LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

60TH PARLIAMENT

Nos. 150, 151 and 152

No. 150 — Tuesday, 3 February 2026

1 The President took the Chair at 12.02 pm, read the Prayer and made an Acknowledgement of Country.

2 **BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL — SUSPENSION OF STANDING AND SESSIONAL ORDERS** — Jaclyn Symes moved, by leave, That so much of Standing and Sessional Orders be suspended to the extent necessary today to immediately allow —

(1) a minister to move, without leave or notice, two separate motions of condolence for —
   (a) the 14 December 2025 Bondi Beach shootings;
   (b) the 2026 Victorian bushfires;

(2) at the conclusion of the debate on each motion, the President to ask members to signify their agreement to the motion by rising in their places for one minute's silence;

(3) at the conclusion of the minute's silence following the second motion, unless otherwise ordered, the House to suspend its proceedings for one hour; and

(4) at the resumption of proceedings following this suspension, the House will follow the order of business for a Tuesday as set out in Standing Orders.

Question — put and agreed to.

3 **BONDI BEACH SHOOTINGS** — Jaclyn Symes moved, That this House —

(1) tenders Victoria's heartfelt condolences to the families and loved ones of the 15 innocent people murdered at Bondi Beach on 14 December 2025;

(2) condemns the atrocity which stole their lives, an act of terrorism deliberately targeted at Australia's Jewish community gathering to celebrate the first night of Chanukah;

(3) unequivocally condemns the evil of antisemitism and vows stronger action to prevent extremism and keep our state safe, strong, proud and united;

(4) honours the courage, composure and quick action of all the police officers, first responders, healthcare workers and everyday people whose dedication and skill saved lives;

(5) acknowledges the trauma of the men, women and children injured physically and psychologically, including those who witnessed the horror; and

(6) affirms the fundamental right of every Jewish Victorian to live, work, worship and learn in peace and safety, to participate fully and freely in the civic life of our state, and to gather in community without fear or hindrance, proud of who they are, and proud of the profound contributions Jewish Victorians have made to the life and success of our state.

Other members addressed the House.

Members rose in their places for one minute's silence as a mark of respect and the question was agreed to unanimously.

4 2026 VICTORIAN BUSHFIRES — Jaclyn Symes moved, That this House —

(1) extends its condolences and deepest sympathy to the Victorian communities affected by the recent and ongoing 2026 bushfires;

(2) praises the work of emergency services personnel for their courage and sacrifice in fighting fires and protecting our communities;

(3) expresses its deep gratitude to the many volunteers and community members who have supported friends, neighbours and anyone else in need; and

(4) pledges to continue to work with communities and all levels of government to support and rebuild fire-affected communities.

Other members addressed the House.

Members rose in their places for one minute's silence as a mark of respect and the question was agreed to unanimously.

The sitting was suspended for one hour.

[Sitting suspended from 4.32 pm to 5.34 pm]

5 ASSENT TO ACTS — The President read a Message from the Governor informing the Council that she had, on 16 December 2025, given the Royal Assent to the following Acts presented to her by the Clerk of the Legislative Council:

Labour Hire Legislation Amendment (Licensing) Act 2025

Social Services Regulation Amendment (Child Safety, Complaints and Worker Regulation) Act 2025.

6 QUESTION TIME —

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE AND MINISTERS' STATEMENTS — Members asked questions without notice and ministers made statements.

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QUESTIONS DIRECTED FOR WRITTEN RESPONSE — The President directed ministers to provide written responses to questions without notice pursuant to Standing Order 8.07 as follows:

- **Demolition of housing towers (QwN 1190)** — substantive question asked by Sarah Mansfield — response from Harriet Shing due Thursday, 5 February 2026.
- **Good character references in sentencing (QwN 1192)** — substantive and supplementary questions asked by Rachel Payne — response from Enver Erdogan due Thursday, 5 February 2026.

- **Racial profiling (QwN 1196)** — substantive and supplementary questions asked by Anasina Gray-Barberio — response from Enver Erdogan due Thursday, 5 February 2026.

[Sitting suspended from 6.25 pm to 7.28 pm]

CONSTITUENCY QUESTIONS — Members asked constituency questions.

7 PETITIONS —

DESIST FROM HIGH-RISE HIGH-DENSITY ZONE PLANNING — Georgie Crozier presented a petition bearing 1,798 signatures from certain citizens of Victoria requesting that the Legislative Council call on the Government to desist from further planning actions to implement the announced high-rise high-density zones and recommence proper discussions and consultation with the local communities, councils and heritage peak bodies of all ten affected zones *(Ordered to be tabled).*

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LEGALISE THE PURCHASE AND USE OF PEPPER SPRAY — David Limbrick presented a petition bearing 3,340 signatures from certain citizens of Victoria requesting that the Legislative Council call on the Government to legalise the purchase and use of pepper spray, by adults with no criminal convictions, for personal protection by non-lethal means should they face a violent confrontation and are threatened with a weapon *(Ordered to be tabled).*

On the motion of David Limbrick, the petition was ordered to be taken into consideration on the next day of meeting.

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PUBLIC HOSPITAL IN TARNEIT — Trung Luu presented a petition bearing 801 signatures from certain citizens of Victoria requesting that the Legislative Council call on the Government to urgently fund, plan, and construct a public hospital in Tarneit in order to meet the pressing healthcare needs of our growing community *(Ordered to be tabled).*

On the motion of Trung Luu, the petition was ordered to be taken into consideration on the next day of meeting.

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TRAIN GPS TO DIAGNOSE AND TREAT ADHD — Sarah Mansfield presented a petition bearing 5,266 signatures from certain citizens of Victoria requesting that the Legislative Council call on the Government to allow up to 1,000 general practitioners to be trained to diagnose and treat attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) in line with other Australian states *(Ordered to be tabled).*

On the motion of Sarah Mansfield, the petition was ordered to be taken into consideration on the next day of meeting.

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COMPREHENSIVE SEXUALITY EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS — Bev McArthur presented a petition bearing 580 signatures from certain citizens of Victoria requesting that the Legislative Council call the Government to implement an opt-in requirement for all sex and relationships education for children under 12 to ensure schools obtain explicit parental consent before delivering such content, require schools to disclose all materials, controversial library books and lesson plans to parents in advance, and conduct an independent review into the impact of comprehensive sexuality

education, including potential links to increased child-on-child sexual abuse *(Ordered to be tabled)*.

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SUPPORT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MARITIME ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DAY — Aiv Puglielli presented a petition bearing 14 signatures from certain citizens of Victoria requesting that the Legislative Council call on the Government to support the establishment of a dedicated Maritime Environmental Protection Day to be held annually on 7 March, and to promote coastal resilience, cleaner maritime practices and the protection of Victoria's marine and coastal environments *(Ordered to be tabled).*

On the motion of Aiv Puglielli, the petition was ordered to be taken into consideration on the next day of meeting.

8 ELECTORAL AMENDMENT (GROUP VOTING AND VOTE COUNTING) BILL 2026 — Aiv Puglielli introduced *A Bill for an Act to amend the Electoral Act 2002 to abolish group voting tickets in Council elections, to change the way surplus votes are counted in Council elections and for other purposes*.

On the motion of Aiv Puglielli, the Bill was read a first time and ordered to be read a second time on the next day of meeting.

9 PAPERS —

PAPER PRESENTED BY DIRECTION OF THE GOVERNOR — Enver Erdogan, presented by direction of Governor, the County Court of Victoria Report, 2024-25, a replacement for the copy tabled on Thursday, 4 December 2025 *(Ordered to be tabled)*.

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COMMITTEE REPORT — SCRUTINY OF ACTS AND REGULATIONS COMMITTEE — Pursuant to section 35 of the *Parliamentary Committees Act 2003*, Rachel Payne tabled Alert Digest No. 1 of 2026 (including Appendices) from the Scrutiny of Acts and Regulations Committee *(Ordered to be published)*.

Rachel Payne moved, That the Council take note of the Report.

Debate ensued.

Question — put and agreed to.

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PAPERS PRESENTED UNDER ACTS OF PARLIAMENT — The Clerk tabled the following papers:

Alpine Resorts Victoria — Report, 2024* *(released on 5 January 2026 – a non-sitting day).*

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) — Report, 2024-25.

Country Fire Authority — Report, 2024-25* *(released on 20 January 2026 – a non-sitting day).*

Eastern Health — Report, 2023-24 *(replacement for copy tabled on Thursday, 14 November 2024)*.

Fire Rescue Victoria — Report, 2024-25*.

Greater Western Water Corporation — Report, 2024-25*, together with an explanation for the delay *(released on 24 December 2025 – a non-sitting day)*.

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* *together with the Minister's reported date of receipt.*

Interpretation of Legislation Act 1984 — Notice under section 32(3)(a)(iii) in relation to Statutory Rule No. 136/2025 *(Gazette S720, 17 December 2025)*.

Planning and Environment Act 1987 —

Infrastructure contributions and development contribution levies — Report, 2024-25, under section 46GZJ of the Act.

Notices of approval of the —

Alpine, Ararat, Frankston, Moyne and Warrnambool Planning Schemes — Amendment GC267.

Ballarat Planning Scheme — Amendments C257 and C258.

Ballarat, Banyule, Boroondara, Brimbank, Colac Otway, Darebin, Golden Plains, Greater Geelong, Hobsons Bay, Hume, Macedon Ranges, Manningham, Maribyrnong, Melbourne, Melton, Merri-bek, Mitchell, Monash, Moonee Valley, Moorabool, Nillumbik, Stonnington, Surf Coast, Whitehorse, Whittlesea, Wyndham and Yarra Planning Schemes — Amendment GC282.

Bayside and Kingston Planning Schemes — Amendment GC264.

Bayside Planning Scheme — Amendment C196.

Casey Planning Scheme — Amendments C291 and C303.

Darebin Planning Scheme — Amendment C220.

East Gippsland Planning Scheme — Amendments C169 and C172.

Frankston Planning Scheme — Amendments C156 and C165.

Golden Plains Planning Scheme —- Amendment C104.

Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme — Amendments C282 and C297.

Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme — Amendment C230.

Greater Geelong Planning Scheme — Amendments C278 and C457.

Hindmarsh Planning Scheme — Amendment C21.

Mansfield Planning Scheme — Amendment C56 (Part 1).

Maribyrnong Planning Scheme — Amendment C191.

Maroondah Planning Scheme — Amendment C162.

Melbourne Planning Scheme – Amendment C447.

Merri-bek Planning Scheme — Amendment C196.

Mornington Peninsula Planning Scheme — Amendments C286, C312 and C313.

Southern Grampians Planning Scheme — Amendments C61 and C62.

Stonnington Planning Scheme — Amendment C358.

Strathbogie Planning Scheme — Amendment C85.

Victoria Planning Provisions — Amendments VC277, VC278 and VC303.

Whitehorse Planning Scheme — Amendment C257.

Whittlesea Planning Scheme — Amendments C251 and C275.

Wyndham Planning Scheme — Amendment C267.

Yarra Planning Scheme — Amendment C329.

Yarra Ranges Planning Scheme — Amendment C212.

Puffing Billy Railway Board — Report, 2024-25, together with an explanation for the delay *(released on 8 January 2026 – a non-sitting day)*.

Statutory Rules under the following Acts of Parliament —

Australian Consumer Law and Fair Trading Act 2012 — No. 152/2025.

Building Act 1993 — No. 140/2025.

Casino Control Act 1991 — No. 137/2025.
Child Wellbeing and Safety Act 2005 — No. 144/2025.
Commercial Passenger Vehicle Industry Act 2017 — No. 154/2025.
Confiscation Act 1997 — No. 151/2025.
County Court Act 1958 — No. 135/2025.
Gas Safety Act 1997 — No. 145/2025.
Human Tissue Act 1982 — No. 139/2025.
Land Tax Act 2005 — No. 149/2025.
Local Government Act 2020 — No. 146/2025.
Mental Health and Wellbeing Act 2022 — Nos. 141/2025 and 153/2025.
Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1986 — No. 136/2025.
Public Administration Act 2004 — No. 142/2025.
Road Safety Act 1986 — No. 155/2025.
Subordinate Legislation Act 1994 — No. 138/2025.
Transport (Compliance and Miscellaneous) Act 1983 — Nos. 147/2025 and 148/2025.
Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 1998 — No. 143/2025.
Water Act 1989 — No. 150/2025.

Subordinate Legislation Act 1994 —

Documents under section 15 in relation to Statutory Rule Nos. 131/2025, 132/2025, 133/2025, 134/2025, 136/2025, 137/2025, 138/2025, 139/2025, 140/2025, 141/2025, 142/2025, 143/2025, 144/2025, 145/2025, 147/2025, 148/2025, 149/2025, 150/2025, 151/2025, 152/2025, 153/2025, 154/2025 and 155/2025.

Legislative instruments and related documents under section 16B in respect of —

2026 Formula 1 Australian Grand Prix Public Access Area Declaration under section 27A(1) of the Australian Grands Prix Act 1994.

Ministerial Guidelines for Councils relating to payment of Rates and Charges under section 181AA(1) of the Local Government Act 1989.

Surveyors Registration Board of Victoria — Minister's report of receipt of 2024-25 Report*.

Triple Zero Victoria — Report, 2024-25* *(released on 20 January 2026 – a non-sitting day).*

Victorian Law Reform Commission — Artificial Intelligence in Victoria's Courts and Tribunals, October 2025 *(Ordered to be published).*

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PAPERS PRESENTED UNDER STANDING ORDERS — The Clerk tabled the following papers:

Government response to the Economy and Infrastructure Committee's Inquiry into the cultural and creative industries in Victoria *(released on 18 December 2025)*.

Responses from the Attorney-General to petitions titled —

Action to end youth crime crisis (petition No. 671) (presented by Nick McGowan on 13 November 2025) *(released on 27 January 2026)*.

Amend self-defence laws (petition No. 683) (presented by David Limbrick on 12 November 2025) *(released on 16 December 2025)*.

Inquiry into anti-recidivism initiatives and youth justice intervention programs (petition No. 701) (presented by David Limbrick on 2 December 2025) *(released on 27 January 2026)*.

Response from the Minister for Corrections to petition titled Assistance dog acquisition and training program (petition No. 684) (presented by Georgie Crozier on 28 October 2025) *(released on 22 December 2025)*.

Response from the Minister for Education to petition titled New specialist school in the Western suburbs (petition No. 641) (presented by Trung Luu on 2 December 2025) *(released on 6 January 2026)*.

Responses from the Minister for Planning to petitions titled —

Inquiry into the Planning Amendment (Better Decisions Made Faster) Bill 2025 (petition No. 722) (presented by Wendy Lovell on 2 December 2025) *(released on 23 January 2026)*.

Reconsider the proposed Cairnlea Estate Master Plan (petition No. 693) (presented by Moira Deeming on 9 December 2025) *(released on 28 January 2026)*.

Response from the Minister for Police to petition titled Boost police presence in Lang Lang (petition No. 540) (presented by Melina Bath on 16 October 2024) *(released on 15 December 2025)*.

Responses from the Minister for Roads and Road Safety to petitions titled —

Inquiry into the state of Victoria's roads (petition No. 558) (presented by Bev McArthur on 4 February 2025) *(released on 22 December 2025)*.

Retain Maryborough VicRoads services (petition No. 698) (presented by Bev McArthur on 2 December 2025) *(released on 15 December 2025).*

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PROCLAMATIONS — The Clerk tabled proclamations of the Governor in Council fixing operative dates for the following Acts:

Consumer Legislation Amendment Act 2025 — Part 3 — 10 March 2026 — *(Gazette S743, 23 December 2025).*

Justice Legislation Amendment (Police and Other Matters) Act 2025 — Part 4, Division 2 of Part 6 and Division 2 of Part 7 — 30 January 2026 *(Gazette S42, 28 January 2026).*

Labour Hire Legislation Amendment (Licensing) Act 2025 —

Parts 1 and 3 — 17 December 2025 — *(Gazette S715, 16 December 2025).*

Sections 3, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28 and 29 — 24 December 2025 — *(Gazette S743, 23 December 2025).*

Wage Theft Amendment Act 2025 —

Parts 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6 — 12 December 2025 — *(Gazette S689, 9 December 2025).*

Part 3 — 17 December 2025 — *(Gazette S715, 16 December 2025).*

10 PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS —

ALTERNATIVES TO DEMOLITION OF PUBLIC HOUSING SITES — The Clerk tabled a letter from the Attorney-General, dated 11 December 2025, in response to a resolution of the Council on 15 October 2025 (on the motion of Anasina Gray-Barberio), relating to alternatives to demolition of public housing sites, advising that there was insufficient time to respond and that a final response to the Order would be provided as soon as possible.

VICTORIAN ROADS — The Clerk tabled a letter from the Attorney-General, dated 11 December 2025, in response to a resolution of the Council on 13 November 2025 (on the motion of Rikkie-Lee Tyrrell), relating to Victorian roads, advising that there was insufficient time to respond and that a final response to the Order would be provided as soon as possible.

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STATE ELECTRICITY COMMISSION MEETINGS — The Clerk tabled a letter from the Attorney-General, dated 11 December 2025, in response to a resolution of the Council on 13 November 2025 (on the motion of David Davis), relating to State Electricity Commission meetings, advising that there was insufficient time to respond and that a final response to the Order would be provided as soon as possible.

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DEPARTMENT OF PREMIER AND CABINET OPINION POLLING — The Clerk tabled a letter from the Attorney-General, dated 11 December 2025, in response to a resolution of the Council on 19 November 2025 (on the motion of David Davis), relating to the Department of Premier and Cabinet opinion polling, advising that there was insufficient time to respond and that a final response to the Order would be provided as soon as possible.

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PROPOSED ANIMAL CARE AND PROTECTION LEGISLATION — The Clerk tabled a letter from the Attorney-General, dated 26 January 2026, in response to a resolution of the Council on 19 November 2025 (on the motion of Georgie Purcell), relating to proposed animal care and protection legislation, advising that there was insufficient time to respond and that a final response to the Order would be provided as soon as possible.

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MARKET RESEARCH SERVICES FOR MACHETE PROHIBITION CAMPAIGN — The Clerk tabled a letter from the Attorney-General, dated 26 January 2026, in response to a resolution of the Council on 3 December 2025 (on the motion of David Limbrick), relating to market research services for Machete Prohibition Campaign, advising that there was insufficient time to respond and that a final response to the Order would be provided as soon as possible.

11 BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL — Bev McArthur moved, by leave, That the following general business take precedence on Wednesday, 4 February 2026 —

(1) order of the day made this day, second reading of the Electoral Amendment (Group Voting and Vote Counting) Bill 2026;

(2) notice of motion given this day by Georgie Crozier on paramedic staffing levels;

(3) notice of motion given this day by David Davis on Victoria's financial position; and

(4) notice of motion given this day by Nick McGowan referring matters relating to the 2026 summer fires across Victoria to the Environment and Planning Committee.

Question — put and agreed to.

12 BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE — PETITIONS (QUALIFYING FOR DEBATE) — Rachel Payne moved, by leave, That this House authorises the petition tabled by Wendy Lovell on 2 December 2025, titled 'Inquiry into the Planning Amendment (Better Decisions Made Faster) Bill 2025', to be given precedence over all other items listed under Petitions (qualifying for debate) on Wednesday, 4 February 2026.

Question — put and agreed to.

13 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS — Members made statements.

14 PLANNING AMENDMENT (BETTER DECISIONS MADE FASTER) BILL 2025 — The President read a Message from the Assembly informing the Council that they had —

(1) refused to entertain amendment Nos 1, 2, 5 and 6 as they seek to impose a tax, a direct infringement of the privileges of the House as set out in the *Constitution Act 1975;*

(2) agreed to the remaining amendments; and

(3) made further amendments with which agreement is requested.

On the motion of Harriet Shing, the Message was ordered to be taken into consideration on the next day of meeting.

15 ADJOURNMENT — Gayle Tierney moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The Council adjourned at 9.30 pm until tomorrow.

ROBERT McDONALD
Clerk of the Legislative Council

No. 151 — Wednesday, 4 February 2026

1 The President took the Chair at 9.32 am, read the Prayer and made an Acknowledgement of Country.

2 PAPERS —

PAPER PRESENTED UNDER AN ACT OF PARLIAMENT — The Clerk tabled the following paper:

Emergency Management Act 1986 — Report to Parliament on the Declaration of the State of Disaster, under section 23(7) of the Act.

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PAPER PRESENTED UNDER STANDING ORDERS — The Clerk tabled the following paper:

Government response to the Environment and Planning Committee's Inquiry into climate resilience.

3 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS — Members made statements.

4 ELECTORAL AMENDMENT (GROUP VOTING AND VOTE COUNTING) BILL 2026 — Aiv Puglielli laid on the Table the statement of compatibility as required by the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

Aiv Puglielli moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

On the motion of Lee Tarlamis, the debate was adjourned for two weeks.

5 PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS — CFA BOARD STATEMENT — Bev McArthur moved, That this House —

(1) notes the Country Fire Authority (CFA) Board statement published on 12 January 2026;

(2) in accordance with Standing Order 10.01, requires the Leader of the Government to table in the Council, within three weeks of the House agreeing to this

resolution, the following documents held by the CFA, the Minister for Emergency Services, and/or the Department of Justice and Community Safety —

(a) all draft versions of the CFA Board statement published on 12 January 2026;

(b) all emails, messages, memoranda, briefing notes, talking points and background material relating to the need for, content of, or approval of that statement;

(c) all minutes and agendas of CFA Board meetings held between 1 July 2024 and 4 January 2026;

(d) in relation to the CFA 2024-25 Report —

(i) all correspondence, including emails, letters, and text messages between any of the parties referred to in paragraph (2);

(ii) all draft versions of the Report, including the final printer's proof identified by the Victorian Auditor-General's Office on 14 January 2026 as containing "material inconsistencies";

(iii) all correspondence to or from the Victorian Auditor-General's Office;

(e) all correspondence relating to —

(i) the additional $11.6 million in supplementary funding for Strategic Bulk Water Supply and a statewide community engagement and awareness campaign;

(ii) funding requests for the 2025-26 financial year;

(iii) fleet replacement;

(iv) the fair value of services received or provided free of charge; and

(f) all internal budget submissions, bids and budget impact statements made by the CFA.

Debate ensued.

The President advised that the total time allocated for debate, pursuant to Sessional Order 6, had elapsed.

Question — put and agreed to.

6 PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS — WITHDRAWAL OF COMPRESSED NATURAL GAS — David Davis moved, That this House —

(1) notes the Allan Labor Government's decision announced in August 2025 to strip compressed natural gas (CNG) currently delivered by Solstice Energy from ten regional Victorian towns, including Robinvale, Swan Hill, Kerang, Nathalia, Marong, Maldon, Heathcote, Terang, Lakes Entrance and Orbost;

(2) further notes that the 20-year contract to deliver CNG to the ten towns with Solstice Energy has been allowed to not be enforced after just ten years;

(3) in accordance with Standing Order 10.01, requires the Leader of the Government to table in the Council, within three weeks of the House agreeing to this resolution, the following documents relating to this decision —

(a) briefs to the Minister for Regional Development;

(b) communications to Solstice Energy and from Solstice Energy to the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions (DJSIR) concerning the decision;

(c) details of any consultation undertaken by DJSIR;

(d) any consultancy or internal advice received or created by the relevant section of DJSIR to the minister or to senior officials in the department; and

(e) any assessment of the impact on country towns and communications to and from the Essential Services Commission regarding the decision.

Debate ensued.

The Acting President advised that the total time allocated for debate, pursuant to Sessional Order 6, had elapsed.

Question — put and agreed to.

7 PARAMEDIC STAFFING LEVELS — Georgie Crozier moved, That this House condemns the Allan Labor Government for the ongoing chaos and mismanagement within Ambulance Victoria and notes that —

(1) Ambulance Victoria's Statement of Priorities determines its responsibility to deliver high quality and safe care, and timely access to care;

(2) the latest publicly available data from the Victorian Agency for Health Information shows a continued failure to meet ambulance response targets;

(3) ambulances, including mobile intensive care units, were not staffed during recent heatwave conditions due to budget shortfalls;

(4) according to the Ambulance Union, from Friday 23 January to Thursday 29 January 2026, stations with unstaffed ambulances included —

(a) Box Hill, Hampton Park, Werribee, Wyndham Vale, Gowanbrae, Nunawading, Epping, Rosanna, Broadmeadows and Watsonia for the day shift;

(b) Black Rock, Devon Meadows, Endeavour Hills, Garfield, Jacksons Creek, Bellfield and South Morang for the afternoon shift;

(c) Beaconsfield, Belgrave, Big Hill, Caulfield, Doncaster, Mount Martha, Mulgrave, Rosebud, Sorrento, Waverley, Mernda, Colac and Inglewood for the night shift;

(5) many more ambulances only had a single crew member and were unable to transport patients; and

(6) the priorities of the Allan Labor Government are all wrong when ambulance shifts cannot be filled due to budget constraints, yet the Government wastes hundreds of millions of Victorian taxpayer dollars on cancelling the Commonwealth Games, millions of dollars on machete bins, hundreds of thousands of dollars on leased pot plants for the Suburban Rail Loop Authority, and has wasted in excess of $50 billion on project blowouts.

Debate ensued.

Business interrupted at 12.00 noon, pursuant to Sessional Orders.

8 QUESTION TIME —

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE AND MINISTERS' STATEMENTS — Members asked questions without notice and ministers made statements.

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QUESTIONS DIRECTED FOR WRITTEN RESPONSE — The President directed ministers to provide written responses to questions without notice pursuant to Standing Order 8.07 as follows:

- **Waste-to-energy licences (QwN 1197)** — substantive and supplementary questions asked by Rachel Payne — response from Gayle Tierney due Friday, 6 February 2026.
- **Animal testing (QwN 1199)** — substantive and supplementary questions asked by Georgie Purcell — response from Gayle Tierney due Friday, 6 February 2026.

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CONSTITUENCY QUESTIONS — Members asked constituency questions.

9 PARAMEDIC STAFFING LEVELS — Debate continued on the question, That this House condemns the Allan Labor Government for the ongoing chaos and mismanagement within Ambulance Victoria and notes that —

(1) Ambulance Victoria's Statement of Priorities determines its responsibility to deliver high quality and safe care, and timely access to care;

(2) the latest publicly available data from the Victorian Agency for Health Information shows a continued failure to meet ambulance response targets;

(3) ambulances, including mobile intensive care units, were not staffed during recent heatwave conditions due to budget shortfalls;

(4) according to the Ambulance Union, from Friday 23 January to Thursday 29 January 2026, stations with unstaffed ambulances included —

(a) Box Hill, Hampton Park, Werribee, Wyndham Vale, Gowanbrae, Nunawading, Epping, Rosanna, Broadmeadows and Watsonia for the day shift;

(b) Black Rock, Devon Meadows, Endeavour Hills, Garfield, Jacksons Creek, Bellfield and South Morang for the afternoon shift;

(c) Beaconsfield, Belgrave, Big Hill, Caulfield, Doncaster, Mount Martha, Mulgrave, Rosebud, Sorrento, Waverley, Mernda, Colac and Inglewood for the night shift;

(5) many more ambulances only had a single crew member and were unable to transport patients; and

(6) the priorities of the Allan Labor Government are all wrong when ambulance shifts cannot be filled due to budget constraints, yet the Government wastes hundreds of millions of Victorian taxpayer dollars on cancelling the Commonwealth Games, millions of dollars on machete bins, hundreds of thousands of dollars on leased pot plants for the Suburban Rail Loop Authority, and has wasted in excess of $50 billion on project blowouts.

The Acting President advised that the total time allocated for debate, pursuant to Sessional Order 3, had elapsed.

Question — put.

The Council divided — The President in the Chair.

AYES, 15

Melina Bath; Jeff Bourman; Gaelle Broad; Georgie Crozier; David Davis; Moira Deeming; Renee Heath; Wendy Lovell; Trung Luu; Bev McArthur; Joe McCracken; Nick McGowan; Evan Mulholland; Richard Welch; Rikkie-Lee Tyrrell.

(Recorded by Clerks-at-the-Table, pursuant to an order of the Council on 23 April 2020)

NOES, 19

Ryan Batchelor; John Berger; Lizzie Blandthorn; Katherine Copsey; Enver Erdogan; Jacinta Ermacora; Michael Galea; Anasina Gray-Barberio; Shaun Leane; Tom McIntosh; Rachel Payne; Aiv Puglielli; Georgie Purcell; Harriet Shing; Ingrid Stitt; Jaclyn Symes; Lee Tarlamis; Gayle Tierney; Sheena Watt.

(Recorded by Clerks-at-the-Table, pursuant to an order of the Council on 23 April 2020)

Question negatived.

10 VICTORIA'S FINANCIAL POSITION — David Davis moved, That this House notes —

(1) the financial position of Victoria has seen the State deliver deficit budgets and massively increasing debt in recent years, with debt scheduled to exceed $190 billion at the end of the forward estimates;

(2) that due to financial stress a number of government agencies have required letters of comfort from the Government to continue operating as a going concern, including —

(a) Museums Victoria;

(b) Greater Western Water;

(c) Alpine Resorts Victoria;

(d) Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority;

(e) the Australian Centre for the Moving Image;

(f) the Geelong Performing Arts Centre Trust;

(g) VicTrack;

(h) V/Line;

(i) many health services;

(3) that a number of government statutory authorities and agencies have referred to financial challenges they face or will face; and

(4) that a number of treasury advances were provided to agencies outside the normal budget process where the agency required additional funding to remain solvent.

Debate ensued.

The Acting President advised that the total time allocated for debate, pursuant to Sessional Order 3, had elapsed.

Question — put and agreed to.

11 ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING COMMITTEE — 2026 SUMMER FIRES ACROSS VICTORIA — Nick McGowan moved, by leave, in an amended form, That this House requires the Environment and Planning Committee to inquire into, consider and report, by 1 June 2026, on the 2026 summer fires across Victoria, including but not limited to —

(1) the preparation and planning by government, emergency services agencies and the community ahead of the fire season, including management of public and private land and roadsides;

(2) the causes and circumstances of the bushfires, including climate change and the adequacy of the Government's climate policies and actions, forecasts, warnings and public education on bushfire threats;

(3) funding, equipment and appliances for the Country Fire Authority (CFA), Fire Rescue Victoria and Forest Fire Management Victoria, and recruitment and retention of CFA volunteers;

(4) the emergency responses to control and contain the fires, including adequacy of resources and communications;
(5) resilience of critical services and infrastructure such as electricity, water and telecommunications during and after the fires;
(6) the impact on the community, business and agriculture and efforts to aid in recovery;
(7) the impact on the environment, including native wildlife, and any measures to better protect native forests, including technology for early detection and firefighting in remote locations; and
(8) lessons from and progress on the implementation of recommendations from previous inquiries, reports and Royal Commissions.

Debate ensued.

Sheena Watt moved, as amendments —

1. In paragraph (7), **omit** "and".
2. After paragraph (7), **insert** the following new paragraphs:

"(8) the impacts of climate change on the natural environment, which has resulted in more frequent and intense bushfires occurring in Victoria;
(9) the prevalence and impact of misinformation leading into and during the fire season;
(10) the interjurisdictional support into and out of Victoria leading into and during the fire season, including interstate and international deployments, Commonwealth support and relief efforts; and".

Debate ensued.

The President advised that the total time allocated for debate, pursuant to Sessional Order 3, had elapsed.

Question — That the amendments moved by Sheena Watt be agreed to — put.

The Council divided — The President in the Chair.

AYES, 21

Ryan Batchelor; John Berger; Lizzie Blandthorn; Katherine Copsey; Enver Erdogan; Jacinta Ermacora; Michael Galea; Anasina Gray-Barberio; Shaun Leane; David Limbrick; Sarah Mansfield; Tom McIntosh; Rachel Payne; Aiv Puglielli; Georgie Purcell; Harriet Shing; Ingrid Stitt; Jaclyn Symes; Lee Tarlamis; Gayle Tierney; Sheena Watt.

(Recorded by Clerks-at-the-Table, pursuant to an order of the Council on 23 April 2020)

NOES, 15

Melina Bath; Jeff Bourman; Gaelle Broad; Georgie Crozier; David Davis; Moira Deeming; Renee Heath; Wendy Lovell; Trung Luu; Bev McArthur; Joe McCracken; Nick McGowan; Evan Mulholland; Richard Welch; Rikkie-Lee Tyrrell.

(Recorded by Clerks-at-the-Table, pursuant to an order of the Council on 23 April 2020)

Question agreed to.

Question — That the motion, amended as follows, be agreed to — That this House requires the Environment and Planning Committee to inquire into, consider and report, by 1 June 2026, on the 2026 summer fires across Victoria, including but not limited to —

(1) the preparation and planning by government, emergency services agencies and the community ahead of the fire season, including management of public and private land and roadsides;
(2) the causes and circumstances of the bushfires, including climate change and the adequacy of the Government's climate policies and actions, forecasts, warnings and public education on bushfire threats;
(3) funding, equipment and appliances for the Country Fire Authority (CFA), Fire Rescue Victoria and Forest Fire Management Victoria, and recruitment and retention of CFA volunteers;
(4) the emergency responses to control and contain the fires, including adequacy of resources and communications;
(5) resilience of critical services and infrastructure such as electricity, water and telecommunications during and after the fires;
(6) the impact on the community, business and agriculture and efforts to aid in recovery;
(7) the impact on the environment, including native wildlife, and any measures to better protect native forests, including technology for early detection and firefighting in remote locations;
(8) the impacts of climate change on the natural environment, which has resulted in more frequent and intense bushfires occurring in Victoria;
(9) the prevalence and impact of misinformation leading into and during the fire season;
(10) the interjurisdictional support into and out of Victoria leading into and during the fire season, including interstate and international deployments, Commonwealth support and relief efforts; and
(11) lessons from and progress on the implementation of recommendations from previous inquiries, reports and Royal Commissions — put and agreed to.

12 BUSINESS POSTPONED — Ordered — That the consideration of the remaining notices of motion and orders of the day, general business, be postponed until the next day of meeting.

13 STATEMENTS ON TABLED PAPERS AND PETITIONS — Members made statements on reports, papers and petitions.

14 PETITIONS (QUALIFYING FOR DEBATE) — INQUIRY INTO THE PLANNING AMENDMENT (BETTER DECISIONS MADE FASTER) BILL 2025 — Wendy Lovell moved, That the petition be taken into consideration.

Debate ensued.

Question — put and agreed to.

15 BUSINESS POSTPONED — Ordered — That the consideration of notices of motion, government business, Nos. 278 to 1216, be postponed until the next day of meeting.

16 PLANNING AMENDMENT (BETTER DECISIONS MADE FASTER) BILL 2025 — MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY — The amendments remaining for consideration by the Council were circulated and are as follows:

AMENDMENT No. 1 (resolved by the Council on 9 December 2025)

1. Clause 2, lines 2 and 3, omit all words and expressions on these lines and insert—

"(1) This Part and sections 11(2) and 11(3) come into operation on the day after the day on which this Act receives the Royal Assent.

(1A) The remaining provisions of this Act come into operation on a day or days to be proclaimed.".

AMENDMENT No. 2 (resolved by the Council on 9 December 2025)

2. Clause 2, line 4, omit "of this Act" and insert "referred to in subsection (1A)".

AMENDMENT No. 5 (resolved by the Council on 9 December 2025)

5. Clause 11, line 20, before "After" insert "(1)".

AMENDMENT No. 6 (resolved by the Council on 9 December 2025)

6. Clause 11, after line 22, insert—

'(2) After section 6(2)(j) of the Principal Act **insert**—

"(ja) provide that any use or development of land is conditional on the provision of an affordable housing contribution;".

(3) After section 6(2) of the Principal Act **insert**—

"(2AA) For the purposes of section 6(2)(ja), an affordable housing contribution may be imposed as a condition on a permit if—

(a) the relevant planning scheme identifies a need for affordable housing in the area; and

(b) the application exceeds a threshold prescribed in the regulations that is expressed in terms of number of dwellings or value of development.

(2AAB) An affordable housing contribution is to be in the prescribed form, including a monetary contribution in lieu of the provision of affordable housing.

(2AAC) The regulations may prescribe the maximum affordable housing contributions that can be required under a planning scheme, including the application of differing maximums by reference to different zones and overlays.

(2AAD) If a monetary contribution is made to acquit a requirement specified in a planning scheme for the provision of an affordable housing contribution, the monetary contribution must be collected by the responsible authority for the proposed use or development of land.

(2AAE) Despite anything to the contrary in any other Act (other than the **Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006**), any monetary contribution collected by a responsible authority under subsection (2AAD) must be spent on a project to construct new affordable housing in the municipal district in which it is collected.

(2AAF) A responsible authority must keep proper and separate accounts and records of any monetary contribution collected

under subsection (2AAD) and how that monetary contribution was spent on the provision of affordable housing in the municipal district.

(2AAG) The accounts and records required under subsection (2AAF) must be kept in accordance with the **Local Government Act 2020**.".'.

How dealt with by the Assembly

Not entertained and the following further amendments were made to the Bill:

1. Clause 2, lines 2 and 3, omit all words and expressions on these lines and insert—

"(1) This Part and section 11(2) and (3) come into operation on the day after the day on which this Act receives the Royal Assent.

(1A) The remaining provisions of this Act come into operation on a day or days to be proclaimed.".

2. Clause 2, line 4, omit "of this Act" and insert "referred to in subsection (1A)".
3. Clause 11, line 20, before "After" insert "(1)".
4. Clause 11, after line 22, insert—

'(2) After section 6(2)(j) of the Principal Act **insert**—

"(ja) provide that any use or development of land is conditional on the provision of an affordable housing contribution;".

(3) After section 6(2) of the Principal Act **insert**—

"(2AA) For the purposes of section 6(2)(ja), an affordable housing contribution may be imposed as a condition on a permit if—

(a) the relevant planning scheme identifies a need for affordable housing in the area; and

(b) the application exceeds a threshold prescribed in the regulations that is expressed in terms of number of dwellings or value of development.

(2AAB) An affordable housing contribution is to be in the prescribed form, including a monetary contribution in lieu of the provision of affordable housing.

(2AAC) The regulations may prescribe the maximum affordable housing contributions that can be required under a planning scheme, including the application of differing maximums by reference to different zones and overlays.

(2AAD) If a monetary contribution is made to acquit a requirement specified in a planning scheme for the provision of an affordable housing contribution, the monetary contribution must be collected by the responsible authority for the proposed use or development of land.

(2AAE) Despite anything to the contrary in any other Act (other than the **Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006**), any monetary contribution collected by a responsible authority under subsection (2AAD) must be spent on a project

to construct new affordable housing in the municipal district in which it is collected.

(2AAF) A responsible authority must keep proper and separate accounts and records of any monetary contribution collected under subsection (2AAD) and how that monetary contribution was spent on the provision of affordable housing in the municipal district.

(2AAG) The accounts and records required under subsection (2AAF) must be kept in accordance with the **Local Government Act 2020**."."

5. Clause 86, page 89, line 4, omit "(2)".

Harriet Shing moved, That —

(1) the Council does not insist on its amendment Nos. 1, 2, 5 and 6 to this Bill; and

(2) the further amendments made by the Assembly be agreed to.

Debate ensued.

Question — put.

The Council divided — The President in the Chair.

AYES, 35

Ryan Batchelor; Melina Bath; John Berger; Lizzie Blandthorn; Gaelle Broad; Katherine Copsey; Georgie Crozier; David Davis; Moira Deeming; Enver Erdogan; Jacinta Ermacora; Michael Galea; Anasina Gray-Barberio; Renee Heath; Shaun Leane; David Limbrick; Wendy Lovell; Trung Luu; Sarah Mansfield; Bev McArthur; Joe McCracken; Nick McGowan; Tom McIntosh; Evan Mulholland; Rachel Payne; Aiv Puglielli; Georgie Purcell; Harriet Shing; Ingrid Stitt; Jaclyn Symes; Lee Tarlamis; Gayle Tierney; Rikkie-Lee Tyrrell; Sheena Watt; Richard Welch.

(Recorded by Clerks-at-the-Table, pursuant to an order of the Council on 23 April 2020)

NOES, 1

Jeff Bourman.

(Recorded by Clerks-at-the-Table, pursuant to an order of the Council on 23 April 2020)

Question agreed to.

Message sent to the Assembly informing them accordingly.

17 ADJOURNMENT — Lizzie Blandthorn moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The Council adjourned at 7.07 pm until tomorrow.

ROBERT McDONALD
Clerk of the Legislative Council

No. 152 — Thursday, 5 February 2026

1 The President took the Chair at 9.32 am, read the Prayer and made an Acknowledgement of Country.

2 **COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP** — The President advised the House that John Pesutto, Member for Hawthorn, resigned from the Scrutiny of Acts and Regulations Committee, effective from 4 February 2026.

The President advised the House that Roma Britnell, Member for South West Coast, resigned from the Public Accounts and Estimates Committee, effective from 4 February 2026.

3 **PETITIONS** —

REDUCE SCAM LOCKSMITH OPERATORS — Ann-Marie Hermans presented a petition bearing 142 signatures from certain citizens of Victoria requesting that the Legislative Council call on the Government to insert a definition for 'locksmith' into the *Private Security Act 2004* which defines a locksmith as a current financial member of a recognised locksmith industry association, where the association can demonstrate minimum entry and ongoing membership requirements, and has the capacity to audit and enforce compliance with the membership requirements *(Ordered to be tabled).*

* * * * *

COLORECTAL AND PELVIC RECONSTRUCTION SERVICE AT THE ROYAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL — Bev McArthur presented a petition bearing 10,513 signatures from certain citizens of Victoria requesting that the Legislative Council call on the Government to ensure that the Colorectal and Pelvic Reconstruction Service (CPRS) at The Royal Children's Hospital is maintained in its original form, including the full range of allied health services originally offered, and to commit to safeguarding the long-term future of CPRS, ensuring that it is not subject to cuts, restructure or closure, so that world-class, patient-centred care continues to be available to vulnerable children and families in need *(Ordered to be tabled).*

The petition having received the required number of signatures, Bev McArthur listed the petition for future debate during Petitions (qualifying for debate).

4 **PAPERS PRESENTED UNDER ACTS OF PARLIAMENT** — The Clerk tabled the following papers:

National Health Practitioner Ombudsman and National Health Privacy Commissioner — Report, 2024-25.

Planning and Environment Act 1987 — Notice of approval of Victoria Planning Provisions — Amendment VC265.

Professional Standards Council of Victoria — Report, 2024-25*.

Sentencing Advisory Council — Attorney-General's report of receipt of 2024-25 Report.

Statutory Rules under the following Acts of Parliament —

Child Wellbeing and Safety Act 2005 — No. 1.

Disability Service Safeguards Act 2018 — No. 4.

Social Services Regulation Act 2021 — No. 2.

Worker Screening Act 2020 — No. 3.

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* *together with the Minister's reported date of receipt.*

5 PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS — HYDROGEN ENERGY SUPPLY CHAIN PROJECT — In response to a resolution of the Council on 22 March 2023 (on the motion of Sarah Mansfield), and further to the Government's initial response on 2 May 2023, relating to the Hydrogen Energy Supply Chain Project, the Clerk tabled —

- 36 documents in full, 37 documents in part and schedules of the 103 documents identified; and
- a letter from the Attorney-General, dated 3 February 2026, making a claim of executive privilege over 30 documents in full and 37 documents in part, and advising that due to the broad scope of the Order, the Government has focussed its response on producing documents which are briefings and consultant reports and that attempting to respond to the full scope of the Order would have unreasonably diverted resources and incurred significant costs.

6 SITTING OF THE COUNCIL — Jaclyn Symes moved, That the Council, at its rising, adjourn until Tuesday, 17 February 2026.

Question — put and agreed to.

7 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS — Members made statements.

8 BUSINESS POSTPONED — Ordered — That the consideration of notices of motion, government business, Nos. 278 to 1239, be postponed until later this day.

9 JUSTICE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (FAMILY VIOLENCE, STALKING AND OTHER MATTERS) BILL 2025 — Debate resumed on the question, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Business interrupted at 12.00 noon.

10 QUESTION TIME —

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE AND MINISTERS' STATEMENTS — Members asked questions without notice and ministers made statements.

* * * * *

ANSWERS TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION — On the motion of Georgie Crozier, the answers given by Ingrid Stitt to questions relating to consultation on ADHD diagnosis and treatment reforms (QwN 1209) were ordered to be taken into consideration on the next day of meeting.

* * * * *

QUESTIONS DIRECTED FOR WRITTEN RESPONSE — The President directed ministers to provide written responses to questions without notice pursuant to Standing Order 8.07 as follows:

- **Treasurer letters of comfort (QwN 1205)** — substantive and supplementary questions asked by David Davis — response from Jaclyn Symes due Friday, 6 February 2026.
- **Disability workers in group homes (QwN 1210)** — substantive and supplementary questions asked by Jeff Bourman — response from Lizzie Blandthorn due Friday, 6 February 2026.

* * * * *

CONSTITUENCY QUESTIONS — Members asked constituency questions.

11 JUSTICE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (FAMILY VIOLENCE, STALKING AND OTHER MATTERS) BILL 2025 — Debate continued on the question, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Question — put and agreed to.

Bill read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

Bill reported without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill was read a third time and passed.

Bill returned to the Assembly with a Message informing them that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

12 MINERAL RESOURCES (SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT) AMENDMENT (FINANCIAL ASSURANCE) BILL 2025 — Debate resumed on the question, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Sarah Mansfield *(SMA50C)* circulated amendments proposed to be moved during Committee of the whole.

Question — put and agreed to.

Bill read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

Bill reported without amendment, the Report was adopted.

Ingrid Stitt moved, That the Bill be now read a third time and do pass.

Debate ensued.

Question — put and agreed to.

Bill read a third time and passed.

Bill returned to the Assembly with a Message informing them that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

13 BUSINESS POSTPONED — Ordered — That the consideration of orders of the day, government business, Nos. 3 and 4, be postponed until the next day of meeting.

14 BUDGET PAPERS, 2025-26 — Debate resumed on the question, That the Council take note of the Budget Papers, 2025-26.

On the motion of Lizzie Blandthorn, the meal break scheduled for this day was suspended.

Debate continued.

Question — put and agreed to.

15 HEALTH SAFEGUARDS FOR PEOPLE BORN WITH VARIATIONS IN SEX CHARACTERISTICS BILL 2025 — The President read a Message from the Assembly presenting *A Bill for an Act to provide support for the making of decisions about certain medical treatment for persons who have an innate variation in sex characteristics, including provisions about the giving of informed consent to the decisions, panels of persons who may give approvals about the decisions, prohibiting the medical treatment in certain circumstances and other related matters and to amend the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 1998 to provide for review processes for those decisions and for other purposes* and requesting the agreement of the Council.

On the motion of Lizzie Blandthorn (for Ingrid Stitt), the Bill was read a first time and, by leave, ordered to be read a second time forthwith.

Lizzie Blandthorn laid on the Table the statement of compatibility as required by the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

Lizzie Blandthorn moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Lizzie Blandthorn incorporated the second reading speech in Hansard.

On the motion of Renee Heath, the debate was adjourned for one week.

16 JUSTICE LEGISLATION FURTHER AMENDMENT (MISCELLANEOUS) BILL 2025 — The President read a Message from the Assembly presenting *A Bill for an Act to make miscellaneous amendments to the Fines Reform Act 2014, the Guardianship and Administration Act 2019, the Infringements Act 2006, the Marine Safety Act 2010, the Open Courts Act 2013, the Road Safety Act 1986, the Coroners Act 2008, the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act 1996, the Crimes Act 1958 in relation to certain offences, the County Court Act 1958 and the Sentencing Act 1991 in relation to the operation of the Drug Court Division of the County Court, the Road Safety Act 1986 in relation to procedural matters in the Magistrates' Court, to make related amendments to certain other Acts and for other purposes* and requesting the agreement of the Council.

On the motion of Lizzie Blandthorn (for Enver Erdogan), the Bill was read a first time and, by leave, ordered to be read a second time forthwith.

Lizzie Blandthorn laid on the Table the statement of compatibility as required by the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

Lizzie Blandthorn moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Lizzie Blandthorn incorporated the second reading speech in Hansard.

On the motion of Renee Heath, the debate was adjourned for one week.

17 ADJOURNMENT — Lizzie Blandthorn moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The Council adjourned at 7.21 pm until Tuesday, 17 February 2026.

ROBERT McDONALD
Clerk of the Legislative Council

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COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL
Supplement to Minutes Nos. 150, 151 and 152

JUSTICE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (FAMILY VIOLENCE, STALKING AND OTHER MATTERS) BILL 2025

Committed Thursday, 5 February 2026

Clauses 1 to 108 — put and agreed to.

Bill reported without amendment.

* * * * *

MINERAL RESOURCES (SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT) AMENDMENT (FINANCIAL ASSURANCE) BILL 2025

Committed Thursday, 5 February 2026

Amendments circulated: Sarah Mansfield (SMA50C) (pp. 1448-50)

Clause 1 — Sarah Mansfield moved amendment No. 1 (SMA50C).

Question — That the amendment be agreed to — put.

The Committee divided — The Deputy President in the Chair.

AYES, 6

Katherine Copsey; Anasina Gray-Barberio; Sarah Mansfield; Rachel Payne; Aiv Puglielli; Georgie Purcell.

(Recorded by Clerks-at-the-Table, pursuant to an order of the Council on 23 April 2020)

NOES, 31

Ryan Batchelor; Melina Bath; John Berger; Lizzie Blandthorn; Jeff Bourman; Gaelle Broad; Georgie Crozier; David Davis; Moira Deeming; Enver Erdogan; Jacinta Ermacora; Michael Galea; Renee Heath; Ann-Marie Hermans; Shaun Leane; David Limbrick; Wendy Lovell; Trung Luu; Bev McArthur; Joe McCracken; Nick McGowan; Tom McIntosh; Evan Mulholland; Harriet Shing; Ingrid Stitt; Jaclyn Symes; Lee Tarlamis; Gayle Tierney; Rikkie-Lee Tyrrell; Sheena Watt; Richard Welch.

(Recorded by Clerks-at-the-Table, pursuant to an order of the Council on 23 April 2020)

Question negatived.

Clause 1 — put and agreed to.

Clauses 2 to 59 — put and agreed to.

Bill reported without amendment.

AMENDMENTS CIRCULATED IN RELATION TO —

1. MINERAL RESOURCES (SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT) AMENDMENT (FINANCIAL ASSURANCE) BILL 2025

Amendments circulated by Sarah Mansfield (SMA50C)

1. Clause 1, lines 7 to 8, omit "declared mine land" and insert "land covered by mining licences".

2. Clause 8, lines 26 to 32, omit all words and expressions on these lines.

3. Clause 8, page 6, lines 27 to 29, omit all words and expressions on these lines.

4. Clause 8, page 6, line 35, omit "relate;" and insert 'relate.".'.

5. Clause 8, page 7, lines 1 to 3, omit all words and expressions on these lines.

6. Clause 11, line 22, omit "**Division 8 of Part 7C**" and insert "**Part 7D**".

7. Clause 11, line 23, omit "Division 7 of".

8. Clause 11, line 25, omit "**Division 8**" and insert "**Part 7D**".

9. Clause 11, after line 25 insert—

"**84AZZMA Definitions**

In this Part—

call back determination means a determination made under section 84AZZO;

former holder, in relation to a mining licence, means the person who held the licence immediately before its expiry or cancellation, and ***licensee*** must be read accordingly;

person subject to call back has the meaning set out in section 84AZZN;

public sector body has the same meaning as in Part 7A;

recognition and settlement agreement has the same meaning as in the **Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010**;

rehabilitation costs means any amount by which the costs incurred by the Minister in taking an action to rehabilitate land under section 83(1) exceeds, or is likely to exceed, the amount of the bond or bonds that apply to the land;

rehabilitation or closure requirement, in relation to a mining licence (whether or not in force), means any of the following—

(a) an obligation or a requirement (however described) placed on the licensee by a rehabilitation plan;

(b) in the case of land to which a declared mine rehabilitation plan applies, an obligation or a requirement (however described) placed on the licensee by the declared mine rehabilitation plan;

(c) an obligation or a requirement (however described) placed on the licensee by a registered post-closure plan;

related body corporate, in relation to a body corporate, has the same meaning as in the Corporations Act;

related rehabilitation action, in relation to a remedial direction that requires a called-back person to pay rehabilitation costs, means the action to rehabilitate the land taken by the Minister under section 83(1) to which the rehabilitation costs relate;

registration amount means an amount specified in a registration direction;

registration direction means a direction given by the Minister under section 84AZZB(1)(c);

traditional owner group has the same meaning as in the **Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010**.".

10. Clause 11, line 29, omit "licence that covers declared mine land" and insert "mining licence".

11. Clause 11, page 8, line 3, omit "declared mine".

12. Clause 11, page 8, line 4, omit "declared mine".

13. Clause 11, page 8, line 14, omit "licence that covers declared mine land" and insert "mining licence".

14. Clause 11, page 9, line 2, omit "***licence that covers declared mine land***" and insert "***mining licence***".

15. Clause 11, page 9, lines 3 to 4, omit "licence that covers declared mine land" and insert "mining licence".

16. Clause 11, page 9, lines 12 to 13, omit "licence that covers declared mine land" and insert "mining licence".

17. Clause 11, page 9, line 32, omit "declared mine".

18. Clause 11, page 10, line 7, omit "licence that covers declared mine land" and insert "mining licence".

19. Clause 11, page 10, line 11, omit "declared mine".

20. Clause 11, page 10, lines 13 to 14, omit "declared mine".

21. Clause 11, page 10, line 18, omit "declared mine".

22. Clause 11, page 10, line 30, omit "Division" and insert "Part".

23. Clause 11, page 11, lines 11 to 12, omit "licence that covers declared mine land" and insert "mining licence".

24. Clause 11, page 12, lines 4 to 5, omit "licence that covers declared mine land" and insert "mining licence".

25. Clause 11, page 12, line 8, omit "declared mine".

26. Clause 11, page 12, line 24, omit "declared mine".

27. Clause 11, page 12, line 25, omit "declared mine".

28. Clause 11, page 12, line 32, omit "declared mine".

29. Clause 11, page 14, line 22, omit "declared mine".

30. Clause 11, page 14, lines 24 to 25, omit "declared mine".

31. Clause 11, page 15, line 7, omit "declared mine land" and insert "land covered by the mining licence".

32. Clause 11, page 15, line 9, omit "declared mine".

33. Clause 11, page 15, line 14, omit "declared mine".

34. Clause 11, page 15, line 21, omit "declared mine".

35. Clause 11, page 16, line 9, omit "Division" and insert "Part".

36. Clause 11, page 17, line 2, omit "declared mine".

37. Clause 11, page 17, lines 4 to 5, omit "declared mine".

38. Clause 11, page 17, line 25, omit "Division" and insert "Part".

39. Clause 11, page 19, line 18, omit "**declared mine**".

40. Clause 11, page 19, line 21, omit "declared mine".

41. Clause 11, page 22, line 16, omit "Division" and insert "Part".

42. Clause 11, page 23, line 3, omit "Division" and insert "Part".

43. Clause 13, line 22, omit "**Divisions 9 and 10 of Part 7C**" and insert "**Parts 7E and 7F**".

44. Clause 13, line 24, omit "**Division 9**" and insert "**Part 7E**".

45. Clause 13, line 27, omit "Division" and insert "Part".

46. Clause 13, page 24, line 4, omit "Division" and insert "Part".

47. Clause 13, page 26, lines 26 and 27, omit all words and expressions on these lines and insert—

"**Part 7F—Review of operation of Parts 7D and 7E**".

48. Clause 13, page 26, line 28, omit "**Divisions 8 and 9**" and insert "**Parts 7D and 7E**".

49. Clause 13, page 26, line 32, omit "Divisions 8 and 9" and insert "Parts 7D and 7E".