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(HANSARD)**

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FIRST SESSION

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

4, 5 and 6 December 2007

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

*Answers to the following questions on notice were circulated on the date shown.
Questions have been incorporated from the notice paper of the Legislative Assembly.
Answers have been incorporated in the form supplied by the departments on behalf of the appropriate ministers.
The portfolio of the minister answering the question on notice starts each heading.*

Tuesday, 4 December 2007

Water: Lake Mokoan

- 98. Dr SYKES** to ask the Minister for Water, Environment and Climate Change with reference to the Mokoan Wetlands project developed by Murrumbidgee Irrigation on behalf of Broken System irrigators —
- (1) How did the Government arrive at its estimate of the cost of implementing the project.
 - (2) Will the Government make available to Broken System irrigators details of the cost estimates for the project and how they differ from those provided by Murrumbidgee Irrigation.
 - (3) Did the Government obtain third party technical advice in relation to the project; if so —
 - (a) were the consultants engaged to provide the advice also involved in advising the Government in relation to the Lake Mokoan decommissioning proposal;
 - (b) did the Government consider the potential for the consultants to have a conflict of interest when assessing an alternative proposal;
 - (c) what written advice was received;
 - (d) what costs were incurred by the Government in obtaining this advice.
 - (4) Will the Government agree to an independent assessment by the Commonwealth Government of the project in comparison to the Government's own proposal to decommission Lake Mokoan, to compare both proposals on the basis of the relative reliability of water supplies to existing irrigators, cost, water savings generated and environmental impacts.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

1. The estimate of cost was based on a comprehensive review undertaken by DSE in collaboration with Goulburn-Murray Water and involving third party technical experts. The review considered the available information on the proposal and covered construction methodology, quantities, unit rates, survey/design allowances and contingency allowances.
2. A number of meetings have been held with the Broken System irrigators to provide an opportunity to present and discuss the proposal. The review is in its final stages after considering recently received design changes, and a report is expected soon.
3. Third party technical advice was provided by consultants Sinclair Knight Merz and URS.
 - a. The consultants were involved in the Lake Mokoan Study. They provided water resource and geotechnical design and construction process advice regarding embankment construction in the Lake Mokoan site.
 - b. The consultants were not involved in the decision to decommission Lake Mokoan and therefore no conflict of interest is considered likely. The consultants were selected to review the proposal on the basis of their expertise and knowledge of the conditions at Mokoan.
 - c. A report is currently being prepared by the consultants on the findings of the review.

- d. The cost of consultancies related to the review cannot be confirmed until the proponents provide final proposal details. However the cost of the review will be in the range of \$120,000. It should be noted that the proposal was resubmitted several times with significant changes, necessitating several commissions.
4. The decision to decommission Lake Mokoan was made after considering similar modified Lake Mokoan options. The Lake Mokoan Study which informed this decision found decommissioning was superior in terms of cost, water savings, economics and environmental impact. The current review incorporates similar analysis by independent technical specialists. This analysis includes comparison of reliability of supply. The irrigators will be informed of the findings of this review of the alternative storage proposal and the report will be made available on request.

Water: Lake Mokoan

99. Dr SYKES to ask the Minister for Water, Environment and Climate Change —

- (1) Will the Minister consult and genuinely attempt to reach agreement with Broken System entitlement holders about alternatives to decommissioning Lake Mokoan and appropriate cost sharing arrangements as required under section 17 of the Bulk Entitlement (Broken System-Goulburn Murray Water) Conversion Order 2004; if so, when and with whom will these consultations take place.
- (2) Has the Government through the Department of Sustainability and Environment, the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority or another agency undertaken an investigation into the potential impact of decommissioning Lake Mokoan on the environmental health of the Broken River with specific reference to the risks to fish survival with lower summer and autumn river flows.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

1. Discussions have been held and are continuing with regard to a proposal by Broken irrigators for a new storage at Lake Mokoan in lieu of decommissioning. Section 17 of the Bulk Entitlement Conversion Order does not apply because any reduction in diversions will not be made unilaterally by Government but will be voluntary if an irrigator decides to sell their entitlement. In addition, resource availability will not be impacted as the Government has committed to maintaining existing reliability.
2. The Department of Sustainability and Environment has undertaken investigations into the potential impact of decommissioning Lake Mokoan on the environmental health of the Broken River, and has referred the project to the Commonwealth Department of Environment and Heritage for consideration under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Act 1999*. The Commonwealth Minister for the Environment and Water Resources has advised that ‘the proposed action is not a controlled action and therefore does not require approval before it can proceed’.

A similar referral was made to the Victorian Minister for Planning under the *Environment Effects Act 1978*. The Minister for Planning has determined that an Environmental Effects Statement is not required. In particular he determined that:

- The environmental investigations have been comprehensive and provide an adequate basis upon which to assess potential environmental effects;
- The project is unlikely to cause significant adverse environmental effects and is expected to provide a clear net environmental benefit for the Broken, Goulburn, Murray and Snowy Rivers, and Winton wetlands;
- Some localised impacts on current tourism and recreational values at Lake Mokoan are likely, but will be offset by the proposals for rehabilitating the Winton Wetlands;
- Environmental Management Plans including associated flora and fauna surveys and other monitoring will ensure any environmental risks are properly managed.

Consumer affairs: communications training

145(d). **Mr THOMPSON** (*Sandringham*) to ask the Minister for Consumer Affairs with reference to media presentation training, communications training or public presentation training provided to the Minister in 2006–07 —

- (1) What training has the Minister received.
- (2) What was the name of the tenderer, training organisation or entity providing the training.
- (3) What was the cost of the training.
- (4) How many training sessions were held.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

- (1) None
- (2) Not applicable
- (3) \$0.00
- (4) None

Senior Victorians: positive ageing campaign

200. **Ms WOOLDRIDGE** to ask the Minister for Aged Care with reference to the Government’s positive ageing campaign —

- (1) What monitoring and accountability mechanisms will be developed to track and evaluate the impact of the Government’s positive ageing programs.
- (2) How will these mechanisms assess the success of the positive ageing campaign.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (1) All grants made through the Positive Ageing Program are required to report against the requirements specified in their Funding and Service Agreement (FSA). Monitoring of performance against these requirements is conducted in accordance with the FSA.
- (2) The success of the Positive Ageing program will be measured against the performance criteria set out for each of the funded projects.

Environment and climate change: Sustainability and Environment correspondence

217(a). **Mr HODGETT** to ask the Minister for Water, Environment and Climate Change — what is the usual length of time for the Department of Sustainability and Environment to respond on the Minister’s behalf to correspondence from a member of Parliament.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

I apologise for the delay in responding to your question. I note that your question was originally directed to the previous Minister for Water, Environment and Climate Change. My response was delayed due to administrative changes associated with the allocation of new Ministerial portfolios.

Where there are no such complexities, which cause an unavoidable delay, I respond to all correspondence from Members of Parliament in a timely manner. I require a response to be sent within 2–3 weeks.

Water: Sustainability and Environment correspondence

217(b). Mr HODGETT to ask the Minister for Water, Environment and Climate Change — what is the usual length of time for the Department of Sustainability and Environment to respond on the Minister’s behalf to correspondence from a member of Parliament.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Department of Sustainability and Environment does not respond on my behalf. I endeavour to respond to all correspondence from Members of Parliament in a timely manner. Response times vary depending on the complexity of the issue raised and the availability of information upon which the response is based.

Education: school upgrades

227. Mr THOMPSON (*Sandringham*) to ask the Minister for Skills, Education Services and Employment for the Minister for Education with reference to the Government’s plan to have every government school rebuilt or modernised within 10 years —

- (1) Which schools have been given approval to be rebuilt or modernised in 2007–08.
- (2) Has the Government prepared a timetable for rebuilding and modernising schools across Victoria.
- (3) What criteria have been used for allocating funds for rebuilding or modernising schools.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Building Futures is the conceptual framework that guides all capital investment in government school infrastructure in Victoria.

Building Futures ensures that the educational needs of every student inform the planning and development of school infrastructure. It enables new facility design and the organisation of education services to better meet contemporary education needs.

The schools we design must:

- promote individualised learning
- create settings for innovative teaching
- incorporate new technology
- be environmentally sustainable, and
- support community involvement.

The *Public Sector Asset Investment Program — Budget Information Paper No. 1* (BIP1) is compiled in association with the annual Budget Papers to inform Parliament and the community about Victoria’s capital asset program and has been produced annually since 1984–85. BIP1 presents:

- detailed listings of major asset investment in 2007–08 for the general government sector and for major public non financial corporations;
- summary information for a number of significant corporations that provide goods and services in a commercial marketplace; and
- major public sector asset investment projects being delivered under Partnerships Victoria during 2007–08.

Projects with Total Estimated Expenditure (TEI) equal to or greater than \$100,000 are reported. The document does not include projects due for completion with planned capital expenditure of less than \$30,000 in 2007–08.

BIP1 for 2007–08 was released by the Treasurer on 19 September 2007. Details of school projects for 2007–08 can be found in BIP1 on pages 28–35 inclusive.

Proposals for funding of school projects for future years will be developed and assessed according to the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development’s Building Futures framework.

Water: Melbourne water supply

242. Mr THOMPSON (*Sandringham*) to ask the Minister for Water, Environment and Climate Change — how many days supply of water for household purposes, including drinking, cooking, washing and flushing toilets, do Melbourne residents have left as at 20 June 2007.

ANSWER:

I am informed that the level of water supply for Melbourne varies over time and depends on factors such as inflows into reservoirs, rainfall across water supply catchments and demand.

Given that Melbourne’s water supply is utilised for a diverse range of purposes including, but not limited to, those identified in your question, and that further inflows have occurred since your question was asked, the estimate that you seek would be meaningless and impossible to provide.

The community has responded positively to water restrictions and continues to make excellent water conservation efforts, with consumption significantly lower than for the 1990s. It is encouraging to note that, on a per capita basis, usage over 2006/07 was at a level not seen since 1945/46.

With winter and spring rainfall and ongoing water conservation efforts, Melbourne's reservoirs have risen by more than 170 billion litres since 20 June 2007, from a low of 28.4% to 40.3% full on 7 November 2007.

Water: Victoria water plan campaign

243. Mr THOMPSON (*Sandringham*) to ask the Minister for Water, Environment and Climate Change with reference to the Victoria Water Plan Campaign which commenced on 19 June 2007 —

- (1) What was the total cost of the campaign.
- (2) On what date was the contract for the campaign signed.
- (3) Who produced the campaign and for what amount.
- (4) What measures of success have been applied to the campaign to benchmark its effectiveness.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question would be more appropriately asked of the Premier as the Department of Premier and Cabinet is responsible for the administration of the Victorian Water Plan Campaign.

Senior Victorians: elder abuse prevention project

274. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Aged Care with reference to the Government’s Elder Abuse Prevention project —

- (1) What is the scheduled date for the community education centre and older person’s legal centre to commence.

- (2) When will cases of elder abuse be able to be reported to the Government.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (1) It is anticipated that the Elder Abuse Prevention and Community Education Centre will be operational in early 2008.
- (2) Cases of elder abuse are currently reported to Victoria Police.

Mental health: aged-care psychiatric beds

284. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health with reference to inpatient psychiatric beds —

- (1) How many aged persons beds are in operation in public hospitals.
- (2) Which public hospitals have aged persons beds and for each hospital how many beds are operational.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- As at 31 August 2007 there are a total of 215 aged persons beds in operation in hospitals providing mental health services.
- The following table details the hospitals and the number of aged persons beds in operation.

Hospital	Number of Aged Persons beds in operation
Caulfield General Medical Centre	15
Ballarat Hospital	10
Bendigo Hospital	10
Peter James Centre	30
Broadmeadows Hospital	19
Bundoora Extended Care Centre	15
Dandenong Hospital	10
Frankston Hospital	15
Geelong Hospital	4
Goulburn Valley Health	5
Latrobe Regional Hospital	10
Kingston Centre	20
Mildura Base Hospital	2
St George's Hospital	20
Sunshine Hospital	20
North Eastern Health—Wangaratta	5
South West Health Care	5
Total	215

Mental health: discharge plans

300. **Ms WOOLDRIDGE** to ask the Minister for Mental Health with reference to discharge planning from the public mental health system —

- (1) Does the Department of Human Services assess each area's mental health service's discharge protocol against —
 - (a) standard 11.5 of the National Standards for Mental Health Services;
 - (b) the Chief Psychiatrist's Guidelines for discharge planning.
- (2) How many plans were issued in each mental health service area for 2006–07.
- (3) What percentage of plans in 2006–07 satisfied all assessment standards.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- 1) Discharge planning is part of the operational responsibility of Health Services. Area mental health services (AMHS) are part of Health Services, which participate in the regular accreditation cycle through the Australian Council on Healthcare Standards (ACHS). The National Standards for Mental Health Services and the Chief Psychiatrists Guidelines provide a framework for assessing compliance and continuous quality improvement as part of accreditation.

Since 2004/05 the Mental Health Branch has provided additional funds to support improved capacity for discharge planning and has worked with AMHS and GPDV to encourage greater collaboration on discharge planning supported by the development of protocols.

- 2) All mental health clients, and where appropriate their carers, are expected to participate in the development of an individual service plan while they receive treatment and care through AMHS. In addition, all involuntary patients are required under legislation to have a treatment plan, which is expected to specify discharge planning and follow-up care. It is expected that as part of routine practice, when the client no longer needs the assistance and support of the public mental health system, a discharge summary is prepared and sent to the GP and/or relevant service provider of the discharged client.
- 3) The assessment of discharge plans against standards is the responsibility of AMHS clinicians and their managers.

Public transport: Bairnsdale line services

324. **Mr THOMPSON** (*Sandringham*) to ask the Minister for Public Transport with reference to the provision of a staff member to travel on train services to inform train travellers about fare reductions and discounts on rail services to Bairnsdale during May 2007 —

- (1) What staffing allocation was made.
- (2) What was the cost.

ANSWER:

As at the date the question was raised, the answer is:

- (1) V/Line normally operates trains with a conductor on every service. There were no additional staff members on trains informing travellers about the fare reductions.
- (2) V/Line advises me that there were no additional costs incurred.

Public transport: V/Line family weekend special tickets

334. Mr MULDER to ask the Minister for Public Transport with reference to family weekend special tickets —

- (1) How many tickets were sold from booking offices at each of Southern Cross, Marshall, South Geelong, Geelong, Footscray, Sunshine, Bacchus Marsh, Ballarat, Ararat, Sunbury, Woodend, Kyneton, Castlemaine, Bendigo, Swan Hill, Kilmore East, Seymour, Shepparton, Echuca, Benalla, Wangaratta, Wodonga, Albury, South Yarra, Caulfield, Dandenong, Pakenham, Warragul, Moe, Morwell, Traralgon, Sale, Bairnsdale, Colac, Camperdown, Warrnambool, Camberwell and Ringwood stations for travel on —
 - (a) 9 June 2007;
 - (b) 10 June 2007;
 - (c) 11 June 2007;
 - (d) 16 June 2007;
 - (e) 17 June 2007;
 - (f) 23 June 2007;
 - (g) 24 June 2007;
 - (h) 30 June 2007;
 - (i) 1 July 2007;
 - (j) 7 July 2007;
 - (k) 8 July 2007;
 - (l) 14 July 2007;
 - (m) 15 July 2007.

- (2) How many tickets were purchased via the 13 61 96 telephone number for travel on —
 - (a) 9 June 2007;
 - (b) 10 June 2007;
 - (c) 11 June 2007;
 - (d) 16 June 2007;
 - (e) 17 June 2007;
 - (f) 23 June 2007;
 - (g) 24 June 2007;
 - (h) 30 June 2007;
 - (i) 1 July 2007;
 - (j) 7 July 2007;
 - (k) 8 July 2007;
 - (l) 14 July 2007;
 - (m) 15 July 2007.

- (3) How many tickets were purchased from other V/Line ticket agents other than Southern Cross, Marshall, South Geelong, Geelong, Footscray, Sunshine, Bacchus Marsh, Ballarat, Ararat, Sunbury, Woodend, Kyneton, Castlemaine, Bendigo, Swan Hill, Kilmore East, Seymour, Shepparton, Echuca, Benalla, Wangaratta, Wodonga, Albury, South Yarra, Caulfield, Dandenong, Pakenham, Warragul, Moe, Morwell, Traralgon, Sale, Bairnsdale, Colac, Camperdown, Warrnambool, Camberwell, and Ringwood Stations and the 13 61 96 telephone number for travel on —
 - (a) 9 June 2007;
 - (b) 10 June 2007;
 - (c) 11 June 2007;

- (d) 16 June 2007;
 - (e) 17 June 2007;
 - (f) 23 June 2007;
 - (g) 24 June 2007;
 - (h) 30 June 2007;
 - (i) 1 July 2007;
 - (j) 7 July 2007;
 - (k) 8 July 2007;
 - (l) 14 July 2007;
 - (m) 15 July 2007.
- (4) How much revenue was generated from each location from which the ticket was available on —
- (a) 9 June 2007;
 - (b) 10 June 2007;
 - (c) 11 June 2007;
 - (d) 16 June 2007;
 - (e) 17 June 2007;
 - (f) 23 June 2007;
 - (g) 24 June 2007;
 - (h) 30 June 2007;
 - (i) 1 July 2007;
 - (j) 7 July 2007;
 - (k) 8 July 2007;
 - (l) 14 July 2007;
 - (m) 15 July 2007.

ANSWER:

As at the date the question was raised, the answer is:

The *Family Weekend Special* ticket was a special promotion over six weekends between the period of 9 June to 15 July 2007.

The promotion for the *Family Weekend Special* ticket was withdrawn following the Kerang accident, as the advertisements (which featured parents and two young children) would have been inappropriate given that the victims of this tragic accident included at least two families with young children.

The marketing plan was rescheduled and the promotion was conducted during three weekends of the school holiday period (30 June/1 July, 7/8 July, and 14/15 July 2007). 4,147 *Family Weekend Special* tickets were sold over this period.

A breakdown of *Family Weekend Special* ticket sales by each selling point for each of the days requested would require considerable V/Line Passenger resources and has therefore not been provided.

Public transport: V/Line ticket advertising/sales

335. Mr MULDER to ask the Minister for Public Transport —

- (1) How much was spent advertising the tickets through —
 - (a) the V/Line Internet site;
 - (b) internet media other than the V/Line internet site;

- (c) Melbourne metropolitan daily newspapers;
 - (d) Melbourne suburban newspapers;
 - (e) Victorian rural print media;
 - (f) Melbourne AM radio stations;
 - (g) Melbourne FM radio stations;
 - (h) Victorian rural AM radio stations;
 - (i) Victorian rural FM radio stations;
 - (j) Melbourne metropolitan television stations;
 - (k) Victorian rural television stations;
 - (l) magazines;
 - (m) posters at V/Line railway stations;
 - (n) posters at Connex Melbourne railway stations.
- (2) What were the three biggest individual outlets used for advertising and how much was spent at each place advertising the tickets.
- (3) How many total passenger journeys using the tickets were made by —
- (a) adults;
 - (b) concession ticket holders (non-child).
- (4) How many children are estimated to have travelled on the tickets on —
- (a) 9 June 2007;
 - (b) 10 June 2007;
 - (c) 11 June 2007;
 - (d) 16 June 2007;
 - (e) 17 June 2007;
 - (f) 23 June 2007;
 - (g) 24 June 2007;
 - (h) 30 June 2007;
 - (i) 1 July 2007;
 - (j) 7 July 2007;
 - (k) 8 July 2007;
 - (l) 14 July 2007;
 - (m) 15 July 2007.
- (5) Why were the tickets only available for part of winter 2007.
- (6) Will the tickets be offered in the future; if so, when.
- (7) What seat occupancy ratios did V/Line project for each of the 11 short or long distance rail line for each day on which the tickets were available for —
- (a) passengers with tickets;
 - (b) passengers without tickets.
- (8) What seat occupancy ratios did V/Line achieve for each of the 11 short or long distance rail line for each day on which the tickets were available.

ANSWER:

As at the date the question was raised, the answer is:

An answer cannot be provided without additional information relating to the type of ticket in question.

Roads and ports: Kelletts–Napoleon road intersection, Rowville

371. Mr WAKELING to ask the Minister for Roads and Ports with reference to road works at the intersection of Kelletts Road and Napoleon Road in Rowville occurring during August 2007 —

- (1) In relation to the original plan to elevate Napoleon Road by four to five metres in height —
 - (a) when was the design developed by VicRoads;
 - (b) what consultation was undertaken with —
 - (i) Knox Council;
 - (ii) affected residents;
 - (c) when was consultation undertaken with —
 - (i) Knox Council;
 - (ii) affected residents.
- (2) In relation to the revised plan to reduce the height of the elevation of Napoleon Road to 2.2 metres —
 - (a) what consultation was undertaken with —
 - (i) Knox Council;
 - (ii) affected residents;
 - (b) when was consultation undertaken with —
 - (i) Knox Council;
 - (ii) affected residents;
 - (c) were other options to reduce the height of the road less than 2.2 metres considered by VicRoads; if so —
 - (i) what other options in height elevation were considered;
 - (ii) when were the options considered;
 - (iii) why were the options discounted;
 - (iv) were the options discussed with Knox Council;
 - (v) were the options discussed with affected residents.
- (3) In relation to the decision to change the elevation from the revised plan of 2.2 metres to the new revised plan of 2.6 metres —
 - (a) on what date was the decision made;
 - (b) for what reason was the decision made;
 - (c) how much money was spent on public relations and publicity —
 - (i) prior to the announcement of the decision;
 - (ii) regarding the decision to revise the elevation to 2.6 metres.
- (4) How much money has been spent to date on the Kelletts Road duplication project.

ANSWER:

As at the date the question was raised the answer is:

- (1) In relation to the original plan to elevate Napoleon Road by 4.2 metres in height —
 - (a) the design was developed by VicRoads' contractor earlier this year;
 - (b) consultation was undertaken with —
 - (i) Knox City Council and included the provision of design information and proposed construction staging arrangements; and
 - (ii) affected residents who were met with individually.
 - (c) consultation was undertaken with —

- (i) Knox City Council in May 2007; and
 - (ii) affected residents during June 2007.
- (2) In relation to the revised plan to reduce the height of the elevation of Napoleon Road to 2.2 metres —
- (a) this consultation was undertaken with —
 - (i) Knox City Council officers about all matters regarding site constraints and other options; and
 - (ii) the affected residents, who were advised by letter that the design would be reviewed to address concerns regarding embankment height.
 - (b) this consultation was undertaken with Knox City Council and affected residents on June 2007.
 - (c) Various design options were considered in June and July 2007. The options to provide a lower embankment were discounted, as they were not considered to be as safe as the final design and required significantly more removal of vegetation and disturbance to important local fauna habitat and significant service relocations. The options were discussed with the Knox Council and one of the options proposed by the Council was also considered. Options considered to lower the embankment were a result of the original discussions with affected residents.
- (3) The decision to change the elevation from the revised plan of 2.2 metres to the new revised plan of 2.6 metres was made in August 2007 and was necessary to ensure the required sight distances were achieved and to provide a safe road.

Around \$13,500 was used to distribute three information bulletins to the 5000 local residents and conduct a community information session, prior to the announcement of the decision.

A further \$7,500 was used to distribute two information bulletins to 5000 local residents, which included aspects of the embankment height.

- (4) \$7,330,000 has been spent to date on the Kelletts Road Duplication Project.

Mental health: ice (methamphetamine) initiatives

- 381. Ms WOOLDRIDGE** to ask the Minister for Mental Health with reference to the Government’s plan to spend up to \$14 million on a pre-emptive strike on the drug ‘ice’ —
- (1) How much has been committed to date.
 - (2) What initiatives have funds been committed to and, for each initiative, —
 - (a) how much funding has been dedicated;
 - (b) over what time frame will the funding be committed.
 - (3) How much of the \$14 million has been spent to date.
 - (4) On what initiatives or programs have funds been spent and how much has each received.
 - (5) How much funding is unallocated.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (1) The Government has committed \$14 million to the package of initiatives that tackle amphetamine and ice use in the community.
- (2) These funds form part of the allocation for drug prevention programs and treatment by agencies responding to amphetamine-related problems. These services include counselling, withdrawal and residential and rehabilitation services. In addition, the Government has specifically committed \$1 million in 2007/2008 to conduct a statewide public awareness campaign to discourage young people from using amphetamines and cannabis.

- (3) Spending on drug prevention programs and treatment services will be reported in the budget papers.
- (4) Spending on drug treatment and prevention programs will be reported in the budget papers.
- (5) All funding has been allocated.

Sports, recreation and youth affairs: youth programs

388. Mr KOTSIRAS to ask the Minister for Sport, Recreation and Youth Affairs — what was the total amount of money allocated and spent in each of 2005, 2006 and 2007 on —

- (1) The FReeZA Program.
- (2) The Advance Program.
- (3) National Youth Week.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows that:

- (1) The amount allocated and spent on FReeZA in 2004–05, 2005–06 and 2006–07 was \$2 million each year.
- (2) The amount allocated and spent on Advance in 2004–05 was \$4.2 million, in 2005–06 was \$4.7 million and in 2006–07 was \$4.6 million.
- (3) The amount allocated and spent on National Youth Week in Victoria in 2004–05 was \$160,000, in 2005–06 was \$160,000 and in 2006–07 was \$170,000. The amount allocated and spent on National Youth Week in Victoria includes a percentage of funding from the Australian Government.

Sports, recreation and youth affairs: Youth Foundations Victoria

392. Mr KOTSIRAS to ask the Minister for Sport, Recreation and Youth Affairs to advise of the —

- (1) Membership list of each foundation of Youth Foundations Victoria.
- (2) Total amount of funding provided for each foundation in the seven regions that have been allocated funding by the Government under the Youth Foundations Victoria.
- (3) Number of meetings each foundation has had since its establishment.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Each of the Youth Foundations Victoria local sites will involve a group of young people which look at the needs of young people and make grants to other young people to run activities that benefit the community. The first three local sites are in the establishment stage of planning and recruiting young people.

The Victorian Government will provide \$4.5 million over four years to establish Youth Foundations Victoria in 15 disadvantaged local communities. The Bendigo Bank Group and its community partners will support the establishment through a matching financial and in kind contribution and will hold and manage the pool of funds on behalf of the YFV.

Each of the local sites has formed a Local Partnership Group which meet regularly with members from local community agencies and groups to plan and support the group of young people. In total 12 meetings of partnership groups have been held to date.

Roads and ports: Wantirna Road, Heathmont, bicycle lane

429. Mrs VICTORIA to ask the Minister for Roads and Ports — will the project to form a bicycle lane on Wantirna Road, Heathmont between Canterbury Road and Maroondah Highway, proceed.

ANSWER:

As at the date the question was raised, the answer is:

Proposals for improvement projects must be considered and prioritised on a statewide basis. The installation of bicycle facilities on Wantirna Road will be considered in this context.

Roads and ports: Mount Dandenong Tourist–Montrose road intersection, Montrose

430. Mr HODGETT to ask the Minister for Roads and Ports with reference to safety improvement work at the intersection of Mount Dandenong Tourist Road and Montrose Road in Montrose —

- (1) What improvements will be carried out.
- (2) What is the time line for improvements to be carried out.

ANSWER:

The answer is:

- (1) As part of its \$10.5 billion *Meeting Our Transport Challenges* plan, the Government has provided \$500,000 to improve the safety and operation of the roundabout at this intersection. The project will modify the existing pedestrian signals on Swansea Road and Mount Dandenong Tourist Road to enable the flow of traffic into the roundabout to be controlled, thus improving its operation.

I note that in August 2007, safety was improved at this intersection with the installation of a guardrail between Montrose Road and Swansea Road, to provide a barrier between the road and two electricity poles.

- (2) The upgraded traffic signals were completed in late September 2007.

Roads and ports: Fairhills High School illuminated speed signs

432. Mr WAKELING to ask the Minister for Roads and Ports with reference to the installation of electronic speed limit signs on Scoresby Road in Ferntree Gully near Fairhills High School —

- (1) When will the installation commence.
- (2) When will the installation be completed and the signs operational.

ANSWER:

As at the date the question was raised the answer is:

The Brumby Government has announced that it will invest \$13.6 million into installing electronic speed signs at nearly 200 schools across Victoria, including Fairhills High School.

Details relating to the timing of installation at individual schools will be resolved after the contract for works is awarded.

Public transport: Ferntree Gully electorate bus services

433. Mr WAKELING to ask the Minister for Public Transport with reference to bus services in the electorate of Ferntree Gully —

- (1) How many bus stops within the electorate —
 - (a) are there in total;
 - (b) display electronic timetable information;
 - (c) display printed timetable information;
 - (d) do not display timetable information at all.
- (2) Are there any plans to upgrade bus stops that do not display printed timetable information to do so; if so, how many bus stops will be upgraded in 2007–08.
- (3) Are there any plans to upgrade bus stops to electronically display timetable information; if so, how many stops will be upgraded in 2007–08.
- (4) How frequently do buses operate on bus routes 900, 755, 732 and 693 on —
 - (a) weekday peak periods;
 - (b) weekday non-peak periods;
 - (c) weekday periods after 7.00 p.m.;
 - (d) Saturdays;
 - (e) Sundays.
- (5) By what percentage has bus passenger numbers increased or decreased between 18 September 2006 and 18 September 2007 on the 900, 755, 732 and 693 bus routes on —
 - (a) weekday peak periods;
 - (b) weekday non-peak periods;
 - (c) weekday periods after 7.00 p.m.;
 - (d) Saturdays;
 - (e) Sundays.
- (6) Are there any plans to investigate the reason for any decrease in patronage.
- (7) Are there any plans to increase the frequency of buses on the 900, 755, 732 or 693 bus routes; if so, for each route —
 - (a) how frequently will buses operate on —
 - (i) weekday peak periods;
 - (ii) weekday non-peak periods;
 - (iii) weekday periods after 7.00 p.m.;
 - (iv) Saturdays;
 - (v) Sundays;
 - (b) when will the additional bus services be operational.

ANSWER:

As at the date the question was raised, the answer is:

1. The Department of Infrastructure does not keep information about the number of bus stops according to each electorate.
2. Metlink has developed a program to display high-quality printed timetable information at bus stops. It is intended to provide information at all bus stops, however due to the high number of bus stops, it will take some years to implement the program across the entire metropolitan area.
3. The rollout of electronic timetable displays will increase as the Orbital and SmartBus networks are progressively implemented across the metropolitan area over the next few years.
4. The frequency of buses on Routes 900, 755, 732 and 693 is as follows:

	Route 900	Route 755	Route 732	Route 693
(a) Weekday peak periods	15 min	30 min	20 min	30 min
(b) Weekday non-peak periods	15 min	30 min	20 min	30 min
(c) Weekday periods after 7.00 p.m.	15/30 min	30 min	30 min	60 min
(d) Saturdays	30 min	60 min	30 min	60 min
(e) Sundays	30 min	No service	No service	60 min

(min = minutes)

5. The patronage figures for bus Routes 900, 755, 732 and 693 between the dates requested are not readily available and would require an unnecessary diversion of resources to answer.
6. When the metropolitan bus service review is undertaken in this area, opportunities will be explored to encourage patronage on all these bus routes.
7. There are no plans to increase the frequency of bus Route 900 as it is already operating in accordance with SmartBus frequency standards.

Bus Routes 755 and 693 will be included in the metropolitan bus service review for this area. Any frequency changes to these routes will be considered at that time.

Environment and climate change: deer hunting

- 436.** **Mr SMITH** (*Warrandyte*) to ask the Minister for Community Development for the Minister for Environment and Climate Change — are there any plans to curb the practice of hunting deer using spotlights; if so, by what date is the enforcement to commence.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

In Victoria, the hunting of deer at night is prohibited under the Wildlife (Game) Regulations 2001 and the use of spotlights to hunt deer is also prohibited.

Education: school police checks

- 449.** **Mr DIXON** to ask the Minister for Education — as at 27 August 2007 have all —

- (1) Teaching and non-teaching staff in Government schools undergone police checks.
- (2) Contract staff such as cleaners, grounds staff and maintenance staff working in Government schools undergone police checks.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

- (1) All teaching and non-teaching staff in government schools have undergone a criminal record check. From 2008 all teaching staff will be required to maintain the five year currency of their criminal record check with the Victorian Institute of Teaching.
- (2) Contract staff such as cleaners, grounds staff and maintenance staff are contracted by individual School Councils who determine whether a criminal record check is required having regard to whether there may be contact with children, if the work is to be performed during standard school operating hours and other factors.

Corrections: prison intravenous drug use

475. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Corrections with reference to disinfectant for intravenous drug users at Ararat Prison, Barwon Prison, Beechworth Correctional Centre, Dame Phyllis Frost Centre, Dhurringile Prison, Fulham Correctional Centre, Langi Kal Kal Prison, Loddon Prison, Marngoneet Correctional Centre, Melbourne Assessment Prison, Metropolitan Remand Centre, Port Phillip Prison, and Tarrengower Prison —

- (1) Are supplies of disinfectant stored in every cell.
- (2) In which other areas is disinfectant stored for the use of intravenous drug users.
- (3) Which disinfectant is used.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

- (1) The specific storage arrangements for disinfectants vary across the prison system.
- (2) Refer to answer above.
- (3) A range of liquid disinfectants and powdered bleach sachets are used across the prison system.

Corrections: prison drug testing

476. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Corrections with reference to drug testing at Ararat Prison, Barwon Prison, Beechworth Correctional Centre, Dame Phyllis Frost Centre, Dhurringile Prison, Fulham Correctional Centre, Langi Kal Kal Prison, Loddon Prison, Marngoneet Correctional Centre, Melbourne Assessment Prison, Metropolitan Remand Centre, Port Phillip Prison, and Tarrengower Prison —

- (1) How often does the prison drug test inmates and on what grounds, such as on admission, randomly or post-incident.
- (2) What type of sample is taken, such as urine, saliva or blood.
- (3) What drugs or other substances are tested for.
- (4) How many drug tests were taken in —
 - (a) 2000–01;
 - (b) 2001–02;
 - (c) 2002–03;
 - (d) 2003–04;
 - (e) 2004–05;
 - (f) 2005–06;
 - (g) 2006–07.
- (5) How many drug tests returned a positive result in —
 - (a) 2000–01;
 - (b) 2001–02;
 - (c) 2002–03;
 - (d) 2003–04;
 - (e) 2004–05;
 - (f) 2005–06;
 - (g) 2006–07.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

1. All prisoners are drug tested on their arrival into custody. Prisoners can also be required to submit to a targeted drug test and tests at the request of the Adult Parole Board.
2. All drug tests are taken by way of urine samples.
3. Tests are conducted for a range of substances including amphetamines, benzodiazepines and opiates.
4. Collation of the information sought by the Honourable member represents an unreasonable diversion of resources by Corrections Victoria.
5. Refer to answer above.

Community services: community residential units

480. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Community Services with reference to Community Residential Units (CRUs) in the Eastern Metropolitan Region, North and West Metropolitan Region, Southern Metropolitan Region, Barwon-South Western Region, Gippsland Region, Grampians Region, Hume Region and the Loddon Mallee Region —

- (1) How many separate CRUs are there in each region.
- (2) How many CRU beds are there in each region.
- (3) How many beds are currently unoccupied in each region.
- (4) How many people in each region are currently on the Disability Support Register waiting for a bed.
- (5) How many people waiting for shared accommodation in each region obtained a place in a CRU in —
 - (a) 2000–01;
 - (b) 2001–02;
 - (c) 2002–03;
 - (d) 2003–04;
 - (e) 2004–05;
 - (f) 2005–06;
 - (g) 2006–07.
- (6) How many days did people waiting for shared accommodation in each region who obtained a place in a CRU have to wait on average in —
 - (a) 2000–01;
 - (b) 2001–02;
 - (c) 2002–03;
 - (d) 2003–04;
 - (e) 2004–05;
 - (f) 2005–06;
 - (g) 2006–07.
- (7) How much state funding has been allocated to CRUs in each region in —
 - (a) 2000–01;
 - (b) 2001–02;
 - (c) 2002–03;

- (d) 2003–04;
- (e) 2004–05;
- (f) 2005–06;
- (g) 2006–07;
- (h) 2007–08 to date.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The data requested on Community Residential Units in regions is not a standard data set reported by the Disability Services Division. Further information of a more general nature is available in the Department of Human Services Annual report 2006–07.

Public transport: Southern Cross station–Ballarat services

482. **Mr MULDER** to ask the Minister for Public Transport with reference to the 2.08 p.m. and 3.08 p.m. Ballarat services operating between 1 July 2007 and 18 September 2007 —

- (1) How many times did each service operate on weekdays.
- (2) Was either service cancelled on any weekday; if so, on what days and was it replaced by coaches.
- (3) On how many occasions was each service —
 - (a) departing from Southern Cross Station —
 - (i) more than 2 minutes early;
 - (ii) 1 minute and 59 seconds to 1 second early;
 - (iii) exactly on time;
 - (iv) 1 second to 59 seconds late;
 - (v) 1 minute to 1 minute 59 seconds late;
 - (vi) 2 minutes to 5 minutes 59 seconds late;
 - (vii) 6 minutes to 10 minutes 59 seconds late;
 - (viii) 11 minutes to 14 minutes 59 seconds late;
 - (ix) 15 minutes to 19 minutes 59 seconds late;
 - (x) 20 minutes to 29 minutes 59 seconds late;
 - (xi) 30 minutes or more late;
 - (b) arriving at Ballarat Station —
 - (i) more than 2 minutes early;
 - (ii) 1 minute and 59 seconds to 1 second early;
 - (iii) exactly on time;
 - (iv) 1 second to 59 seconds late;
 - (v) 1 minute to 1 minute 59 seconds late;
 - (vi) 2 minutes to 5 minutes 59 seconds late;
 - (vii) 6 minutes to 10 minutes 59 seconds late;
 - (viii) 11 minutes to 14 minutes 59 seconds late;
 - (ix) 15 minutes to 19 minutes 59 seconds late;
 - (x) 20 minutes to 29 minutes 59 seconds late;
 - (xi) 30 minutes or more late;

ANSWER:

As at the date the question was raised, the answers are:

- (1) The 2.08 p.m. Southern Cross Station to Ballarat service was operated in full on 55 of the 57 weekdays between 1 July and 18 September 2007.

The 3.08 p.m. Southern Cross Station to Ballarat service was operated in full on all 57 weekdays.

- (2) On 3 August 2007, the 2.08 p.m. Southern Cross Station to Ballarat service terminated early at Bacchus Marsh.

On 24 August 2007, the 2.08 p.m. Southern Cross Station to Ballarat service was cancelled.

- (3) (a) On the 57 weekdays from 1 July to 18 September 2007, the 2.08 p.m. and 3.08 p.m. Southern Cross Station to Ballarat services were reported to depart from Southern Cross Station in the following time bands:

Departure from Southern Cross Station	2.08 p.m. Southern Cross to Ballarat	3.08 p.m. Southern Cross to Ballarat
(i) more than 2 minutes early	0	0
(ii) 1 minute and 59 seconds to 1 second early	0	0
(iii) exactly on time	55	54
(iv) 1 second to 59 seconds late	See Note	See Note
(v) 1 minute to 1 minute 59 seconds late	0	0
(vi) 2 minutes to 5 minutes 59 seconds late	0	2
(vii) 6 minutes to 10 minutes 59 seconds late	0	0
(viii) 11 minutes to 14 minutes 59 seconds late	0	0
(ix) 15 minutes to 19 minutes 59 seconds late	0	0
(x) 20 minutes to 29 minutes 59 seconds late	0	0
(xi) 30 minutes or more late	0	1

- (3) (b) On the 57 weekdays from 1 July to 18 September 2007, the 2.08 p.m. and 3.08 p.m. Southern Cross Station to Ballarat services were reported to arrive at Ballarat Railway Station in the following time bands:

Arriving at Ballarat Station	2.08 p.m. Southern Cross to Ballarat	3.08 p.m. Southern Cross to Ballarat
(i) more than 2 minutes early	7	8
(ii) 1 minute and 59 seconds to 1 second early	8	4
(iii) exactly on time	14	11
(iv) 1 second to 59 seconds late	See Note	See Note
(v) 1 minute to 1 minute 59 seconds late	7	9
(vi) 2 minutes to 5 minutes 59 seconds late	15	21
(vii) 6 minutes to 10 minutes 59 seconds late	4	3
(viii) 11 minutes to 14 minutes 59 seconds late	0	0
(ix) 15 minutes to 19 minutes 59 seconds late	0	0
(x) 20 minutes to 29 minutes 59 seconds late	0	0
(xi) 30 minutes or more late	0	1

Note — On time is considered to be a service which arrives no more than 59 seconds early or 59 seconds late. As such, it is not possible to report an answer to Questions (3) (a) (iv) or (3) (b) (iv).

Public transport: Mooroolbark/Croydon/Ringwood East railway stations

496. Mr HODGETT to ask the Minister for Public Transport with reference to each of Mooroolbark, Croydon and Ringwood East Railway Stations — between 1 February and 31 August 2007 —

- (1) How many reports of assault were made to the police.
- (2) How many reports of sexual assault were made to the police.
- (3) How many reports of drug-related offences were made to the police
- (4) When was the last safety audit carried out on Mooroolbark Railway Station.

ANSWER:

As at the date the question was raised, the answer is:

(1–3) These questions should be directed to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services.

(4) Connex has advised me that the last safety audit inspection it undertook at:

- Mooroolbark and Croydon Railway Stations was on 9 August 2007; and at
- Ringwood East Railway Station was on 18 July 2007.

Roads and ports: Yarra Street, Warrandyte, pedestrian crossing

525. Mr SMITH (*Warrandyte*) to ask the Minister for Roads and Ports — when is the contract for the scheduled installation of a pedestrian crossing in Yarra Street, Warrandyte, expected to be awarded.

ANSWER:

As at the date the question was raised, the answer is:

The Government has provided funding for the installation of pedestrian operated signals in Yarra Street, Warrandyte and the contract for this project was awarded on 6 September 2007. Construction is currently in progress.

Public transport: Connex roving safety officers

537. Mr MULDER to ask the Minister for Public Transport — how many individual times did Connex roving safety officers or authorised officers escort female Connex passengers to their cars parked at free commuter car parks between —

- (1) 1 and 30 September 2007 on the —
 - (a) Alamein line;
 - (b) Belgrave line;
 - (c) Broadmeadows/Craigieburn line;
 - (d) Cranbourne line;
 - (e) Epping line ;
 - (f) Frankston line;
 - (g) Glen Waverley line;
 - (h) Hurstbridge line;
 - (i) Lilydale line;
 - (j) Pakenham line;

- (k) Sandringham line;
 - (l) Upfield line;
 - (m) Watergardens line;
 - (n) Werribee line ;
 - (o) Williamstown line.
- (2) 1 and 11 October 2007 on the —
- (a) Alamein line;
 - (b) Belgrave line;
 - (c) Broadmeadows/Craigieburn line;
 - (d) Cranbourne line;
 - (e) Epping line;
 - (f) Frankston line;
 - (g) Glen Waverley line;
 - (h) Hurstbridge line;
 - (i) Lilydale line;
 - (j) Pakenham line;
 - (k) Sandringham line;
 - (l) Upfield line;
 - (m) Watergardens line;
 - (n) Werribee line;
 - (o) Williamstown line.

ANSWER:

As at the date the question was raised, the answer is:

Connex has advised that its roving safety officers are available to escort passengers to their vehicles when requested, however Connex does not record the number of occasions that this service is provided.

Attorney-General: Moorabbin courthouse

555. Mr THOMPSON (*Sandringham*) to ask the Attorney-General with reference to the open day for the new Moorabbin Court House on 21 October 2007 — how many —

- (1) Public servants were in attendance to assist with the conduct of tours.
- (2) Members of the Victoria Police were assigned to attend.
- (3) Members of the public attended.
- (4) Members of the public signed the visitors' book.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

- (1) Twenty-five staff from the Department of Justice volunteered their weekend time to assist with the conduct of tours on the Public Open Day.

This included sixteen courts staff, five staff from Community Correctional Services, two from Consumer Affairs and two others. This does not include the Sheriff's Office staff as they did not assist with the tours of the building.

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- (2) Two Police Prosecutors, who will operate from the Moorabbin Justice Centre, were at the Open day to assist with tours.
- (3) Around 750–800 members of the public attended the Open Day.
- (4) The visitor's book was signed by 13 members of the public.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

*Answers to the following questions on notice were circulated on the date shown.
 Questions have been incorporated from the notice paper of the Legislative Assembly.
 Answers have been incorporated in the form supplied by the departments on behalf of the appropriate ministers.
 The portfolio of the minister answering the question on notice starts each heading.*

Wednesday, 5 December 2007

Gaming: communications training

145(g). Mr THOMPSON (*Sandringham*) to ask the Minister for Gaming with reference to media presentation training, communications training or public presentation training provided to the Minister in 2006–07 —

- (1) What training has the Minister received.
- (2) What was the name of the tenderer, training organisation or entity providing the training.
- (3) What was the cost of the training.
- (4) How many training sessions were held.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

As Consumer Affairs Victoria (CAV) is responsible for the financial administration relating to the Office of the Minister for Gaming, I refer you to the response to the Question on Notice LA 145d prepared by CAV.

Water: infrastructure projects

165. Mr WALSH to ask the Minister for Water, Environment and Climate Change — what are the details of the Government’s investment in water infrastructure projects since 1999 including the —

- (1) Name and a brief description of each project.
- (2) Date physical work commenced and the actual, or anticipated, completion date for each project.
- (3) Total estimated, or actual, investment in each project and the share of overall costs met by the Government and other funding partners, such as the Commonwealth Government, local governments or water authorities.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The information you request is available on the public record and can be obtained from the following sources:

- State Budget Papers
- Annual Reports of Water Authorities and Retailers
- Water Plans of Water Authorities and Retailers
- Determinations of these Water Plans by the Essential Services Commission

Education: Bringing Learning to Life campaign

241. Mr THOMPSON (*Sandringham*) to ask the Minister for Skills, Education Services and Employment for the Minister for Education with reference to the Bringing Learning to Life Campaign —

- (1) What was the total cost of the campaign.
- (2) Who produced the campaign.
- (3) What measures of success have been applied to the campaign to benchmark its effectiveness.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

- (1) The budget allocation for the campaign was \$4 million. The total cost to May 2006 was \$3.97 million.
- (2) Grey Advertising.
- (3) During the campaign period, approximately 170,000 booklets were distributed directly to schools and an additional 530,000 booklets were distributed to parents and school communities in response to calls for copies. Tracking research during the campaign found a significant increase in positive perceptions that government schools provide a quality education.

Community services: supported residential accommodation

276. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Health for the Minister for Community Services with reference to supported residential services (SRS) accommodation —

- (1) How many SRS facilities closed in 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007 and for each closure —
 - (a) what was the name of the facility;
 - (b) how many beds was the facility accredited to provide.
- (2) What is the overall timetable for the distribution of funding to Victorian SRSs under the Supporting Accommodation for Vulnerable Victorians Initiative (SAVVI).

ANSWER:

I am informed that :

- (1) SRS are not owned or operated by the Victorian Government.
- (2) The key component of funding that will be provided to Victorian SRSs under SAVVI is Facility Cost Relief. Rollout of this funding commenced in June 2007, with funding to continue over the next 3 years.

Mental health: specialist services

280. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health with reference to funding for statewide and specialist mental health services in 2003–04, 2004–05, 2005–06 and 2006–07 —

- (1) How much funding went to statewide or specialist services in each year.
- (2) What is the name and location of each statewide and specialist service that received funding each year.
- (3) How much funding did each service receive in each year and what service were they funded to provide.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

(1, 2 and 3)

The name and location of statewide and specialist services can be found on the mental health website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/mentalhealth/services/statewide.htm>

Information on mental health funding to services can be found in the *Public Hospitals and Mental Health Services Policy and Funding Guidelines* at the following website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/pfg/>.

Mental health: specialist services

281. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health with reference to the 2007–08 mental health budget —

- (1) What is the name and the location of each statewide and specialist service that will receive funding.
- (2) How much funding will each statewide and specialist service receive.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

(1 & 2)

The name and location of statewide and specialist services can be found on the mental health website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/mentalhealth/services/statewide.htm>

Information on mental health funding to services can be found in the *Public Hospitals and Mental Health Services Policy and Funding Guidelines* at the following website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/pfg/>.

Mental health: adult psychiatric beds

283. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health with reference to inpatient psychiatric beds —

- (1) How many adult beds are in operation in public hospitals.
- (2) Which public hospitals have adult beds and for each hospital how many beds are operational.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

(1–2) The numbers of operational adult beds are generally reported by health services in their annual reports.

Mental health: child and adolescent psychiatric beds

285. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health with reference to inpatient psychiatric beds —

- (1) How many child and adolescent beds are in operation in public hospitals.
- (2) Which public hospitals have child and adolescent beds and for each hospital how many beds are operational.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

(1 & 2)

The numbers of operational child and adolescent beds are generally reported by health services in their annual reports.

Mental health: amphetamines task force

286. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health with reference to meetings held by the Amphetamines Taskforce between the establishment of the task force on 21 February 2007 and 18 July 2007 —

- (1) On how many occasions has the task force met.
- (2) What were the dates of the meetings.
- (3) How many members of the task force were present at each meeting.
- (4) What are the names of all task force members absent from each meeting.
- (5) What is the date of the next scheduled meeting.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

(1), (2), (3), (4) and (5) —

The Amphetamines Taskforce has met as required with most, if not all members present. It will continue to meet as often as required to discharge its terms of reference.

Mental health: dual diagnosis services

288. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health with reference to the Eastern Dual Diagnosis team, Northern Nexus, Southern Dual Diagnosis Team and the Western Substance Use and Mental Illness Treatment Team —

- (1) How much funding did each service receive in —
 - (a) 2002–03;
 - (b) 2003–04;
 - (c) 2004–05;
 - (d) 2005–06;
 - (e) 2006–07.
- (2) How much is allocated to each service in the 2007–08 budget.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

(1 & 2)

Dual Diagnosis funding is provided to the relevant Area Mental Health Services.

Information on mental health funding to services can be found in the *Public Hospitals and Mental Health Services Policy and Funding Guidelines* at the following website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/pfg/>.

Mental health: crisis assessment and treatment teams

289. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health with reference to Crisis Assessment and Treatment Teams —

- (1) How much funding in the 2007–08 budget has been allocated to the crisis assessment and treatment teams.
- (2) How much funding went to crisis assessment and treatment teams in —
 - (a) 2003–04;
 - (b) 2004–05;
 - (c) 2005–06;
 - (d) 2006–07.
- (3) How many effective full-time staff are currently employed in crisis assessment and treatment teams.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

(1 & 2)

Funding for Crisis Assessment and Treatment activity is provided to Area Mental Health Services. Information on mental health funding to services can be found in the *Public Hospitals and Mental Health Services Policy and Funding Guidelines* at the following website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/pfg/>.

(3) The number of effective full-time staff employed in crisis assessment and treatment teams is determined by Health Services as the employer.

Mental health: crisis assessment and treatment teams

290. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health with reference to Crisis Assessment and Treatment Teams (CATTs) in the Eastern Metropolitan, North and West Metropolitan, Southern Metropolitan, Barwon South Western, Gippsland, Grampians, Hume and Loddon Mallee regions —

- (1) How much money has been allocated to CATTs in each region in the 2007–08 budget.
- (2) How much funding did CATTs in each region receive in —
 - (a) 2003–04
 - (b) 2004–05;
 - (c) 2005–06;
 - (d) 2006–07.
- (3) What is the location of each CATT in each region to have received funding in —
 - (a) 2003–04
 - (b) 2004–05;
 - (c) 2005–06;
 - (d) 2006–07.
- (4) How many effective full-time staff are currently employed in the region.

ANSWER:

(1 & 2)

Funding for Crisis Assessment and Treatment activity is provided to Area Mental Health Services. Information on mental health funding to services can be found in the *Public Hospitals and Mental Health Services Policy and Funding Guidelines* at the following website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/pfg/>.

- (3) The location of Crisis Assessment and Treatment Teams can be found on the mental health website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/mentalhealth/services/adult/index.htm>
- (4) The number of effective full-time staff employed in crisis assessment and treatment teams is determined by Health Services as the employer.

Mental health: residential detoxification beds

291. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health with reference to residential detoxification beds —

- (1) Which service providers are funded by the Government to provide beds, and for each service provider —
 - (a) what is its location;
 - (b) how many beds are funded;
 - (c) what is the average length of stay.
- (2) How many of the beds are located within each of the Department of Human Services' eight regions.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (1) (a), (b), (c)
Fourteen residential withdrawal services are funded to provide 127 beds with an average length of stay of between 5–7 days.
- (2) All beds are available to a statewide catchment.

Mental health: drug/alcohol residential rehabilitation beds

292. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health with reference to residential rehabilitation beds for drug and alcohol users —

- (1) Which service providers are funded by the Government to provide beds, and for each service provider —
 - (a) what is its location;
 - (b) how many beds are funded;
 - (c) what is the average length of stay.
- (2) How many of the beds are located within each of the Department of Human Services' eight regions.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (1) (a), (b), (c)
Nine residential rehabilitation services are funded to provide 200 beds for an average stay of three–four months.
- (2) All beds are available to a statewide catchment.

Mental health: alcohol-specific services

- 293.** **Ms WOOLDRIDGE** to ask the Minister for Mental Health with reference to funding for alcohol specific services and initiatives of the Hume, Loddon Mallee, Grampians, Gippsland, Barwon South Western, Southern Metropolitan, North and West Metropolitan, and Eastern Metropolitan regions —
- (1) How much money was spent in —
 - (a) 2003–04;
 - (b) 2004–05;
 - (c) 2005–06;
 - (d) 2006–07.
 - (2) How much money has been allocated in the 2007–08 budget.
 - (3) Which services and initiatives received funds in the 2006–07 budget and —
 - (a) what is their location;
 - (b) how much money did each receive.
 - (4) Which services and initiatives will receive funds in the 2007–08 budget and —
 - (a) what is their location;
 - (b) how much money will each receive.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (1) (a), (b), (c), (d); (2); (3) (a), (b) and (4) (a), (b) —

All alcohol and drugs services are funded to provide treatment to people with substance misuse problems regardless of substance.

Mental health: alcohol-specific services

- 294.** **Ms WOOLDRIDGE** to ask the Minister for Mental Health with reference to funding for alcohol specific services and initiatives under the drug services budget —
- (1) What amount of funding was spent in the drug prevention and control output on alcohol specific services and initiatives in —
 - (a) 2003–04;
 - (b) 2004–05;
 - (c) 2005–06;
 - (d) 2006–07.
 - (2) What amount of funding was spent in the drug treatment and rehabilitation output on alcohol specific services and initiatives in —
 - (a) 2003–04;
 - (b) 2004–05;
 - (c) 2005–06;
 - (d) 2006–07.
 - (3) What amount of money has been allocated for 2007–08 in the —
 - (a) Drug prevention and control output;
 - (b) Drug treatment and rehabilitation output.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

(1) (a), (b), (c), (d); (2) (a), (b), (c), (d) and (3) (a), (b) —

All alcohol and drugs services are funded to address a range of licit and illicit substances including alcohol.

Corrections: prisoner mental illness

297. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Corrections —

- (1) What percentage of prisoners have a mental illness.
- (2) On what basis is the percentage of prisoners with a mental illness calculated.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

- (1) Approximately 30% of prisoners have a diagnosed mental illness.
- (2) The above figure is based on the data from the Victorian Prisoner Health Study, advice from forensic mental health professionals working within the prison system and the Department of Justice.

Mental health: community care units

299. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health —

- (1) How much funding in the 2007–08 budget is allocated to community care units.
- (2) How much funding went to community care units in —
 - (a) 2003–04;
 - (b) 2004–05;
 - (c) 2005–06;
 - (d) 2006–07.
- (3) How many community care units are operational in the State.
- (4) What is the total number of operational beds in community care units.
- (5) How many community care units and community care unit beds are located in each mental health service area.
- (6) How many effective full-time staff are currently employed in community care units in each mental health area.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

(1 & 2)

Funding for Community Care Unit activity is provided to Area Mental Health Services. Information on mental health funding to services can be found in the *Public Hospitals and Mental Health Services Policy and Funding Guidelines* at the following website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/pfg/>.

(3, 4 & 5)

The numbers of operational beds in community care units are generally reported by health services in their annual reports.

(6) The number of effective full-time staff employed in community care units is determined by Health Services as the employer.

Mental health: primary mental health teams

301. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health —

- (1) How much funding in the 2007–08 budget has been allocated to primary mental health teams.
- (2) How much money went to primary mental health team services in —
 - (a) 2003–04;
 - (b) 2004–05;
 - (c) 2005–06;
 - (d) 2006–07.
- (3) How many effective full-time staff are employed in primary mental health teams.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

(1 & 2)

Funding for primary mental health teams is provided to Area Mental Health Services. Information on mental health funding to services can be found in the *Public Hospitals and Mental Health Services Policy and Funding Guidelines* at the following website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/pfg/>.

- (3) The number of effective full-time staff employed in primary mental health teams is determined by Health Services as the employer.

Mental health: mobile support and treatment services

302. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health —

- (1) How much funding in the 2007–08 budget has been allocated to mobile support and treatment services.
- (2) How much money went to the mobile support and treatment services in —
 - (a) 2003–04;
 - (b) 2004–05;
 - (c) 2005–06;
 - (d) 2006–07.
- (3) How many effective full-time staff are employed in mobile support and treatment teams.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

(1 & 2)

Funding for mobile support and treatment services is provided to Area Mental Health Services. Information on mental health funding to services can be found in the *Public Hospitals and Mental Health Services Policy and Funding Guidelines* at the following website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/pfg/>.

- (3) The number of effective full-time staff employed in mobile support and treatment services is determined by Health Services as the employer.

Mental health: continuing care teams

303. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health —

- (1) How much funding in the 2007–08 budget has been allocated to continuing care teams.
- (2) How much money went to continuing care teams in —
 - (a) 2003–04;
 - (b) 2004–05;
 - (c) 2005–06;
 - (d) 2006–07.
- (3) How many effective full-time staff are employed in continuing care teams.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

(1 & 2)

Funding for continuing care teams is provided to Area Mental Health Services. Information on mental health funding to services can be found in the *Public Hospitals and Mental Health Services Policy and Funding Guidelines* at the following website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/pfg/>.

- (3) The number of effective full-time staff employed in continuing care teams is determined by Health Services as the employer.

Mental health: secure extended care units

305. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health —

- (1) How much funding in the 2007–08 budget is allocated to secure extended care units.
- (2) How much funding went to secure extended care units in —
 - (a) 2003–04;
 - (b) 2004–05;
 - (c) 2005–06;
 - (d) 2006–07.
- (3) How many secure extended care units are operational and —
 - (a) what is the location of each unit;
 - (b) what is the total number of operational beds at each unit;
 - (c) how many effective full-time staff are employed at each unit.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

(1 & 2)

Funding for secure extended care units is provided to Area Mental Health Services. Information on mental health funding to services can be found in the *Public Hospitals and Mental Health Services Policy and Funding Guidelines* at the following website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/pfg/>.

- (3) (a) The location of each secure extended care unit can be found on the mental health website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/mentalhealth/services/adult/index.htm>.
- (b) The number of operational beds in secure extended care units are generally reported by health services in their annual reports.

- (c) The number of effective full-time staff employed in secure extended care units is determined by Health Services as the employer.

Corrections: prison drug and alcohol services

306. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Corrections with reference to drug and alcohol services at Ararat Prison, Beechworth Correctional Centre, Dame Phyllis Frost Centre, Dhurringile Prison, Fulham Correctional Centre, Langi Kal Kal Prison, Loddon Prison, Marngoneet Correctional Centre, Melbourne Assessment Prison, Metropolitan Remand Centre, Port Phillip Prison and Tarrengower Prison —

- (1) What specific services are available at each facility for prisoners with a drug or alcohol problem.
- (2) What funding was allocated to drug and alcohol services at each facility in —
 - (a) 2003–04;
 - (b) 2004–05;
 - (c) 2005–06;
 - (d) 2006–07.
- (3) What funding from the 2007–08 budget has been allocated to drug and alcohol services at each facility.
- (4) What procedures are in place at each facility to screen new prisoners to see if they are in need of drug and alcohol services.
- (5) What procedures are in place at each facility to link prisoners with drug or alcohol problems to relevant treatment services upon their release.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

With reference to drug and alcohol services at Ararat Prison, Beechworth Correctional Centre, Dame Phyllis Frost Centre, Dhurringile Prison, Fulham Correctional Centre, Langi Kal Kal Prison, Loddon Prison, Marngoneet Correctional Centre, Melbourne Assessment Prison, Metropolitan Remand Centre, Port Phillip Prison and Tarrengower Prison —

1. Drug and alcohol services include drug and alcohol treatment programs and the Opioid Substitution Treatment Therapy.
2. The collation of this information in the form requested represents an unreasonable diversion of Departmental resources.
3. I am advised approximately \$7 million has been allocated to drug and alcohol services across Victorian prisons in 2007/08.
4. All prisoners undergo a range of immediate assessments upon entering the system, including the identification of pharmacotherapy needs.
5. Offenders with drug and alcohol problems released on parole are referred to the Community Offenders' Advice and Treatment Service (COATS) by the Adult Parole Board for assessment and referral to appropriate services.

Corrections: prison mental health services

307. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Corrections with reference to mental health services at Ararat Prison, Beechworth Correctional Centre, Dame Phyllis Frost Centre, Dhurringile Prison, Fulham Correctional Centre, Langi Kal Kal Prison, Loddon Prison, Marngoneet Correctional Centre,

Melbourne Assessment Prison, Metropolitan Remand Centre, Port Phillip Prison and Tarrengower Prison —

- (1) What specific services are available at each facility for prisoners with a mental illness.
- (2) What funding was allocated to mental health services at each facility in —
 - (a) 2003–04;
 - (b) 2004–05;
 - (c) 2005–06;
 - (d) 2006–07.
- (3) What funding from the 2007–08 budget has been allocated to mental health services at each facility.
- (4) What procedures are in place at each facility to screen new prisoners to see if they are in need of mental health services.
- (5) What procedures are in place at each facility to link prisoners with mental illness to relevant treatment services upon their release.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

1. A range of generic practitioner and psychiatric nursing services are provided across the prison system.
2. The collation of this information in the form requested represents an unreasonable diversion of Departmental resources.
3. I am advised over \$7 million has been allocated to mental health services across Victorian prisons in 2007/08.
4. All prisoners undergo a range of immediate assessments upon entering the system, including a mental health assessment.
5. The Prisoner Health Care Standards, which form part of the contract with health service providers, require preparation of a discharge plan which addresses preparation for transition back to the community.

Mental health: ‘mental health treatment’ definition

340. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health —

- (1) How does the Government define a ‘mental health treatment’ as it is referred to on page 94 of Budget Paper No. 2 2001–02.
- (2) How many mental health treatments were carried out in —
 - (a) 2000–01;
 - (b) 2001–02;
 - (c) 2002–03;
 - (d) 2003–04;
 - (e) 2004–05;
 - (f) 2005–06;
 - (g) 2006–07.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (1) Mental Health Treatments referred to on p. 94 of budget Paper 2, 2001–02 was defined as mental health service contacts in hospital emergency departments.
- (2) Service contact information can be found in the *Your Hospitals* report which can be found at: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/yourhospitals/>

Mental health: mental health bed types

- 341.** Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health — how many acute inpatient, psychogeriatric and subacute mental health beds were operational in —
- (1) 2001–02.
 - (2) 2002–03.
 - (3) 2003–04.
 - (4) 2004–05.
 - (5) 2005–06.
 - (6) 2006–07.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (1–6) The numbers of operational acute inpatient, psychogeriatric and subacute mental health beds are generally reported by health services in their annual reports.

Mental health: ‘medical workforce’ definition

- 342.** Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health — what qualifications are encompassed in the term ‘medical workforce’ as discussed on page 27 of *Victoria’s Direct Care Mental Health Workers: The public mental health workforce study* released by the Department of Human Services in May 2005 and for each qualification —
- (1) What is the current effective full-time medical workforce employed in the public mental health system.
 - (2) What is the number of effective full-time unfilled positions in the medical workforce.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (1–2) The term ‘medical workforce’ as discussed in *Victoria’s direct care mental health workers: The public mental health workforce study* released by the Department in May 2005 referred to psychiatrists, psychiatry registrars or trainees and other medical officers.

The number of effective full-time staff employed in each service within the public mental health system is determined by Health Services as the employer.

Mental health: mental health nurses

- 343.** Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health with reference to effective full-time nurses currently employed in the public mental health workforce — how many —
- (1) Division one nurses are employed.
 - (2) Division two nurses are employed.

- (3) Division three nurses are employed.
- (4) Unfilled positions for division one, division two and division three nurses exist.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The number of effective full-time staff employed in each service within the public mental health system is determined by Health Services as the employer.

Corrections: ‘intensive drug treatment’ definition

353. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Corrections with reference to intensive drug treatment in prisons —

- (1) How does the Government define ‘intensive drug treatment’ as outlined in a media release from the Premier’s office on 28 November 2000 entitled *Drugs: It’s our problem, lets fight it together*.
- (2) How many inmates were provided with intensive drug treatment before release in —
 - (a) 1999–2000;
 - (b) 2000–01;
 - (c) 2001–02;
 - (d) 2003–04;
 - (e) 2004–05;
 - (f) 2005–06;
 - (g) 2006–07.
- (3) How many inmates were able to access intensive drug treatment immediately following release in —
 - (a) 1999–2000;
 - (b) 2000–01;
 - (c) 2001–02;
 - (d) 2003–04;
 - (e) 2004–05;
 - (f) 2005–06;
 - (g) 2006–07.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

With reference to intensive drug treatment in prisons —

Drug and alcohol treatment programs in prisons vary in content and intensity depending on the medical issues and behaviour in question.

Collation of information in the specific format sought by the Honourable member represents an unreasonable diversion of resources by Corrections Victoria.

Community services: mental health patient data

354. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Community Services with reference to data captured by the Department of Human Services regarding mental health patients at each of the Alfred Hospital, Austin Hospital, Ballarat Base Hospital, Geelong Hospital, Bendigo Hospital, Box Hill Hospital, Casey

Hospital, Dandenong Hospital, Frankston Hospital, Goulburn Valley Health, Latrobe Regional Hospital, MaroonDAH Hospital, Mercy Werribee Hospital, Monash Medical Centre, Northern Hospital, Royal Children's Hospital, Royal Melbourne Hospital, St Vincent's Hospital and Sunshine Hospital —

- (1) What percentage of patients were noted as having pre-admission contact in the seven days prior to admission in —
 - (a) 2003–04;
 - (b) 2004–05;
 - (c) 2005–06;
 - (d) 2006–07.
- (2) What percentage of patients were noted as having post-discharge follow up in —
 - (a) 2003–04;
 - (b) 2004–05;
 - (c) 2005–06;
 - (d) 2006–07.
- (3) What percentage of patients waited in the emergency department for longer than eight hours before gaining access to a mental health bed.
- (4) What percentage of patients received inpatient care for longer than 35 days in —
 - (a) 2003–04;
 - (b) 2004–05.
 - (c) 2005–06;
 - (d) 2006–07.
- (5) What percentage of mental health patients treated in —
 - (a) 2003–04;
 - (b) 2004–05;
 - (c) 2005–06;
 - (d) 2006–07 —
resided in each hospital's catchment area.
- (6) What was the mental health bed occupancy rate in —
 - (a) 2003–04;
 - (b) 2004–05;
 - (c) 2005–06;
 - (d) 2006–07.
- (7) What was the level of unplanned readmissions within 28 days in —
 - (a) 2003–04;
 - (b) 2004–05;
 - (c) 2005–06;
 - (d) 2006–07.
- (8) What is the average length of stay for patients staying between one and 35 days.
- (9) How many mental health beds per 10,000 population are there in each hospital's catchment area.
- (10) What is each hospital's catchment area.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

System performance measures can be found in the state budget papers at: <http://www.budget.vic.gov.au/> and in the *Your Hospitals* report at: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/yourhospitals/>

Senior Victorians: low-care aged-care beds

361. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Community Services with reference to low care bed places in state-run residential aged care facilities —

- (1) How many new beds were opened in —
 - (a) 2004;
 - (b) 2005;
 - (c) 2006;
 - (d) 2007.
- (2) Which facilities were allocated new bed places and how many beds were allocated to each in —
 - (a) 2004;
 - (b) 2005;
 - (c) 2006;
 - (d) 2007.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

(1) & (2)

- (a) 27 low care places were opened in 2004:
 - 10 low care — Glenview Community Nursing Home
 - 7 low care — Hesse Nursing Home
 - 10 low care — Heathcote Aged Care Services.
- (b) 14 low care places were opened in 2005
 - 10 low care — Darlingford Upper Goulburn Nursing Home
 - 4 low care — Dunolly Nursing Home.
- (c) 20 low care places were opened in 2006:
 - 17 low care — Moyneyana House
 - 2 low care — Bindaree Retirement Village
 - 1 low care — Wannon Court Hostel.
- (d) To date 2 low care places have been opened in 2007
 - 2 low care — Waranga Aged Care Hostel.

Senior Victorians: high-care aged-care beds

362. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Community Services — which state-run residential aged care facilities were allocated new high care bed places and how many beds were allocated to each in —

- (1) 2004.
- (2) 2005.
- (3) 2006.
- (4) 2007.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (1) 2004: – *Otway Health & Community Services* — 2 new flexible high care places
(Commonwealth allocated)
- (2) 2005: – Nil
- (3) 2006: – *Irvin House Nursing Home* — 15 new high care places
(Commonwealth allocated)
Skipton Nursing Home — 7 high care places and
Dimboola Nursing Home — 4 high care places
(Transferred from non-operational public sector residential aged care places).
- (4) 2007 to date: – *70 Lowe Street (formerly John Pickford House)* — 5 high care places
(Transferred from non-operational public sector residential aged care places)

Mental health: Victorian Alcohol Action Plan Taskforce

380. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health with reference to the Victorian Alcohol Action Plan Taskforce —

- (1) How many times has the task force met.
- (2) On what dates has the task force met.
- (3) When is the next scheduled meeting.
- (4) When will a draft action plan be completed.
- (5) When is the planned release date of the action plan.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

(1), (2), (3), (4) and (5) — The Victorian Alcohol Action Plan Taskforce has met as required since its establishment and will continue to meet as often as required to discharge its terms of reference.

Environment and climate change: fire operations plan

524. Mr SMITH (*Warrandyte*) to ask the Minister for Community Development for the Minister for Environment and Climate Change with reference to the Fire Operations Plan for 2007–08 to 2009–10 — in which months are each of the five fuel reduction burns in Warrandyte State Park scheduled.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (1) The current draft Fire Operations Plan for 07/08–09/10 identifies five separate fuel reduction burns to be conducted over the next two financial years, covering 36.6 hectares.

The burns are scheduled as follows

BURN YEAR	BURN NO.	BURN NAME	SEASON
2007/08	W41	Webb St	Spring
2007/08	W43	Gold Memorial	Autumn
2008/09	W33	Blackflat	Spring
2008/09	W35	Koornong	Autumn
2008/09	W47	David St (4th Hill)	Autumn

Gaming: problem gambling policy

543. Mr THOMPSON (*Sandringham*) to ask the Minister for Gaming with reference to the ALP's Problem Gambling Policy — why has the policy been removed from the website.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

The Government's policy on problem gambling, *Taking Action on Problem Gambling*, is available on the Department of Justice website, www.justice.vic.gov.au in the *Gambling and Racing* section.

I have arranged for a copy of *Taking Action on Problem Gambling* to be forwarded to your office.

Sports, recreation and youth affairs: swimming world championships

559. Mr THOMPSON (*Sandringham*) to ask the Minister for Sport, Recreation and Youth Affairs with reference to the Swimming World Championships in 2007 —

- (1) How many people attended the open water swimming.
- (2) What were the daily venue estimates for the accredited personnel.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

In relation to your question relating to attendance at Open Water Swimming I have been advised that this number was provided by the Victoria Police to Melbourne 2007 following each competition session at the venue. The total attendance at Open Water Swimming over the 5 days of competition was recorded as 18,750. This number included general public and accredited attendance.

According to data provided to SRV by M2007 Corporation, accredited attendance included athletes, FINA officials, FINA family, and media, but did not include workforce, contractors, concession holders or competition officials.

M2007 has advised that the total numbers of accredited personnel attending competition sessions are as follows:

Open Water Swimming	750 over 6 sessions
Swimming	52,960 over 16 sessions
Water Polo	14,474 over 34 sessions
Synchronised Swimming	4,350 over 12 sessions
Diving	5,894 over 19 sessions

Attorney-General: fixed/red light/speed cameras

564(a). Mr MULDER to ask the Honourable the Attorney-General:

With reference to highway fixed, intersection fixed, analogue red light, fixed digital red light, Hume Freeway point-to-point, West Gate Freeway highway fixed, Western Ring Road highway fixed and CityLink highway fixed speed cameras — in each of July 2007, August 2007, September 2007 and October 2007 —

- (1) Were all cameras operating 24 hours a day, seven days a week; if not —
 - (a) for what periods on what days was each camera inoperable;
 - (b) for what reasons was each inoperable camera turned off.
- (2) How much per hour on average did each camera generate in revenue.

- (3) How many infringement notices were issued per hour on average by each camera.
- (4) How many infringement notices were withdrawn and for what reasons.
- (5) What were the locations of the top 20 revenue generating cameras.
- (6) How much revenue was generated by each of the top 20 revenue generating cameras.
- (7) How many faults were —
 - (a) reported for each type of camera;
 - (b) identified with each type of camera.
- (8) How many requests for withdrawal of infringement notices were received.
- (9) Where is it expected that new fixed digital, point to point or red light cameras will be installed between October 2007 and 30 June 2008.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

The responsibility for the road safety camera system rests with the Minister for Police & Emergency Services.

Community services: women's refuges

570. Mrs FYFFE to ask the Minister for Community Services — what are the details of —

- (1) Any proposal to regulate or take over the management and operation of women's refuges currently operated by not-for-profit organisations.
- (2) Any plans or recommendations to register and centralise the operation of women's refuges.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The matter raised is not within my portfolio responsibilities.

Mental health: early intervention services

582. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health with reference to early intervention services —

- (1) How much funding went to early intervention mental health services and initiatives in —
 - (a) 2000–01;
 - (b) 2001–02;
 - (c) 2002–03;
 - (d) 2003–04;
 - (e) 2004–05;
 - (f) 2005–06;
 - (g) 2006–07;
 - (h) 2007–08.
- (2) What is the name and location of each service or initiative to receive funding.
- (3) How much funding did each service or initiative receive.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

(1–3) Names and locations of services can be found on the mental health website:
<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/mentalhealth/services/index.htm>

Information on mental health funding to services can be found in the *Public Hospitals and Mental Health Services Policy and Funding Guidelines* at the following website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/pfg/>.

Mental health: early psychosis/conduct disorder programs

583. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health with reference to funding in the 2003–04 Budget for each of early psychosis programs for young people, and conduct disorder programs for children —

- (1) How much funding was allocated for each program.
- (2) How much of the funding was allocated in —
 - (a) 2003–04;
 - (b) 2004–05;
 - (c) 2005–06;
 - (d) 2006–07.
- (3) How much of the funding was expended in —
 - (a) 2003–04;
 - (b) 2004–05;
 - (c) 2005–06;
 - (d) 2006–07.
- (4) How many separate services were funded with the money.
- (5) Was any funding allocated for additional staffing; if so, how many extra full-time equivalent staff were employed and for what time frame.
- (6) What is the name and location of each service and initiative funded and how much did each receive in —
 - (a) 2003–04;
 - (b) 2004–05;
 - (c) 2005–06;
 - (d) 2006–07.
- (7) How much new funding was allocated to the programs in the —
 - (a) 2004–05 Budget;
 - (b) 2005–06 Budget.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

(1–7) Information on current and previous years' state budgets can be found at:
<http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/budget/index.htm>

Names and locations of services can be found on the mental health website:
<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/mentalhealth/services/index.htm>

Information on mental health funding to services can be found in the *Public Hospitals and Mental Health Services Policy and Funding Guidelines* at the following website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/pfg/>.

The number of effective full-time staff employed is determined by Health Services or agencies as the employer.

Mental health: dual diagnosis services

584. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health with reference to funding in the 2003–04 Budget for youth dual diagnosis services —

- (1) How much funding was allocated for the services.
- (2) How much of the funding was allocated in —
 - (a) 2003–04;
 - (b) 2004–05;
 - (c) 2005–06;
 - (d) 2006–07.
- (3) How much of the funding was expended in —
 - (a) 2003–04;
 - (b) 2004–05;
 - (c) 2005–06;
 - (d) 2006–07.
- (4) How many extra positions were funded in —
 - (a) 2003–04;
 - (b) 2004–05;
 - (c) 2005–06;
 - (d) 2006–07.
- (5) How much new funding was allocated to the services in the —
 - (a) 2004–05 Budget;
 - (b) 2005–06 Budget;
 - (c) 2006–07 Budget;
 - (d) 2007–08 Budget.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

(1–5) Information on current and previous years' state budgets can be found at:
<http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/budget/index.htm>

Names and locations of services can be found on the mental health website:
<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/mentalhealth/services/index.htm>

Information on mental health funding to services can be found in the *Public Hospitals and Mental Health Services Policy and Funding Guidelines* at the following website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/pfg/>.

The number of effective full-time staff employed is determined by Health Services or agencies as the employer.

Mental health: women's services

585. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health with reference to mental health services for women —

- (1) How much funding was allocated in the 2003–04 Budget for consultation and liaison services to treat mothers who have recently given birth, and —
 - (a) of this, how much was allocated in —

- (i) 2003–04;
 - (ii) 2004–05;
 - (iii) 2005–06;
 - (iv) 2006–07.
- (b) of this, how much was expended in —
- (i) 2003–04;
 - (ii) 2004–05;
 - (iii) 2005–06;
 - (iv) 2006–07.
- (c) how many separate services were funded with the money.
- (d) was any funding allocated for additional staffing; if so, how many extra full-time equivalent staff were employed and for what time frame.
- (e) what is the name and location of each service and initiative funded and how much did each receive in —
- (i) 2003–04;
 - (ii) 2004–05;
 - (iii) 2005–06;
 - (iv) 2006–07.
- (2) How much new funding was allocated to postnatal depression services for women in the —
- (a) 2004–05 Budget;
 - (b) 2005–06 Budget.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

(1–2) Information on current and previous years’ state budgets can be found at:

<http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/budget/index.htm>

Names and locations of services can be found on the mental health website:

<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/mentalhealth/services/index.htm>

Information on mental health funding to services can be found in the *Public Hospitals and Mental Health Services Policy and Funding Guidelines* at the following website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/pfg/>.

The number of effective full-time staff employed is determined by Health Services or agencies as the employer.

Mental health: postnatal depression services

586. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health with reference to funding in the 2006–07 Budget for postnatal depression services —

- (1) How much new funding was allocated to the services.
- (2) How much of the funding was allocated in —
 - (a) 2006–07;
 - (b) 2007–08;
 - (c) 2008–09;
 - (d) 2009–10.
- (3) How much of the funding was expended in —

- (a) 2006–07;
 - (b) 2007–08;
 - (c) 2008–09;
 - (d) 2009–10.
- (4) How many separate services were funded.
 - (5) Was any funding allocated for additional staffing; if so, how many extra full-time equivalent staff were employed and for what time frame.
 - (6) What is the name and location of each service and initiative funded and how much did each receive in 2006–07.
 - (7) How much new funding was allocated to the services in the 2007–08 Budget.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

(1–7) Information on current and previous years' state budgets can be found at:

<http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/budget/index.htm>

Names and locations of services can be found on the mental health website:

<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/mentalhealth/services/index.htm>

Information on mental health funding to services can be found in the *Public Hospitals and Mental Health Services Policy and Funding Guidelines* at the following website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/pfg/>.

The number of effective full-time staff employed is determined by Health Services or agencies as the employer.

Mental health: family support services

587. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health with reference to funding in the 2006–07 Budget for support for families where a parent has a mental illness —

- (1) How much new funding was allocated to services providing support.
- (2) How much of the funding was allocated in —
 - (a) 2006–07;
 - (b) 2007–08;
 - (c) 2008–09;
 - (d) 2009–10.
- (3) How much of the funding was expended in —
 - (a) 2006–07;
 - (b) 2007–08;
 - (c) 2008–09;
 - (d) 2009–10.
- (4) How many separate services were funded.
- (5) Was any funding allocated for additional staffing; if so, how many extra full-time equivalent staff were employed and for what time frame.
- (6) What is the name and location of each service and initiative funded and how much did each receive in 2006–07.
- (7) How much new funding was allocated to the services in the 2007–08 Budget.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

(1–7) Information on current and previous years' state budgets can be found at:
<http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/budget/index.htm>

Names and locations of services can be found on the mental health website:
<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/mentalhealth/services/index.htm>

Information on mental health funding to services can be found in the *Public Hospitals and Mental Health Services Policy and Funding Guidelines* at the following website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/pfg/>.

The number of effective full-time staff employed is determined by Health Services or agencies as the employer.

Mental health: Royal Women's Hospital centre for women's mental health

588. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health with reference to funding in the 2006–07 Budget for the Royal Women's Hospital Centre for Women's Mental Health —

- (1) How much funding was allocated to the Centre.
- (2) How much funding was allocated in —
 - (a) 2006–07;
 - (b) 2007–08;
 - (c) 2008–09;
 - (d) 2009–10.
- (3) How much funding was expended in 2006–07.
- (4) On what date was the phone-based consultation service launched.
- (5) How many staff were employed in the in the phone-based consultation service.
- (6) How much funding did the phone-based consultation service receive in 2006–07.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

(1–6) Information on current and previous years' state budgets can be found at:
<http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/budget/index.htm>

Names and locations of services can be found on the mental health website:
<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/mentalhealth/services/index.htm>

Information on mental health funding to services can be found in the *Public Hospitals and Mental Health Services Policy and Funding Guidelines* at the following website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/pfg/>.

The number of effective full-time staff employed is determined by Health Services or agencies as the employer.

Mental health: early psychosis/conduct disorder programs and counselling services

589. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health with reference to funding in 2006–07 for each of early psychosis services for young people, conduct disorder programs for children, and counselling services at community health centres —

- (1) How much new funding was allocated to each service in the 2006–07 Budget.
- (2) How much of the funding was allocated in —
 - (a) 2006–07;
 - (b) 2007–08;
 - (c) 2008–09;
 - (d) 2009–10.
- (3) How much of the funding was expended in 2006–07.
- (4) How many separate services were funded.
- (5) Was any funding allocated for additional staffing; if so, how many extra full-time equivalent staff were employed and for what time frame.
- (6) What is the name and location of each service and initiative funded and how much did each receive in 2006–07.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

(1–6) Information on current and previous years' state budgets can be found at:
<http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/budget/index.htm>

Names and locations of services can be found on the mental health website:
<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/mentalhealth/services/index.htm>

Information on mental health funding to services can be found in the *Public Hospitals and Mental Health Services Policy and Funding Guidelines* at the following website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/pfg/>.

The number of effective full-time staff employed is determined by Health Services or agencies as the employer.

Mental health: early psychosis programs

590. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health with reference to the \$16.9 million announced as part of the National Action Plan on Mental Health to fund early psychosis programs for young people —

- (1) How much of the funding has already been allocated and/or announced prior to 1 February 2006.
- (2) How much had been spent prior to 1 February 2006.
- (3) How much was announced as part of the 2007–08 Budget.
- (4) How much has been spent to date.
- (5) How many separate services were funded.
- (6) On what dates were funding agreements signed by the Department of Human Services.
- (7) What is the name and location of each service providing a program and how much has each separate service received to date.
- (8) Was any funding allocated to additional staffing; if so, how many extra full-time equivalent staff.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

(1–8) Information on current and previous years' state budgets can be found at:
<http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/budget/index.htm>

Names and locations of services can be found on the mental health website:
<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/mentalhealth/services/index.htm>

Information on mental health funding to services can be found in the *Public Hospitals and Mental Health Services Policy and Funding Guidelines* at the following website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/pfg/>.

The number of effective full-time staff employed is determined by Health Services or agencies as the employer.

Mental health: conduct disorder programs

591. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health with reference to the \$8.4 million announced as part of the National Action Plan on Mental Health to fund conduct disorder programs —

- (1) How much of this money has already been allocated and/or announced prior to 1 February 2006.
- (2) How much had been spent prior to 1 February 2006.
- (3) How much was announced as part of the 2007–08 Budget.
- (4) How much has been spent to date.
- (5) How many separate services were funded.
- (6) On what dates were funding agreements signed by the Department of Human Services.
- (7) What is the name and location of each service and how much has each separate service received to date.
- (8) Was any funding allocated to additional staffing; if so, how many extra full-time equivalent staff.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

(1–8) Information on current and previous years' state budgets can be found at:
<http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/budget/index.htm>

Names and locations of services can be found on the mental health website:
<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/mentalhealth/services/index.htm>

Information on mental health funding to services can be found in the *Public Hospitals and Mental Health Services Policy and Funding Guidelines* at the following website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/pfg/>.

The number of effective full-time staff employed is determined by Health Services or agencies as the employer.

Mental health: family support services

592. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health with reference to the \$2.4 million announced as part of the National Action Plan on Mental Health to fund support for children of parents with a mental illness —

- (1) How much of this money has already been allocated and/or announced prior to 1 February 2006.
- (2) How much had been spent prior to 1 February 2006.
- (3) How much was announced as part of the 2007–08 Budget.
- (4) How much has been spent to date.
- (5) How many separate services were funded.
- (6) On what dates were funding agreements signed by the Department of Human Services.

- (7) What is the name and location of each service providing support services and how much has each separate service received to date.
- (8) Was any funding allocated to additional staffing; if so, how many extra full-time equivalent staff.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

(1–8) Information on current and previous years' state budgets can be found at:
<http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/budget/index.htm>

Names and locations of services can be found on the mental health website:
<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/mentalhealth/services/index.htm>

Information on mental health funding to services can be found in the *Public Hospitals and Mental Health Services Policy and Funding Guidelines* at the following website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/pfg/>.

The number of effective full-time staff employed is determined by Health Services or agencies as the employer.

Mental health: postnatal depression services

593. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health with reference to the \$4.9 million announced as part of the National Action Plan on Mental Health to fund postnatal depression support services —

- (1) How much of this money has already been allocated and/or announced prior to 1 February 2006.
- (2) How much had been spent prior to 1 February 2006.
- (3) How much was announced as part of the 2007–08 Budget.
- (4) How much has been spent to date.
- (5) How many separate services were funded with this money.
- (6) On what date were funding agreements signed by the Department of Human Services.
- (7) What is the name and location of each service providing support services and how much has each separate service received to date.
- (8) Was any funding allocated to additional staffing; if so, how many extra full-time equivalent staff.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

(1–8) Information on current and previous years' state budgets can be found at:
<http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/budget/index.htm>

Names and locations of services can be found on the mental health website:
<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/mentalhealth/services/index.htm>

Information on mental health funding to services can be found in the *Public Hospitals and Mental Health Services Policy and Funding Guidelines* at the following website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/pfg/>.

The number of effective full-time staff employed is determined by Health Services or agencies as the employer.

Mental health: Royal Women's Hospital centre for women's mental health

594. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health with reference to the \$1.1 million announced as part of the National Action Plan on Mental Health to fund the new Centre for Women's Mental Health —

- (1) How much of this money has already been allocated and/or announced prior to 1 February 2006.
- (2) How much had been spent prior to 1 February 2006.
- (3) How much was announced as part of the 2007–08 Budget.
- (4) How much has been spent to date.
- (5) On what date was the funding agreement signed by the Department of Human Services.
- (6) Was any funding allocated to additional staffing; if so, how many extra full-time equivalent staff.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

(1–6) Information on current and previous years' state budgets can be found at:

<http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/budget/index.htm>

Names and locations of services can be found on the mental health website:

<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/mentalhealth/services/index.htm>

Information on mental health funding to services can be found in the *Public Hospitals and Mental Health Services Policy and Funding Guidelines* at the following website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/pfg/>.

The number of effective full-time staff employed is determined by Health Services or agencies as the employer.

Mental health: primary prevention and promotion programs

595. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health with reference to the \$36 million announced as part of the National Action Plan on Mental Health to fund primary prevention and promotion programs —

- (1) How much of this money has already been allocated and/or announced prior to 1 February 2006.
- (2) How much had been spent prior to 1 February 2006.
- (3) How much was announced as part of the 2007–08 Budget.
- (4) How much has been spent to date.
- (5) How many separate services providing programs were funded with this money.
- (6) On what dates were funding agreements signed by the Department of Human Services.
- (7) What is the name and location of each service providing programs and how much has each separate service received to date.
- (8) Was any funding allocated to additional staffing; if so, how many extra full-time equivalent staff.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

(1–8) Information on current and previous years' state budgets can be found at:

<http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/budget/index.htm>

Names and locations of services can be found on the mental health website:

<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/mentalhealth/services/index.htm>

Information on mental health funding to services can be found in the *Public Hospitals and Mental Health Services Policy and Funding Guidelines* at the following website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/pfg/>.

The number of effective full-time staff employed is determined by Health Services or agencies as the employer.

Mental health: counselling services

596. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health with reference to the \$2.6 million announced as part of the National Action Plan on mental health to fund extra counselling in community health services —

- (1) How much of this money has already been allocated and/or announced prior to 1 February 2006.
- (2) How much had been spent prior to 1 February 2006.
- (3) How much was announced as part of the 2007–08 Budget.
- (4) How much has been spent to date.
- (5) How many separate services were funded.
- (6) On what dates were funding agreements signed by the Department of Human Services.
- (7) What is the name and location of each service and how much has each separate service received to date.
- (8) Was any funding allocated to additional staffing; if so, how many extra full-time equivalent staff.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

(1–8) Information on current and previous years' state budgets can be found at:

<http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/budget/index.htm>

Names and locations of services can be found on the mental health website:

<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/mentalhealth/services/index.htm>

Information on mental health funding to services can be found in the *Public Hospitals and Mental Health Services Policy and Funding Guidelines* at the following website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/pfg/>.

The number of effective full-time staff employed is determined by Health Services or agencies as the employer.

Mental health: mental health bed waiting times

613. Ms WOOLDRIDGE to ask the Minister for Mental Health — for 2003–04, 2004–05, 2005–06 and 2006–07 to date what percentage of emergency patients were admitted to a mental health bed, at every individual public hospital, within —

- (1) Four hours.
- (2) Eight hours.
- (3) 12 hours.
- (4) 24 hours.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Information on hospital admissions from emergency departments is reported in the *Your Hospitals* report which can be found at: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/yourhospitals/>

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

*Answers to the following questions on notice were circulated on the date shown.
Questions have been incorporated from the notice paper of the Legislative Assembly.
Answers have been incorporated in the form supplied by the departments on behalf of the appropriate ministers.
The portfolio of the minister answering the question on notice starts each heading.*

Thursday, 6 December 2007

Police and emergency services: Karen Street, Highett, red light camera

- 373(a).** Mr THOMPSON (*Sandringham*) to ask the Minister for Police and Emergency Services — with reference to the red light camera monitoring west-bound traffic turning right from Karen Street in a northerly direction into the Nepean Highway —
- (1) When was the camera first installed.
 - (2) For each month since the installation of the camera how many infringement notices have been issued to motorists completing the turn.
 - (3) Due to the angle and width of the turn, have the additional time and slower speed required been taken into account when issuing infringement notices.
 - (4) Due to the physical characteristics of the intersection is there any plan to adjust the time allowance at which a fine is imposed.
 - (5) How does the number of fines issued compare with comparable intersections.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

There is no Fixed Digital Safety Camera monitoring west bound traffic turning right from Karen Street in a northerly direction into Nepean Highway.

Public transport: Southern Cross station–South Geelong service

- 493.** Mr MULDER to ask the Minister for Public Transport with reference to V/Line's 7.17 a.m. South Geelong to Southern Cross service between 10 September 2007 and 20 September 2007 —
- (1) How many passengers boarded at —
 - (a) South Geelong;
 - (b) Geelong;
 - (c) North Geelong.
 - (2) How many passengers disembarked at —
 - (a) North Melbourne;
 - (b) Southern Cross Station.
 - (3) Did the train operate as three V/Locity sets on each weekday; if not, on what days did only —
 - (a) two V/Locity sets operate;
 - (b) one V/Locity set operate.
 - (4) Was the service augmented by a single coach from Geelong and North Geelong stations on —
 - (a) 12 September 2007; if so —
 - (i) how many passengers used the coach service;
 - (ii) what time did the coach depart Geelong or North Geelong station.

- (b) 19 September 2007; if so, how many passengers used the coach service.
 - (i) how many passengers used the coach service;
 - (ii) what time did the coach depart Geelong or North Geelong station.

ANSWER:

As at the date the question was raised, the answer is:

- (1) Number of passengers who boarded V/Line’s 7.17 a.m. South Geelong to Southern Cross Station service from 10–20 September 2007

STATION	10/09 Mon	11/09 Tue	12/09 Wed	13/09 Thu	14/09 Fri	17/09 Mon	18/09 Tue	19/09 Wed	20/09 Thu
(a) Sth Geelong	400	398	No data available	335	175	200	389	246	221
(b) Geelong	90	192		165	100	150	94	92	132
(c) Nth Geelong	78	98		80	270	100	99	71	62

Note: The 7.17 a.m. service from South Geelong to Southern Cross Station operates on weekdays only.

- (2) Number of passengers who disembarked from the service

STATION	10/09 Mon	11/09 Tue	12/09 Wed	13/09 Thu	14/09 Fri	17/09 Mon	18/09 Tue	19/09 Wed	20/09 Thu
(a) North Melbourne	233	375	No data available	190	200	200	210	162	164
(b) Southern Cross	335	313		390	345	250	372	247	251

- (3) Yes, except for the 7.17 a.m. South Geelong to Southern Cross Station service, which operated as a two V/Locity set on two occasions (12 September 2007 and 19 September 2007).
- (4) Coach services from Geelong and North Geelong Railway Stations

	(a) 12 Sep 07	(b) 19 Sep 07
(i) how many passengers used the coach service	90	12
(ii) what time did the coach depart	2 coaches used	1 coach used
(a) Geelong or	7.23 a.m.	
(b) North Geelong Railway Station	7.26 a.m.	7.27 a.m.

Environment and climate change: Northern Pacific seastar

518. Mr THOMPSON (Sandringham) to ask the Minister for Community Development for the Minister for Environment and Climate Change with reference to the presence of the Northern Pacific seastar —

- (1) What is the estimated population of the seastar in Western Port Bay.
- (2) What was the estimated population of the seastar in Port Phillip Bay in —
 - (a) 2000–01;
 - (b) 2001–02;

- (c) 2002–03;
 - (d) 2003–04;
 - (e) 2004–05;
 - (f) 2005–06;
 - (g) 2006–07.
- (3) What was the financial contribution of the Government for research into and the eradication of the seastar in Port Phillip Bay —
- (a) 2000–01;
 - (b) 2001–02;
 - (c) 2002–03;
 - (d) 2003–04;
 - (e) 2004–05;
 - (f) 2005–06;
 - (g) 2006–07.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

There is no evidence of a Northern Pacific seastar population in Western Port Bay.

Based on scientific surveys conducted by the Department of Primary Industries and reported in 2001, it is estimated that the Northern Pacific seastar population in Port Phillip Bay is numbered in the millions.

The Victorian Government was instrumental in developing a National Control Plan for the Northern Pacific seastar, which establishes priorities to deal with the pest, including research. Victoria has supported research into this pest, including CSIRO's development of a novel detection method, a gene probe, to help prevent and assist with eradication of any new Northern Pacific seastar incursions in Victoria and elsewhere.

The Government, in partnership with marine industries, has expended considerable funds and effort to achieving these goals and preventing the spread of the Northern Pacific seastar into other environments. This includes expenditure on research to inform marine pest prevention and management of approximately \$1 million during the period 2000–2006, with approximately half of that coming from the Victorian Government.

