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FIFTY-SIXTH PARLIAMENT

FIRST SESSION

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

30 October 2007

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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, 30 October 2007

Treasurer: Port Phillip Bay — channel deepening

367. **MS PENNICUIK** — To ask the Treasurer: How accurate is it to use shipping forecasts to 2035, upon which the channel deepening project is being justified, given that they are based on a ‘top down’, extrapolation of the last 30 years of port activity and do not consider present and future differences in economic structures that are expected to occur as a result of climate change and emissions restrictions and trading, as outlined in the State Budget.

ANSWER:

As at the date the question was asked, I am informed that:

The ‘top-down’ approach used to estimate future Australian container trade enables an explicit and transparent presentation of key relationships impacting on future container trade growth. This approach is consistent with many other forecasters in determining the long-term projections of container trades, and is therefore considered reasonable.

Treasurer: Port Phillip Bay — channel deepening

368. **MS PENNICUIK** — To ask the Treasurer: Why has the impact of the mooted levy on shipping companies to pay for channel deepening, particularly the extent to which the imposition of such a levy erodes any efficiencies generated by larger ships accessing the Port, not been included in any economic modelling.

ANSWER:

As at the date the question was asked, I am informed that:

The benefits reported in the economic modelling are net of the cost of the project.

Environment and climate change: game hunting

436. **MR BARBER** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change: In relation to a media release of 16 March 2007 stating ‘that game hunting is a major economic contributor to regional communities and is estimated to be worth tens of millions of dollars to the Victorian economy.’: Can the Minister provide the information on which this statement is based and a breakdown of different hunting activities.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Currently, there are approximately 30,000 people licensed to hunt game animals in Victoria. Of these:

- 16,000 hunt deer;
- 19,000 hunt duck; and
- 21,000 hunt quail.

A mail survey conducted by the Department of Sustainability and Environment in 1995, when there were only 17,000 licensed duck hunters, estimated that duck hunters spend approximately \$29 million annually on equipment and consumables, such as food and fuel.

In addition, PhD research from Griffith University, Brisbane, in 1990, and based on only 10,000 deer hunters, calculated the economic value of deer hunting in Victoria at approximately \$26 million annually.

An estimate of the expenditure by quail hunters is not available, but is also likely to run into millions of dollars.

Children and early childhood development: disability services — students

- 471. MS PENNICUIK** — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development): In relation to funding for students with disabilities: Can the Minister provide evidence to back up her statements in an answer on 24 August 2004 to a question on notice put by former shadow Minister for Education Mr Victor Perton that the eligibility criteria for the Program for Students with Disabilities is consistent with World Health Organisation standards.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

The eligibility criteria for the Program for Students with Disabilities are developed from the World Health Organisation's *International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems 10th Revision (ICD-10)*. The *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 4th Edition (DSM-IV-TR)* was also used during the development of the eligibility criteria for the Program for Students with Disabilities.

Children and early childhood development: disability services — students

- 472. MS PENNICUIK** — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development): In relation to funding for students with disabilities: Can the Minister provide evidence to back up the statement in the August 2005 Government Response to the Ministerial Working Group on Students with Disabilities, that Victoria has an 'enviable reputation internationally for the way in which the needs of students with disabilities are met.'

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Inclusive education practices in the United Kingdom, New Zealand and Australia highlight the worldwide shift in the treatment of young people with disabilities and additional learning needs from a model of institutional care and isolation to one of social and educational equity and opportunity.

Victoria has been at the forefront of these changes. The inclusive education provision for students with disabilities in Victoria is in line with international best practice, and is enshrined in Victorian statutes including the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*, the *Equal Opportunity Act 1995* and the *Disability Act 2006*.

Children and early childhood development: disability services — students

- 473. MS PENNICUIK** — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development): In relation to funding for students with disabilities: What is the rationale for capping funding for students with disabilities at 3.4% when according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics, the percentage of students with a disability is 9%.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

This Government has increased funding for school students with a disability by 70 per cent since 2000. We are investing \$369 million this calendar year in a range of support services to assist the growing number of government school students with a disability.

In September 2005 funding for the Program for Students with Disabilities was approved to the end of June 2008 to meet the cost of projected demand growth based on the significant increases in student numbers in the Program in previous years.

Children and early childhood development: disability services — students

474. MS PENNICUIK — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development):

- (1) In relation to funding for students with disabilities: Does the Government's expenditure review committee plan to reduce the percentage of students funded through the Language Disorder Program.
- (2) If so, to what percentage has the Government's expenditure review committee decided to reduce funding for students in the Language Disorder Program.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

The percentage of students requiring support through the Language Support Program (previously the Language Disorder Program) varies from year to year.

Through the Language Support Program, \$29.1 million is provided to Victorian government schools to support **all** students with a language disorder or delayed language development.

In addition to this, \$4.2 million has been allocated to individual students with Severe Language Disorder and Critical Educational Needs.

This represents a \$5.1 million (18 per cent) total increase in annual funding for students with language disorders since the introduction of the Language Support Program in 2005.

In addition to support provided through the Program for Students with Disabilities and Language Support Program, an additional \$50 million is being allocated in 2007 to a range of other support services including psychologists, social workers, youth workers, speech pathologists, occupational therapists, visiting teachers and curriculum consultants who are available to assist all Victorian government schools to support students with disabilities.

Water: water use

491. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Water):

- (1) What was the total number of Melbourne households supplied by the three Melbourne water retailers in the financial years 1999-2000 to 2005-06 respectively.
- (2) What was the water use per capita for Melbourne in the financial years 1999-2000 to 2005-06 respectively.

ANSWER:

I am informed of the following per capita water consumption for Melbourne to 30 June 2006:

Financial Year Ending	Number of Households Served (Water Services Association of Australia : Melbourne Consolidated)	Total Water Consumption (gigalitres)	EST. Population served (Victoria In Future : 30 June)	Per Capita Consumption (litres per day)
2000	1,256,000	502	3,327,000	413
2001	1,283,000	502	3,390,100	406
2002	1,316,000	462	3,435,200	368
2003	1,349,000	479	3,490,000	376
2004	1,378,000	433	3,530,500	336
2005	1,404,000	431	3,570,100	331
2006	1,432,000	435	3,609,000	330

Community services: disability services — respite care

518. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): How many children aged between 2-10 years with disabilities were relinquished by their parents into emergency respite in the calendar years 2000 to 2006 respectively.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Data is not collected in a way that enables this specific question to be answered.

Community services: disability services — respite care

519. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): How many children aged between 2-10 years with profound physical disabilities were relinquished by their parents into emergency respite in the calendar years 2000 to 2006 respectively.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Data is not collected in a way that enables this specific question to be answered.

Community services: disability services — respite care

520. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): How many children aged between 2-10 years with profound intellectual disabilities were relinquished by their parents into emergency respite in the calendar years 2000 to 2006 respectively.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Data is not collected in a way that enables this specific question to be answered.

Community services: disability services — respite care

521. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): How many children aged between 2-10 years with profound behavioural disabilities were relinquished by their parents into emergency respite in the calendar years 2000 to 2006 respectively.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Data is not collected in a way that enables this specific question to be answered.

Community services: disability services — respite care

522. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): How many children aged between 10-17 years with disabilities were relinquished by their parents into emergency respite in the calendar years 2000 to 2006 respectively.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Data is not collected in a way that enables this specific question to be answered.

Community services: disability services — respite care

523. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): How many children aged between 10-17 years with profound physical disabilities were relinquished by their parents into emergency respite in the calendar years 2000 to 2006 respectively.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Data is not collected in a way that enables this specific question to be answered.

Community services: disability services — respite care

524. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): How many children aged between 10-17 years with profound intellectual disabilities were relinquished by their parents into emergency respite in the calendar years 2000 to 2006 respectively.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Data is not collected in a way that enables this specific question to be answered.

Community services: disability services — respite care

525. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): How many children aged between 10-17 years with profound behavioural

disabilities were relinquished by their parents into emergency respite in the calendar years 2000 to 2006 respectively.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Data is not collected in a way that enables this specific question to be answered.

Community services: disability services — respite care

526. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): How long has the Department of Human Services collected data on the number of children with a disability who have been relinquished into emergency respite.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Department has collected data on the number of children with a disability who have been relinquished into emergency respite for several years.

Community services: disability services — respite care

527. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In the calendar years 2000 to 2006 respectively, how many children with a profound physical disability have been relinquished to emergency respite services in —

- (a) not for profit organisations; and
- (b) Government agencies.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Data on the number of children with a profound physical disability relinquished into emergency respite is not collected by disability type or organisation type.

Community services: disability services — respite care

528. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In the calendar years 2000 to 2006 respectively, how many children with a profound intellectual disability have been relinquished to emergency respite services in —

- (a) not for profit organisations; and
- (b) Government agencies.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Please see response to Question No. 527.

Community services: disability services — respite care

- 529. MRS COOTE** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In the calendar years 2000 to 2006 respectively, how many children with a profound behavioural disability have been relinquished to emergency respite services in —
- (a) not for profit organisations; and
 - (b) Government agencies.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Please see response to Question No. 527.

Community services: disability services — respite care

- 530. MRS COOTE** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): How many new purpose built residential respite facilities for children with profound disabilities were built in the calendar years 2000 to 2006 respectively.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Respite facilities have been purpose built for a range of client groups including children since the late 1990's, however, data is not stored in a way that enables demographic differentiation of the client profile within a service activity type.

Community services: disability services — respite care

- 531. MRS COOTE** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): How many residential respite beds were available for children with profound disabilities in the calendar years 2000 to 2006 respectively.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Residential respite beds are not specifically dedicated solely for children with profound disabilities.

Planning: Cedar Woods development

- 536. MS HARTLAND** — To ask the Minister for Planning: In relation to the Laverton Airbase/Cedar Woods development site rezoning from Industrial to Commercial Residential: how have the recommendations of the Wyndham Smart Growth Report to modify the developer's proposals to protect the outstanding biodiversity values outside of the 55 hectare reserves, been implemented.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The developer of the former airbase has modified the original proposal and has agreed to pay a \$500,000 offset payment. This payment was provided to support the management of flora and fauna conservation associated with the land, which addresses generally the recommendations of the Wyndham Smart Growth Committee Report. The

Department of Sustainability and Environment in its consideration of the proposed development, considered that a \$500,000 offset would allow for a suitable level of protection to be provided for native flora and fauna.

Planning: Cedar Woods development

537. MS HARTLAND — To ask the Minister for Planning: In relation to the Laverton Airbase/Cedar Woods development site rezoning from Industrial to Commercial Residential: Further to the Minister's answer to Question No. 268, given in this House on 5 June 2007, has detailed mapping been prepared detailing flora and fauna species outside the 55 hectares, in the area that will be developed under the developer's plan.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Broad biodiversity surveys have been completed for the area. Further, specific surveys for the Spiny Rice Flower and the Stripped Legless Lizard have been completed.

Planning: Cedar Woods development

538. MS HARTLAND — To ask the Minister for Planning: In relation to the Laverton Airbase/Cedar Woods development site rezoning from Industrial to Commercial Residential: Further to the Minister's answer to Question No. 268, given in this House on 5 June 2007, what method has been used to calculate the adequacy of the proposed \$500,000 offsets.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The \$500,000 offset was imposed to allow for the retention and/or management of a suitable grassland site of comparable biodiversity values. The \$500,000 offset is considered to be an adequate figure to provide for the purchase or management of land by the Trust for Nature for the conservation of native flora and fauna.

The \$500,000 offset is based on an estimate of the best likely outcome of applying the Bush Broker Scheme and finding grassland in private ownership that could be managed as an offset using interest generated by the \$500,000 fund to manage the site in perpetuity.

Planning: Cedar Woods development

539. MS HARTLAND — To ask the Minister for Planning: In relation to the Laverton Airbase/Cedar Woods development site rezoning from Industrial to Commercial Residential: Does the \$500,000 offset payment referred to in the Minister's answer to Question No. 268, given in this House on 5 June 2007, mean that no other measures have been taken to avoid or minimise clearing, as required under the Native Vegetation Framework.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

In addition to the three reserves protected on site, the \$500,000 offset provides for the management of the native flora and fauna to be protected.

Under the provisions of the Schedule to the Priority Development Zone that has been applied to the site, the proponent is required to produce an Environmental Management Plan for site. The schedule also requires 'A Conservation Management Plan for Three Rare Species Reserves RAAF Williams Laverton' (Biosis Research Pty

Ltd May 1998) or any amended Conservation Management Plan approved by the Federal Department of Environment and heritage to be considered in determining a Planning permit on the site.

Under the provisions of the Schedule to the Priority Development Zone the requirements of Clause 52.17 (native vegetation) do not apply to the site.

It is the role of Wyndham City Council as Responsible Authority to administer the provisions of the Wyndham Planning Scheme including the Priority Development Zone.

Planning: Cedar Woods development

540. MS HARTLAND — To ask the Minister for Planning: In relation to the Laverton Airbase/Cedar Woods development site rezoning from Industrial to Commercial Residential: Further to the Minister's answer to Question No. 268, given in this House on 5 June 2007, that 55 hectares of conservation reserves have been provided by the developer, please clarify if these reserves have been provided by the developer or were they pre-existing reserves set aside by the Federal Government as a condition of sale.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Commonwealth of Australia (the original owners of the Airbase) set aside three reserves to protect significant vegetation as a condition of the sale to Cedar Woods. These reserves are the responsibility of Cedar Woods to manage for conservation purposes in perpetuity. Cedar Woods is also required to translate significant nationally listed species to the reserves or suitable other locations in consultation with the Department of Sustainability and Environment.

Roads and ports: Kelletts Road, Rowville

550. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Industry and State Development (for the Minister for Roads and Ports): In relation to the Kelletts Road duplication project in Rowville —

- (1) On Napoleon Road between Kelletts Road and Lakesfield Drive how high is the proposed elevation of the —
 - (a) north bound lane; and
 - (b) south bound lane.
- (2) When were plans developed to increase the current elevation of Napoleon Road between Kelletts Road and Lakesfield Drive.
- (3) What other options were considered as an alternative to elevating Napoleon Road between Kelletts Road and Lakesfield Drive.
- (4) Why was it determined that elevating Napoleon Road between Kelletts Road and Lakesfield Drive was preferable to other options.
- (5) What is the proposed speed limit between Glenfern Road and Kelletts Road.
- (6) What is the proposed speed limit between Kelletts Road and Wellington Road.

ANSWER:

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

- (1) VicRoads has undertaken a review of the design of the Kelletts Road and Napoleon Road intersection. The highest point above the existing surface level will be:
 - (a) 2.6 metres above the centre of the north bound lane; and

- (b) 2.4 metres above the centre of the south bound lane.
- (2) The plans for this section of the project have been in development since earlier this year, however, the height of the embankment fill was not finalised until recently.
- (3) Various design options were considered.
- (4) The revised design is the most appropriate solution.
- (5) The speed limit on Napoleon Road, between Glenfern Road and Kelletts Road will remain at the current posted speed limit of 70 km/h.
- (6) The speed limit on Napoleon Road, between Kelletts Road and Wellington Road, will remain at the current posted speed limit of 80 km/h.

Roads and ports: Kelletts Road, Rowville

552. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Industry and State Development (for the Minister for Roads and Ports): In relation to residents in Lambourne Avenue and Adam Close in Rowville and Bellfield Drive in Lysterfield affected by the Kelletts Road duplication project in Rowville —

- (1) Has any analysis been conducted to determine the future impact on residents in relation to noise impacts; if so, what were the results of the analysis.
- (2) Has any analysis been conducted to determine the future impact on residents in relation to visual impacts; if so, what were the results of the analysis.
- (3) Has any analysis been conducted to determine the future impact on residents in relation to safety impacts, including barriers; if so, what were the results of the analysis.
- (4) What measures will be undertaken to reduce the future impact on residents with respect to —
 - (a) noise impacts;
 - (b) visual impacts; and
 - (c) safety impacts, including barriers.

ANSWER:

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

- (1) The VicRoads' Traffic Noise Reduction Policy provides for attenuation of traffic noise for buildings adjacent to new roads built on new alignments (e.g. new freeways) and buildings previously protected from traffic noise which are then exposed by the removal of buildings required for road widening. The Kelletts Road Duplication Project does not meet these criteria.
- (2) Visual impacts have been considered for the project and VicRoads is currently working with the Knox City Council to determine the most suitable plant species and locations for visual screening.
- (3) Safety barriers will be installed on the north-west side of the road alignment for approximately 180 metres.
- (4) Refer to above.

Education: Pembroke Secondary College

561. MR P. R. DAVIS — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Education): In relation to funding provided to Pembroke Secondary College in the 2006–07 Budget to develop a Master Plan: Has the Minister been made aware of the finalisation of the Pembroke Secondary College Master Plan.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

By announcing \$1 million in the 2006–07 Budget to fund the planning of Pembroke Secondary College the Government has confirmed its commitment for the development of the Reay Road campus.

Issues in relation to site access and scope of works have been resolved and I am informed that the master plan has been completed. The architect will complete planning for the project in 2007–08.

Education: Pembroke Secondary College

562. MR P. R. DAVIS — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Education): In relation to funding provided to Pembroke Secondary College in the 2006–07 Budget to develop a Master Plan: Has the Department of Education given any indication to the Pembroke Secondary College administration of a projected budget for the replacement of the Cambridge and Reay Road campuses as outlined in the Pembroke Secondary College Master Plan.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

By announcing \$1 million in the 2006–07 Budget to fund the planning of Pembroke Secondary College the Government has confirmed its commitment for the development of the Reay Road campus.

Issues in relation to site access and scope of works have been resolved and I am informed the master plan has been completed. The architect will complete planning in 2007–08 which will allow consideration for inclusion in a future State Budget.

Education: Pembroke Secondary College

563. MR P. R. DAVIS — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Education): In relation to funding provided to Pembroke Secondary College in the 2006–07 Budget to develop a Master Plan: How much of any projected budget amount has been allocated in the 2007–08 Budget to the Pembroke Secondary College for the implementation of its Master Plan.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

By announcing \$1 million in the 2006–07 Budget to fund the planning of Pembroke Secondary College the Government has confirmed its commitment for the development of the Reay Road campus.

No further funds were allocated in the 2007–08 State Budget for the implementation of the master plan. The Department is currently working with the school and architect to finalise planning for the project, which will allow consideration for inclusion in a future State Budget.

Education: schools — regeneration project

567. MR P. R. DAVIS — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Education): What is the exact dollar amount of funding that each of the 24 schools, named in the ‘regeneration’ project in the 2007–08 Budget, will receive and when will that funding be forthcoming.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

A total of \$93 million has been allocated for funding the regeneration of schools in selected local communities. The 2007–08 Budget announced 24 school communities that will benefit from brand new facilities through eight major regeneration projects.

Projects will be commenced during this year, and funding will be provided to meet the agreed project scope.

The eight regenerations including participating schools announced in the 2007–08 Budget papers are:

- Altona/Bayside Regeneration - Altona North Primary School, Altona Gate Primary School, Altona West Primary School, Altona College;
- Bendigo Education Plan—Kangaroo Flat Secondary College, Eaglehawk Secondary College, Golden Square Secondary College;
- Broadmeadows Regeneration—Broadmeadows Secondary College, Broadmeadows Primary School, Erinbank Secondary College, Hillcrest Secondary College;
- Dandenong Regeneration—Dandenong High School, Cleeland Secondary College, Doveton Secondary College;
- Laverton Regeneration—Laverton Secondary College, Laverton Primary School, Laverton Plains Primary School;
- Wangaratta Regeneration—Wangaratta High School, Ovens College;
- Western Heights Regeneration—Western Heights Secondary College, Geelong—amalgamation of three campuses; and
- Colac Regeneration—Colac High School and Colac College.

Roads and ports: VicRoads internet sites

672. MR KOCH — To ask the Minister for Industry and State Development (for the Minister for Roads and Ports): In relation to the internet sites for VicRoads:

- (1) How many hits did each site receive per month from January 2006 to January 2007.
- (2) How many distinct users accessed each site per month from January 2006 to January 2007.
- (3) What was the median time users spent accessing each site per session.
- (4) How much was spent to maintain and upgrade each site during 2005–06 and from 1 July 2006 to the present.
- (5) What have been the ten most popular pages accessed on each site (excluding the home page) per month from January 2006 to January 2007 as determined by —
 - (a) the number of hits; and
 - (b) the number of page impressions.

ANSWER:

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

- (1) VicRoads website tracking tool (Nielsen Netratings) does not record ‘hits’.

VicRoads does however record ‘page impressions’. A page impression is recorded each time a page is opened in a browser.

The following table shows page impressions for the VicRoads website by month from January 2006–January 2007.

Month	Page Impressions
Jan-06	1,350,870
Feb-06	1,343,433
Mar-06	1,707,651
Apr-06	1,342,822
May-06	1,713,589
Jun-06	1,655,865
Jul-06	1,788,610
Aug-06	1,844,492
Sep-06	1,717,155
Oct-06	1,877,186
Nov-06	1,802,494
Dec-06	2,157,625
Jan-07	2,478,387

- (2) The following table shows distinct users for the VicRoads website by month from January 2006–January 2007.

Month	Distinct users
Jan-06	185,254
Feb-06	195,878
Mar-06	264,067
Apr-06	195,789
May-06	224,524
Jun-06	201,165
Jul-06	216,951
Aug-06	231,985
Sep-06	222,774
Oct-06	244,674
Nov-06	243,980
Dec-06	263,664
Jan-07	278,785

- (3) VicRoads website tracking tool (Nielsen Netratings) does not record ‘median time per user session’ and this information is not readily obtainable.

VicRoads does however record ‘average user session duration’. Average user session duration is the average time visitors remain on a site per session.

The following table shows average user session duration for the VicRoads website by month from January 2006–January 2007.

Month	Average user session duration (minutes)
Jan-06	6:47
Feb-06	6:24
Mar-06	6:12

Month	Average user session duration (minutes)
Apr-06	6:41
May-06	7:04
Jun-06	7:42
Jul-06	7:49
Aug-06	7:44
Sep-06	7:23
Oct-06	7:29
Nov-06	7:23
Dec-06	6:28
Jan-07	6:49

- (4) VicRoads expenditure for maintaining and upgrading the website are:
- (a) 2005-2006 financial year—hosting and support of the VicRoads website provided by contractors - \$885,000, plus 2 EFTs and a number of content authors.
 - (b) July 2006 - present—hosting and support of the VicRoads website provided by contractors - \$678,600, plus 2 EFTs and a number of content authors.
- (5) (a) VicRoads website tracking tool (Nielsen Netratings) does not record ‘hits’
- (b) The ten most popular pages (excluding the homepage) accessed on the VicRoads website by number of page impressions for each month from January 2006—January 2007 are as follows:

JANUARY 2006	FEBRUARY 2006
Getting your learners permit	Getting your learners permit
Practice licence tests	Practice licence tests
Office locations and opening hours	Office locations and opening hours
Buying and Selling introduction	Buying and Selling introduction
Sample computer tests	Registration fees
Registration fees	Real time traffic mapping application
Change my address form	Sample computer tests
Cars vehicle entry point	Number plates introduction
Getting your probationary licence	Cars vehicle entry point
How to register or transfer	Change my address
MARCH 2006	APRIL 2006
Real time traffic mapping application	Practice licence tests
Practice licence tests	Getting your learners permit
Getting your learners permit	Office locations and opening hours
Office locations and opening hours	Real time traffic mapping application
Buying and Selling introduction	Buying and Selling introduction
Registration fees	Registration fees
Cars vehicle entry point	Sample computer tests
Sample computer tests	Cars vehicle entry point
Change my address	Change my address
Number plates introduction	Number plates introduction

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

MAY 2006	JUNE 2006
Getting your learners permit	Office locations and opening hours
Real time traffic mapping application	Practice licence tests
Office locations and opening hours	Getting your learners permit
Practice licence tests	Real time traffic mapping application
Buying and Selling introduction	Registration fees
Registration fees	How to register or transfer
Cars vehicle entry point	Buying and Selling introduction
Change my address	Change my address
How to register or transfer	Getting your probationary licence
Getting your probationary licence	Registration forms
JULY 2006	AUGUST 2006
Practice licence tests	Practice licence tests
Getting your learners permit	Office locations and opening hours
Office locations and opening hours	Getting your learners permit
Real time traffic mapping application	Real time traffic mapping application
Registration fees	Registration fees
Getting your probationary licence	Number plates introduction
How to register or transfer	How to register or transfer
Buying and Selling introduction	Getting your probationary licence
Change my address	Buying and Selling introduction
Number plates introduction	Change my address
SEPTEMBER 2006	OCTOBER 2006
Practice licence tests	Practice licence tests
Office locations and opening hours	Office locations and opening hours
Getting your learners permit	Getting your Learners permit
Real time traffic mapping application	Real time traffic mapping application
Registration fees	Registration Fees
How to register or transfer	Number plates introduction
Number plates introduction	How to register or transfer
Buying and Selling introduction	Change my address
Registration forms	Buying and Selling introduction
Change my address	Getting your Probationary Licence
NOVEMBER 2006	DECEMBER 2006
Practice licence tests	Licensing introduction
Office locations and opening hours	Office locations and opening hours
Real time traffic mapping application	Registration introduction
Getting your learners permit	Getting your learners permit
Registration fees	Real time traffic mapping application
How to register or transfer	Practice licence tests
Getting your probationary licence	Pay my registration information
Buying and Selling introduction	Rules standards and regulations

Number plates introduction	Traffic conditions and travel time information
Change my address	Pay my registration
JANUARY 2007	
Licensing introduction	
Getting your learners permit	
Registration introduction	
Office locations and opening hours	
Practice licence tests	
Rules, standards and regulations	
Real time traffic mapping application	
Pay my registration information	
Change my address	
Getting your probationary licence	

Roads and ports: Bass Highway, Bass

677. MR KOCH — To ask the Minister for Industry and State Development (for the Minister for Roads and Ports): In relation to the Bass Highway, Bass duplication —

- (1) Did the previous Minister for Transport announce this project on 25 August 2006.
- (2) Was a cost of \$29.1 million specified on that date.
- (3) When will tenders be called.
- (4) What is the construction time line.

ANSWER:

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

- (1) The previous Minister for Transport did announce this project on 25 August 2006.
- (2) The funding for the project of \$29.1 million was also announced on that day.
- (3) Tenders for the contract for the design and construction of this stage of the Bass Highway were called on the 8 August 2007 after all planning clearances were obtained.
- (4) The design and construction contract will commence once the tender process has been finalised.

Public transport: myki ticketing system

681. MS HARTLAND — To ask the Minister for Industry and State Development (for the Minister for Public Transport): In relation to the proposed myki transport ticketing system being developed by the Transport Ticketing Authority: Will myki cards, scanners and ticket machines be able to be used by all people with a disability who use public transport; if not, how will these travellers be protected from accusations of fare evasion.

ANSWER:

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

Anybody who can use the current ticketing system will be able to use myki. For people with severe disabilities who cannot use myki, business rules will ensure they are not adversely affected.

There are policies and protocols that exist for the current ticketing system in relation to people with disabilities and these will be updated for myki.

Health: anorexia

692. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Health): How many children between the ages of 6 and 16 were hospitalised with anorexia in Victoria in the calendar years 2000 to 2006 respectively.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The question raised sits within the portfolio responsibility of the Minister for Mental Health.

Health: anorexia

693. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Health): How many rural children between the ages of 6 and 16 were hospitalised with anorexia in Victoria in the calendar years 2000 to 2006 respectively and from which areas did they come.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The question raised sits within the portfolio responsibility of the Minister for Mental Health.

Health: anorexia

694. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Health): How many metropolitan children between the ages of 6 and 16 were hospitalised with anorexia in Victoria in the calendar years 2000 to 2006 respectively and from which Department of Human Services regions did they come.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The question raised sits within the portfolio responsibility of the Minister for Mental Health.

Health: anorexia

695. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Health): How many Victorian children between the ages of 6 and 16 with anorexia who were hospitalised in the calendar years 2000 to 2006 respectively were treated in hospital more than once.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The question raised sits within the portfolio responsibility of the Minister for Mental Health.

Health: anorexia

696. **MRS COOTE** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Health): How many girls between the ages of 6 and 16 from rural Victoria presented to the Department of Human Services with anorexia in the calendar years 2000 to 2006 respectively.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The question raised sits within the portfolio responsibility of the Minister for Mental Health.

Health: anorexia

697. **MRS COOTE** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Health): How many boys between the ages of 6 and 16 from rural Victoria presented to the Department of Human Services with anorexia in the calendar years 2000 to 2006 respectively.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The question raised sits within the portfolio responsibility of the Minister for Mental Health.

Health: anorexia

698. **MRS COOTE** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Health): How many girls between the ages 6 and 16 from metropolitan Melbourne presented to the Department of Human Services with anorexia in the calendar years 2000 to 2006 respectively.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The question raised sits within the portfolio responsibility of the Minister for Mental Health.

Health: anorexia

699. **MRS COOTE** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Health): How many boys between the ages of 6 and 16 from metropolitan Melbourne presented to the Department of Human Services with anorexia in the calendar years 2000 to 2006 respectively.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The question raised sits within the portfolio responsibility of the Minister for Mental Health.

Community services: disability support register

700. **MRS COOTE** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to the Disability Support (DS) Register as at 31 December 2006, how many individuals were registered for —

- (a) support to move from DS supported accommodation;

- (b) support to move to non-DS supported accommodation;
- (c) support to continue to live in non-DS supported accommodation;
- (d) family support options;
- (e) support to achieve personal goals (non-housing);
- (f) part-time activities;
- (g) part-time activities with flexible support;
- (h) full-time activities;
- (i) full-time activities with flexible support;
- (j) DS supported accommodation;
- (k) DS supported accommodation with part-time activities;
- (l) DS supported accommodation with full-time activities; and
- (m) DS supported accommodation with ISP.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

In relation to the Disability Support Register as at 31 December 2006, the number of individuals registered for—

- (a) support to move from DS supported accommodation was 26;
- (b) support to move to non-DS supported accommodation was 77;
- (c) support to continue to live in non-DS supported accommodation was 784;
- (d) family support options was 143;
- (e) support to achieve personal goals (non-housing) was 287;
- (f) part-time activities was 158;
- (g) part-time activities with flexible support was 43;
- (h) full-time activities was 179;
- (i) full-time activities with flexible support was 7;
- (j) DS supported accommodation was 1,233;
- (k) DS supported accommodation with part-time activities was 36;
- (l) DS supported accommodation with full-time activities was 82; and
- (m) DS supported accommodation with ISP was 139.

Community services: disability support register

701. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to the Disability Support Register as at 31 December 2006, how many individuals registered were aged —

- (a) under 18 years;
- (b) 18 to 24 years;
- (c) 25 to 29 years;
- (d) 30 to 39 years;
- (e) 40 to 49 years; and
- (f) 50 or more years.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

In relation to the Disability Support Register as at 31 December 2006, the number of individuals registered that aged—

- (a) under 18 years was 298;
- (b) 18 to 24 years was 495;
- (c) 25 to 29 years was 334;
- (d) 30 to 39 years was 695;
- (e) 40 to 49 years was 668; and
- (f) 50 or more years was 704.

Community services: disability services — support

702. **MRS COOTE** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): For people with disabilities, how many people are in receipt of —

- (a) accommodation outreach support;
- (b) family options support;
- (c) flexible support packages;
- (d) home first;
- (e) individualized support packages;
- (f) shared supported accommodation; and
- (g) transitional accommodation support.

ANSWER:

I am informed that: In 2006–07:

Number of people with disabilities in receipt of-

- (a) accommodation outreach support was 1,604;
- (b) family options support (This activity is included in flexible support packages);
- (c) flexible support packages was 3,918;
- (d) home first was 1,295;
- (e) individualised support packages was 1,607;
- (f) shared supported accommodation was 4,658; and
- (g) transitional accommodation support (This activity is included in shared supported accommodation).

Community services: disability services — respite care

704. **MRS COOTE** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): How many people with disabilities accommodated in respite beds as at 31 December 2006 were requiring a permanent placement.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

In relation to how many people with disabilities accommodated in respite beds as at 31 December 2006 were requiring a permanent placement-

- In December 2006, 40 people with disabilities requiring a permanent placement were accommodated in respite beds.

Community services: disability services — information sessions

705. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to the community information sessions held to provide information about the *Disability Act 2006*: How many people with a disability, parents, carers, family representatives and other interested members of the community registered for the following sessions:

- (a) 9 July at Warragul, 7 p.m.–9 p.m.;
- (b) 11 July at Moorabbin, 10 a.m.–12 noon
- (c) 12 July at Footscray, 10 a.m.–12 noon;
- (d) 13 July at Shepparton, 3.30 p.m.–5.30 p.m.;
- (e) 16 July at Preston, 10 a.m.–12 noon;
- (f) 17 July at Stawell, 12 noon–2 p.m.; and
- (g) 17 July at Ballarat, 5 p.m.–7 p.m.

ANSWER:

I am informed that the following registrations occurred for:

- (a) 9 July at Warragul— 102 registrations
- (b) 11 July at Moorabbin— 58 registrations
- (c) 12 July at Footscray— 40 registrations
- (d) 13 July at Shepparton— 9 registrations
- (e) 16 July at Preston— 98 registrations
- (f) 17 July at Stawell— 22 registrations
- (g) 17 July at Ballarat— 16 registrations

Community services: Kew Residential Services — redevelopment

706. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to the redevelopment of Kew Residential Services, as at 30 June 2006:

- (1) What was the total recurrent expenditure incurred.
- (2) What was the total capital expenditure incurred.
- (3) What was the total redevelopment expenditure which is to be offset against the proceeds of the sale of the site.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

In relation to the redevelopment of Kew Residential Services, as at 30 June 2006:

- (1) The total recurrent expenditure incurred was \$28.2M
- (2) The total capital expenditure incurred was \$66.67M
- (3) The total DHS capital budget for the KRS redevelopment project is \$86.5M, which will be offset by the proceeds from sale of the land.

Community services: disability services — budget allocations

707. MRS COOTE — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): What budget allocation has been made for 2007–08 for the Office of the Disability Services Commissioner and the Disability Services Board.

ANSWER:

The Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): I am informed that the budget allocation for 2007–08 for the Office of the Disability Services Commissioner and the Disability Services Board is currently being finalised following its initial commencement phase.

Health: Portland District Health

717. MR D. M. DAVIS — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Health): In relation to the appointment of Aspex Consulting to review the current problems at Portland District Health and declining patient numbers:

- (1) Who appointed Aspex Consulting.
- (2) How many other tenderers were there.
- (3) How much are Aspex Consulting being paid for their review.
- (4) Who is paying the bill for Aspex Consulting.
- (5) What are the terms of reference for this review.
- (6) When will the review be completed.
- (7) Will the review report be made public.
- (8) Will the Portland community have an opportunity to comment on the draft report and draft recommendations before the report is finalised.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

1. The Board of Management Portland District Health are the owners of this project and engaged Aspex consulting. Any questions with regards to the specifics of this project and Aspex consulting should be referred to the President, Board of Management at PDH.

Health: Portland District Health

718. MR D. M. DAVIS — To ask the Honourable the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Health): In relation to the appointment of Dr Heather Wellington and Mr Michael Rhook to the Board of Portland District Health:

- (1) When were these appointments made.
- (2) Under what power were these appointments made.
- (3) Have such Ministerial delegates been previously appointed to any hospital boards in Victoria and to which hospitals.
- (4) What remuneration and expenses are being paid to Dr Wellington with respect to his appointment.
- (5) What remuneration and expenses are being paid to Mr Rhook with respect to his appointment.
- (6) Are the costs involved with the appointments of Dr Wellington and Mr Rhook being paid by Portland District Health and, if not, what is the source of this funding.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

1. The appointments of Mr Michael Rhook and Ms Heather Wellington to the Board of Management at Portland District Health (PDH) commenced following publication in the Government Gazette on 12 July 2007.
2. The appointments were made under section 40 C of the Health Services Act 1988 where the Minister for Health may appoint a delegate/s to the Board of a public hospital if the Minister considers that such an appointment/s will assist the Board improve the performance of the public hospital.
3. A Ministerial delegate was appointed to West Wimmera Health Service in 2006.
4. Dr Heather Wellington is to be paid \$30,000 per annum plus reimbursement of travel and personal expenses in accordance with public sector rates.
5. Mr Michael Rhook is to be paid \$30,000 per annum plus reimbursement of travel and personal expenses in accordance with public sector rates.
6. The Department of Human Services is responsible for the payment of the costs for the appointments through reimbursement to PDH.

Health: Eastern Health

768. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change for the Minister for Health): In relation to the Eastern Health Strategic Plan 2005–06 to 2009-10 and the recommendation that the Angliss Hospital address ongoing infrastructure needs and increase bed capacity by rebuilding two east and two west wards:

- (1) When will the work commence.
- (2) When will the work conclude.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Angliss Hospital plays a key role of Eastern Health in addressing the acute health needs of residents of Eastern Health’s south-eastern catchment area.

In recognition of this role, over \$29 million has been spent in the redevelopment and upgrade of Angliss Hospital’s facilities and resources since 2002, including:

– 2001/02	\$5.2Million	30 bed Rehabilitation Ward completed January 2005
– 2002/03	\$18.5Million	New Emergency Department completed in Dec 2005 New Day Procedure Unit completed in Sep 2006
– 2006	\$956,000	New CT Scanner
– 2006	\$300,000	Refurbished Operating Rooms
– 2006	\$4.3Million	Commonwealth Government Pathways Home Community Rehabilitation Centre

Masterplanning has identified future redevelopment options for Angliss Hospital that include the redevelopment of the East West wards.

The Angliss Hospital cannot be assessed out of context, with it being an integral part of Eastern Health.

The ongoing redevelopment of Angliss Hospital will continue according to assessment of all priorities within Eastern Health as a whole, as well as within the overall health portfolio. Since 1999, this Government has spent over \$190 million on improving the facilities of Eastern Health.

Roads and ports: Wellington–Lysterfield roads, Lysterfield

769. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Roads and Ports): In relation to the 2006 election commitment to construct traffic lights at the intersection of Wellington and Lysterfield Roads in Lysterfield:

- (1) When will work on the project commence.
- (2) When will work on the project be completed.

ANSWER:

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

- (1) The State Government committed funding to install traffic signals at the above intersection. Design works have commenced.
- (2) Construction will commence after design works have been finalised.

Health: maternity beds

785. MR D. M. DAVIS — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Health): For each of the calendar years 1999 to 2007 what was the total number of accredited maternity beds available and the total number of accredited maternity beds operational in —

- (a) each suburban metropolitan hospital; and
- (b) each rural and regional hospital.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Maternity beds in public hospitals in Victoria are managed in order to respond to demand. This means that health services increase and decrease these beds as required, utilising additional staff when demand increases through nurse bank and other arrangements. There is no such category as an ‘accredited maternity bed’ in Victoria.

Roads and ports: Yarra Street, Warrandyte — pedestrian crossing

792. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Roads and Ports): In relation to the pedestrian crossing to be installed on Yarra Street, Warrandyte: What date are works scheduled to begin.

ANSWER:

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

Work is scheduled to commence late 2007.

Regional and rural development: Parliamentary Secretary for Regional and Rural Development

- 797. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Regional and Rural Development): Between 25 November 2006 and 2 August, 2007, what support was provided for Ms Kaye Darveniza, MLC and at what cost, in her capacity as Parliamentary Secretary for Regional Development for —
- (a) telephone and other communication support;
 - (b) car hire and rental car access including dates, destination and purpose;
 - (c) air flights, where to, on what date and how much did each flight cost;
 - (d) meal and entertainment costs;
 - (e) staff assisting him, their effective full time number and cost to the department; and
 - (f) any other support or reimbursement provided including details of the nature and cost of the support or reimbursement.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

The Honourable Member has submitted a request to the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development pursuant to the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* for this information. The Department's response will be provided to the Honourable Member in due course.

Education: Ferntree Gully Primary School site

- 850. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Education): In relation to reference to the demolition and relocation of buildings on the unoccupied Ferntree Gully Primary School site on Dorset Road, Ferntree Gully:
- (1) How many buildings are to be demolished.
 - (2) How many buildings are to be relocated.
 - (3) Where will removed buildings be relocated.
 - (4) Is asbestos present in any of the buildings to be demolished or relocated; if so, will the asbestos be removed prior to the relocation.
 - (5) Are there any health and safety concerns other than the presence of asbestos; if so, will the concerns be addressed prior to the relocation.
 - (6) What steps will be taken to minimise health risks from asbestos or other sources to the —
 - (a) community; and
 - (b) workers on site.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

- (1) There are a total of five buildings on the Ferntree Gully site of which three buildings will be demolished. The heritage listed buildings will remain on the site.
- (2) Part of one building will be relocated to a neighbouring school.
- (3) Kallista Primary School will be the beneficiary of the relocated building.
- (4) Asbestos is present in all the buildings to be demolished. The asbestos in all the buildings will be removed during September 2007, prior to demolition & relocation.

- (5) To the Department's knowledge there is no other health and safety concern. Should any arise during the asbestos removal or relocation they will be addressed accordingly.
- (6) To minimise the health risks to both the community and the workers on site, the firm appointed to undertake the asbestos removal will have a hygienist on site to monitor the air quality to ensure it meets the standard to achieve satisfactory air readings and visual inspections as required in the Occupational Health and Safety (Asbestos) Regulations 2003. WorkSafe have been notified and have given authorisation for work to commence during September.

Planning: Port Campbell development

- 852. MS HARTLAND** — To ask the Minister for Planning: In relation to the proposed development at 2-10 Lord Street, Port Campbell: Further to the Minister's answer to Question 310, given on 7 June 2007, that 'a range of expert evidence' was presented to Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal:
- (1) Did that 'range' include more than one expert report.
 - (2) Did that 'range' include any expert report that was not presented on behalf of the developers.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The information you seek is in the public domain and may be located on the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal website.

Public transport: rail — service standards

- 855. MS HARTLAND** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Public Transport):
- (1) How many trains, and what percentage of trains, were cancelled on the Williamstown Line, Werribee Line, Altona Loop, Sydenham Line, Upfield Line and Broadmeadows Line during the last twelve months.
 - (2) How many trains were cancelled each month.
 - (3) Of those cancelled trains, how many and what percentage were timetabled to run during the morning and afternoon peak periods.

ANSWER:

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

(1-3) A comprehensive report on the performance, punctuality and reliability of Victoria's public transport services is released quarterly. Copies of Track Record can be found at www.doi.vic.gov.au/trackrecord.

A supplementary bulletin providing line-by-line punctuality and reliability information is released monthly.

Public transport: rail — service standards

- 856. MS HARTLAND** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Public Transport):
- (1) What percentage of trains in the morning and afternoon peak periods were late, and what percentage of trains in the morning and afternoon peak periods were late, on the Williamstown Line, Werribee Line, Altona Loop, Sydenham Line, Upfield Line and Broadmeadows Line during the last twelve months.

- (2) How many trains were late each month.
- (3) Of those late trains, how many and what percentage were timetabled to run during the morning and afternoon peak periods.

ANSWER:

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

(1-3) A comprehensive report on the performance, punctuality and reliability of Victoria's public transport services is released quarterly. Copies of Track Record can be found at www.doi.vic.gov.au/trackrecord.

A supplementary bulletin providing line-by-line punctuality and reliability information is released monthly.

Planning: St Kilda triangle development

863. MS PENNICUIK — To ask the Minister for Planning: In relation to the development on the Triangle site on the foreshore at St Kilda:

- (1) Does the Government have independent advice on the cost of a full heritage refurbishment of the Palais Theatre in St Kilda; if so, what is that advice and costing.
- (2) What principles govern the allocation of public land to private and/or commercial use.
- (3) Give that the current proposed development on the St Kilda Triangle site appears to be directed at 20 or 30 something singles with a focus on shopping and entertainment involving alcohol, what mechanisms does the Government have to ensure aspects such as community inclusiveness on developments on public land, i.e. appeal to all generations and financial accessibility to all.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- 1) Refurbishment of the Palais Theatre is not the responsibility of the Victorian government. Port Phillip City Council, acting in its capacity as committee of management for the St Kilda Triangle has responsibility for the management of that Crown land, including management of the redevelopment project, as such is best placed to respond to questions regarding costing.
- 2) Public land may be allocated to private/commercial developments where there is a need to create an incentive to invest or provide other beneficial outcomes that cannot be achieved through use of existing private land stocks. Public land may be made available under a variety of tenure arrangements for commercial development whilst still being retained in public ownership for community access, environmental sustainability, heritage or planning reasons.
- 3) It is wrong to assume that the site is directed at 20 or 30 year olds. The development will cater for a broad range of entertainment, cultural, recreational and retail activity. I understand that the site will include a significant amount of community space, much of which will be open space. This will include a square, Palais forecourt, uncovered laneways and the Catani steps. A feature will be the grassy slopes extending from the Upper Esplanade with views to the bay. This space will be accessible to the public at all times. The proposal also includes facilities such as a hotel, art gallery (Linden Gallery), the William Angliss TAFE College, and around 180 retail tenancies of various types.

The government is committed to community development and any planning application for the site will have to address the principles as set out in *Melbourne 2030* such as making the environment more livable and attractive and recognising sense of place and neighbourhood character.

Environment and climate change: wild dogs

880. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change: Are there plans to increase the number of shooting clubs from which members are eligible to claim the bounty on the shooting of feral dogs; if not, what are the reasons for no increase.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question should be directed to the Minister for Agriculture as the Department of Primary Industries manages the Fox and Wild Dog Bounty program.

Health: hospitals — elective surgery categories

945. MR D. M. DAVIS — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Health):

- (1) Since the 1999 election has there been any change to the definition of the elective surgery categories:
 - (a) urgent;
 - (b) semi-urgent; and
 - (c) non-urgent.
- (2) If there has been a change in the definitions, what are both the original and new definitions.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- Since the 1999 election there have been minor grammatical changes to the definition of the elective surgery categories as follows:
 - (a) urgent;
 - (i) original definition—Admission within 30 days desirable for a condition that has the potential to deteriorate quickly to the point that it may become an emergency.
 - (ii) new definition - Admission within 30 days is desirable for a condition that has the potential to deteriorate quickly to the point that it might become an emergency.
 - (b) semi-urgent;
 - (i) original definition—Admission within 90 days desirable for a condition causing some pain, dysfunction or disability but which is not likely to deteriorate quickly or become an emergency.
 - (ii) new definition - Admission within 90 days is desirable for a condition causing some pain, dysfunction or disability but which is not likely to deteriorate quickly or become an emergency.
 - (c) non-urgent;
 - (i) original definition—Admission at some time in the future acceptable for a condition causing minimal or no pain, dysfunction or disability, which is unlikely to deteriorate quickly, and does not have the potential to become an emergency.
 - (ii) new definition - Admission at some time in the future is acceptable for a condition causing minimal or no pain, dysfunction or disability, which is unlikely to deteriorate quickly, and does not have the potential to become an emergency.

Planning: Melbourne 2030 — implementation reference group

954. MR GUY — To ask the Minister for Planning: In relation to the Melbourne 2030 Implementation Reference Group:

- (1) How many times has the Group met since its inception.
- (2) Will minutes of all meetings be made publicly available and, if so, when.
- (3) Which meetings were attended by the former and current Minister for Planning.
- (4) What date is scheduled for the final meeting of the Group.
- (5) How many departmental staff, full-time, part-time or casual, conduct work for the Group and on what basis.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (1) The Melbourne 2030 Implementation Reference Group met 20 times after it was established in March 2003.
- (2) Since 24 November 2004, records of proceedings of meetings have been made available on the Melbourne 2030 website, following minutes being accepted by the Group.
- (3) The former Minister for Planning, Mary Delahunty, attended 4 meetings:
 - 14 August 2003
 - 8 June 2004
 - 19 August 2004
 - 23 September 2004

I attended the final meeting held on 6 August 2007.

- (4) The final meeting was held on 6 August 2007.
- (5) As the Group has had its final meeting, no departmental staff undertake work for the Group.

Planning: retail policy review

955. MR GUY — To ask the Minister for Planning: In relation to the Retail Policy Review:

- (1) How much funding was/is paid to external consultants.
- (2) How many external consultants were engaged by the Department to prepare any background material.
- (3) What were the terms of reference for consultants who prepared any background material.
- (4) What target outcomes were set for any externally produced material.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (1) Following my announcement of the Retail Policy Review in May 2007, \$100,000.00 was allocated for the review as a part of the Department's 2007/08 Budget. In addition to costs associated with production and publication of a position paper, any consultancy fees are to be paid from within this budget.
- (2) Background material covering a range of topics that relate to retail development have previously been prepared independently of the current review by a range of consultants and these have been made available on the Department's website.

(3) and (4)

The Terms of Reference for the Retail Policy Review outline the scope of the project and matters which are required to be considered as part of the review. The Terms of Reference guide the outcomes of the project and any research required to be undertaken.