

**PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA**

**PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES  
(HANSARD)**

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

**FIFTY-SIXTH PARLIAMENT**

**FIRST SESSION**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Tuesday, 2 February 2010**

**(Extract from book 1)**

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**FIFTY-SIXTH PARLIAMENT — FIRST SESSION**

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Mr PETER HALL

**Deputy Leader of The Nationals:**

Mr DAMIAN DRUM

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Broad, Ms Candy Celeste	Northern Victoria	ALP	Lovell, Ms Wendy Ann	Northern Victoria	LP
Coote, Mrs Andrea	Southern Metropolitan	LP	Madden, Hon. Justin Mark	Western Metropolitan	ALP
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Drum, Mr Damian Kevin	Northern Victoria	Nats	Petrovich, Mrs Donna-Lee	Northern Victoria	LP
Eideh, Mr Khalil M.	Western Metropolitan	ALP	Peulich, Mrs Inga	South Eastern Metropolitan	LP
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Kronberg, Mrs Janice Susan	Eastern Metropolitan	LP	Viney, Mr Matthew Shaw	Eastern Victoria	ALP
			Vogels, Mr John Adrian	Western Victoria	LP

<sup>1</sup> Appointed 3 February 2009

<sup>2</sup> Resigned 9 January 2009



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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, 2 February 2010**

**Roads and ports: VicRoads — media and communications staff**

**1541. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Roads and Ports): for the financial year 2006–07, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by VicRoads and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media and communications roles by the agency.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that, as at the date the question was raised:

Expenditure totalling \$6.1 million was incurred during 2006–07, and 38.4 full time equivalent staff were employed to inform the community about:

- Important changes to the transport system
- Improved customer and traffic management services
- New regulations governing road users in the interests of public safety and efficient transport
- Issues in relation to specific road improvement projects and asset management activities

and to attract strong candidates to VicRoads recruitment processes.

**Attorney-General: travel expenses**

**2335. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Attorney-General): In relation to expenditure on overseas travel by each department, agency or authority within the Minister's administration for each financial year from 2000–01 to 2006–07:

- (1) How many people undertook such travel and to what destinations.
- (2) What was the purpose of visiting each destination.
- (3) With whom did the Minister or persons undertaking such travel meet and for what purpose.
- (4) What costs were associated with the travel indicating —
  - (a) airfares;
  - (b) car rental and hire cars, including types of cars hired or rented;
  - (c) taxis;
  - (d) accommodation, including name of establishment and the itemised costs;
  - (e) entertainment, including nature, venue and itemised costs; and
  - (f) other expenses.
- (5) Did family members, associates, or guests accompany the traveller(s) on each trip; if so, at what cost.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that:

The figures outlined below include overseas travel expenses assigned to Department of Justice business unit and statutory agency cost codes in the department’s Oracle Financial System. However, it should be noted that not all statutory agencies report via the Department of Justice. It would be an unreasonable diversion of the Department’s resources to obtain overseas travel figures from each agency that does not report via the Department’s Oracle Financial System.

The department’s Oracle Financial System is primarily a financial reporting tool with little scope available for detailed descriptions of each transaction; consequently, it does not keep a record of the names & numbers of people or the purpose of trips paid by the department.

Additionally, the department’s Oracle Financial System does not have separate general ledger accounts for car rental, hire cars, taxis, accommodation and entertainment expenses incurred while on overseas travel; these expenses are included with domestic expenditure.

The expenses detailed below are those which have been separately identifiable using the department’s Oracle Financial System.

It should also be noted that the figures do not include travel costs from the Ministerial Office cost centre, as the question is only concerned with expenditure by the Department of Justice. In August 2007 the Brumby Government committed to release quarterly reports that provide information on overseas travel by Ministers, including costs and benefits. The Honourable member may wish to consult the following site for this information:

[http://www.diird.vic.gov.au/CORPLIVE/STANDARD/PC\\_65191.html](http://www.diird.vic.gov.au/CORPLIVE/STANDARD/PC_65191.html)

Expenditure on overseas airfares and overseas personal expenses by areas under my responsibility for the financial years 2000–01 to 2006–07 are as follows:

**Overseas Airfares\***

	<b>\$000</b>
– 2000–01	85
– 2001–02	38
– 2002–03	35
– 2003–04	59
– 2004–05	95
– 2005–06	242
– 2006–07	104

**Overseas Personal Expenses\***

	<b>\$000</b>
– 2000–01	44
– 2001–02	13
– 2002–03	31
– 2003–04	19
– 2004–05	26
– 2005–06	49
– 2006–07	47

\*Includes travel expenses incurred by the Secretary of the Department of Justice.

**Racing: travel expenses**

**2336. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Racing): In relation to expenditure on overseas travel by each department, agency or authority within the Minister’s administration for each financial year from 2000–01 to 2006–07:

- (1) How many people undertook such travel and to what destinations.
- (2) What was the purpose of visiting each destination.
- (3) With whom did the Minister or persons undertaking such travel meet and for what purpose.
- (4) What costs were associated with the travel indicating —
  - (a) airfares;
  - (b) car rental and hire cars, including types of cars hired or rented;
  - (c) taxis;
  - (d) accommodation, including name of establishment and the itemised costs;
  - (e) entertainment, including nature, venue and itemised costs; and
  - (f) other expenses.
- (5) Did family members, associates, or guests accompany the traveller(s) on each trip; if so, at what cost.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that:

The figures outlined below include overseas travel expenses assigned to Department of Justice business unit and statutory agency cost codes in the department’s Oracle Financial System.

Expenditure on overseas airfares and overseas personal expenses by areas under my responsibility for the financial years 2000–01 to 2006–07 are as follows:

**Overseas Airfares\***

	<b>\$000</b>
– 2000–01	0
– 2001–02	0
– 2002–03	0
– 2003–04	0
– 2004–05	0
– 2005–06	1
– 2006–07	5

**Overseas Personal Expenses\***

	<b>\$000</b>
– 2000–01	0
– 2001–02	0
– 2002–03	0
– 2003–04	0
– 2004–05	0
– 2005–06	0
– 2006–07	4

**Mental health: eating disorder beds**

**9456. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Mental Health): In relation to eating disorder beds:

- (1) How many beds are there in Victoria.
- (2) Where are each of these beds located.
- (3) What is the cost of maintaining each bed.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

- (1) 15
- (2) The adult beds are located at:
  - The Royal Melbourne Hospital
  - The Austin Hospital
  - Monash Medical Centre
- (3) These beds are funded at the following rates:

The Royal Melbourne Hospital	\$653 a day
The Austin Hospital	\$532 a day
Monash Medical Centre	\$653 a day

**Mental health: ministerial advisory committee — funding**

**9501. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Mental Health): In relation to the Ministerial Advisory Committee on Mental Health:

- (1) What budget allocation was made for the Committee in —
  - (a) 2007–08; and
  - (b) 2008–09.
- (2) What budget allocation has been made for the 2009-10 financial year for the Committee.
- (3) What was the total funding allocated to members of the Committee for remuneration and allowances in —
  - (a) 2007–08; and
  - (b) 2008–09.
- (4) On which dates did the Minister meet with members of the Committee in —
  - (a) 2007–08; and
  - (b) 2008–09.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

(1,2&3)

Funding to support the work of the Ministerial Advisory Committee on Mental Health is allocated as part of the Mental Health and Drugs budget.

- (4) The Minister meets the members of the committee in a variety of forums at both formal and informal occasions.

**Sport, recreation and youth affairs: city of Manningham — youth programs**

**9545. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Sport, Recreation and Youth Affairs): How much State Government funding was given to programs for young people in Manningham in the following financial years:

- (a) 2006–07;
- (b) 2007–08; and
- (c) 2008–09.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The amounts given to Manningham programs administered within my portfolio of youth affairs for these years were:

- (1) 2006–07 — \$60,828
- (2) 2007–08 — \$61,098
- (3) 2008–09 — \$69,614

There may have been government funding given to programs for young people in Manningham through other government offices/departments. Questions in regard to funding details of programs which are the responsibilities of other portfolios should be directed to the relevant Minister.

**Sport, recreation and youth affairs: city of Manningham — youth programs**

**9546. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Sport, Recreation and Youth Affairs): What are the names and the amount of funding received for the programs for young people funded in Manningham in the 2008–09 financial year.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The amounts given to Manningham programs administered within my portfolio of youth affairs for the 2008–09 year were:

Advance-	\$47,889
FReeZA-	\$9,725
National Youth Week-	\$2,000
Music Equipment Grants-	\$10,000

There may have been government funding given to young people in Manningham through other government offices/departments. Questions in regard to funding details of programs which are the responsibilities of other Portfolios should be directed to the relevant Minister.

**Sport, recreation and youth affairs: city of Boroondara — youth programs**

**9547.** **MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Sport, Recreation and Youth Affairs): How much State Government funding was given to programs for young people in Boroondara in —

- (a) 2006–07;
- (b) 2007–08; and
- (c) 2008–09.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The amounts given to Boroondara programs administered within my portfolio of youth affairs for these years were:

- (1) 2006–07 — \$68,800
- (2) 2007–08 — \$78,514
- (3) 2008–09 — \$124,800

There may have been government funding given to young people in Boroondara through other government offices/departments. Questions in regard to funding details of programs which are the responsibilities of other Portfolios should be directed to the relevant Minister.

**Sport, recreation and youth affairs: city of Whitehorse — youth programs**

**9548.** **MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Sport, Recreation and Youth Affairs): How much State Government funding was given to programs for young people in Whitehorse in —

- (a) 2006–07;
- (b) 2007–08; and
- (c) 2008–09.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The amounts given to Whitehorse programs administered within my portfolio of youth affairs for these years were:

- (1) 2006–07 — \$181,991
- (2) 2007–08 — \$171,787
- (3) 2008–09 — \$197,579

There may have been government funding given to young people in Whitehorse through other government offices/departments. Questions in regard to funding details of programs which are the responsibilities of other Portfolios should be directed to the relevant Minister.



**Sport, recreation and youth affairs: city of Knox — youth programs**

**9549. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Sport, Recreation and Youth Affairs): How much State Government funding was given to programs for young people in Knox in —

- (a) 2006–07;
- (b) 2007–08; and
- (c) 2008–09.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The amounts given to Knox programs administered within my portfolio of youth affairs for these years were:

- (1) 2006–07 — \$175,036
- (2) 2007–08 — \$101,805
- (3) 2008–09 — \$134,525

There may have been government funding given to young people in Knox through other government offices/departments. Questions in regard to funding details of programs which are the responsibilities of other Portfolios should be directed to the relevant Minister.

**Sport, recreation and youth affairs: city of Maroondah — youth programs**

**9550. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Sport, Recreation and Youth Affairs): How much State Government funding was given to programs for young people in Maroondah in —

- (a) 2006–07;
- (b) 2007–08; and
- (c) 2008–09.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The amounts given to Maroondah programs administered within my portfolio of youth affairs for these years were:

- (1) 2006–07 — \$203,600
- (2) 2007–08 — \$206,895
- (3) 2008–09 — \$212,295

There may have been government funding given to young people in Maroondah through other government offices / departments. Questions in regard to funding details of programs which are the responsibilities of other Portfolios should be directed to the relevant Minister.

**Industry and trade: InsideOut Strategic**

**9554. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade: In table form, what was the expenditure by the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development between 1 July 2004 and 30 June 2009 on Mr Philip Staindl and his company InsideOut Strategic, 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 Mr Staindl.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

- (a) The contract was entered into on 17 February 2009.
- (b) InsideOut Strategic was engaged to examine possible options for recovery projects in Murrindindi Shire. InsideOut was engaged to consult with key personnel at both federal and state government level, local government and relevant community organisations.
- (c) \$11,825 (ex-GST)
- (d) Invoice dated 31/3/09
- (e) Engagement of InsideOut Strategic was in accordance with departmental guidelines which require at least one written quotation for purchases with an estimated value (GST inclusive) between \$2,500 and less than \$25,000.

**Industry and trade: FOI Solutions**

**9564. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade: In table form, what was the expenditure by the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development between 1 July 2008 and 30 June 2009 on Mr Mick Batskos and his company FOI Solutions, 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 Mr Batskos.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

- (a) There was no contract or tender
- (b) FOI Training
- (c) \$700
- (d) Invoice paid 7/5/09

- (e) Department expenditure less than \$2,500 (GST inclusive) must obtain at least one verbal quotation.

**Planning: training programs**

**9574. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Planning:

- (1) For each of the financial years 2004-05 to 2008-09, how many members of staff of the Department of Planning and Community Development attended a training program or workshop conducted by —
  - (a) Ms Caroline Shahbaz;
  - (b) Corporate Power;
  - (c) Rites of Passage; and
  - (d) Hero's Journey.
- (2) For each of the financial years 2004-05 to 2008-09, what was the total cost to the Department for programs conducted by each entity listed in (1).
- (3) For each of the financial years 2004-05 to 2008-09, how many members of staff of the Department travelled to India for programs conducted by each entity listed in (1).

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

- (1) The Department of Planning and Community Development was established on 14 August 2007. I am informed that no members of staff of the department attended training programs or workshops conducted by the individuals and companies listed in your question.
- (2) Nil
- (3) Nil

**Planning: Doncaster Hill development**

**9610. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning: How much money has been allocated to the Doncaster Hill development and for what purposes in the following financial years:

- (a) 2006-7;
- (b) 2007-8; and
- (c) 2008-9.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that funding was allocated to Doncaster Hill for the following amounts and purposes:

- (a) In 2006-07, \$86,000 was allocated for the following purposes:
  - Preparation of an advocacy plan, communications strategy and investigation of potential public-private partnerships.
  - Stimulating developer interests and facilitation of key Doncaster Hill development sites.
- (b) In 2007-08, \$197,976 was allocated for the following purposes:
  - Partial funding of Place Manager position for 3 year period.
  - Further work to update and implement plans to facilitate development.

- Preparation of a permanent zone solution for Activity Centre.
  - Civic Precinct Redevelopment workshop.
- (c) In 2008–09, \$3,850,300 was allocated for the following purposes:
- Contribution towards public realm works at and around Precinct 1-Community Centre.
  - Contribution towards construction of new state-of-the-art library at Doncaster Hill Community Centre.
  - Contribution towards Doncaster Hill and Manningham community engagement activities.
  - Environmentally sustainable design and National Australian Built Environment Rating System expert advice on sustainability objectives.
  - Water Sensitive Urban Design expert advice for the Community Centre.
  - Civic forecourt urban design and landscape for the Community Centre.
  - Landscape architecture for urban forest for the Community Centre.

**Police and emergency services: Victorian Law Enforcement Drug Fund**

**9634. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Police and Emergency Services): In relation to the Victorian Law Enforcement Drug Fund for each of the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09:

- (1) How much funding went into the fund and from what source.
- (2) How much from the fund was spent on programs and initiatives.
- (3) Exactly what initiatives and programs were funded, and for how much each.
- (4) What was the remaining balance of the fund for each financial year.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that:

- (1) A total of \$1,026,800 was paid into the fund in both 2007–08 and 2008–09 financial years. The Commonwealth Government and the Victorian Department of Human Services each paid \$513,400 into the Victorian Law Enforcement Drug Fund, in 2007–08 and 2008–09.
- (2) As at 31 August 2009, \$512,500 has been spent on projects approved under the 2007–08 and 2008–09 funding years.
- (3) **2007–08 funding round:**
  - The alcohol and other drugs ambulance and hospital data linkage project — Department of Human Services-\$120,000
  - Determining compliance with the guidelines to provide free or low-cost drinking water on licensed premises-Department of Human Services — \$70,000
  - Police Training, Liquor Licensing and Allied Public Safety Issues — Victoria Police-\$250,000
  - Public Safety Enhancement within Entertainment Precincts (plus evaluation)-Victoria Police — \$150,000
  - An outcome study of prisoners participating in the post release pharmacotherapy dispensing subsidy pilot program within Victoria — Corrections Victoria (pending transfer of carriage to Justice Health — \$170,000
  - Understanding Alcohol and Other Drug use among young people from emerging communities with a focus on alcohol consumption of young people from emerging African communities in contact with the criminal justice system — Department of Justice and Department of Human Services — \$250,000

**2008–09 funding round:**

- Cumulative Impact of Licensed Venue Research–Responsible Alcohol Victoria — \$195,000
- Licensees New Entrant Training Program Review and Development–Responsible Alcohol Victoria — \$165,000
- An examination of the provision of Alcohol and Drug Services provided to young people in receipt of a Community Based Disposition with an alcohol and drug condition attached, aged 18-25 years–Corrections Victoria — \$125,000
- Male Prisoners with an intellectual Disability and their Drug and Alcohol Needs–Corrections Victoria — \$90,000
- The impact of financial factors on pharmacotherapy treatment compliance for offenders–Corrections Victoria (pending transfer of carriage to the Justice Health Unit) — \$68,000
- Monitoring and assessing the impact of use of alcohol and other drugs by young people in the Victorian Youth Justice system–Department of Human Services — \$112,000
- Determining the Social and Avoidable costs of Alcohol misuse in Victoria — Department of Human Services-\$135,000
- Northern Grampians Police Service Area (Stawell) Regional Alcohol Group\_Education (RAGE) Year 9 students and parents — Victoria Police — \$30,000
- Casey Cardinia Police Service Area Todd’s Story Project — Victoria Police — \$85,000
- East Gippsland Police Service Area Project RESPECT — Victoria Police — \$100,000
- Sale Police Service Area Evaluation of Being Safe, Not Sorry — Victoria Police — \$50,000
- Community Renewal Partnership — Department of Planning and Community Development — \$100,000

(4) Balance at end 2007–08: **\$1,606,262.75**

Balance at end 2008–09: **\$2,168,846.44**

**Skills and workforce participation: vocational education and training**

**9644. MS PENNICUIK** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Skills and Workforce Participation): In relation to the Victorian Government’s vocational education and training (VET) reform statement *Securing Jobs for Your Future*, August 2008, which states on page 25 under the heading “Concessions and Financial Assistance” that for all courses (apart from Diploma and Advanced Diploma courses) concession fees “will continue to be available” and the document *Guide to Students–Securing Jobs for Your Future*, published by the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development, April 2009, which states in the section “What financial assistance is there?” that “The concession tuition fee is the same as the minimum fee” and that “Some courses also have special arrangements in place to reduce or remove tuition fees”:

- (1) What is the reason for abolishing the previous concession fee of \$55 and substituting a sliding scale of concession fees, which includes a doubling of concession fees for Certificate III and IV courses.
- (2) Under the new VET fee structure, what are the policy definitions of the terms “concession fees” and “minimum fees”.
- (3) Why has a nexus been established between concession fees and minimum fees.
- (4) What is the reason for the substantial increase in the minimum fee for Certificate III and IV courses from January 2011.
- (5) What is the total number of VET students enrolled in Victoria during the 2008-09 financial year who were eligible for concession fees.
- (6) Are all VET course providers able, under the VET reform package, to offer courses either free of charge or at a reduced rate; if not, why not.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

- (1) *What is the reason for abolishing the previous concession fee of \$55 and substituting a sliding scale of concession fees, which includes a doubling of concession fees for Certificate III and IV courses.*

Under *Securing Jobs for Your Future—Skills for Victoria*, a sliding scale of tuition fees has been introduced to reflect the benefit an individual obtains from the completion of courses at different levels. People undertaking training at higher levels gain ongoing benefits in terms of job opportunities and higher wages, and are better placed to contribute to the cost of their training. This is reflected in the new tuition and concession fee rates across all Certificate levels.

- (2) *Under the new VET fee structure, what are the policy definitions of the terms “concession fees” and “minimum fees”.*

Under the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*, the 2009 Ministerial Directions about Fees apply to all enrolments in Victorian Government funded training and further education.

The Directions instruct all training providers contracted to deliver government funded training to charge concession fees to eligible students. This applies to all persons holding a Commonwealth Health Care Card, a Pensioner Concession Card or a Veteran’s Gold Card. Concessions also apply to a dependant spouse or dependant child of a concession card holder.

In addition, the Directions instruct that the minimum fee is the minimum amount charged in respect of a person’s total enrolments within a course category in a calendar year. This applies irrespective of whether the student is a concession card holder.

- (3) *Why has a nexus been established between concession fees and minimum fees.*

A concession fee is a reduction on the full fee payable to ensure that individual social and economic circumstances are not a barrier to training.

Minimum and maximum tuition fees apply to course categories and overall fee caps for all training undertaken within a calendar year.

- (4) *What is the reason for the substantial increase in the minimum fee for Certificate III and IV courses from January 2011.*

Under *Securing Jobs for Your Future—Skills for Victoria*, tuition fees for government subsidised training vary in line with qualification levels. While the minimum fee for Certificates III and IV courses will increase to reflect the ongoing benefits for individuals in terms of job opportunities and higher wages, it remains a relatively small contribution, to the total cost of training.

- (5) *What is the total number of VET students enrolled in Victoria during the 2008-09 financial year who were eligible for concession fees.*

Registered Training Organisations report data to Skills Victoria based on an academic year. Data on the total number of VET students enrolled in Victoria during the 2008-09 financial year who were eligible for concession fees is not available. Data on the number of course enrolments ‘granted’ a concession in 2008 is available.

In 2008, there were 91,487 enrolments in government funded VET courses where at least one module/unit was granted a concession.

It should be noted that VET students often enrol in more than one course during an academic year. Therefore, the figure above does not represent students. One student may account for more than one enrolment.

- (6) *Are all VET course providers able, under the VET reform package, to offer courses either free of charge or at a reduced rate; if not, why not.*

Under *Securing Jobs for Your Future—Skills for Victoria*, minimum and maximum tuition fees apply to course categories and overall fee caps for all training undertaken within a calendar year. Training providers have the flexibility to set the rate as low as they choose, provided the fee is within the set range.

As has always been the case, individual providers have some discretion to offer tuition fee concessions below the minimum rate, for example in exceptional cases of extreme hardship.

In addition, fee exemptions may apply as a result of special arrangements with the Commonwealth Government, for example for certain courses in Children’s Services. Tuition fee waivers have been introduced for enrolments in existing government funded places at Certificate levels I to IV by job seekers referred through a Job Network provider.

Further, students who are prisoners, detained, held on remand or required to undertake training as part of a Court Order are not charged tuition fees.

**Skills and workforce participation: vocational education and training**

**9645. MS PENNICUIK** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Skills and Workforce Participation): In relation to the Victorian Government’s vocational education and training (VET) reform statement *Securing Jobs for Your Future*, August 2008, which states on page 25 under the heading “Concessions and Financial Assistance” that “in conjunction with the Federal Government ... access to income contingent loans [will be made available] for people training at the Diploma and Advanced Diploma level”, the document *Guide to Students—Securing Jobs for Your Future*, April 2009, which identifies the loan scheme as VET FEE-HELP and a fact sheet issued by the Commonwealth Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations titled *Extension of Assistance to Victorian Government Subsidised Students*, which sets out the conditions of access for Victorian VET students seeking VET FEE-HELP loans as of 1 July 2009:

- (1) Why is the loan fee of 20 per cent which applies under the VET FEE-HELP scheme not mentioned in the *Guide to Students—Securing Jobs for Your Future*, published by the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development, April 2009.
- (2) What effect, if any, has the defeat on 18 August 2009 in the Australian Senate of the Higher Education Legislation Amendment (Student Services and Amenities, and Other Measures) Bill 2009 had on Victorian VET Diploma and Advanced Diploma students in Government subsidised places who have enrolled since 1 July 2009.
- (3) What action has the Minister taken, or does the Minister propose to take, to assist Victorian VET Diploma and Advanced Diploma students in Government subsidised places who have enrolled since 1 July 2009, given that their anticipated access to VET FEE-HELP has been denied.
- (4) Will Victorian VET Diploma and Advanced Diploma students in Government subsidised places who have enrolled since 1 July 2009 now be required to pay their tuition fees up-front.
- (5) What special provisions will be implemented to assist VET Diploma and Advanced Diploma students who have enrolled since 1 July 2009 and are Commonwealth Health Care Card holders, to meet tuition fees in the absence of access to VET FEE-HELP loans.
- (6) What advice has the Minister received from the Federal Government regarding future legislation that will enable Victorian VET Diploma and Advanced Diploma students in Government subsidised places to access VET FEE-HELP or an equivalent scheme.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

- (1) Why is the loan fee of 20 per cent which applies under the VET FEE-HELP scheme not mentioned in the *Guide to Students—Securing Jobs for Your Future*, published by the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development, April 2009.

The loan fee is not mentioned in the *Guide to Students—Securing Jobs for Your Future*, published by the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development, as the Commonwealth Government agreed in late 2008 to meet the administrative costs of extending the scheme to subsidised students in Victoria and not charge these students a loan fee. The *Guide to Students* was released in April 2009 well in advance of the 1 July 2009 implementation date for *Skills for Life—the Victorian Training Guarantee* for Diploma and Advanced Diploma students.

It was the expectation of both the Victorian and Commonwealth Governments that the necessary legislative amendment to the *Higher Education Support Act 2003* (HESA) to remove the loan fee for subsidised students would have been supported by the Federal Parliament and received Royal Assent by 1 July 2009.

- (2) What effect, if any, has the defeat on 18 August 2009 in the Australian Senate of the Higher Education Legislation Amendment (Student Services and Amenities, and Other Measures) Bill 2009 had on Victorian VET Diploma and Advanced Diploma students in Government subsidised places who have enrolled since 1 July 2009.

It is quite disappointing that the Liberal National Coalition blocked the Student Services Bill from being passed in the Senate. This bill would have provided valuable resources to be provided to universities to support students.

The Commonwealth Government has advised that it is using its best endeavours to ensure that Victorian Government subsidised students eligible for VET FEE-HELP assistance are not disadvantaged, and that their VET FEE-HELP loan amount will not include the VET FEE-HELP loan fee.

Until the Federal Parliament passes the proposed amendments to the HESA in relation to the VET FEE-HELP loan fee, there is no change to the loan fee arrangements and students accessing VET FEE-HELP assistance will incur a VET FEE-HELP debt which includes the 20 per cent loan fee.

- (3) What action has the Minister taken, or does the Minister propose to take, to assist Victorian VET Diploma and Advanced Diploma students in Government subsidised places who have enrolled since 1 July 2009, given that their anticipated access to VET FEE-HELP has been denied.

The VET FEE-HELP Guidelines and VET Provider Guidelines were amended and released for public comment on 2 June 2009. These amendments extended VET FEE-HELP assistance then only available to full fee-paying students to government subsidised Diploma and Advanced Diploma students in Victoria. No adverse comments were received during the consultation period and the amended Guidelines took effect on 1 July. As a result of these changes to the Guidelines, government subsidised Diploma and Advanced Diploma students in Victoria can access a VET FEE-HELP loan if they are enrolled with a registered training organisation who is approved as a 'VET provider' under HESA. All 18 TAFE institutes in Victoria are approved to offer VET FEE-HELP assistance to their students.

The defeat of the *Higher Education Legislation Amendment (Student Services and Amenities, and Other Measures) Bill 2009* on 18 August 2009 does not mean that Victorian subsidised students are denied access to VET FEE-HELP.

- (4) Will Victorian VET Diploma and Advanced Diploma students in Government subsidised places who have enrolled since 1 July 2009 now be required to pay their tuition fees up-front.

As a result of changes to the VET FEE-HELP Guidelines and VET Provider Guidelines that took effect on 1 July 2009, Victorian students undertaking a government subsidised Diploma or Advanced Diploma will be able to access a VET FEE-HELP loan if they are enrolled at a registered training organisation that is approved as a 'VET provider' under HESA.



- (5) What special provisions will be implemented to assist VET Diploma and Advanced Diploma students who have enrolled since 1 July 2009 and are Commonwealth Health Care Card holders, to meet tuition fees in the absence of access to VET FEE-HELP loans.

As outlined above, government subsidised Diploma and Advanced Diploma students in Victoria can access a VET FEE-HELP loan if they are enrolled with a registered training provider who is approved as a 'VET provider' under HESA.

- (6) What advice has the Minister received from the Federal Government regarding future legislation that will enable Victorian VET Diploma and Advanced Diploma students in Government subsidised places to access VET FEE-HELP or an equivalent scheme.

I have written to the Hon Julia Gillard, MP, Deputy Prime Minister, expressing my disappointment that the legislative amendment to remove the loan fee for these students was defeated in the Federal Senate on 18 August 2009.

I am pleased to advise that the amendment was reintroduced into the Federal House of Representatives on 9 September as part of the *Higher Education Support Amendment (VET FEE-HELP and Tertiary Admission Centres) Bill 2009*. The Bill makes explicit reference to the loan fee reduction being retrospective applied to liabilities incurred since 1 July 2009.

I would like to encourage you to contact Liberal and National coalition members who blocked the original bill and urge them to pass this legislation.

#### **Agriculture: advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

- 9660.** **MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Agriculture): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the Department of Primary Industries and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Department.

#### **ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

For the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the Department of Primary Industries (DPI), I refer the Member to response to Question 9590.

Full-time equivalent staff employed by DPI in media and communication roles was 39.9 for the financial year 2007–08 and 40.7 for the financial year 2008–09.

[Hansard reference: *Legislative Council, 24 November 2009, page 5904*]

#### **Industry and trade: advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

- 9664.** **MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade: For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Department.

#### **ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

Information regarding DIIRD's expenditure on advertising and promotion and staff numbers in 2007–08 and 2008–09 is available in DIIRD's 2007–08 and 2008–09 Annual Reports.

**Health: Alexandra District Ambulance Service — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**9671. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Health): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the Alexandra District Ambulance Service and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Alexandra District Ambulance Service.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

I refer the member to the 2007–08 Annual Report tabled in Parliament. Alexandra District Ambulance Service formed part of Ambulance Victoria from 1 July 2008. Further breakdown would be an unreasonable diversion of the individual health services' and the Department of Health's resources.

**Community services: child safety commissioner — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**9673. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the Child Safety Commissioner and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Child Safety Commissioner.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

I refer the member to the Annual Reports tabled in Parliament.

**Community services: disability services commissioner — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**9679. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the Disability Services Commissioner and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Disability Services Commissioner.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

I refer the member to the Annual Reports tabled in Parliament.

**Mental health: Mental Health Review Board — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**9687. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Mental Health): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the Mental Health Review Board of Victoria and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Mental Health Review Board of Victoria.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

I refer the member to the Annual Reports tabled in Parliament.

**Community services: Youth Parole Board/Youth Residential Board — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**9705. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the Youth Parole Board/Youth Residential Board and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Youth Parole Board/Youth Residential Board.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

I refer the member to the Annual Reports tabled in Parliament.

**Sport, recreation and youth affairs: Sport and Recreation Camps Committee of Management — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**9734. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Sport, Recreation and Youth Affairs): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by Sport and Recreation Camps Committee of Management Inc and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by Sport and Recreation Camps Committee of Management Inc.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

There are no staff employed in media, public relations and communication roles by the Sport and Recreation Camps Committee of Management Inc.

**Energy and resources: Earth Resources Development Council — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**9761. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Energy and Resources): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the Earth Resources Development Council and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Earth Resources Development Council.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that as at the date the question was raised:

For the financial years 2007-08 and 2008-09 the Earth Resources Development Council (ERDC) had no expenses made against advertising and promotion and no full time staff were employed in media, publication and communication roles.

**Energy and resources: Electric Line Clearance Consultative Committee — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**9762.** **MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Energy and Resources): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the Electric Line Clearance Consultative Committee and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Electric Line Clearance Consultative Committee.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that as at the date the question was raised:

The Electric Line Clearance Consultative Committee (ELCCC) does not have its own budget or staff.

**Energy and resources: Equipment Advisory Committee — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**9763.** **MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Energy and Resources): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the Equipment Advisory Committee and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Equipment Advisory Committee.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that as at the date the question was raised:

The Equipment Advisory Committee (EAC) does not have its own budget or staff.

**Energy and resources: Victorian Electrolysis Committee — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**9764.** **MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Energy and Resources): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the Victorian Electrolysis Committee and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Victorian Electrolysis Committee.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that as at the date the question was raised:

The Victorian Electrolysis Committee (VEC) does not have its own budget or staff.

**Roads and ports: VicRoads — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**9785.** **MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Roads and Ports): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by VicRoads and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by VicRoads.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

In 2007-08 and 2008-09, \$21 million was incurred and an average of 53 full time equivalent staff were employed to inform the community about:

- Important changes to the transport system
- Improved customer and traffic management services
- New regulations governing road users in the interests of public safety and efficient transport
- Issues in relation to specific road improvement projects and asset management activities

and to attract strong candidates to VicRoads recruitment processes.

Particular emphasis was placed on responding to regional inquiries.

**Finance, WorkCover and the Transport Accident Commission: Accident Compensation Conciliation Service — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**9796. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Finance, WorkCover and the TAC): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the Accident Compensation Conciliation Service and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Accident Compensation Conciliation Service.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The Accident Compensation Conciliation Service (ACCS) does not have an advertising budget or partake in any advertising campaigns. The ACCS does however provide information via its website, brochures and a DVD. The DVD and brochure are sent out after a Request for Conciliation is received or on request.

In 2008–9 the following costs were incurred:

Brochures	\$4,554
DVDs	\$11,550

In 2007–8, the following costs were incurred:

Brochures	\$4,554
DVD/Videos	\$14,440

Less than 10 per cent of 1 FTE employee was required to maintain and update the brochures and the website for the 2007–08 and 2008–09 financial years.

**Finance, WorkCover and the Transport Accident Commission: Emergency Services and State Super — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**9797. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Finance, WorkCover and the TAC): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by Emergency Services and State Super and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by Emergency Services and State Super.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The total amount spent on advertising and promotion by Emergency Services and State Super (ESSSuper) for the 2007–08 financial year was \$703,045. For the 2008–09 financial year was \$690,000. This includes production of annual reports, forms, newsletters and publications.

In both 2007–08 and 2008–09, three full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by ESSSuper.

**Finance, WorkCover and the Transport Accident Commission: Parliamentary Trustee — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**9800. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Finance, WorkCover and the TAC): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by The Parliamentary Trustee and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by The Parliamentary Trustee.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The Parliamentary Contributory Superannuation Fund (the Parliamentary Trustee) is administered by Emergency Services and State Super (ESSSuper). It has no requirement for advertising and promotional activity as such. However, some of ESSSuper’s expenditure on the production of annual reports, forms, newsletters and publications includes expenditure related to the Parliamentary Trustee.

**Finance, WorkCover and the Transport Accident Commission: Victorian Government Purchasing Board — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**9801. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Finance, WorkCover and the TAC): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the Victorian Government Purchasing Board and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Victorian Government Purchasing Board.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

There were no full time staff employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Victorian Government Purchasing Board (VGPB) in either of the financial years of 2007–08 and 2008–09.

The VGPB did not have any expenditure in relation to media, public relations and communications in the 2007–08 financial year. The only associated costs for the 2008–09 financial year were the costs of White pages listings:

<b>2008–09</b>
<b>\$ 2775.30</b> for listings in: 2009 VIC Melbourne Directory 2009 VIC Warragul Directory 2009 VIC Bendigo Directory 2009 VIC Geelong Directory 2009 VIC Mornington Directory
<b>\$ 808.50</b> for listings in: 2009 VIC Bairnsdale directory 2009 VIC Mildura directory

2009 VIC Warrnambool directory
<b>\$ 1318.90</b> for listings in:
2009 VIC Ballarat directory
2009 VIC Shepparton directory
2009 VIC Wangaratta directory
2009 SA South East Adelaide directory
2009 NSW Albury directory
<b>Total: \$4 902.70</b>

**Tourism and major events: Australian Grand Prix Corporation — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**9921. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Tourism and Major Events): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the Australian Grand Prix Corporation and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Australian Grand Prix Corporation.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Australian Grand Prix Corporations 2009 Annual Report (page 35) provides a budget line for the total amount spent on advertising/promotion (marketing) and catering by the Australian Grand Prix Corporation of \$11.115 million in 2007–08 and \$10.346 million in 2008–09. The Annual Report does not provide a separation of costs for advertising and promotion beyond this budget line.

The number of full time equivalent staff employed in media, public relations and communications roles employed by the Australian Grand Prix Corporation in 2007–08 was nine and in 2008–09, seven.

**Tourism and major events: Emerald Tourist Railway Board — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**9922. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Tourism and Major Events): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the Emerald Tourist Railway Board and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Emerald Tourist Railway Board.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The amounts that were spent by the Emerald Tourist Railway Board on advertising and promotion were as follows:

- \$220,369 in 2007–08; and
- \$258,408 in 2008–09

The full-time equivalent staff employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Emerald Tourist Railway Board was three staff for each financial year.

**Tourism and major events: Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Trust — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**9924. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Tourism and Major Events): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Trust and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Trust.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

Spend on advertising was as follows:

2007–08	\$232,626
2008–09	\$224,841

Spend on promotion was as follows:

2007–08	\$254,524
2008–09	\$300,890

Full time staff employed in media, public relations and communications was as follows:

2007–08	4
2008–09	5

**Tourism and major events: Victorian Major Events Company Ltd — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**9925. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Tourism and Major Events): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the Victorian Major Events Company Limited and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Victorian Major Events Company Limited.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

There was no expenditure on advertising and promotion by the Victorian Major Events Company (VMEC) in 2007–08.

There was expenditure totalling \$15,121 on advertising and promotion by VMEC in 2008–09.

Until December 2007, one FTE staff was employed in media, public relations and communications role. No employees have been engaged in media, public relations or communications roles thereafter.

**Planning: Heritage Council — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**9949. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Planning: For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the Heritage Council and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Heritage Council.



**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The Heritage Council is required under Section 8(1b) of the *Heritage Act 1995* 'to promote public understanding of Victoria's cultural heritage and develop and conduct community information and education programs'. To achieve this the Heritage Council produces publications and interpretation, sponsors events, forums and holds exhibitions.

As stated in the Heritage Council's 2008–09 Annual Report, expenses for advertising, publicity and information in 2008–2009 totalled \$92,621 and \$58,964 for the 2007–08 financial year.

The Heritage Council does not employ any staff.

**Energy and resources: Energy Safe Victoria — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**9970. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Energy and Resources): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by Energy Safe Victoria and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by Energy Safe Victoria.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that as at the date the question was raised:

One of Energy Safe Victoria's (ESV) objectives under its roles and functions is to maintain public and industry awareness of electrical and gas safety requirements. This objective is achieved through a number of initiatives including regular radio and television public awareness campaigns, the regular production of new commercials, the issuing of media releases and safety alerts, the quarterly publication of a high quality magazine for the electrical and gas trades, and maintaining safety information on the ESV website.

In 2007–2008, ESV spent a total of \$1,420,246.

In 2008–2009, ESV spent a total of \$1,787,545. This expenditure includes the immediate response to energy safety issues arising from the bushfires in February 2009.

In both years, ESV maintained 1.5 equivalent full time staff in media, public relations and communication roles.

**Water: Barwon Region Water Corporation — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**10 019. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Water): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the Barwon Region Water Corporation and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Barwon Region Water Corporation.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

For the financial year 2007–08 Barwon Region Water Corporation spent a total amount of \$640,000 on advertising and promotion.

For the financial year 2008–09 the Barwon Region Water Corporation spent a total amount of \$700,000 on advertising and promotion.

For the financial year 2007–08 6.0 full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Barwon Region Water Corporation.

For the financial year 2008–09 7.63 full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Barwon Region Water Corporation

**Water: Central Gippsland Region Water Corporation — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**10 020. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Water): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the Central Gippsland Region Water Corporation and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Central Gippsland Region Water Corporation.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

For the financial year 2007–08 Central Gippsland Region Water Corporation spent a total amount of \$155,323 on advertising and promotion.

For the financial year 2008–09 Central Gippsland Region Water Corporation spent a total amount of \$188,284 on advertising and promotion.

For the financial year 2007–08, 3.0 full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Central Gippsland Region Water Corporation.

For the financial year 2008–09, 3.0 full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Central Gippsland Region Water Corporation.

**Water: Central Highlands Region Water Corporation — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**10 021. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Water): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the Central Highlands Region Water Corporation and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Central Highlands Region Water Corporation.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

For the financial year 2007–08 Central Highlands Region Water Corporation spent a total amount of \$415,000 on advertising and promotion.

For the financial year 2008–09 Central Highlands Region Water Corporation spent a total amount of \$306,000 on advertising and promotion.

For the financial year 2007–08 Central Highlands Region Water Corporation employed 4.3 full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Central Highlands Region Water Corporation.

For the financial year 2008–09 Central Highlands Region Water Corporation employed 4.3 full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Central Highlands Region Water Corporation.

**Water: Coliban Region Water Corporation — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**10 022. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Water): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the Coliban Region Water Corporation and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Coliban Region Water Corporation.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

For the financial year 2007–08 Coliban Region Water Corporation spent a total amount of \$310,433 on advertising and promotion.

For the financial year 2008–09 Coliban Region Water Corporation spent a total amount of \$351,475 on advertising and promotion.

For the financial year 2007–08, 4.0 full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Coliban Region Water Corporation.

For the financial year 2008–09 4.0 full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Coliban Region Water Corporation.

**Water: East Gippsland Region Water Corporation — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**10 023. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Water): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the East Gippsland Region Water Corporation and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the East Gippsland Region Water Corporation.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

For the financial year 2007–08 the East Gippsland Region Water Corporation spent a total amount of \$30,000 on advertising and promotion.

For the financial year 2008–09 East Gippsland Region Water Corporation spent a total amount of \$42,100 on advertising and promotion.

For the financial year 2007–08, 1.0 full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles. By East Gippsland Region Water Corporation.

For the financial year 2008–09, 1.0 full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles. By East Gippsland Region Water Corporation.

**Water: Gippsland and Southern Rural Water Corporation — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**10 024. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Water): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the Gippsland and Southern Rural Water Corporation and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Gippsland and Southern Rural Water Corporation.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

For the financial year 2007–08 Gippsland and Southern Rural Water spent a total amount of \$86,736.73 on advertising and promotion.

For the financial year 2008–09 Gippsland and Southern Rural Water spent a total amount of \$152,163.00 on advertising and promotion.

For the financial year 2007–08, 1.0 full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Gippsland and Southern Rural Water Corporation.

For the financial year 2008–09, 1.3 full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Gippsland and Southern Rural Water Corporation.

**Water: Goulburn Valley Region Water Corporation — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**10 025. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Water): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the Goulburn Valley Region Water Corporation and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Goulburn Valley Region Water Corporation.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

For the financial year 2007–08 Goulburn Valley Region Water Corporation spent a total amount of \$251,055 on advertising and promotion.

For the financial year 2008–09 Goulburn Valley Region Water Corporation spent a total amount of \$235,586 on advertising and promotion.

For the financial year 2007–08, 1.0 full-time equivalent staff member was employed in media, public relations and communications roles by Goulburn Valley Region Water Corporation.

For the financial year 2008–09, 1.24 full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by Goulburn Valley Region Water Corporation.

**Water: Grampians Wimmera-Mallee Water Corporation — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**10 027. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Water): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the Grampians Wimmera-Mallee Water Corporation and how many full-time

equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Grampians Wimmera-Mallee Water Corporation.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

For the financial year 2007–08 the Grampians Wimmera-Mallee spent a total amount of \$212,800 on advertising and promotion.

For the financial year 2008–09 Grampians Wimmera-Mallee spent a total amount of \$213,800 on advertising and promotion.

For the financial year 2007–08, 4.0 full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Grampians Wimmera-Mallee Water Corporation.

For the financial year 2008–09, 4.0 full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Grampians Wimmera-Mallee Water Corporation.

**Water: North East Region Water Corporation — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**10 030. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Water): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the North East Region Water Corporation and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the North East Region Water Corporation.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

For the financial year 2007–08 North East Region Water Corporation spent a total amount of \$162,456 on advertising and promotion.

For the financial year 2008–09 North East Region Water Corporation spent a total amount of \$152,838 on advertising and promotion.

For the financial year 2007–08, 2.5 full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the North East Region Water Corporation.

For the financial year 2008–09, 2.5 full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the North East Region Water Corporation.

**Water: South Gippsland Region Water Corporation — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**10 031. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Water): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the South Gippsland Region Water Corporation and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the South Gippsland Region Water Corporation.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

In the financial year 2007–08 South Gippsland Region Water Corporation spent a total amount of \$29,900 on advertising and promotion.

In the financial year 2008–09 South Gippsland Region Water Corporation spent a total amount of \$17,200 on advertising and promotion.

In the financial year 2007–08, 1.0 full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the South Gippsland Region Water Corporation.

In the financial year 2008–09, 1.0 full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the South Gippsland Region Water Corporation.

**Water: Wannon Region Water Corporation — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**10 032. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Water): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the Wannon Region Water Corporation and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Wannon Region Water Corporation.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

For the financial year 2007–08 Wannon Region Water Corporation spent a total amount of \$176,264 on advertising and promotion.

For the financial year 2008–09 Wannon Region Water Corporation spent a total amount of \$162,472 on advertising and promotion.

For the financial year 2007–08, 3.0 full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by Wannon Region Water Corporation.

For the financial year 2008–09 3.0 full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by Wannon Region Water Corporation.

**Water: Western Region Water Corporation — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**10 033. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Water): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the Western Region Water Corporation and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Western Region Water Corporation.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

For the financial year 2007–08 Western Region Water Corporation spent a total amount of \$178,061 on advertising and promotion.

For the financial year 2008–09 Western Region Water Corporation spent a total amount of \$103,341 on advertising and promotion.

For the financial year 2007–08, 6.0 full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Western Region Water Corporation.

For the financial year 2008–09 5.6 full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Western Region Water Corporation.

**Water: Westernport Region Water Corporation — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**10 034. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Water): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the Westernport Region Water Corporation and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Westernport Region Water Corporation.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

For the financial year 2007–08 Westernport Region Water Corporation spent a total amount of \$27,000 on advertising and promotion.

For the financial year 2008–09 Westernport Region Water Corporation spent a total amount of \$40,000 on advertising and promotion.

For the financial year 2007–08 1.0 full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by Westernport Region Water Corporation.

For the financial year 2008–09, 1.5 full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by Westernport Region Water Corporation.

**Finance, WorkCover and the Transport Accident Commission: Domestic (HIH) Indemnity Fund and Housing Guarantee Claims — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**10 045. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Finance, WorkCover and the TAC): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by Domestic (HIH) Indemnity Fund and Housing Guarantee Claims and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by Domestic (HIH) Indemnity Fund and Housing Guarantee Claims.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The Domestic (HIH) Indemnity Fund and Housing Guarantee Claims is a service provided by the Victorian Managed Insurance Authority (VMIA). The VMIA does not engage in any advertising or promotion aimed at the general public.

For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, there was 0.3 FTE staff assigned to media, public relations and communications roles for the Domestic (HIH) Indemnity Fund and Housing Guarantee Claims service at the VMIA. This part time role is responsible for communications planning, internal communications (including intranet), website and publications management.

**Finance, WorkCover and the Transport Accident Commission: Essential Services Commission — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**10 046. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Finance, WorkCover and the TAC): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the Essential Services Commission and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Essential Services Commission.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the Essential Services Commission for the 2007–08 financial year was \$135,000. For the 2008–09 financial year it was \$209,000.

In both 2007–08 and 2008–09, 1.5 FTE staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Essential Services Commission.

**Water: City West Water — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**10 048. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Water): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by City West Water Limited and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by City West Water Limited.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

For the financial year 2007–08 City West Water Limited spent a total amount of \$1.9 million on advertising and promotion.

For the financial year 2008–09 City West Water Limited spent a total amount of \$3.7 million on advertising and promotion.

For the financial year 2007–08, 4.2 full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by City West Water Limited.

For the financial year 2008–09, 4.9 full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by City West Water Limited.

**Water: South East Water — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**10 049. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Water): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by South East Water Limited and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by South East Water Limited.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

For the financial year 2007–08 South East Water Limited spent a total amount of \$1.6 million on advertising and promotion.

For the financial year 2008–09 South East Water Limited spent a total amount of \$2.9 million on advertising and promotion.



For the financial year 2007–08, 10.6 full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by South East Water Limited.

For the financial year 2008–09, 14.3 full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles at South East Water Limited.

**Finance, WorkCover and the Transport Accident Commission: VicFleet — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**10 051. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Finance, WorkCover and the TAC): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by VicFleet Pty Ltd and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by VicFleet Pty Ltd.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09 there was no expenditure relating to advertising and promotion by VicFleet Pty Ltd and there were no staff employed in media, public relations or communications.

**Finance, WorkCover and the Transport Accident Commission: Victorian Managed Insurance Authority — advertising expenditure and media and communications staff**

**10 060. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Finance, WorkCover and the TAC): For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, what was the total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the Victorian Managed Insurance Authority and how many full-time equivalent staff were employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the Victorian Managed Insurance Authority.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The Victorian Managed Insurance Authority (VMIA) does not engage in any advertising or promotion aimed at the general public. The VMIA has engaged in some functional advertising during the periods under review, by placing advertisements in the *Herald Sun* on the Victorian Government Tenders page for:

- an expression of interest for website upgrade and integration of online services project; and
- a request for tender for reinsurance broking and placement services.

The VMIA has also engaged in recruitment advertising to fill vacant positions at the VMIA.

The total amount spent on advertising and promotion by the VMIA for the 2007–08 financial year was \$32,806. For the 2008–09 financial year it was \$26,807.

For the financial years 2007–08 and 2008–09, there were 2.7 full-time equivalent staff employed in media, public relations and communications roles by the VMIA.

**Children and early childhood development: disabled student programs**

**10 063. MS LOVELL** — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development): In relation to the Victorian Government’s budget for Programs for Students with Disabilities (PSD):

- (1) What was the 2008–09 budget for PSD.
- (2) How many places/packages were funded in 2008–09.
- (3) How many students were assisted by PSD in 2008–09.
- (4) What is the 2009–10 budget for PSD.
- (5) How many places/packages are expected to be funded in 2009–10.
- (6) How many students are expected to be assisted by PSD in 2009–10.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The 2008–09 budget for the Program for Students with Disabilities was \$417.2 million.

Victorian government school students with a disability and additional learning needs are eligible to receive individual support through the Program for Students with Disabilities, provided they meet the eligibility criteria for one of seven disability categories.

At the end of the 2008–09 financial year, 19,206 equivalent full time students with moderate to severe disabilities were supported by individual student based funding provided through the PSD.

The 2008–09 PSD budget also included funding for every Victorian government school to support students with language difficulties, and other school-based funding for special school provision.

The 2009–10 PSD budget and numbers of supported students are determined in 2010 based on confirmed enrolments calculated on School Census Day which is 26 February 2010.

**Major projects: rectangular stadium**

**10 065. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Major Projects): Has the Melbourne Rectangular Stadium been built with strengthened foundations to allow future expansion.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Melbourne Rectangular Stadium has been purpose built specifically to fill the missing gap in the suite of Stadiums in Melbourne. The Melbourne Rectangular Stadium has been built to allow for potential future expansion.

**Major projects: rectangular stadium**

**10 066. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Major Projects): Has the Melbourne Rectangular Stadium’s bioframe roof been designed and built to allow future expansion.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Melbourne Rectangular Stadium has been built specifically to fill the missing gap in the suite of Stadiums in Melbourne. The Melbourne Rectangular Stadium has been built to allow for potential future expansion.

**Housing: maintenance**

**10 104. MS LOVELL** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Housing): In relation to the \$99 million allocated to Victoria for public housing maintenance works under the Nation Building and Jobs Plan (NBJP):

- (1) What will be the distribution of NBJP maintenance and repair projects across Victoria and have any regions been excluded from the works; if so, for what reason.
- (2) What criteria is being used to determine those properties submitted to the Federal Government as part of the Victorian Government’s proposals.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

- (1) It is anticipated that a number of properties in each region will receive repairs and maintenance works under the Nation Building Social Housing Initiative, as follows:

<b>Region</b>	<b>Units</b>
Barwon	1163
Eastern Metropolitan	641
Gippsland	569
Hume	359
Loddon Mallee	224
North Western Metropolitan	1574
Southern Metropolitan	1191
Grampians	279

Please note that there may be variations to these plans, in accordance with standard operating practices and market conditions, for example.

- (2) Victoria’s repairs and maintenance projects target properties that are approaching the end of their economic lifecycle or are aligned with the Office of Housing’s maintenance schedule in order to bring these properties to a good condition and ensure their retention with the Office of Housing’s asset portfolio for a further 15-20 years.

In particular, properties have been targeted:

- within local government areas that are aligned to the Melbourne 2030 strategy, regional cities and growth corridors;
- that provide for high needs groups including singles, people experiencing homelessness, and Indigenous Victorians in high demand areas across Melbourne and regional Victoria, including rooming houses;
- in an urban environment, such as high-rise buildings; and
- that have become vacant in Metropolitan Melbourne and Geelong.

**Housing: maintenance**

**10 105. MS LOVELL** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Housing): In relation to the \$99 million allocated to Victoria for public housing maintenance works under the Nation Building and Jobs Plan (NBJP):

- (1) Has the Victorian Government completed all repair and maintenance projects funded under the NBJP.

- (2) When does the Government intend to have all projects completed.
- (3) Is there a time frame for the Victorian Government to expend all Federal Government funding under the stimulus program.
- (4) Is there a requirement for the Victorian Government to provide regular progress reports to the Federal Government in respect to the repair and maintenance component of the NBJP; if so, has the Victorian Government met all of its obligations under this reporting framework and if not, why not.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

- (1) Victoria is aiming to complete repairs and maintenance works at approximately 6000 properties under the Nation Building Social Housing Initiative. As at 30 September 2009, works had been completed at 2270 properties.
- (2) As required under the Social Housing initiative guidelines, Victoria is on track to complete all repairs and maintenance works under the Nation Building program by 30 June 2010.
- (3) Under the Social Housing Initiative guidelines, the repairs and maintenance funding allocation of \$99.2 million must be fully expended by 30 June 2010.
- (4) Under the Social Housing Initiative guidelines, Victoria is required to submit monthly progress reports to the Federal Government. The reports provide details of repairs and maintenance works completed in the preceding month and the payments associated with those works. To date, Victoria has met all of its repairs and maintenance reporting obligations.

**Community services: disability support register — Barwon-south western region**

**10 114. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to the June 2009 Disability Support Register in the Barwon South West Region:

- (1) How many people in the Region were on the Disability Support Register waiting for day time activities as at June 2009.
- (2) How many people in the Region were on the Disability Support Register waiting for support to live in the community as at June 2009.
- (3) How many people in the Region were on the Disability Support Register waiting for supported accommodation options as at June 2009.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

In the Barwon South West Region as at 30 June 2009:

- (1) There were 34 people on the Disability Support Register waiting for day time activities.
- (2) There were 82 people on the Disability Support Register waiting for support to live in the community.
- (3) There were 95 people on the Disability Support Register waiting for supported accommodation options.

**Community services: disability support register — eastern metropolitan region**

**10 115. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to the June 2009 Disability Support Register in the Eastern Metropolitan Region:

- (1) How many people in the Region were on the Disability Support Register waiting for day time activities as at June 2009.
- (2) How many people in the Region were on the Disability Support Register waiting for support to live in the community as at June 2009.
- (3) How many people in the Region were on the Disability Support Register waiting for supported accommodation options as at June 2009.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

In the Eastern Metropolitan Region as at 30 June 2009:

- (1) There were 28 people on the Disability Support Register waiting for day time activities.
- (2) There were 185 people on the Disability Support Register waiting for support to live in the community.
- (3) There were 296 people on the Disability Support Register waiting for supported accommodation options.

**Community services: disability support register — Gippsland region**

**10 116. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to the June 2009 Disability Support Register in the Gippsland Region:

- (1) How many people in the Region were on the Disability Support Register waiting for day time activities as at June 2009.
- (2) How many people in the Region were on the Disability Support Register waiting for support to live in the community as at June 2009.
- (3) How many people in the Region were on the Disability Support Register waiting for supported accommodation options as at June 2009.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

In the Gippsland Region as at 30 June 2009:

- (1) There were 12 people on the Disability Support Register waiting for day time activities.
- (2) There were 69 people on the Disability Support Register waiting for support to live in the community.
- (3) There were 58 people on the Disability Support Register waiting for supported accommodation options.

**Community services: disability support register — Hume region**

**10 117. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to the June 2009 Disability Support Register in the Hume Region:

- (1) How many people in the Region were on the Disability Support Register waiting for day time activities as at June 2009.

- (2) How many people in the Region were on the Disability Support Register waiting for support to live in the community as at June 2009.
- (3) How many people in the Region were on the Disability Support Register waiting for supported accommodation options as at June 2009.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

In the Hume Region as at 30 June 2009:

- (1) There were 3 people on the Disability Support Register waiting for day time activities.
- (2) There were 93 people on the Disability Support Register waiting for support to live in the community.
- (3) There were 80 people on the Disability Support Register waiting for supported accommodation options.

**Community services: disability support register — Grampians region**

**10 118. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to the June 2009 Disability Support Register in the Grampians Region:

- (1) How many people in the Region were on the Disability Support Register waiting for day time activities as at June 2009.
- (2) How many people in the Region were on the Disability Support Register waiting for support to live in the community as at June 2009.
- (3) How many people in the Region were on the Disability Support Register waiting for supported accommodation options as at June 2009.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

In the Grampians Region as at 30 June 2009:

- (1) There were 13 people on the Disability Support Register waiting for day time activities.
- (2) There were 37 people on the Disability Support Register waiting for support to live in the community.
- (3) There were 59 people on the Disability Support Register waiting for supported accommodation options.

**Community services: disability support register — Loddon Mallee region**

**10 119. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to the June 2009 Disability Support Register in the Loddon Mallee Region:

- (1) How many people in the Region were on the Disability Support Register waiting for day time activities as at June 2009.
- (2) How many people in the Region were on the Disability Support Register waiting for support to live in the community as at June 2009.
- (3) How many people in the Region were on the Disability Support Register waiting for supported accommodation options as at June 2009.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

In the Loddon Mallee Region as at 30 June 2009:

- (1) There were 21 people on the Disability Support Register waiting for day time activities.
- (2) There were 83 people on the Disability Support Register waiting for support to live in the community.
- (3) There were 57 people on the Disability Support Register waiting for supported accommodation options.

**Community services: disability support register — north and west metropolitan region**

**10 120. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to the June 2009 Disability Support Register in the North-West Metropolitan Region:

- (1) How many people in the Region were on the Disability Support Register waiting for day time activities as at June 2009.
- (2) How many people in the Region were on the Disability Support Register waiting for support to live in the community as at June 2009.
- (3) How many people in the Region were on the Disability Support Register waiting for supported accommodation options as at June 2009.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

In the North West Metropolitan Region as at 30 June 2009:

- (1) There were 31 people on the Disability Support Register waiting for day time activities.
- (2) There were 230 people on the Disability Support Register waiting for support to live in the community.
- (3) There were 309 people on the Disability Support Register waiting for supported accommodation options.

**Community services: disability support register — southern metropolitan region**

**10 121. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to the June 2009 Disability Support Register in the Southern Metropolitan Region:

- (1) How many people in the Region were on the Disability Support Register waiting for day time activities as at June 2009.
- (2) How many people in the Region were on the Disability Support Register waiting for support to live in the community as at June 2009.
- (3) How many people in the Region were on the Disability Support Register waiting for supported accommodation options as at June 2009.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

In the Southern Metropolitan Region as at 30 June 2009:

- (1) There were 46 people on the Disability Support Register waiting for day time activities.
- (2) There were 316 people on the Disability Support Register waiting for support to live in the community.
- (3) There were 338 people on the Disability Support Register waiting for supported accommodation options.

**Housing: social housing program**

**10 145. MS LOVELL** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Housing): In relation to the Nation Building Social Housing Program:

- (1) How many dwellings has the Victorian Government purchased or leased to house tenants relocated from dwellings that have been demolished.
- (2) What was the total value of Commonwealth funds used to acquire or lease these dwellings.
- (3) What was the total value of Victorian Government funds used to acquire or lease these dwellings.
- (4) What proportion of expenditure was funded by the stimulus allocation from the Commonwealth Government.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

- (1) To date, the Victorian Government has not purchased or leased any dwellings specifically to house tenants relocated from dwellings that have been demolished for the Nation Building Social Housing Initiative. All tenants have been re-housed in properties within the existing portfolio or acquired through the normal base program.
- (2) No Commonwealth funding has been used to purchase or lease dwellings to house tenants relocated from dwellings that have been demolished for the Nation Building Social Housing Initiative.
- (3) Outside of the normal base program expenditure, no Victorian Government funds have been used to acquire or lease dwellings to house tenants relocated from dwellings that have been demolished for the Nation Building Social Housing Initiative.
- (4) No Commonwealth funding has been used to purchase or lease dwellings to house tenants relocated from dwellings that have been demolished for the Nation Building Social Housing Initiative.

**Housing: social housing program**

**10 146. MS LOVELL** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Housing): In relation to the Nation Building Social Housing Program:

- (1) How many Victorian public housing properties were demolished during the 2008-09 financial year to make way for new social housing units being built as part of the Program.
- (2) How many Victorian public housing properties have been demolished so far in the 2009-10 financial year to make way for new social housing units being built as part of the Program.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

- (1) Fifty-five Victorian public housing dwellings were demolished during the 2008-09 financial year to make way for new social housing units being built as part of the Nation Building Social Housing Initiative.



- (2) As at 31 October 2009, 44 Victorian public housing dwellings had been demolished in the 2009-10 financial year to make way for new social housing units being built as part of the Nation Building Social Housing Initiative.

**Housing: social housing program**

- 10 147. MS LOVELL** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Housing): In relation to the Nation Building Social Housing Program, how much of Victoria's share of the social housing funding has been directed towards administrative and departmental expenses.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

It is anticipated that less than 1 per cent of Victoria's share of the Nation Building Social Housing Initiative funding will be directed towards administrative and departmental expenses.

**Housing: social housing program**

- 10 148. MS LOVELL** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Housing): In relation to the Nation Building Social Housing Program, how much of Victoria's share of the social housing funding has been directed towards consultancy fees.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

It is anticipated that none of Victoria's share of the Nation Building Social Housing Initiative funding will be directed towards consultancy fees.

**Housing: social housing program**

- 10 149. MS LOVELL** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Housing): In relation to the Nation Building Social Housing Program, how much of Victoria's share of the social housing funding has been directed towards advertising.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

It is anticipated that less than 0.005 per cent of Victoria's share of the Nation Building Social Housing Initiative funding will be directed towards advertising.

**Housing: social housing program**

- 10 150. MS LOVELL** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Housing): In relation to the Nation Building Social Housing Program, how much of Victoria's share of the social housing funding has been directed towards communications expenses.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

It is anticipated that less than 0.1 per cent of Victoria's share of the Nation Building Social Housing Initiative funding will be directed towards communications expenses.

**Housing: social housing program**

**10 151. MS LOVELL** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Housing): In relation to the Nation Building Social Housing Program, how much of Victoria's share of the social housing funding has been directed towards other non-construction related expenses.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

It is anticipated that none of Victoria's share of the Nation Building Social Housing Initiative funding will be directed towards other non-construction related expenses. All remaining costs will be capitalised against the Nation Building program.

**Housing: social housing program**

**10 152. MS LOVELL** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Housing): In relation to the Nation Building Social Housing Program:

- (1) How many new housing units were built in Victoria during the 2008–09 financial year as part of the Program.
- (2) How many new housing units have so far been built in Victoria during the 2009–10 financial year.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

- (1) Three dwellings were completed in the 2008–09 financial year through the Nation Building Social Housing Initiative.
- (2) As at 31 October 2009, 55 dwellings had been completed in the 2009–10 financial year through the Nation Building Social Housing Initiative.

**Energy and resources: computer security**

**10 164. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Energy and Resources): In relation to laptop, notebook and palm computers from each Department and agency within the Minister's portfolio that have been lost or stolen:

- (1) How many have been reported lost or stolen between January 2006 and October 2009 inclusive.
- (2) What was the total value of the computers that were lost or stolen.
- (3) Did any of these computers contain information that could be regarded as sensitive.
- (4) What steps have been taken to ensure that any commercial or sensitive information was not compromised.
- (5) Was the loss or theft of any of these computers reported to the police; if so, when were these reports made, and —
  - (a) of those reported, what has been the outcome; and
  - (b) if any were not reported to the police, why not.
- (6) What steps, have been put into place with a view to eliminating or reducing these losses.
- (7) When were these steps put into place.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that as at the date the question was raised:

1. During the period from January 2006 to October 2009, 77 laptops, computers were lost or stolen.
2. The total value of these computers was approximately \$218,000.
- 3&4. It is possible that some of these laptops may have had sensitive information on them, however the department and its agencies utilise computer password protection and thus it is unlikely that this information could have been accessed or compromised. To ensure the safekeeping of sensitive or commercial information, the department and its portfolios store this type of information on network drives rather than on personal computers that are also subject to 'password' protection.
5. As a requirement of Departmental policies and procedures, all assets 'stolen' were reported to police at the time the incidents occurred, except for one instance when a laptop was stolen from a hotel lobby, it was reported to the hotel security staff. None of the stolen items have been recovered.
6. The Department and its portfolio entities have undertaken a number of initiatives to eliminate/reduce the incidence of lost/stolen laptops. Some of these include the continual updating of loss and stolen guideline documents, issuing specific guidelines about the physical security of laptop computers, improving security at certain work sites and regularly enforcing the changing of computer and system passwords. Furthermore centre leaders are kept informed of the occurrence of thefts and losses so that staff are informed and maintain an awareness of computer security. Each departmental computer is assigned to a member of staff who assumes responsibility for its security and use. Computers, like other assets, are subject to annual electronic stock take and certification by each staff member.
7. Assets stock take processes have been in place since the inception of the Department in 2002 as have many of the reporting and security measures. These and other initiatives are ongoing.

**Industry and trade: computer security**

**10 172. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade: In relation to laptop, notebook and palm computers from each Department and agency within the Minister's portfolio that have been lost or stolen:

- (1) How many have been reported lost or stolen between January 2006 and October 2009 inclusive.
- (2) What was the total value of the computers that were lost or stolen.
- (3) Did any of these computers contain information that could be regarded as sensitive.
- (4) What steps have been taken to ensure that any commercial or sensitive information was not compromised.
- (5) Was the loss or theft of any of these computers reported to the police; if so, when were these reports made, and —
  - (a) of those reported, what has been the outcome; and
  - (b) if any were not reported to the police, why not.
- (6) What steps, have been put into place with a view to eliminating or reducing these losses.
- (7) When were these steps put into place.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

No reported incidents of stolen laptops, notebooks or palm computers during the requested period January 2006–October 2009.

**Major projects: computer security**

**10 176. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Major Projects): In relation to laptop, notebook and palm computers from each Department and agency within the Minister’s portfolio that have been lost or stolen:

- (1) How many have been reported lost or stolen between January 2006 and October 2009 inclusive.
- (2) What was the total value of the computers that were lost or stolen.
- (3) Did any of these computers contain information that could be regarded as sensitive.
- (4) What steps have been taken to ensure that any commercial or sensitive information was not compromised.
- (5) Was the loss or theft of any of these computers reported to the police; if so, when were these reports made, and —
  - (a) of those reported, what has been the outcome; and
  - (b) if any were not reported to the police, why not.
- (6) What steps, have been put into place with a view to eliminating or reducing these losses.
- (7) When were these steps put into place.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

There were no laptops, notebooks or palm computers reported stolen between January 2006 and October 2009 inclusive.

**Treasurer: computer security**

**10 191. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Treasurer: In relation to laptop, notebook and palm computers from each Department and agency within the Minister’s portfolio that have been lost or stolen:

- (1) How many have been reported lost or stolen between January 2006 and October 2009 inclusive.
- (2) What was the total value of the computers that were lost or stolen.
- (3) Did any of these computers contain information that could be regarded as sensitive.
- (4) What steps have been taken to ensure that any commercial or sensitive information was not compromised.
- (5) Was the loss or theft of any of these computers reported to the police; if so, when were these reports made, and —
  - (a) of those reported, what has been the outcome; and
  - (b) if any were not reported to the police, why not.
- (6) What steps, have been put into place with a view to eliminating or reducing these losses.
- (7) When were these steps put into place.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

That a response to this question would be voluminous and represents a diversion of departmental resources.

I am advised however that there is a policy that deals with issues of this nature.

**Education: ultranet pilot program**

**10 248. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Education): What are the names and suburbs of the schools that participated in the Ultranet pilot program.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Students@Centre project was not an Ultranet pilot but a 12 month proof-of-concept research and development project.

It was undertaken in 2006 to test the concept of a shared online learning management system across schools. The findings from Students@Centre formed the basis of the business case and requirements for the Ultranet.

The following schools participated in the Students@Centre project in 2006:

McKinnon Primary School	McKinnon
McKinnon Secondary College	McKinnon
Balwyn High School	Balwyn
Murrumbeena Primary School	Murrumbeena
Ringwood Secondary College	Ringwood
Valkstone Primary School	East Bentleigh
Debney Park Secondary College	Flemington
Fitzroy North Primary School	Fitzroy North
Koonung Secondary College	Box Hill North
Noble Park Special Development School	Noble Park
Ormond Primary School	Ormond
St Albans Meadows Primary School	St Albans.

**Roads and ports: Springvale–Hutton roads, Waterways — traffic lights**

**10 254. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Roads and Ports): In relation to the right hand turn lane at Springvale Road into Hutton Road, Waterways, what is the number of seconds the green turn light arrow is active for at:

- (a) 7.00 a.m.;
- (b) 10.00 a.m.;
- (c) 1.00 p.m.;
- (d) 4.00 p.m.;
- (e) 5.00 p.m.;
- (f) 6.00 p.m.; and
- (g) 7.00 p.m.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that, as at the date the question was raised:

Traffic signals are managed to provide an efficient flow of traffic.

The traffic signals at this intersection are programmed to provide a minimum 'green' time of six seconds for the right turn movement from Springvale Road into Hutton Road, heading eastbound. The 'green' time for right-turning traffic may be extended if there is high demand for this movement.

VicRoads does not keep records of actual maximum 'green' times.

**Community services: supported accommodation beds**

**10 258. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to the Minister's statement on 10 November 2009 in which she stated that the Government has built an additional 245 supported accommodation beds:

- (1) Can the Minister provide a list of the programs that each of the 245 beds were funded from.
- (2) How many of the 245 beds were replacement beds.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

I advised that in the last two budgets the government had invested in funding to provide 245 additional places.

The total of additional places is in fact 249.

- (1) The places are funded from the:

– <i>my future, my choice</i> program	104 places
– Older Carers program	100 places
– Innovative Housing Opportunities program	45 places

- (2) None of these are replacement places.

**Community services: Malmsbury Youth Justice Centre — Victorian certificate of education**

**10 259. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to educational outcomes for young people at Malmsbury Youth Justice Centre: How many students received a Victorian Certificate of Education in 1999–2000, 2005–06 and 2008–09.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

Most young people in custody have very poor literacy and numeracy skills and have often left school early. Educational delivery at Malmsbury Youth Justice Centre is provided by Bendigo Regional Institute of TAFE, and is focused on basic literacy, numeracy, vocational training and job readiness skills.

In relation to educational outcomes for young people at Malmsbury Youth Justice Centre, there is no specific data on the number of students that received a Victorian Certificate of Education in 1999–2000, 2005–06 and 2008–09.

**Community services: Melbourne Youth Justice Centre — Victorian certificate of education**

**10 260. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to educational outcomes for young people at Melbourne Youth Remand Centre: How many students received a Victorian Certificate of Education in 1999–2000, 2005–06 and 2008–09

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

Most young people in custody have very poor literacy and numeracy skills and have often left school early. Educational delivery at Melbourne Youth Justice Centre is provided by Kangan Batman TAFE, and is focused on basic literacy, numeracy, vocational training and job readiness skills.

In relation to educational outcomes for young people at Melbourne Youth Justice Centre, there is no specific data on the number of students that received a Victorian Certificate of Education in 1999–2000, 2005–06 and 2008–09.

**Community services: Parkville Youth Residential Centre — Victorian certificate of education**

**10 261. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to educational outcomes for young people at Parkville Youth Residential Centre: How many students received a Victorian Certificate of Education in 1999–2000, 2005–06 and 2008–09.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

Most young people in custody have very poor literacy and numeracy skills and have often left school early. Educational delivery at Parkville Youth Residential Centre is provided by Kangan Batman TAFE and the Department of Education, and is focused on basic literacy, numeracy, vocational training and job readiness skills.

In relation to educational outcomes for young people at Parkville Youth Residential Centre, there is no specific data on the number of students that received a Victorian Certificate of Education in 1999–2000, 2005–06 and 2008–09.

**Community services: Malmsbury Youth Justice Centre — assaults**

**10 262. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): How many incidents of assaults on detainees by other detainees occurred at the Malmsbury Youth Justice Centre in 1999–2000, 2005–06 and 2008–09.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The following are the number of client on client assaults at Malmsbury Youth Justice Centre:

- (1) 1999–2000—departmental data is not available prior to 2002–03.
- (2) 2005–06 — 19
- (3) 2008–09 — 25

**Community services: Melbourne Youth Justice Centre — assaults**

**10 263. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): How many incidents of assaults on detainees by other detainees occurred at the Melbourne Youth Remand Centre in 1999–2000, 2005–06 and 2008–09.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The following are the number of client on client assaults at Melbourne Youth Justice Centre:

- (1) 1999–2000 — departmental data is not available prior to 2002–03.
- (2) 2005–06 — 39.
- (3) 2008–09 — 82

**Community services: Parkville Youth Residential Centre — assaults**

**10 264. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): How many incidents of assaults on detainees by other detainees occurred at the Parkville Youth Residential Centre in 1999–2000, 2005–06 and 2008–09.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The following are the number of client on client assaults at Parkville Youth Residential Centre:

- (1) 1999–2000 — departmental data is not available prior to 2002–03.
- (2) 2005–06 — 27
- (3) 2008–09 — 10

**Community services: Parkville Youth Residential Centre — self-harm incidents**

**10 265. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): How many incidents of self-harm occurred at the Parkville Youth Residential Centre in 1999–2000, 2005–06 and 2008–09.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The following are the number of incidents of self harm at Parkville Youth Residential Centre:

- (1) 1999–2000 — departmental data is not available prior to 2002–03.
- (2) 2005–06 — 31
- (3) 2008–09 — 16



**Community services: Melbourne Youth Justice Centre — self-harm incidents**

**10 266. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): How many incidents of self-harm occurred at the Melbourne Youth Remand Centre in 1999-2000, 2005-06 and 2008-09.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The following are the number of incidents of self harm at Melbourne Youth Justice Centre:

- (1) 1999–2000 — departmental data is not available prior to 2002–03.
- (2) 2005–06 — 4
- (3) 2008–09 — 0

**Community services: Malmesbury Youth Justice Centre — self-harm incidents**

**10 267. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): How many incidents of self-harm occurred at Malmesbury Youth Justice Centre in 1999–2000, 2005–06 and 2008–09.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The following are the number of incidents of self harm at Malmesbury Youth Justice Centre:

- (1) 1999–2000 — departmental data is not available prior to 2002–03.
- (2) 2005–06 — 1.
- (3) 2008–09 — 2

**Community services: Malmesbury Youth Justice Centre — assaults**

**10 268. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): How many incidents of assaults on staff by detainees occurred at the Malmesbury Youth Justice Centre in 1999–2000, 2005–06 and 2008–09.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The following are the number of client on staff assaults at Malmesbury Youth Justice Centre:

- (1) 1999–2000 — departmental data is not available prior to 2002–03.
- (2) 2005–06 — 4
- (3) 2008–09 — 7

**Community services: Melbourne Youth Justice Centre — assaults**

**10 269. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): How many incidents of assaults on staff by detainees occurred at the Melbourne Youth Remand Centre in 1999–2000, 2005–06 and 2008–09.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The following are the number of client on staff assaults at Melbourne Youth Justice Centre:

- (1) 1999–2000 — departmental data is not available prior to 2002–03.
- (2) 2005–06 — 11
- (3) 2008–09 — 7

**Community services: Parkville Youth Residential Centre — assaults**

**10 270. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): How many incidents of assaults on staff by detainees occurred at the Parkville Youth Residential Centre in 1999–2000, 2005–06 and 2008–09.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The following are the number of client on staff assaults at Parkville Youth Residential Centre:

- (1) 1999–2000 — departmental data is not available prior to 2002–03.
- (2) 2005–06 — 37
- (3) 2008–09 — 11

**Water: sewage — city of Manningham**

**10 449. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for the Environment and Climate Change: How much money did the Government give to the Manningham City Council to improve its sewage backlog in each of the financial years 2006–07, 2007–08 and 2008–09.

**ANSWER:**

This question was originally asked of the Minister for Environment and Climate Change. However, as this issue falls under my responsibilities as the Minister for Water I will respond to the question.

The Minister for Water: I am informed that Yarra Valley Water is responsible for addressing sewerage backlog issues within the Manningham City Council area. Yarra Valley Water's expenditure on sewerage backlog in the Manningham City Council area for the past three financial years was:

- (1) 2006–07      287,260
- (2) 2007–08      \$686,720
- (3) 2008–09      \$1,410,550

**Water: Mullum Mullum Creek — funding**

**10 450. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for the Environment and Climate Change: How much money did the Government allocate to the Mullum Mullum Creek in each of the financial years 2006–07, 2007–08 and 2008–09.

**ANSWER:**

This question was originally asked of the Minister for Environment and Climate Change. However, as this issue falls under my responsibilities as the Minister for Water I will respond to the question.

The Minister for Water: I am informed that Melbourne Water is responsible for waterway management of Mullum Mullum Creek. Melbourne Water's expenditure on Mullum Mullum Creek for the last three financial years was:

- (1) 2006–07      \$232,847
- (2) 2007–08      \$369,753
- (3) 2008–09      \$845,172

**Water: Koonung Creek — funding**

**10 451. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for the Environment and Climate Change: How much money did the Government allocate to the Koonung Creek in each of the financial years 2006-07, 2007–08 and 2008–09.

**ANSWER:**

The question was originally asked of the Minister for Environment and Climate Change. However, as this issue falls under my responsibilities as the Minister for Water I will respond to the question.

The Minister for Water: I am informed that Melbourne Water is responsible for waterway management of Koonung Creek. Melbourne Water's expenditure on Koonung Creek for the past three financial years was:

- (1) 2006–07      \$162,615
- (2) 2007–08      \$114,903
- (3) 2008–09      \$241,310

**Treasurer: Doncaster electorate — land tax**

**10 459. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Treasurer: During each of the financial years 2006–07, 2007–08 and 2008–09 and in 2009–10 to date:

- (1) What was the total amount of land tax collected from land owners who reside in the Doncaster electorate.
- (2) How many individuals who reside in the Doncaster Electorate were charged land tax.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that the SRO does not produce data which identifies the amount of land tax collected or number of taxpayers in specific electorates. Therefore, the information requested is not available.

In reference to land tax, the Brumby Labor Government's focus is on the whole of Victoria, not just individual electorates.

**Treasurer: Doncaster electorate — land tax**

**10 460. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Treasurer: During each of the financial years 2006–07, 2007–08 and 2008–09 and in 2009–10 to date:

- (1) What was the total amount of land tax collected from businesses registered in the Doncaster electorate.
- (2) How many businesses registered in the Doncaster Electorate were charged land tax.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that the SRO does not produce data which identifies the amount of land tax collected or number of taxpayers in specific electorates. Therefore, the information requested is not available.

In reference to land tax, the Brumby Labor Government's focus is on the whole of Victoria, not just individual electorates.

**Treasurer: Victorian Finance Industry Council — stress leave**

**10 493. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Treasurer: In relation to the Victorian Finance Industry Council for the financial year 2008–09: 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 that:

The Victorian Finance Industry Council does not have any employees. Therefore no stress leave was taken in 2008–09.

**Treasurer: Victorian Finance Industry Council — salary levels**

**10 494. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Treasurer: In relation to the Victorian Finance Industry Council for the financial year 2008–9: 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:

The Victorian Finance Industry Council does not have any employees. Therefore none were paid more than the base salary rate for Victorian Members of Parliament in 2008–09.

**Treasurer: Victorian Finance Industry Council — travel expenses**

**10 495. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Treasurer: In relation to expenditure on overseas travel by the Victorian Finance Industry Council for the financial year 2008–09:

- (1) How many people undertook such travel and to what destinations.
- (2) What was the purpose of visiting each destination.
- (3) With whom did the Minister or persons undertaking such travel meet and for what purpose.
- (4) What costs were associated with the travel indicating —
  - (a) airfares;
  - (b) car rental and hire cars, including types of cars hired or rented;
  - (c) taxis;
  - (d) accommodation, including name of establishment and the itemised costs;
  - (e) entertainment, including nature, venue and itemised costs; and
  - (f) other expenses.
- (5) Did family members, associates, or guests accompany the traveller(s) on each trip; if so, at what cost.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The Victorian Finance Industry Council does not have any employees. Therefore no travel was undertaken in 2008–09.

**Treasurer: Victorian Finance Industry Council — publications**

**10 496. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Treasurer: In relation to the Victorian Finance Industry Council for the financial year 2008–09, what publications were produced 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:

The Victorian Finance Industry Council did not produce any publications in 2008–09.

**Treasurer: Victorian Finance Industry Council — legal expenses**

**10 497. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Treasurer: In relation to legal expenses incurred by the Victorian Finance Industry Council for the financial year 2008–09:

- (1) What expenses were incurred.
- (2) What was the purpose for engaging legal representation in each case.
- (3) What were the names of legal counsel engaged.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The Victorian Finance Industry Council did not incur any legal expenses in 2008–09.

**Treasurer: Victorian Finance Industry Council — women on boards, councils and committees**

**10 498. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Treasurer: In relation to the Victorian Finance Industry Council for the financial year 2008–09: How many women held 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 Victorian Finance Industry Council does not have responsibility for appointing any boards, councils or committees.

**Treasurer: Victorian Finance Industry Council — advertising**

**10 499. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Treasurer: In relation to the Victorian Finance Industry Council for the financial year 2008–09: What are the details of all advertising undertaken, 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 that:

The Victorian Finance Industry Council did not undertake any advertising in 2008–09.

**Treasurer: Victorian Finance Industry Council — entertainment expenses**

**10 500. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Treasurer: In relation to the Victorian Finance Industry Council for the financial year 2008–09: What are the details of all entertainment expenses incurred, indicating —

- (a) total costs incurred; 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:

The Victorian Finance Industry Council did not incur any entertainment expenses in 2008–09.

**Treasurer: Victorian Finance Industry Council — professional development**

**10 501. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Treasurer: In relation to expenditure incurred for conferences, seminars, workshops and training courses or like events the Victorian Finance Industry Council for the financial year 2008-09:

- (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:

The Victorian Finance Industry Council did not partake in or organise any conferences, seminars, workshops, training courses, or like events in 2008–09. Therefore no expenses were incurred.

**Treasurer: Victorian Finance Industry Council — media and communications staff**

**10 502. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Treasurer: In relation to the Victorian Finance Industry Council for the financial year 2008-09:

- (1) What was the number and cost of staff working for the Council.
- (2) What is the number of staff working in each public relations/communications unit; indicating —
  - (i) the total operating budget; and
  - (ii) the total promotional budget.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The Victorian Finance Industry Council does not have any employees. Therefore there were no costs associated with staffing in 2008–09.

**Treasurer: Victorian Finance Industry Council — annual report**

**10 503. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Treasurer: In relation to the Victorian Finance Industry Council: What was the total cost of producing the annual report for the financial year 2008–09.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The Victorian Finance Industry Council did not produce an annual report for 2008–09.

**Treasurer: Victorian Finance Industry Council — workplace bullying**

**10 504. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Treasurer: In relation to the Victorian Finance Industry Council for the financial year 2008–09: 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:

The Victorian Finance Industry Council does not have any employees. Therefore there were no instances of bullying in 2008–09.

**Treasurer: Victorian Finance Industry Council — procurement policies**

**10 505. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Treasurer: In relation to the compliance by the Victorian Finance Industry Council with the Victorian Government Purchasing Board’s procurement policies for the financial year 2008–09:

- (1) How many breaches of the procurement policies occurred.
- (2) What were the details of each of those breaches.
- (3) What action was taken in response to each of those breaches.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The Victorian Finance Industry Council did not procure any goods and services in 2008–09. Therefore there were no breaches of the Victorian Government Purchasing Board’s procurement policies.

**Treasurer: Victorian Finance Industry Council — alcohol purchases**

**10 506. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Treasurer: What are the details of all alcohol purchased by the Victorian Finance Industry Council during the 2008–09 financial year, indicating, in respect of each purchase —

- (a) the date;
- (b) the value; and



- (c) the items.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The Victorian Finance Industry Council did not purchase any alcohol in 2008–09.

**Treasurer: Victorian Finance Industry Council — uniforms**

**10 507. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Treasurer: In relation to the Victorian Finance Industry Council for the financial year 2008–09:

- (1) How many employees were supplied with uniforms.
- (2) Which company or companies supplied these uniforms.
- (3) In what country were these uniforms manufactured.
- (4) What safeguards have been established to ensure that uniforms are manufactured by workers employed under safe and humane conditions free of exploitation, including child labour.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The Victorian Finance Industry Council does not have any employees. Therefore no uniforms were supplied by the Council in 2008–09.

**Treasurer: Victorian Finance Industry Council — staff attrition rate**

**10 508. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Treasurer: In relation to the Victorian Finance Industry Council: What was the staff attrition rate for the financial year 2008–09.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The Victorian Finance Industry Council does not have any employees. Therefore there was no attrition of staff in 2008–09.

**Treasurer: Victorian Finance Industry Council — board representatives**

**10 509. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Treasurer: In relation to the Victorian Finance Industry Council: What provisions were made for elected representatives or trade union nominated representatives on its boards, during the 2008–09 financial year, indicating —

- (a) what the basis is of their representation and when it was established;
- (b) who the current trade union representatives are and who held the positions previously; and
- (c) what fee or remuneration was paid to the representatives.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The Victorian Finance Industry Council has neither any employees nor a board. Therefore no provisions were made for any elected or trade union representatives in 2008–09.