



Question: 113 QUESTION ON NOTICE — Mr Hibbins to ask the Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing — For each of the public housing estates in the Prahran electorate including the Horace Petty Estate, Kings Street, Bangs Street, Union Street Windsor and Inkerman Heights St Kilda:

- (1) What is the annual maintenance budget.
- (2) What is the annual capital works budget.
- (3) What is the annual security budget.

Answer: I am informed that:

The total output cost for housing assistance in 2015-16 is budgeted for \$420.8 million, which is over \$20 million more than was budgeted by the previous government in 2014-15 - a 5.5% increase. This additional expenditure enables the Director of Housing to spend more on maintenance, capital works and security in the Member's electorate and across Victoria.

Martin Foley MP
Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing

Attachments: No Attachments

Answer Published Date: 07/05/2015

Question: 114 QUESTION ON NOTICE — Mr Hibbins to ask the Minister for Public Transport — With reference to the Government's election commitment of a second entrance and two extra Myki readers at Prahran Station:

- (1) What are the details of the proposed works.
- (2) When will the works be completed.
- (3) What is the total budget for the works.

Answer: Minister for Public Transport - I am informed that, as at the date the question was raised:
 (1) The Victorian Government remains committed to providing an additional entry/exit point with two additional myki readers toward the High Street end of Platform 1 (City bound platform) at Prahran station.
 This initiative will improve connectivity and ease of access for commuters accessing High Street including access for tram Route 6 which operates between Melbourne University and Glen Iris. At the conclusion of the project both Platform 1 and 2 will have two entry/exit locations.
 (2-3) Public Transport Victoria (PTV) has completed scoping of the proposal including engagement with the City of Stonnington. Works are expected to be completed by end of the 2014/15 financial year, utilising existing internal PTV funds.

Attachments: No Attachments

Answer Published Date: 27/04/2015

Question: 115 QUESTION ON NOTICE — Mr Hibbins to ask the Minister for Public Transport — With reference to proposed rail service increases for Hawksburn and Toorak Stations:

- (1) What are the details of the service increases.
- (2) When will increases come into effect.
- (3) Will the Minister monitor patronage at Hawksburn and Toorak Stations to ensure service levels are adequate.

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

The Andrews Labor Government is committed to delivering a world class public transport system for Melbourne. To drive this commitment we are building the

Melbourne Metro, removing fifty of the most dangerous level crossings and purchasing rolling stock.

- (1-2) Public Transport Victoria (PTV) is planning to introduce new metropolitan rail services at the end of 2015, including services on the Frankston line. PTV will release full details of the timetable changes closer to implementation.
- (3) PTV monitors the level of crowding on metropolitan train services through passenger count surveys (known as Load Standard Surveys). The results of surveys are used in determining how Melbourne's train system needs to evolve to meet the needs of passengers.

Hon Jacinta Allan MP
Minister for Public Transport

Attachments: No Attachments

Answer Published Date: 06/05/2015

Question: 116 QUESTION ON NOTICE — Mr Hibbins to ask the Minister for Public Transport — Will the Minister expand eligibility for public transport concession fares to post-graduate and international students.

Answer: I am informed that, as at the date the question was raised: Public transport concessions are provided to allow Victorians access to jobs and services. Around 35-40 per cent of public transport customers are entitled to, and use, concession fares. Public transport fares in Victoria generally provide exceptional value for all customers. The maximum fare a full fare customer will pay for a day's travel across Melbourne is \$7.52. Periodical passes provide exceptional value for as low as \$4.62 per day (based on a Zone 1+2 70 day pass). Concession fares are 50 per cent of a full fare. Reflecting the contribution international students make to Victoria, the Victorian Government recently launched the International Undergraduate Student Education pass (iUSEpass) which provides eligible international students with discounted travel. The Government recognises that public transport costs for many students are significant, so we supported the new initiative to provide some extra help, making Victoria an even more attractive place to study. The iUSEpass provides travel at 50 per cent of a full fare annual pass and is co-funded by partner institutions. The long-standing exclusion of postgraduate students from the concession fare policy reflects the fact that a greater proportion of postgraduate students are working full time and may not require additional financial support. Postgraduate students with low incomes that meet the eligibility criteria for government support through Centrelink can receive a Low Income Health Care Card. This card entitles the postgraduate student to public transport concession fares. Concession fares are available to international exchange students, students with refugee status and students who receive an Australian Awards Scholarship.

Attachments: No Attachments

Answer Published Date: 05/05/2015

Question: 117 CONSTITUENCY QUESTION — Mr Hodgett to ask the Minister for Sport — The constituency matter I wish to raise is for the attention of the Minister for Sport and is on behalf of the Croydon Rangers Gridiron Club. The Croydon Rangers is a terrific club that is continually recognised locally and statewide for its achievements. Last year, on the day of the Maroondah Festival, I was fortunate enough to join club players, coaches and members of the committee to announce the coalition's commitment to fund a renovation of the clubrooms to enable spectators to be able to view the games from inside during the colder seasons. I will be taking that up with the Minister for Sport as a separate issue in due course.

However, on that same day the ALP candidate for Croydon headed over to the club shortly after I departed to announce that if an Andrews government were elected, the Croydon Rangers Gridiron Club would receive a defibrillator. The information I seek from the minister is an update on the implementation of this important election promise or when the club is likely to receive its defibrillator, so I can inform the club.

Answer: The funding is allocated in the Labor Financial Statement. The Statement indicated that the funding program would not open until the 2015-16 financial year. It is anticipated that the first defibrillators will be distributed to clubs in the first half of 2016. It is anticipated that Victorian sporting clubs, active recreational clubs and community not-for-profit sports facilities/venues will be eligible to apply to the program. It is more than likely that there will be several grants rounds made available over the coming four years. All defibrillator commitments will be handled through this program.

Attachments: No Attachments

Answer Published Date: 28/04/2015

Question: 118 CONSTITUENCY QUESTION — Mr Carroll to ask the Minister for Public Transport —
My constituency question is for the Minister for Public Transport. Our taxi industry has experienced rapid change and lots of reform following the Fels inquiry and the former government's legislative reforms that were pushed through the Parliament. During the last Parliament we saw a breakdown of communication between the taxi industry and the former government, with regular protests from industry participants, including wheelchair accessible taxi licence holders, drivers and general licence holders. By any measure, there was upheaval in the industry following the Fels inquiry and the legislative reforms pushed through by the former government.

In the lead-up to last year's state election Labor promised it would establish a taxi and hire car industry ministerial forum to restore confidence and cooperation across the industry, bringing together regulators, industry participants and consumers around one table. On behalf of local drivers and taxi licence holders in my electorate, I ask the minister to provide an update on the promised taxi stakeholder forum.

Answer: Minister for Public Transport - I am informed that, as at the date the question was raised: The Taxi and Hire Car Ministerial Forum was announced on Thursday 19 March 2015, with the first Forum to be held on 27 April. The Forum will be chaired by out-going Taxi Services Commission CEO, Marnie Williams. Members include representatives from the taxi and hire car industries including the Victorian Taxi Association, Victorian Taxi Families, Victorian Hire Car Association and Uber Black. Key community stakeholders such as Victoria Police, the Victorian Council of Social Services and the Victorian Human Rights Commission have also been invited to participate. The Forum, which will meet quarterly, will consider ways to reform the industry, reduce red tape, deliver a first-rate Multi-Purpose Taxi Program and wheelchair accessible taxis and other matters including the Knowledge Test and the emergence of ride-share activities.

Attachments: No Attachments

Answer Published Date: 15/04/2015

Question: 119 CONSTITUENCY QUESTION — Ms Ryan to ask the Minister for Ambulance Services — My constituency question is for the Minister for Ambulance Services. Last week I met with Rushworth residents who are concerned about the lack of ambulance services in their region. Rushworth is currently serviced by an ambulance station in Murchison. However, the paramedics there are often called out to incidents on the Hume Highway or indeed to Nagambie, as I have previously informed the house, which also does not have an ambulance. When this occurs, the closest ambulance is located 45 minutes away in Shepparton, Kyabram or Bendigo. The ambulance from Murchison often arrives with only one paramedic on board, which means the ambulance has to wait for another paramedic to arrive before it can transport a patient in serious circumstances. Will the minister advise me of how the government intends to fix this situation?

Answer: I am informed that:
There are concerns in the Rushworth community about ambulance services in the local area. Your interest in this issue is welcome and I share your desire to have an ambulance system that responds appropriately to the needs of patients and the community. Ambulance performance over the past four years has seen slower response times and poorer survival rates for out-of-hospital cardiac arrest. I can assure you that it is a priority of this government to improve ambulance performance. When considering the allocation of new resources there are a number of factors taken into account including local demand, availability of resources in neighbouring areas and broader health system requirements. Ambulance Victoria continues to monitor response workloads to ensure its resources are most appropriately located to meet community demand. In recent months I convened the Ambulance Performance and Policy Consultative Committee. This is a committee that brings together active paramedics together with representatives from Ambulance Victoria and other key organisations to review and consider ways to tackle long-standing problems in the ambulance service; and make recommendations to improve Ambulance Victoria's service performance and culture, including:

- improving ambulance response times

- reducing off-stretcher times at hospital emergency departments (known as 'ambulance ramping')
- a review of ambulance call-taking and despatch
- improve the management of workload and fatigue of paramedics
- resource allocation and responses to caseload growth
- alternatives to ambulance transport

An interim report of the Committee's deliberations was released in March 2015 and is publicly available. The final report is due by the end of the year. There will be future opportunity for public input into the Committee's deliberations.

Hon Jill Hennessy MP
Minister for Ambulance Services

Attachments: No Attachments

Answer Published Date: 09/04/2015

Question: 120 CONSTITUENCY QUESTION — Ms Couzens to ask the Minister for Ambulance Services — I have a constituency question for the Minister for Ambulance Services. The information I seek relates to the importance of the interim report undertaken by the Ambulance Performance and Policy Consultative Committee. The issues confronting our paramedics over the past four years have been considerable. Under the previous government Geelong paramedics raised many concerns about rosters, ramping, response times and of course the bitter pay dispute. The Andrews Labor government is now providing an opportunity for the community to have input into this report, and I invite the Minister for Ambulance Services to attend a consultation forum in Geelong in the future.

Answer: The Andrews Government values the important work that paramedics do. We've moved quickly to resolve the Enterprise Bargaining Agreement dispute, referred the issue of pay rates to Fair Work and released response time information. We've also established the Ambulance Performance and Policy Consultative Committee, so we can work directly with paramedics to improve ambulance services, as they know the system best. As Chair of this Committee I am keen to ensure that the Committee's work is well informed by those on the front line. I was delighted to attend the consultation forum on the Ambulance Performance and Policy Consultative Committee's Interim Report in Geelong on Thursday 9 April 2015.

Hon Jill Hennessy MP
Minister for Ambulance Services

Attachments: No Attachments

Answer Published Date: 15/04/2015

Question: 121 CONSTITUENCY QUESTION — Mr Southwick to ask the Minister for Roads and Road Safety — My constituency question is for the Minister for Roads and Road Safety. On 22 December last year I wrote to the minister on behalf of residents regarding their concerns over a local planning issue in my electorate involving VicRoads. I have not yet received a response from the minister, despite a follow-up email sent on 16 March requiring urgent attention as the matter will be heard in the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal next week. The residents live in a small court off Dandenong Road. A developer is proposing to build a four-storey childcare centre on the block. My constituents are objecting to the proposed development due to the impacts to road safety in the area. I am advised that both the local council and VicRoads objected to the proposed development as a part of the planning approval process. However, VicRoads has without explanation recently withdrawn its objection. My constituents are concerned that the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal may approve the development in the absence of an objection by VicRoads. On behalf of residents, I ask the minister for an explanation of why VicRoads is withdrawing its objection and a clarification of the current view on the proposed development at 470 Dandenong Road?

Answer:

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

VicRoads advises me that it initially objected to the proposed development on the basis that adequate information was not submitted by the applicant. However, the applicant has since provided the information to VicRoads' satisfaction.

Accordingly, VicRoads withdrew its objection subject to conditions listed in its response to the Glen Eira City Council.

I understand that the applicant has indicated that it accepts the conditions placed by VicRoads and, as such, VicRoads is not required to be a party at the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal proceedings.

Hon Luke Donnellan MP
Minister for Roads and Roads Safety

Attachments: No Attachments

Answer Published Date: 24/04/2015

Question: 122 CONSTITUENCY QUESTION — Ms Green to ask the Minister for Public Transport — My constituency question is to the Minister for Public Transport. The action I seek is that she urgently fund needed improvements to the car park at Wallan train station following four years of neglect of the needs of long-suffering Wallan commuters.

Answer: Minister for Public Transport - I am informed that, as at the date the question was raised: The Andrews Labor Government is aware of the demand for car parking at Wallan station and other stations across the network. Expanding car parking availability and capacity across the network is a priority. The provision of additional car parking at Wallan station will be considered when determining future priorities for railway station upgrades and as additional funding becomes available.

Attachments: No Attachments

Answer Published Date: 15/04/2015

Question: 123 CONSTITUENCY QUESTION — Mr Mulder to ask the Minister for Roads and Road Safety — My question is to the Minister for Roads and Road Safety. Will the minister ensure that funding is provided in this year's state budget to upgrade the Anglesea roundabout? Funding would ensure that the government continues the coalition's commitment to the upgrade of the Great Ocean Road, in particular the Anglesea roundabout. The Anglesea and greater Great Ocean Road community sees this roundabout as the final choke point on the Great Ocean Road. In particular, members of the Anglesea community are greatly inconvenienced when traffic volumes increase over the holidays. The former government jointly funded the \$50 million upgrade of the Great Ocean Road with the commonwealth and provided funding for the soon-to-commence Fairhaven underpass and a major roundabout to accommodate the chocolatier tourism initiative between Jan Juc and Anglesea. In government I had VicRoads develop concepts for the roundabout. Drawings which included a trafficable apron and an additional lane were prepared. The project should now move forward. All the hard work has been done. All it needs is the go-ahead by the Minister for Roads and Road Safety to provide the funding for the roundabout.

Answer:

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

As you would be aware as former Minister for Roads, VicRoads is currently investigating options for the treatment of the intersection of Great Ocean Road and Camp Road in Anglesea in order to improve capacity and efficiency. Options being investigated include additional traffic lanes at the roundabout, signal metering of the roundabout or replacing the roundabout with traffic signals. When reviewing options, factors including safety, efficiency, amenity and environment are taken into consideration.

VicRoads undertook a community information session on 26 March 2015, in Anglesea, to discuss the proposed options and to gather feedback. It is expected that the preferred option, along with associated project cost, will be identified by end of April 2015.

Hon Luke Donnellan MP
Minister for Roads and Road Safety

Attachments: No Attachments

Answer Published Date: 24/04/2015

Question: 124 CONSTITUENCY QUESTION — Ms Graley to ask the Minister for Roads and Road Safety — My question is to the Minister for Roads and Road Safety, and it concerns Narre Warren-Cranbourne Road, a road that is only now being upgraded following a community campaign that forced the previous Liberal government to finally take action. It took years of campaigning and thousands of signatures from local residents, but we secured this much-needed upgrade - an upgrade that Labor had committed to in 2010. This project will significantly ease congestion and improve road safety for many local residents. It will also allow the expansion of Casey Central shopping centre to finally go ahead. I have been advocating on behalf of local residents for the provision of much-needed community facilities as part of the expansion, especially a library. I hope the City of Casey is hard at

work ensuring that these facilities are included in the redeveloped shopping centre. There have been negotiations for many years, and it is now time to deliver for the local community. I know local residents are eagerly awaiting the completion of this vital road project. I ask the minister to provide an update on the expected completion date for the upgrade of Narre Warren-Cranbourne Road.

Answer: Minister for Roads and Road Safety - I am informed that, as at the date the question was raised: The Narre Warren Cranbourne Road duplication project is approximately six months ahead of schedule and is expected to finish in mid 2015. I am also pleased to advise that \$1million from the project budget will be utilised upgrading capacity at the busy Pound Road/Greaves Road intersection on this project. This important additional work is expected to be complete by the end of 2015.

Attachments: No Attachments

Answer Published Date: 15/04/2015

Question: 125 CONSTITUENCY QUESTION — Mr Wakeling to ask the Minister for Education — I raise a matter for the Minister for Education concerning Knox Gardens Primary School in Wantirna South. The school currently has 286 students. It has been established for over 30 years and is ably led by principal Tracy Bancroft, a great leader of the school. Given the age of the school, many buildings are outdated and require ongoing maintenance. In 2014 the former government allocated \$330 000 to repair one of the school buildings. This involved repainting, installing new carpet, fixing cracked walls, repairing moved bricks and a number of other measures. However, at an inspection six months after the works were done it was identified that water was pooling under the newly repaired building. This was causing bricks to start moving and cracks to appear in the newly painted walls. Upon further inspection it was discovered that the school's entire drainage system was blocked. The school's drainage system is made up of old terracotta piping which is broken in multiple places, causing water to pool under many of the school buildings, the worst being the prep classroom, the school hall and gym and the art room. On behalf of the school, I ask the minister to address this issue by providing the school with \$200 000 of much-needed money.

Answer: I am informed as follows:
Knox Gardens Primary School received funding of \$336,000 for building improvements in the 2013-14 Budget and works on Buildings B, C and the Grade 6 Amenity have recently been carried out. I am advised that while the works carried out did not include improvements to surrounding site infrastructure, such as drainage, the Department of Education and Training's Central Office and North-Eastern Regional Office are currently working with the school to obtain the necessary hydraulic engineers' reports, a recommended scope of works and indicative pricing for drainage improvements. I am further advised that, as part of this process, various funding options will be examined, including whether the school may be eligible for funding assistance via the Department's Emergency Maintenance Program. The Emergency Maintenance Program is a limited program targeted to address unforeseen maintenance matters which pose a risk to safety. I have asked the Department to work closely with the school to ensure these issues are addressed as expeditiously as possible.

Attachments: No Attachments

Answer Published Date: 14/04/2015

Question: 126 CONSTITUENCY QUESTION — Mr Dimopoulos to ask the Minister for Public Transport — My constituency question is directed to the Minister for Public Transport. The Huntingdale train station in the electorate of Oakleigh is a major transport hub in the south-east. Thousands of locals as well as Monash University students and staff use a bus service from this station every day. Prior to the 2010 election Labor committed to build a bus interchange at Huntingdale station to provide a safer and more accessible area for bus passengers. The current facilities are, quite frankly, appalling. This decision was incredibly popular with locals and Monash University, which has been campaigning for many years for appropriate public transport. The previous coalition government made no commitment to this area. Last year Labor again pledged to build this incredibly important bus interchange. I seek advice and an update from the minister on the government's commitment to build the Huntingdale bus interchange.

Answer: Minister for Public Transport - I am informed that, as at the date the question was raised: The Victorian Government remains committed to the \$5 million plan to improve train, bus, car, taxi and bicycle connections to Monash University's Clayton campus through an upgrade to the Huntingdale station bus interchange. Consistent with Huntingdale station's status as a critical gateway to Monash University, the Clayton Innovation Precinct and the Monash Employment Cluster, Public Transport Victoria will continue to work closely with Monash University, Monash City Council and other government agencies to ensure an integrated and considered design is delivered.

Attachments: No Attachments

Answer Published Date: 15/04/2015