

**PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA**

**PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES  
(HANSARD)**

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

**FIFTY-SEVENTH PARLIAMENT**

**FIRST SESSION**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**13 and 15 November 2012**

**(Extract from book 17)**

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## **The Lieutenant-Governor**

The Honourable Justice MARILYN WARREN, AC

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**Electoral Matters Committee** — (*Assembly*): Ms Ryall and Mrs Victoria. (*Council*): Mr Finn, Mr Somyurek and Mr Tarlamis.

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**Family and Community Development Committee** — (*Assembly*): Ms Halfpenny, Mr McGuire and Mr Wakeling. (*Council*): Mrs Coote, Ms Crozier and Mr O'Brien.

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**Road Safety Committee** — (*Assembly*): Mr Languiller, Mr Perera, Mr Tilley and Mr Thompson. (*Council*): Mr Elsbury.

**Rural and Regional Committee** — (*Assembly*): Mr Howard, Mr Katos, Mr Trezise and Mr Weller. (*Council*): Mr Drum.

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*Council* — Clerk of the Legislative Council: Mr W. R. Tunnecliffe

*Parliamentary Services* — Secretary: Mr P. Lochert

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**FIFTY-SEVENTH PARLIAMENT — FIRST SESSION**

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**Acting Speakers:** Ms Beattie, Mr Blackwood, Mr Burgess, Ms Campbell, Mr Eren, Mr Languiller, Mr Morris, Mr Nardella, Mr Northe, Mr Pandazopoulos, Dr Sykes, Mr Thompson, Mr Tilley, Mrs Victoria and Mr Weller.

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**Deputy Leader of The Nationals:**

The Hon. P. L. WALSH

**Leader of the Parliamentary Labor Party and Leader of the Opposition:**

The Hon. D. M. ANDREWS

**Deputy Leader of the Parliamentary Labor Party and Deputy Leader of the Opposition:**

The Hon. J. A. MERLINO

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| Andrews, Mr Daniel Michael             | Mulgrave           | ALP   | Lim, Mr Muy Hong                      | Clayton          | ALP   |
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| Asher, Ms Louise                       | Brighton           | LP    | McGuire, Mr Frank <sup>5</sup>        | Broadmeadows     | ALP   |
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| Battin, Mr Bradley William             | Gembrook           | LP    | Madden, Mr Justin Mark                | Essendon         | ALP   |
| Bauer, Mrs Donna Jane                  | Carrum             | LP    | Merlino, Mr James Anthony             | Monbulk          | ALP   |
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| Blackwood, Mr Gary John                | Narracan           | LP    | Morris, Mr David Charles              | Mornington       | LP    |
| Brooks, Mr Colin William               | Bundoora           | ALP   | Mulder, Mr Terence Wynn               | Polwarth         | LP    |
| Brumby, Mr John Mansfield <sup>1</sup> | Broadmeadows       | ALP   | Napthine, Dr Denis Vincent            | South-West Coast | LP    |
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| Burgess, Mr Neale Ronald               | Hastings           | LP    | Neville, Ms Lisa Mary                 | Bellarine        | ALP   |
| Campbell, Ms Christine Mary            | Pascoe Vale        | ALP   | Newton-Brown, Mr Clement Arundel      | Prahran          | LP    |
| Carbines, Mr Anthony Richard           | Ivanhoe            | ALP   | Noonan, Mr Wade Mathew                | Williamstown     | ALP   |
| Carroll, Mr Benjamin Alan <sup>2</sup> | Niddrie            | ALP   | Northe, Mr Russell John               | Morwell          | Nats  |
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| Crisp, Mr Peter Laurence               | Mildura            | Nats  | Pallas, Mr Timothy Hugh               | Tarneit          | ALP   |
| D'Ambrosio, Ms Liliana                 | Mill Park          | ALP   | Pandazopoulos, Mr John                | Dandenong        | ALP   |
| Delahunty, Mr Hugh Francis             | Lowan              | Nats  | Perera, Mr Jude                       | Cranbourne       | ALP   |
| Dixon, Mr Martin Francis               | Nepean             | LP    | Pike, Ms Bronwyn Jane <sup>6</sup>    | Melbourne        | ALP   |
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| Garrett, Ms Jane Furneaux              | Brunswick          | ALP   | Smith, Mr Kenneth Maurice             | Bass             | LP    |
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| Green, Ms Danielle Louise              | Yan Yean           | ALP   | Sykes, Dr William Everett             | Benalla          | Nats  |
| Halfpenny, Ms Bronwyn                  | Thomastown         | ALP   | Thompson, Mr Murray Hamilton Ross     | Sandringham      | LP    |
| Helper, Mr Jochen                      | Ripon              | ALP   | Thomson, Ms Marsha Rose               | Footscray        | ALP   |
| Hennessy, Ms Jill                      | Altona             | ALP   | Tilley, Mr William John               | Benambra         | LP    |
| Herbert, Mr Steven Ralph               | Eltham             | ALP   | Trezise, Mr Ian Douglas               | Geelong          | ALP   |
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| Hulls, Mr Rob Justin <sup>3</sup>      | Niddrie            | ALP   | Watt, Mr Graham Travis                | Burwood          | LP    |
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| Kotsiras, Mr Nicholas                  | Bulleen            | LP    |                                       |                  |       |
| Languiller, Mr Telmo Ramon             | Derrimut           | ALP   |                                       |                  |       |

<sup>1</sup> Resigned 21 December 2010

<sup>2</sup> Elected 24 March 2012

<sup>3</sup> Resigned 27 January 2012

<sup>4</sup> Elected 21 July 2012

<sup>5</sup> Elected 19 February 2011

<sup>6</sup> Resigned 7 May 2012



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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 Assembly.  
 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, 13 November 2012**

**Housing: new houses and units**

**727.** Ms **KNIGHT** to ask the Minister for Sport and Recreation for the Minister for Housing — how many new houses and units were added to the Department of Human Services’ housing stock in 2006–07 in each of the following postcodes:

- (1) 3350;
- (2) 3351;
- (3) 3352;
- (4) 3355;
- (5) 3356.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The number of new houses and units managed by the Department of Human Services added to the Department’s housing stock in 2006–07 is as follows:

|     | Postcode | Stock Additions |
|-----|----------|-----------------|
| (a) | 3350     | 5               |
| (b) | 3351     | 0               |
| (c) | 3352     | 0               |
| (d) | 3355     | 6               |
| (e) | 3356     | 0               |

**Housing: new houses and units**

**728.** Ms **KNIGHT** to ask the Minister for Sport and Recreation for the Minister for Housing — how many new houses and units were added to the Department of Human Services’ housing stock in 2007–08 in each of the following postcodes:

- (1) 3350;
- (2) 3351;
- (3) 3352;
- (4) 3355;
- (5) 3356.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The number of new houses and units managed by the Department of Human Services added to the Department’s housing stock in 2007–08 is as follows

|     | Postcode | Stock Additions |
|-----|----------|-----------------|
| (a) | 3350     | 11              |
| (b) | 3351     | 0               |
| (c) | 3352     | 1               |
| (d) | 3355     | 6               |
| (e) | 3356     | 3               |

**Housing: new houses and units**

**729.** Ms **KNIGHT** to ask the Minister for Sport and Recreation for the Minister for Housing — how many new houses and units were added to the Department of Human Services' housing stock in 2008–09 in each of the following postcodes:

- (1) 3350;
- (2) 3351;
- (3) 3352;
- (4) 3355;
- (5) 3356.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The number of new houses and units managed by the Department of Human Services added to the Department's housing stock in 2008–09 is as follows

|     | Postcode | Stock Additions |
|-----|----------|-----------------|
| (a) | 3350     | 20              |
| (b) | 3351     | 0               |
| (c) | 3352     | 1               |
| (d) | 3355     | 24              |
| (e) | 3356     | 5               |

**Housing: new houses and units**

**730.** Ms **KNIGHT** to ask the Minister for Sport and Recreation for the Minister for Housing — how many new houses and units were added to the Department of Human Services' housing stock in 2009–10 in each of the following postcodes:

- (1) 3350;
- (2) 3351;
- (3) 3352;
- (4) 3355;
- (5) 3356.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The number of new houses and units managed by the Department of Human Services added to the Department's housing stock in 2009–10 is as follows

|     | Postcode | Stock Additions |
|-----|----------|-----------------|
| (a) | 3350     | 15              |
| (b) | 3351     | 0               |
| (c) | 3352     | 1               |
| (d) | 3355     | 20              |
| (e) | 3356     | 14              |

**Housing: new houses and units**

**731.** Ms **KNIGHT** to ask the Minister for Sport and Recreation for the Minister for Housing — how many new houses and units were added to the Department of Human Services' housing stock in 2010–11 in each of the following postcodes:

- (1) 3350;
- (2) 3351;
- (3) 3352;
- (4) 3355;
- (5) 3356.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The number of new houses and units managed by the Department of Human Services added to the Department's housing stock in 2010–11 is as follows

|     | Postcode | Stock Additions |
|-----|----------|-----------------|
| (a) | 3350     | 16              |
| (b) | 3351     | 0               |
| (c) | 3352     | 0               |
| (d) | 3355     | 22              |
| (e) | 3356     | 7               |

**Housing: new houses and units**

**732.** Ms **KNIGHT** to ask the Minister for Sport and Recreation for the Minister for Housing — how many new houses and units are planned to be added to the Department of Human Services' housing stock in 2011–12 in each of the following postcodes:

- (1) 3350;
- (2) 3351;
- (3) 3352;
- (4) 3355;
- (5) 3356.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The Department does not plan its housing acquisition program by postcode; the distribution of the portfolio in any one year is by Local Government Area. For the 2011–12 financial year the Department plans to acquire a total of 29 social housing properties in the City of Ballarat.

**Housing: new houses and units**

**733.** Ms **KNIGHT** to ask the Minister for Sport and Recreation for the Minister for Housing — how many new houses and units are planned to be added to the Department of Human Services' housing stock in 2012–13 in each of the following postcodes:

- (1) 3350;
- (2) 3351;
- (3) 3352;
- (4) 3355;
- (5) 3356.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The acquisition plan for 2012–13 is based on a holistic approach to the total portfolio and includes criteria regarding the potential to redevelop, the demand for housing in a particular area and consultation with the regions regarding specific needs. Planned acquisitions at the Local Government Area for 2012–13 are to be confirmed as part of the state budget process.

**Public transport: rail — St Albans level crossing**

**3496.** Ms **KAIROUZ** to ask the Minister for Public Transport — what was the advice of the Department of Transport to the Minister regarding funding for the level crossing on Furlong Road, St Albans, in the 2012–13 Budget.

**ANSWER:**

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

Consistent with well-established conventions adopted by successive Victorian Governments, the details of the budget process is a Cabinet matter.

**Environment and climate change: Crown land — exchange**

**3546.** Ms **NEVILLE** to ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change — what are the regulations that govern the swapping of Crown Land for privately owned land.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

Regulations do not govern the swapping of Crown Land for privately owned land.

**Environment and climate change: Crown land — exchange**

**3547.** Ms **NEVILLE** to ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change — what is the process for property owners to negotiate a land swap with the Department of Sustainability and Environment or the Minister.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The powers restrict a land exchange to only occur where the land to be obtained has a public purpose; that is it would enhance other public land or would rationalise boundaries.

Land exchanges generally occur where a person may occupy a portion of public land and the Government occupies portion of that same person's private land. The Department will consider an exchange where the conservation values of the land proposed to become crown land are greater than those of the private land.

The land is then exchanged based on the Government Land Monitor guidelines whereby the matter is resolved so that valuation is equal to both parties.

This is the same process as was the case under the previous government.

**Environment and climate change: Crown land — exchange**

**3548.** Ms NEVILLE to ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change — what are the requirements for Government to inform the public of an agreement to swap Crown Land for privately owned land.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The legislation does not require any public process; however land must be appropriately zoned within the local planning scheme to allow the exchange to occur. This generally involves a public process as was the process under the previous government.

**Environment and climate change: Crown land — exchange**

**3549.** Ms NEVILLE to ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change — what appeal processes are open to residents to challenge an agreement to swap Crown Land for privately owned land.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

As a rezoning of land is a public process open to the community that has a robust appeal process, no further public processes have been deemed necessary, as was the case under the previous government.



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**Thursday, 15 November 2012**

**Health: Ballarat Base Hospital — doctors**

**2635.** Ms **KNIGHT** to ask the Minister for Ports for the Minister for Health — with reference to the government commitment to employ an additional 20 doctors at Ballarat Base Hospital:

- (1) How many additional doctors have been employed since 1 July 2011.
- (2) How many additional doctors are planned to be employed in:
  - (a) 2011–12;
  - (b) 2012–13;
  - (c) 2013–14.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

(1) and (2)(a) (b) and (c): The government is meeting its commitments in line with the needs of Ballarat Health Service.

