

**PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA**

**PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES  
(HANSARD)**

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

**FIFTY-SIXTH PARLIAMENT**

**FIRST SESSION**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**17, 18 and 19 April 2007**

**(Extract from book 5)**

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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 Council.  
 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, 17 April 2007**

**Industry and state development: investment projects**

1. **MR RICH-PHILLIPS** — To ask the Minister for Industry and State Development: In relation to the “investment projects under development” 2005-06 Performance of 260 as recorded on page 152 of the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development Annual Report 2005-06, how many were initiated in —
- (a) China;
  - (b) Hong Kong;
  - (c) Singapore;
  - (d) South East Asia (excluding Singapore);
  - (e) India;
  - (f) the European Union (excluding the United Kingdom);
  - (g) the United Kingdom;
  - (h) Canada;
  - (i) the United States of America;
  - (j) New Zealand;
  - (k) United Arab Emirates; and
  - (l) other countries.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The actual outcome for ‘investment projects under development’ as captured by the Investment and Export Projects (IAEP) database for 2005-06 was 260 projects. Of these projects:

- 10 are from China
- 2 are from Hong Kong
- 5 are from Singapore
- 3 are from South East Asia
- 1 is from India
- 18 are from the European Union
- 13 are from the United Kingdom
- 2 are from Canada
- 36 are from the United States
- 2 are from New Zealand
- none are from the United Arab Emirates; and
- 168 are from other countries.

**Industry and state development: investment projects**

2. **MR RICH-PHILLIPS** — To ask the Minister for Industry and State Development: In relation to the “investment projects under development” 2005-06 Performance of 260 as recorded on page 152 of the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development Annual Report 2005-06, how many projects were initiated as a result of an approach to a potential investor by —
- (a) Invest Victoria;
  - (b) a Victorian Government Business Office;
  - (c) one of the Department’s Special Trade Envoys; or
  - (d) a potential investor to the Victorian Government.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Department has a number of arms working towards the generation of leads to attract investment into Victoria. Figures relating to the number of projects initiated as a result of an approach by Invest Victoria, VGBOs, STEs and potential investors to the Victorian Government are difficult to quantify due to the fact that many areas across DIIRD are actively involved in multiple stages of the investment attraction pipeline.

In relation to parts a) and b) of the question it should be noted that VGBO staff are a part of Invest Victoria (IV). On-shore and off-shore staff of IV work collaboratively on lead generation and it is therefore not always black and white as to where a lead was generated or pursued.

In relation to part c) it should be noted that the primary focus for the Department’s Special Trade Envoys is to assist potential Victorian exporters to become ‘export ready’ to develop export markets for Victorian exporters. As such, they are not a primary point of contact for potential investors.

**Industry and state development: investment projects**

3. **MR RICH-PHILLIPS** — To ask the Minister for Industry and State Development: In relation to the “investment projects under development” 2005-06 Performance of 260 as recorded on page 152 of the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development Annual Report 2005-06, how many projects were initiated through the following Victorian Government Business Offices —
- (a) Hong Kong;
  - (b) Shanghai;
  - (c) Nanjing;
  - (d) Tokyo;
  - (e) London;
  - (f) Frankfurt;
  - (g) United Arab Emirates;
  - (h) San Francisco;
  - (i) Chicago;
  - (j) New York; and
  - (k) Bangalore.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Department's Investment and Exports Project (IAEP) database does not capture all information relating to VGBO involvement with investment projects under development; however Invest Victoria records reveal that in 2005-06 current investment projects involving VGBOs were as follows:

- Hong Kong (5)
- Shanghai (1)
- Nanjing (5)
- Tokyo (4)
- London (10)
- Frankfurt (19)
- United Arab Emirates (1)
- San Francisco (14)
- Chicago (24)
- New York (18)
- Bangalore (1)

**Industry and state development: Victorian government business offices**

6. **MR RICH-PHILLIPS** — To ask the Minister for Industry and State Development: In relation to the Victorian Government Business Office in Hong Kong:
- (1) How much was spent on renovating, refitting and refurbishing the VGBO in 2006.
  - (2) Who approved the renovation of the VGBO.
  - (3) What was the purpose of the renovation.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

- (1) The total cost of the refurbishment in 2006 was \$A66,169.30;
- (2) The refurbishment was approved by the Chief Executive Officer, Invest Victoria;
- (3) There were 3 main reasons for refurbishing the HK office :-
  - (i) to provide additional transit desks for use by Victorian companies;
  - (ii) to accommodate a Melbourne Convention and Visitors Bureau (MCVB) sales representative in the office;
  - (iii) to make more efficient use of existing space, including the provision of a conference room, improved utility areas away from the main office, and improved security access measures including the provision of a separate server room, which had been the subject of an unfavourable audit report.

**Industry and state development: Victorian government business offices**

7. **MR RICH-PHILLIPS** — To ask the Minister for Industry and State Development: In relation to each of the "Access China" Desks located in Victorian Government Business Offices (VGBO) in Hong Kong, Shanghai and Nanjing, for the period 1 July 2005 to 30 November 2006:
- (1) How many businesses have used the Access China facilities.
  - (2) How many individual export sales have resulted from making use of the Access China facilities.
  - (3) What is the aggregate value of the export sales achieved through use of the Access China facilities.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Victorian Government has Access China desks located in the Victorian Government Business Office in Hong Kong and Shanghai.

- (1) During the period 332 companies (142 Shanghai, 190 Hong Kong) have used the Access China service, 59 (28 Shanghai, 31 Hong Kong) of which used the office facilities.
- (2) To date, of these companies 31 have reported achieving export sales.
- (3) To date the aggregate value of these reported sales is \$5,297,350.

**Community services: respite funding**

8. **MRS COOTE** — To ask the Minister for Community Services: In relation to the Bilateral Agreement under the Commonwealth States/Territories Disability Agreement for respite for ageing parent carers, how much funding did the Commonwealth make available for 2004-05 which was not expended in the same financial year and was carried forward to 2005-06.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

Victoria received \$2 million from the Commonwealth for the Bilateral Agreement for respite for ageing parent carers in June 2005. This amount was carried forward into 2005-06, as the timing of receipt of funds did not allow expenditure in 2004-05.

**Education: long-term enrolments**

36. **MR O'DONOHUE** — To ask the Minister for Education: What are the long term enrolment figures for Bimbadeen Heights Primary School.

**ANSWER:**

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

As there are no current or recent capital works projects for Bimbadeen Heights Primary School, no up to date long term enrolment figures have been calculated for this school. As with all schools, long term enrolment figures are calculated in the context of a capital works project or a local area planning exercise.

**Education: long-term enrolments**

37. **MR O'DONOHUE** — To ask the Minister for Education: What are the long term enrolment figures for Manchester Primary School.

**ANSWER:**

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

As there are no current or recent capital works projects for Manchester Primary School, no up-to-date long-term enrolment figures have been calculated for this school. As with all schools, long term enrolment figures are calculated in the context of a capital works project or a local area planning exercise.

**Community services: disability support register**

- 38. MR O'DONOHUE** — To ask the Minister for Community Services: In relation to individuals on the Disability Services Needs Register in the Shire of Yarra Ranges at 1 February 2007:
- (1) How many individuals were waiting for —
    - (a) shared supported accommodation;
    - (b) in-home accommodation support (HomeFirst or Support & Choice packages);
    - (c) day programs; and
    - (d) foster care.
  - (2) For each of shared supported accommodation, in-home accommodation support, day programs and foster care, how many individuals were classified as —
    - (a) urgent priority;
    - (b) high priority; and
    - (c) low priority.
  - (3) For each shared supported accommodation, in-home accommodation support, day programs and foster care, how many individuals were classified as —
    - (a) under 18 years; and
    - (b) 18 to 24 years.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The Disability Support Register (DSR) is administered at a statewide and regional level (using DHS regional boundaries). It is not administered at a local Government level.

**Community services: disability support register**

- 39. MR O'DONOHUE** — To ask the Minister for Community Services: In relation to individuals on the Disability Services Needs Register in the Eastern Metro Region at 1 February 2007:
- (1) How many individuals were waiting for —
    - (a) shared supported accommodation;
    - (b) in-home accommodation support (HomeFirst or Support and Choice packages);
    - (c) day programs; and
    - (d) foster care.
  - (2) For each of shared supported accommodation, in-home accommodation support, day programs and foster care, how many individuals were classified as —
    - (a) urgent priority;
    - (b) high priority; and
    - (c) low priority.
  - (3) For each shared supported accommodation, in-home accommodation support, day programs and foster care, how many individuals were aged —
    - (a) under 18 years; and
    - (b) 18 to 24 years.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The Disability Support Register (DSR) replaced the Disability Service Needs Register for reporting disability support needs on 1 April 2006. With reference to individuals on the Disability Support Register in the Eastern Metro Region as at 31 December 2006 —

- (1) The number of individuals waiting for —
  - (a) Disability Services Supported Accommodation Options was 295;
  - (b) Support to live in the community was 227;
  - (c) Daytime Activities was 31.
  - (d) The DSR does not record foster care as a service option for Disability Services. This service is not administered by Disability Services.
- (2) The DSR does not assign an urgent, high or low priority status to people.
- (3) For each of Disability Services Supported Accommodation Options, Support to live in the community, Daytime Activities, the number of individuals in each age group is shown below —

Disability Services Supported Accommodation Options;

- (a) under 18 years was—6;
- (b) 18 to 24 years was—70.

Support to live in the community;

- (a) under 18 years—43;
- (b) 18 to 24 years—39.

Daytime Activities;

- (a) under 18 years—0;
- (b) 18 to 24 years—0.

**Aboriginal affairs: Premier’s Aboriginal Advisory Council**

**40. MRS COOTE** — To ask the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs: In relation to the Premier’s Aboriginal Advisory Council:

- (1) How many times did this Council meet in —
  - (a) 2003;
  - (b) 2004;
  - (c) 2005; and
  - (d) 2006.
- (2) When is the first meeting for 2007.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The information requested is reported on per financial year

The number of times the council met in:

- (1)
- (a) 2003 -04      3
  - (b) 2004-05      3
  - (c) 2005-06      2
  - (d) 2006-07      actual figure not available until the end of the financial year
- (2) The first meeting for 2007 has not been scheduled as yet.

**Aboriginal affairs: community building grants**

**42. MRS COOTE** — To ask the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs: In relation to funding for Aboriginal community funding grants:

- (1) How many Aboriginal community organisations received grant funding for community building in —
- (a) 2003;
  - (b) 2004;
  - (c) 2005; and
  - (d) 2006.
- (2) What was the total amount of funding they received in those years.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

‘Aboriginal Community building grants’ was a measure in the Victorian State Budget Papers (BP3) until 2006/2007 and has been replaced with a measure on ‘Indigenous capacity building activities’. Victorian State Budget Papers provide information per financial, and not calendar year.

In the 2003/2004 financial year the number of funded Aboriginal community building grants was 28 at a total cost of \$1,098,633.

In the 2004/2005 financial year the number of funded Aboriginal community building grants was 29 at a total cost of \$1,893,648.

In the 2005/2006 financial year the number of funded Aboriginal community building grants was 30 at a total cost of \$1,298,291.

**Water, environment and climate change: recovery plans**

**54. MR BARBER** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Water, Environment and Climate Change):

- (1) How many recovery plans for nationally-listed threatened species which occur in Victoria remain incomplete. What is the status of each (i.e. no action so far, in preparation, draft for public comment, to be completed).
- (2) How much money has been provided to the Victorian Government or its agencies for the preparation of each of these recovery plans in each financial year in which money was provided.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

- (1) Since 2000, the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) has entered into contracts with the Australian Department for the Environment and Heritage (now the Australian Department for the Environment and Water Resources, DEW) to prepare or revise Recovery Plans for 185 species or communities. In the case of 23 species, DSE has also been asked to revise the Recovery Plans prepared earlier in this period.

Draft Recovery Plans have been completed for 64 species. Draft Recovery Plans for 104 species are at the final stages of completion prior to endorsement by Victorian agencies and other jurisdictions. Draft Recovery Plans for a further 34 species and communities are in active preparation.

- (2) Over all \$1,737.42 has been provided for these plans.

**Industry and state development: departmental staff**

**71. MR D. M. DAVIS**— To ask the Minister for Industry and State Development:

- (1) At 30 June 2004 how many members of the Victorian Public Service were employed by the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development at:
- (a) VPS Remuneration Band 1;
  - (b) VPS Remuneration Band 2;
  - (c) VPS Remuneration Band 3;
  - (d) VPS Remuneration Band 4; and
  - (e) VPS Remuneration Band 5.
- (2) What was the full-time equivalent number of staff in each of those bands.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

This information is contained within the Department of Innovation Industry and Regional Development Annual Report 2003–2004.

**Industry and state development: departmental staff**

**72. MR D. M. DAVIS**— To ask the Minister for Industry and State Development:

- 1) At 30 June 2005 how many members of the Victorian Public Service were employed by the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development at:
- (a) VPS Remuneration Band 1;
  - (b) VPS Remuneration Band 2;
  - (c) VPS Remuneration Band 3;
  - (d) VPS Remuneration Band 4; and
  - (e) VPS Remuneration Band 5.
- (2) What was the full-time equivalent number of staff in each of those bands.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

This information is contained within the Department of Innovation Industry and Regional Development Annual Report 2003–2004.

**Industry and state development: departmental staff**

**73. MR D. M. DAVIS**— To ask the Minister for Industry and State Development:

- (1) At 30 June 2006 how many members of the Victorian Public Service were employed by the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development at:
  - (a) VPS Remuneration Band 1;
  - (b) VPS Remuneration Band 2;
  - (c) VPS Remuneration Band 3;
  - (d) VPS Remuneration Band 4; and
  - (e) VPS Remuneration Band 5.
- (2) What was the full-time equivalent number of staff in each of those bands.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

This information is contained within the Department of Innovation Industry and Regional Development Annual Report 2005–2006.

**Education: land sales**

**76. MR VOGELS** — To ask the Minister for Education: What was the total dollar value generated through asset sales of Victorian Department of Education land in each financial year from 1999-2000 to the present including —

- (a) land used for educational purposes; and
- (b) land planned to be used for educational purposes.

**ANSWER:**

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

Land asset disposal values for each year can be found in the Department of Education Annual Reports.

All monies generated through disposal of surplus land sites contributes to purchase of land where need is identified.



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**Wednesday, 18 April 2007**

**Education: rural and regional participation**

**123. MR HALL** — To ask the Minister for Education: What proportion of young people aged 15 to 19 living in rural and regional Victoria were engaged in education and training in each calendar year from 2002 to 2006.

**ANSWER:**

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

The nationally comparable measure of the participation of young people aged 15 to 19 years in education and training is calculated by the Australian Bureau of Statistics each year from their annual sample Survey of Education and Work. Estimates for Australia and the states and territories, including Victoria, are published. However, the sample size of this survey precludes the further breakdown of this measure to smaller areas such as rural and regional. Such information is not calculated as the errors due to sampling would be so large as to make the figures unusable.

The Department of Education had previously calculated a participation rate of young people in rural and regional Victoria (based on the combination of various data sources), engaged in some form of education and training. In 2003, 92.3 per cent of 15 to 19 year olds in rural and regional Victoria were engaged in some form of education and training. This was higher than the result for Metropolitan Melbourne at 85.7 per cent.

The Department no longer calculates this measure given:

- the *Growing Victoria Together* target focuses on the completion of year 12 or equivalent, rather than participation; and
- previous data showed close to universal participation of young people in rural and regional, in some form of education and training.

**Education: Mountain Gate Primary School**

**149. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Education: In relation to the Mountain Gate Primary School located in the Ferntree Gully District:

- (1) Does the school qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment as part of the Bracks' Government 2006 Election Policy commitment under the *Victorian School Plan*.
- (2) If the school does qualify —
  - (a) what will be undertaken as part of the redevelopment;
  - (b) when will the upgrade/redevelopment commence; and
  - (c) when will the various stages be completed.
- (3) If the School does not qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment under *The Victorian School Plan* please explain why.

**ANSWER:**

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

The Bracks Government's Victorian School Plan is a ten year plan which will deliver the largest school building program in Victoria's history.

Education is this Government's number one priority. The Bracks Government has committed a massive \$1.9 million over this term, which will see another 500 schools been built or modernised.

All schools will participate in the Building Futures framework which provides the conceptual framework that puts improved educational outcomes for students at the core of all planning and investment decisions.

I find your interest in this issue fascinating given the Liberal Party's track record on Education. When last in Government, your party cut funds to education, closed schools, sacked teachers and increased class sizes. More than 300 public schools were closed, 9000 teachers were sacked.

I welcome your renewed interest.

**Education: Kent Park Primary School**

**150. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Education: In relation to the Kent Park Primary School located in the Ferntree Gully District:

- (1) Does the school qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment as part of the Bracks' Government 2006 Election Policy commitment under the *Victorian School Plan*.
- (2) If the school does qualify —
  - (a) what will be undertaken as part of the redevelopment;
  - (b) when will the upgrade/redevelopment commence; and
  - (c) when will the various stages be completed.
- (3) If the School does not qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment under *The Victorian School Plan* please explain why.

**ANSWER:**

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

The Bracks Government's Victorian School Plan is a ten year plan which will deliver the largest school building program in Victoria's history.

Education is this Government's number one priority. The Bracks Government has committed a massive \$1.9 million over this term, which will see another 500 schools been built or modernised.

All schools will participate in the Building Futures framework which provides the conceptual framework that puts improved educational outcomes for students at the core of all planning and investment decisions.

I find your interest in this issue fascinating given the Liberal Party's track record on Education. When last in Government, your party cut funds to education, closed schools, sacked teachers and increased class sizes. More than 300 public schools were closed, 9000 teachers were sacked.

I welcome your renewed interest.

**Education: Fairhills Primary School**

**151. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Education: In relation to the Fairhills Primary School located in the Ferntree Gully District:

- (1) Does the school qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment as part of the Bracks' Government 2006 Election Policy commitment under the *Victorian School Plan*.
- (2) If the school does qualify —
  - (a) what will be undertaken as part of the redevelopment;
  - (b) when will the upgrade/redevelopment commence; and
  - (c) when will the various stages be completed.
- (3) If the School does not qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment under *The Victorian School Plan* please explain why.

**ANSWER:**

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

The Bracks Government's Victorian School Plan is a ten year plan which will deliver the largest school building program in Victoria's history.

Education is this Government's number one priority. The Bracks Government has committed a massive \$1.9 million over this term, which will see another 500 schools been built or modernised.

All schools will participate in the Building Futures framework which provides the conceptual framework that puts improved educational outcomes for students at the core of all planning and investment decisions.

I find your interest in this issue fascinating given the Liberal Party's track record on Education. When last in Government, your party cut funds to education, closed schools, sacked teachers and increased class sizes. More than 300 public schools were closed, 9000 teachers were sacked.

I welcome your renewed interest.

**Education: Ferntree Gully North Primary School**

**152. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Education: In relation to the Ferntree Gully North Primary School located in the Ferntree Gully District:

- (1) Does the school qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment as part of the Bracks' Government 2006 Election Policy commitment under the *Victorian School Plan*.
- (2) If the school does qualify —
  - (a) what will be undertaken as part of the redevelopment;
  - (b) when will the upgrade/redevelopment commence; and
  - (c) when will the various stages be completed.
- (3) If the School does not qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment under *The Victorian School Plan* please explain why.

**ANSWER:**

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

The Bracks Government's Victorian School Plan is a ten year plan which will deliver the largest school building program in Victoria's history.

Education is this Government's number one priority. The Bracks Government has committed a massive \$1.9 million over this term, which will see another 500 schools been built or modernised.

All schools will participate in the Building Futures framework which provides the conceptual framework that puts improved educational outcomes for students at the core of all planning and investment decisions.

I find your interest in this issue fascinating given the Liberal Party's track record on Education. When last in Government, your party cut funds to education, closed schools, sacked teachers and increased class sizes. More than 300 public schools were closed, 9000 teachers were sacked.

I welcome your renewed interest.

### Education: Wattleview Primary School

**153. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Education: In relation to the Wattleview Primary School located in the Ferntree Gully District:

- (1) Does the school qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment as part of the Bracks' Government 2006 Election Policy commitment under the *Victorian School Plan*.
- (2) If the school does qualify —
  - (a) what will be undertaken as part of the redevelopment;
  - (b) when will the upgrade/redevelopment commence; and
  - (c) when will the various stages be completed.
- (3) If the School does not qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment under *The Victorian School Plan* please explain why.

#### ANSWER:

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

The Bracks Government's Victorian School Plan is a ten year plan which will deliver the largest school building program in Victoria's history.

Education is this Government's number one priority. The Bracks Government has committed a massive \$1.9 million over this term, which will see another 500 schools been built or modernised.

All schools will participate in the Building Futures framework which provides the conceptual framework that puts improved educational outcomes for students at the core of all planning and investment decisions.

I find your interest in this issue fascinating given the Liberal Party's track record on Education. When last in Government, your party cut funds to education, closed schools, sacked teachers and increased class sizes. More than 300 public schools were closed, 9000 teachers were sacked.

I welcome your renewed interest.

### Education: Karoo Primary School

**154. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Education: In relation to the Karoo Primary School located in the Ferntree Gully District:

- (1) Does the school qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment as part of the Bracks' Government 2006 Election Policy commitment under the *Victorian School Plan*.
- (2) If the school does qualify —
  - (a) what will be undertaken as part of the redevelopment;

- (b) when will the upgrade/redevelopment commence; and
  - (c) when will the various stages be completed.
- (3) If the School does not qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment under *The Victorian School Plan* please explain why.

**ANSWER:**

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

The Bracks Government's Victorian School Plan is a ten year plan which will deliver the largest school building program in Victoria's history.

Education is this Government's number one priority. The Bracks Government has committed a massive \$1.9 million over this term, which will see another 500 schools been built or modernised.

All schools will participate in the Building Futures framework which provides the conceptual framework that puts improved educational outcomes for students at the core of all planning and investment decisions.

I find your interest in this issue fascinating given the Liberal Party's track record on Education. When last in Government, your party cut funds to education, closed schools, sacked teachers and increased class sizes. More than 300 public schools were closed, 9000 teachers were sacked.

I welcome your renewed interest.

**Education: Lysterfield Primary School**

**155. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Education: In relation to the Lysterfield Primary School located in the Ferntree Gully District:

- (1) Does the school qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment as part of the Bracks' Government 2006 Election Policy commitment under the *Victorian School Plan*.
- (2) If the school does qualify —
  - (a) what will be undertaken as part of the redevelopment;
  - (b) when will the upgrade/redevelopment commence; and
  - (c) when will the various stages be completed.
- (3) If the School does not qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment under *The Victorian School Plan* please explain why.

**ANSWER:**

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

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Education is this Government's number one priority. The Bracks Government has committed a massive \$1.9 million over this term, which will see another 500 schools been built or modernised.

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I find your interest in this issue fascinating given the Liberal Party's track record on Education. When last in Government, your party cut funds to education, closed schools, sacked teachers and increased class sizes. More than 300 public schools were closed, 9000 teachers were sacked.

I welcome your renewed interest.

**Education: Parkridge Primary School**

**156. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Education: In relation to the Parkridge Primary School located in the Ferntree Gully District:

- (1) Does the school qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment as part of the Bracks' Government 2006 Election Policy commitment under the *Victorian School Plan*.
- (2) If the school does qualify —
  - (a) what will be undertaken as part of the redevelopment,
  - (b) when will the upgrade/redevelopment commence; and
  - (c) when will the various stages be completed.
- (3) If the School does not qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment under *The Victorian School Plan* please explain why.

**ANSWER:**

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

The Bracks Government's Victorian School Plan is a ten year plan which will deliver the largest school building program in Victoria's history.

Education is this Government's number one priority. The Bracks Government has committed a massive \$1.9 million over this term, which will see another 500 schools been built or modernised.

All schools will participate in the Building Futures framework which provides the conceptual framework that puts improved educational outcomes for students at the core of all planning and investment decisions.

I find your interest in this issue fascinating given the Liberal Party's track record on Education. When last in Government, your party cut funds to education, closed schools, sacked teachers and increased class sizes. More than 300 public schools were closed, 9000 teachers were sacked.

I welcome your renewed interest.

**Education: Heany Park Primary School**

**157. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Education: Heany Park Primary School located in the Ferntree Gully District:

- (1) Does the school qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment as part of the Bracks' Government 2006 Election Policy commitment under the *Victorian School Plan*.
- (2) If the school does qualify —
  - (a) what will be undertaken as part of the redevelopment;
  - (b) when will the upgrade/redevelopment commence; and
  - (c) when will the various stages be completed.
- (3) If the School does not qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment under *The Victorian School Plan* please explain why.

**ANSWER:**

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

The Bracks Government's Victorian School Plan is a ten year plan which will deliver the largest school building program in Victoria's history.

Education is this Government's number one priority. The Bracks Government has committed a massive \$1.9 million over this term, which will see another 500 schools been built or modernised.

All schools will participate in the Building Futures framework which provides the conceptual framework that puts improved educational outcomes for students at the core of all planning and investment decisions.

I find your interest in this issue fascinating given the Liberal Party's track record on Education. When last in Government, your party cut funds to education, closed schools, sacked teachers and increased class sizes. More than 300 public schools were closed, 9000 teachers were sacked.

I welcome your renewed interest.

### **Education: Rowville Primary School**

**158. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Education: In relation to the Rowville Primary School located in the Ferntree Gully District:

- (1) Does the school qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment as part of the Bracks' Government 2006 Election Policy commitment under the *Victorian School Plan*.
- (2) If the school does qualify —
  - (a) what will be undertaken as part of the redevelopment;
  - (b) when will the upgrade/redevelopment commence; and
  - (c) when will the various stages be completed.
- (3) If the School does not qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment under *The Victorian School Plan* please explain why.

### **ANSWER:**

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

The Bracks Government's Victorian School Plan is a ten year plan which will deliver the largest school building program in Victoria's history.

Education is this Government's number one priority. The Bracks Government has committed a massive \$1.9 million over this term, which will see another 500 schools been built or modernised.

All schools will participate in the Building Futures framework which provides the conceptual framework that puts improved educational outcomes for students at the core of all planning and investment decisions.

I find your interest in this issue fascinating given the Liberal Party's track record on Education. When last in Government, your party cut funds to education, closed schools, sacked teachers and increased class sizes. More than 300 public schools were closed, 9000 teachers were sacked.

I welcome your renewed interest.

### **Education: Rowville Secondary College**

**159. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Education: In relation to the Rowville Secondary College (East and West campus) located in the Ferntree Gully District:

- (1) Does the school qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment as part of the Bracks' Government 2006 Election Policy commitment under the *Victorian School Plan*.

- (2) If the school does qualify —
  - (a) what will be undertaken as part of the redevelopment;
  - (b) when will the upgrade/redevelopment commence; and
  - (c) when will the various stages be completed.
- (3) If the School does not qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment under *The Victorian School Plan* please explain why.

**ANSWER:**

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

The Bracks Government's Victorian School Plan is a ten year plan which will deliver the largest school building program in Victoria's history.

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I find your interest in this issue fascinating given the Liberal Party's track record on Education. When last in Government, your party cut funds to education, closed schools, sacked teachers and increased class sizes. More than 300 public schools were closed, 9000 teachers were sacked.

I welcome your renewed interest.

**Education: Manningham Park Primary School**

**160. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Education: In relation to the Manningham Park Primary School located in the Bulleen District:

- (1) Does the school qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment as part of the Bracks' Government 2006 Election Policy commitment under the *Victorian School Plan*.
- (2) If the school does qualify —
  - (a) what will be undertaken as part of the redevelopment;
  - (b) when will the upgrade/redevelopment commence; and
  - (c) when will the various stages be completed.
- (3) If the School does not qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment under *The Victorian School Plan* please explain why.

**ANSWER:**

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

The Bracks Government's Victorian School Plan is a ten year plan which will deliver the largest school building program in Victoria's history.

Education is this Government's number one priority. The Bracks Government has committed a massive \$1.9 million over this term, which will see another 500 schools been built or modernised.

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I find your interest in this issue fascinating given the Liberal Party's track record on Education. When last in Government, your party cut funds to education, closed schools, sacked teachers and increased class sizes. More than 300 public schools were closed, 9000 teachers were sacked.

I welcome your renewed interest.

**Education: Templestowe Valley Primary School**

**161. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Education: In relation to the Templestowe Valley Primary School located in the Bulleen District:

- (1) Does the school qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment as part of the Bracks' Government 2006 Election Policy commitment under the *Victorian School Plan*.
- (2) If the school does qualify —
  - (a) what will be undertaken as part of the redevelopment;
  - (b) when will the upgrade/redevelopment commence; and
  - (c) when will the various stages be completed.
- (3) If the School does not qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment under *The Victorian School Plan* please explain why.

**ANSWER:**

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The Bracks Government's Victorian School Plan is a ten year plan which will deliver the largest school building program in Victoria's history.

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I welcome your renewed interest.

**Education: Templestowe Heights Primary School**

**162. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Education: In relation to the Templestowe Heights Primary School located in the Bulleen District:

- (1) Does the school qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment as part of the Bracks' Government 2006 Election Policy commitment under the *Victorian School Plan*.
- (2) If the school does qualify —
  - (a) what will be undertaken as part of the redevelopment;
  - (b) when will the upgrade/redevelopment commence; and
  - (c) when will the various stages be completed.
- (3) If the School does not qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment under *The Victorian School Plan* please explain why.

**ANSWER:**

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I find your interest in this issue fascinating given the Liberal Party's track record on Education. When last in Government, your party cut funds to education, closed schools, sacked teachers and increased class sizes. More than 300 public schools were closed, 9000 teachers were sacked.

I welcome your renewed interest.

**Education: Serpell Primary School**

**163. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Education: In relation to the Serpell Primary School located in the Bulleen District:

- (1) Does the school qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment as part of the Bracks' Government 2006 Election Policy commitment under the *Victorian School Plan*.
- (2) If the school does qualify —
  - (a) what will be undertaken as part of the redevelopment;
  - (b) when will the upgrade/redevelopment commence; and
  - (c) when will the various stages be completed.
- (3) If the School does not qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment under *The Victorian School Plan* please explain why.

**ANSWER:**

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

The Bracks Government's Victorian School Plan is a ten year plan which will deliver the largest school building program in Victoria's history.

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I welcome your renewed interest.

**Education: Bulleen Heights Primary School**

**164. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Education: In relation to the Bulleen Heights Primary School located in the Bulleen District:

- (1) Does the school qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment as part of the Bracks' Government 2006 Election Policy commitment under the *Victorian School Plan*.
- (2) If the school does qualify —
  - (a) what will be undertaken as part of the redevelopment;
  - (b) when will the upgrade/redevelopment commence; and
  - (c) when will the various stages be completed.
- (3) If the School does not qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment under *The Victorian School Plan* please explain why.

**ANSWER:**

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I welcome your renewed interest.

**Education: Templestowe Park Primary School**

**165. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Education: In relation to the Templestowe Park Primary School located in the Bulleen District:

- (1) Does the school qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment as part of the Bracks' Government 2006 Election Policy commitment under the *Victorian School Plan*.
- (2) If the school does qualify —
  - (a) what will be undertaken as part of the redevelopment;
  - (b) when will the upgrade/redevelopment commence; and
  - (c) when will the various stages be completed.
- (3) If the School does not qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment under *The Victorian School Plan* please explain why.

**ANSWER:**

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I welcome your renewed interest.

### Education: Templestowe College

**166. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Education: In relation to the Templestowe College located in the Bulleen District:

- (1) Does the school qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment as part of the Bracks' Government 2006 Election Policy commitment under the *Victorian School Plan*.
- (2) If the school does qualify —
  - (a) what will be undertaken as part of the redevelopment;
  - (b) when will the upgrade/redevelopment commence; and
  - (c) when will the various stages be completed.
- (3) If the School does not qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment under *The Victorian School Plan* please explain why.

#### ANSWER:

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I welcome your renewed interest.

### Education: Wantirna South Primary School

**167. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Education: In relation to the Wantirna South Primary School located in the Bayswater District:

- (1) Does the school qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment as part of the Bracks' Government 2006 Election Policy commitment under the Victorian School Plan.
- (2) If the school does qualify —
  - (a) what will be undertaken as part of the redevelopment;

- (b) when will the upgrade/redevelopment commence; and
  - (c) when will the various stages be completed.
- (3) If the School does not qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment under *The Victorian School Plan* please explain why.

**ANSWER:**

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I find your interest in this issue fascinating given the Liberal Party's track record on Education. When last in Government, your party cut funds to education, closed schools, sacked teachers and increased class sizes. More than 300 public schools were closed, 9000 teachers were sacked.

I welcome your renewed interest.

**Education: Marlborough Primary School**

**168. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Education: In relation to the Marlborough Primary School located in the Bayswater District:

- (1) Does the school qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment as part of the Bracks' Government 2006 Election Policy commitment under the *Victorian School Plan*.
- (2) If the school does qualify —
  - (a) what will be undertaken as part of the redevelopment;
  - (b) when will the upgrade/redevelopment commence; and
  - (c) when will the various stages be completed.
- (3) If the School does not qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment under *The Victorian School Plan* please explain why.

**ANSWER:**

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I welcome your renewed interest.

**Education: funding**

**191. MR P. R. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Education: What was the total amount of money spent in 1999-2000 for each category of —

- (a) Vocational education in Victoria;
- (b) Primary education in Victoria; and
- (c) Secondary education in Victoria.

**ANSWER:**

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

The matter raised is the subject of an FOI request.

**Education: funding**

**192. MR P. R. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Education: What was the total amount of money spent in 2000-01 for each category of —

- (a) Vocational education in Victoria;
- (b) Primary education in Victoria; and
- (c) Secondary education in Victoria.

**ANSWER:**

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

The matter raised is the subject of an FOI request.

**Education: funding**

**193. MR P. R. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Education: What was the total amount of money spent in 2001-02 for each category of —

- (a) Vocational education in Victoria;
- (b) Primary education in Victoria; and
- (c) Secondary education in Victoria.

**ANSWER:**

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

The matter raised is the subject of an FOI request.

**Education: funding**

**194. MR P. R. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Education: What was the total amount of money spent in 2002-03 for each category of —

- (a) Vocational education in Victoria;
- (b) Primary education in Victoria; and

- (c) Secondary education in Victoria.

**ANSWER:**

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

The matter raised is the subject of an FOI request.

**Education: funding**

**195. MR P. R. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Education: What was the total amount of money spent in 2003-04 for each category of —

- (a) Vocational education in Victoria;
- (b) Primary education in Victoria; and
- (c) Secondary education in Victoria.

**ANSWER:**

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

The matter raised is the subject of an FOI request.

**Education: funding**

**196. MR P. R. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Education: What was the total amount of money spent in 2004-05 for each category of —

- (a) Vocational education in Victoria;
- (b) Primary education in Victoria; and
- (c) Secondary education in Victoria.

**ANSWER:**

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

The matter raised is the subject of an FOI request.

**Education: funding**

**197. MR P. R. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Education: What was the total amount of money spent in 2005-06 for each category of —

- (a) Vocational education in Victoria;
- (b) Primary education in Victoria; and
- (c) Secondary education in Victoria.

**ANSWER:**

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

The matter raised is the subject of an FOI request.

**Education: Chinese language teaching**

**198. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Education: What are the names of the community languages schools teaching a Chinese language that were accredited or re-accredited in 2006.

**ANSWER:**

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

Community Schools teaching a Chinese language that were accredited or re-accredited in 2006

- Cambodian Chinese Friendship Association of Victoria
- Chinese Association of Victoria Inc
- Chinese Culture School (Amstel Primary School)
- Chinese Fellowship of Victoria Incorporated
- Eastern Chinese Language School
- International Buddhist College of Victoria Incorporated
- Lutheran Chinese School
- Mandarin Language and Culture School
- Melbourne Chinese Secondary and Primary School
- Ming De Chinese Saturday School Association
- New Generation Community School Inc.
- Richmond South Yarra Chinese Parents Association
- Society for Asian Languages and Arts
- Springvale Chinese Ethnic School
- Taiwanese School of Melbourne Incorporated
- Timorese Ethnic Chinese Community
- Together (Hui Jia) Language Learning Centre Inc.
- Werribee Chinese School Incorporated
- Xin Jin Shan Chinese Language and Culture School Inc.

**Education: Beverly Hills Primary School**

**199. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Education: In relation to the Beverly Hills Primary School located in the Doncaster District:

- (1) Does the school qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment as part of the Bracks' Government 2006 Election Policy commitment under the *Victorian School Plan*.
- (2) If the school does qualify —
  - (a) what will be undertaken as part of the redevelopment;
  - (b) when will the upgrade/redevelopment commence; and
  - (c) when will the various stages be completed.
- (3) If the School does not qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment under *The Victorian School Plan* please explain why.

**ANSWER:**

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

The Bracks Government's Victorian School Plan is a ten year plan which will deliver the largest school building program in Victoria's history.

Education is this Government's number one priority. The Bracks Government has committed a massive \$1.9 million over this term, which will see another 500 schools been built or modernised.

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I find your interest in this issue fascinating given the Liberal Party's track record on Education. When last in Government, your party cut funds to education, closed schools, sacked teachers and increased class sizes. More than 300 public schools were closed, 9000 teachers were sacked.

I welcome your renewed interest.

### Education: Birralee Primary School

**200. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Education: In relation to the Birralee Primary School located in the Doncaster District:

- (1) Does the school qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment as part of the Bracks' Government 2006 Election Policy commitment under the *Victorian School Plan*.
- (2) If the school does qualify —
  - (a) what will be undertaken as part of the redevelopment;
  - (b) when will the upgrade/redevelopment commence; and
  - (c) when will the various stages be completed.
- (3) If the School does not qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment under *The Victorian School Plan* please explain why.

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I welcome your renewed interest.

### Education: Donvale Primary School

**201. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Education: In relation to the Donvale Primary School located in the Doncaster District:

- (1) Does the school qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment as part of the Bracks' Government 2006 Election Policy commitment under the *Victorian School Plan*.

- (2) If the school does qualify —
  - (a) what will be undertaken as part of the redevelopment;
  - (b) when will the upgrade/redevelopment commence; and
  - (c) when will the various stages be completed.
- (3) If the School does not qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment under *The Victorian School Plan* please explain why.

**ANSWER:**

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

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I welcome your renewed interest.

**Education: Donburn Primary School**

**202. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Education: In relation to the Donburn Primary School located in the Doncaster District:

- (1) Does the school qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment as part of the Bracks' Government 2006 Election Policy commitment under the *Victorian School Plan*.
- (2) If the school does qualify —
  - (a) what will be undertaken as part of the redevelopment;
  - (b) when will the upgrade/redevelopment commence; and
  - (c) when will the various stages be completed.
- (3) If the School does not qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment under *The Victorian School Plan* please explain why.

**ANSWER:**

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I welcome your renewed interest.

**Education: Doncaster Gardens Primary School**

**203. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Education: In relation to the Doncaster Gardens Primary School located in the Doncaster District:

- (1) Does the school qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment as part of the Bracks' Government 2006 Election Policy commitment under the *Victorian School Plan*.
- (2) If the school does qualify —
  - (a) what will be undertaken as part of the redevelopment;
  - (b) when will the upgrade/redevelopment commence; and
  - (c) when will the various stages be completed.
- (3) If the School does not qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment under *The Victorian School Plan* please explain why.

**ANSWER:**

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

The Bracks Government's Victorian School Plan is a ten year plan which will deliver the largest school building program in Victoria's history.

Education is this Government's number one priority. The Bracks Government has committed a massive \$1.9 million over this term, which will see another 500 schools been built or modernised.

All schools will participate in the Building Futures framework which provides the conceptual framework that puts improved educational outcomes for students at the core of all planning and investment decisions.

I find your interest in this issue fascinating given the Liberal Party's track record on Education. When last in Government, your party cut funds to education, closed schools, sacked teachers and increased class sizes. More than 300 public schools were closed, 9000 teachers were sacked.

I welcome your renewed interest.

**Education: Doncaster Primary School**

**204. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Education: In relation to the Doncaster Primary School located in the Doncaster District:

- (1) Does the school qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment as part of the Bracks' Government 2006 Election Policy commitment under the *Victorian School Plan*.
- (2) If the school does qualify —
  - (a) what will be undertaken as part of the redevelopment;
  - (b) when will the upgrade/redevelopment commence; and
  - (c) when will the various stages be completed.
- (3) If the School does not qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment under *The Victorian School Plan* please explain why.

**ANSWER:**

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

The Bracks Government's Victorian School Plan is a ten year plan which will deliver the largest school building program in Victoria's history.

Education is this Government's number one priority. The Bracks Government has committed a massive \$1.9 million over this term, which will see another 500 schools been built or modernised.

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I welcome your renewed interest.

**Education: Milgate Primary School**

**205. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Education: In relation to the Milgate Primary School located in the Doncaster District:

- (1) Does the school qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment as part of the Bracks' Government 2006 Election Policy commitment under the *Victorian School Plan*.
- (2) If the school does qualify —
  - (a) what will be undertaken as part of the redevelopment;
  - (b) when will the upgrade/redevelopment commence; and
  - (c) when will the various stages be completed.
- (3) If the School does not qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment under *The Victorian School Plan* please explain why.

**ANSWER:**

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

The Bracks Government's Victorian School Plan is a ten year plan which will deliver the largest school building program in Victoria's history.

Education is this Government's number one priority. The Bracks Government has committed a massive \$1.9 million over this term, which will see another 500 schools been built or modernised.

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I welcome your renewed interest.

**Education: Doncaster Secondary College**

**206. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Education: In relation to the Doncaster Secondary College located in the Doncaster District:

- (1) Does the school qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment as part of the Bracks' Government 2006 Election Policy commitment under the *Victorian School Plan*.
- (2) If the school does qualify —
  - (a) what will be undertaken as part of the redevelopment;
  - (b) when will the upgrade/redevelopment commence; and
  - (c) when will the various stages be completed.
- (3) If the School does not qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment under *The Victorian School Plan* please explain why.

**ANSWER:**

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

The Bracks Government's Victorian School Plan is a ten year plan which will deliver the largest school building program in Victoria's history.

Education is this Government's number one priority. The Bracks Government has committed a massive \$1.9 million over this term, which will see another 500 schools been built or modernised.

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I find your interest in this issue fascinating given the Liberal Party's track record on Education. When last in Government, your party cut funds to education, closed schools, sacked teachers and increased class sizes. More than 300 public schools were closed, 9000 teachers were sacked.

I welcome your renewed interest.

**Education: East Doncaster Secondary College**

**207. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Education: In relation to the East Doncaster Secondary College located in the Doncaster District:

- (1) Does the school qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment as part of the Bracks' Government 2006 Election Policy commitment under the *Victorian School Plan*.
- (2) If the school does qualify —
  - (a) what will be undertaken as part of the redevelopment;
  - (b) when will the upgrade/redevelopment commence; and
  - (c) when will the various stages be completed.
- (3) If the School does not qualify for an upgrade or redevelopment under *The Victorian School Plan* please explain why.

**ANSWER:**

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

The Bracks Government's Victorian School Plan is a ten year plan which will deliver the largest school building program in Victoria's history.

Education is this Government's number one priority. The Bracks Government has committed a massive \$1.9 million over this term, which will see another 500 schools been built or modernised.

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I welcome your renewed interest.

**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 Council.  
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, 19 April 2007**

**Water, environment and climate change: Melbourne Water**

- 33. MR RICH-PHILLIPS** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Water, Environment and Climate Change): What was the total number of households supplied by Melbourne Water for the years —
- (a) 1999-2000;
  - (b) 2000-01;
  - (c) 2001-02;
  - (d) 2002-03;
  - (e) 2003-04;
  - (f) 2004-05; and
  - (g) 2005-06.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that: Melbourne Water is a wholesaler of water and as such does not supply water to residential households but rather sells water to the three metropolitan water retailers City West Water, South East Water and Yarra Valley Water. The number of households receiving a water supply service from the three metropolitan retailers is publicly available in each of the water retailer's annual reports.

**Water, environment and climate change: salvage logging**

- 52. MR BARBER** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Water, Environment and Climate Change):
- (1) What is the process for deciding whether salvage logging will be permitted following the 2006-07 bushfires. Who carries the process out and when.
  - (2) If salvage logging is permitted, how are log volumes determined and how are they offered for sale.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

Approximately 1.1 million hectares of public land was burnt by the 2006/07 bushfires. It is likely that the majority of salvage will occur in fire affected ash forest, which is less than 2 percent of the total fire area.

Salvage harvesting needs to occur within a short period (within 2-3 years) of the fire in order to maximise the recovery of higher grade sawlog products. Over a longer period, the timber degrades and recovery significantly decreases.

Before salvage harvesting can occur, VicForests must prepare a Timber Release Plan for approval by the Secretary to the Department of Sustainability and Environment. The Timber Release Plan will be prepared following the

amendment to the Allocation Order and will consider fire severity, compliance with the Code of Forest Services, Forest Management Plans and salvage harvesting prescriptions.

The aim of the salvage harvesting program is to maximise the amount of timber harvested from burnt areas to meet existing commitments, within strict environmental guidelines, and to minimise harvesting forest stands unaffected by fire in order to reduce the impact of the fire on long term sustainable harvest levels.

**Water, environment and climate change: spot-tailed quolls**

**55. MR BARBER** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Water, Environment and Climate Change): In relation to the proposed trial of the effectiveness of aerial baiting in reducing wild dog numbers and its impact on Spot-tailed Quolls:

- (1) How much money has been allocated to carry out this work. Who is providing the funding.
- (2) What is the methodology for the trial. What measure will be taken to prevent the trial from further endangering the Quolls.
- (3) When and where are the trials proposed to be conducted.
- (4) What other research is currently being conducted on Quolls. What amount of funding is allocated to each research project.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

**(1) Allocation to the aerial baiting trial:**

A total of \$675,000 has been allocated by the State Government in 2005-06 and 2006-07 to this trial.

**(2) Methodology:**

- A trial aerial baiting site was selected in the North East as it provided the potential to measure the impact of toxic aerial baiting on wild dogs and quolls.
- Considerable efforts were made to detect quoll, but none were detected despite extensive monitoring using a variety of techniques.
- The recommendation from the Stakeholder Consultative Committee was to commence aerial deployment of toxic baits at that site, which was endorsed.
- Aerial deployment of 1080 baits occurred in December 2006.
- Researchers are currently collecting wild dog collars for analysis of wild dog movements and the effectiveness of the aerial baiting.

**Measures to protect quoll:**

- Animal Ethics Committee (AEC) approval was sought for this trial.
- A quoll population model has been developed to assist in calculating the likely impact aerial baiting could have on resident quoll populations.

**(3) When and where the trial will be conducted:**

- In December 2006 an aerial deployment of toxic baits occurred in the North East.
- Additional survey work on wild dogs and quolls is currently occurring in Gippsland.

**(4) Other research on quolls**

Broadly applicable, cost-effective survey protocols for the detection of Spot-tailed Quolls using heat-in-motion activated cameras and hair-tubes.	DEH DSE Total:	\$100,000 \$50,000 <b>\$150,000</b>
Broad-scale surveys in East Gippsland to investigate the distribution and the status of quoll populations.	NHT	<b>\$160,000</b>

**Water, environment and climate change: spot-tailed quolls**

- 56. MR BARBER** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Water, Environment and Climate Change): In relation to the impact of bushfires on Spot-tailed Quolls, what surveys or research have been conducted to determine the impact of bushfires over the last three years on the Quolls and for each research project, what is —
- (a) the nature of the research project;
  - (b) the amount of funding; and
  - (c) the start and end date of each project.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

Following the 2003 bushfires, priority was given to surveys and population monitoring for the Long-footed Potoroo population in north-eastern Victoria and to the Mountain Pygmy Possum in the Alps.

These species have narrower distributions than the Spot-tailed Quoll and a greater proportion of their population was fire-affected, hence the priority.

However, information gathered during studies in burnt areas in NSW and in other work in Victoria suggests that the Spot-tailed Quoll may be able to survive bushfires under certain circumstances.

**Water, environment and climate change: spot-tailed quolls**

- 57. MR BARBER** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Water, Environment and Climate Change): In relation to the recovery plan for the Spot-tailed Quoll (SE mainland population):
- (1) Which Government is responsible for preparing the recovery plan.
  - (2) When did production of the recovery plan begin. Has a draft been produced for public comment and if so when. If not, when will the draft and final recovery plans be published.
  - (3) What are the funding arrangements for the recovery plan. How much money has been allocated and spent each year by the Commonwealth Government, the Victorian Government and any other contributors on the recovery plan.
  - (4) Why is it taking so long to complete the plan.
  - (5) Has logging native forests been identified as a threatening process as defined by the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* during the preparation of the plan.
  - (6) What is the current assessment of the status of the Quoll in Victoria: stable, declining or improving. What is the basis for this assessment.
  - (7) Will you provide me a copy of the current draft recovery plan.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

1. Recovery Plans are statutory documents under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. Typically, they are drafted by a State conservation agency with input from conservation agencies in other jurisdictions in which the species occurs. The Victorian Department of Sustainability and Environment is responsible, via a contract, for preparing a draft Recovery Plan for the Spot-tailed Quoll, *Dasyurus maculatus*.
2. The Recovery Plan is being finalised and will be forwarded to the Australian Department for the Environment and Water Resources (DEW), which conducts the public comment process.
3. Preparation of the Recovery Plan was funded by both the former Australian Government Department of Environment and Heritage and DSE has assisted through substantial in-kind contribution to the preparation of the Recovery Plan, including additional staff required to revise the document.
4. The spot tailed Quoll occurs in Victoria, Tasmania, NSW, Queensland and the Australian Capital Territory and each has their own recovery operations which needs to be examined in reviewing Victoria's recovery options. Substantial changes to the DEH Recovery Plan Guidelines which occurred during the preparation of the Victorian plan and the need for EPBC compliance checking by DEH has also need to be considered as part of the development for the plan.
5. As the plan is still in draft form, key outcomes have not been finalised.
6. The Spot-tailed Quoll remains listed as 'threatened' under the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988. There is no evidence to suggest either a further decline or an improvement in its status.
7. The draft of the Recovery Plan is undergoing significant revision and it is not appropriate to release it at this stage.

**Water, environment and climate change: protesters**

- 58. MR BARBER** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Water, Environment and Climate Change): In relation to the *Safety on Public Land Act*:
- (1) How many protesters have been charged.
  - (2) In each case, when was the charge laid and what stage have the proceedings now reached.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

- (1) As at 20 February 2007, fourteen persons have been charged under the Safety on Public Land Act 2004. Forty-two charges have been laid for the following offences:
  - Refusal to leave a public safety zone at the direction of an Authorised Officer
  - Carrying out an activity in a public safety zone in contravention of a public safety zone declaration.
  - Hindering or obstructing an Authorised Officer who is exercising that Authorised Officer's duties under the Safety on Public Land Act 2004.

I am also informed that several other cases are currently under investigation but that no charges have been laid at this time.

- (2) Of the fourteen persons charged under the Safety on Public Land Act 2004:
  - Ten people were charged on 16 August 2006 for offences on 20 January 2006 at the East Errinundra Forest Block. The charges will be heard at the Orbost Magistrates Court.

- One of these people was also charged on 20 February 2006 for two offences on 20 February 2006 at Bendoc. These charges have been heard, one of the charges was struck out and the other resulted in a fine without conviction.
- One person was charged on 27 February 2006 for two offences on 27 February 2006 at Bendoc. These charges have been heard at the Melbourne County Court on 8 December 2006.
- One person was charged on 16 March 2006 for offences on 13 February 2006 at the Royston Forest Block. The hearing of these charges will occur at Shepparton Magistrates Court.
- One person was charged on 17 March 2006 for offences on 13 February 2006 at the Royston Forest Block. The hearing of these charges will occur at the Shepparton Magistrates Court.
- One person was charged on 19 September 2006 for offences on 20 February at the Brodribb Forest Block. The hearing of these charges will occur at the Orbost Magistrates Court.

**Energy and resources: carbon dioxide storage**

**132. MR BARBER** — To ask the Minister for Industry and State Development (for the Minister for Energy and Resources): In the Age newspaper article of February 9, 2001 “Batchelor meets Anglo on coal venture”, it was stated:

As part of its geosequestration plan, the Victorian Government plans to build a pipeline from the Latrobe Valley to a carbon dioxide storage facility. Access to this pipeline, which the Government has dubbed a “CO2 hub”, would be open to energy producers and industry to dispose of carbon dioxide emissions.

- (1) Is it correct that the Victorian Government is planning to build this pipeline.
- (2) What is the estimated cost of construction.
- (3) Will the Government solely fund the pipeline, if not, what other participation is the government seeking.
- (4) What reports or studies have been conducted to estimate the cost. (Please provide titles, authors and dates).
- (5) Under what time line are the various parts of this project likely to be delivered.

**ANSWER:**

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

1. The Victorian Government has no current plans to build a pipeline or “hub” from the Latrobe Valley to a carbon dioxide storage facility. The Monash Energy project is proposing to build carbon capture and storage (CCS) infrastructure, which includes a pipeline. However, this project is currently in the planning phase. The nature of any such pipeline and any involvement by government is yet to be determined. The Government is developing a CCS policy and strategies with an aim to achieve near zero emissions from coal in the Latrobe Valley. Considering the needs of future infrastructure, and any role of government, will be part of this policy development process.
2. The estimated cost of constructing any CCS infrastructure including a “CO2 hub” has not been determined and would be a matter primarily for the project proponent, with any role for government, such as ensuring third party access to land, to be determined.
3. See 2 above.
4. The CO2 CRC has conducted a study on behalf of Monash Energy assessing the carbon dioxide storage potential of the Latrobe Valley, including preliminary cost estimates. This study is available on the CO2CRC website — *Assessing CO2 Storage in the Latrobe Valley*.

5. Monash Energy has committed to construction of a commercial plant with a CCS facility by 2016. However, this project and its components are still being developed, and will be subject to public government assessment and approval processes.