

**PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA**

**PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES  
(HANSARD)**

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

**FIFTY-EIGHTH PARLIAMENT**

**FIRST SESSION**

**WRITTEN RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS  
WITHOUT NOTICE**

**10 August to 24 August 2018**

**(Extract from book 12)**

**Internet: [www.parliament.vic.gov.au/downloadhansard](http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/downloadhansard)**

**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 Mulino, #Mr Purcell, #Mr Ramsay, #Dr Ratnam, #Ms Symes, Ms Truong and Mr Young.

**Standing Committee on Legal and Social Issues** — #Ms Crozier, #Mr Elasmarr, Ms Fitzherbert, Mr Morris, Ms Patten, Mrs Peulich, #Dr Ratnam, #Mr Rich-Phillips, Ms Shing, 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*): Dr Carling-Jenkins and Mr Gepp. (*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 N. ELASMAR

**Acting Presidents:**

Ms Dunn, Mr Gepp, 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 <sup>1</sup>	Northern Metropolitan	Greens	Morris, Mr Joshua	Western Victoria	LP
Bath, Ms Melina <sup>2</sup>	Eastern Victoria	Nats	Mulino, Mr Daniel	Eastern Victoria	ALP
Bourman, Mr Jeffrey	Eastern Victoria	SFFP	O'Brien, Mr Daniel David <sup>8</sup>	Eastern Victoria	Nats
Carling-Jenkins, Dr Rachel <sup>3</sup>	Western Metropolitan	Ind	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, Mr Luke Bartholomew <sup>9</sup>	Northern Victoria	Nats
Dalla-Riva, Mr Richard Alex Gordon	Eastern Metropolitan	LP	Patten, Ms Fiona <sup>10</sup>	Northern Metropolitan	FPRP
Davis, Mr David McLean	Southern Metropolitan	LP	Pennicuik, Ms Susan Margaret	Southern Metropolitan	Greens
Drum, Mr Damian Kevin <sup>4</sup>	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
Elasmar, Mr Nazih	Northern Metropolitan	ALP	Ramsay, Mr Simon	Western Victoria	LP
Finn, Mr Bernard Thomas C.	Western Metropolitan	LP	Ratnam, Dr Samantha Shantini <sup>11</sup>	Northern Metropolitan	Greens
Fitzherbert, Ms Margaret	Southern Metropolitan	LP	Rich-Phillips, Mr Gordon Kenneth	South Eastern Metropolitan	LP
Gepp, Mr Mark <sup>5</sup>	Northern Victoria	ALP	Shing, Ms Harriet	Eastern Victoria	ALP
Hartland, Ms Colleen Mildred <sup>6</sup>	Western Metropolitan	Greens	Somyurek, Mr Adem	South Eastern Metropolitan	ALP
Herbert, Mr Steven Ralph <sup>7</sup>	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 <sup>12</sup>	Western Metropolitan	Greens
Melhem, Mr Cesar	Western Metropolitan	ALP	Wooldridge, Ms Mary Louise Newling	Eastern Metropolitan	LP
			Young, Mr Daniel	Northern Victoria	SFFP

<sup>1</sup> Resigned 28 September 2017

<sup>2</sup> Appointed 15 April 2015

<sup>3</sup> DLP until 26 June 2017;  
AC until 3 August 2018

<sup>4</sup> Resigned 27 May 2016

<sup>5</sup> Appointed 7 June 2017

<sup>6</sup> Resigned 9 February 2018

<sup>7</sup> Resigned 6 April 2017

<sup>8</sup> Resigned 25 February 2015

<sup>9</sup> Appointed 12 October 2016

<sup>10</sup> ASP until 16 January 2018;  
RV until 14 August 2018

<sup>11</sup> Appointed 18 October 2017

<sup>12</sup> Appointed 21 February 2018

**PARTY ABBREVIATIONS**

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



# CONTENTS

---

## WRITTEN RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

### 10 AUGUST TO 24 AUGUST 2018

<i>Electorate office staff</i> .....	4483
<i>Public land use</i> .....	4483
<i>Timber release plan</i> .....	4484
<i>Corrections Victoria schools program</i> .....	4484
<i>Road tolls</i> .....	4484
<i>Australian Anti Ice Campaign</i> .....	4485
<i>Drug harm reduction</i> .....	4486
<i>Youth justice system</i> .....	4486
<i>Youth justice system</i> .....	4488
<i>Parks Victoria</i> .....	4489
<i>Government media policy</i> .....	4489
<i>Dental health funding</i> .....	4489
<i>Australian Paper Maryvale mill</i> .....	4490
<i>Wyndham schools</i> .....	4491
<i>AGL Crib Point gas terminal</i> .....	4491
<i>Victorian African Communities Action Plan</i> .....	4491
<i>Fulham Correctional Centre</i> .....	4492
<i>TAFE funding</i> .....	4492
<i>Simplot Australia and SPC</i> .....	4493
<i>Metropolitan Remand Centre</i> .....	4493



**WRITTEN RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE**

*Responses have been incorporated in the form provided to Hansard and received in the period shown.*

**10 August to 24 August 2018**

**Electorate office staff**

**Question asked by:** Mr Morris  
**Directed to:** Minister for Agriculture  
**Asked on:** 29 March 2018

**RESPONSE TO SUBSTANTIVE QUESTION:**

In relation to the Ombudsman's report of March 2018, I reiterate that I have contributed to the pooled staff resource for the entire duration of my time in this parliament. I have always been upfront about the fact.

Like many other members I was not part of the so called 60/40 split arrangements referred to in the Ombudsman's report. There was never a point where there was question of me agreeing or declining to participate in the scheme, it was simply not relevant to my arrangements, as it was not relevant to many others. My budget and staffing entitlements were both fully allocated and devoted to my electorate.

All my staffing related documentation was available to the Ombudsman, and we have all had the benefit of reading her detailed report which raised no issues or concerns in relation to me or my electorate office and so I can confirm that my electorate staff were employed to undertake duties within my electorate of Western Victoria.

**RESPONSE TO SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION:**

I can confirm that Mr Tim Miller has worked in my electorate office for many years. He was an employee throughout the 2014 period and for some time beforehand working from my office on matters relating to my electorate that support my role as a Member. Mr Miller remains an electorate officer to this day supporting me in my responsibilities to serve the communities of Western Victoria.

The Ombudsman was very clear that the focus of her report was not on any individuals in my office, and I would refer members to the contents of her report

**Public land use**

**Question asked by:** Mr Bourman  
**Directed to:** Special Minister of State  
**Asked on:** 8 August 2018

**RESPONSE:**

The Victorian Environmental Assessment Council (VEAC) is still finalising its draft proposals paper for the Central West Investigation, therefore there are no changes proposed to public land access in the investigation area at this time.

VEAC will consult widely and seek public submissions on its draft proposals paper before making final recommendations to government in March 2019. The government will await the advice of VEAC, and consider any recommendations made at that time.

Under the VEAC Act 2001, the government must prepare and table a response to these recommendations no later than the first sitting day six months after VEAC's final report is laid before each House of the Parliament.

### Timber release plan

**Question asked by:** Ms Bath  
**Directed to:** Minister for Agriculture  
**Asked on:** 9 August 2018

**RESPONSE:**

The Allocation Order and the VicForests' Timber Release Plan are in the process of being updated.

### Corrections Victoria schools program

**Question asked by:** Mr O'Donohue  
**Directed to:** Minister for Corrections  
**Asked on:** 9 August 2018

**RESPONSE TO SUBSTANTIVE QUESTION:**

The Member for Eltham first spoke with me regarding the school prisons program on Wednesday 8 August, 2018.

I understand Ms Ward was contacted by Mrs Cronin several months ago. Ms Ward subsequently raised Mrs Cronin's concerns with several local schools before reporting back to Mrs Cronin.

### Road tolls

**Question asked by:** Ms Truong  
**Directed to:** Special Minister of State  
**Asked on:** 9 August 2018

**RESPONSE:**

The West Gate Tunnel Project (the Project) will keep Melbourne moving by providing a vital alternative to the West Gate Bridge and increasing resilience of the M1 corridor. It will provide direct freight access to the Port of Melbourne and remove thousands of trucks from local streets and the West Gate Bridge.

The Project will be funded by a state contribution, tolls on the West Gate Tunnel, and contributions from the operator Transurban. The forecast toll revenue during the period of the CityLink Concession extension is commercially sensitive, and will vary according to consumer behaviour. Victorian taxpayers will be protected from future financial exposure with Transurban assuming all financial risk from future tolling revenues.

On the question of the public sector comparator, the Victorian Labor Government's Market-led Proposals Guideline is the most transparent in the country. The Government has progressively released documents detailing the Project and demonstrating its benefits and value for money. Documents include:

- the State developed Business Case;
- a Project Summary;
- a Summary of the Value for Money Assessment;
- the proposed amendments to the CityLink Concession Deed;
- an exposure draft of the West Gate Tunnel Bill; and
- the Project Agreement between the State and Transurban.

This is an unprecedented level of public disclosure, demonstrating the Government's commitment to transparency and achieving the best outcomes for the taxpayer.

### Australian Anti Ice Campaign

**Question asked by:** Dr Carling-Jenkins  
**Directed to:** Minister for Training and Skills  
**Asked on:** 9 August 2018

#### RESPONSE TO SUBSTANTIVE QUESTION:

The Andrews Labor Government takes the issue of drugs, and ice specifically, very seriously.

Our three-stage, \$181.5 million Ice Action Plan is helping families through increased access to counselling services and other services, expanding access to support and treatment, building the capacity of our frontline workers, making our communities safer and closing down manufacturers.

As part of the Ice Action Plan, we are expanding support for a range of frontline workers who may have contact with people affected by ice. This includes workshops developed specifically for teachers in schools, vocational education and training and in community learning settings. Up to 3000 places are available for online and face-to-face training, which covers:

- The history of the drug and the effects of ice on people who use it
- How to work safely to protect yourself and others
- How to communicate and respond effectively to ice-affected people
- Active learning about people who use ice and critical incidents.

By supporting school staff to be better informed about the risks and harms associated with ice, they are more equipped to manage any issues and incidents occurring as a result of ice-affected students, parents or staff.

The \$87 million Drug Rehabilitation Plan, released in October 2017, further builds on the significant achievements of the Ice Action Plan by expanding treatment, boosting training and opening 100 additional rehab beds.

Drug Education must be delivered in schools as part of the Victorian Curriculum F-10. The Health and Physical Education learning area includes the focus area of Alcohol and other drugs which provides information on a range of drugs, including prescription drugs, bush and alternative medicines, energy drinks, caffeine, tobacco, alcohol, illegal drugs and performance-enhancing drugs.

The curriculum supports students to explore the impact drugs can have on individuals, families and communities. Engaging students in drug education activities promotes resilience by building knowledge, skills and behaviours that enable them to make responsible, healthy and safe choices.

Drug education is based on a whole school approach and the Victorian Government's policies and programs support health promotion, student wellbeing and engagement and harm minimisation. A range of evidence-based resources are made available by the Department of Education and Training to support delivery of school drug education in Victoria.

#### RESPONSE TO SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION:

In Victorian schools, drug education is delivered in line with evidence which shows that the most effective school drug education programs are delivered by trained facilitators and teachers, through interactive, structured lessons. Victorian schools are encouraged to deliver drug education using evidence-based teaching and learning resources which reflect harm minimisation approaches.

### Drug harm reduction

**Question asked by:** Ms Patten  
**Directed to:** Minister for Families and Children  
**Asked on:** 9 August 2018

#### RESPONSE:

Every single life lost to drugs is a terrible tragedy — both for the families and friends affected, and for the wider community. That is why the Victorian Government is working tirelessly to prevent and reduce drug-related harm across Victoria.

In 2018-19, the government is investing a record \$259.9 million in drug services, representing an increase in investment of 57 per cent through the last four State Budgets.

Through the Ice Action Plan and Drug Rehabilitation Plan, we are more than doubling the number of residential rehabilitation beds across Victoria, providing more Victorians with access to high quality residential treatment each year.

The government is also introducing a real-time prescription monitoring system, SafeScript — a comprehensive response to the growing harms from prescription medicines.

In addition to establishing the trial of a medically supervised injecting room, over the last 18 months the government has also supported new harm reduction initiatives including:

- Establishing a peer-led networks trial, which uses peer workers to identify and support those at risk of overdose, including those who may not utilise mainstream supports
- Expanding access to the lifesaving medication naloxone, which can reverse the effects of an opioid overdose
- Expanding outreach services through a new proactive overdoses response initiative targeted at key hotspots across Victoria
- Enhancing overdoses prevention education in Victoria, targeting some of the behaviours that increase the risk of fatal overdose among illicit drug users.

### Youth justice system

**Question asked by:** Ms Crozier  
**Directed to:** Minister for Families and Children  
**Asked on:** 21 August 2018

#### RESPONSE:

I am informed that:

I cannot confirm the source or veracity of the data the member has referred to. To compare any data, it is important to understand the source and parameters of those data sets.

What I can say is that the Government takes a zero-tolerance approach to violence or assaults in Youth Justice centres. The safety of young people, staff, and the community is of the utmost importance.

This Government has improved transparency by introducing the quarterly publication of incident reporting data. We have also overhauled the incident reporting system that the previous Liberal government gutted to capture a wider range of incidents.

Following the public hearings at the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, a practice change occurred in mid-2015 that has resulted in all young people being asked about events prior to being admitted to custody.

Following this practice change, there has been an increase in the number of assault incidents reported. These incidents are alleged to have occurred prior to young people entering the custodial setting.

This Government is now ensuring impacts on young people and staff are appropriately considered when categorising incidents, resulting in a greater number of incidents categorised as Category One.

This includes reporting threatening and assaultive behaviour towards staff, all self-harm attempts and reporting all assaults that not only result in admission to hospital but have the potential to harm and are of serious intent. This was not the case under the previous Liberal government.

We also introduced legislation that ensures the Commission for Children and Young People plays a key role in providing independent oversight in Youth Justice centres. All Category One incident reports are now provided to the Commission, which was not the case under the previous Liberal government.

The Liberal/Green Parliamentary Inquiry into Youth Justice Centres in Victoria made no findings against the Government's current reporting of serious incidents; rather it heard scathing evidence the former minister Ms. Wooldridge's decision in 2011 to remove Category 3 incident classification and replace it with Significant Incident Case Notes (SCEN), may have reduced public visibility of critical incidents and created a culture of underreporting within Youth Justice and to police.

In the Parliamentary Inquiry's final report the CPSU provided evidence that "In 2011, category 3 incidents were replaced by Significant Event Case Notes.... CPSU expressed its concern to DHHS in 2013 about how the removal of category 3 incidents could downplay incidents, delay responses, to occupational violence and increase the risk of assault".

While all allegations of criminal behaviour in Youth Justice centres are referred to Victoria Police, not all Category One incidents require police attendance. Similarly, police attend Youth Justice facilities for a variety of reasons, including to serve warrants and collect statements and evidence in respect of crimes alleged to have been committed in the community. Emergency services call outs do not necessarily correlate to Category One incidents.

Following the passage of the Children and Justice Legislation Amendment (Youth Justice Reform) Act 2017, legalisation the Liberals tried to scuttle, new laws that crack down on serious young offenders and toughen consequences for young offenders are now in effect, including for offences committed in custody. In addition, the Youth Parole Board must be notified of incidents that occur while in custody.

I would like to take this opportunity to say the member's preamble to both the substantive and supplementary questions demonstrate how out of touch she is.

To state the Youth Justice system under the previous Liberal government was "award winning" is delusional. It is repugnant to think that the member would consider a staff member having his throat slashed by a young offender indicative of an "award winning" system. The previous Liberal government failed to act on the 2010 Ombudsman's report, shelved a secret masterplan to rebuild Parkville and cut Youth Justice staff.

The Andrews Labor Government is cleaning up the previous Liberal government's mess after four years mismanagement, neglect and cuts.

During our term of Government, we have provided an unprecedented \$1.2 billion to overhaul and strengthen the youth justice system including building fit-for-purpose infrastructure, delivering more and better trained and equipped staff as well as addressing the recommendations of the landmark Armytage and Ogloff Youth Justice Review. This includes the biggest ever expansion to young offender rehabilitation programs.

**Youth justice system**

**Question asked by:** Ms Crozier  
**Directed to:** Minister for Families and Children  
**Asked on:** 21 August 2018

**RESPONSE:**

I am informed that:

As I have repeatedly advised, it would be inappropriate for me to comment on a matter currently under police investigation. It is crucial that any review or investigation is not prejudiced by public comment.

I can say that the department examines all alleged incidents at youth justice facilities and acts accordingly, based on the findings of each individual case.

All incidents or allegations of violence or assault by young people or staff in Youth Justice Centres are reported and referred to police for investigation.

**FURTHER RESPONSE:**

As I have repeatedly advised, it would be inappropriate for me to comment on any matter currently under internal review and police investigation. During an investigation, all circumstances, including any relevant actions taken before, during and after an event, are considered.

It is therefore crucial that any review or investigation is not prejudiced by public comment. It would be premature for me to discuss any information relating to any investigation.

The department examines all alleged incidents at youth justice facilities and acts accordingly, based on the findings of each individual case.

What I can say is that any incidence of violent behaviour or assaults by young people in custody is absolutely unacceptable, and the safety of our staff, young people and the community is of utmost importance.

**Youth justice system**

**Question asked by:** Mr Ramsay  
**Directed to:** Minister for Families and Children  
**Asked on:** 21 August 2018

**RESPONSE:**

I am informed that:

I am advised that there are no young people sleeping in storage rooms and open unit spaces within Youth Justice custodial facilities.

For the safety and security of Youth Justice centres, it would be inappropriate for me to provide the level of operational detail that the member seeks. What I can say is that the available capacity at Youth Justice centres varies on a day to day basis.

I refer the member to historical information provided by my department to the Public Accounts and Estimates Committee's Inquiry into 2016-17 Financial and Performance Outcomes. Furthermore, the annual daily average number of young people in custody is provided in the Budget Paper No 3 and the department's annual report.

As this year's Budget papers show, there has been an increase in the number of young offenders placed in custody during our term of Government and this trend is projected to continue as a result of our Government's tough reforms to bail and sentencing laws. In addition, the most recent Children's Court Annual Report shows a 54 per cent increase in the number of detention orders made by the Children's Court since 2014-15.

To meet rising demand for secure accommodation of youth offenders, construction is underway on 68 new beds and security infrastructure across Parkville and Malmsbury. The \$79.5 million works also includes a secure new perimeter fence around the secure accommodation areas at Malmsbury, something Mary Wooldridge should have done when she commissioned the construction of new units.

These works will allow us to meet demand until the new youth justice centre at Cherry Creek opens in 2021. The new highly secure and fit-for-purpose youth justice centre will have capacity to securely accommodate up to 300 youth offenders and include secure units, a six metre high perimeter wall, with all entries protected by mechanical and electrical anti-vehicle ramming systems.

### **Parks Victoria**

**Question asked by:** Ms Fitzherbert  
**Directed to:** Special Minister of State  
**Asked on:** 21 August 2018

#### **RESPONSE:**

In 2016, Parks Victoria was provided \$5 million from the Department of Education to construct a new park office and depot to enable the construction of the new Albert Park Primary School.

In March 2017, Parks Victoria engaged contractors to undertake works at Albert Park Reserve to establish a new park office, the construction of which commenced in July 2017.

In April 2018, the contractor entered into administration, this has impacted the delivery of the park office and depot facilities. When the contractor entered into administration, works on the new park office were approximately 70% complete. This has impacted many of their other clients with projects under delivery across the state.

Parks Victoria has since engaged a new contractor and the new office and depot is expected to be complete in early 2019.

Parks Victoria has spent approximately \$400 000 on the establishment and maintenance of temporary office and depot facilities at Albert Park.

### **Government media policy**

**Question asked by:** Mr Davis  
**Directed to:** Minister for Regional Development  
**Asked on:** 21 August 2018

#### **RESPONSE:**

Hundreds of complaints have been made to Metro Trains and the Victorian Government via letter, email, phone and through social media channels.

### **Dental health funding**

**Question asked by:** Ms Patten  
**Directed to:** Minister for Families and Children  
**Asked on:** 21 August 2018

#### **RESPONSE:**

I am informed that:

The Andrews Labor Government is committed to providing timely access to quality public dental services, and signed the National Partnership Agreement of Public Dental Services for Adults to ensure that Victorian patients can continue to access the dental care they need.

However the Victorian public dental system has been hit hard by Malcolm Turnbull's savage 30 per cent funding cut. This has led to tens of thousands of people being added to the waiting list each year. This harsh cut to public dental services has affected every corner of our state and we can see this reflected on our waiting lists.

Sadly this is just another example of the Abbott/Turnbull program of cuts to public health.

Worryingly, Matthew Guy and the Liberal Party have now flagged their very own Commission of Audit which will aim to further attack the Victorian health system.

In contrast, Victorian funding has increased over this time.

To respond to the increase in waiting times, the Minister for Health recently announced a \$12.1 million package to boost oral health care, and reduce dental waiting lists for people living in areas with the longest waiting times.

The increase in funding will see more than 18 300 people offered dental care. The package also includes early intervention and oral health promotion initiatives to help transition the public dental system to a more preventative approach to care.

I am advised that the Dental Board of Australia is currently reviewing the approved Scope of practice registration standard and the Guidelines for scope of practice for all registered dental practitioners. I understand that the Dental Board has advised that it anticipates providing its proposal for consideration by the COAG Health Council later in 2018.

### **Australian Paper Maryvale mill**

**Question asked by:** Ms Dunn  
**Directed to:** Minister for Trade and Investment  
**Asked on:** 21 August 2018

#### **RESPONSE TO SUBSTANTIVE QUESTION:**

I apologise that my original response did not clearly communicate my intention, I should have been more specific and noted that:

The Planning and Environment Act 1987 regulates the use and development of land in Victoria.

Australian Paper has been in operation at the Maryvale site since 1937. Its original approval pre-dates the Planning and Environment Act 1987. The Planning and Environment Act recognises pre-existing approvals through transition arrangements.

#### **RESPONSE TO SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION:**

Since 1987 seven approvals have been sought and gained under the Planning and Environment Act 1987 for various activities associated with the site. For example, a request for a planning permit (2013/291) sought approval for an upgrade of the water filtration plant. The permit was issued in February 2014.

To clarify, the Planning and Environment Act 1987 does not regulate the source of timber used at Australian Paper's Maryvale site.

**Wyndham schools**

**Question asked by:** Dr Carling-Jenkins  
**Directed to:** Minister for Training and Skills  
**Asked on:** 22 August 2018

**RESPONSE TO SUBSTANTIVE QUESTION:**

The Andrews Labor Government is committed to making Victoria the Education State and has invested more than \$3.8 billion to improve classrooms, upgrade facilities and build new schools across Victoria. This school building boom has delivered more than 1300 school upgrades and 70 new school projects across the State.

Across the City of Wyndham, Featherbrook P-9 College opened in 2017 and Tarneit Rise Primary School opened in 2018. Saltwater P-9 College and Dohertys Creek P-9 College are both scheduled to open in 2019, and a further three schools, Davis Creek Primary School, Point Cook South Senior Secondary School and Wyndham South (Riverwalk) Primary School are planned to open in 2020.

The Victorian Government is also investing in the acquisition of land for the proposed Wollahra Primary School and Truganina South East Primary School.

**RESPONSE TO SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION:**

Each year the Department of Education and Training reviews the need for new schools using demographic modelling of population change, enrolment growth and the capacity of existing schools. The Department uses this information to plan when and where schools need to be delivered to meet growing demand.

The Department will continue to work with the City of Wyndham and other relevant stakeholders to monitor and plan for government education provision in the area, thereby ensuring that all Victorian students have access to high-quality education as the population continues to grow.

**AGL Crib Point gas terminal**

**Question asked by:** Dr Ratnam  
**Directed to:** Minister for Agriculture  
**Asked on:** 22 August 2018

**RESPONSE TO SUBSTANTIVE QUESTION:**

AGL is required to obtain all the necessary approvals associated with the AGL Crib Point Gas Terminal. The investment decisions made by AGL are a commercial matter for AGL.

**RESPONSE TO SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION:**

AGL is required to obtain all the necessary approvals associated with the AGL Crib Point Gas Terminal. The project will be assessed appropriately, including an assessment of environmental impacts. These assessments will be in accordance with State and National legislative requirements.

***Victorian African Communities Action Plan***

**Question asked by:** Ms Truong  
**Directed to:** Special Minister of State  
**Asked on:** 22 August 2018

**RESPONSE:**

Government has committed to working in partnership with Victoria's African communities, including through an Implementation Committee comprising community leaders, which will advise on how best to allocate and prioritise the funding for the Action Plan.

At the launch of the Action Plan in April 2018, Minister Scott announced an expression of interest process for membership of the Implementation Committee.

The membership of the Implementation Committee is close to being finalised, with consideration being given to achieving representativeness across age, gender, ethnicity and geographically across the state.

The Implementation Committee will be brought together in September, and its first task will be to advise government on how to achieve the initial priorities including employment, engagement with education, and addressing alcohol and drug abuse. As such, the \$8.6 million committed towards the implementation of the African Communities Action Plan has not been allocated as yet.

Victoria's African communities understand their communities' issues better than anyone, and will be central to delivering the targeted responses.

Beyond the funding directly attached to the Action Plan, the government is investing in a range of initiatives to support our African communities. This includes:

- three new Community Support Groups in Greater Dandenong, Melton/Brimbank and Wyndham (total of \$5.5 million committed);
- targeted employment programs with more than 450 Victorians of African heritage having been placed into employment through the Jobs Victoria Employment Network program including 128 young people; and
- funding to bolster community groups' African youth engagement efforts (\$500 000 allocated to 13 African community organisations).

### **Fulham Correctional Centre**

**Question asked by:** Mr O'Donohue  
**Directed to:** Minister for Corrections  
**Asked on:** 22 August 2018

#### **RESPONSE TO SUBSTANTIVE QUESTION:**

The investigation into this incident revealed a breach of security procedures, and a default notice was issued by the State representative in November 2016. A Cure Plan was submitted by the operator, and the default has since been assessed by Corrections Victoria as having been appropriately addressed.

#### **RESPONSE TO SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION:**

No and none.

### **TAFE funding**

**Question asked by:** Mr Morris  
**Directed to:** Minister for Training and Skills  
**Asked on:** 22 August 2018

#### **RESPONSE:**

As outlined in my response in the house, all stand-alone Victorian TAFEs and Victorian Universities with a TAFE division (dual-sector Universities) will have access to the Andrews Labor Government's Free TAFE for Priority Courses initiative.

Funding for Universities is a Commonwealth Government responsibility.

**FURTHER RESPONSE:**

As outlined in my response in the house, all stand-alone Victorian TAFEs and Victorian Universities with a TAFE division (dual-sector Universities) will have access to the Andrews Labor Government's Free TAFE for Priority Courses initiative.

Funding for Universities is a Commonwealth Government responsibility.

The Department of Education and Training meets regularly with all Victorian Vice-Chancellors (VC) with the most recent quarterly meeting of VCs taking place on 24 July 2018.

**Simplot Australia and SPC**

**Question asked by:** Ms Lovell  
**Directed to:** Minister for Regional Development  
**Asked on:** 22 August 2018

**RESPONSE:**

In addition to my answer regarding SPC on Tuesday 21 August 2018, the Minister for Industry and Employment advises that:

The closure of Simplot's Pakenham site due to the exit from a particular product category, is hard news for those workers and our thoughts are with them and their families. Simplot continues to operate other food processing sites, including at Echuca.

The government has been in close contact with Simplot and has offered support as required, and they have reassured us that they have services in place to help the affected workers transition to future employment.

Workers who may be at risk of being unemployed in the long term will also be able to access tailored services through Jobs Victoria to help them get into a new job.

**Metropolitan Remand Centre**

**Question asked by:** Mr O'Donohue  
**Directed to:** Minister for Corrections  
**Asked on:** 23 August 2018

**RESPONSE TO SUBSTANTIVE QUESTION:**

The department's WorkCover premium has increased for a number of reasons including the riot that occurred in 2015. The riot was largely due to significant overcrowding — the hallmark of Mr O'Donohue's time as Corrections Minister.

The MRC WorkCover premium and costs increased from \$1.1 million in 2014/15 to \$1.8 million in 2015/16.

**RESPONSE TO SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION:**

Yet again, the question is based on a false assertion. While all prison general managers are asked to find reasonable savings as a general practice to increase the efficiency of prisons, Mr O'Donohue seems to have made up the \$6 million figure in another desperate attempt to achieve headlines.