safety): In relation to the permanent information hub for the North East Link project, as advertised on the Community Engagement fact sheet, where will it be located and when will it be established.

ANSWER:

The community information hub will be opened to coincide with the design update that the North East Link Authority (NELA) is working towards in the coming months.

NELA will be advertising this closer to the hub opening date.

Roads and road safety

12 635. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Roads and Road Safety): In relation to the Government indicating that it wishes to proceed with Option A for the North East Link, will it sell surplus land reservations and, if so, what is the location of these reservations.

ANSWER:

As North East Link is in the early planning and design stage, it is too early to determine whether any land reservations will be declared surplus.

Roads and road safety

12 636. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Roads and Road Safety): Will the Government upgrade any part of the Greensborough Bypass between the M80 Ring Road, the North East Link and Yan Yean Road as part of the North East Link project.

ANSWER:

The North East Link Business Case is currently being reviewed by the Victorian Government. It does not include an upgrade of the Greensborough Bypass between the M80 Ring Road and Yan Yean Road.

Roads and road safety

12 637. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Roads and Road Safety): In relation to the Andrews Government’s construction timeline, will the Minister confirm that works at the end of the M80 at Greensborough to complete the M80 Ring Road upgrade, may not be completed until further works on the North East Link commences.

ANSWER:

VicRoads is working with the North East Link Authority to plan for the future connection with the M80 Ring Road at Greensborough.

Improvements to this 2km section include:

- additional lanes in each direction of the M80 Ring Road;
- widening and lengthening the Plenty Road Greensborough-bound entry ramp to make it easier and safer to merge; and
- ITS infrastructure.

Public transport

12 642. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What priority has the Government given to removing level crossings in Eltham and Eltham North at —

- (1) Diamond Street;
- (2) Wattletree Road; and
- (3) Allendale Road.

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Eastern Metropolitan for her continued interest in the Andrew Labor Government’s investments along the Hurstbridge line as we are planning ahead for more long-term solutions for the north-east. I also note her interest in the Andrews Labor Government’s level crossing removal program.

The Andrews Labor Government understands the importance of easing congestion, improving safety and reducing travel times for both passengers and motorists. This is why we are committed to removing the most dangerous and congested level crossings across Melbourne.

The Level Crossing Removal Authority is currently in construction to remove two level crossings at Grange Road in Alphington and Lower Plenty Road in Rosanna, build a second track from Heidelberg to Rosanna, and build a new Rosanna Station.

In 2014, we took a list of 50 level crossings to be removed to the election.

As you know, the Level Crossing Removal Authority has been tasked with removing these 50 level crossings. To date, we’ve removed 17, with another 11 currently under construction.

While the current priority is to remove these 50 dangerous and congested level crossings, I welcome suggestions from the Liberal Party about how we can get rid of more crossings, sooner.

Public transport

12 644. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the train patronage figure during the first week of the Hurstbridge rail line upgrade blitz and was what the patronage figure during the same time period last year.

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Eastern Metropolitan for her continued interest in the Andrew Labor Government's investments along the Hurstbridge line as we are planning ahead for more long-term solutions for the north east.

The Level Crossing Removal Authority is currently in construction to remove two level crossings on the Hurstbridge line at Grange Road in Alphington and Lower Plenty Road in Rosanna, build a second track from Heidelberg to Rosanna, and build a new Rosanna Station.

Estimated average weekday patronage for the Hurstbridge line during the first week of line closure (19-25 March 2018) was 35 262 boardings per day. During the same week in 2017 there were an average 40 109 boardings per day.

Estimated average weekend patronage during the same period was 11 399 boardings per day. During the same week in 2017 there were an average 17 668 boardings per day.

The patronage figures include passengers boarding a replacement bus service and the special bus service from Eltham station to Parliament station.

Energy, environment and climate change

12 650. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): What burn-offs are planned for the Eltham area before the 2018-19 bushfire season and when are they due to be carried out.

ANSWER:

Information on planned burns is included in the fire operations plan, publicly available at maps.vic.gov.au/mapshare.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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

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

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

Headings reflect the portfolio of the minister answering the question.

Wednesday, 9 May 2018

Police

12 553. DR CARLING-JENKINS — To ask the Minister for Corrections (for the Minister for Police): In relation the police service area of Melton, since 1 July 2016 —

- (1) how many General Duties police officers have been deployed;
- (2) how many officers have been assigned to the role of Detective;
- (3) how many officers have been assigned to a police task force;
- (4) how many Police Custody Officers have been deployed; and
- (5) how many officers have departed the Melton police service area for any reason.

ANSWER:

The deployment of police resources is an operational matter for the Chief Commissioner of Police. The specific information you have requested is not publicly available and its provision would involve the unreasonable diversion of Victoria Police resources. However Victoria Police FTE data is regularly published on the Victoria Police website.

Police members are allocated to either a division within a region or a specific department or command. specialist positions such as detectives are assigned at the divisional level. This ensures Victoria Police are able to easily move resources to where they are most required in the geographical area.

Victoria Police has a wide variety of specialist task forces to help police tackle the greatest drivers of harm in the community. These teams are established using police from across the state and may be disbanded after their specific task is completed.

The latest FTE data from the Victoria Police website for March 2018 shows that the North West Metro Division 3, of which the Melton Police Service Area sits, has 454.74 FTE positions. Of this 102.26 FTE positions are allocated to general duties in the Melton Police Service Area. There are no Police Custody Officers deployed to the Melton Police Service Area.

The Andrews Labor Government has invested in the biggest recruitment of new police in Victoria Police's history. The Melton Police Service Area has received an additional 20 general duties police officers on top of attrition. As a result of this investment the number of general duties FTE positions in the Melton Police Service Area has increased by 21.8% since June 2016, and 31% since November 2014.

Police

12 554. DR CARLING-JENKINS — To ask the Minister for Corrections (for the Minister for Police): In relation the police service area of Moonee Valley, since 1 July 2016 —

- (1) how many General Duties police officers have been deployed;
- (2) how many officers have been assigned to the role of Detective;
- (3) how many officers have been assigned to a police task force;
- (4) how many Police Custody Officers have been deployed; and
- (5) how many officers have departed the Moonee Valley police service area for any reason.

ANSWER:

The deployment of police resources is an operational matter for the Chief Commissioner of Police. The specific information for points 2, 3 and 5 you have requested is not publicly available and its provision would involve the unreasonable diversion of Victoria Police resources. However Victoria Police FTE data is regularly published on the Victoria Police website.

Police members are allocated to either a division within a region or a specific department or command. specialist positions such as detectives are assigned at the divisional level. This ensures Victoria Police are able to easily move resources to where they are most required in the geographical area.

Victoria Police has a wide variety of specialist task forces to help police tackle the greatest drivers of harm in the community. These teams are established using police from across the state and may be disbanded after their specific task is completed.

The latest FTE data from the Victoria Police website for March 2018 shows that the North West Metro Division 4, of which the Mooney Valley Police Service Area sits, has 687.0 FTE positions. Of this 116.16 FTE positions are allocated to general duties in the Moonee Valley Police Service Area. There are no Police Custody Officers deployed to the Moonee Valley Police Service Area.

The Andrews Labor Government has invested in the biggest recruitment of new police in Victoria Police’s history. The Moonee Valley Police Service Area has received an additional 12 police officers on top of attrition. As a result of this investment the number of general duties FTE positions in the Moonee Valley Police Service Area has increased by 10.5% since June 2016, and 14% since November 2014.

Police

12 562. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Police): As at December 2016, how many police officers were stationed at the Greensborough Police Station.

ANSWER:

As the member would be aware, for operational and security reasons Victoria Police do not publicly disclose staff numbers at police station level.

I am advised by the Office of the Chief Commissioner that, as at December 2016 there were 103.32 Full Time Equivalent police resources allocated to the Banyule Police Service Area, in which the Greensborough Police Station is located.

Police

12 645. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Police): Have any of the new 65 police officers who graduated in late October 2017 been stationed at the —

- (1) Greensborough Police Station; and
- (2) Eltham Police Station.

ANSWER:

Victoria Police has advised that 45 of the 65 police officers who graduated in late October 2017 have been allocated to the North West Metro Division 5 which services Greensborough, Eltham and the new Mernda Police Station, which opened in February 2018.

As the member will be aware, the location and deployment of police officers is a matter for the Chief Commissioner of Police, as determined by the staff allocation model (SAM). The SAM maximises the efficiency of police resourcing by assessing demand and allocating resources. Accordingly, police officers are assigned and transferred within divisions by local command based on operational need.

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 the remaining graduates from these squads.

Energy, environment and climate change

12 649. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): When will the planned burns in the Eltham area, which were programmed for Autumn 2017 at Overbank Road and Laughing Waters Road, be carried out.

ANSWER:

The mentioned planned burns were completed in April 2018.

Police

12 652. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Police): In relation to investigations into reported crime on Victorian buses, trams and trains in 2017, how many criminal investigations have not been supported by evidence from Closed Circuit Television Monitoring (CCTV) footage because, at the time of the reported conduct, the CCTV system or camera was not working.

ANSWER:

Victoria Police's Transit Safety Division is responsible for investigating crime reported on public transport in Victoria.

Closed Circuit Television Monitoring (CCTV) can be a useful source of evidence of crime committed on public transport or near public transport infrastructure. However, there are many reasons why criminal investigations may not be supported by CCTV footage. I am advised that the Transit Safety Division does not maintain records of whether CCTV footage was unavailable because the CCTV system or camera not working.

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, 10 May 2018

Energy, environment and climate change

11 480. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): 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:

My answer was fulsome and complete. I refer you to the Premier's response to your question.

[Question 11 480 reinstated by order of President on 21 February 2018. Hansard reference to original answer: 6 February 2018, page 316.]

Energy, environment and climate change

11 502. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): 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:

My answer was fulsome and complete. I refer you to the Premier's response to your question.

[Question 11 502 reinstated by order of President on 21 February 2018. Hansard reference to original answer: 6 February 2018, page 320.]

Energy, environment and climate change

11 525. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): 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:

My answer was fulsome and complete. I refer you to the Premier's response to your question.

[Question 11 525 reinstated by order of President on 21 February 2018. Hansard reference to original answer: 6 February 2018, page 323.]

Energy, environment and climate change

11 547. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): 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:

My answer was fulsome and complete. I refer you to the Premier’s response to your question.

[Question 11 547 reinstated by order of President on 21 February 2018. Hansard reference to original answer: 6 February 2018, page 327.]

Energy, environment and climate change

11 569. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): 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:

My answer was fulsome and complete. I refer you to the Premier’s response to your question.

[Question 11 569 reinstated by order of President on 21 February 2018. Hansard reference to original answer: 6 February 2018, page 330.]

Police

12 549. DR CARLING-JENKINS — To ask the Minister for Corrections (for the Minister for Police): In relation the police service area of Brimbank, since 1 July 2016 —

- (1) how many General Duties police officers have been deployed;
- (2) how many officers have been assigned to the role of Detective;
- (3) how many officers have been assigned to a police task force;
- (4) how many Police Custody Officers have been deployed; and
- (5) how many officers have departed the Brimbank police service area for any reason.

ANSWER:

The deployment of police resources is an operational matter for the Chief Commissioner of Police. The specific information for points 2, 3 and 5 you have requested is not publicly available and its provision would involve the unreasonable diversion of Victoria Police resources. However Victoria Police FTE data is regularly published on the Victoria Police website.

Police members are allocated to either a division within a region or a specific department or command. specialist positions such as detectives are assigned at the divisional level. This ensures Victoria Police are able to easily move resources to where they are most required in the geographical area.

Victoria Police has a wide variety of specialist task forces to help police tackle the greatest drivers of harm in the community. These teams are established using police from across the state and may be disbanded after their specific task is completed.

The latest FTE data from the Victoria Police website for March 2018 shows that the North West Metro Division 3, of which the Brimbank Police Service Area sits, has 454.74 FTE positions. Of this 176.21 FTE positions are allocated to general duties in the Brimbank Police Service Area. There are 27 Police Custody Officers deployed to

the Brimbank Police Service Area, who have so far performed over 6500 shifts which has freed up police officers to get back out into the community.

The Andrews Labor Government has invested in the biggest recruitment of new police in Victoria Police's history. The Brimbank Police Service Area has received an additional 33 general duties police officers on top of attrition. As a result of this investment the number of general duties FTE positions in the Brimbank Police Service Area has increased by 22% since June 2016, and 14% since November 2014.

Police

12 550. DR CARLING-JENKINS — To ask the Minister for Corrections (for the Minister for Police): In relation the police service area of Hobsons Bay, since 1 July 2016 —

- (1) how many General Duties police officers have been deployed;
- (2) how many officers have been assigned to the role of Detective;
- (3) how many officers have been assigned to a police task force;
- (4) how many Police Custody Officers have been deployed; and
- (5) how many officers have departed the Hobsons Bay police service area for any reason.

ANSWER:

The deployment of police resources is an operational matter for the Chief Commissioner of Police. The specific information for points 2, 3 and 5 you have requested is not publicly available and its provision would involve the unreasonable diversion of Victoria Police resources. However Victoria Police FTE data is regularly published on the Victoria Police website.

Police members are allocated to either a division within a region or a specific department or command. specialist positions such as detectives are assigned at the divisional level. This ensures Victoria Police are able to easily move resources to where they are most required in the geographical area.

Victoria Police has a wide variety of specialist task forces to help police tackle the greatest drivers of harm in the community. These teams are established using police from across the state and may be disbanded after their specific task is completed.

The latest FTE data from the Victoria Police website for March 2018 shows that the North West Metro Division 2, of which the Hobsons Bay Police Service Area sits, has 484.26 FTE positions. Of this 76.68 FTE positions are allocated to general duties in the Hobsons Bay Police Service Area. There are no Police Custody Officers deployed to the Hobsons Bay Police Service Area.

The Andrews Labor Government has invested in the biggest recruitment of new police in Victoria Police's history. The Hobsons Bay Police Service Area has received an additional 6 general duties police officers on top of attrition. As a result of this investment the number of general duties FTE positions in the Hobsons Bay Police Service Area has increased by 2.5% since June 2016, and 8% since November 2014.

Police

12 551. DR CARLING-JENKINS — To ask the Minister for Corrections (for the Minister for Police): In relation the police service area of Hume, since 1 July 2016 —

- (1) how many General Duties police officers have been deployed;
- (2) how many officers have been assigned to the role of Detective;
- (3) how many officers have been assigned to a police task force;
- (4) how many Police Custody Officers have been deployed; and
- (5) how many officers have departed the Hume police service area for any reason.

ANSWER:

The deployment of police resources is an operational matter for the Chief Commissioner of Police. The specific information for points 2, 3 and 5 you have requested is not publicly available and its provision would involve the unreasonable diversion of Victoria Police resources. However Victoria Police FTE data is regularly published on the Victoria Police website.

Police members are allocated to either a division within a region or a specific department or command. specialist positions such as detectives are assigned at the divisional level. This ensures Victoria Police are able to easily move resources to where they are most required in the geographical area.

Victoria Police has a wide variety of specialist task forces to help police tackle the greatest drivers of harm in the community. These teams are established using police from across the state and may be disbanded after their specific task is completed.

The latest FTE data from the Victoria Police website for March 2018 shows that the North West Metro Division 4, of which the Hume Police Service Area sits, has 687.0 FTE positions. Of this 179.89 FTE positions are allocated to general duties in the Hume Police Service Area. There are 24 Police Custody Officers deployed to the Hume Police Service Area, who have so far performed over 5000 shifts which has freed up police officers to get back out into the community.

The Andrews Labor Government has invested in the biggest recruitment of new police in Victoria Police's history. The Hume Police Service Area has received an additional 51 general duties police officers on top of attrition. As a result of this investment the number of general duties FTE positions in the Hume Police Service Area has increased by 28% since June 2016, and 22% since November 2014.

Police

12 552. DR CARLING-JENKINS — To ask the Minister for Corrections (for the Minister for Police): In relation the police service area of Maribyrnong, since 1 July 2016 —

- (1) how many General Duties police officers have been deployed;
- (2) how many officers have been assigned to the role of Detective;
- (3) how many officers have been assigned to a police task force;
- (4) how many Police Custody Officers have been deployed; and
- (5) how many officers have departed the Maribyrnong police service area for any reason.

ANSWER:

The deployment of police resources is an operational matter for the Chief Commissioner of Police. The specific information for points 2, 3 and 5 you have requested is not publicly available and its provision would involve the unreasonable diversion of Victoria Police resources. However Victoria Police FTE data is regularly published on the Victoria Police website.

Police members are allocated to either a division within a region or a specific department or command. specialist positions such as detectives are assigned at the divisional level. This ensures Victoria Police are able to easily move resources to where they are most required in the geographical area.

Victoria Police has a wide variety of specialist task forces to help police tackle the greatest drivers of harm in the community. These teams are established using police from across the state and may be disbanded after their specific task is completed.

The latest FTE data from the Victoria Police website for March 2018 shows that the North West Metro Division 2, of which the Maribyrnong Police Service Area sits, has 484.26 FTE positions. Of this 57.68 FTE positions are allocated to general duties in the Maribymong Police Service Area. There are no Police Custody Officers deployed to the Maribyrnong Police Service Area.

The Andrews Labor Government has invested in the biggest recruitment of new police in Victoria Police's history. The Maribymong Police Service Area has received an additional 6 police officers on top of attrition.

Police

12 555. DR CARLING-JENKINS — To ask the Minister for Corrections (for the Minister for Police): In relation the police service area of Wyndham, since 1 July 2016 —

- (1) how many General Duties police officers have been deployed;
- (2) how many officers have been assigned to the role of Detective;
- (3) how many officers have been assigned to a police task force;
- (4) how many Police Custody Officers have been deployed; and
- (5) how many officers have departed the Wyndham police service area for any reason.

ANSWER:

The deployment of police resources is an operational matter for the Chief Commissioner of Police. The specific information for points 2, 3 and 5 you have requested is not publicly available and its provision would involve the unreasonable diversion of Victoria Police resources. However Victoria Police FTE data is regularly published on the Victoria Police website.

Police members are allocated to either a division within a region or a specific department or command. specialist positions such as detectives are assigned at the divisional level. This ensures Victoria Police are able to easily move resources to where they are most required in the geographical area.

Victoria Police has a wide variety of specialist task forces to help police tackle the greatest drivers of harm in the community. These teams are established using police from across the state and may be disbanded after their specific task is completed.

The latest FTE data from the Victoria Police website for March 2018 shows that the North West Metro Division 3, of which the Wyndham Police Service Area sits, has 454.74 FTE positions. Of this 176.21 FTE positions are allocated to general duties in the Wyndham Police Service Area.

The Andrews Labor Government has invested in the biggest recruitment of new police in Victoria Police's history. The Wyndham Police Service Area has received an additional 39 general duties police officers on top of attrition. As a result of this investment the number of general duties FTE positions in the Wyndham Police Service Area has increased by 27% since June 2016, and 49% since November 2014.