

**PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA**

**PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES  
(HANSARD)**

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

**FIFTY-SIXTH PARLIAMENT**

**FIRST SESSION**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**9 and 11 September 2008**

**(Extract from book 12)**

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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, 9 September 2008**

**Environment and climate change: contractors**

- 1315. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change: For the financial year 2006–07 what were the names and purposes of all contractors employed by the Department of Sustainability and Environment, setting out in tabular form —
- (a) the name of the contractor;
  - (b) the date the contract was entered into;
  - (c) the purpose of the contract;
  - (d) the value of the contract;
  - (e) the expected term of the contract; and
  - (f) the amount paid on the contract in the period.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The research required to provide this information would place an unreasonable burden on public time and resources. Furthermore, it would be inappropriate to provide employment details of individual employees.

**Environment and climate change: contractors**

- 1316. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change: For the period 1 July to 30 November 2007 what were the names and purposes of all contractors employed by the Department of Sustainability and Environment, setting out in tabular form —
- (a) the name of the contractor;
  - (b) the date the contract was entered into;
  - (c) the purpose of the contract;
  - (d) the value of the contract;
  - (e) the expected term of the contract; and
  - (f) the amount paid on the contract in the period.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The research required to provide this information would place an unreasonable burden on public time and resources. Furthermore, it would be inappropriate to provide employment details of individual employees.

**Education: contractors**

**1323. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Education): For the financial year 2006–07 what were the names and purposes of all contractors employed by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, setting out in tabular form —

- (a) the name of the contractor;
- (b) the date the contract was entered into;
- (c) the purpose of the contract;
- (d) the value of the contract;
- (e) the expected term of the contract; and
- (f) the amount paid on the contract in the period.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

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

**Education: contractors**

**1324. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Education): For the period 1 July to 30 November 2007 what were the names and purposes of all contractors employed by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, setting out in tabular form —

- (a) the name of the contractor;
- (b) the date the contract was entered into;
- (c) the purpose of the contract;
- (d) the value of the contract;
- (e) the expected term of the contract; and
- (f) the amount paid on the contract in the period.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

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

**Planning: contractors**

**1326. MR D. M. DAVIS** — To ask the Minister for Planning: For the period 1 July to 30 November 2007 what were the names and purposes of all contractors employed by the Department of Planning and Community Development, setting out in tabular form —

- (a) the name of the contractor;
- (b) the date the contract was entered into;
- (c) the purpose of the contract;
- (d) the value of the contract;
- (e) the expected term of the contract; and
- (f) the amount paid on the contract in the period.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The research required to provide this information would place an unreasonable burden on public time and resources. Furthermore, it would be inappropriate to provide employment details of individual employees.

**Housing: waiting list**

**1950.** **MS LOVELL** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Housing): What is the current average waiting time for each of the four categories of the segmented waiting list for public housing for —

- (a) Victoria;
- (b) each region; and
- (c) each housing office.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The Office of Housing regularly reviews methods for calculating and reporting early housing waiting times. The Office of Housing has determined that the calculation of early housing waiting times by individual segment and individual region is not reliable, and its publication would provide a misleading impression of the Office of Housing's operations. This is due to the large number of local factors that affect regional waiting times, the fact that applicants may choose multiple regions and localities, and that applicants may change segments within the waiting list. It would require the expenditure of considerable resources to undertake a major research project and alter systems to account for these variable factors, and in my opinion the expense associated with such a change is significant and cannot be justified.

However, I can advise that the average waiting time for all early housing segments in Victoria was 5.9 months across 2007–08. This will be published in the Department's annual report shortly. In addition, detailed figures on waiting lists are available at [www.housing.vic.gov.au](http://www.housing.vic.gov.au).

*[Question 1950 reinstated by order of President on 24 June 2008. Hansard reference to original answer: 27 May 2008, page 2052]*

**Housing: waiting list**

**1952.** **MS LOVELL** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Housing): How many years, months and days is the longest period of time an applicant has been registered on the Public Housing waiting list.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

Information on early housing waiting times is contained in Budget Paper 3 and the Annual Report. The Office of Housing does not report, internally or externally, any details of individual housing applications, nor waiting times, for individuals.

There are many reasons why an applicant may wait longer than usual for a public housing property. Factors such as the particular location and stock type preferences and bedroom size can affect waiting times. Further, the specific requirements of some applicants due to medical or other needs, which limit their ability to accept a property, can impact greatly on the ability of the Office of Housing to acquire a suitable property meeting all the necessary requirements.

*[Question 1951 reinstated by order of President on 24 June 2008. Hansard reference to original answer: 27 May 2008, page 2053]*

**Housing: waiting list**

**1953. MS LOVELL** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Housing): How many years, months and days is the longest period of time an applicant has been registered on the Public Housing early housing waiting list for each of the segments 1, 2 and 3.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

Information on early housing waiting times is contained in Budget Paper 3 and the Annual Report. The Office of Housing does not report, internally or externally, any details of individual housing applications, nor waiting times, for individuals.

There are many reasons why an applicant may wait longer than usual for a public housing property. Factors such as the particular location and stock type preferences and bedroom size can affect waiting times. Further, the specific requirements of some applicants due to medical or other needs, which limit their ability to accept a property, can impact greatly on the ability of the Office of Housing to acquire a suitable property meeting all the necessary requirements.

*[Question 1951 reinstated by order of President on 24 June 2008. Hansard reference to original answer: 27 May 2008, page 2053]*

**Housing: maintenance backlog**

**1954. MS LOVELL** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Housing): What is the current dollar value of the Public Housing maintenance backlog.

**ANSWER:**

In 2004, the Auditor General inquired into public housing maintenance. The report is available at [www.audit.vic.gov.au](http://www.audit.vic.gov.au). In that Report, the Auditor-General produced a unique calculation for the 'maintenance backlog'. However, the Office of Housing does not calculate its own measure of this type. The Office of Housing conducts responsive, programmed and vacated maintenance based on property condition, the type of maintenance required, and the urgency of undertaking maintenance.

The Office of Housing has invested significantly in maintenance services. By June 2007, the Government has spent over \$2 billion on physical improvements, maintenance and upgrade of public and community-managed housing since 1999. Furthermore, with the \$500 million increase announced in the 2007–08 budget, the Office of Housing will be renewing more public housing stock, reducing ongoing maintenance liabilities.

*[Question 1951 reinstated by order of President on 24 June 2008. Hansard reference to original answer: 27 May 2008, page 2054]*

**Education: Croydon Hills Primary School**

**2012. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Education): In relation to the delivery of the Victorian Schools Plan: On what date will work begin on Croydon Hills Primary School's rebuild, renovation or extension.

**ANSWER:**

The Treasurer (for the Minister for Education): I am informed as follows:

Croydon Hills Primary School was allocated funding of \$1.307 million in the 2002–03 State Budget.



The scope of works included eight new General Purpose Classrooms and an upgrade of the Library, Staff & Administration and Amenities.

The Government has committed \$1.9 billion to renovate or rebuild a further 500 schools in four years. This is the largest school building program in the State's history, and will transform education infrastructure across the State. The Victorian Schools Plan will see the remainder of the 1,600 Government schools rebuilt or renovated over the next ten years.

**Senior Victorians: major subacute centres**

**2087. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Senior Victorians): In relation to the Government's commitment to establish 'major sub acute centres as centres for excellence and expertise in the care of older people', as stated in the Department of Human Services action plan 2006–09, *'Recognising and supporting care relationships for older Victorians'*:

- (1) Where will each of these centres be located.
- (2) How much funding will be directed to the establishment of each centre.
- (3) What is the expected completion date of each centre.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

- (1)
  - Caulfield General Medical Centre, Bayside Health
  - Kingston Centre, Southern Health
  - The Mornington Centre, Peninsula Health
  - St Georges, St Vincent's Health
  - Peter James Centre, Eastern Health
  - Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital, Austin Health
  - Bundoora Extended Care Centre, Northern Health
  - Broadmeadows Health Service, Northern Health
  - Sunshine Hospital, Western Health
  - Royal Melbourne Hospital, Royal Park Campus, Melbourne Health
  - The McKellar Centre, Barwon Health
  - The Queen Elizabeth Centre, Ballarat Health Service
  - The Anne Caudle Centre, Bendigo Health Care Group
  - Latrobe Regional Hospital
  - Wodonga Regional Health Service, Hume Health Services Consortia
  - Goulburn Valley Health, Hume Health Services Consortia
  - Seymour District Health Service, Hume Health Services Consortia
  - Northeast Health Wangaratta, Hume Health Services Consortia
- (2) A total of six million dollars has been provided to refocus these existing facilities into Centres Promoting Health Independence.
- (3) All centres identified are currently operating as a Centre Promoting Health Independence.

**Education: schools — classroom sizes**

**2134. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Education):

- (1) What is the average classroom size in primary schools in each education region of Victoria.
- (2) What is the average classroom size of English in secondary schools in each education region of Victoria.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

- (1) The average primary class size (across all year levels) in 2008 was 22.2 compared to 25.4 in 1999. This is a reduction of 3.2 students in nine years. The average primary class size is the lowest in Victorian Government schools since records were first kept in 1973.

The average primary class size for each Department of Education and Early Childhood Development region is as follows:

Region	Average Primary Class Size 2008
Eastern Metropolitan	22.7
Western Metropolitan	22.8
Southern Metropolitan	22.8
Northern Metropolitan	22.4
Barwon-South Western	21.9
Grampians	20.6
Loddon Mallee	21.3
Hume	20.7
Gippsland	21.0
<i>Total Metropolitan</i>	22.7
<i>Total Non-Metropolitan</i>	21.2
<b>Victoria</b>	<b>22.2</b>

- (2) The 2008 secondary English class size data collection is yet to be finalised. However, the average secondary English class size (across all year levels) in 2007 was 21.6.

Region	Average secondary (English) class size 2007
Eastern Metropolitan	22.7
Western Metropolitan	21.3
Southern Metropolitan	21.9
Northern Metropolitan	21.8
Barwon-South Western	21.1
Grampians	20.1
Loddon Mallee	21.2
Hume	20.4
Gippsland	21.3
<i>Total Metropolitan</i>	22.0
<i>Total Non-Metropolitan</i>	20.9
<b>Victoria</b>	<b>21.6</b>

**Arts: fair payments policy**

**2183. MR RICH-PHILLIPS** — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Arts): In relation to the Government’s Fair Payments Policy, which requires a department or agency to pay invoices for work done by small businesses within 30 days or pay penalty interest, with respect to the Department of Premier and Cabinet:

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

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

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

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

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

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

**Community development: fair payments policy**

**2186. MR RICH-PHILLIPS** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Community Development): In relation to the Government’s Fair Payments Policy, which requires a department or agency to pay invoices for work done by small businesses within 30 days or pay penalty interest, with respect to the Department of Planning and Community Development and/or the former Department of Victorian Communities:

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

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

As Minister for Local Government I am supported by the Department of Planning and Community Development. In relation to the response for the Department of Planning and Community Development I direct you to the response of the lead Minister, the Hon. Justin Madden, to questions LA959c and LC2205.

[*Hansard reference: question no. 959c, Legislative Assembly, 29 July 2008, page 2916; question no. 2205, Legislative Council, 30 July 2008, page 3003*]

**Finance, WorkCover and the Transport Accident Commission: fair payments policy**

**2193. MR RICH-PHILLIPS** — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Finance, WorkCover and the Transport Accident Commission): In relation to the Government’s Fair Payments Policy, which requires a department or agency to pay invoices for work done by small businesses within 30 days or pay penalty interest, with respect to the Department of Treasury and Finance:

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

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

- (1) In relation to the Government’s Fair Payments Policy, on no occasion in the period since the 2002 election has the Department of Treasury and Finance paid penalty interest.
- (2) No small businesses have received penalty interest for bills not paid within 30 days in the period since 2002.
- (3) Not applicable.
- (4) Not applicable.
- (5) Not applicable.

**Mental health: fair payments policy**

**2203. MR RICH-PHILLIPS** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Mental Health): In relation to the Government’s Fair Payments Policy, which requires a department or agency to pay invoices for work done by small businesses within 30 days or pay penalty interest, with respect to the Department of Human Services:

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

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

Refer to the response to Question No. 2195.

[*Hansard reference: Legislative Council, 29 May 2008, page 2104*]

**Water: stress leave**

**2242. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Water): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister’s administration for each financial year from 2000–01 to 2006–07: What are the details of all stress related leave, including —

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

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The Department of Sustainability and Environment does not record the information sought.

Department staff are required to provide a medical certificate from a registered practitioner for any sick leave in excess of 38 hours each year of employment, or for any continuous period exceeding 22.8 hours. However, due to doctor-patient confidentiality, the employer is not advised of the reason for or nature of sick leave taken.

**Community development: stress leave**

**2248. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Community Development): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister’s administration for each financial year from 2000–01 to 2006–07: What are the details of all stress related leave, including —

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

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

As the Minister for Community Development I am supported by the Department of Planning and Community Development. I direct you to the response of the lead Minister, the Hon. Justin Madden, for LC2233.

[*Hansard reference: Legislative Council, 30 July 2008, page 3004*]

**Finance, WorkCover and the Transport Accident Commission: salary levels**

**2279. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Finance, WorkCover and the TAC): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister’s administration, for the financial year 2006–07: How many public servants are paid more than the base salary rate for Victorian Members of Parliament, indicating their —

- (a) classifications;
- (b) salary package;

- (c) position; and
- (d) responsibilities.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

Information regarding the remuneration of executive officers is published each year in the annual reports of the department, agencies and authorities within my administration.

**Community development: salary levels**

**2288. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Community Development): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's administration, for the financial year 2006–07: How many public servants are paid more than the base salary rate for Victorian Members of Parliament, indicating their —

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

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

As the Minister for Community Development I am supported by the Department of Planning and Community Development. I direct you to the response of the lead Minister, the Hon. Justin Madden, for LC2273.

[*Hansard reference: Legislative Council, 19 August 2008, page 3382*]

**Local government: salary levels**

**2292. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Local Government): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's administration, for the financial year 2006–07: How many public servants are paid more than the base salary rate for Victorian Members of Parliament, indicating their —

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

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

As the Minister for Local Government I am supported by the Department of Planning and Community Development. I direct you to the response of the lead Minister, the Hon. Justin Madden, for LC2273.

[*Hansard reference: Legislative Council, 19 August 2008, page 3382*]

**Women's affairs: salary levels**

**2294. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Women's Affairs): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's administration, for the financial year 2006–07: How many public servants are paid more than the base salary rate for Victorian Members of Parliament, indicating their —

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

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

As the Minister for Women's Affairs I am supported by the Department of Planning and Community Development. I direct you to the response of the lead Minister, the Hon. Justin Madden, for LC2273.

[*Hansard reference: Legislative Council, 19 August 2008, page 3382*]

**Environment and climate change: travel expenses**

**2311. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change: 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 informed that:

Given the broad and detailed nature of this question, the research required to provide this information would place an unreasonable burden on public time and resources.

**Community development: legal expenses**

**2368. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Community Development): In relation to legal expenses incurred by each department, agency or authority within the Minister's administration for each financial year from 2000–01 to 2006–07:

- (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 as follows:

As the Minister for Community Development I am supported by the Department of Planning and Community Development. I direct you to the response of the lead Minister, the Hon. Justin Madden, for LC2353.

*[Hansard reference: Legislative Council, 30 July 2008, page 3010]*

**Community development: media and communications staff**

**2524. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Community Development): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's administration for each financial year from 2000–01 to 2006–07:

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

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

As the Minister for Community Development I am supported by the Department of Planning and Community Development. I direct you to the response of the lead Minister, the Hon. Justin Madden, for LC2509.

*[Hansard reference: Legislative Council, 30 July 2008, page 3017]*

**Community development: legal expenses**

**2564. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Community Development): In relation to legal expenses incurred by each department, agency or authority within the Minister's administration for each financial year from 2000–01 to 2006–07:

- (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 as follows:

As the Minister for Community Development I am supported by the Department of Planning and Community Development. I direct you to the response of the lead Minister, the Hon. Justin Madden, for LC2549.

*[Hansard reference: answer not circulated at 9 September 2008]*



**Environment and climate change: advertising**

**2587. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change: In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister’s administration: What the details are of all advertising undertaken for each financial year from 2000–01 to 2006–07, indicating —

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

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

Given the broad and detailed nature of this question, the research required to provide this information would place an unreasonable burden on public time and resources.

However, details of expenditure by departments and agencies on advertising and promotion for the 2005–06 and 2006–07 financial years can be found in the Public Accounts and Estimates Committee’s 79th Report to the Parliament-Report on the 2006–07 Financial and Performance Outcomes.

**Mental health: advertising**

**2601. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Mental Health): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister’s administration: What the details are of all advertising undertaken for each financial year from 2000–01 to 2006–07, indicating —

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

**ANSWER:**

Refer to the response to Question No. 2599.

[*Hansard reference: Legislative Council, 19 August 2008, page 3399*]

**Community services: advertising**

**2602. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister’s administration: What the details are of all advertising undertaken for each financial year from 2000–01 to 2006–07, indicating —

- (a) the date of approval for each contract;
- (b) the cost of each contract;

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

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The Minister for Community Services is supported by the Department of Human Services and the Department of Planning and Community Development.

In relation to the response for the Department of Human Services, I direct you to the response to the lead Minister, the Hon Daniel Andrews, to LC 2599.

In relation to the response for the Department of Planning and Community Development, I direct you to the response of the lead Minister, the Hon. Justin Madden, to LC 2589.

[*Hansard reference: question no. 2599, Legislative Council, 19 August 2008, page 3399; question no. 2589, Legislative Council, 19 August 2008, page 3397*]

**Senior Victorians: advertising**

**2603. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Senior Victorians): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's administration: What the details are of all advertising undertaken for each financial year from 2000–01 to 2006–07, indicating —

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

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The Minister for Senior Victorians is supported by the Department of Human Services and the Department of Planning and Community Development.

In relation to the response for the Department of Human Services, I direct you to the response to the lead Minister, the Hon Daniel Andrews, to LC 2599.

In relation to the response for the Department of Planning and Community Development, I direct you to the response of the lead Minister, the Hon. Justin Madden, to LC 2589.

[*Hansard reference: question no. 2599, Legislative Council, 19 August 2008, page 3399; question no. 2589, Legislative Council, 19 August 2008, page 3397*]

**Community development: advertising**

**2604. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Community Development): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's

administration: What the details are of all advertising undertaken for each financial year from 2000–01 to 2006–07, indicating —

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

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

As the Minister for Community Development I am supported by the Department of Planning and Community Development. I direct you to the response of the lead Minister, the Hon. Justin Madden, for LC2589.

[*Hansard reference: Legislative Council, 19 August 2008, page 3397*]

**Local government: advertising**

**2608. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Local Government): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister’s administration: What the details are of all advertising undertaken for each financial year from 2000–01 to 2006–07, indicating —

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

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

As the Minister for Local Government I am supported by the Department of Planning and Community Development. I direct you to the response of the lead Minister, the Hon. Justin Madden, for LC2589.

[*Hansard reference: Legislative Council, 19 August 2008, page 3397*]

**Women’s affairs: advertising**

**2610. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Women’s Affairs): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister’s administration: What the details are of all advertising undertaken for each financial year from 2000–01 to 2006–07, indicating —

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

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

As the Minister for Women's Affairs I am supported by the Department of Planning and Community Development. I direct you to the response of the lead Minister, the Hon. Justin Madden, for LC2589.

[*Hansard reference: Legislative Council, 19 August 2008, page 3397*]

**Environment and climate change: entertainment expenses**

**2627.** **MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change: In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's administration for each financial year from 2000–01 to 2006–07: What are the details are of all entertainment expenses incurred, indicating —

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

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

Given the broad and detailed nature of this question, the research required to provide this information would place an unreasonable burden on public time and resources.

**Mental health: entertainment expenses**

**2641.** **MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Mental Health): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's administration for each financial year from 2000–01 to 2006–07: What are the details are of all entertainment expenses incurred, indicating —

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

**ANSWER:**

Refer to the response to Question No. 2639.

[*Hansard reference: Legislative Council, 19 August 2008, page 3404*]

**Community services: entertainment expenses**

**2642. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's administration for each financial year from 2000–01 to 2006–07: What are the details are of all entertainment expenses incurred, indicating —

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

**ANSWER:**

As Minister for Community Services, I am supported in part by the Department of Human Services. I direct you to the response of the lead Minister, the Hon Daniel Andrews for the response to LC 2639.

As Minister for Community Services, I am supported in part by the Department of Planning and Community Development. I direct you to the response of the lead Minister, the Hon. Justin Madden, for LC 2629.

[*Hansard reference: question no. 2639, Legislative Council, 19 August 2008, page 3404; question no. 2629, Legislative Council, 30 July 2008, page 3022*]

**Environment and climate change: professional development expenses**

**2667. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change: In relation to expenditure on conferences, seminars, workshops and training courses or like events by each department, agency or authority within the Minister's administration for each financial year from 2000–01 to 2006–07:

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

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

Given the broad and detailed nature of this question, the research required to provide this information would place an unreasonable burden on public time and resources.

**Arts: professional development expenses**

**2674. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Arts): In relation to expenditure on conferences, seminars, workshops and training courses or like events by each department, agency or authority within the Minister’s administration for each financial year from 2000–01 to 2006–07:

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

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

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

**Public transport: professional development expenses**

**2704. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Public Transport): In relation to expenditure on conferences, seminars, workshops and training courses or like events by each department, agency or authority within the Minister’s administration for each financial year from 2000–01 to 2006–07:

- (1) What was the name of each conference, course, seminar, workshop or like event attended indicating the —
  - (a) locality and venue; and
  - (b) purpose.
- (2) What was the cost of each event indicating —
  - (a) accommodation;
  - (b) entertainment;
  - (c) meals and refreshments;
  - (d) travel;
  - (e) car hire;
  - (f) taxis and hire cars; and
  - (g) other expenses.

- (3) Was the event externally organised; if so, what was the name of the person(s), organisation(s) or companies engaged and at what cost.

**ANSWER:**

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

The scope and details required in this question would constitute an unreasonable commitment of resources and costs associated with its preparation which cannot be justified.

**Community development: Victorian Government Purchasing Board — procurement policies**

**2773.** **MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Community Development): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's administration:

- (1) How many breaches of the Victorian Government Purchasing Board's procurement policies occurred in each of the financial years from 2004–05 to 2006–07.
- (2) What were the details of those breaches.
- (3) What action was taken in response to those breaches.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

As the Minister for Community Development I am supported by the Department of Planning and Community Development. I direct you to the response of the lead Minister, the Hon. Justin Madden, for LC2758.

[*Hansard reference: Legislative Council, 30 July 2008, page 3039*]

**Energy and resources: Victorian Government Purchasing Board — procurement policies**

**2791.** **MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Energy and Resources): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's administration:

- (1) How many breaches of the Victorian Government Purchasing Board's procurement policies occurred in each of the financial years from 2004–05 to 2006–07.
- (2) What were the details of those breaches.
- (3) What action was taken in response to those breaches.

**ANSWER:**

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

The Department of Primary Industries did not identify any breach of Victorian Government Purchasing Board procurement policies during the years 2004–05 to 2006–07.

**Finance, WorkCover and the Transport Accident Commission: trade union grants**

**2844.** **MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Finance, Workcover and the TAC): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's administration: What are the details of all grants made to trade union groups for each financial year from 2000–01 to 2006–07.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

To compile information for the past seven financial years represents an unreasonable diversion of resources by each department, agency and authority within my administration.

**Community development: trade union grants**

**2853. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Community Development): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's administration: What are the details of all grants made to trade union groups for each financial year from 2000–01 to 2006–07.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

As the Minister for Community Development I am supported by the Department of Planning and Community Development. I direct you to the response of the lead Minister, the Hon. Justin Madden, for LC2838.

[*Hansard reference: Legislative Council, 19 August 2008, page 3426*]

**Veterans affairs: trade union grants**

**2855. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Veterans' Affairs): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's administration: What are the details of all grants made to trade union groups for each financial year from 2000–01 to 2006–07.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

As the Minister Veterans' Affairs for I am supported by the Department of Planning and Community Development. I direct you to the response of the lead Minister, the Hon. Justin Madden, for LC2838.

[*Hansard reference: Legislative Council, 19 August 2008, page 3426*]

**Multicultural affairs: trade union grants**

**2856. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Multicultural Affairs): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's administration: What are the details of all grants made to trade union groups for each financial year from 2000–01 to 2006–07.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

As the Minister for Multicultural Affairs I am supported by the Department of Planning and Community Development. I direct you to the response of the lead Minister, the Hon. Justin Madden, for LC2838.

[*Hansard reference: Legislative Council, 19 August 2008, page 3426*]



**Aboriginal affairs: trade union grants**

**2858. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister’s administration: What are the details of all grants made to trade union groups for each financial year from 2000–01 to 2006–07.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

As the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs I am supported by the Department of Planning and Community Development. I direct you to the response of the lead Minister, the Hon. Justin Madden, for LC2838.

[Hansard reference: Legislative Council, 19 August 2008, page 3426]

**Women’s affairs: trade union grants**

**2859. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Women’s Affairs): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister’s administration: What are the details of all grants made to trade union groups for each financial year from 2000–01 to 2006–07.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

As the Minister for Women’s Affairs I am supported by the Department of Planning and Community Development. I direct you to the response of the lead Minister, the Hon. Justin Madden, for LC2838.

[Hansard reference: Legislative Council, 19 August 2008, page 3426]

**Arts: workplace bullying**

**2883. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Arts): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister’s administration for each financial year from 2000–01 to 2006–07: What are the details of bullying in the workplace indicating —

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

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

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

**Community development: workplace bullying**

**2893. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Community Development): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister’s administration for each financial year from 2000–01 to 2006–07: What are the details of 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 as follows:

As the Minister for Community Development I am supported by the Department of Planning and Community Development. I direct you to the response of the lead Minister, the Hon. Justin Madden, for LC2878.

[Hansard reference: *Legislative Council, 30 July 2008, page 3044*]

**Finance, WorkCover and the Transport Accident Commission: property sales**

**2924. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Finance, Workcover and the TAC): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister’s administration involved in the sale of properties for each financial year from 2000–01 to 2006–07:

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

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

To compile information for the past seven financial years would place a large burden on the Department of Treasury and Finance. A detailed response to this question would be too voluminous and an unreasonable diversion of department’s time and resources.

**Housing: property sales**

**2929. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Housing): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister’s administration involved in the sale of properties for each financial year from 2000–01 to 2006–07:

- (1) How many properties have been sold, indicating —
  - (a) whether they were sold by —
    - (i) selected tender;
    - (ii) public tender;
    - (iii) private sale; or

- (iv) public auction.
  - (b) the address of each property;
  - (c) the valuation of each property and the name of the valuer;
  - (d) what advertising costs were incurred and attributed to each; and
  - (e) the sale price for each property and the terms offered.
- (2) Were there any defaults in the performance of any contracts of sale arising from those sales.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

Details on the number of properties sold each year are presented by region in the *Summary of Housing Assistance Programs* publication, also available at [www.housing.vic.gov.au](http://www.housing.vic.gov.au). Further, all property sales are undertaken in accordance with the Government's *Policy and Instructions on the purchase, compulsory acquisition and sale of land*.

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

**Community development: property sales**

**2933. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Community Development): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's administration involved in the sale of properties for each financial year from 2000–01 to 2006–07:

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

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

As the Minister for Community Development I am supported by the Department of Planning and Community Development. I direct you to the response of the lead Minister, the Hon. Justin Madden, for LC2918.

[*Hansard reference: Legislative Council, 30 July 2008, page 3049*]

**Agriculture: property sales**

**2952. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Agriculture): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's administration involved in the sale of properties for each financial year from 2000–01 to 2006–07:

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

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The Department of Primary Industries has no authority to acquire or sell Crown land. All transactions are managed by the Land and Property Group in the Department of Treasury and Finance.

**Public transport: rail — level crossings**

**2957. MS HARTLAND** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Public Transport): In relation to page 123 of Budget Paper No. 3 which outlines a plan to upgrade 45 public railway crossings in the 2008–09 financial year:

- (1) What are the 45 railway crossings and what upgrades are proposed.
- (2) Is there any plan to upgrade the crossing at Anderson Street, Yarraville; if so, what is that plan.

**ANSWER:**

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

(1–2) The railway crossing upgrade program delivers improvements to the level of active protection at level crossings. As the Anderson Street level crossing has the maximum level of protection, no upgrade under this program is possible.

**Proposed 2008/09 Level Crossing Safety Upgrade Program**

No.	Location	Treatment
1	Benalla — Yarrowonga Rd, Yarrowonga	Passive to Flashing Light
2	Bendigo — St Arnaud Rd, Tarnagulla	Passive to Flashing Light and AAWS*
3	Boorcan Rd, Boorcan	Passive to Flashing Light
4	Borong Hwy, Litchfield	Flashing Light to Boom Barrier and AAWS
5	Church St, Colac	Flashing Light to Boom Barrier
6	Churchill Crossing Rd, Great Western	Passive to Flashing Light
7	Cressy St (Camperdown — Lismore Rd), Camperdown	Flashing Light to Boom Barrier
8	Delloro St, Wangaratta	Passive to Flashing Light
9	Dimboola — Rainbow Rd, Dimboola	Flashing Light to Boom Barrier
10	Draffins Rd, Cardigan	Passive to Flashing Light
11	Edith St, Horsham	Flashing Light to Boom Barrier

**Proposed 2008/09 Level Crossing Safety Upgrade Program**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Treatment</b>
12	Erreys Rd, Baddaginnie	Flashing Light to Boom Barrier
13	Finnegan Rd, Beaufort	Passive to Flashing Light
14	Flaxmill Rd, Colac	Flashing Light to Boom Barrier
15	Glenelg Hwy, Westmere	Flashing Light to Boom Barrier and AAWS
16	Glenorchy — Campbells Bridge Rd, Glenorchy	Passive to Flashing Light
17	Goulburn Valley Hwy, Murchison East	Flashing Light to Boom Barrier and AAWS
18	Gravel Route Rd, Buangor	Passive to Flashing Light
19	Hamilton Hwy, Duverney	Flashing Light to Boom Barrier and AAWS
20	Katamatite — Yarrowonga Rd, Yarrowonga	Passive to Flashing Light
21	Lydiards Rd, Euroa	Passive to Boom Barrier
22	Madden St North, Kaniva	Flashing Light to Boom Barrier
23	Murray Valley Hwy, Strathmerton	Flashing Light to Boom Barrier and AAWS
24	Napier St (Midland Hwy), Bendigo	Flashing Light to Boom Barrier and AAWS
25	Northern Hwy (Mary St), Rochester	Flashing Light to Boom Barrier and AAWS
26	Old Shirley Rd, Eurambeen	Passive to Flashing Light
27	Paschendale Rd, Merbein	Passive to Flashing Light
28	Powells Rd, Windermere	Passive to Flashing Light
29	Prospect Hill Rd, Riversdale	Pedestrian Gate
30	Rennie St, Great Western	Passive to Flashing Light
31	Reserve Rd, Grovedale	Flashing Light to Boom Barrier
32	Rossbridge — Streatham Rd, Mininera	Flashing Light to Boom Barrier
33	Ruthven St, Macleod	Pedestrian Gate
34	Saxton St, Numurkah	Flashing Light to Boom Barrier
35	Shanley St, Wangaratta	Flashing Light to Boom Barrier
36	Stawell — Deep Lead Rd, Deep Lead	Flashing Light to Boom Barrier and AAWS
37	Sunraysia Hwy, Donald	Flashing Light to Boom Barrier and AAWS
38	Sunraysia Hwy, Massey	Flashing Light to Boom Barrier and AAWS
39	Swanston St, South Geelong	Flashing Light to Boom Barrier
40	Tabilk — Monea Rd, Tabilk	Passive to Flashing Light
41	Tatyoan Rd, Jacksons Creek	Passive to Flashing Light
42	Tatyoan Rd, Tatyoan	Passive to Flashing Light
43	Threlfalls Lane, Longwood	Passive to Boom Barrier
44	Wire La, Camperdown	Passive to Flashing Light
45	Yarra St, South Geelong	Pedestrian Gate

Note:

\* Active Advance Warning Signs

To achieve commissioning of 45 sites, some sites may be delayed and other sites not listed may be accelerated should technical problems or stakeholder issues be encountered

**Water: reports and information**

**2958. MR RICH-PHILLIPS** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Water): In relation to the recommendations on “Monitoring and reporting strategies” listed on page 39 in the Auditor-General’s report Planning for Water Infrastructure in Victoria, April 2008: When will the Government accept and implement the Auditor-General’s recommendations that the Department should —

- (a) provide regular, consolidated reports on progress against the actions and outcomes within the white paper and the sustainable water strategies;
- (b) publish information on the progress and impact of projects funded by the Victorian Water Trust;
- (c) validate the flow compliance information provided by Catchment Management Authorities (CMAs) and make the CMAs operating and compliance reports available to the community; and
- (d) regularly make available, to the community, information about how well the Department has met its environmental flow obligations.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The Minister for Water:

The Victorian Government welcomes the Auditor-General’s report and announced at the time of its release that it accepted and would implement all recommendations. In regards to the recommendations on page 39 of the report, I advise as follows:

- provide regular, consolidated reports on progress against the actions and outcomes within the White Paper and the Sustainable Water Strategies

The Department of Sustainability and Environment will report on progress on actions and outcomes in the Annual Report, with further information on progress with the Sustainable Water Strategies published on the Department’s website as they occur.

- publish information on the progress and impact of projects funded by the Victorian Water Trust

The progress and impact of projects funded by the Trust were reviewed and published as of October 2006 and are available on the Department’s website.

A summary of progress and impacts will be included in the Department’s 2007–08 Annual Report.

A further review will be undertaken by December 2008 and made available on the Department’s website in early 2009.

- validate the flow compliance information provided by Catchment Management Authorities (CMAs) and make the CMAs’ operating and compliance reports available to the community

Basic reporting on flow compliance occurs in the Department’s annual water accounts which are published each year in the State Water Report.

The Department will ensure that Catchment Management Authorities, Melbourne Water and regional water businesses make flow compliance information available to the community through their public reporting mechanisms such as their annual reports or on their websites (some Catchment Management Authorities already publish these reports on their websites).

- regularly make available, to the community, information about how well the Department has met its environmental flow obligations.

The Department will incorporate this information in each year’s State Water Report.

**Environment and climate change: board representatives**

- 2972. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change: In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister’s administration: What provision has been made for elected representatives or trade union nominated representatives on their boards, 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 is paid to the representatives.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

Members of public entity boards under the Environment and Climate Change portfolio are appointed by me on principles of equity and merit, or appointed by the Governor in Council on my recommendation.

There are no provisions for the direct appointment of elected representatives or trade union nominees as members of public entity boards under the Environment and Climate Change portfolio.

The Department of Sustainability and Environment does not have a board.

The membership of public entity boards is publicly available by visiting [www.publicboards.vic.gov.au](http://www.publicboards.vic.gov.au).

**Innovation: board representatives**

- 2973. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Innovation: In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister’s administration: What provision has been made for elected representatives or trade union nominated representatives on their boards, 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 is paid to the representatives.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

There are no provisions for the direct appointment of elected representatives or trade union nominees as members of public entity boards under the Innovation portfolio.

The membership of public entity boards is publicly available by visiting [www.publicboards.vic.gov.au](http://www.publicboards.vic.gov.au)

**Planning: board representatives**

- 2974. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning: In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister’s administration: What provision has been made for elected representatives or trade union nominated representatives on their boards, 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 is paid to the representatives.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

To compile the information requested would place a large burden on the department's time and resources, however, should you indicate in a further question what information you are particularly seeking I may be able to assist you.

**Energy and resources: board representatives**

**3007. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Energy and Resources): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's administration: What provision has been made for elected representatives or trade union nominated representatives on their boards, 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 is paid to the representatives.

**ANSWER:**

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

To compile the information requested would place a large burden on the department's time and resources. A detailed response would be too voluminous, however, should you indicate in a further question what information you are particularly seeking, I may be able to assist you.

**Agriculture: alcohol purchases**

**3047. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Agriculture): Since the Minister's appointment, what are the details of all alcohol purchased by the Minister or the Minister's office, indicating, in respect of each purchase —

- (a) the date;
- (b) the value; and
- (c) the items.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

To compile the information requested would place a large and unnecessary burden on the department's time and resources.

**Planning: uniforms**

**3053. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning: In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's administration:

- (1) How many employees are supplied with uniforms.
- (2) Which company or companies supply 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:



To compile the information requested would place a large burden on the department's time and resources, however should you indicate in a further question what information you are particularly seeking I may be able to assist you.

**Energy and resources: uniforms**

**3086. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Energy and Resources): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's administration:

- (1) How many employees are supplied with uniforms.
- (2) Which company or companies supply 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, as at the date the question was raised:

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

**Community development: staff attrition rate**

**3109. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Community Development): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's administration: What was the staff attrition rate for each of the financial years 2000–01 to 2006–07.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

As the Minister for Community Development I am supported by the Department of Planning and Community Development. I direct you to the response of the lead Minister, the Hon. Justin Madden, for LC3093.

*[Hansard reference: Legislative Council, 19 August 2008, page 3444]*

**Local government: staff attrition rate**

**3113. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Local Government): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's administration: What was the staff attrition rate for each of the financial years 2000–01 to 2006–07.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

As the Minister for Local Government I am supported by the Department of Planning and Community Development. I direct you to the response of the lead Minister, the Hon. Justin Madden, for LC3093.

*[Hansard reference: Legislative Council, 19 August 2008, page 3444]*

**Women's affairs: staff attrition rate**

**3115. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Women's Affairs): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's administration: What was the staff attrition rate for each of the financial years 2000–01 to 2006–07.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

As the Minister for Women's Affairs I am supported by the Department of Planning and Community Development. I direct you to the response of the lead minister, the Hon. Justin Madden, for LC3903.

[*Hansard reference: Legislative Council, 19 August 2008, page 3444*]

**Housing: mental health services**

**3143. MR HALL** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Housing): In relation to the Local Government areas of Bass, Baw Baw, South Gippsland, Latrobe, Wellington and East Gippsland:

- (1) In which towns does the Office of Housing, Department of Human, Services provide public housing for people with a mental illness.
- (2) How many of these houses/units are provided in each of the towns.
- (3) What is the waiting list for housing people with a mental illness in each of these towns.
- (4) How many tenants with a mental illness has the Department arranged support services for.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

- (1) The Office of Housing does not reserve a particular number of properties for people with a mental illness. Public housing which is suitable for people with a mental illness is located across the State. At 30 June 2007, there were 65,307 direct tenure public rental units in Victoria. All of these properties were capable of housing people with a mental illness. From time to time, some public housing tenants may experience mental illness, as do many others in the wider community.
- (2) See above.
- (3) See above.
- (4) The department does not collect data which identifies the number of tenants with a mental illness who are accessing support services.

The Victorian Government is committed to addressing disadvantage and assisting those in need. The recent 2008–09 Budget provides \$4.2 million over four years to support vulnerable tenants in social housing to maintain their tenancies and prevent homelessness. The Support for High Risk Tenancies initiatives will assist people with complex needs, including mental illness, drug and alcohol, health and behavioural problems, who require intensive support from a range of different services to keep them in their long-term housing. This funding will assist around 300 people each year to maintain their long-term housing.

In addition, the Victorian Government has committed \$50 million to a whole-of-government Supportive Housing facility in partnership with support agencies and the private sector. This facility will provide significant with intensive on-site support for high-needs homeless people. A range of support will be provided to tenants, including significant mental health support services, training and employment, which will play a vital role in stabilising the lives of this vulnerable group.

**Mental health: Victorian Centre for Excellence in Depression and Related Disorders**

**3169. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Mental Health): In relation to \$6.5 million worth of funding to establish the Victorian Centre for Excellence in Depression and Related Disorders announced on 31 July 2002: How much of the funding was expended by 31 July 2007.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The entire \$6.5 million allocated to establish the Victorian Centre for Excellence in Depression and Related Disorders announced on 31 July 2002 was expended by 30 June 2007.

**Community services: Stargate project**

**3170. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to \$400,000 worth of funding to launch the Stargate project launched on 2 August 2002:

- (1) Over what period of time was the project piloted.
- (2) How much of the above funding was expended over this timeframe.
- (3) How was the pilot evaluated and what were the results of the evaluation.
- (4) Why has the project not received ongoing funding.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

- (1) The program was piloted from 1 February 2002 to 24 April 2003
- (2) \$400,000 was expended.
- (3) The pilot was evaluated. The service was well received by stakeholders.
- (4) Stargate provided quality assessments but not meet the need for ongoing treatment and therapy for children and young people. An assessment and treatment service was therefore competitively tendered, resulting in the establishment of the Take Two Intensive Therapeutic Service which has been providing assessment and treatment services throughout Victoria since 2003.

**Community services: communication training packages**

**3172. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to \$20,000 worth of funding for the Communicate with Me and Communicate with Us communication tools launched on 14 August 2002:

- (1) Has the use of the funds been evaluated; if so, what were the results of the evaluation.
- (2) How many Victorians with disabilities have been provided a copy of each of these tools.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

- (1) Whilst there was no formal evaluation, Communication Rights Australia advise the training packages have been well received by people with disabilities, service providers, government organisations and support workers.

- (2) Communication Rights Australia has estimated that 400 copies of the Communicate with Me training package (video and booklet) and 98 copies of the Communicate with Us learning package have been distributed.

**Community services: aids and equipment program — Grampians region**

**3173. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to \$194,000 worth of funding for The Aids and Equipment Program in the Grampians region announced on 22 August 2002:

- (1) By what date were these funds expended.
- (2) How many additional aids and pieces of equipment were provided as a result of these funds.
- (3) How many additional people in the Grampians received aids and equipment as a result of these funds.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

- (1) Funding was expended by 30 June 2002.
- (2) This funding provided for an additional 404 aids and equipment items to people with a disability living in the Grampians Region.
- (3) An additional 250 people received aids and equipment as a result of the funding.

**Community services: disability services — advocacy programs**

**3174. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to \$1 million worth of funding for disability advocacy programs announced on 27 August 2002:

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

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

- (1) The funding was expended.
- (2) Evaluation of organisations receiving ongoing funding has occurred through normal departmental practice including regular site visits, desktop reviews and data collection. This has resulted in a stronger advocacy and self-advocacy sector, and greater use of those services.
- (3) The funding is ongoing.

**Community services: Best Start initiative**

**3175. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to \$7.2 million worth of funding for the BEST START initiative announced on 2 September 2002:

- (1) By what date were these funds expended.
- (2) How many young Victorians aged up to eight, and their families, have benefited because of the BEST START initiative.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The question raised sits within the portfolio responsibility of the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development.

**Community services: speech therapy initiative**

**3176. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to \$1 million worth of funding for the Speech Therapy Initiative announced on 13 September 2002:

- (1) By what date were these funds expended.
- (2) Has the use of the funds been evaluated; if so, what were the results of the evaluation.
- (3) Has funding been ongoing.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

- (1) The funds were expended by the end of the 2002/03 financial year in establishing the Speech Therapy Initiative.
- (2) The Speech Therapy Initiative is a service providing speech pathology services to adults with complex communication needs and community capacity building projects to enhance the access and participation of this group to the community. An independent evaluation of the program was completed in 2006, with the outcome indicating that:
  - the service is an effective model capable of addressing equity of access to speech therapy services and increasing intensity and frequency of support for people with complex communication needs
  - people that have used the service experienced positive outcomes, and
  - community capacity building is an effective approach to apply within the Speech Therapy Initiative.
- (3) The funding for the Speech Therapy Initiative is ongoing.

**Mental health: drug treatment beds**

**3179. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Mental Health): In relation to the Minister's answer to Question on Notice No. 732 tabled in the Legislative Council on 5 February 2008, which stated that there were 754 drug treatment beds, a cut of 66 since 17 October 2002 when the Minister for Health stated there were 820 drug treatment beds: What is the name and location of each service from which each of the 66 beds have been removed.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

66 beds have not been closed.

**Finance, WorkCover and the Transport Accident Commission: adjournment debate responses**

**3261. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Finance, WorkCover and the TAC): What is the usual length of time it takes the Minister to respond to matters raised during the Adjournment debate in the house.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

Where there is no complexity that might cause unavoidable delays, I endeavour to respond to all adjournment matters within 30 days.

**Innovation: adjournment debate responses**

**3265. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Innovation: What is the usual length of time it takes the Minister to respond to matters raised in the Adjournment debate.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The adjournment debates in the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council play an important role where members raise matters for Ministers which they consider requires attention.

If there is a particular adjournment debate matter which relates to my portfolio that you are seeking a response to please feel free to contact me.

**Planning: adjournment debate responses**

**3269. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning: What is the usual length of time it takes the Minister to respond to matters raised in the Adjournment debate.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The adjournment debates in the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council play an important role where members raise matters for Ministers which they consider require attention.

If there is a particular adjournment debate matter which relates to my portfolio that you are seeking a response to please feel free to contact me.

**Women's affairs: adjournment debate responses**

**3272. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Women's Affairs): What is the usual length of time it takes the Minister to respond to matters raised in the Adjournment debate.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The adjournment debates in the Legislative Council play an important role where members raise matters for Minister which they consider require attention.

If there is a particular adjournment debate matter which relates to my portfolio that you are seeking a response to please feel free to contact me.

**Aboriginal affairs: adjournment debate responses**

**3285. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs): What is the usual length of time it takes the Minister to respond to matters raised in the Adjournment debate.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The adjournment debates in the Legislative Council play an important role where members raise matters for Ministers which they consider require attention.

If there is a particular adjournment debate matter which relates to my portfolio that you are seeking a response to please feel free to contact me.

**Police and emergency services: police — Croydon station**

**3286. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Police and Emergency Services): How much time do police officers at the Croydon Police Station spend witnessing statutory declarations for members of the public.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that:

Victoria Police does not collect data on the time taken for police members to witness statutory declarations.

**Police and emergency services: police — Mooroolbark station**

**3287. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Police and Emergency Services): How much time do police officers at the Mooroolbark Police Station spend witnessing statutory declarations for members of the public.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that:

Victoria Police does not collect data on the time taken for police members to witness statutory declarations.

**Education: Bayswater North Primary School**

**3288. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Education): When did the Minister last visit Bayswater North Primary School.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

There are more than 2,290 schools in Victoria and over the past year the Minister for Education has visited a significant number across Victoria.

**Education: Croydon Primary School**

**3289. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Education): When did the Minister last visit Croydon Primary School.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

There are more than 2,290 schools in Victoria and over the past year the Minister for Education has visited a significant number across Victoria.

**Community services: cognitive dementia and memory services**

**3327. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to \$3.2 million funding for Cognitive Dementia and Memory Service Clinics promised on 21 September 2004:

- (1) How much funding was expended by 30 June 2006.
- (2) How many additional clinics were established a result.
- (3) Has the use of the funds been evaluated; if so, what were the results of the evaluation.

**ANSWER:**

With reference to the \$3.2 million of funding for Cognitive Dementia and Memory Service Clinics as referred to in 21 September 2003, not as 21 September 2004

I am informed that:

- (1) All funding was expended by 30 June 2006.
- (2) Four additional clinics were established in 2003–04.
- (3) The use of the funds has not been evaluated.

**Education: Croydon Secondary School**

**3330. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Education): When did the Minister last visit Croydon Secondary School.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

There are more than 2,290 schools in Victoria and over the past year the Minister for Education has visited a significant number across Victoria.

**Education: Croydon South Primary School**

**3331. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Treasurer (for the Minister for Education): When did the Minister last visit Croydon South Primary School.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:



There are more than 2,290 schools in Victoria and over the past year the Minister for Education has visited a significant number across Victoria.

**Police and emergency services: Nepean Highway–Bay Road, Cheltenham — traffic lights**

**3358. MRS COOTE** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Police and emergency services): In relation to the traffic lights at the intersection of Nepean Highway and Bay Road Cheltenham at which right hand turns are monitored by red light cameras: What repairs and/or modifications have been made to the time duration allowance for right turn movement on the green and amber arrows in the last six months.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that:

Timing allowances for green and amber arrows are matters that are administered by VicRoads.

**Community services: supported residential services**

**3362. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to Supported Residential Services (SRS): What methods or strategies does the Government have in place to ensure that residents of pension only SRS who are aged over 65 years are assessed by an aged care assessment service and if eligible, are assisted to secure appropriate care options.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

As with other older people in the community, residents of pension-only SRS are eligible for assessment by an aged care assessment service.

When the accommodation and care needs of a pension-level SRS resident can no longer be met by the service, the SRS proprietor is required under the Health Services Act 1988 to “take all reasonable steps to ensure that appropriate health care is provided to the resident”. In some instances, this involves seeking an aged care assessment service.

If a SRS resident is assessed as requiring care beyond that which can be provided to them while residing in a SRS, a range of people may be involved in assisting that resident to find an alternative option. This may, depending on the needs of the resident and their circumstances, involve the resident’s family, SRS proprietor, practitioners involved in that resident’s care (such as GP or case workers), and/or DHS officers.

**Senior Victorians: falls prevention program**

**3364. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Senior Victorians): In relation to \$752,000 worth of funding to help reduce falls by older people in hospital, residential aged care and in their homes promised on 20 December 2003:

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

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that: in relation to \$752,000 worth of funding to help reduce falls by older people in hospital, residential aged care and their homes announced on 10 December 2003:

- (1) All funding was expended by 30 June 2006.
- (2) The use of funding for hip protectors in residential aged care and hospitals was evaluated, suggesting that wearing a hip protector can reduce risk of fractures to the neck of femur (hip) or pelvis.

**Senior Victorians: regional and rural nursing homes**

**3372. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Senior Victorians): In relation to \$1 million worth of funding to upgrade country nursing home beds and lifting equipment promised on 4 March 2003:

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

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

- (1) All of the \$1 million funds announced on 4 March 2003, to upgrade beds and lifting equipment in public sector residential aged care facilities with high care places in rural and regional Victoria had been expended by 30 June 2006.
- (2) A review to assess the impact of equipment funding in public sector residential aged care services is currently underway.

**Housing: seniors — Frankston and Mornington Peninsula**

**3374. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Housing): In relation to \$5.95 million worth of funding for affordable housing for older Victorians in the Frankston and the Mornington Peninsula promised on 6 February 2002:

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

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

- (1) A funding allocation of \$5.95 million was announced by the then Minister for Housing and Senior Victorians in February 2002 for the acquisition of properties in the Local Government Areas of Frankston and Mornington Peninsula. This included \$1.7 million for accommodation specifically designed for older persons. \$6.65 million was spent during 2001–02, exceeding the allocation, and the planned older person properties were completed.
- (2) The properties acquired were part of a broader capital program and fully met its objectives.

**Senior Victorians: Echuca Nursing Home**

**3379. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Senior Victorians): In relation to \$7 million worth of funding to develop the Echuca Nursing Home, which replaced Lumeah Nursing Home, promised on 30 November 2001:

- (1) On what date was the Echuca Nursing Home opened.
- (2) What was the final cost of developing the facility.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

- (1) The Echuca Nursing Home was opened on 18 November 2002.
- (2) The final cost of developing the facility was \$7 million

**Community services: child protection workers**

**3424. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to staffing within Victoria’s Child Protection Services: How many staff (equivalent full time) were employed at the start of each financial years from 2001–02 to 2007–08.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

Workforce data is published in Departmental Annual Reports for the years 2000–07. This data combines both Child Protection and Family Services Workforce.

**Community services: child protection workers**

**3425. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change (for the Minister for Community Services): In relation to staffing within Victoria’s Child Protection Services: How many vacancies (equivalent full time) were employed at the start of each financial years from 2001–02 to 2007–08.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

This data is not routinely collected across Child Protection Services as it is subject to change on a frequent basis.



**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

*Answers to the following questions on notice were circulated on the date shown.  
 Questions have been incorporated from the notice paper of the Legislative Council.  
 Answers have been incorporated in the form supplied by the departments on behalf of the appropriate ministers.  
 The portfolio of the minister answering the question on notice starts each heading.*

**Thursday, 11 September 2008**

**Community development: board representatives**

- 2989.** **MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Community Development): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister’s administration: What provision has been made for elected representatives or trade union nominated representatives on their boards, 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 is paid to the representatives.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

As the Minister for Community Development I am supported by the Department of Planning and Community Development. I direct you to the response of the lead Minister, the Hon. Justin Madden, for LC2974.

**Energy and resources: alcohol purchases**

- 3046.** **MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Energy and Resources): Since the Minister’s appointment, what are the details of all alcohol purchased by the Minister or the Minister’s office, indicating, in respect of each purchase —
- (a) the date;
  - (b) the value; and
  - (c) the items.

**ANSWER:**

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

To compile the information requested would place a large burden on the department’s time and resources.

**Community development: uniforms**

- 3068.** **MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Community Development): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister’s administration:
- (1) How many employees are supplied with uniforms.
  - (2) Which company or companies supply 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 as follows:

As the Minister for Community Development I am supported by the Department of Planning and Community Development. I direct you to the response of the lead Minister, the Hon. Justin Madden, for LC3053.

**Community development: adjournment debate responses**

- 3256. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Planning (for the Minister for Community Development): What is the usual length of time it takes the Minister to respond to matters raised in the Adjournment debate.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The adjournment debates in the Legislative Council play an important role where members raise matters for Ministers which they consider require attention.

If there is a particular adjournment debate matter which relates to my portfolio that you are seeking a response to please feel free to contact me.

**Energy and resources: reports and information**

- 3555. MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Energy and Resources): In relation to the answer to Question on Notice No. 2306 tabled on 25 June 2008, which referred to the Department of Primary Industries Annual Report and the Business Victoria website at [www.business.vic.gov.au](http://www.business.vic.gov.au):

- (1) What are the page numbers of the Annual Report relevant to the question.
- (2) What are the exact internet addresses of the web pages on the website relevant to the question.

**ANSWER:**

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

- (1) The page number of the Annual report relevant to the question is 35.
- (2) The web page address for the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) Annual report is;

[http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/DPI/dpincor.nsf/9e58661e880ba9e44a256c640023eb2e/37ebb0f39591c061ca2574660021518a/\\$FILE/06\\_07\\_Financials\\_Appendices.pdf](http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/DPI/dpincor.nsf/9e58661e880ba9e44a256c640023eb2e/37ebb0f39591c061ca2574660021518a/$FILE/06_07_Financials_Appendices.pdf)

The web page address for the Business Victoria website and the VPS Agreement 2006 Core terms & conditions (page numbers 55–58) is;

[http://www.business.vic.gov.au/busvicwr/\\_assets/main/lib60138/vps%20agreement%202006%20-%20core%20terms%20and%20conditions.pdf](http://www.business.vic.gov.au/busvicwr/_assets/main/lib60138/vps%20agreement%202006%20-%20core%20terms%20and%20conditions.pdf)

**Energy and resources: reports and information**

**3577.**     **MR DALLA-RIVA** — To ask the Minister for Industry and Trade (for the Minister for Energy and Resources): In relation to the answer to Question on Notice No. 2386, tabled on 27 May 2008, which referred to the website [www.justice.vic.gov.au](http://www.justice.vic.gov.au): What are the exact internet addresses of the webpages on this site relevant to the question.

**ANSWER:**

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

The website address is

<http://www.justice.vic.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/DOJ+Internet/resources/file/eb564d07f330caa/GovernmentLegalServicesAnnualReport20062007.pdf>