

PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA

**PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(HANSARD)**

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

FIFTY-SIXTH PARLIAMENT

FIRST SESSION

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

10, 11 and 12 June 2008

(Extract from book 8)

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

By authority of the Victorian Government Printer

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

*Answers to the following questions on notice were circulated on the date shown.
 Questions have been incorporated from the notice paper of the Legislative 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, 10 June 2008

Environment and climate change: dispute expenses

- 35. MR RICH-PHILLIPS** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change): In relation to the Department of Sustainability and Environment Annual Report 2006, Note 5 — expenses, p.143:
- (1) How many disputes arose that were not covered by insurance in 2005-06.
 - (2) What was the reason for the disputes.
 - (3) What were the individual amounts paid to settle those disputes in 2005-06.
 - (4) What were the individual amounts in legal fees to settle those disputes in 2005-06.
 - (5) What was/is the total amount of the legal settlement to the private operator of the former Seal Rocks Life Centre.
 - (6) What was/is the total amount paid in legal fees paid by the Department in the settlement to the private operator of the former Seal Rocks Sea Life Centre.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

With reference to the figures given in Note 5 (expenses) page 143 of the Department of Sustainability and Environment 2005–06 Annual Report relating to disputes not covered by insurance:

- (1) The records of the Department of Sustainability and Environment indicate that there were 36 disputes which resulted in payments during the 2005-06 financial year that were not covered by insurance.
- (2) The majority of the disputes were with the Registrar of Titles and related to claims for compensation under the system for the guarantee of land title and sections 109 to 111 of the *Transfer of Land Act 1958*.

The other disputes related to a land valuation matter under the Valuation of Land Act 1960, property damage caused by a fuel reduction burn and a lease of Crown land.
- (3) It would not be appropriate to provide details of settlement amounts for a number of litigated cases because of confidentiality clauses contained in deeds of settlement. The settlement costs of the 31 unlitigated matters ranged from \$13.20 to approximately \$35,000.
- (4) Two disputes incurred legal fees of \$20,195.05 and \$53,500 respectively during the 2005-06 financial year.
- (5) The total amount awarded by the arbitrator to the private operator of the former Seal Rocks Sea Life Centre was \$37.3m and was published on page 68 of the *Report of the Auditor General on the Finances of the State of Victoria 2002-03*.
- (6) The total amount in legal fees paid by the Department of Sustainability and Environment to the private operator of the Seal Rocks Sea Life Centre was approximately \$7.05 million.

Corrections: prisoners — blood-borne viruses

631. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Corrections) with reference to blood-borne viruses among Victoria's prison population:

- (1) When did the government last carry out a review/study to determine rates of Hepatitis C Virus and HIV/Aids among Victorian prisoners.
- (2) How was that study conducted.
- (3) According to the most recent data, what percentage of Victorian prisoners have tested positive for the Hepatitis C Virus.
- (4) According to the most recent data, what percentage of Victorian prisoners have tested positive for HIV/Aids.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

- (1) The Victorian Prisoner Health Study was conducted in 2002.
- (2) Participation in the study was on a voluntary basis.
- (3) Of the prisoners in the study 57.5 per cent were HCV antibody positive.
- (4) In the Victorian Prisoner Health Study three of 297 prisoners tested positive for HIV.

Planning: ministerial travel

958. MR GUY — To ask the Minister for Planning:

- (1) On how many occasions since November 2006 has the Minister used the service of a chartered flight, including helicopters and light planes.
- (2) What was the total cost of these services.
- (3) What were the destinations.
- (4) What was the reason for the utilisation of a charter flight or a helicopter.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

I have used chartered flights on two occasions from November 2006 until the date this question was raised, the total cost of which was \$9,010.00.

One flight was booked for my attendance at the opening of a planning forum in Bairnsdale. The second flight was chartered to Horsham to attend various site visits and meetings with Horsham Shire Council.

Police and emergency services: Victoria Police — transit safety division

1084. MR KOCH — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Police and Emergency Services): In relation to Victoria Police officers allocated to the Transit Safety Division on 30 June 2007, 31 July 2007, 31 August 2007, 30 September 2007, and 31 October 2007:

- (1) On each date, how many of those officers were —
 - (a) sworn; and
 - (b) unsworn members.

- (2) On each date, how many sworn and unsworn members respectively, who were not on recreation, sick, long service, maternity, paternity, study or WorkCover related leave —
 - (a) worked a shift; and
 - (b) were rostered to take the day off.
- (3) On each date, what was the agreed full time equivalent (FTE) establishment for —
 - (a) sworn; and
 - (b) unsworn members.
- (4) On each date, what was the actual number of FTE for —
 - (a) sworn; and
 - (b) unsworn members.
- (5) On each date, at what locations were Transit Patrol sworn and unsworn members, respectively, stationed and how many of each type were at each location.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

Since coming to office, the State Government has increased the number of police by over 1400. With the increase in the number of front-line police in every policing area across the State, the capacity of operational members to assist with incidents that take place on the transit system has increased.

The Government's additional support for Victoria Police is showing good results. Victoria's overall crime rate has fallen 23.5 per cent since 2000-01 and the crime rate for offences on public transport has fallen by 30.9 per cent.

Victoria Police advise that, over the period June to October 2007, an average of 192 sworn members and seven unsworn staff were allocated to the Transit Safety Division of Victoria Police. It is important to note that regular uniformed and undercover police also have a responsibility for policing on public transport, along with transit police, and this happens regularly.

Police and emergency services: Victoria Police — transit safety division

1085. MR KOCH — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Police and Emergency Services): In relation to Victoria Police allocated to the Transit Safety Division during the months of June, July, August, September and October 2007:

- (1) In each month, how many sworn and unsworn members, respectively, took —
 - (a) sick leave;
 - (b) recreation leave;
 - (c) long service leave;
 - (e) WorkCover leave;
 - (f) maternity leave;
 - (g) paternity leave; and
 - (h) study leave.
- (2) What was the total number of days for each leave type specified in (1) taken for each month by —
 - (a) sworn; and
 - (b) unsworn members.
- (3) Were any shifts unfilled; if so, how many in each month for —
 - (a) sworn; and

- (b) unsworn members.
- (4) What was the total number of hours spent patrolling public transport services, stations, stops or facilities in each month.
- (5) In each month, what was the total number of hours spent patrolling —
 - (a) railway stations or trains;
 - (b) trams or tram stops;
 - (c) metropolitan buses or stops;
 - (d) V/Line trains or stations; and
 - (e) V/Line coaches or coach stops.
- (6) In each month how many reports of gangs or groups congregating at railway stations were —
 - (a) received by Transit Patrol members; and
 - (b) physically attended by Transit Patrol members.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

Since coming to office, the State Government has increased the number of police by over 1400. With the increase in the number of front-line police in every policing area across the State, the capacity of operational members to assist with incidents that take place on the transit system has increased.

The Government's additional support for Victoria Police is showing good results. Victoria's overall crime rate has fallen 23.5 per cent since 2000-01 and the crime rate for offences on public transport has fallen by 30.9 per cent.

Victoria Police advise that, over the period June to October 2007, an average of 192 sworn members and seven unsworn staff were allocated to the Transit Safety Division of Victoria Police. It is important to note that regular uniformed and undercover police also have a responsibility for policing on public transport, along with transit police, and this happens regularly.

Police and emergency services: speed cameras

1086. MR KOCH — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Police and Emergency Services): In relation to highway fixed, intersection fixed, analogue red light, Hume Freeway point-to-point, West Gate Freeway highway fixed, Western Ring Road highway fixed, and CityLink highway fixed speed cameras during each of the months of July, August, September and October 2007:

- (1) Were all cameras operating 24 hours a day, seven days a week; if not, for what periods and on what days was each camera inoperable.
- (2) For what reason was each camera identified as inoperable in (1) turned off.
- (3) How much per hour on average did each camera generate in revenue.
- (4) How many infringement notices were issued per hour on average for each camera.
- (5) How many infringement notices were withdrawn and for what reasons.
- (6) What were the locations of the top 20 revenue generating speed cameras.
- (7) How much was generated in revenue at each of these sites.
- (8) With each type of camera how many faults were —
 - (a) reported; and
 - (b) identified.
- (9) How many requests for withdrawal of infringement notices were received.

- (10) Where is it expected that new fixed digital, point-to-point or red light cameras will be installed between October 2007 and 30 June 2008.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

It would be an unreasonable diversion of the Department's resources to provide this information.

Multicultural affairs: Victorian Multicultural Commission — media and communications staff

- 1580. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Multicultural Affairs): For the financial year 2006-07, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the Victorian Multicultural Commission and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media and communications roles by the Commission.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

For the financial year 2006-07, the Victorian Multicultural Commission spent \$124,976.61 (excluding GST) on advertising and promotion.

In this period, the Commission employed one full-time equivalent staff member in a media and communications role.

Consumer affairs: licensed outlets

- 1830. MRS COOTE** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Consumer Affairs): How many licensed outlets were there in the following local government areas in 2000:

- (a) City of Stonnington;
- (b) City of Port Phillip;
- (c) City of Glen Eira;
- (d) City of Boroondara; and
- (e) City of Bayside.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

The requested data has been manually collated and analysed. A CD-based backup of key data for each of the years has been used to produce data in the form of "indicative" figures only. This data is searchable via postcode or suburb name but not by local government area (LGA). Some postcodes and suburbs appear in two LGAs. This may lead to some inaccuracy.

The numbers for 2000 were:

Stonnington: 342;

Port Phillip: 397;

Glen Eira: 141;

Boroondara: 192; and

Bayside: 158.

Consumer affairs: licensed outlets

1831. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Consumer Affairs): How many licensed outlets were there in the following local government areas in 2001:

- (a) City of Stonnington;
- (b) City of Port Phillip;
- (c) City of Glen Eira;
- (d) City of Boroondara; and
- (e) City of Bayside.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

The requested data has been manually collated and analysed. A CD-based backup of key data for each of the years has been used to produce data in the form of “indicative” figures only. This data is searchable via postcode or suburb name but not by local government area (LGA). Some postcodes and suburbs appear in two LGAs. This may lead to some inaccuracy.

The numbers for 2001 were:

Stonnington: 382;

Port Phillip: 430;

Glen Eira: 163;

Boroondara: 215; and

Bayside: 170.

Consumer affairs: licensed outlets

1832. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Consumer Affairs): How many licensed outlets were there in the following local government areas in 2002:

- (a) City of Stonnington;
- (b) City of Port Phillip;
- (c) City of Glen Eira;
- (d) City of Boroondara; and
- (e) City of Bayside.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

The requested data has been manually collated and analysed. A CD-based backup of key data for each of the years has been used to produce data in the form of “indicative” figures only. This data is searchable via postcode or suburb name but not by local government area (LGA). Some postcodes and suburbs appear in two LGAs. This may lead to some inaccuracy.

The numbers for 2002 were:

Stonnington: 411;

Port Phillip: 478;
 Glen Eira: 170;
 Boroondara: 235; and
 Bayside: 188.

Consumer affairs: licensed outlets

1833. **MRS COOTE** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Consumer Affairs): How many licensed outlets were there in the following local government areas in 2003:

- (a) City of Stonnington;
- (b) City of Port Phillip;
- (c) City of Glen Eira;
- (d) City of Boroondara; and
- (e) City of Bayside.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

The requested data has been manually collated and analysed. A CD-based backup of key data for each of the years has been used to produce data in the form of “indicative” figures only. This data is searchable via postcode or suburb name but not by local government area (LGA). Some postcodes and suburbs appear in two LGAs. This may lead to some inaccuracy.

The numbers for 2003 were:

Stonnington: 444;
 Port Phillip: 516;
 Glen Eira: 194;
 Boroondara: 264; and
 Bayside: 207.

Consumer affairs: licensed outlets

1834. **MRS COOTE** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Consumer Affairs): How many licensed outlets were there in the following local government areas in 2004:

- (a) City of Stonnington;
- (b) City of Port Phillip;
- (c) City of Glen Eira;
- (d) City of Boroondara; and
- (e) City of Bayside.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

The requested data has been manually collated and analysed. A CD-based backup of key data for each of the years has been used to produce data in the form of “indicative” figures only. This data is searchable via postcode or suburb name but not by local government area (LGA). Some postcodes and suburbs appear in two LGAs. This may lead to some inaccuracy.

The numbers for 2004 were:

Stonnington: 462;
 Port Phillip: 536;
 Glen Eira: 213;
 Boroondara: 281; and
 Bayside: 212.

Consumer affairs: licensed outlets

1835. **MRS COOTE** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Consumer Affairs): How many licensed outlets were there in the following local government areas in 2005:

- (a) City of Stonnington;
- (b) City of Port Phillip;
- (c) City of Glen Eira;
- (d) City of Boroondara; and
- (e) City of Bayside.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

The requested data has been manually collated and analysed. A CD-based backup of key data for each of the years has been used to produce data in the form of “indicative” figures only. This data is searchable via postcode or suburb name but not by local government area (LGA). Some postcodes and suburbs appear in two LGAs. This may lead to some inaccuracy.

The numbers for 2005 were:

Stonnington: 475;
 Port Phillip: 571;
 Glen Eira: 232;
 Boroondara: 302; and
 Bayside: 232.

Consumer affairs: licensed outlets

1836. **MRS COOTE** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Consumer Affairs): How many licensed outlets were there in the following local government areas in 2006:

- (a) City of Stonnington;
- (b) City of Port Phillip;

- (c) City of Glen Eira;
- (d) City of Boroondara; and
- (e) City of Bayside.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

The requested data has been manually collated and analysed. A CD-based backup of key data for each of the years has been used to produce data in the form of “indicative” figures only. This data is searchable via postcode or suburb name but not by local government area (LGA). Some postcodes and suburbs appear in two LGAs. This may lead to some inaccuracy.

The numbers for 2006 were:

Stonnington: 507;

Port Phillip: 586;

Glen Eira: 258;

Boroondara: 319; and

Bayside: 263.

Consumer affairs: licensed outlets

1837. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Consumer Affairs): How many licensed outlets were there in the following local government areas in 2007:

- (a) City of Stonnington;
- (b) City of Port Phillip;
- (c) City of Glen Eira;
- (d) City of Boroondara; and
- (e) City of Bayside.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

The requested data has been manually collated and analysed. A CD-based backup of key data for each of the years has been used to produce data in the form of “indicative” figures only. This data is searchable via postcode or suburb name but not by local government area (LGA). Some postcodes and suburbs appear in two LGAs. This may lead to some inaccuracy.

The numbers for 2007 were:

Stonnington: 527;

Port Phillip: 600;

Glen Eira: 272;

Boroondara: 345; and

Bayside: 272.

Treasurer: CPR Communications and Public Relations

1882. MR. D. M. DAVIS — To ask the Treasurer: In table form, what was the expenditure by the Department of Treasury and Finance in the financial years 2005-06 and 2006-07 and the period between 30 June 2007 and 31 December 2007 on CPR Communications and Public Relations, providing in each case —

- (a) the date on which the tender or contract was entered into;
- (b) the matter involved;
- (c) the total expenditure by the Department on that matter;
- (d) the date on which the matter was finalised; and
- (e) whether the payments in each case were the result of a formal tender, or other formal process, or were simply awarded to CPR.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

During the financial year 2005-06 there were five instances of expenditure by the Department of Treasury and Finance (DTF) on CPR Communication and Public Relations. Expenditure on each ranged between \$2145 and \$5700, and each came as a result of a formal process through the Victorian Government Purchasing Board (VGPPB) panel. Matters included the ESS/GSO Merger, land tax, car park levy and staff presentations. All matters were concluded by June 2006.

During the financial year 2006-07 there was one instance of expenditure by DTF on CPR Communication and Public Relations, of \$5100. This expenditure came as a result of a formal process through the VGPPB panel. The matter related to media relations and was concluded by April 2007.

During the period 1 July 2007–31 December 2007 there were no instances of expenditure by DTF on CPR Communication and Public Relations.

Police and emergency services: police — Ringwood and Warrandyte

1892. MR DALLA-RIVA—To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Police and Emergency Services):

- (1) In circumstances where a police officer is absent from duties for an extended period from Ringwood Police Station due to maternity leave, sick leave, annual leave, long service leave or injury leave, will a relieving police officer be made available to the Station.
- (2) In circumstances where a police officer is absent from duties for an extended period from Warrandyte Police Station due to maternity leave, sick leave, annual leave, long service leave or injury leave, will a relieving police officer be made available to the Station.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

The Brumby Government is committed to providing safe streets and homes for Victorians by ensuring Victoria Police is highly professional and well resourced.

Since coming to office, the State Government has increased the number of police by over 1,400. Further, we have increased funding to Victoria Police to a record budget of more than \$1.6 billion in 2007-08, and funded the construction and refurbishment of 149 police stations across the state.

The Government's additional support to Victoria Police is showing good results. Victoria's crime rate has fallen 23.5 per cent since 2000-01, with Victoria now having the lowest crime rate in Australia.

However, the fight against crime is ongoing. That is why at the last election the Government committed to a further increase of 350 sworn police by 2010, as well as an additional 50 forensic and specialist investigators. In addition to this, the Government committed to providing additional resources and equipment to assist police in their work, including an extra 100 police cars.

Decisions on the placement of police throughout the state are operational matters and are made by police command on the basis of assessed need. It is important that this process is not subject to political interference. I am assured by the Chief Commissioner of Police that the level of policing across Victoria is continuously monitored by the respective Regional Command Officers, with a view to maintaining optimum policing effectiveness.

I am also advised that Victoria Police deploys first response police across its 56 Police Service Areas using a sophisticated resource allocation model incorporating 12 characteristics of the local community that are used to predict levels of crime and road trauma; the population of an area is just one of these. Victoria Police uses this model to ensure that police resources are distributed equitably and according to demonstrated operational need. It should be noted that, since 1999, the number of front-line police officers has increased in all police regions across Victoria.

Housing: registered housing associations

1947. **MS LOVELL** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Housing): In relation to Registered Housing Associations and the policy framework, *Eligibility, Targeting and Rent Affordability Framework for Properties Funded Under the Growth Strategy, October 2006*:

- (1) What has the minimum percentage of properties that must be allocated to public housing applicants been set at for each of the housing associations.
- (2) Has each of the housing associations met this target.
- (3) How many actual tenancies has this equated to for each of the housing associations.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The policy of the Victorian Government is that Housing Associations shall meet a target of 50 per cent of allocations from the public housing waiting list. The Government ensures compliance with allocation policies by setting performance standards in accordance with the Housing Act. Compliance with the performance standards are monitored by the Registrar of Housing Agencies. The Registrar has access to a range of interventions if compliance is not achieved. Details relating to tenancies in respect of both public and social housing are available in the Summary of Housing Assistance, published regularly by DHS at www.housing.vic.gov.au

Planning: spatial analysis and research branch

2009. **MR GUY** — To ask the Minister for Planning: In relation to the Spatial Analysis and Research Unit of the Department of Planning and Community Development:

- (1) Does the Unit have terms of reference; if so, what are they.
- (2) How many full-time equivalent staff are employed in this Unit.
- (3) What is the total staff remuneration for this Unit.
- (4) How much time has this Unit spent analysing the 2006 census data for Melbourne and Geelong.
- (5) Does this Unit analyse quarterly demographic statistics from the Australian Bureau of Statistics; if not, what statistical information does it use.
- (6) Does this Unit analyse quarterly dwelling unit commencement statistics from the Australian Bureau of Statistics; if not, what statistical information on dwelling units does it use.

- (7) Have any external consultants been engaged; if so —
 - (a) who are the consultants;
 - (b) how much has been paid for each consultancy to date; and
 - (c) what is the budget for external consultants.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (1) The Spatial Analysis and Research Branch:
 - Provides advice to ministers, government agencies and local governments on demographic, housing, land use and industrial issues through urban and regional research.
 - Collects and analyses land and housing data and affordability indicators. Prepares demographic projections for use by Government and the private sector in strategic planning and service delivery.
- (2) The Spatial Analysis and Research Branch has 21.9 full time equivalent (FTE) staff.
- (3) Total remuneration for staff in Spatial Analysis and Research Branch for 2007/08 was in the order of \$1.66 million.
- (4) The Branch does not separately monitor time spent on analysis for particular locations.
- (5) Yes.
- (6) No, Spatial Analysis and Research Branch uses the ABS Building Approvals data (ABS Cat. No. 8731.0)
- (7) No external consultants have been or are being used
 - (a) Not applicable
 - (b) Nil
 - (c) Zero

Consumer affairs: Landmark Education Corporation

2030. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Consumer Affairs):

- (1) How many staff from the Department of Justice have attended courses conducted by Landmark Education Corporation.
- (2) Have any Victorian taxpayer funds been paid to the Landmark Education Corporation for courses.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

In relation to my portfolio responsibilities:

- (1) None.
- (2) No.

Gaming: Landmark Education Corporation

2031. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Gaming):

- (1) How many staff from the Department of Justice have attended courses conducted by Landmark Education Corporation.
- (2) Have any Victorian taxpayer funds been paid to the Landmark Education Corporation for courses.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

In relation to my portfolio responsibilities:

- (1) None.
- (2) No.

Community services: disability services — workforce planning strategy

- 2111.** **MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to disability services workforce planning: What is the Government's view regarding the possible development of a workforce planning strategy.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The '*Victorian Industry Development Plan for the provision of support for people with a disability*' lists workforce planning and development as a key outcome

Four priorities have been identified:

- Developing a planning strategy to ensure a skilled, qualified workforce.
- Meeting the individual and diverse needs of people with a disability with increased workforce flexibility.
- Creating a sector wide training and development strategy focusing on values, skills and competencies that promote contemporary models of support.
- Promoting the industry as an attractive choice for future workers and creating opportunities for career pathways.

Children and early childhood development: disability discrimination complaints

- 2137.** **MS HARTLAND** — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development): How many disability discrimination complaints have been lodged against the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development at the Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission under the *Equal Opportunity Act 1995*.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development was established on 8 August 2007. Since that time the Department has received nine complaints of disability discrimination under the *Equal Opportunity Act 1995* lodged with the Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission relating to students.

Children and early childhood development: disability discrimination complaints

- 2138.** **MS HARTLAND** — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development): How many disability discrimination complaints have been lodged against the

Department of Education and Early Childhood Development at the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission (Commonwealth) under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development was established on 8 August 2007. Since that time the Department has received nine complaints of discrimination under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* lodged with the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission relating to students.

Children and early childhood development: disability discrimination complaints

2139. MS HARTLAND — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development): How much money has been paid out by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development in confidential settlements to complainants in relation to education matters under disability discrimination legislation.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Disclosure of any information relating to the confidential settlement of matters involving the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development under disability discrimination legislation would compromise confidentiality and would be a breach of those settlements.

Children and early childhood development: disability discrimination complaints

2140. MS HARTLAND — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development): How much money has been spent by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development in defending itself against, and appealing, disability discrimination claims related to students with disabilities.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development takes its responsibilities under discrimination legislation seriously.

The Department responds to all discrimination claims which are made against it and endeavours to resolve them without there being a need for litigation.

As such there are no specifically identifiable costs which reflect the time and resources which the Department allocates to responding to and resolving disability discrimination complaints relating to students.

Consumer affairs: licensed venues — Prahran

2142. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Consumer Affairs): How many licensed venues were there in Chapel Street, Prahran, between Toorak Road, Prahran, and Dandenong Road, Windsor, in 1999.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

As at 30 June 1999 there were 30 licensed venues in Chapel Street between Toorak Road, Prahran and Dandenong Road, Windsor.

Consumer affairs: licensed venues — Prahran

2143. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Consumer Affairs): How many licensed venues were there in Chapel Street, Prahran, between Toorak Road, Prahran, and Dandenong Road, Windsor, in 2000.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

As at 30 June 2000 there were 41 licensed venues in Chapel Street between Toorak Road, Prahran and Dandenong Road, Windsor.

Consumer affairs: licensed venues — Prahran

2144. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Consumer Affairs): How many licensed venues were there in Chapel Street, Prahran, between Toorak Road, Prahran, and Dandenong Road, Windsor, in 2001.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

As at 30 June 2001 there were 48 licensed venues in Chapel Street between Toorak Road, Prahran and Dandenong Road, Windsor.

Consumer affairs: licensed venues — Prahran

2145. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Consumer Affairs): How many licensed venues were there in Chapel Street, Prahran, between Toorak Road, Prahran, and Dandenong Road, Windsor, in 2002.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

As at 30 June 2002 there were 51 licensed venues in Chapel Street between Toorak Road, Prahran and Dandenong Road, Windsor.

Consumer affairs: licensed venues — Prahran

2146. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Consumer Affairs): How many licensed venues were there in Chapel Street, Prahran, between Toorak Road, Prahran, and Dandenong Road, Windsor, in 2003.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

As at 30 June 2003 there were 51 licensed venues in Chapel Street between Toorak Road, Prahran and Dandenong Road, Windsor.

Consumer affairs: licensed venues — Prahran

2147. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Consumer Affairs): How many licensed venues were there in Chapel Street, Prahran, between Toorak Road, Prahran, and Dandenong Road, Windsor, in 2004.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

As at 30 June 2004 there were 56 licensed venues in Chapel Street between Toorak Road, Prahran and Dandenong Road, Windsor.

Consumer affairs: licensed venues — Prahran

2148. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Consumer Affairs): How many licensed venues were there in Chapel Street, Prahran, between Toorak Road, Prahran, and Dandenong Road, Windsor, in 2005.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

As at 30 June 2005 there were 59 licensed venues in Chapel Street between Toorak Road, Prahran and Dandenong Road, Windsor.

Consumer affairs: licensed venues — Prahran

2149. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Consumer Affairs): How many licensed venues were there in Chapel Street, Prahran, between Toorak Road, Prahran, and Dandenong Road, Windsor, in 2006.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

As at 30 June 2006 there were 66 licensed venues in Chapel Street between Toorak Road, Prahran and Dandenong Road, Windsor.

Consumer affairs: licensed venues — Prahran

2150. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Consumer Affairs): How many licensed venues were there in Chapel Street, Prahran, between Toorak Road, Prahran, and Dandenong Road, Windsor, in 2007.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

As at 30 June 2007 there were 71 licensed venues in Chapel Street between Toorak Road, Prahran and Dandenong Road, Windsor.

Consumer affairs: licensed venues — Prahran

2151. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Consumer Affairs): How many licensed venues were there in Commercial Road, Prahran, between Punt Road, Prahran, and Williams Road, Prahran, in 1999.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

As at 30 June 1999 there were 9 licensed venues in Commercial Road between Punt Road, Prahran, and Williams Road, Prahran. Commercial Road is named Malvern Road between the east side of Chapel Street and Williams Road. The Malvern Road licences have been included in this figure.

Consumer affairs: licensed venues — Prahran

2152. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Consumer Affairs): How many licensed venues were there in Commercial Road, Prahran, between Punt Road, Prahran, and Williams Road, Prahran, in 2000.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

As at 30 June 2000 there were 8 licensed venues in Commercial Road between Punt Road, Prahran, and Williams Road, Prahran. Commercial Road is named Malvern Road between the east side of Chapel Street and Williams Road. The Malvern Road licences have been included in this figure.

Consumer affairs: licensed venues — Prahran

2153. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Consumer Affairs): How many licensed venues were there in Commercial Road, Prahran, between Punt Road, Prahran, and Williams Road, Prahran, in 2001.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

As at 30 June 2001 there were 10 licensed venues in Commercial Road between Punt Road, Prahran, and Williams Road, Prahran. Commercial Road is named Malvern Road between the east side of Chapel Street and Williams Road. The Malvern Road licences have been included in this figure.

Consumer affairs: licensed venues — Prahran

2154. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Consumer Affairs): How many licensed venues were there in Commercial Road, Prahran, between Punt Road, Prahran, and Williams Road, Prahran, in 2002.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

As at 30 June 2002 there were 12 licensed venues in Commercial Road between Punt Road, Prahran, and Williams Road, Prahran. Commercial Road is named Malvern Road between the east side of Chapel Street and Williams Road. The Malvern Road licences have been included in this figure.

Consumer affairs: licensed venues — Prahran

2155. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Consumer Affairs): How many licensed venues were there in Commercial Road, Prahran, between Punt Road, Prahran, and Williams Road, Prahran, in 2003.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

As at 30 June 2003 there were 15 licensed venues in Commercial Road between Punt Road, Prahran, and Williams Road, Prahran. Commercial Road is named Malvern Road between the east side of Chapel Street and Williams Road. The Malvern Road licences have been included in this figure.

Consumer affairs: licensed venues — Prahran

2156. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Consumer Affairs): How many licensed venues were there in Commercial Road, Prahran, between Punt Road, Prahran, and Williams Road, Prahran, in 2004.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

As at 30 June 2004 there were 16 licensed venues in Commercial Road between Punt Road, Prahran, and Williams Road, Prahran. Commercial Road is named Malvern Road between the east side of Chapel Street and Williams Road. The Malvern Road licences have been included in this figure.

Consumer affairs: licensed venues — Prahran

2157. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Consumer Affairs): How many licensed venues were there in Commercial Road, Prahran, between Punt Road, Prahran, and Williams Road, Prahran, in 2005.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

As at 30 June 2005 there were 17 licensed venues in Commercial Road between Punt Road, Prahran, and Williams Road, Prahran. Commercial Road is named Malvern Road between the east side of Chapel Street and Williams Road. The Malvern Road licences have been included in this figure.

Consumer affairs: licensed venues — Prahran

2158. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Consumer Affairs): How many licensed venues were there in Commercial Road, Prahran, between Punt Road, Prahran, and Williams Road, Prahran, in 2006.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

As at 30 June 2006 there were 16 licensed venues in Commercial Road between Punt Road, Prahran, and Williams Road, Prahran. Commercial Road is named Malvern Road between the east side of Chapel Street and Williams Road. The Malvern Road licences have been included in this figure.

Consumer affairs: licensed venues — Prahran

2159. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Consumer Affairs): How many licensed venues were there in Commercial Road, Prahran, between Punt Road, Prahran, and Williams Road, Prahran, in 2007.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

As at 30 June 2007 there were 15 licensed venues in Commercial Road between Punt Road, Prahran, and Williams Road, Prahran. Commercial Road is named Malvern Road between the east side of Chapel Street and Williams Road. The Malvern Road licences have been included in this figure.

Consumer affairs: fair payments policy

2188. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Consumer Affairs): In relation to the Government's Fair Payments Policy, which requires a department or agency to pay invoices for work done by small businesses within 30 days or pay penalty interest, with respect to the Department of Justice:

- (1) On how many occasions has penalty interest been paid in the period since the 2002 election.
- (2) How many small businesses received penalty interest for bills not paid within 30 days in the period since 2002.
- (3) What is the total amount of original bills received from small businesses on which penalty interest was paid in the period since 2002.
- (4) What is the total amount of penalty interest paid in the period since 2002.
- (5) If penalty interest has been paid, on what date was the first payment made in the period since 2002.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

Questions relating to the Department of Justice as a whole are the responsibility of the Attorney-General.

Gaming: fair payments policy

2194. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Gaming): In relation to the Government's Fair Payments Policy, which requires a department or agency to pay invoices for work done by small businesses within 30 days or pay penalty interest, with respect to the Department of Justice:

- (1) On how many occasions has penalty interest been paid in the period since the 2002 election.
- (2) How many small businesses received penalty interest for bills not paid within 30 days in the period since 2002.
- (3) What is the total amount of original bills received from small businesses on which penalty interest was paid in the period since 2002.
- (4) What is the total amount of penalty interest paid in the period since 2002.
- (5) If penalty interest has been paid, on what date was the first payment made in the period since 2002.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

Questions relating to the Department of Justice as a whole are the responsibility of the Attorney-General.

Small business: fair payments policy

2214. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Small Business): In relation to the Government’s Fair Payments Policy, which requires a department or agency to pay invoices for work done by small businesses within 30 days or pay penalty interest, with respect to the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development:

- (1) On how many occasions has penalty interest been paid in the period since the 2002 election.
- (2) How many small businesses received penalty interest for bills not paid within 30 days in the period since 2002.
- (3) What is the total amount of original bills received from small businesses on which penalty interest was paid in the period since 2002.
- (4) What is the total amount of penalty interest paid in the period since 2002.
- (5) If penalty interest has been paid, on what date was the first payment made in the period since 2002.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

The Victorian Government is committed to promoting a fair and competitive environment for small to medium sized businesses. To improve the cash flow certainty for these businesses, the Government introduced the “fair payment clause” for contracts.

From 1 November 2004, Government Departments are required to pay suppliers within 30 days upon receipt of correctly rendered invoice (or within any other payment period as agreed between the Department and the supplier, which may be shorter). This policy applies to new contracts for goods and services valued less than \$3 million.

If an invoice is not paid within 30 days from the date of receipt (or other payment period), and there is no dispute regarding the invoice or the provision of goods and services, the supplier may make a claim for penalty interest on outstanding debt.

The Department has not received any application for penalty interest payment in relation to the fair payments policy.

Accordingly no penalty interest payments have been made.

Small business: stress leave

2263. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Small Business): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister’s administration for each financial year from 2000-01 to 2006-07: What are the details of all stress related leave, including —

- (a) the number of days taken;
- (b) the estimated cost; and
- (c) the total number of staff in the section.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

A detailed response to this question would be too voluminous and an unnecessary diversion of the Department's resources.

Water: salary levels

2282. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Water): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's administration, for the financial year 2006-07: How many public servants are paid more than the base salary rate for Victorian Members of Parliament, indicating their —

- (a) classifications;
- (b) salary package;
- (c) position; and
- (d) responsibilities.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Information on staff numbers and VPS classification is provided in the annual reports of departments, agencies and authorities. Information relating to the Department of Sustainability and Environment can be found on page 56 of the 2006-07 Annual Report.

Small business: salary levels

2303. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Small Business): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's administration, for the financial year 2006-07: How many public servants are paid more than the base salary rate for Victorian Members of Parliament, indicating their —

- (a) classifications;
- (b) salary package;
- (c) position; and
- (d) responsibilities.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Please refer to the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development's Annual Report for this information.

Industrial relations: salary levels

2305. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Industrial Relations): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's administration, for the financial year 2006-07: How many public servants are paid more than the base salary rate for Victorian Members of Parliament, indicating their —

- (a) classifications;

- (b) salary package;
- (c) position; and
- (d) responsibilities.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Please refer to the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development's Annual Report for this information.

Environment and climate change: publications

2351. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change: In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's administration: What publications have been produced for each financial year from 2000-01 to 2006-07, indicating —

- (a) how many copies were produced;
- (b) what the unit cost was, including production and distribution of the publication;
- (c) what income, if any, was derived from the publication;
- (d) what was the purpose of the publication; and
- (e) whether the publication was solely printed in Victoria; if not, why.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Given the broad nature of the question, the research required to provide this information would place an unreasonable burden on public time and resources. However, details of major publications are included in each organisation's annual report of operations in accordance with the Minister for Finance's Financial Reporting Direction 22A issued under the *Financial Management Act 1994*.

Innovation: publications

2352. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Innovation: In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's administration: What publications have been produced for each financial year from 2000-01 to 2006-07, indicating —

- (a) how many copies were produced;
- (b) what the unit cost was, including production and distribution of the publication;
- (c) what income, if any, was derived from the publication;
- (d) what was the purpose of the publication; and
- (e) whether the publication was solely printed in Victoria; if not, why.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

To provide details as requested would be an unreasonable diversion of my Department's resources.

Treasurer: women — boards, councils and committees

2390. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask The Treasurer: In relation to each department, agency or authority within the Minister’s administration: How many women hold positions on boards, councils or committees, indicating in respect of each board, council or committee the total number of members.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Government is committed to equal opportunity for women and increasing their representation in statutory offices, boards, commissions, committees and advisory bodies. Further information can be found at: www.publicboards.vic.gov.au

Environment and climate change: women — boards, councils and committees

2391. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change: In relation to each department, agency or authority within the Minister’s administration: How many women hold positions on boards, councils or committees, indicating in respect of each board, council or committee the total number of members.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This information is publicly available on the Public Board Appointments Victoria website (www.publicboards.vic.gov.au) and can also be found on the individual websites of boards, councils and committees.

Planning: women — boards, councils and committees

2393. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Planning: In relation to each department, agency or authority within the Minister’s administration: How many women hold positions on boards, councils or committees, indicating in respect of each board, council or committee the total number of members.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The information you seek is available publicly at <http://www.publicboards.vic.gov.au>.

Consumer affairs: women — boards, councils and committees

2420. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Consumer Affairs): In relation to each department, agency or authority within the Minister’s administration: How many women hold positions on boards, councils or committees, indicating in respect of each board, council or committee the total number of members.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

The government is committed to equal opportunity for women and increasing their representation in statutory offices, boards, commissions, committees and advisory bodies.

Further information can be found at www.publicboards.vic.gov.au.

Small business: women — boards, councils and committees

2423. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Small Business): In relation to each department, agency or authority within the Minister's administration: How many women hold positions on boards, councils or committees, indicating in respect of each board, council or committee the total number of members.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

In March 2008 the State Services Authority Public Entities web-site became available to the public. This web-site enables every Victorian wishing to obtain information about public entities, including membership to do so. This information can be found by accessing www.publicboards.vic.gov.au

Women's affairs: health promotion programs

2452. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Women's Affairs): In relation to the \$0.8 million of funding for the provision of health promotion programs for rural women announced on 8 May 2000:

- (1) How much of this funding was expended by 30 June 2004.
- (2) Has the use of these funds been evaluated; if so, what were the results of that evaluation.

ANSWER:

I am informed that/as follows:

This initiative is not my portfolio responsibility.

Women's affairs: home visiting service

2453. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Women's Affairs): In relation to the \$12 million of funding for the enhancement of the home visiting service for the Maternal and Child Health Services announced on 8 May 2000:

- (1) How much of this funding was expended by 30 June 2004.
- (2) How many additional home visits were conducted each year as a result of the funding.
- (3) Has the use of these funds been evaluated; if so, what were the results of that evaluation.

ANSWER:

I am informed that/as follows:

This initiative is not my portfolio responsibility.

Women's affairs: centres against sexual assault

2454. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Women's Affairs): In relation to improved assistance to victims who have experienced sexual assault by reducing waiting lists in Centres Against Sexual Assault announced on 8 May 2000:

- (1) How much of this funding was expended by 30 June 2004.
- (2) Was the waiting list reduced; if so, by what measure.
- (3) Has the use of these funds been evaluated; if so, what were the results of that evaluation.

ANSWER:

I am informed that/as follows:

This initiative is not my portfolio responsibility.

Women's affairs: juvenile justice support services

2455. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Women's Affairs): In relation to the \$0.75 million of funding to strengthen post-release support services for young women in the juvenile justice system, including intensive post-release support, announced on 8 May 2000:

- (1) What were the expected outcomes of the funding.
- (2) How much of this funding was expended by 30 June 2004.
- (3) Has the use of these funds been evaluated; if so, what were the results of that evaluation.

ANSWER:

I am informed that/as follows:

This initiative is not my portfolio responsibility.

Women's affairs: family subsidies

2456. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Women's Affairs): In relation to the \$16 million of funding to provide an additional fee subsidy of \$150 for all 4 year olds from low income families announced 8 May 2000:

- (1) How much of this funding was expended by 30 June 2004.
- (2) Has the use of these funds been evaluated; if so, what were the results of that evaluation.

ANSWER:

I am informed that/as follows:

This initiative is not my portfolio responsibility.

Women's affairs: child-care services

2457. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Women's Affairs): In relation to the \$3.75 million of funding to provide capital grants to community-based child-care services for major upgrades to existing services and the establishment of new services in growth corridors announced 8 May 2000:

- (1) How much of this funding was expended by 30 June 2003.
- (2) As a result of this funding, how many existing community-based child-care services received funding for a major upgrade.
- (3) As a result of this funding, how many new services in growth corridors were funded.
- (4) Has the use of these funds been evaluated; if so, what were the results of that evaluation.

ANSWER:

I am informed that/as follows:

This initiative is not my portfolio responsibility.

Women’s affairs: child-care programs

2458. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Women’s Affairs): In relation to the \$8 million of funding for community owned, not-for-profit child care centres and community based out of school hours programs announced 8 May 2000:

- (1) What were the expected outcomes of the program.
- (2) How much of this funding was expended by 30 June 2004.
- (3) Has the use of these funds been evaluated; if so, what were the results of that evaluation.

ANSWER:

I am informed that/as follows:

This initiative is not my portfolio responsibility.

Women’s affairs: Strengthening communities through women’s participation program

2459. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Women’s Affairs): In relation to the \$300,000 of funding to run the program Strengthening Communities Through Women’s Participation announced on 3 March 2002:

- (1) What were the expected outcomes of the program.
- (2) How much of this funding was expended by 30 June 2004.
- (3) Has the use of these funds been evaluated; if so, what were the results of that evaluation.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

The Municipal Association of Victoria and Victorian Local Government Association received a Community Support Fund Grant to implement the Strengthening Communities Through Women’s Participation program on 27 July 2001.

The primary aim of the Strengthening Communities Through Women’s Participation program was “to strengthen local communities, democratic local government and good governance by increasing the political participation of women and achieving representation in equal numbers of women and men in Victorian local government”.

There were five expected outcomes/priority work areas for the program:

- (a) encouraging good governance;
- (b) sustaining women in local government;
- (c) developing best practice models;
- (d) changing public attitudes; and
- (e) developing partnerships.

The full approved grant amount of \$291,000 was expended by 30 June 2004.

A full evaluation was undertaken for the project. The key results were that the program:

- encouraged good governance by making considerable gains in encouraging the participation of women in local community leadership;
- developed best practice models through the use of models to promote changing the future of politics - “doing politics differently” at the local level; and

- supported women to enter and continue in local government through the development of their skills and confidence to undertake local leadership.

Women’s affairs: women’s health and wellbeing strategy

2460. **MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Women’s Affairs): In relation to the \$4.4 million of funding for the Women’s Health and Wellbeing Strategy announced on 12 May 2002:

- (1) How much of this funding was expended by 30 June 2006.
- (2) Has the use of these funds been evaluated; if so, what were the results of that evaluation.

ANSWER:

I am informed that/as follows:

This initiative is not my portfolio responsibility.

Women’s affairs: Best Start project

2461. **MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Women’s Affairs): In relation to the \$7.6 million of funding for the Best Start project announced 12 May 2002:

- (1) How much of this funding was expended by 30 June 2005.
- (2) Has the use of these funds been evaluated; if so, what were the results of that evaluation.

ANSWER:

I am informed that/as follows:

This initiative is not my portfolio responsibility.

Women’s affairs: free breast screening program

2462. **MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Women’s Affairs): In relation to the \$5.7 million of funding for the free breast screening program announced 12 May 2002:

- (1) How much of this funding was expended by 30 June 2006.
- (2) How many screens were conducted each year as a result of the funding.
- (3) Has the use of these funds been evaluated; if so, what were the results of that evaluation.

ANSWER:

I am informed that/as follows:

This initiative is not my portfolio responsibility.

Women’s affairs: private rental brokerage program

2464. **MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Women’s Affairs): In relation to the \$1.8 million of funding to provide a Private Rental Brokerage Program for women announced 4 June 2002:

- (1) How much of this funding was expended by 30 June 2005.

- (2) How many women accessed the brokerage program.
- (3) Has the use of these funds been evaluated; if so, what were the results of that evaluation.

ANSWER:

I am informed that/as follows:

This initiative is not my portfolio responsibility.

Women's affairs: Women's Information and Referral Exchange

2467. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Women's Affairs): In relation to the \$400,000 of funding to support WIRE and its Women's Information Centre announced 2 August 2002:

- (1) How much of this funding was expended by 30 June 2003.
- (2) Has the use of these funds been evaluated; if so, what were the results of that evaluation.

ANSWER:

I am informed that/as follows:

All of the \$400,000 funding to the Women's Information and Referral Exchange (WIRE) was expended by 30 June 2003.

WIRE was required to report quarterly to the OWP against key performance indicators as part of its funding agreement, which were met.

Women's affairs: Queen Victoria Women's Centre

2468. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Women's Affairs): In relation to the \$363,000 of funding to revitalise the Queen Victoria Women's Centre announced 31 October 2002:

- (1) How much of this funding was expended by 30 June 2006.
- (2) Has the use of these funds been evaluated; if so, what were the results of that evaluation.

ANSWER:

I am informed that/as follows:

The Queen Victoria Women's Centre (QVWC) received a grant from the Community Support Fund to establish a Capacity Builder and Information Hub. The total grant was \$363,662 and all of these funds were expended by 30 June 2006.

The project was independently evaluated. The key achievements of the project were the:

- establishment of three cluster groups to develop the website content;
- development of the website; and
- cabling of the building for phone and data systems.

Women's affairs: maternity and adoption leave

2469. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Women's Affairs): In relation to the \$1 million of forgone revenue to provide a payroll tax exemption for up to 14 weeks of paid maternity and adoption leave for Victorian employers announced 27 February 2003:

- (1) How much revenue has been forgone as a result of this exemption for each year since 1 January 2003.
- (2) Has the impact of this tax exemption been evaluated; if so, what were the results of that evaluation.

ANSWER:

I am informed that/as follows:

This initiative is not my portfolio responsibility.

Women's affairs: women's community leadership grants

2470. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Women's Affairs): In relation to the \$90,000 of funding for the State Government's Women's Community Leadership Grants announced 12 May 2002:

- (1) How much of this funding was expended by 30 June 2003.
- (2) Has the use of these funds been evaluated; if so, what were the results of that evaluation.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The announcement of the Women's Community Leadership Grants on 12 May 2002 was a call for applications with a total of \$90,000 to be awarded. The successful grant recipients were announced on 25 October 2002. Given the high calibre of the applications a total of \$111,111 was actually awarded.

By 30 June 2003, all of the \$111,111 funding had been expended.

An internal review of the Women's Community Leadership Grants was undertaken in 2005. The results were that:

- the grants have provided a significant benefit to a number of women, especially disadvantaged women;
- the benefits of the grants have had a lasting legacy with many programs continuing beyond the period of the funding from the initial grant;
- the benefits gained from the grants extends beyond the participants to include the flow on effect to other women who either undertake subsequent programs or are mentored by the original women; and
- the skills gained from undertaking funded programs have enabled a number of women to help their communities and other women.

Women's affairs: women's community leadership grants

2471. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Women's Affairs): In relation to the \$111,111 of funding for the Women's Community Leadership program announced on 25 October 2002:

- (1) How much of this funding was expended by 30 June 2003.
- (2) Has the use of these funds been evaluated; if so, what were the results of that evaluation

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The announcement of the Women's Community Leadership Grants on 12 May 2002 was a call for applications with a total of \$90,000 to be awarded. The successful grant recipients were announced on 25 October 2002. Given the high calibre of the applications a total of \$111,111 was actually awarded.

By 30 June 2003, all of the \$111,111 funding had been expended.

An internal review of the Women's Community Leadership Grants was undertaken in 2005. The results were that:

- the grants have provided a significant benefit to a number of women, especially disadvantaged women;
- the benefits of the grants have had a lasting legacy with many programs continuing beyond the period of the funding from the initial grant;
- the benefits gained from the grants extends beyond the participants to include the flow on effect to other women who either undertake subsequent programs or are mentored by the original women; and
- the skills gained from undertaking funded programs have enabled a number of women to help their communities and other women.

Women's affairs: women's community leadership grants

2472. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Women's Affairs): In relation to the \$122,184 of funding for the Women's Community Leadership Grants announced 27 October 2003:

- (1) How much of this funding was expended by 30 June 2004.
- (2) Has the use of these funds been evaluated; if so, what were the results of that evaluation.

ANSWER:

I am informed that/as follows:

By 30 June 2004, all of the \$122,184 funding had been expended.

An internal review of the Women's Community Leadership Grants was undertaken in 2005. The results were that:

- the grants have provided a significant benefit to a number of women, especially disadvantaged women;
- the benefits of the grants have had a lasting legacy with many programs continuing beyond the period of the funding from the initial grant;
- the benefits gained from the grants extends beyond the participants to include the flow on effect to other women who either undertake subsequent programs or are mentored by the original women; and
- the skills gained from undertaking funded programs have enabled a number of women to help their communities and other women.

Innovation: ministerial staff

2508. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Innovation: In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's administration for each financial year from 2000-01 to 2006-07:

- (1) What is the number and cost of staff working in the Minister's office.
- (2) What is the number of staff working in each public relations/ communications unit under the Minister's control, indicating —
 - (a) the total operating budget; and
 - (b) the total promotional budget.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

This question does not fall within my portfolio responsibilities as the engagement of ministerial staff, including salaries and superannuation falls within the budget of Department of Premier and Cabinet.

Small business: ministerial staff

2539. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Small Business): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's administration for each financial year from 2000-01 to 2006-07:

- (1) What is the number and cost of staff working in the Minister's office.
- (2) What is the number of staff working in each public relations/ communications unit under the Minister's control, indicating —
 - (a) the total operating budget; and
 - (b) the total promotional budget.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

This question does not fall within my portfolio responsibilities as the engagement of ministerial staff, including salaries and superannuation falls within the budget of Department of Premier and Cabinet.

Industrial relations: ministerial staff

2541. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Industrial Relations): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's administration for each financial year from 2000-01 to 2006-07:

- (1) What is the number and cost of staff working in the Minister's office.
- (2) What is the number of staff working in each public relations/ communications unit under the Minister's control, indicating —
 - (a) the total operating budget; and
 - (b) the total promotional budget.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

This question does not fall within my portfolio responsibilities as the engagement of ministerial staff, including salaries and superannuation falls within the budget of Department of Premier and Cabinet.

Agriculture: ministerial staff

2543. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Agriculture): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's administration for each financial year from 2000-01 to 2006-07:

- (1) What is the number and cost of staff working in the Minister's office.
- (2) What is the number of staff working in each public relations/ communications unit under the Minister's control, indicating —

- (a) the total operating budget; and
- (b) the total promotional budget.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not fall within my portfolio responsibilities as the engagement of ministerial staff, including salaries and superannuations, falls within the budget of the Department of Premier and Cabinet.

Innovation: advertising

2588. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Innovation: In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's administration: What the details are of all advertising undertaken for each financial year from 2000-01 to 2006-07, indicating —

- (a) the date of approval for each contract;
- (b) the cost of each contract;
- (c) the purpose of advertisement;
- (d) the duration of advertisement;
- (e) where and when each advertisement was published or broadcast; and
- (f) to whom each contract was awarded.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Details relating to advertising for the 2006-07 financial year can be found in the Public Accounts and Estimates Committee 79th Report to Parliament—Report on the 2006–07 Financial and Performance Outcomes.

Further information can be found at www.contracts.vic.gov.au

Small business: advertising

2619. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Small Business): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's administration: What the details are of all advertising undertaken for each financial year from 2000-01 to 2006-07, indicating —

- (a) the date of approval for each contract;
- (b) the cost of each contract;
- (c) the purpose of advertisement;
- (d) the duration of advertisement;
- (e) where and when each advertisement was published or broadcast; and
- (f) to whom each contract was awarded.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Details relating to advertising for the 2006-07 financial year can be found in the Public Accounts and Estimates Committee 79th Report to Parliament—Report on the 2006–07 Financial and Performance Outcomes.

Further information can be found at www.contracts.vic.gov.au

Industrial relations: advertising

2621. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Industrial Relations): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister’s administration: What the details are of all advertising undertaken for each financial year from 2000-01 to 2006-07, indicating —

- (a) the date of approval for each contract;
- (b) the cost of each contract;
- (c) the purpose of advertisement;
- (d) the duration of advertisement;
- (e) where and when each advertisement was published or broadcast; and
- (f) to whom each contract was awarded.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Details relating to advertising for the 2006-07 financial year can be found in the Public Accounts and Estimates Committee 79th Report to Parliament—Report on the 2006–07 Financial and Performance Outcomes.

Further information can be found at www.contracts.vic.gov.au

Innovation: entertainment expenses

2628. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Innovation: In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister’s administration for each financial year from 2000-01 to 2006-07: What are the details are of all entertainment expenses incurred, indicating —

- (a) total costs incurred by each section, including the Minister’s office; and
- (b) itemised details of all expenditure in excess of \$500, including the —
 - (i) date incurred;
 - (ii) cost;
 - (iii) number of guests;
 - (iv) purpose; and
 - (v) name of service provider.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

A detailed response to this question would be too voluminous and an unnecessary diversion of the department’s resources.

Small business: entertainment expenses

2659. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Small Business): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister’s administration for each financial year from 2000-01 to 2006-07: What are the details are of all entertainment expenses incurred, indicating —

- (a) total costs incurred by each section, including the Minister’s office; and
- (b) itemised details of all expenditure in excess of \$500, including the —

- (i) date incurred;
- (ii) cost;
- (iii) number of guests;
- (iv) purpose; and
- (v) name of service provider.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

A detailed response to this question would be too voluminous and an unnecessary diversion of the department's resources.

Industrial relations: entertainment expenses

2661. **MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Industrial Relations): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's administration for each financial year from 2000-01 to 2006-07: What are the details are of all entertainment expenses incurred, indicating —

- (a) total costs incurred by each section, including the Minister's office; and
- (b) itemised details of all expenditure in excess of \$500, including the —
 - (i) date incurred;
 - (ii) cost;
 - (iii) number of guests;
 - (iv) purpose; and
 - (v) name of service provider.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

A detailed response to this question would be too voluminous and an unnecessary diversion of the department's resources.

Agriculture: entertainment expenses

2663. **MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Agriculture): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's administration for each financial year from 2000-01 to 2006-07: What are the details are of all entertainment expenses incurred, indicating —

- (a) total costs incurred by each section, including the Minister's office; and
- (b) itemised details of all expenditure in excess of \$500, including the —
 - (i) date incurred;
 - (ii) cost;
 - (iii) number of guests;
 - (iv) purpose; and
 - (v) name of service provider.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

A detailed response to this question would be too voluminous and an unnecessary diversion of my Department's resources.

Small business: Mordialloc bridge

2750. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Small Business): What assistance has the Department provided from June 2007 to May 2008 for the small business owners and operators whose trade has been negatively impacted on by the mismanagement of the Mordialloc Bridge reconstruction.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

The issue raised falls within the portfolio responsibility of the Minister for Roads and Ports.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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Answers have been incorporated in the form supplied by the departments on behalf of the appropriate ministers.
The portfolio of the minister answering the question on notice starts each heading.*

Wednesday, 11 June 2008

Planning: ministerial expenses

960. MR GUY — To ask the Minister for Planning: Since November 2006 what was the cost of all intrastate travel, including airfares, accommodation and expenses for the Minister and ministerial staff.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The cost of intrastate travel for myself and my staff from November 2006 until September 2007 totalled \$10,475.

Police and emergency services: Nepean Highway — traffic red light cameras

1262. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Police and Emergency Services): In relation to the traffic lights at the intersection of Nepean Highway and Bay Road and Nepean Highway and Karen Street particularly as they relate to right hand turns which are monitored by red light cameras:

- (1) What other intersections have traffic red light cameras governing right hand turns in Melbourne.
- (2) What is the monthly number of infringement notices being issued for each intersection.
- (3) How do these figures compare with the Nepean Highway and Bay Road and Karen Street intersections.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

- (1) There are 53 intersections in metropolitan Melbourne that use Fixed Digital Safety Cameras to monitor right hand/or left hand turning lanes. A complete list of Fixed Digital Safety Cameras is available at www.justice.vic.gov.au/roadsafety.
- (2) I am advised that it would be an unreasonable diversion of the Department's resources to provide this information.
- (3) Intersections monitored by Fixed Digital Safety Cameras are not comparable. Each intersection experiences different driver behaviour, different traffic flow and conditions and therefore cannot be compared.

Police and emergency services: Nepean Highway — traffic red light cameras

1263. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Police and Emergency Services): In relation to the traffic lights at the intersection of Nepean Highway and Bay Road and Nepean Highway and Karen Street, particularly as they relate to right hand turns which are monitored by red light cameras:

- (1) How many motorists have received infringement notices between the red light cameras being installed at the Karen Street, Nepean Highway and Bay Road intersection and 22 November 2007.
- (2) How much revenue has been paid to the Government between the red light cameras being installed at the Karen Street, Bay Road and Nepean Highway intersection and 22 November 2007.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

It would be an unreasonable diversion of the Department's resources to provide this information.

Police and emergency services: Nepean Highway — traffic red light cameras

1264. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Police and Emergency Services): In relation to the traffic lights at the intersection of Nepean Highway and Bay Road and Nepean Highway and Karen Street, particularly as they relate to right hand turns which are monitored by red light cameras:

- (1) How many motorists have applied to Civic Compliance for internal reviews of infringement notices incurred at the Nepean Highway and Karen Street intersection.
- (2) How many motorists were successful in obtaining internal reviews of infringement notices.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

It would be an unreasonable diversion of the Department's resources to provide this information.

Police and emergency services: Nepean Highway — traffic red light cameras

1265. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Police and Emergency Services): In relation to the traffic lights at the intersection of Nepean Highway and Bay Road and in particular the light sequencing which governs south bound vehicles turning right from the Nepean Highway in a westerly direction down Bay Road which is monitored by a red light camera: How many infringement notices were issued on the 19 March 2007.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

It would be an unreasonable diversion of the Department's resources to provide this information.

Premier: fair payments policy

2207. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Treasurer (for the Premier): In relation to the Government's Fair Payments Policy, which requires a department or agency to pay invoices for work done by small businesses within 30 days or pay penalty interest, with respect to the Department of Premier and Cabinet:

- (1) On how many occasions has penalty interest been paid in the period since the 2002 election.
- (2) How many small businesses received penalty interest for bills not paid within 30 days in the period since 2002.
- (3) What is the total amount of original bills received from small businesses on which penalty interest was paid in the period since 2002.

- (4) What is the total amount of penalty interest paid in the period since 2002.
- (5) If penalty interest has been paid, on what date was the first payment made in the period since 2002.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Victorian Government is committed to promoting a fair and competitive environment for small to medium-sized businesses. To improve the cash flow certainty for these businesses, the Government introduced the 'fair payment clause' for contracts.

From 1 November 2004, Government Departments are required to pay suppliers within 30 days upon receipt of a correctly rendered invoice (or within any other payment period as agreed between the Department and the supplier, which may be shorter). This policy applies to new contracts for goods and services valued less than \$3 million.

If an invoice is not paid within 30 days from the date of receipt (or other payment period), and there is no dispute regarding the invoice or the provision of goods and services, the supplier may make a claim for penalty interest on the outstanding debt.

No claim for late payment has been received by DPC from any vendor and therefore no penalty interest has been paid.

Premier: professional development expenses

2673. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Treasurer (for the Premier): In relation to expenditure on conferences, seminars, workshops and training courses or like events by each department, agency or authority within the Minister's administration for each financial year from 2000-01 to 2006-07:

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

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

A detailed response to this question would be too voluminous and an unnecessary diversion of the Department's resources.

Premier: workplace bullying

2882. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Treasurer (for the Premier): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Premier’s administration for each financial year from 2000-01 to 2006-07: What are the details of bullying in the workplace indicating —

- (a) the number of cases reported;
- (b) the number of claims resulting in WorkCover cases being established;
- (c) the total cost of these claims; and
- (d) the dollar increase in premiums for each individual department or agency due to claims for bullying in the workplace.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

A detailed response to this question would be too voluminous and an unnecessary diversion of the Department’s resources.

Premier: property sales

2922. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Treasurer (for the Premier): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Premier’s administration involved in the sale of properties for each financial year from 2000-01 to 2006-07:

- (1) How many properties have been sold, indicating —
 - (a) whether they were sold by —
 - (i) selected tender;
 - (ii) public tender;
 - (iii) private sale; or
 - (iv) public auction.
 - (b) the address of each property;
 - (c) the valuation of each property and the name of the valuer;
 - (d) what advertising costs were incurred and attributed to each; and
 - (e) the sale price for each property and the terms offered.
- (2) Were there any defaults in the performance of any contracts of sale arising from those sales.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

A detailed response to this question would be too voluminous and an unnecessary diversion of the Department’s resources.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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Thursday, 12 June 2008

Premier: electorate office standards

2136. MS HARTLAND — To ask the Treasurer (for the Premier):

- (1) Are there guidelines or standards for electorate offices and, if so, when were accessibility-for-all provisions first incorporated in electorate office guidelines or standards and when, if at all, have they been amended subsequently.
- (2) What is the text of the requirements for accessibility of electorate offices in the guidelines or standards that exist presently.
- (3) Given that the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission (HREOC) recommends compliance with the enhanced Australian Standard for mobility and access (AS 1428.2, the “enhanced” mobility and access standard) in order for public and commercial premises to comply with the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Cth) in providing equal accessibility for everyone, what steps have been taken to ensure all electorate offices comply with this HREOC advice.
- (4) How many electorate offices presently comply with Australian Standard 1428.2, the “enhanced” mobility and access standard.
- (5) Given that the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Cth) and Equal Opportunity Act 1995 prohibit discrimination both in relation to access to premises as well as in relation to employment is it being ensured that all of the electorate offices, including the toilet and kitchen area, are accessible to everyone.
- (6) Given that the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Cth) and Equal Opportunity Act 1995 generally do not allow deferral of equal opportunity or anti-discrimination obligations, what steps have been taken for electorate offices to immediately comply (rather than waiting until leases come up for renewal or new offices are leased) and when were these steps taken.
- (7) In relation to a batch or round of access audits of electorate offices of Victorian Parliamentarians, both past and present —
 - (a) when was the first time that access audits for electorate offices were carried out;
 - (b) when were any subsequent access audits done (for each batch or round);
 - (c) what number of offices were audited (in each batch or round);
 - (d) what was the brief or briefs for the access audit or these access audits;
 - (e) if there was no formal briefs, what were the terms of the agreement or request for the audit/s;
 - (f) what was the date of the contract, terms of agreement and/or request for the audit/s;
 - (g) what is the date of the report/s;
 - (h) what is the date of any draft reports and any preliminary or interim report/s;
 - (i) when was the report/s given to the Department of Parliamentary Services and/ or the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly and President of the Legislative Council;
 - (j) who else were the reports made available to and when;
 - (k) what action was taken or will be taken as a result of the report(s) and when;
 - (l) are the reports available to the public, under Freedom of Information or otherwise;
 - (m) has a copy of the report/s been provided to the Member; and

- (n) is an audit undertaken prior to the renewal of a lease, or occupation of the office by a new Member; if so, are any identified deficiencies remedied.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

To answer this question would require a large amount of resources and time from my Department. However, if there is a specific issue that relates to your electorate office, questions should be directed to your relevant Presiding Officer the Hon Robert Smith MLC.

Premier: trade union grants

- 2842.** **MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Treasurer (for the Premier): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Premier's administration: What are the details of all grants made to trade union groups for each financial year from 2000-01 to 2006-07.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

To provide a response for the last seven financial years from each department, agency and authority within my administration would place a large burden on the resources of my department. However, if there is a specific issue that you would like further information on please provide more details in any further questions on this matter.