

PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA

**PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(HANSARD)**

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

FIFTY-EIGHTH PARLIAMENT

FIRST SESSION

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

25 March to 14 April 2016

(Extract from book 5)

Internet: www.parliament.vic.gov.au/downloadhansard

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HANSARD¹⁵⁰



1866–2016

Following a select committee investigation, Victorian Hansard was conceived when the following amended motion was passed by the Legislative Assembly on 23 June 1865:

That in the opinion of this house, provision should be made to secure a more accurate report of the debates in Parliament, in the form of *Hansard*.

The sessional volume for the first sitting period of the Fifth Parliament, from 12 February to 10 April 1866, contains the following preface dated 11 April:

As a preface to the first volume of “Parliamentary Debates” (new series), it is not inappropriate to state that prior to the Fifth Parliament of Victoria the newspapers of the day virtually supplied the only records of the debates of the Legislature.

With the commencement of the Fifth Parliament, however, an independent report was furnished by a special staff of reporters, and issued in weekly parts.

This volume contains the complete reports of the proceedings of both Houses during the past session.

In 2016 the Hansard Unit of the Department of Parliamentary Services continues the work begun 150 years ago of providing an accurate and complete report of the proceedings of both houses of the Victorian Parliament.

The Governor

The Honourable LINDA DESSAU, AM

The Lieutenant-Governor

The Honourable Justice MARILYN WARREN, AC, QC

The ministry

Premier	The Hon. D. M. Andrews, MP
Deputy Premier and Minister for Education	The Hon. J. A. Merlino, MP
Treasurer	The Hon. T. H. Pallas, MP
Minister for Public Transport and Minister for Employment	The Hon. J. Allan, MP
Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade	The Hon. P. Dalidakis, MLC
Minister for Industry, and Minister for Energy and Resources	The Hon. L. D’Ambrosio, MP
Minister for Roads and Road Safety, and Minister for Ports	The Hon. L. A. Donnellan, MP
Minister for Tourism and Major Events, Minister for Sport and Minister for Veterans	The Hon. J. H. Eren, MP
Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Equality and Minister for Creative Industries	The Hon. M. P. Foley, MP
Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Consumer Affairs, Gaming and Liquor Regulation	The Hon. J. F. Garrett, MP
Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services	The Hon. J. Hennessy, MP
Minister for Training and Skills	The Hon. S. R. Herbert, MLC
Minister for Local Government, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Minister for Industrial Relations	The Hon. N. M. Hutchins, MP
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Minister for Families and Children, and Minister for Youth Affairs	The Hon. J. Mikakos, MLC
Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water	The Hon. L. M. Neville, MP
Minister for Police and Minister for Corrections	The Hon. W. M. Noonan, MP
Attorney-General and Minister for Racing	The Hon. M. P. Pakula, MP
Minister for Agriculture and Minister for Regional Development	The Hon. J. L. Pulford, MLC
Minister for Women and Minister for the Prevention of Family Violence	The Hon. F. Richardson, MP
Minister for Finance and Minister for Multicultural Affairs	The Hon. R. D. Scott, MP
Minister for Planning	The Hon. R. W. Wynne, MP
Cabinet Secretary	Ms M. Kairouz, MP

**OFFICE-HOLDERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
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, Mr McGuire, 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 — 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
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Asher, Ms Louise	Brighton	LP	Mulder, Mr Terence Wynn ²	Polwarth	LP
Battin, Mr Bradley William	Gembrook	LP	Naphthine, Dr Denis Vincent ³	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
Britnell, Ms Roma ¹	South-West Coast	LP	Noonan, Mr Wade Matthew	Williamstown	ALP
Brooks, Mr Colin William	Bundoora	ALP	Northe, Mr Russell John	Morwell	Nats
Bull, Mr Joshua Michael	Sunbury	ALP	O'Brien, Mr Daniel David ⁴	Gippsland South	Nats
Bull, Mr Timothy Owen	Gippsland East	Nats	O'Brien, Mr Michael Anthony	Malvern	LP
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Couzens, Ms Christine Anne	Geelong	ALP	Perera, Mr Jude	Cranbourne	ALP
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D'Ambrosio, Ms Liliana	Mill Park	ALP	Richardson, Mr Timothy Noel	Mordialloc	ALP
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Donnellan, Mr Luke Anthony	Narre Warren North	ALP	Ryall, Ms Deanne Sharon	Ringwood	LP
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Edwards, Ms Janice Maree	Bendigo West	ALP	Ryan, Ms Stephanie Maureen	Euroa	Nats
Eren, Mr John Hamdi	Lara	ALP	Sandell, Ms Ellen	Melbourne	Greens
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Gidley, Mr Michael Xavier Charles	Mount Waverley	LP	Smith, Mr Timothy Colin	Kew	LP
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Lim, Mr Muy Hong	Clarinda	ALP	Williams, Ms Gabrielle	Dandenong	ALP
McCurdy, Mr Timothy Logan	Ovens Valley	Nats	Wynne, Mr Richard William	Richmond	ALP

¹Elected 31 October 2015

²Resigned 3 September 2015

³Resigned 3 September 2015

⁴Elected 14 March 2015

⁵Elected 31 October 2015

⁶Resigned 2 February 2015

PARTY ABBREVIATIONS

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

Legislative Assembly committees

Privileges Committee — Ms Allan, Mr Clark, Ms D’Ambrosio, Mr Morris, 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 Nardella and Ms Ryall.
(*Council*): Mr Bourman, Mr Elasmar and Mr Melhem.

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

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 Kilkenny and Mr Pesutto. (*Council*): Ms Bath and Mr Dalla-Riva.

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

*Questions have been incorporated from the question paper of the Legislative Assembly.
Answers have been incorporated in the form supplied by the departments on behalf of the appropriate ministers.
Headings reflect the portfolio of the minister answering the question.*

25 March to 14 April 2016

Roads and road safety

448. **Mr R. SMITH** to ask the Minister for Roads and Road Safety — With reference to the Western Distributor documents released on 24 June 2015, including the VicRoads memo dated 12 January 2015:

- (1) What risk controls have been put in place to address each of the risks outlined in that document.
- (2) Were all risks appropriately controlled before the project was announced.

ANSWER:

Answer incorporated at page 1637.

[Question 448 reinstated 3 December 2015. Replacement answer provided by Minister for Roads and Roads Safety on 14 April 2016. Hansard reference to original answer: page 4061, 9 October to 22 October 2015.]

Housing, disability and ageing

6676. **Mr T. BULL** to ask the Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing — With reference to deaths in disability care in Victoria since 2012:

- (1) How many deaths have occurred.
- (2) How many were deemed to be Category One — unusual or unexpected.
- (3) How many Category One deaths have been investigated.

ANSWER:

Data published online by the Department of Health and Human Services in their Human service delivery data annually, provides this information.

I caution the member that with the figures reported, we are not linking death with abuse and neglect. A preliminary assessment of incident reporting data pertaining to deaths in disability residential services from 2010-11 to 2014-15 demonstrates that the deaths were primarily related to chronic ‘medical conditions such as cardiovascular disease.

Roads and road safety

6677. **Mr R. SMITH** to ask the Minister for Roads and Road Safety — What was the cost of maintenance on the West Gate Bridge in 2015.

ANSWER:

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

The cost of maintenance on the West Gate Bridge can be found in the 2014-15 VicRoads Annual Report; Key Financial Results — Expenses from Transactions — Road Asset Management (page 23).

Police

6678. **Ms McLEISH** to ask the Minister for Police — How many people were arrested on New Year’s Eve for possessing or using illegal fireworks in:

- (1) Victoria.
- (2) Mansfield Shire.
- (3) Murrindindi Shire.
- (4) Nillumbik Shire.
- (5) Yarra Ranges Shire.

ANSWER:

I am advised that the information to 30 June 2015 is available on request from the Crime Statistics Agency (CSA). The data may be requested by completing a Data Request Form on the GSA's website; or by contacting the CSA at info@crimestatistics.vic.au.

Environment, climate change and water

6682. Mr T. BULL to ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water — With reference to fire access tracks in East Gippsland:

- (1) Will the Minister provide a map and/or list of the strategic fire access roads in the electorate of Gippsland East.
- (2) What are the criteria applied in determining a strategic fire access road or track.
- (3) Have the unique issues relating to bushfires in East Gippsland in terms of the origin of fires (lightning) and terrain been taken into consideration in forming the state-wide criteria for determining a strategic fire access road.

ANSWER:

My department will provide you a map of strategic fire access roads in East Gippsland.

There are a set of cascading criteria for determining strategic fire access roads. Heavy and medium strategic fire access roads have been determined across public land based on the road design requirements for heavy firefighting plant and vehicles. The strategic fire access road network is likely to be reviewed after the results of landscape fire risk modelling are finalised across the state. Landscape fire risk modelling is always discussed during public consultation as a vital input for fire operations plans. No time frame has been set yet for the revision of the strategic road network based on landscape fire risk models.

The Snowy District in East Gippsland is the most advanced in determining the light strategic fire access road network. Fire ignition history is the first criterion considered in determining these tracks. The second criterion is the fire management zone. Zoning combines the consideration of a range of critical factors. Terrain is one of those factors but equally important are questions of fuel type, and location in relation to assets. This work is draft at this stage, public consultation is expected before the 2016–17 fire season.

Education

6685. Mr NORTHE to ask the Minister for Education — With reference to the Morwell Primary Schools Regeneration project, and noting the 2014 Victorian ALP Platform document that reiterates the importance of providing local job opportunities for local workers:

- (1) Will the businesses awarded and managing the project give preference to employing local contractors and workers based within the electorate of Morwell.
- (2) As of 1 January 2016, how many businesses and employees based in the electorate of Morwell had been engaged in the project.
- (3) From 1 January 2016 to the conclusion of the project, what will be the total percentage of businesses and workers based in the electorate of Morwell employed in the project.

ANSWER:

The Andrews Labor Government is committed to local industry participation in public sector projects. In support of this commitment, the Victorian Industry Participation Policy (VIPP) ensures that government departments and agencies consider competitive local suppliers (including small and medium enterprises) when awarding contracts valued at \$1 million or more in regional Victoria, or \$3 million or more in metropolitan Melbourne. A VIPP plan must be provided by all tenderers for such school projects, nominating Australian and New Zealand products and suppliers used, and employment created for the project.

The contractor who was awarded the Morwell Primary School Project has provided a VIPP Plan to the Industry and Competition Network, the body which administers implementation of the policy. The Plan states that 53 existing and new jobs will be supported, including eight apprenticeships.

Statewide, the Education State infrastructure program will create more than 1200 jobs. In addition, to these projected jobs, it is anticipated that local construction and supplier businesses will be heavily engaged in the development of the new Morwell Primary School.

Education

6722. Ms SANDELL to ask the Minister for Education — With reference to the toilet facility upgrades at Carlton Gardens Primary School:

- (1) Why were the upgrades not completed in time for the start of the 2016 school year.
- (2) Once the delay was foreseeable, why were arrangements not made for suitable temporary toilets for children.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

The Department of Education and Training has been working closely with the school throughout its toilet upgrade program. Carlton Gardens Primary School has an excellent reputation in the area, as evidenced by increased enrolments and a strong school community.

Due to this growth, additional toilets were required to ensure all students had access to appropriate facilities.

A minor delay meant completion of the project has been pushed back a few weeks, however, I am aware that portable toilets were provided to the school on 27 January 2016 as a temporary solution while works to the permanent facilities are occurring.

The Department will continue to work closely with the principal to ensure the school remains operational during this project.

Environment, climate change and water

6726. Ms SANDELL to ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water — With reference to Government spending on planned burns:

- (1) How much has the Government spent to date.
- (2) How much is the Government projected to spend to the end of the 2015–16 financial year.

ANSWER:

Progress on planned burning is available on the DELWP external website.

Costs and outcomes are reported in DELWP's annual report at the end of each financial year, and in the annual 'Fuel Management Report' which will be released in September.

Public transport

6737. Ms **VICTORIA** to ask the Minister for Public Transport — With reference to the Bayswater level crossing removal project:

- (1) How many permanent car parking spaces will be lost due to the project.
- (2) How many of these parking spaces will be lost from each of:
 - (a) the railway station carpark;
 - (b) the north side of Mountain Highway;
 - (c) the south side of Mountain Highway;
 - (d) other parking spaces in the immediate area.

ANSWER:

I'd like to thank the member for Bayswater for her question on the Bayswater Level Crossing Removal Project that will eliminate two of the dangerous and congested level crossings in Melbourne at Mountain Highway and Scoresby Road.

The innovative solution that has been developed to remove the level crossings, includes removing the crossing that provides access to the train maintenance facility at Bayswater, that is vital to the continued safe and efficient operation of the train fleet.

The project also provides an opportunity to help revitalise the Bayswater central shopping precinct, by allowing VicRoads and Knox City Council to take another step toward achieving the strategic long term vision for Bayswater through redesigning Mountain Highway.

The Bayswater Level Crossing Removal Project was announced in November 2015, community consultation was then undertaken to talk to the community about the preferred tenderers design in November/December 2015.

As part of that consultation the project team listened to the community's concern about the North and South side of Mountain Highway and parking in the local area, particularly in relation to retaining the same number of car parks at Bayswater station and near local shops.

Over the past two months the team has started working through the detailed design for the project and through redesigning the car park, has been able to retain the same number of car parks at Bayswater station as there are currently.

The project team are continuing to investigate how community feedback about car parking in front of shops can be addressed.

Environment, climate change and water

6762. Ms **RYAN** to ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water — With reference to the south north transfer preliminary business case for the north–south pipeline:

- (1) When will the south north transfer preliminary business case be completed.
- (2) When will this business case be released to the public.
- (3) Will this business case include a detailed assessment of a range of operating conditions and consideration of implications on the Melbourne headworks system.
- (4) Will this business case estimate the energy, and the cost of that energy, that would be required to shift water south to north through the pipeline.
- (5) Will this business case estimate what additional infrastructure would be required.
- (6) Will this business case estimate the cost of new infrastructure.

ANSWER:

The work on the business case for alternative uses for the North South Pipeline is underway and will be made available after it is complete.

Roads and road safety

6764. Ms McLEISH to ask the Minister for Roads and Road Safety — With reference to the centre wire rope barriers installed on the Melba Highway approximately 15km south of Yea:

- (1) What is the total cost of construction.
- (2) How long will the barriers remain in place at that location.

ANSWER:

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

- (1) The total cost of the project was \$505 000, funded by the Transport Accident Commission.
- (2) The Andrews Labor Government is committed to reducing the number of people killed and seriously injured in crashes on regional roads in Victoria.

This is the first time a project of this nature has been delivered in Victoria.

This section of the Melba Highway is also now one of the safest roads in rural Victoria. For these reasons, the barriers will remain in place indefinitely.

Environment, climate change and water

6810. Ms SANDELL to ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water — When will the Government publish its response to the Independent Review of the Climate Change Act.

ANSWER:

The Review of Victoria's Climate Change Act was delivered to Government on 30 December 2015, and I tabled it in Parliament in the first sitting week this year. The full Government response will be released in the coming months.

Energy and resources

6811. Ms SANDELL to ask the Minister for Energy and Resources — With reference to the Government's announcement that coal development programs are under review, will the Minister rule out renewing exploration licence EL 5294 for black and brown coal and methane in Bacchus Marsh, which expires on 22 March 2016.

ANSWER:

The Andrews Labor Government will defer its decision regarding Mantle Mining's application to renew exploration licence EL5294 while the government's coal policy is being developed. The Government's coal policy will be released for public feedback by the end of 2016.

Energy and resources

6812. Ms SANDELL to ask the Minister for Energy and Resources — With reference to the subsidy on electricity prices for Alcoa's Portland smelter:

- (1) What is the total amount of the subsidy for 2014–15 and the projected total amount for 2015–16.
- (2) Will the Minister rule out renewing the subsidy when the agreement expires in October 2016.

ANSWER:

The electricity sales agreement between the State Government and Alcoa has been in place for a number of decades at significant cost to successive Victorian governments.

There has been no decision regarding the future of the subsidy.

Environment, climate change and water

6824. Ms McLEISH to ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water — When will the Victorian Government Water Plan be released.

ANSWER:

A water discussion paper was released on 16 March 2016. Following two months of consultation, we will finalise the water plan and release it publicly.

Environment, climate change and water

6825. Ms McLEISH to ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water — With reference to the Hydraulic and Hydrology Reports for the Goulburn River catchment, which were to be finalised by November 2015:

- (1) When are the reports expected to be released.
- (2) What is the reason for the delay.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The hydraulic and hydrological investigations and reports have been finalised and are available for viewing on Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority's website.

The hydraulic report was uploaded on 26 February and can be found at:

[http://www.gbcma.vic.aov.au/downloads/Constraints/Goulburn Constraints Business Case-Environmental Flow Inundation Modelling and Mapping. January 2016.pdf](http://www.gbcma.vic.aov.au/downloads/Constraints/Goulburn_Constraints_Business_Case-Environmental_Flow_Inundation_Modelling_and_Mapping_January_2016.pdf)

The full report title is 'Goulburn River Constraints Management-Environmental Flow Inundation Modelling and Mapping'.

The hydrology report was uploaded on 29 February and can be found at:

<http://vmw.gbcma.vic.gov.au/download/?id=2973>.

The full report title is 'Goulburn Constraints Business Case Hydrology Analysis', 'Flood Event Characterisation'.

The reports were not delayed, and were made available to the public as soon as practicable once they were completed.

Environment, climate change and water

6826. Ms McLEISH to ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water — With reference to submission 395 to the Senate inquiry into the Murray-Darling Basin Plan, which states "Potential liabilities for operational decisions reside with the storage operator, GMW [Goulburn Murray Water]... GMW cannot accept a transfer of risk from the project's beneficiaries to GMW and its customers", which government agencies will accept responsibility for environmental flooding.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Victoria's approach to water storage, planning and operation does not establish a special operational arrangement for environmental water entitlements. A common approach is applied to the management and release of water held in storage, regardless of how the released water is used.

In relation to existing flows, the storage operator is under a clear obligation to exercise due regard to prevailing and forecast operational conditions to ensure that - to the best of its ability - it can mitigate all risk of creating any third party loss or damage.

Victoria takes a rigorous approach to water storage planning and operation, and operators apply a precautionary approach to their water ordering and storage release decisions.

The Victorian Government is also well aware of community concerns about the potential flooding risks of any larger releases of water under the Murray-Darling Basin Plan. That's why, under state arrangements for environmental watering, the Government will not intentionally flood private land without prior agreement of landholders, or compulsorily acquire land or easements.

Environment, climate change and water

6827. Ms McLEISH to ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water — With reference to the Constraints Business Plan prepared by the Goulburn Murray Catchment Management Authority:

- (1) Has the Minister received the plan.
- (2) If so, does the plan contain the Hydraulic and Hydrologic Reports for the Goulburn catchment.
- (3) If not, will the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning make them available to the Minister.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning is finalising the business case for ministerial consideration. The business case will be supported by appended technical investigations, which include the hydraulic and hydrological reports for the Goulburn River.

Roads and road safety

6840. Ms SANDELL to ask the Minister for Roads and Road Safety — Will noise cameras be installed at the intersection of Flemington Road and Gatehouse Street in Parkville and North Melbourne in order to assist in the control of illegal noise emissions from motorcycles.

ANSWER:

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

The Environment Protection Authority is responsible for the monitoring and enforcement of noise emissions from motorcycles. As such, this question should be directed to the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water, the Hon Lisa Neville MP.

Energy and resources

6841. Ms SANDELL to ask the Minister for Energy and Resources — Will the two remaining Advanced Lignite Demonstration Program projects be required to undertake a works approval or other environmental impact assessment process that provides opportunities for public submissions.

ANSWER:

The two remaining Advanced Lignite Demonstration Program projects are currently in a pre-construction phase. This phase requires each proponent to complete their planned activities such as finalising their detailed engineering designs and obtaining the appropriate approvals before construction of the projects can lawfully commence.

The approvals process includes the requirement that the companies apply to the Environment Protection Authority for a works approval which involves an extensive public consultation process in accordance with the Environment Protection Act 1970.

Environment, climate change and water

6878. Mr BATTIN to ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water — What was the Government’s financial contribution to the release of regent honeyeaters in April 2015.

ANSWER:

Details of finances and the activities of the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning can be found in its annual report.

Environment, climate change and water

6880. Mr BATTIN to ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water — With reference to the Olinda Golf Course Redevelopment, EOI 40745:

- (1) How many expressions of interest were received for the project.
- (2) What parties expressed interest in the project.
- (3) As part of this expression of interest, were suppliers asked about the nature of the value/cost/risk of the project; if so, what is the value/cost/risk.

ANSWER:

Details regarding government tenders can be found at www.tenders.vic.gov.au. Details regarding the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning’s finances and revenue can be found in its annual report.

Environment, climate change and water

6881. Mr BATTIN to ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water — With reference to the Community Programs and Events Support, Point Nepean National Park, Tender No. 41085:

- (1) How many expressions of interest were received for the project.
- (2) What parties expressed interest in the project.
- (3) Who was awarded the tender.
- (4) What are the associated costs of the tender.

ANSWER:

Details regarding government tenders can be found at www.tenders.vic.gov.au. Details regarding the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning’s finances and revenue can be found in its annual report.

Environment, climate change and water

6882. Mr BATTIN to ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water — With reference to the expression of interest in the purchase and removal of cabins at Lake Eildon National Park, EOI 41305:

- (1) How many expressions of interest were received for the project.
- (2) What parties expressed interest in the project.

- (3) As part of this expression of interest, were suppliers asked about the nature of the value/cost/risk of the project; if so, what is the value/cost/risk.

ANSWER:

Details regarding government tenders can be found at www.tenders.vic.gov.au. Details regarding the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning's finances and revenue can be found in its annual report.

Environment, climate change and water

6883. Mr BATTIN to ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water — With reference to the provision of security services for Parks Victoria work centres in the Melbourne region, Tender No. 41345:

- (1) How many expressions of interest were received for the project.
- (2) What parties expressed interest in the project.
- (3) Who was awarded the tender.
- (4) What are the associated costs of the project.

ANSWER:

Details regarding government tenders can be found at www.tenders.vic.gov.au. Details regarding Parks Victoria's finances and revenue can be found in its annual report.

Environment, climate change and water

6884. Mr BATTIN to ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water — With reference to the performance management project, Tender No T41645:

- (1) How many expressions of interest were received for the project.
- (2) What parties expressed interest in the project.
- (3) Who was awarded the tender.
- (4) What are the associated costs of the project.

ANSWER:

Details regarding government tenders can be found at www.tenders.vic.gov.au. Details regarding Parks Victoria's finances and revenue can be found in its annual report.

Environment, climate change and water

6885. Mr BATTIN to ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water — With reference to the development and delivery of Parks Victoria uniform, EOI 41305:

- (1) How many expressions of interest were received for the project.
- (2) What parties have expressed interest in the project.
- (3) As part of this expression of interest, were suppliers asked about the nature of the value/cost/risk of the project; if so, what is the value/cost/risk.

ANSWER:

Details regarding government tenders can be found at www.tenders.vic.gov.au. Details regarding Parks Victoria's finances and revenue can be found in its annual report.

Environment, climate change and water

6886. Mr BATTIN to ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water — With reference to the assessment of Parks Victoria office and depot buildings, Tender No. T41569:

- (1) How many expressions of interest were received for the project.
- (2) What parties expressed interest in the project.
- (3) Who was awarded the tender.
- (4) What are the associated costs of the project.

ANSWER:

Details regarding government tenders can be found at www.tenders.vic.gov.au. Details regarding Parks Victoria's finances and revenue can be found in its annual report.

Environment, climate change and water

6888. Mr BATTIN to ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water — With reference to the review of government support to the Victorian Landcare program:

- (1) What are the associated costs of the review.
- (2) On what date is the review due to be finalised.

ANSWER:

Details regarding government tenders can be found at www.tenders.vic.gov.au. Details regarding the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning's finances and revenue can be found in its annual report.

Environment, climate change and water

6889. Mr BATTIN to ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water — With reference to the review of spending of the Sustainability Fund:

- (1) What are the associated costs of the review.
- (2) On what date is the review due to be finalised.

ANSWER:

Details regarding the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning's finances and revenue can be found in its annual report.

Environment, climate change and water

6890. Mr BATTIN to ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water — With reference to the review of Victoria's Environment Protection Authority:

- (1) What are the associated costs of the review.
- (2) On what date is the review due to be finalised.

ANSWER:

Details regarding the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning's finances and revenue can be found in its annual report.

Environment, climate change and water

6891. Mr BATTIN to ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water — With reference to the review of marine and coastal health and management in Victoria:

- (1) What are the associated costs of the review.
- (2) On what date is the review due to be finalised.

ANSWER:

Details regarding the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning's finances and revenue can be found in its annual report.

Environment, climate change and water

6892. Mr BATTIN to ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water — With reference to the Port Phillip Bay Environmental Management Plan:

- (1) What are the associated costs of the plan.
- (2) On what date is the plan due to be finalised.

ANSWER:

Details regarding the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning's finances and revenue can be found in its annual report.

Environment, climate change and water

6893. Mr BATTIN to ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water — With reference to the review of the Climate Change Act 2010, on what date is the review due to be finalised.

ANSWER:

The Review of Victoria's Climate Change Act was delivered to Government on 30 December 2015, and I tabled it in parliament in the first sitting week of parliament this year. The full Government response will be released in coming months.

Environment, climate change and water

6894. Mr BATTIN to ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water — With reference to the inquiry into the operation of the former Office of Living Victoria, what are the associated costs of the inquiry.

ANSWER:

Details regarding the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning's finances and revenue can be found in its annual report.

Environment, climate change and water

6895. Mr BATTIN to ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water — With reference to the review of legislative frameworks for managing organic waste, what are the associated costs of the review.

ANSWER:

Details regarding the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning's finances and revenue can be found in its annual report.

Environment, climate change and water

6896. Mr BATTIN to ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water — With reference to the independent review into the escape of the planned burn undertaken at Lancefield, what are the associated costs of the review.

ANSWER:

Details regarding the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning's finances and revenue can be found in its annual report.

Environment, climate change and water

6897. Mr BATTIN to ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water — With reference to the Parks Victoria review of all camping options, what are the associated costs of the review.

ANSWER:

Details regarding Parks Victoria's finances and revenue can be found in its annual report.

Environment, climate change and water

6898. Mr BATTIN to ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water — With reference to the review of the Hanging Rock Precinct, what are the associated costs of the review.

ANSWER:

Details regarding the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning's finances and revenue can be found in its annual report.

Environment, climate change and water

6899. Mr BATTIN to ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water — With reference to the review into performance targets for the future bushfire fuel management program on public land, what are the associated costs of the review.

ANSWER:

Details regarding the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning's finances and revenue can be found in its annual report.

Emergency services

6900. Mr BATTIN to ask the Minister for Emergency Services — With reference to the Everyday Lifesaver App:

- (1) How many times was the app downloaded between 1 December 2015 and 1 February 2016.
- (2) What were the associated costs of developing the app.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

- (1) There were 84 downloads between 1 December and 1 February 2016. This brings the total number of downloads to 558 since the inception in October 2015.

A more accurate measure than downloads for gauging usage and reach of the Everyday Lifesaver App is the number of learning game plays. The App can be downloaded once to a single device with learning games being played by multiple users.

The total number of downloads resulted in 162 419 learning game plays.

- (2) The total cost of developing the App was \$432 560, which also included the roll-out as a pilot to 4000 students.

Roads and road safety

- 6901.** Mr **BATTIN** to ask the Minister for Roads and Road Safety — With reference to the upgrade to the Monash Freeway, when is the project marked to begin.

ANSWER:

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

The Western Distributor market-led proposal submitted by Transurban to the Victorian Government included the Monash Freeway Upgrade, which provides a network-wide solution. An extra lane will be added in each direction between the EastLink interchange and Clyde Road. Upgrades to technology between Warrigal Road and Koo Wee Rup Road will provide better flow and help reduce stop-start conditions, and widening from EastLink to Clyde Road will boost capacity and reduce travel times.

The extra lanes on the Monash Freeway, together with smart technology, will give 200 000 motorists a day a safer, shorter and more reliable trip and will provide ample capacity to support the rapid growth of Melbourne's south east.

The Government has shortlisted three tenderers that are currently tendering for the Monash Freeway Upgrade works. Construction will commence before the end of 2016 and the work will be completed before the end of 2018.

Health

- 6903.** Ms **McLEISH** to ask the Minister for Health — With reference to the new Healesville Ambulance Station, for which construction commenced in February 2016 rather than in early 2015 as planned:

- (1) What was the reason for the delay.
- (2) What is the timeline for completion.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (1) Construction of the Healesville Ambulance Station has been preceded by extensive and appropriate consultation with both the local community and Ambulance Victoria paramedics and necessary work to satisfy the planning requirements of the Shire of Yarra Ranges. I am also advised that there has been a need to remove redundant fuel tanks from the site prior to construction commencing.
- (2) Construction of the Healesville Ambulance Station is progressing well and is on track for expected with occupation in the second quarter of 2016-17.

Environment, climate change and water

- 6915.** Ms **SANDELL** to ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water — With reference to the announcement on 6 March 2016 of plans to order 50 GL of water from the desalination plant to assist Ballarat:

- (1) How much Moorabool River water will be transferred to Ballarat and for how long.

- (2) How will the Government compensate the river for the removal of this water.
- (3) Why did the Government not consult the public, especially people along the river, and publicly investigate the social and environmental implications of the water transfer before making its decision.

ANSWER:

The Government committed to optimising our water grid through water for Victoria.

The Victorian Environmental Water Holder currently holds approximately 2.5 billion litres of environmental entitlement in Lal Lal reservoir, which can be used for the Moorabool River.

The government is committed to improving the health of waterways, 36 of these waterway are the focus of large-scale project to achieve targeted outcomes, including the Moorabool River. The Water for Victoria discussion paper reconfirms the environmental water recovery targets for the Moorabool river as outlined in the Central Region Sustainability Water Strategy and commits to working with communities and stakeholders to identify options to meet existing shortfalls in the Moorabool.

Housing, disability and ageing

- 6917.** Ms SANDELL to ask the Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing — Does the Government have a plan to provide additional funding for Youth Foyers in the upcoming 2016–17 Budget to help address youth homelessness.

ANSWER:

I am informed that: The 2016-17 State Budget outcomes will be released on 27 April 2016.

Housing, disability and ageing

- 6918.** Ms SANDELL to ask the Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing — Will the Government restore funding to the Social Housing Advocacy and Support Program in the 2016–17 Budget.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The 2016-17 State Budget outcomes will be released on 27 April 2016.

Public transport

- 6971.** Mr HODGETT to ask the Minister for Public Transport —

- (1) Were Frankston line trains adversely affected on the morning of 9 March 2016 due to defective points between the main line and stabling sidings at Carrum; if not, what was the cause.
- (2) What time did the problem occur.
- (3) What time was the problem fixed.
- (4) As a result of this fault, how many up and down Frankston line trains were:
 - (a) cancelled;
 - (b) originated at a station other than their timetabled station;
 - (c) delayed by five to ten minutes;
 - (d) delayed by ten minutes or more.
- (5) How will Metro minimise the chance of a reoccurrence.

ANSWER:

Information regarding the public transport network is available on Public Transport Victoria's website.

Emergency services

7007. Ms **BRITNELL** to ask the Minister for Emergency Services — With reference to the Mount Richmond fuel reduction fire of 2015:

- (1) What was the expected financial cost of the planned burn.
- (2) What was the actual financial cost of the burn following its escape from containment lines.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The information requested by you regarding the Mount Richmond fuel reduction fire of 2015, falls within the portfolio responsibilities of the Honourable Lisa Neville, Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water.

Emergency services

7008. Ms **BRITNELL** to ask the Minister for Emergency Services — With reference to the Mount Clay fuel reduction fire of 2015:

- (1) What was the expected financial cost of the planned burn.
- (2) What was the actual financial cost of the burn following its escape from containment lines.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The information requested by you regarding the Mount Clay fuel reduction fire of 2015, falls within the portfolio responsibilities of the Honourable Lisa Neville, Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water.

Environment, climate change and water

7014. Ms **SANDELL** to ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water — With reference to the proposed hydroelectric plant at Lal Lal:

- (1) How much water will need to flow through the plant for it to operate economically.
- (2) Will Central Highlands Water operate the plant non-stop.
- (3) Will the water that flows through the Lal Lal hydroelectric plant flow into the Moorabool River.

ANSWER:

Approximately 3.5 billion litres of water through the mini hydro-electric generator will meet the project's stated objectives, to:

- Generate up to 526 megawatt hours (MWh) of electricity (the equivalent of approximately 80 average homes in the Ballarat region);
- Save more than 500 tonnes of carbon equivalent greenhouse gas emissions annually; and
- Save Central Highlands Water approximately \$85 000 per annum on energy bills, that will reduce overall operating costs across the system.

The mini hydro-electric generator will not operate non-stop, however it has been purposefully designed and selected to provide maximum flexibility to generate energy under both low and high flow scenarios, which allows

the plant to operate more frequently. Central Highlands Water's intention is to operate the mini hydro-electric generator more frequently than not.

All water that will flow through the Lal Lal hydro-electric generator will flow into the Moorabool River.

Racing

7015. Ms **BRITNELL** to ask the Minister for Racing —

- (1) Why was the Warrnambool Racing Club Committee dismissed by Greyhound Racing Victoria.
- (2) What governance issues were raised.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

On 11 March 2016, Greyhound Racing Victoria (GRV) suspended the committee of the Warrnambool Greyhound Racing Club (the Club) and installed an administrator.

This decision was made due to financial management, compliance and governance issues at the Club. Specific issues relating to financial management, administrative and Occupational Health and Safety compliance were raised in two audit reports. GRV advised that it has worked with the Club for some time to address these issues, but remained concerned and decided to act in the best interests of the Club.

GRV has a responsibility to ensure that all Victorian greyhound racing clubs operate to a high standard of governance and financial management.

In suspending the committee and installing an administrator, the GRV Board acted in accordance with section 77(3) of the Racing Act 1958.

Incorporated answer to reinstated question 448

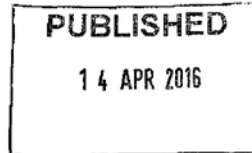


Hon Luke Donnellan MP

Minister for Roads & Road Safety
Minister for Ports

1 Spring Street
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Telephone: 03 8392 6150
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Hon Telmo Languiller MP
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly
1 Treasury Place
East Melbourne VIC 3002



Dear Speaker

I refer to your letter dated 7 March 2016 regarding my response to the Member for Warrandyte's Question on Notice No 448.

I have asked my office to revisit this matter and can confirm that there were documents released on 24 June 2015 that relate to the West Gate distributor project.

As the member's question makes reference to Western Distributor documents released on 24 June 2015, I can confirm that no such documents exist and therefore my original reply should stand.

Yours sincerely

Hon Luke Donnellan MP
Minister for Roads and Road Safety

23/3/2016