

PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA

**PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(HANSARD)**

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

FIFTY-EIGHTH PARLIAMENT

FIRST SESSION

ANSWERS TO CONSTITUENCY QUESTIONS

Tuesday, 26 May 2015

(Extract from book 7)

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By authority of the Victorian Government Printer

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The Lieutenant-Governor

The Honourable Justice MARILYN WARREN, AC, QC

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FIFTY-EIGHTH PARLIAMENT — FIRST SESSION**

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The Hon. TELMO LANGUILLER

Deputy Speaker:

Mr D. A. NARDELLA

Acting Speakers:

Mr Angus, Mr Blackwood, Ms Blandthorn, Mr Carbines, Mr Crisp, Mr Dixon, Ms Edwards, Ms Halfpenny,
Ms Kilkenny, Mr McCurdy, Ms McLeish, Mr Pearson, Ms Ryall, Ms Thomas,
Mr Thompson, Ms Thomson, Ms Ward and Mr Watt.

Leader of the Parliamentary Labor Party and Premier:

The Hon. D. M. ANDREWS

Deputy Leader of the Parliamentary Labor Party and Deputy Premier:

The Hon. J. A. MERLINO

Leader of the Parliamentary Liberal Party and Leader of the Opposition:

The Hon. M. J. GUY

Deputy Leader of the Parliamentary Liberal Party and Deputy Leader of the Opposition:

The Hon. D. J. HODGETT

Leader of The Nationals:

The Hon. P. L. WALSH

Deputy Leader of The Nationals:

Ms S. RYAN

Heads of parliamentary departments

Assembly — Clerk of the Parliaments and Clerk of the Legislative Assembly: Mr R. W. Purdey

Council — Acting Clerk of the Legislative Council: Mr A. Young

Parliamentary Services — Secretary: Mr P. Lochert

MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FIFTY-EIGHTH PARLIAMENT — FIRST SESSION

Member	District	Party	Member	District	Party
Allan, Ms Jacinta Marie	Bendigo East	ALP	McLeish, Ms Lucinda Gaye	Eildon	LP
Andrews, Mr Daniel Michael	Mulgrave	ALP	Merlino, Mr James Anthony	Monbulk	ALP
Angus, Mr Neil Andrew Warwick	Forest Hill	LP	Morris, Mr David Charles	Mornington	LP
Asher, Ms Louise	Brighton	LP	Mulder, Mr Terence Wynn	Polwarth	LP
Batin, Mr Bradley William	Gembrook	LP	Naphthine, Dr Denis Vincent	South-West Coast	LP
Blackwood, Mr Gary John	Narracan	LP	Nardella, Mr Donato Antonio	Melton	ALP
Blandthorn, Ms Elizabeth Anne	Pascoe Vale	ALP	Neville, Ms Lisa Mary	Bellarine	ALP
Brooks, Mr Colin William	Bundoora	ALP	Noonan, Mr Wade Matthew	Williamstown	ALP
Bull, Mr Joshua Michael	Sunbury	ALP	Northe, Mr Russell John	Morwell	Nats
Bull, Mr Timothy Owen	Gippsland East	Nats	O'Brien, Mr Daniel David ²	Gippsland South	Nats
Burgess, Mr Neale Ronald	Hastings	LP	O'Brien, Mr Michael Anthony	Malvern	LP
Carbines, Mr Anthony Richard	Ivanhoe	ALP	Pakula, Mr Martin Philip	Keysborough	ALP
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Clark, Mr Robert William	Box Hill	LP	Paynter, Mr Brian Francis	Bass	LP
Couzens, Ms Christine Anne	Geelong	ALP	Pearson, Mr Daniel James	Essendon	ALP
Crisp, Mr Peter Laurence	Mildura	Nats	Perera, Mr Jude	Cranbourne	ALP
D'Ambrosio, Ms Liliana	Mill Park	ALP	Pesutto, Mr John	Hawthorn	LP
Dimopoulos, Mr Stephen	Oakleigh	ALP	Richardson, Mr Timothy Noel	Mordialloc	ALP
Dixon, Mr Martin Francis	Nepean	LP	Richardson, Ms Fiona Catherine Alison	Northcote	ALP
Donnellan, Mr Luke Anthony	Narre Warren North	ALP	Ryall, Ms Deanne Sharon	Ringwood	LP
Edbrooke, Mr Paul Andrew	Frankston	ALP	Ryan, Mr Peter Julian ¹	Gippsland South	Nats
Edwards, Ms Janice Maree	Bendigo West	ALP	Ryan, Ms Stephanie Maureen	Euroa	Nats
Eren, Mr John Hamdi	Lara	ALP	Sandell, Ms Ellen	Melbourne	Greens
Foley, Mr Martin Peter	Albert Park	ALP	Scott, Mr Robin David	Preston	ALP
Fyffe, Mrs Christine Anne	Evelyn	LP	Sheed, Ms Suzanna	Shepparton	Ind
Garrett, Ms Jane Furneaux	Brunswick	ALP	Smith, Mr Ryan	Warrandyte	LP
Gidley, Mr Michael Xavier Charles	Mount Waverley	LP	Smith, Mr Timothy Colin	Kew	LP
Graley, Ms Judith Ann	Narre Warren South	ALP	Southwick, Mr David James	Caulfield	LP
Green, Ms Danielle Louise	Yan Yean	ALP	Spence, Ms Rosalind Louise	Yuroke	ALP
Guy, Mr Matthew Jason	Bulleen	LP	Staikos, Mr Nicholas	Bentleigh	ALP
Halfpenny, Ms Bronwyn	Thomastown	ALP	Staley, Ms Louise Eileen	Ripon	LP
Hennessy, Ms Jill	Altona	ALP	Suleyman, Ms Natalie	St Albans	ALP
Hibbins, Mr Samuel Peter	Prahran	Greens	Thomas, Ms Mary-Anne	Macedon	ALP
Hodgett, Mr David John	Croydon	LP	Thompson, Mr Murray Hamilton Ross	Sandringham	LP
Howard, Mr Geoffrey Kemp	Buninyong	ALP	Thomson, Ms Marsha Rose	Footscray	ALP
Hutchins, Ms Natalie Maree Sykes	Sydenham	ALP	Tilley, Mr William John	Benambra	LP
Kairouz, Ms Marlene	Koroit	ALP	Victoria, Ms Heidi	Bayswater	LP
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Kealy, Ms Emma Jayne	Lowan	Nats	Walsh, Mr Peter Lindsay	Murray Plains	Nats
Kilkenny, Ms Sonya	Carrum	ALP	Ward, Ms Vicki	Eltham	ALP
Knight, Ms Sharon Patricia	Wendouree	ALP	Watt, Mr Graham Travis	Burwood	LP
Languiller, Mr Telmo Ramon	Tarneit	ALP	Wells, Mr Kimberley Arthur	Rowville	LP
Lim, Mr Muy Hong	Clarinda	ALP	Williams, Ms Gabrielle	Dandenong	ALP
McCurdy, Mr Timothy Logan	Ovens Valley	Nats	Wynne, Mr Richard William	Richmond	ALP
McGuire, Mr Frank	Broadmeadows	ALP			

¹ Resigned 2 February 2015

² Elected 14 March 2015

PARTY ABBREVIATIONS

ALP — Labor Party; Greens — The Greens;
Ind — Independent; LP — Liberal Party; Nats — The Nationals.

Legislative Assembly committees

Privileges Committee — Ms Allan, Ms D’Ambrosio, Mr Morris, Mr Mulder, Ms Neville, Ms Ryan, Ms Sandell, Mr Scott and Mr Wells.

Standing Orders Committee— The Speaker, Ms Allan, Ms Asher, Mr Brooks, Mr Clark, Mr Hibbins, Mr Hodgett, Ms Kairouz, Mr Nardella, Ms Ryan and Ms Sheed.

Joint committees

Accountability and Oversight Committee — (*Assembly*): Mr Angus, Mr Gidley, Mr Staikos and Ms Thomson.
(*Council*): Ms Bath, Mr Purcell and Ms Symes.

Dispute Resolution Committee — (*Assembly*): Ms Allan, Mr Clark, Mr Merlino, Mr M. O’Brien, Mr Pakula, Ms Richardson and Mr Walsh. (*Council*): Mr Bourman, Mr Dalidakis, Ms Dunn, Mr Jennings and Ms Wooldridge.

Economic, Education, Jobs and Skills Committee — (*Assembly*): Mr Crisp, Mrs Fyffe, Mr Perera and Ms Ryall.
(*Council*): Mr Elasmr, Mr Melhem and Mr Purcell.

Electoral Matters Committee — (*Assembly*): Ms Asher, Ms Blandthorn, Mr Dixon, Mr Northe and Ms Spence.
(*Council*): Mr Dalidakis and Ms Patten.

Environment, Natural Resources and Regional Development Committee — (*Assembly*): Ms Halfpenny, Mr McCurdy, Mr Richardson, Mr Tilley and Ms Ward. (*Council*): Mr Ramsay and Mr Young.

Family and Community Development Committee — (*Assembly*): Ms Couzens, Mr Edbrooke, Ms Edwards, Ms Kealy, Ms McLeish and Ms Sheed. (*Council*): Mr Finn.

House Committee — (*Assembly*): The Speaker (*ex officio*), Mr J. Bull, Mr Crisp, Mrs Fyffe, Mr Staikos, Ms Suleyman and Mr Thompson. (*Council*): The President (*ex officio*), Mr Eideh, Ms Hartland, Ms Lovell, Mr Mulino and Mr Young.

Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission Committee — (*Assembly*): Mr Hibbins, Mr D. O’Brien, Mr Richardson, Ms Thomson, and Mr Wells. (*Council*): Mr Ramsay and Ms Symes.

Law Reform, Road and Community Safety Committee — (*Assembly*): Mr Dixon, Mr Howard, Ms Suleyman, Mr Thompson and Mr Tilley. (*Council*): Mr Eideh and Ms Patten.

Public Accounts and Estimates Committee — (*Assembly*): Mr Dimopoulos, Mr Morris, Mr D. O’Brien, Mr Pearson, Mr T. Smith and Ms Ward. (*Council*): Dr Carling-Jenkins, Ms Pennicuik and Ms Shing.

Scrutiny of Acts and Regulations Committee — (*Assembly*): Mr J. Bull, Ms Blandthorn, Mr Dimopoulos, Ms Kealy, Ms Kilkenny and Mr Pesutto. (*Council*): Mr Dalla-Riva.

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ANSWERS TO CONSTITUENCY QUESTIONS

Answers have been incorporated in the form supplied by the departments on behalf of the appropriate ministers.

Tuesday, 26 May 2015

Eildon electorate**Question 99**

Question asked by: Member for Eildon
Directed to: Minister for Education
Asked on: 17 March 2015

REPLY:

I am informed as follows:

The Victorian Government is working on a range of new initiatives to support Victoria's transformation into the Education State. This year's State Budget is the biggest education budget on record and has provided \$3.5 billion into education including \$730 million for school infrastructure.

The Department of Education and Training uses demographic modelling to identify demand for school provision and works with State and local planning authorities to meet the expected shortfall in demand in particular local networks across Victoria.

To enable sufficient breadth of curriculum and adequate classroom sizes, government secondary schools are typically planned to meet minimum expected long term demand of 1100 government secondary school students living in the school's future catchment. While the current rate of population growth in the Kinglake area and the capacity of surrounding secondary schools shows there is currently insufficient demand for a secondary school in Kinglake, I have asked my department to review the education provision in the area.

The Department will continue to work with local governments and other relevant stakeholders, to monitor and plan for government education provision in the area to ensure all Victorian students have access to high quality education as the population continues to grow.

Bass electorate**Question 101**

Question asked by: Member for Bass
Directed to: Minister for Public Transport
Asked on: 17 March 2015

REPLY:

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

On 31 March 2015, the Victorian Government announced the Cranbourne Pakenham Rail Upgrade project, a billion-dollar upgrade to the Cranbourne-Pakenham line that will remove nine level crossings between Caulfield and Dandenong and four new train stations at Hughesdale, Clayton, Murrumbeena and Carnegie.

Combined with the delivery of 37 next generation high capacity trains and associated power and signalling upgrades, the Cranbourne Pakenham Rail Upgrade will deliver a capacity boost of up to 42 per cent every day – accommodating an extra 11,000 passengers in the morning peak – and boost capacity across the network by freeing up existing trains.

The Victorian Government has brought forward funding of \$100 million to establish the Level Crossing Removal Authority, which is responsible for the delivery of the level crossing removal works under the Cranbourne Pakenham Rail Upgrade. The unprecedented State Budget allocation of \$2.4 billion to kick start level crossing

removals, including those on the Dandenong line, confirms the government's commitment to transforming the Cranbourne-Pakenham line.

Dandenong electorate

Question 106

Question asked by: Member for Dandenong
Directed to: Minister for Roads and Road Safety
Asked on: 18 March 2015

REPLY:

Minister for Roads and Road Safety – I am informed that, as at the date the question was raised:

Under changes to VicRoads' Speed Zoning Guidelines, the section of the Princes Highway outside the Dandenong High School now qualifies as a remote 60km/h school speed zone. Accordingly, this site will be considered for future funding in light of surrounding road safety risks and nearby opportunities for pedestrians to cross the road.

VicRoads is also working closely with the Dandenong High School in regard to road safety education for its students, emphasising the importance for students to use the nearby pedestrian overpass outside the school, or the pedestrian crossing at the nearby intersection of James Street, to safely cross the Princes Highway.

Caulfield electorate

Question 133

Question asked by: Member for Caulfield
Directed to: Treasurer
Asked on: 14 April 2015

REPLY:

The Government shares the member's concern that our community should be safe and inclusive, and is investing \$74 million in the 15/16 Budget to bolster multicultural affairs and social cohesion as well as ensuring Victorians of all backgrounds feel at home.

This includes fulfilling the Government's election commitment to contribute \$500,000 to the cost of upgrading the security infrastructure and exterior renovations at the Beth Weizmann Jewish Community Centre, the heart of the Jewish Community's advocacy and charitable activities in Victoria.

This also includes an additional \$25 million to reinforce Victoria's social cohesion and community resilience and to prevent radicalisation and extremism.

The Department of Education and Training will also be delivering on the Government's election commitment to help schools develop and implement Emergency Management Plans. \$600,000 will be allocated to grants to schools and for the engagement of experts to provide advice on school security planning.

Further funding for security upgrades at schools may be also available through the 2015/16 Budget's delivery of the Government's election commitment to provide \$120 million over four years to contribute to capital costs for independent schools.

Pascoe Vale electorate**Question 134**

Question asked by: Member for Pascoe Vale
Directed to: Minister for Health
Asked on: 14 April 2015

REPLY:

I am informed that:

The Brunswick Business Incubator, located at 420 Victoria Street, Brunswick is situated on land owned by the Secretary to the Department of Health & Human Services and leased to Moreland City Council on a non-commercial rent for a term of 10 years.

The Government is committed to ensuring that its property assets are appropriately used for service delivery needs of government agencies and my Department is currently working with the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources regarding the future of the Brunswick Business Incubator at this site.

I recognise the important role played by the Brunswick Business Incubator in supporting innovation, entrepreneurship and jobs generation for the local community and beyond.

As you outlined in your question, the Brunswick Business Incubator is undoubtedly an important business development and community asset.

It is certainly my intention to find a suitable arrangement for the property in line with the government and departmental asset management frameworks and policies, and I will keep you updated on matters as they are progressed.

Bundoora electorate**Question 136**

Question asked by: Member for Bundoora
Directed to: Minister for Education
Asked on: 14 April 2015

REPLY:

Investment in education and school infrastructure is a priority for the Victorian Government which has announced a \$730 million education infrastructure package for Victoria. The 2015-16 State Budget provides funding to refurbish and renovate schools, deliver brand-new relocatable classrooms and construct new schools.

I am pleased to confirm that the Government has announced \$1 million for Greensborough College in 2015-16. This allocation will fund the initial stages of the project to rebuild the school. Further funding will be resourced in future budgets.

The Department of Education and Training has commenced planning for all schools announced in the 2015-16 State Budget, including Greensborough College. I understand that the school has commenced preparing its Asset Management Plan and that, following initial training in March, members of the leadership team will attend a second training session in May to allow them to complete the plan. This planning will ensure that when further funding is provided works can commence as soon as possible.

I have asked the Department to continue to work closely with the school on their future plans for capital improvement.

Ripon electorate**Question 137**

Question asked by: Member for Ripon
Directed to: Minister for Health
Asked on: 14 April 2015

REPLY:

Healthy Together was Victoria's response to the National Partnership Agreement on Preventive Health, introduced by the Federal Labor Government in 2009 and endorsed by Victoria's then Premier Brumby. I am delighted to hear the Member for Ripon praise this Labor investment, though surprised to hear her take credit for it.

I would be thrilled if the Member for Ripon advocated to her Federal Liberal and National colleagues and expressed her dissatisfaction at the cruel up to \$90 million cut million cut to National Partnership Agreement announced in last year's Federal Budget, a cut that will directly impact Healthy Together Victoria programs.

I have made several representations to the Federal Health Minister on behalf of the Victorian community, including the people of Ararat, highlighting the consequences of the Federal Government cuts to this Agreement.

I am aware of the tremendous preventative health work being done by the Ararat City Council. Both the Council and the community are committed to tackling chronic disease, particularly diabetes, and cardiovascular disease, preventative health programs have never been more important.

I am aware the previous Minister for Health from the former Liberal Government called in councillors from Bendigo, Cardinia, Dandenong, Geelong, Hume, Knox, Latrobe, Mildura, Whittlesea, Wodonga, Wyndham and Central Goldfields prior to the last State election and asserted that he had secured a deal for more money for the Healthy Together Victoria program from the Federal Government. I look forward to hearing where the Federal Government money is and hope the member for Ripon can help me persuade the Federal Health Minister to honour her commitment to the Victorian Community, including the people of Ararat, through next week's Federal Budget.

Yan Yean electorate**Question 138**

Question asked by: Member for Yan Yean
Directed to: Minister for Education
Asked on: 14 April 2015

REPLY:

I am informed as follows:

The Victorian Labor Financial Statement 2014 included capital funding of \$100 million and operating funding of \$25.37 million over four years to establish ten Tech Schools in Gippsland, Bendigo, Ballarat, Geelong, Monash, Casey, Wyndham, Banyule, Yarra Ranges and Whittlesea.

My Department will consult with regional offices, industry, training providers, unions, schools, local government and other key stakeholder groups. Preferred locations for the Tech Schools in each of the ten areas are currently being investigated.

Tech Schools will be strongly encouraged to offer courses in developing industry areas identified by the Government as having potential for extraordinary economic growth, including: medical technology and pharmaceuticals; new energy technology; food and fibre; and transport, defence and construction technology. The Tech Schools initiative will help our secondary school students to build the employability skills needed for high-tech, high-skill jobs.

Further announcements on key developments and consultation with local stakeholders and communities will be made throughout the year as they occur.

Oakleigh electorate**Question 147**

Question asked by: Member for Oakleigh
Directed to: Minister for Roads and Road Safety
Asked on: 15 April 2015

REPLY:

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

VicRoads has assessed the need for improvements along Grange Road and has developed a proposal to install traffic signals at the intersection of Grange Road and Oakleigh Road. This proposal will be evaluated for funding in the future.

I would be happy to visit these sites with you in the coming months.

Kororoit electorate**Question 149**

Question asked by: Member for Kororoit
Directed to: Minister for Public Transport
Asked on: 15 April 2015

REPLY:

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

I thank the member for her question and her interest in public transport services in her community. The member is dogged in her support for the people of Kororoit.

As you are aware, a new Brimbank bus network commenced in July 2014. However, this is in the context of a botched process by the former government to reduce the bus services across Melbourne's north and west by up to 20 per cent. Public Transport Victoria (PTV) advises that the former bus Route 451 is now almost entirely serviced by routes 400, 420, 423 and 427 in the new network.

Funding is not currently available to reinstate bus Route 451. However, PTV assures me it will continue to review the network, and this issue in particular. I look forward to continuing to work with her on this important matter.

Sandringham electorate**Question 150**

Question asked by: Member for Sandringham
Directed to: Minister for Public Transport
Asked on: 15 April 2015

REPLY:

Over the next eight years, the Andrews Government will remove 50 of the most dangerous and congested level crossings in Melbourne. This significant program is a key step to transforming our public transport system into an international-style metro, while removing congestion on our road network.

I am pleased to inform you that the level crossings at Balcombe Road, Mentone and Charman Road, Cheltenham will be removed by 2022 as part of this program, along with nine other level crossings on the Frankston line.

To facilitate the level crossing removals, the Government has brought forward funding of \$100 million to establish the Level Crossing Removal Authority. The Authority is developing a strategic plan for the efficient removal of the 50 level crossings, including optimal planning, procurement and construction methods and best practice community and stakeholder engagement.

Yuroke electorate**Question 151**

Question asked by: Member for Yuroke
Directed to: Minister for Local Government
Asked on: 15 April 2015

REPLY:

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

I have appointed the Hon Frank Vincent AO QC and Mr John Watson as Transition Auditors to review all of the financial and non-financial implications of the separation of Sunbury from Hume City Council on the broader community. In carrying out this review the transition auditors are to ensure that this information is easily accessible so that both communities are fully informed about what the impact of Sunbury separating from Hume City Council will be.

The Transition Auditors are due to report to me by 31 August 2015 and provide me with recommendations on the way forward.

Melbourne electorate**Question 152**

Question asked by: Member for Melbourne
Directed to: Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing
Asked on: 15 April 2015

REPLY:

The Venny is one of five adventure playgrounds in inner Melbourne whose funding was cut. This was a cruel cut of the Abbott Government in the horror 2014 Federal budget.

These adventure playgrounds were federally funded, and have always been federally funded. They're not the type of programs that would be expected to be funded by the State Government.

While some of the adventure playgrounds found alternative funding last year, this was always going to be an interim measure, giving the Federal Government time to reverse their cuts.

The Federal Government no longer says there is a so-called "budget emergency", so it's time for everyone in this debate to call on the Federal Government to return to their historical role in funding these adventure playgrounds.

Ringwood electorate**Question 154**

Question asked by: Member for Ringwood
Directed to: Minister for Roads and Road Safety
Asked on: 15 April 2015

REPLY:

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

The number of cars per day that cross the level crossing at Heatherdale Road, Mitcham, is 12,000.

The number of cars per day that cross the level crossing at Blackburn Road, Blackburn, is 15,000.

The number of cars per day that cross the level crossing at Mitcham Road, Mitcham, is 16,800. Before the level crossing removal, the number was 16,000.

Essendon electorate**Question 155**

Question asked by: Member for Essendon
Directed to: Minister for Education
Asked on: 15 April 2015

REPLY:

Investment in education and school infrastructure is a priority for the Victorian Government which has announced a \$730 million education infrastructure package for Victoria. The 2015-16 State Budget provides funding to refurbish and renovate schools, deliver brand-new relocatable classrooms and construct new schools.

I am pleased to confirm that the Government has announced \$5.7 million for Strathmore Primary School to refurbish and enhance facilities at the school.

The Department of Education and Training has commenced planning for all schools announced in the 2015-16 State Budget, including Strathmore Primary School. I understand that the school has commenced preparing its Asset Management Plan and that, following initial training in March, members of the leadership team will attend a second training session in May to allow them to complete the plan and begin implementing their project as soon as possible.

I have asked the Department to continue to work closely with the school on their future plans for capital improvement.

Morwell electorate**Question 157**

Question asked by: Member for Morwell
Directed to: Minister for Education
Asked on: 16 April 2015

REPLY:

Investment in education and school infrastructure is a priority for the Victorian Government, and that is why we have announced a \$730 million package for Victorian school infrastructure. This funding will enable the refurbishment and renovation of schools, the delivery of brand new relocatable classrooms, and the construction of desperately-needed new schools for the State.

I am pleased to advise that the Victorian Government has allocated \$10.45 million in the 2015-16 State Budget for the first stage of the Morwell Schools Regeneration Project. The remaining funding required to complete this project will be allocated in a future year's budget.

Planning for this exciting project is already underway. To assist with the planning process, schools receiving capital funding will develop, in consultation with the Department, a five-year integrated Asset Management Plan (AMP). The AMP will outline the capital and maintenance tasks to be performed over the following five-year period, using all available sources of funding.

I am advised that the Morwell school community have been consulted throughout this planning process and local priorities and concerns have been taken into account. I am further advised that, following this consultation, the architects for the project have recently finalised its design. It is anticipated that the project will go to tender in June 2015 and a builder will be appointed once all tenders have been suitably assessed.

I have asked the Department to continue to work closely with the school throughout this capital works project.

Bentleigh electorate**Question 158**

Question asked by: Member for Bentleigh
Directed to: Minister for Education
Asked on: 16 April 2015

REPLY:

Investment in education and school infrastructure is a priority for the Victorian Government, and that is why we have announced a \$730 million package for Victorian school infrastructure. This funding will enable the refurbishment and renovation of schools, the delivery of brand new relocatable classrooms, and the construction of desperately-needed new schools for the State.

In alignment with this commitment, I am pleased to announce that the Victorian Government has allocated funding to both Bentleigh Secondary College and McKinnon Secondary College in the 2015-16 State Budget.

Bentleigh Secondary College will receive \$9.6 million in 2015-16 to complete the rebuild of the school, including new classrooms and a new technology wing. The Victorian Government will also build additional basketball courts at the school, thereby establishing a permanent base for the McKinnon Basketball Association.

McKinnon Secondary College will receive \$9 million in 2015-16 to build new classrooms, a library, a canteen and specialist teaching spaces.

Planning for both of these exciting projects is already underway. To assist with the planning process, schools receiving capital funding will develop, in consultation with the Department of Education and Training, a five-year integrated Asset Management Plan (AMP). The AMP will outline the capital and maintenance tasks to be performed over the following five-year period, using all available sources of funding. The AMP will also consider local priorities and school provision needs.

I have asked the Department to work closely with both schools on their respective capital works projects to ensure that they are completed in a timely and effective manner.

South-West Coast electorate**Question 159**

Question asked by: Member for South-West Coast
Directed to: Minister for Roads and Road Safety
Asked on: 16 April 2015

REPLY:

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

I am aware that approximately 10 kilometres of Myamyn-Macarthur Road has a sealed width of four metres or less and that this road caters for 230 vehicles per day including 60 commercial vehicles.

Maintenance funding is being prioritised to ensure the continued safe operation of our arterial roads and bridges.

As part of routine maintenance, VicRoads undertakes activities like grading the gravel shoulders to minimise edge drop-offs, road patching of defects and vegetation trimming to ensure a clear driving envelope.

Carrum electorate**Question 162**

Question asked by: Member for Carrum
Directed to: Minister for Education
Asked on: 16 April 2015

REPLY:

Investment in education and school infrastructure is a priority for the Victorian Government, and that is why we have announced a \$730 million package for Victorian school infrastructure. This funding will enable the refurbishment and renovation of schools, the delivery of brand new relocatable classrooms, and the construction of desperately-needed new schools across the State.

I am pleased to announce that the Victorian Government has allocated \$3 million to Seaford Park Primary School in the 2015-16 State Budget. This funding will build new classrooms and learning spaces to replace the relocatable classrooms currently in use.

The Department of Education and Training understands the crucial need for these capital works and, as such, has commenced planning for this project. To assist with the planning process, schools receiving capital funding will develop, in consultation with the Department, a five-year integrated Asset Management Plan (AMP). The AMP will outline the capital and maintenance tasks to be performed over the following five-year period, using all available sources of funding. The AMP will also consider local priorities and school provision needs.

I have asked the Department to continue to work closely with the school to ensure the timely completion of this exciting project.

Buninyong electorate**Question 164**

Question asked by: Member for Buninyong
Directed to: Minister for Education
Asked on: 16 April 2015

REPLY:

Investment in education and school infrastructure is a priority for the Victorian Government, that is why we have announced a \$730 million package for Victorian school infrastructure. This funding will enable the refurbishment and renovation of schools, the delivery of brand new relocatable classrooms and construction of desperately-needed new schools for the State.

I am pleased to announce that Phoenix P-12 College will receive \$10 million in the 2015-16 State Budget to complete Stage 3 of school upgrade. This will include the construction of new classrooms and administration, food technology and visual arts facilities.

Planning for this exciting project is already underway. To assist with the planning process, schools receiving capital funding will develop, in consultation with the Department of Education and Training, a five-year integrated capital and maintenance Asset Management Plan (AMP). The AMP will outline the capital and maintenance tasks to be performed over the following five-year period, using all available sources of funding. The AMP will also consider local priorities and provision.

I have asked the Department to work closely with the school on its future plans for capital improvement.

Yan Yean electorate**Question 170**

Question asked by: Member for Yan Yean
Directed to: Minister for Families and Children
Asked on: 5 May 2015

REPLY:

The Victorian Government is a proud supporter of men's sheds. Local men's sheds provide safe, friendly and inclusive places where men can work together on projects of interest and be connected to their community. On Friday 20 March 2015, I announced a new funding round worth \$750,000 to support the construction of new men's sheds across Victoria.

As the Diamond Creek Men's Shed group received \$32,542.40 in March 2013 for a refurbishment project it is ineligible to apply for funding in the current round to build a new men's shed. However as there will be further funding rounds to support men's sheds in Victoria, the Diamond Creek men's shed could be eligible for funding in the future, depending on the nature of the grants on offer. I will ensure that the Department of Health and Human Services advises the Diamond Creek Men's Shed of all future grant rounds.

Sandringham electorate**Question 173**

Question asked by: Member for Sandringham
Directed to: Minister for Education
Asked on: 5 May 2015

REPLY:

The Government has announced a \$730 million education infrastructure package for Victoria. The 2015-16 State Budget provides funding to refurbish and renovate schools, deliver brand-new relocatable classrooms and construct new schools.

We are pleased to confirm that the Government has announced \$6.5 million for the creation of a new stand-alone years 7 – 12 Beaumaris Secondary College at the current Beaumaris campus of Sandringham College.

In relation to sporting facilities on the site, I recently met with representatives of the Melbourne Cricket Club (MCC) to discuss the possibility of first-class sporting facilities being created at the Beaumaris site by the MCC Foundation.

The Labor Government welcomes this possible opportunity, recognising that if a partnership with the MCC can be forged while the demerger and new stand-alone school are being completed, this outcome will provide a significant long-term benefit for the new Beaumaris High School and surrounding schools.

Sandringham College's Beaumaris campus will not be taking enrolments for 2016 as works get underway to develop the new Beaumaris Secondary College.

Sandringham College's Beaumaris campus currently caters to Year 7 and Year 9 students. The Year 9 students who are currently based at the Beaumaris campus will at the end this year transfer to Sandringham College's Junior Campus, in Highett, as will any current or prospective Year 7 students.

Warrandyte electorate**Question 179**

Question asked by: Member for Warrandyte
Directed to: Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water
Asked on: 6 May 2015

REPLY:

Thank you for your question about the land at 133 Webb Street, Warrandyte and the possibility of government buying it for its addition to the Warrandyte State Park.

As you are aware, having served in government between 2010 and 2014 as the Minister for Environment and Climate Change, the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning is often asked to buy land for various public purposes throughout Victoria. In considering such requests, the department must take into account funding available for land acquisition, and whether the land is crucially needed for addition to the Crown's parks and reserves network.

While the subject land adjoins the park and contains high quality native vegetation, it is outside the existing park boundary and is not designated for addition to the park via a public acquisition overlay in the Manningham Planning Scheme. The department is not seeking to expand its metropolitan parkland network beyond land that is already subject to public acquisition overlay for park purposes in relevant municipal planning schemes.

The land is within a rural conservation zone and is subject to environmental significance and wildfire management overlays in the Manningham Planning Scheme. The purpose of these planning controls includes the protection of environmental values.

In the circumstances I must advise that the government does not intend to acquire the land at 133 Webb Street, Warrandyte.

Prahran electorate**Question 185**

Question asked by: Member for Prahran
Directed to: Minister for Education
Asked on: 6 May 2015

REPLY:

The Labor Government is committed to building a new secondary school in Prahran.

The Department of Education and Training is currently engaged in negotiations for a site at 597 St Kilda Road, Melbourne. As I am sure you will understand, at this early stage, we are unable to provide a proposed opening date for the school.

Funding to date has been spent on expert planning consultants, legal fees and community consultation. Funding earmarked for the next financial year may include comprehensive design and site preparation.

Footscray electorate**Question 186**

Question asked by: Member for Footscray
Directed to: Minister for Education
Asked on: 6 May 2015

REPLY:

The Government has announced a \$730 million education infrastructure package for Victoria. The 2015 - 16 State Budget provides funding to refurbish and renovate schools, deliver brand-new relocatable classrooms and construct new schools.

We were pleased to announce funding of \$1 million for an early planning stage of the Footscray Learning Precinct. As you are aware, the Victorian Government is committed to delivering a landmark educating precinct in Footscray. This complex project will require substantial planning and preparation in order to ensure the best outcome for the community.

The Department of Education and Training is currently working with key stakeholders, including Victoria University and the Maribyrnong City Council, to establish initial project parameters.

We are working hard to ensure that the development of the Precinct is based on the principles of collaboration and connection, acknowledging the benefits of bringing together key stakeholders, pedagogy experts and community leaders.

South Barwon electorate**Question 196**

Question asked by: Member for South Barwon
Directed to: Minister for Education
Asked on: 7 May 2015

REPLY:

The Victorian Government is committed to investment in education and school infrastructure. This is demonstrated through the injection of \$730 million into school facilities in the 2015-16 State Budget. This commitment is the first step in addressing the chronic underinvestment in our school infrastructure under the previous Government.

The Government cannot repair the damage in one budget, and many projects may not be immediately funded, however the Government is committed to providing funding for schools in need so that every child across the State has access to quality facilities that maximise their learning potential. The funding provided through the 2015-16 State Budget represents just the first step in creating the Education State and fulfilling the Government's aim of making Victoria's education system the best in the country. The Government will continue to focus investment in education infrastructure throughout this term of government.

In the meantime, schools are advised to address maintenance issues as they arise, using funds allocated annually through the Student Resource Package.

The infrastructure needs of all schools, including those in Highton, will be considered through state budget processes and when determining future priorities for the capital works program.

Pascoe Vale electorate**Question 197**

Question asked by: Member for Pascoe Vale
Directed to: Minister for Education
Asked on: 7 May 2015

REPLY:

Following the closure of Ballert Mooroop College, the Ballert Mooroop site in Hilton Street, Glenroy, has been subdivided into two Lots. Lot 1 is being retained to accommodate the Glenroy Specialist School. Lot 2, which includes the Scar Tree, has been declared surplus to educational requirements and has been included in the Department of Education and Training's disposal program.

I am advised that the Moreland City Council has expressed an interest in acquiring the site and that there are ongoing discussions between representatives from the Council and the Department. Any potential sale to Council will need to be in accordance with the Victorian Government Land Transaction Policy and Guidelines.

If this sale proceeds, any items identified as culturally significant to the indigenous community will be protected.

Essendon electorate**Question 201**

Question asked by: Member for Essendon
Directed to: Minister for Education
Asked on: 7 May 2015

REPLY:

The Labor Government is tackling disadvantage and making sure every student, regardless of their circumstances, has the opportunity to reach their potential.

The Breakfast Clubs program will feed up to 25,000 kids in Victoria's most disadvantaged government primary schools helping to improve student learning and attendance for those who need it most while also building connections between families, schools and their local communities.

The Labor Government will partner with Foodbank – the largest welfare food agency in Australia – to establish and lead the state-wide program, using their existing warehousing, storage and freight network.

500 of the most disadvantaged government primary schools will be eligible for participation. These schools will be identified based on Student Family Occupation Index (SFO) so that funding is allocated to the schools most in need. The higher the school's SFO the higher the density of students from low socio-economic backgrounds.

The 500 schools identified will be offered an opportunity to participate in the program, through an Expression of Interest process. Should they choose not to participate their offer will be extended to the next neediest school based on SFO. For this reason a final list of participating schools cannot be confirmed until later in the year.

The Department of Education and Training will continue to work with Foodbank on the implementation of the commitment and schools will be advised of opportunities to be involved in Term 3 of the 2015 school year.