

Questions taken on notice and further information agreed to be supplied at the hearings.

Portfolio:	Public Transport
Witness:	Paul Younis
Committee Member:	Ellen Sandell MP
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Question:

Ellen SANDELL: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Minister. It is probably no surprise I am going to ask about a couple of specific train stations – South Yarra station to start with. Obviously the budget allocates \$60 million to upgrade Boronia station; there is no further allocation for South Yarra. We understand that the government has developed a master plan for an upgrade. Will the master plan be released to the public?

Ben CARROLL: I have spoken to your colleague on this one, Mr Hibbins, in the past, Ms Sandell. But could I take that on notice and come back to you?

Ellen SANDELL: Could that be when it will be released as well as whether it will be released?

Answer:

The Victorian Government funded a planning study for South Yarra station in the 2017-18 State budget.

The first stage of the study undertook an investigation of the options to address congestion, safety, and accessibility issues in the short term, this recommended widening the station entrance and providing a fully accessible tram stop. Subsequently, the Victorian Government provided \$12.33 million in the 2018-19 State Budget to deliver these upgrades. This upgrade work has now been completed and has provided a significantly improved transport experience for passengers using the station and adjacent tram stop.

The second stage of the planning study investigated future station requirements, upgrade options and opportunities in the long term.

This planning work will inform future considerations about the station precinct. A future masterplan for the station prepared as part of this work remains an internal working document and does not reflect a final approved position by Government. It continues to be subject to change and is not suitable for publication at this time.



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Witness:	Paul Younis, Secretary, Department of Transport and Planning
Committee Member:	Ms Ellen SANDELL
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Question:

Ellen SANDELL: I guess if you or the Secretary or someone else can talk me through whether any work is being done around looking at South Kensington, particularly also because services do not stop at South Kensington on the way out of the city. A lot of those services do not stop. My understanding is that is an infrastructure problem to do with the design of the platforms. We have no shelter at that station. It is not DDA-compliant. The government had a commitment to make public transport DDA compliant, so I guess I am looking for a little bit more detail on some of those considerations.

Paul YOUNIS: I will come back to you, Ms Sandell. We have done a whole audit about all of our train stations on DDA compliance and all of those issues.

Ellen SANDELL: I appreciate that. Based on that audit, is there any information you can give me about South Kensington and, given the criteria that you use, why it has not been prioritised? By what criteria is South Kensington not eligible for an upgrade, given all the things I have said about it?

Paul YOUNIS: I will have to come back to you on that

Answer:

The State Government funded an upgrade at South Kensington Station in 2020-21 as part of its Building Works Covid-19 Economic Stimulus Package.

The scope of works included upgrades to platform coping, platform fencing, shelter and seating on the platform, installation of new tactile ground surface indicators and lighting upgrades. These works are now complete.

Station upgrades are prioritised based on a number of factors such as patronage demand and growth, safety and accessibility issues, as well as site complexities and constraints.

South Kensington is serviced by Werribee and Williamstown lines, with stopping trains scheduled based on patronage demand at South Kensington station and demand along the lines.

