

PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA

**PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(HANSARD)**

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

FIFTY-FIFTH PARLIAMENT

FIRST SESSION

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

22, 23 and 24 August 2006

(Extract from book 11)

Internet: www.parliament.vic.gov.au/downloadhansard

By authority of the Victorian Government Printer

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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, 22 August 2006

Planning: Boyd House

421. Mr BAILLIEU to ask the Minister for Planning — what has been the total cost of consultancies, including legal fees, engaged by the Department of Sustainability and Environment, and Heritage Victoria and/or their representatives and agents, concerning action taken in relation to 666 Riversdale Road, Camberwell, otherwise known as the ‘Boyd House’, and its owner Maria Rajendrau, for each year since 30 June 1999.

ANSWER:

I am informed by Heritage Victoria that between 30 June 1999 and the date this question was raised:

- There had been a total of \$237,282 expended on legal fees and \$54,284 expended on other contractors in the pursuit of enforcement of the provisions of the Heritage Act on the property at 666 Riversdale Rd Camberwell, sometimes known as the Boyd House. [A schedule of this expenditure by financial years is attached].
- This expenditure is the result of the owner’s non compliance with the provisions of the Heritage Act and her failure to comply with subsequent Supreme Court Orders.
- \$175,500 of costs were recovered from the owner in relation to the initial costs ordered by the court. It is anticipated that additional costs incurred for the reinstatement works pursuant to orders of the court will be recovered.
- The house at 666 Riversdale Rd is considered to be of great significance as the first home designed by world renowned architect, Robin Boyd for himself and his family. The original part of the building being constructed in 1947 with a further extension in 1952.
- Not only was it Boyd’s first home, but it is considered to be a significant example of the modern architectural ideas that he so successfully introduced to Australian domestic design.
- The Victorian Heritage Council has advised that the conservation of this building is a significant and important outcome.

SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURE

Financial Year	Legal Costs	Other Contractors Costs
1999/2000	\$4,132	\$170
2000/2001	\$22,705	\$7,470
2001/2002	\$111,601	\$30,076
2002/2003	\$70,013	\$7,687
2003/2004	\$28,800	\$8,881
2004/2005	\$6,890	\$27,043
Total	\$237,282	\$54,284

N.B.: The original question (No. 421) sought information up until February 2004. This table incorporates that information within the 2003/2004 figure.

Planning: Boyd House

937. Mr BAILLIEU to ask the Minister for Planning — what was the total cost of consultancies and contractors incurred by the Government since October 1999 with regard to the heritage, legal and works issues associated with Boyd House in Riversdale Road, Camberwell.

ANSWER:

I am informed by Heritage Victoria that between October 1999 and the date this question was raised:

- DSE and the Heritage Council has expended a total of \$307,630 on legal fees and \$160,379 expended on other contractors in the pursuit of enforcement of the provisions of the Heritage Act on the property at 666 Riversdale Rd Camberwell, sometimes known as the Boyd House.
- This expenditure is the result of the owner’s non compliance with the provisions of the Heritage Act and her failure to comply with subsequent Supreme Court Orders.
- \$175,500 of costs were recovered from the owner in relation to the initial costs ordered by the court to date. It is expected that additional costs will be recovered.
- The house at 666 Riversdale Rd is considered by Heritage Victoria to be of great significance as the first home designed by world renowned architect, Robin Boyd for himself and his family. The original part of the building being constructed in 1947 with a further extension in 1952.
- Not only was it Boyd’s first home, but it is considered to be a significant example of the modern architectural ideas that he so successfully introduced to Australian domestic design.
- The Victorian Heritage Council has advised that the conservation of this building is a significant and important outcome.

Planning: minister’s private office

1017(ab). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Planning — what furniture items, including moveable furniture, fixed furniture and electrical goods were purchased for the Minister’s private office in 2004–05 and what was the total cost of all such items purchased.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

According to the records of the Department of Sustainability and Environment, office furniture to the value of \$1248 was purchased in the 2004–05 financial year for the office of the Minister for Planning.

Energy industries: minister’s private office

1017(aj). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Treasurer for the Minister for Energy Industries — what furniture items, including moveable furniture, fixed furniture and electrical goods were purchased for the Minister’s private office in 2004–05 and what was the total cost of all such items purchased.

ANSWER:

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

All furniture and electrical goods within my office are on loan from the Department of Infrastructure and remain the property of the Department of Infrastructure.

Energy industries: Commonwealth Games entertainment expenses

1019(aj). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Treasurer for the Minister for Energy Industries — what was the total amount spent by all Government departments for invited guests and those who were hosting guests on entertainment expenses at the Commonwealth Games including —

- (1) Alcohol.
- (2) Food.
- (3) Admission to Commonwealth Games events.
- (4) Admission to other entertainment events.
- (5) Special gifts.
- (6) All transport and corporate box leasing.

ANSWER:

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

There was no expenditure by the Department of Infrastructure (Energy and Security).

Aboriginal affairs: charter flights

1020(o). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Environment for the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs — what are the details of all chartered flights, including helicopters and light planes, used by the Minister in 2004–05, indicating for each flight —

- (1) Date.
- (2) Carrier.
- (3) Destination.
- (4) Cost.
- (5) Purpose.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

In my capacity as Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, I used a light plane on four occasions in 2004–05 to conduct regional consultations on changes to Victorian Aboriginal Affairs including Cultural Heritage legislation:

1.

- (1) 22 July 2004
- (2) Australasian Jet
- (3) Wodonga
- (4) \$4510.00

2.

- (1) 27 July 2004

- (2) Australasian Jet
- (3) Sale
- (4) \$6248.00

3.

- (1) 15 October 2004
- (2) Australasian Jet
- (3) Warrnambool
- (4) \$4000.00

4.

- (1) 19 October 2004
- (2) Australasian Jet
- (3) Swan Hill
- (4) \$4840

Planning: charter flights

1020(ab). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Planning — what are the details of all chartered flights, including helicopters and light planes, used by the Minister in 2004–05, indicating for each flight —

- (1) Date.
- (2) Carrier.
- (3) Destination.
- (4) Cost.
- (5) Purpose.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

According to records held by the Department of Sustainability and Environment, no chartered flights were used by the Minister for Planning during the 2004–05 financial year.

Planning: media research and public opinion polls

1021(ab). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Planning — with reference to each department, agency and authority under the Minister’s administration — what are the details of all media research and public opinion polling conducted in 2004–05, including —

- (1) The title of each poll or item of research.
- (2) The date approved and duration of contract.
- (3) The personnel conducting the project.
- (4) Whether it was put to tender.

- (5) The recommendations made.
- (6) Any actions taken by the department or the Minister.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Given the broad nature of the question, the research required to provide this information would place an unreasonable burden on public time and resources.

Agriculture: international travel

1022(b). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Agriculture — what was the cost, including airfares, accommodation and expenses, of all international travel undertaken by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The total cost of international travel undertaken by the Minister for Agriculture and his staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005 was \$28,536.

Energy industries: intrastate travel

1024(aj). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Treasurer for the Minister for Energy Industries — what was the cost, including airfares, air charter, accommodation and expenses, of all intrastate travel undertaken by the Ministers and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

ANSWER:

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

The cost, including airfares, air charter, accommodation and expenses, of all intrastate travel undertaken by the Ministers and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005 is \$3,893.03.

Planning: entertainment expenses

1025(ab). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Planning — with reference to the entertainment expenses incurred by Ministers and ministerial staff —

- (1) What entertainment expenses, including restaurant and catering, were incurred by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.
- (2) What expenses were incurred by the Minister and ministerial staff for the purchase of alcohol for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.
- (3) What expenses were incurred by each department and agency under the Minister's administration for the purchase of alcohol for the Minister, ministerial staff and the Minister's office in 2004–05.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Nil entertainment expenses.

Energy industries: credit cards

1027(aj). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Treasurer for the Minister for Energy Industries — Does the Minister and/or staff of the Minister hold one or more credit cards issued by the Government; if so, what is the total value of purchases on each such credit card since 1 January 2005 to 1 March 2006 and of the purchases made —

- (1) What was the date of each purchase.
- (2) What was the cost of each purchase.
- (3) Who is the credit card provider.
- (4) What was the criteria for issue.
- (5) What was the criteria for usage.
- (6) What is the spending limit.
- (7) What type of authority is required for purchase.

ANSWER:

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

The Minister and/or staff of the Minister did not hold one or more credit cards issued by the Government during the period 1 January 2005 to 1 March 2006.

Resources: training expenditure

1028(c). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Agriculture for the Minister for Resources — with reference to expenditure on conferences, seminars, workshops and training courses or like events by each department, agency or authority within their administration for the period 1 January 2004 to 1 March 2006 —

- (1) What was the name of each conference, course seminar, workshop or like event attended indicating —
 - (a) the locality;
 - (b) the venue;
 - (c) the purpose;
- (2) What was the cost of each event including —
 - (a) accommodation;
 - (b) entertainment;
 - (c) meals and refreshments;
 - (d) travel;
 - (e) taxis and hire cars;
 - (f) other expenses.
- (3) Was the event externally organised; if so, by which company and at what cost.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question requests an unreasonably large quantity of information.

Providing a consolidated response detailing expenditure on conferences, seminars, workshops and training courses by the each individual department, agency and authority within my administration would place an undue strain on Departmental resources.

Local government: training expenditure

1028(q). **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Environment for the Minister for Local Government — with reference to expenditure on conferences, seminars, workshops and training courses or like events by each department, agency or authority within their administration for the period 1 January 2004 to 1 March 2006 —

- (1) What was the name of each conference, course seminar, workshop or like event attended indicating —
 - (a) the locality;
 - (b) the venue;
 - (c) the purpose;

- (2) What was the cost of each event including —
 - (a) accommodation;
 - (b) entertainment;
 - (c) meals and refreshments;
 - (d) travel;
 - (e) taxis and hire cars;
 - (f) other expenses.

- (3) Was the event externally organised; if so, by which company and at what cost.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Due to the broad nature of the question, the research required to provide a response would place an unreasonable burden on the time and resources of the Department.

Planning: training expenditure

1028(ab). **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Planning — with reference to expenditure on conferences, seminars, workshops and training courses or like events by each department, agency or authority within their administration for the period 1 January 2004 to 1 March 2006 —

- (1) What was the name of each conference, course seminar, workshop or like event attended indicating —
 - (a) the locality;
 - (b) the venue;
 - (c) the purpose;

- (2) What was the cost of each event including —
 - (a) accommodation;
 - (b) entertainment;
 - (c) meals and refreshments;
 - (d) travel;

- (e) taxis and hire cars;
 - (f) other expenses.
- (3) Was the event externally organised; if so, by which company and at what cost.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Given the broad nature of this question, the research required to provide this information would place an unreasonable burden on public time and resources.

Energy industries: training expenditure

1028(aj). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Treasurer for the Minister for Energy Industries — with reference to expenditure on conferences, seminars, workshops and training courses or like events by each department, agency or authority within their administration for the period 1 January 2004 to 1 March 2006 —

- (1) What was the name of each conference, course seminar, workshop or like event attended indicating —
 - (a) the locality;
 - (b) the venue;
 - (c) the purpose;
- (2) What was the cost of each event including —
 - (a) accommodation;
 - (b) entertainment;
 - (c) meals and refreshments;
 - (d) travel;
 - (e) taxis and hire cars;
 - (f) other expenses.
- (3) Was the event externally organised; if so, by which company and at what cost.

ANSWER:

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

To provide details of the information requested in this question for all conferences, seminars, workshops and training courses or like events by each department, agency or authority within my administration for the period 1 January 2004 to 1 March 2006 would be an unreasonable diversion of the Department's, agencies' and authorities' resources respectively.

Resources: departmental publications

1029(c). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Agriculture for the Minister for Resources — with reference to each department, agency, and authority under the Minister's administration from 1 January 2005 to 1 March 2006 — what are the details of all publications produced indicating in each case —

- (1) The title.
- (2) The date of issue.
- (3) Details of distribution.

- (4) The numbers printed.
- (5) The cost of production.
- (6) The purpose of production.
- (7) Who it was printed by.
- (8) Whether tenders were called.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Providing a consolidated response providing details of all publications produced by the Department of Primary Industries and each individual agency and authority within my administration would place an undue strain on Departmental resources.

Planning: departmental publications

1029(ab). **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Planning — with reference to each department, agency, and authority under the Minister’s administration from 1 January 2005 to 1 March 2006 — what are the details of all publications produced indicating in each case —

- (1) The title.
- (2) The date of issue.
- (3) Details of distribution.
- (4) The numbers printed.
- (5) The cost of production.
- (6) The purpose of production.
- (7) Who it was printed by.
- (8) Whether tenders were called.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The details of major publications are included in each organisation’s annual report of operations and are publicly available in accordance with the Minister for Finance’s Financial Reporting Direction 22A issued under the Financial Management Act of 1994.

Resources: government surveys

1030(c). **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Agriculture for the Minister for Resources — with reference to all surveys commissioned and conducted by all government departments, agencies or authorities under the Minister’s administration between 1 March 2004 and 1 March 2006 —

- (1) What is the total number of surveys that have been commissioned or conducted.
- (2) What is the total cost of the surveys including —
 - (a) Production costs.
 - (b) The cost of the contracted firms conducting the surveys.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Providing a consolidated response providing details of all surveys commissioned and conducted by the Department of Primary Industries and each individual agency and authority within my administration would place an undue strain on departmental resources.

Planning: government surveys

1030(ab). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Planning — with reference to all surveys commissioned and conducted by all government departments, agencies or authorities under the Minister’s administration between 1 March 2004 and 1 March 2006 —

- (1) What is the total number of surveys that have been commissioned or conducted.
- (2) What is the total cost of the surveys including —
 - (a) Production costs.
 - (b) The cost of the contracted firms conducting the surveys.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Given the broad nature of this question, the research required to provide this information would place an unreasonable burden on public time and resources.

Energy industries: external legal advice

1033(aj). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Treasurer for the Minister for Energy Industries — what was the total amount spent on external legal advice by each department, agency or other authority under the Minister’s administration in 2004–05.

ANSWER:

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

To provide details of payments made by departments, agencies, or other authorities under my administration would be an unreasonable diversion of my department’s resources.

Resources: leasing arrangements

1034(c). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Agriculture for the Minister for Resources — As at 1 March 2006 what is the total cost of leasing arrangements over the term of each contract for head office accommodation that has been entered into by all departments, agencies and authorities under the Minister’s administration.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Providing a consolidated response detailing the total cost of leasing arrangements for head office accommodation by the Department of Primary Industries and each individual agency and authority within my administration would place an undue strain on Departmental resources.

Energy industries: leasing arrangements

1034(aj). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Treasurer for the Minister for Energy Industries — As at 1 March 2006 what is the total cost of leasing arrangements over the term of each contract for head office

accommodation that has been entered into by all departments, agencies and authorities under the Minister's administration.

ANSWER:

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

To provide details of head office leasing arrangements made by departments, agencies, or other authorities under my administration would be an unreasonable diversion of my department's resources.

Resources: stress leave

1035(c). **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Agriculture for the Minister for Resources — with reference to each department, agency, and authority under the Minister's administration — what is the total number of staff that have taken time off because of stress-related illnesses and of these —

- (1) What is the total number of days taken off by these staff.
- (2) What is the estimated cost of these staff absences
- (3) What are the details of each case.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The personal medical records of staff are in-confidence between that staff member and their doctor, and therefore I have no intention of relaying details of staff members' personal circumstances.

Energy industries: stress leave

1035(aj). **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Treasurer for the Minister for Energy Industries — with reference to each department, agency, and authority under the Minister's administration — what is the total number of staff that have taken time off because of stress-related illnesses and of these —

- (1) What is the total number of days taken off by these staff.
- (2) What is the estimated cost of these staff absences
- (3) What are the details of each case.

ANSWER:

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

To provide details of stress related illnesses relating to staff of departments, agencies, or other authorities under my administration would be an unreasonable diversion of my department's resources.

It would also breach medical confidentiality.

Resources: workers compensation costs

1037(c). **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Agriculture for the Minister for Resources — with reference to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's jurisdiction, including the Ministerial Office — how many employees, both permanent and non-permanent, are currently on workers compensation as a result of workplace injury and what is the estimated cost resulting from these claims.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The health and medical circumstances of staff members is personal and confidential information which I have no intention of relaying.

Health: workers compensation costs

1037(u). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Health — with reference to each department, agency and authority within the Minister’s jurisdiction, including the Ministerial Office — how many employees, both permanent and non-permanent, are currently on workers compensation as a result of workplace injury and what is the estimated cost resulting from these claims.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

To collate and provide details would be an unreasonable diversion of my Department’s resources.

Energy industries: workers compensation costs

1037(aj). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Treasurer for the Minister for Energy Industries — with reference to each department, agency and authority within the Minister’s jurisdiction, including the Ministerial Office — how many employees, both permanent and non-permanent, are currently on workers compensation as a result of workplace injury and what is the estimated cost resulting from these claims.

ANSWER:

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

To provide the information sought relating to workers compensation as a result of workplace injuries of employees of departments, agencies, or other authorities under my administration and my own Office, would be an unreasonable diversion of my department’s resources.

Resources: web site costs

1038(c). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Agriculture for the Minister for Resources — what is the total number of websites currently owned, operated or administered by each department, agency or authority within the Minister’s jurisdiction what has been the total cost for the design, administration and maintenance of each web site from 1 March 2004 to 1 March 2006.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Department of Primary Industries recognises that websites are an important tool for providing publicly accessible information to stakeholders and the people of Victoria. Providing a consolidated response detailing the total number of websites owned, operated and administered by the Department of Primary Industries, my ministerial office and each individual agency and authority within my administration would place an undue strain on Departmental resources.

Energy industries: web site costs

1038(aj). Mr **HONEYWOOD** to ask the Treasurer for the Minister for Energy Industries — what is the total number of websites currently owned, operated or administered by each department, agency or authority within the Minister’s jurisdiction what has been the total cost for the design, administration and maintenance of each web site from 1 March 2004 to 1 March 2006.

ANSWER:

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

To provide the requested details relating to websites owned, operated or administered by departments, agencies, or other authorities under my administration during the specified period, would be an unreasonable diversion of my department’s resources.

Energy industries: Shannon’s Way Pty Ltd

1045(aj). Ms **ASHER** to ask the Treasurer for the Minister for Energy Industries with reference to government payments made to Shannon’s Way Pty Ltd since 1 January 2005 —

- (1) What payments have been made to the company by the Minister’s department or private office, or agency or statutory body under the Minister’s administration.
- (2) On what dates were the payments made.
- (3) What projects were paid for with the payments.

ANSWER:

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

I have no knowledge of any such payments referred to by the Member.

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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, 23 August 2006

Energy industries: Social Shift Pty Ltd

597(ag). Ms ASHER to ask the Minister for Transport for the Minister for Energy Industries — with reference to Social Shift Pty Ltd —

- (1) What payments have been made to the company by the Minister's department or private office or any agency or statutory body under the Minister's administration since 28 October 2003.
- (2) On what dates were the payments made.
- (3) Briefly describe the project for which payment was made.

ANSWER:

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

No payments have been made in this period by the Department, private office or agency or Statutory Authority under my administration.

Premier: Snowy Hydro privatisation

1009. Mr INGRAM to ask the Premier with reference to the comments made by the Snowy Hydro managing director, Mr Terry Charlton, that the Government would be required to pay hundreds of millions of dollars in compensation to Snowy Hydro for the loss of generation capacity to meet the Government's commitment to returning environmental flows into the Snowy River from 21 per cent to 28 per cent —

- (1) Has the Government assessed its potential liability in relation to compensation payable to Snowy Hydro.
- (2) Is the liability for compensation the sole responsibility of Victoria, or will it be shared between other shareholding governments.
- (3) Has the Government taken any action to protect taxpayers from paying Snowy Hydro compensation.
- (4) Will compensation need to be paid before or after privatisation, and in what years will compensation need to be paid.
- (5) Does the Government intend to put aside money to meet the compensation liability from the generated revenue of the sale.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

- 1) The Victorian and New South Wales Governments are still working towards achieving 21 per cent of environmental flows in the Snowy by 2012. Assessment of potential liability (if any) for flows above 21 per cent will require Government to consider the evolution of the Australian electricity and water markets, including greenhouse policy changes, the state of the renewable energy sector, maturation of trading in water rights, and the effect on prices in those markets. Once environmental flows are approaching the level of 21 per cent, the Victorian Government will take these issues into consideration in assessing its liability (if any).

- 2) The agreement reached at corporatisation was that NSW and Victoria would share the cost of any compensation.
- 3) The payment of compensation is part of the agreements entered into in 2002 by New South Wales and Victoria during corporatisation of Snowy Hydro.
- 4) As the sale of Snowy Hydro Ltd is not proceeding, this question is no longer relevant.
- 5) As the sale of Snowy Hydro Ltd is not proceeding, this question is no longer relevant.

Education and training: minister's private office

1017(k). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Education and Training — what furniture items, including moveable furniture, fixed furniture and electrical goods were purchased for the Minister's private office in 2004–05 and what was the total cost of all such items purchased.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

The total cost was \$717.85.

Education and training: entertainment expenses

1025(k). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Education and Training — with reference to the entertainment expenses incurred by Ministers and ministerial staff —

- (1) What entertainment expenses, including restaurant and catering, were incurred by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.
- (2) What expenses were incurred by the Minister and ministerial staff for the purchase of alcohol for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.
- (3) What expenses were incurred by each department and agency under the Minister's administration for the purchase of alcohol for the Minister, ministerial staff and the Minister's office in 2004–05.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

- (1) Ministerial expenses for hospitality, entertainment and light refreshments were \$3,182.34.
- (2) One component of the Ministerial office budget is hospitality expenses. From time to time hospitality is provided for functions held by my office. Hospitality expenditure for my office is moderate.
- (3) Alcohol is purchased in accordance with government and Departmental hospitality guidelines. The information requested is unable to be provided as the Department operates on a decentralised payment system. Manual checks across the Department would need to be carried out to extract the detailed level of information requested which would require an unreasonable diversion of time and resources.

Energy industries: entertainment expenses

1025(aj). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Treasurer for the Minister for Energy Industries — with reference to the entertainment expenses incurred by Ministers and ministerial staff —

- (1) What entertainment expenses, including restaurant and catering, were incurred by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

- (2) What expenses were incurred by the Minister and ministerial staff for the purchase of alcohol for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.
- (3) What expenses were incurred by each department and agency under the Minister's administration for the purchase of alcohol for the Minister, ministerial staff and the Minister's office in 2004–05.

ANSWER:

One component of the Ministerial office budget is hospitality expenses. From time to time hospitality is provided for functions held by my office. Hospitality expenses for my office are moderate.

Education and training: ministerial staff

1026(k). **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Education and Training — with reference to the total cost and engagement of ministerial staff —

- (1) How many ministerial staff were employed by the Minister as at 1 March 2006.
- (2) What was the total cost associated with the engagement of ministerial staff including salaries, superannuation and WorkCover for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.
- (3) How many public servants were on secondment to the Minister's private office as at 1 March 2006 and were not counted within the ministerial staffing budget.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

- (1) Ministerial staff are employed by the Premier.
- (2) The engagement of ministerial staff including salaries, superannuation and WorkCover falls within the budget of the Department of Premier and Cabinet.
- (3) Nil.

Education and training: credit cards

1027(k). **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Education and Training — Does the Minister and/or staff of the Minister hold one or more credit cards issued by the Government; if so, what is the total value of purchases on each such credit card since 1 January 2005 to 1 March 2006 and of the purchases made —

- (1) What was the date of each purchase.
- (2) What was the cost of each purchase.
- (3) Who is the credit card provider.
- (4) What was the criteria for issue.
- (5) What was the criteria for usage.
- (6) What is the spending limit.
- (7) What type of authority is required for purchase.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Neither I nor any of my ministerial staff have corporate cards.

Education and training: training expenditure

1028(k). **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Education and Training — with reference to expenditure on conferences, seminars, workshops and training courses or like events by each department, agency or authority within their administration for the period 1 January 2004 to 1 March 2006 —

- (1) What was the name of each conference, course seminar, workshop or like event attended indicating —
 - (a) the locality;
 - (b) the venue;
 - (c) the purpose;

- (2) What was the cost of each event including —
 - (a) accommodation;
 - (b) entertainment;
 - (c) meals and refreshments;
 - (d) travel;
 - (e) taxis and hire cars;
 - (f) other expenses.

- (3) Was the event externally organised; if so, by which company and at what cost.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Due to the broad nature of the question, the research required to provide a response would place an unreasonable burden on the time and resources of the Department.

Health: training expenditure

1028(u). **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Health — with reference to expenditure on conferences, seminars, workshops and training courses or like events by each department, agency or authority within their administration for the period 1 January 2004 to 1 March 2006 —

- (1) What was the name of each conference, course seminar, workshop or like event attended indicating —
 - (a) the locality;
 - (b) the venue;
 - (c) the purpose;

- (2) What was the cost of each event including —
 - (a) accommodation;
 - (b) entertainment;
 - (c) meals and refreshments;
 - (d) travel;
 - (e) taxis and hire cars;
 - (f) other expenses.

- (3) Was the event externally organised; if so, by which company and at what cost.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

To provide details of payment made would be an unreasonable diversion of my department's resources.

Aged care: training expenditure

1028(v). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Health for the Minister for Aged Care — with reference to expenditure on conferences, seminars, workshops and training courses or like events by each department, agency or authority within their administration for the period 1 January 2004 to 1 March 2006 —

- (1) What was the name of each conference, course seminar, workshop or like event attended indicating —
 - (a) the locality;
 - (b) the venue;
 - (c) the purpose;
- (2) What was the cost of each event including —
 - (a) accommodation;
 - (b) entertainment;
 - (c) meals and refreshments;
 - (d) travel;
 - (e) taxis and hire cars;
 - (f) other expenses.
- (3) Was the event externally organised; if so, by which company and at what cost.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

To provide details of payment made would be an unreasonable diversion of my department's resources.

Housing: training expenditure

1028(w). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Health for the Minister for Housing — with reference to expenditure on conferences, seminars, workshops and training courses or like events by each department, agency or authority within their administration for the period 1 January 2004 to 1 March 2006 —

- (1) What was the name of each conference, course seminar, workshop or like event attended indicating —
 - (a) the locality;
 - (b) the venue;
 - (c) the purpose;
- (2) What was the cost of each event including —
 - (a) accommodation;
 - (b) entertainment;
 - (c) meals and refreshments;

- (d) travel;
- (e) taxis and hire cars;
- (f) other expenses.

(3) Was the event externally organised; if so, by which company and at what cost.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

To provide details of payment made would be an unreasonable diversion of my department's resources.

Multicultural affairs: training expenditure

1028(aq). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister assisting the Premier on Multicultural Affairs — with reference to expenditure on conferences, seminars, workshops and training courses or like events by each department, agency or authority within their administration for the period 1 January 2004 to 1 March 2006 —

- (1) What was the name of each conference, course seminar, workshop or like event attended indicating —
 - (a) the locality;
 - (b) the venue;
 - (c) the purpose;
- (2) What was the cost of each event including —
 - (a) accommodation;
 - (b) entertainment;
 - (c) meals and refreshments;
 - (d) travel;
 - (e) taxis and hire cars;
 - (f) other expenses.
- (3) Was the event externally organised; if so, by which company and at what cost.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Due to the broad nature of the question, the research required to provide a response would place an unreasonable burden on the time and resources of the Department.

Education and training: departmental publications

1029(k). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Education and Training — with reference to each department, agency, and authority under the Minister's administration from 1 January 2005 to 1 March 2006 — what are the details of all publications produced indicating in each case —

- (1) The title.
- (2) The date of issue.
- (3) Details of distribution.
- (4) The numbers printed.

- (5) The cost of production.
- (6) The purpose of production.
- (7) Who it was printed by.
- (8) Whether tenders were called.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Given the wide variety of publications published across the Department of Education and Training and the agencies and authorities under my administration, which includes electronic publications, providing these details would require an unreasonable diversion of time and resources.

A list of major publications forms part of the Department of Education and Training's Annual Report as additional information available on request.

Education and training: government surveys

1030(k). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Education and Training — with reference to all surveys commissioned and conducted by all government departments, agencies or authorities under the Minister's administration between 1 March 2004 and 1 March 2006 —

- (1) What is the total number of surveys that have been commissioned or conducted.
- (2) What is the total cost of the surveys including —
 - (a) Production costs.
 - (b) The cost of the contracted firms conducting the surveys.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

The Department of Education and Training operates on a decentralised payment system. Manual checks across the Department would need to be carried out to extract the detailed level of information requested which would require an unreasonable diversion of time and resources.

Environment: external legal advice

1033(n). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Environment — what was the total amount spent on external legal advice by each department, agency or other authority under the Minister's administration in 2004–05.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Details of legal expenses incurred by government departments and agencies are publicly available and can be found in the Government Legal Services Annual Report.

Water: external legal advice

1033(ao). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Water — what was the total amount spent on external legal advice by each department, agency or other authority under the Minister's administration in 2004–05.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Details of legal expenses incurred by government departments and agencies are publicly available and can be found in the Government Legal Services Annual Report.

Education and training: leasing arrangements

1034(k). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Education and Training — As at 1 March 2006 what is the total cost of leasing arrangements over the term of each contract for head office accommodation that has been entered into by all departments, agencies and authorities under the Minister's administration.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Providing these details would be an unreasonable diversion of the Department's time and resources.

Environment: leasing arrangements

1034(n). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Environment — As at 1 March 2006 what is the total cost of leasing arrangements over the term of each contract for head office accommodation that has been entered into by all departments, agencies and authorities under the Minister's administration.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Given the broad nature of the question, the research required to provide this information would place an unreasonable burden on public time and resources. However, information regarding leasing costs is usually included in the Annual Report of each department, agency and authority.

Water: leasing arrangements

1034(ao). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Water — As at 1 March 2006 what is the total cost of leasing arrangements over the term of each contract for head office accommodation that has been entered into by all departments, agencies and authorities under the Minister's administration.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Given the broad nature of the question, the research required to provide this information would place an unreasonable burden on public time and resources. However, information regarding leasing costs is usually included in the Annual Report of each department, agency and authority.

Women's affairs: leasing arrangements

1034(ap). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Women's Affairs — As at 1 March 2006 what is the total cost of leasing arrangements over the term of each contract for head office accommodation that has been entered into by all departments, agencies and authorities under the Minister's administration.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Minister for Finance is the responsible Minister for entering into lease agreements for head office accommodation. The Victorian Government Property Group within the Department of Treasury and Finance maintains lease documentation including lease costs.

Education and training: stress leave

1035(k). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Education and Training — with reference to each department, agency, and authority under the Minister's administration — what is the total number of staff that have taken time off because of stress-related illnesses and of these —

- (1) What is the total number of days taken off by these staff.
- (2) What is the estimated cost of these staff absences
- (3) What are the details of each case.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

The research required to provide a response would place an unreasonable burden on the time and resources of the Department.

Environment: stress leave

1035(n). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Environment — with reference to each department, agency, and authority under the Minister's administration — what is the total number of staff that have taken time off because of stress-related illnesses and of these —

- (1) What is the total number of days taken off by these staff.
- (2) What is the estimated cost of these staff absences
- (3) What are the details of each case.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not specify a relevant time period and is therefore impossible to answer. Responses have been tabled to similar questions that were asked in 2005, which sought information regarding stress related leave taken by staff members of agencies and authorities under my administration during the 2004–05 financial year. I refer the member to these responses.

Water: stress leave

1035(ao). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Water — with reference to each department, agency, and authority under the Minister's administration — what is the total number of staff that have taken time off because of stress-related illnesses and of these —

- (1) What is the total number of days taken off by these staff.
- (2) What is the estimated cost of these staff absences
- (3) What are the details of each case.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not specify a relevant time period and is therefore impossible to answer. Responses have been tabled to similar questions that were asked in 2005, which sought information regarding stress related leave taken by staff members of agencies and authorities under my administration during the 2004–05 financial year. I refer the member to these responses.

Education and training: workers compensation costs

1037(k). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Education and Training — with reference to each department, agency and authority within the Minister’s jurisdiction, including the Ministerial Office — how many employees, both permanent and non-permanent, are currently on workers compensation as a result of workplace injury and what is the estimated cost resulting from these claims.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

The health and medical circumstances of staff, including whether or not they choose to make workers compensation claims, are confidential.

Aged care: workers compensation costs

1037(v). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Health for the Minister for Aged Care — with reference to each department, agency and authority within the Minister’s jurisdiction, including the Ministerial Office — how many employees, both permanent and non-permanent, are currently on workers compensation as a result of workplace injury and what is the estimated cost resulting from these claims.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

To collate and provide details would be an unreasonable diversion of my Department’s resources.

Housing: workers compensation costs

1037(w). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Health for the Minister for Housing — with reference to each department, agency and authority within the Minister’s jurisdiction, including the Ministerial Office — how many employees, both permanent and non-permanent, are currently on workers compensation as a result of workplace injury and what is the estimated cost resulting from these claims.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

To collate and provide details would be an unreasonable diversion of my Department’s resources.

Education and training: web site costs

1038(k). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Education and Training — what is the total number of websites currently owned, operated or administered by each department, agency or authority within the Minister’s jurisdiction what has been the total cost for the design, administration and maintenance of each web site from 1 March 2004 to 1 March 2006.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Management of Departmental websites is decentralised. Manual checks would need to be carried out to extract the detailed level of information requested which would require an unreasonable diversion of time and resources.

Corrections: Shannon's Way Pty Ltd

1045(j). Ms ASHER to ask the Minister for Corrections with reference to government payments made to Shannon's Way Pty Ltd since 1 January 2005 —

- (1) What payments have been made to the company by the Minister's department or private office, or agency or statutory body under the Minister's administration.
- (2) On what dates were the payments made.
- (3) What projects were paid for with the payments.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

- (1) There were no payments made to Shannon's Way Pty Ltd by Corrections Victoria, my private office, or by the Adult Parole Board between 1 January 2005 and 2 May 2006*.

The only payments made by the Department of Justice to Shannon's Way Pty Ltd over the specified period did not relate to my responsibilities as Minister for Corrections.

*The date that the question was asked.

Education and training: Shannon's Way Pty Ltd

1045(k). Ms ASHER to ask the Minister for Education and Training with reference to government payments made to Shannon's Way Pty Ltd since 1 January 2005 —

- (1) What payments have been made to the company by the Minister's department or private office, or agency or statutory body under the Minister's administration.
- (2) On what dates were the payments made.
- (3) What projects were paid for with the payments.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

No payments have been made to Shannon's Way Pty Ltd by the Department of Education and Training or my private office since 1 January 2005.

To search for details of payments made by agencies and statutory bodies under my administration would require an unreasonable diversion of time and resources.

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, 24 August 2006

Education services: minister's private office

1017(l). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Education Services — what furniture items, including moveable furniture, fixed furniture and electrical goods were purchased for the Minister's private office in 2004–05 and what was the total cost of all such items purchased.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

For my portfolio responsibilities as Minister for Education Services and Minister for Employment and Youth Affairs, the total cost was \$831.82.

Environment: minister's private office

1017(n). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Environment — what furniture items, including moveable furniture, fixed furniture and electrical goods were purchased for the Minister's private office in 2004–05 and what was the total cost of all such items purchased.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

According to the records of the Department of Sustainability and Environment, no furniture items have been purchased for the office of the Minister for Environment.

Water: minister's private office

1017(ao). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Water — what furniture items, including moveable furniture, fixed furniture and electrical goods were purchased for the Minister's private office in 2004–05 and what was the total cost of all such items purchased.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

According to the records of the Department of Sustainability and Environment, no furniture items have been purchased for the office of the Minister for Water.

Education and training: Commonwealth Games entertainment expenses

1019(k). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Education and Training — what was the total amount spent by all Government departments for invited guests and those who were hosting guests on entertainment expenses at the Commonwealth Games including —

- (1) Alcohol.
- (2) Food.
- (3) Admission to Commonwealth Games events.
- (4) Admission to other entertainment events.
- (5) Special gifts.
- (6) All transport and corporate box leasing.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

The Victorian Government and the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games Corporation jointly provided hosting opportunities for Ministers and senior Departmental officers during the Commonwealth Games. These entertainment expenses form part of the whole of Games budget. The accounts are still being received and when collated will be included in the Government's financial report on the Games.

Education services: Commonwealth Games entertainment expenses

1019(1). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Education Services — what was the total amount spent by all Government departments for invited guests and those who were hosting guests on entertainment expenses at the Commonwealth Games including —

- (1) Alcohol.
- (2) Food.
- (3) Admission to Commonwealth Games events.
- (4) Admission to other entertainment events.
- (5) Special gifts.
- (6) All transport and corporate box leasing.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

The Victorian Government and the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games Corporation jointly provided hosting opportunities for Ministers and senior Departmental officers during the Commonwealth Games. These entertainment expenses form part of the whole of Games budget. The accounts are still being received and when collated will be included in the Government's financial report on the Games.

Education services: charter flights

1020(1). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Education Services — what are the details of all chartered flights, including helicopters and light planes, used by the Minister in 2004–05, indicating for each flight —

- (1) Date.
- (2) Carrier.
- (3) Destination.
- (4) Cost.
- (5) Purpose.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

For my portfolio responsibilities as Minister for Education Services and Minister for Employment and Youth Affairs, the total cost was \$4,345.00.

Energy industries: charter flights

1020(aj). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Treasurer for the Minister for Energy Industries — what are the details of all chartered flights, including helicopters and light planes, used by the Minister in 2004–05, indicating for each flight —

- (1) Date.
- (2) Carrier.
- (3) Destination.
- (4) Cost.
- (5) Purpose.

ANSWER:

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

Date	Carrier	Destination	Cost \$	Purpose
6/7/04	Australasian Jet Aircraft Charter & Management Pty Ltd	Warrnambool	3,280	Portfolio related event.
7/7/04	Australasian Jet Aircraft Charter & Management Pty Ltd (arranged by DPC)	Portland	1,975	Portfolio related event.
Total			5,255	

Women's affairs: charter flights

1020(ap). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Women's Affairs — what are the details of all chartered flights, including helicopters and light planes, used by the Minister in 2004–05, indicating for each flight —

- (1) Date.
- (2) Carrier.
- (3) Destination.
- (4) Cost.
- (5) Purpose.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The answer is nil.

Education and training: media research and public opinion polls

1021(k). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Education and Training — with reference to each department, agency and authority under the Minister’s administration — what are the details of all media research and public opinion polling conducted in 2004–05, including —

- (1) The title of each poll or item of research.
- (2) The date approved and duration of contract.
- (3) The personnel conducting the project.
- (4) Whether it was put to tender.
- (5) The recommendations made.
- (6) Any actions taken by the department or the Minister.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Details of all media research and public opinion polling are:

- (1) *Report on Attitudes of Teachers and the General Population.*
- (2) 2 August 2004 for eight weeks.
- (3) The Victorian Institute of Teaching.
- (4) Yes.
- (5) Key findings established baseline marketing data that allow the Institute to set measurable marketing objectives and develop specific communications strategies.
- (6) The results of the research were released by the Institute’s Chairperson to coincide with the Institute’s promotional campaign for World Teachers’ Day 2004.

Education services: media research and public opinion polls

1021(l). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Education Services — with reference to each department, agency and authority under the Minister’s administration — what are the details of all media research and public opinion polling conducted in 2004–05, including —

- (1) The title of each poll or item of research.
- (2) The date approved and duration of contract.
- (3) The personnel conducting the project.
- (4) Whether it was put to tender.
- (5) The recommendations made.
- (6) Any actions taken by the department or the Minister.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

This is a question best directed to the Minister for Education and Training.

Education services: international travel

1022(l). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Education Services — what was the cost, including airfares, accommodation and expenses, of all international travel undertaken by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

For my portfolio responsibilities as Minister for Education Services and Minister for Employment and Youth Affairs, the total cost was \$23,170.27.

Environment: international travel

1022(n). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Environment — what was the cost, including airfares, accommodation and expenses, of all international travel undertaken by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

According to the records of the Department of Sustainability and Environment, no international travel was undertaken by the Minister for Environment and ministerial staff during the period specified.

Water: international travel

1022(ao). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Water — what was the cost, including airfares, accommodation and expenses, of all international travel undertaken by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

According to the records of the Department of Sustainability and Environment, no international travel was undertaken by the Minister for Water and ministerial staff during the period specified.

Education services: interstate travel

1023(l). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Education Services — what was the cost, including airfares, accommodation and expenses, of all interstate travel undertaken by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

For my portfolio responsibilities as Minister for Education Services and Minister for Employment and Youth Affairs, the total cost was \$3,352.91.

Education services: intrastate travel

1024(l). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Education Services — what was the cost, including airfares, air charter, accommodation and expenses, of all intrastate travel undertaken by the Ministers and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

For my portfolio responsibilities as Minister for Education Services and Minister for Employment and Youth Affairs, the total cost was \$7,725.43.

Education services: entertainment expenses

1025(l). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Education Services — with reference to the entertainment expenses incurred by Ministers and ministerial staff —

- (1) What entertainment expenses, including restaurant and catering, were incurred by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.
- (2) What expenses were incurred by the Minister and ministerial staff for the purchase of alcohol for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.
- (3) What expenses were incurred by each department and agency under the Minister's administration for the purchase of alcohol for the Minister, ministerial staff and the Minister's office in 2004–05.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

The broad nature of this question, and given that identical questions have been asked across government, indicates that this is not a genuine inquiry but a speculative question and as such a response would require an unreasonable diversion of time and resources.

Education services: ministerial staff

1026(l). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Education Services — with reference to the total cost and engagement of ministerial staff —

- (1) How many ministerial staff were employed by the Minister as at 1 March 2006.
- (2) What was the total cost associated with the engagement of ministerial staff including salaries, superannuation and WorkCover for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.
- (3) How many public servants were on secondment to the Minister's private office as at 1 March 2006 and were not counted within the ministerial staffing budget.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

- (1) Ministerial staff are employed by the Premier.
- (2) The engagement of ministerial staff including salaries, superannuation and WorkCover falls within the budget of the Department of Premier and Cabinet.
- (3) Nil.

Education services: credit cards

1027(1). **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Education Services — Does the Minister and/or staff of the Minister hold one or more credit cards issued by the Government; if so, what is the total value of purchases on each such credit card since 1 January 2005 to 1 March 2006 and of the purchases made —

- (1) What was the date of each purchase.
- (2) What was the cost of each purchase.
- (3) Who is the credit card provider.
- (4) What was the criteria for issue.
- (5) What was the criteria for usage.
- (6) What is the spending limit.
- (7) What type of authority is required for purchase.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Neither I nor any of my ministerial staff have government issued credit cards.

Education services: training expenditure

1028(1). **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Education Services — with reference to expenditure on conferences, seminars, workshops and training courses or like events by each department, agency or authority within their administration for the period 1 January 2004 to 1 March 2006 —

- (1) What was the name of each conference, course seminar, workshop or like event attended indicating —
 - (a) the locality;
 - (b) the venue;
 - (c) the purpose;
- (2) What was the cost of each event including —
 - (a) accommodation;
 - (b) entertainment;
 - (c) meals and refreshments;
 - (d) travel;
 - (e) taxis and hire cars;
 - (f) other expenses.
- (3) Was the event externally organised; if so, by which company and at what cost.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

This is a question best directed to the Minister for Education and Training.

Education services: departmental publications

1029(1). **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Education Services — with reference to each department, agency, and authority under the Minister's administration from 1 January 2005 to 1 March 2006 — what are the details of all publications produced indicating in each case —

- (1) The title.
- (2) The date of issue.
- (3) Details of distribution.
- (4) The numbers printed.
- (5) The cost of production.
- (6) The purpose of production.
- (7) Who it was printed by.
- (8) Whether tenders were called.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

This is a question best directed to the Minister for Education and Training.

Education services: government surveys

1030(1). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Education Services — with reference to all surveys commissioned and conducted by all government departments, agencies or authorities under the Minister's administration between 1 March 2004 and 1 March 2006 —

- (1) What is the total number of surveys that have been commissioned or conducted.
- (2) What is the total cost of the surveys including —
 - (a) Production costs.
 - (b) The cost of the contracted firms conducting the surveys.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

This is a question best directed to the Minister for Education and Training.

Education services: external legal advice

1033(1). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Education Services — what was the total amount spent on external legal advice by each department, agency or other authority under the Minister's administration in 2004–05.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

This is a question best directed to the Minister for Education and Training.

Education services: leasing arrangements

1034(1). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Education Services — As at 1 March 2006 what is the total cost of leasing arrangements over the term of each contract for head office accommodation that has been entered into by all departments, agencies and authorities under the Minister's administration.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

This is a question best directed to the Minister for Education and Training.

Education services: stress leave

1035(1). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Education Services — with reference to each department, agency, and authority under the Minister’s administration — what is the total number of staff that have taken time off because of stress-related illnesses and of these —

- (1) What is the total number of days taken off by these staff.
- (2) What is the estimated cost of these staff absences
- (3) What are the details of each case.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

The personal medical records of staff are confidential.

Education services: workers compensation costs

1037(1). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Education Services — with reference to each department, agency and authority within the Minister’s jurisdiction, including the Ministerial Office — how many employees, both permanent and non-permanent, are currently on workers compensation as a result of workplace injury and what is the estimated cost resulting from these claims.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

The health and medical circumstances of staff, including whether or not they choose to make workers compensation claims, are confidential.

Education services: web site costs

1038(1). Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Education Services — what is the total number of websites currently owned, operated or administered by each department, agency or authority within the Minister’s jurisdiction what has been the total cost for the design, administration and maintenance of each web site from 1 March 2004 to 1 March 2006.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

This is a question best directed to the Minister for Education and Training.

Education services: Shannon’s Way Pty Ltd

1045(1). Ms ASHER to ask the Minister for Education Services with reference to government payments made to Shannon’s Way Pty Ltd since 1 January 2005 —

- (1) What payments have been made to the company by the Minister’s department or private office, or agency or statutory body under the Minister’s administration.
- (2) On what dates were the payments made.
- (3) What projects were paid for with the payments.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

With regard to the Department of Education and Training, this is a question best directed to the Minister for Education and Training.

As Minister for Education Services and Minister for Employment and Youth Affairs, no payments have been made to Shannon's Way Pty Ltd by my private office since 1 January 2005.