

PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA

**PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(HANSARD)**

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

FIFTY-SIXTH PARLIAMENT

FIRST SESSION

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

15 and 17 April 2008

(Extract from book 5)

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

By authority of the Victorian Government Printer

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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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, 15 April 2008

Environment and climate change: bushfires — erosion

868. MRS PETROVICH — To ask the Minister for the Environment and Climate Change: Has an audit of erosion in Western Victoria been conducted since the 2007 fires.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The fires on public land in Western Victoria during the summer of 2007 occurred principally in the Casterton area. An assessment of soil erosion risk, followed by comprehensive soil stabilisation plans were developed and implemented in accordance with the Code of Practice for Fire Management on Public Land, February 2006.

In total, 484 km of fire control lines were constructed on public and private land. Rehabilitation and soil stabilisation of all lines was completed within three months of the fires occurring.

All rehabilitated control lines are being periodically checked, and thorough inspections will be conducted following any significant rain event.

Roads and ports: VicRoads — Doncaster noise measurement testing

1735. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Roads and Ports):

- (1) How many Doncaster residents have sought noise measurement testing in 2006-07 through VicRoads or its agencies.
- (2) What were the locations of those tests.
- (3) What were the noise level readings on those tests.
- (4) What action, if any, is being taken as a result.

ANSWER:

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

According to VicRoads' records, one Doncaster resident requested that VicRoads carry out noise testing in 2006-07. VicRoads is unable to comment on noise testing requests that may have been made direct to external consultants without VicRoads' knowledge.

In June 2007, VicRoads commissioned an independent traffic noise consultant to undertake noise testing in McLeod Street, Doncaster.

VicRoads' Traffic Noise Reduction Policy states that noise attenuation measures are considered along existing freeways when the noise level from the freeway exceeds 68 dB(A) for 10 per cent of the time between the hours of 6am and midnight. The noise levels recorded at McLeod Street, Doncaster, were below the threshold of 68 dB(A).

Housing: home loan schemes

1741. MS HARTLAND — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate (for the Minister for Housing): In relation to the \$80 million Home Loan Support Package announced by Minister Pike on 21 June 2002 to be spent over 20 years: How much has been spent in the following areas —

- (a) the provision of reduced rents to those that have entered into co-ownership agreements with the Office of Housing.
- (b) not collecting interest payments from Government loan scheme borrowers whose loan balance exceeds the value of their home.
- (c) assisting low income people out of loans and into public housing.
- (d) reducing loan balances for people with Capital Indexed Loans (CAPIL) where the loan would not pay out in 35 years from the time it was taken.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The \$80m Home Loan Support Package announced by Minister Pike did not and does not foreshadow spending. The \$80m cost is an estimate of revenue foregone by the Director of Housing. Due to potential future changes in property prices, the rental market and interest rates, the actual cost of the package at a particular point in time can not be determined until those borrowers who remain in their loans finish their scheduled repayments.

Roads and ports: King Street, Doncaster East

1796. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Roads and Ports): In relation to the road safety audit prepared by Road Safety Audits Pty Ltd, dated 27 June 2007, relating to King Street, East Doncaster, what consideration has been given to the suggested action point 7.2 on page 9 that King Street be upgraded to two lanes in each direction in the near future.

ANSWER:

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

VicRoads has developed a draft concept plan for possible long-term future improvements to King Street. The plan gives consideration to the future function of the road and includes the provision of additional traffic lanes and bicycle facilities.

Proposals for improvement projects must be considered and evaluated on a state wide basis. Any improvements to King Street, Doncaster will be considered in this context.

Police and emergency services: South Yarra, Prahran and Windsor — crime

1862. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Police and Emergency Services): How many incidences of the following were reported in the area between Alexandra Ave, Dandenong Rd, Punt Rd, and Williams Rd in 2000, between the hours of 12 midnight and 5 a.m.:

- (a) police-reported assaults;
- (b) drink-driving breath test infringements;
- (c) alcohol-attributable hospitalisations;
- (d) alcohol-attributable deaths;
- (e) theft of motor vehicle;
- (f) damaging a motor vehicle;
- (g) property damage;

- (h) drug (cultivation, manufacturing, trafficking); and
- (i) drug (possession, use).

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

Collation of information in the specific format sought by the honourable member represents an unreasonable diversion of resources by Victoria Police. Information on the 2006-07 crime statistics for Victoria can be found on the Victoria Police website under *About Victoria Police, Statistics, Crime Statistics*. Further historical information is available in hard copy at the State Library of Victoria.

Police and emergency services: South Yarra, Prahran and Windsor — crime

1863. **MRS COOTE** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Police and Emergency Services): How many incidences of the following were reported in the area between Alexandra Ave, Dandenong Rd, Punt Rd, and Williams Rd in 2001, between the hours of 12 midnight and 5 a.m.:

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Police and emergency services: South Yarra, Prahran and Windsor — crime

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- (g) property damage;
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Police and emergency services: South Yarra, Prahran and Windsor — crime

1866. **MRS COOTE** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Police and Emergency Services): How many incidences of the following were reported in the area between Alexandra Ave, Dandenong Rd, Punt Rd, and Williams Rd in 2004, between the hours of 12 midnight and 5 a.m.:

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Police and emergency services: South Yarra, Prahran and Windsor — crime

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1869. **MRS COOTE** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Police and Emergency Services): How many incidences of the following were reported in the area between Alexandra Ave, Dandenong Rd, Punt Rd, and Williams Rd in 2007, between the hours of 12 midnight and 5 a.m.:

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- (b) drink-driving breath test infringements;
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Police and emergency services: Toorak — crime

1870. **MRS COOTE** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Police and Emergency Services): How many incidences of the following were reported in the area between Orrong Rd, Williams Rd, Alexandra Ave, and Malvern Rd in 2000, between the hours of 12 midnight and 5 a.m.:

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- (b) drink-driving breath test infringements;
- (c) alcohol-attributable hospitalisations;
- (d) alcohol-attributable deaths;
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- (f) damaging a motor vehicle;
- (g) property damage;
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Police and emergency services: Toorak — crime

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Police and emergency services: Toorak — crime

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Police and emergency services: Toorak — crime

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Police and emergency services: Toorak — crime

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Police and emergency services: Toorak — crime

1877. **MRS COOTE** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Police and Emergency Services): How many incidences of the following were reported in the area between Orrong Rd, Williams Rd, Alexandra Ave, and Malvern Rd in 2007, between the hours of 12 midnight and 5 a.m.:

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- (c) alcohol-attributable hospitalisations;
- (d) alcohol-attributable deaths;
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ANSWER:

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Housing: estate development and neighbourhood renewal programs

1958. **MS LOVELL** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Housing):

- (1) What is the itemised list of estates earmarked for redevelopment or neighbourhood renewal programs, including a progress report on each public housing site.
- (2) Does the redevelopment of these estates involve contributions in kind from the not-for-profit sector or private developers; if so, what are the details of the type of contribution made towards each such redevelopment.
- (3) What are the details of public estates where the Government has already undertaken or proposes to undertake the subdivision and sell the land for private sector development.
- (4) What are the details of the type of contractual arrangement the Government proposes to negotiate with 'private developers' to encourage a mix of private and public housing developments on Government-owned sites.
- (5) What are the details of private investors who have submitted a joint venture proposal for the redevelopment of public housing estates.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (1) There are many Neighbourhood Renewal projects across the State. Details of all approved projects are available on the Department's website.
- (2) Details can be found on the Department's website.
- (3) The details of these Projects can be found on the Department's website.
- (4) The details, to the extent that they are not commercial in confidence, can be found on the Department's website.
- (5) The details, to the extent that they are not commercial in confidence, can be found on the Department's website.

Health: Austin Health and Mercy hospital

1963. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Health): In relation to the special review conducted by the Victorian Auditor General in May 2004, in which the Department of Human Services gave an undertaking that Austin Health and the Mercy hospital would develop a model to allocate the costs of common facilities so that the promised building/redevelopment costs of \$10.6 million in operating savings could be measured: Has this measure been put in place.

ANSWER:

I am informed that the model to allocate costs of common facilities across Austin Health & Mercy hospital has been developed and implemented.

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The portfolio of the minister answering the question on notice starts each heading.*

Thursday, 17 April 2008

Environment and climate change: bushfires — erosion

870. MRS PETROVICH — To ask the Minister for the Environment and Climate Change: What studies have been done on biodiversity damaged by bushfires in each of the calendar years 2000 to 2007.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The following is a list of government funded fire recovery studies relating to biodiversity 2003-08.

2003-04

- Mountain Plum Pine Shrubland (Cobberas) – status, threats, management requirements, monitoring
- Silurian Limestone Pomaderris Shrubland – status, threats, management requirements, monitoring (Marble Gully)
- Bogong Treeless, including FFG listed communities (non-bogs fire effects & response in alpine grassland, heathland and snowpatch plant communities on the Bogong High Plains using long-term plots) (Bogong High Plains)
- Moss-bed Monitoring and Rehabilitation - post-fire condition, and post-fire recovery pathways of mossbed vegetation and water courses, vegetation dynamics (Alpine National Park)
- Montane Swamp Complex – threats, management requirements, monitoring (Alpine National Park)
- White Box-grassy Woodland - tree damage, recovery and recruitment, and understorey condition , monitoring (Snowy River National Park)
- Big Desert – Eucalyptus porosa - dominated areas – status, threats, management requirements, monitoring (Big Desert and Wyperfeld National Park)
- Alpine Fire – threatened flora & vital attributes (Across the fire affected area from Mt Buffalo to Mt Bogong including the High Plains & the Cobberas)
- Eldorado Bushfire Recovery – Post-fire assessment of priority flora – monitoring size and extent of VROT populations & ongoing threats; species studies (Eucalyptus cadens, Callitris), grazing (Eldorado and Mt Pilot sections of the Chiltern – Mt Pilot National Park)
- Big Desert Fire – Recovery of rare and threatened flora after the 2002 wildfire (North-western Victoria Big Desert Wilderness park)
- Alpine Aquatic invertebrates (Alpine National Park)
- Threatened Alpine Herpetofauna (Bogong High Plains)
- Barking Owl - assessment & monitoring

- Brush-tailed Phascogale - assessment & monitoring
- Brush-tail Rock Wallaby - assessment & monitoring
- Long-footed Potoroo- assessment & monitoring, predator control
- Mountain Pygmy Possum- assessment & monitoring
- Spotted Tree-frog- assessment & monitoring
- Threatened fauna, Cobberas/ Forlorn Hope Plain- assessment & monitoring
- Threatened fish & aquatic invertebrates- assessment & monitoring
- Terrestrial vertebrates in the Big Desert
- River Ecosystem Assessment (Within Kiewa, Mitchell Ovens, Upper Murray, Snowy and Tambo Catchments)
- Grazing impacts – horses, deer, cattle
- Weeds – Orange Hawkweed, Clover Arboretum, English Broom, Willow – map, assess, control
- Undertake surveys of threatened Alpine Reptiles and Amphibians, Aquatic Invertebrates and fish

2004-05

- Effects of bushfire on riparian and channel environments, Alpine National Park: analysing ecosystem consequences and management implications [RPP* 0405 P02]
- A Dispersal Model for Orange Hawkweed (*Hieracium aurantiacum*) [RPP 0405 P03]
- Carbon and water dynamics of subalpine peat bogs [RPP 0405 P06]

2005-06

- Determining appropriate ecological fire regimes to manage biodiversity in the heathy woodlands of southwest Victoria; an adaptive management approach [RPP 0506 P01]
- Fire effects on water ecosystem services, ANP: severity of bushfire impact and rates of recovery in key environmental processes [RPP 0506 P02a]
- Monitoring water quality and biogeochemical changes during peatland rehabilitation [RPP 0506 P02b]
- Post-fire monitoring of terrestrial invertebrates on the Bogong High Plains [RPP 0506 P02c]
- Alpine Mossbed Condition, Regeneration & Ecological Restoration [RPP 0506 P02d]
- Post-fire Condition of Alpine Grasslands, Heathlands and Herbfields [RPP 0506 P02e]
- Determining appropriate fire regimes to maintain biodiversity in Mallee habitats [RPP 0506 P03]
- Ecology of Red Deer (*Cervus elaphus*) in Grampians National Park [RPP 0506 P05]
- Assessing management strategies and wildfire impact on Long-footed Potoroos in the north-east of Victoria [RPP 0506 P26]
- Mallee Fire and Biodiversity Project (large multi-stakeholder project) (continuing until 2008-09)
- Effects of fire on ecosystem processes and biodiversity (south west Victoria, with Melbourne Uni. SFES) (continuing until 2008-09)

2006-07

- Nature and recovery of catchment processes and water yield during recovery from fire and grazing pressure, Bogong High Plains, Alpine National Park. [RPP 0607 P18]
- Assessment of Leadbeater's Possum habitat at Woods Point and identification of rehabilitation actions required
- Studies of areas of double burnt ash in the 2003 and 1998 Alpine fires.
- Remote sensing analysis and follow up field analysis of Fire Severity.
- Remove Spotted Tree Frog individuals from Buffalo Creek and Barred and Mountain Galaxias populations from upper Goulburn River and maintain in captivity for later release (continuing until 2008-09)

2007-08

- Mt. Buffalo multiple burn vegetation [RPP 0708 P05]
- Managing willow invasion in alpine bogs [RPP 0708 P06]
- Sub-alpine and Montane Mossbed Condition [RPP 0708 P12]
- Revegetation of Mountain Pygmy Possum habitat at Mt Buller (until 2008-09)
- Determine impact of fires on bogs in areas not already assessed and implement structural restoration actions (until 2008-09)
- Rehabilitate Threatened EVCs including rainforests, Gippsland Plains Grassy Woodland and threatened plant species recovery (until 2008-09)
- Remote sensing and monitoring of Long Footed Potoroo and associated fauna in the Upper Wonnangatta River, upper Ovens River and Boulder Creek areas (until 2008-09)
- Surveys to relocate plant populations burnt in 06/07 and evaluation of their conservation status and regenerative attributes (until 2008-09)
- Undertake surveys of threatened Alpine Reptiles and Amphibians, Aquatic Invertebrates and fish (continuing until 2008-09)
- Resampling of treeless vegetation at Mt Buffalo that was sampled in 1982 and 2005, and reporting on the number of species in frequently burnt sites (continuing until 2008-09)
- Monitoring recovery and regeneration of Warm Temperate Rainforest after fire (Boulder Creek) (continuing until 2008-09)

*Parks Victoria Research Partners Program [RPP].

Other longer term non-government studies include, for example:

- Melbourne University - surveying and sampling Eucalyptus yarraensis leaves for concentrations of cyanide post fire and the leases of cyanide in Swamp Wallabies as a result of grazing. 3 years
- Melbourne University (Creswick) – Seed bank distribution by ants post fire and germination success. 2 years
- Victorian National Parks Association (Nature Watch) – To monitor the spread and impacts of Phytophthora cinnamoni on the population density and distribution on the key indicator species of susceptible flora in the Brisbane Ranges National Park. 5 years
- Parks Victoria & Deakin University (Geelong) – Distribution of Phytophthora cinnamoni, through the process of wildfire and its resilience to wildfire. 3 years

Senior Victorians: older persons high rise support program

1728. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Senior Victorians): In relation to the Older Persons High Rise Support Program:

- (1) How much funding did the program receive in 2000-01.
- (2) How much funding will the program receive in 2007-08.
- (3) How much funding did each of the sixteen service providers receive in 2007-08.
- (4) Does the Government have any plans to expand the program.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (1) \$500,000
- (2) \$1.47m in 2007-08.
- (3) \$1.47m in 2007-08.
- (4) Yes.

Community services: youth justice programs and initiatives

1786. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to \$34.2 million worth of funding promised on 17 August 2000 for youth justice programs and initiatives:

- (1) How much of this funding was expended by the end of the 2003-04 financial year.
- (2) How was the use of these funds evaluated.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (1) \$34.2 million
- (2) Via an effectiveness review.

Community services: One Community scheme

1788. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to \$50 million worth of funding promised on 15 September 2000 for the One Community scheme:

- (1) How much funding was provided to HomeFirst in the 2000-01 financial year.
- (2) How many Victorians benefited from this program in the 2000-01 financial year.
- (3) How much funding was provided to GreatBreak in the 2000-01 financial year.
- (4) How many Victorians benefited from this program in the 2000-01 financial year.
- (5) How many extra flexible care packages were provided in the 2000-01 financial year.
- (6) How much of this funding went to providing more supported community accommodation in the 2000-01 financial year.
- (7) How many new units were built with these funds in the 2000-01 financial year.
- (8) How many more people were able to be accommodated.

- (9) How much extra funding was provided to the Futures for Young Adults program in the 2000-01 financial year.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (1) This initiative contributed to the output and financial performance reported in the Department of Human Services Annual Reports for 2000-01 and 2002-03. Retrospective disaggregation of this reported performance would involve a significant diversion of departmental resources.
- (2) Refer to Question (1)
- (3) Refer to Question (1)
- (4) Refer to Question (1)
- (5) Refer to Question (1)
- (6) Refer to Question (1)
- (7) Refer to Question (1)
- (8) Refer to Question (1)
- (9) Refer to Question (1)

Mental health: inquiry into the practice of recovered memory therapy

1792. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Mental Health): In relation to the Health Services Commissioner's 2005 Inquiry into the Practice of Recovered Memory Therapy:

- (1) After receiving advice from relevant bodies, did the Government accept each of the Commissioner's five recommendations; if not, what are the reasons for opposing any recommendations.
- (2) What specific action has been taken by the Government regarding each recommendation that was accepted.
- (3) What specific action has been taken on the measures put forward in the Government's response to the recommendations, specifically the community education campaign and review of practice guidelines and training.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

(1 – 3)

The Government's response to the Health Services Commissioner's report is available on the Department of Human Services website at the following address: www.health.vic.gov.au/pracreg

Some progress has been made in the preparation of public education materials and consultations are underway to finalise the content. Once the public education materials are completed, further work will be undertaken to encourage the respective professional bodies to prepare joint practice guidelines in relation to memory and therapy.

Senior Victorians: cognitive dementia and memory services — Barwon south-west region

1810. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Senior Victorians): In relation to Cognitive Dementia and Memory Services (CDAMS) in the Barwon South West Region:

- (1) How many people were on a waiting list to access CDAMS in the 2007-08 financial year to date.
- (2) How many people were on a waiting list to access CDAMS in the 2005-06 financial year.
- (3) What percentage of current demand does CDAMS meet.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The data is not available.

Senior Victorians: cognitive dementia and memory services — Loddon Mallee region

1811. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Senior Victorians): In relation to Cognitive Dementia and Memory Services (CDAMS) in the Loddon Mallee Region:

- (1) How many people were on a waiting list to access CDAMS in the 2007-08 financial year to date.
- (2) How many people were on a waiting list to access CDAMS in the 2005-06 financial year.
- (3) What percentage of current demand does CDAMS meet.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The data is not available.

Senior Victorians: cognitive dementia and memory services — Hume region

1812. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Senior Victorians): In relation to Cognitive Dementia and Memory Services (CDAMS) in the Hume Region:

- (1) How many people were on a waiting list to access CDAMS in the 2007-08 financial year to date.
- (2) How many people were on a waiting list to access CDAMS in the 2005-06 financial year.
- (3) What percentage of current demand does CDAMS meet.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The data is not available.

Senior Victorians: cognitive dementia and memory services — Grampians region

1813. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Senior Victorians): In relation to Cognitive Dementia and Memory Services (CDAMS) in the Grampians Region:

- (1) How many people were on a waiting list to access CDAMS in the 2007-08 financial year to date.
- (2) How many people were on a waiting list to access CDAMS in the 2005-06 financial year.
- (3) What percentage of current demand does CDAMS meet.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The data is not available.

Senior Victorians: cognitive dementia and memory services — Gippsland region

1814. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Senior Victorians): In relation to Cognitive Dementia and Memory Services (CDAMS) in the Gippsland Region:

- (1) How many people were on a waiting list to access CDAMS in the 2007-08 financial year to date.
- (2) How many people were on a waiting list to access CDAMS in the 2005-06 financial year.
- (3) What percentage of current demand does CDAMS meet.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The data is not available.

Senior Victorians: cognitive dementia and memory services — north-west region

1815. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Senior Victorians): In relation to Cognitive Dementia and Memory Services (CDAMS) in the North-West Region:

- (1) How many people were on a waiting list to access CDAMS in the 2007-08 financial year to date.
- (2) How many people were on a waiting list to access CDAMS in the 2005-06 financial year.
- (3) What percentage of current demand does CDAMS meet.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The data is not available.

Senior Victorians: cognitive dementia and memory services — eastern region

1816. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Senior Victorians): In relation to Cognitive Dementia and Memory Services (CDAMS) in the Eastern Region:

- (1) How many people were on a waiting list to access CDAMS in the 2007-08 financial year to date.
- (2) How many people were on a waiting list to access CDAMS in the 2005-06 financial year.
- (3) What percentage of current demand does CDAMS meet.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The data is not available.

Senior Victorians: cognitive dementia and memory services — southern region

1817. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Senior Victorians): In relation to Cognitive Dementia and Memory Services (CDAMS) in the Southern Region:

- (1) How many people were on a waiting list to access CDAMS in the 2007-08 financial year to date.
- (2) How many people were on a waiting list to access CDAMS in the 2005-06 financial year.
- (3) What percentage of current demand does CDAMS meet.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The data is not available.

Community services: disability services — community funding

1965. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to \$420,000 worth of funding promised to local governments on 17 November 2000 to plan communities that are inclusive of people with disabilities:

- (1) How much of this funding was expended in the financial year 2000-01.
- (2) Has the use of these funds been evaluated; if so, what were the results of that evaluation.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (1) This initiative contributed to the output and financial performance reported in the Department of Human Services Annual Report for the relevant financial years. Retrospective disaggregation of this reported performance would involve a significant diversion of departmental resources.
- (2) The use of the funds forms part of ongoing service and demand evaluation undertaken by the Department.

Community services: acquired brain injury strategic plan

1970. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to \$5 million worth of funding for the Acquired Brain Injury Strategic Plan promised on 29 March 2001:

- (1) How much of this funding was expended by the end of the 2002-03 financial year.
- (2) Has the use of these funds been evaluated; if so, what were the results of that evaluation.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (1) This initiative contributed to the output and financial performance reported in the Department of Human Services Annual Report for the relevant financial years. Retrospective disaggregation of this reported performance would involve a significant diversion of departmental resources.
- (2) The use of the funds forms part of ongoing service and demand evaluation undertaken by the Department.

Community services: disability services — community funding

1971. **MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to \$3.5 million worth of funding to mobilise people with disabilities promised on 10 April 2001:

- (1) How much of this funding was expended by the end of the 2003-04 financial year.
- (2) Has the use of these funds been evaluated; if so, what were the results of that evaluation.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (1) This initiative contributed to the output and financial performance reported in the Department of Human Services Annual Report for the relevant financial years. Retrospective disaggregation of this reported performance would involve a significant diversion of departmental resources.
- (2) The use of the funds forms part of ongoing service and demand evaluation undertaken by the Department.

Community services: young people in residential care

1973. **MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to \$7.5 million worth of funding for improved service provision for young people in residential care promised in the 2000-01 budget:

- (1) How much of this funding was expended in the financial year 2001-02.
- (2) Has the use of these funds been evaluated; if so, what were the results of that evaluation.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (1) This initiative contributed to the output and financial performance reported in the Department of Human Services Annual Report for the relevant financial years. Retrospective disaggregation of this reported performance would involve a significant diversion of departmental resources.
- (2) The use of the funds forms part of ongoing service and demand evaluation undertaken by the Department.

Community services: supported accommodation waiting list

1981. **MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to \$6 million worth of funding promised in the 2000-01 budget to address growth in the urgent waiting list for supported accommodation:

- (1) How much of this funding was expended in the financial year 2001-02.

- (2) How much of this funding was expended in the financial year 2002-03.
- (3) How many people gained a supported accommodation place in the 2001-02 financial year because of these funds.
- (4) Has the use of these funds been evaluated; if so, what were the results of that evaluation.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (1) This initiative contributed to the output and financial performance reported in the Department of Human Services Annual Report for the relevant financial years. Retrospective disaggregation of this reported performance would involve a significant diversion of departmental resources.
- (2) Refer to Question (1)
- (3) Refer to Question (1)
- (4) The use of the funds forms part of ongoing service and demand evaluation undertaken by the Department.

Community services: futures for young adults program

1982. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to \$7 million worth of funding for the futures for young adults program promised in the 2000-01 budget:

- (1) How much of this funding was expended in the financial year 2001-02.
- (2) Has the use of these funds been evaluated; if so, what were the results of that evaluation.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (1) This initiative contributed to the output and financial performance reported in the Department of Human Services Annual Report for the relevant financial years. Retrospective disaggregation of this reported performance would involve a significant diversion of departmental resources.
- (2) The use of the funds forms part of ongoing service and demand evaluation undertaken by the Department.

Community services: respite care

1983. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to \$3.3 million worth of funding for respite care, providing breaks for 250 families and other voluntary carers, promised in the 2000-01 budget:

- (1) How much of this funding was expended in the financial year 2001-02.
- (2) How many families and other voluntary carers received respite because of these funds in the 2001-02 financial year.
- (3) Has the use of these funds been evaluated; if so, what were the results of that evaluation.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (1) This initiative contributed to the output and financial performance reported in the Department of Human Services Annual Report for the relevant financial years. Retrospective disaggregation of this reported performance would involve a significant diversion of departmental resources.

- (2) Refer to Question (1)
- (3) The use of the funds forms part of ongoing service and demand evaluation undertaken by the Department.

Community services: disability services — flexible care packages

1984. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to \$3.1 million worth of funding for flexible care packages, to provide 500 additional people with disabilities and families with packages, promised in the 2000-01 budget:

- (1) How much of this funding was expended in the financial year 2001-02.
- (2) How many people with disabilities and families received flexible care packages because of these funds in the 2001-02 financial year.
- (3) Has the use of these funds been evaluated; if so, what were the results of that evaluation.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (1) This initiative contributed to the output and financial performance reported in the Department of Human Services Annual Report for the relevant financial years. Retrospective disaggregation of this reported performance would involve a significant diversion of departmental resources.
- (2) Refer to Question (1)
- (3) The use of the funds forms part of ongoing service and demand evaluation undertaken by the Department.

Community services: disability services — quality improvement funding

1985. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to \$2.6 million worth of funding for disability service quality improvement promised in the 2000-01 budget:

- (1) How much of this funding was expended in the financial year 2001-02.
- (2) Has the use of these funds been evaluated; if so, what were the results of that evaluation.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (1) This initiative contributed to the output and financial performance reported in the Department of Human Services Annual Report for the relevant financial years. Retrospective disaggregation of this reported performance would involve a significant diversion of departmental resources.
- (2) The use of the funds forms part of ongoing service and demand evaluation undertaken by the Department.

Community services: disability services — disability carers action plan

1991. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): As part of the action for policy and program development of the Disability Carers Action Plan, which demographic groupings have been included in the Disability Support Register for better targeting of resources and support to families and carers.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The demographic groupings included in the Disability Support Register for better targeting of resources and support to families and carers are:

- person with a disability who has an ageing carer
- person with a disability who is ageing and has an ageing carer
- child requiring family based care
- family with children with a disability
- young person with a disability
- child/young person with a disability who has an ageing carer.

Community services: disability services — disability carers action plan

1992. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): As part of the action for policy and program development of the Disability Carers Action Plan, what have been the dates, times, and locations of consultations with carers to develop a framework for the participation of carers in service planning, delivery and reviews.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- Consultation with carers to develop a framework for the participation of carers in service planning, delivering and reviews has not yet commenced. This consultation is planned to coincide with the introduction of the Victorian Carers Charter in mid 2008.
- Precise dates, times and locations are yet to be confirmed.

Community services: disability services — disability carers action plan

1994. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): As part of the action for policy and program development of the Disability Carers Action Plan, what are the titles of the communication materials which have been reviewed and refined to address the information needs of families and carers regarding Support and Choice.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The following documents related to accessing ongoing support and effectively planning for individualised supports have been reviewed and updated:

- Individual Support Package Guidelines, October 2008
- Disability Services Access to Ongoing Disability Support, March 2007
- Disability Services Access Policy, July 2007
- Disability Services Planning Policy, July 2007

- Disability Services Planning Resource Kit and Implementation guide, November 2007

Community services: disability services — state disability plan

1995. **MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): Which options has Disability Services considered to address the issues associated with consent and substitute decision-making, to fulfil action 7 of action area 3, promotion and protection of people’s rights, as outlined in the 2006-08 Implementation Plan for the State Disability Plan.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- The *Guardianship and Administration Act 1986* has provisions related to the appointment of guardians and administrators. This Act also enables a ‘person responsible’ to act as a substitute decision-maker for a person with a disability in relation to most medical and dental treatment. The person responsible may be a person’s guardian, a person’s spouse or the person’s nearest relative.
- Issues associated with consent and substitute decision-making were considered during the review of disability legislation and
- the Government did not consider it was appropriate to make any further legislative provisions around substitute decision-making.
- Following the commencement of the *Disability Act 2006*, matters relating to the management of money have been addressed through new policy.

Community services: disability services — state disability plan

1996. **MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): What are the dates and titles of reports published to show the government’s progress with the State Disability Plan 2002-12.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Report on the implementation of the Victorian State Disability Plan 2002-2012 was published by the Victorian Government Department of Human Services in March 2006.

Victorian State Disability Plan Implementation Plan 2006-2008 was released in October 2006 by Disability Services Division.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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COUNCIL
