

PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA

**PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(HANSARD)**

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

FIFTY-EIGHTH PARLIAMENT

FIRST SESSION

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

10 June to 23 June 2016

(Extract from book 9)

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

By authority of the Victorian Government Printer

HANSARD 150



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 (to 22 May 2016)

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
Special Minister of State	The Hon. G. Jennings, MLC
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

The Governor

The Honourable LINDA DESSAU, AM

The Lieutenant-Governor

The Honourable Justice MARILYN WARREN, AC, QC

The ministry (from 23 May 2016)

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 Major Projects	The Hon. J. Allan, MP
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Minister for Planning	The Hon. R. W. Wynne, MP
Cabinet Secretary	Ms M. Kairouz, MP

The Governor

The Honourable LINDA DESSAU, AM

The Lieutenant-Governor

The Honourable Justice MARILYN WARREN, AC, QC

The ministry (from 20 June 2016)

Premier	The Hon. D. M. Andrews, MP
Deputy Premier and Minister for Education, and Minister for Emergency Services (from 10 June 2016) [Minister for Consumer Affairs, Gaming and Liquor Regulation 10 June to 20 June 2016]	The Hon. J. A. Merlino, MP
Treasurer	The Hon. T. H. Pallas, MP
Minister for Public Transport and Minister for Major Projects	The Hon. J. Allan, MP
Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade	The Hon. P. Dalidakis, MLC
Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change, and Minister for Suburban Development	The Hon. L. D’Ambrosio, MP
Minister for Roads and Road Safety, and Minister for Ports	The Hon. L. A. Donnellan, MP
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Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services	The Hon. J. Hennessy, MP
Minister for Training and Skills, Minister for International Education and Minister for Corrections	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
Special Minister of State	The Hon. G. Jennings, MLC
Minister for Consumer Affairs, Gaming and Liquor Regulation	The Hon. M. Kairouz, MP
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Minister for Police and Minister for Water	The Hon. L. M. Neville, MP
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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 G. A. Tierney, MLC

**OFFICE-HOLDERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FIFTY-EIGHTH PARLIAMENT — FIRST SESSION**

Speaker:

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
Angus, Mr Neil Andrew Warwick	Forest Hill	LP	Morris, Mr David Charles	Mornington	LP
Asher, Ms Louise	Brighton	LP	Mulder, Mr Terence Wynn ²	Polwarth	LP
Battin, Mr Bradley William	Gembrook	LP	Napthine, 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
Burgess, Mr Neale Ronald	Hastings	LP	Pakula, Mr Martin Philip	Keysborough	ALP
Carbines, Mr Anthony Richard	Ivanhoe	ALP	Pallas, Mr Timothy Hugh	Werribee	ALP
Carroll, Mr Benjamin Alan	Niddrie	ALP	Paynter, Mr Brian Francis	Bass	LP
Clark, Mr Robert William	Box Hill	LP	Pearson, Mr Daniel James	Essendon	ALP
Couzens, Ms Christine Anne	Geelong	ALP	Perera, Mr Jude	Cranbourne	ALP
Crisp, Mr Peter Laurence	Mildura	Nats	Pesutto, Mr John	Hawthorn	LP
D'Ambrosio, Ms Liliana	Mill Park	ALP	Richardson, Mr Timothy Noel	Mordialloc	ALP
Dimopoulos, Mr Stephen	Oakleigh	ALP	Richardson, Ms Fiona Catherine Alison	Northcote	ALP
Dixon, Mr Martin Francis	Nepean	LP	Riordan, Mr Richard ⁵	Polwarth	LP
Donnellan, Mr Luke Anthony	Narre Warren North	ALP	Ryall, Ms Deanne Sharon	Ringwood	LP
Edbrooke, Mr Paul Andrew	Frankston	ALP	Ryan, Mr Peter Julian ⁶	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	Kororoit	ALP	Victoria, Ms Heidi	Bayswater	LP
Katos, Mr Andrew	South Barwon	LP	Wakeling, Mr Nicholas	Ferntree Gully	LP
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

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 Elasmarr 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 and Ms McLeish. (*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*): 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.*

10 June to 23 June 2016

Roads and road safety

6808. Ms McLEISH to ask the Minister for Roads and Road Safety — With reference to the Government's announcement that it will install electronic 40 km/h speed signs at three schools in the Yarra Ranges:

- (1) Has VicRoads conducted a count of vehicle movements per day at:
 - (a) Mount Dandenong Tourist Road near Mount Dandenong Primary School;
 - (b) The Patch Road near The Patch Primary School;
 - (c) Kallista-Emerald Road near The Patch Primary School;
 - (d) Belgrave-Gembrook Road near Selby Primary School.
- (2) When did VicRoads most recently conduct a count of vehicle movements per day at:
 - (a) Mount Dandenong Tourist Road near Mount Dandenong Primary School;
 - (b) The Patch Road near The Patch Primary School;
 - (c) Kallista-Emerald Road near The Patch Primary School;
 - (d) Belgrave-Gembrook Road near Selby Primary School.
- (3) How many vehicle movements were recorded per day at:
 - (a) Mount Dandenong Tourist Road near Mount Dandenong Primary School;
 - (b) The Patch Road near The Patch Primary School;
 - (c) Kallista-Emerald Road near The Patch Primary School;
 - (d) Belgrave-Gembrook Road near Selby Primary School.
- (4) Prior to the installation of electronic 40 km/h speed signs at these sites, what speed limits existed during school zone times at:
 - (a) Mount Dandenong Tourist Road near Mount Dandenong Primary School;
 - (b) The Patch Road near The Patch Primary School;
 - (c) Kallista-Emerald Road near The Patch Primary School;
 - (d) Belgrave-Gembrook Road near Selby Primary School.
- (5) Prior to the installation of electronic 40 km/h speed signs at these sites, what speed limits existed outside of school zone times at:
 - (a) Mount Dandenong Tourist Road near Mount Dandenong Primary School;
 - (b) The Patch Road near The Patch Primary School;
 - (c) Kallista-Emerald Road near The Patch Primary School;
 - (d) Belgrave-Gembrook Road near Selby Primary School.

ANSWER:

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

VicRoads used traffic volumes derived from traffic surveys and estimates.

As part of the application for funding under the School Crossing Supervisor Scheme, the Yarra Ranges Shire Council completed traffic vehicle surveys at school crossing locations on Mount Dandenong Tourist Road, near Mount Dandenong Primary School, and Belgrave-Gembrook Road, near Selby Primary school in 2015.

VicRoads typically only collects vehicle volume data on VicRoads managed arterial roads. The Patch Road and Kallista-Emerald Road, near The Patch Primary School, are both municipal council managed roads and, as such, VicRoads does not have past traffic volume data for these two roads.

Prior to the installation of the electronic speed limit signs, the posted speed limit along Mount Dandenong Tourist Road, near Mount Dandenong Primary School, and The Patch Road, near The Patch Primary School, were 60km/h during school times. The posted speed limit along Kallista-Emerald Road, near The Patch Primary School, and Belgrave-Gembrook Road, near Selby Primary School, were 40km/h during school times.

There has been no change to the speed limit outside of school times along all four roads. As such, prior to the installation of the electronic speed limit signs, the posted speed limit along the four listed roads were 60km/h.

Public transport

6989. Mr THOMPSON to ask the Minister for Public Transport — With reference to grade separation proposals for the Frankston rail corridor:

- (1) How did the Government inform stakeholders who will be affected by future building works of the date, time and place of interactive consultation meetings.
- (2) Were affected property owners advised by personal addressed mail.

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Sandringham for his question.

The planning for the removal of eight level crossings between Cheltenham and Frankston is still in the early stages and no decision has yet been made regarding the recommended solution for their removal and the extent of works.

The Level Crossing Removal Authority informed residents and traders about the series of nine community information sessions in March in a variety of ways.

The sessions were advertised for four consecutive weeks in local newspapers, including the Bayside Leader, Mordialloc Chelsea Leader, Chelsea Mordialloc Mentone News, Moorabbin Kingston Leader, Frankston Standard Leader and Frankston Times.

A four-page community update flyer was distributed to 65 000 residents and businesses between Cheltenham and Frankston, including those directly adjacent to the rail line and surrounding roads. These promoted the community sessions as well as providing general information about the project.

Information was also available on the Level Crossing Removal Authority website, via Facebook and Twitter and was sent via email to subscribed users.

The Cities of Kingston and Frankston also promoted the sessions to residents via their respective community newsletters.

In addition to the above, rail users were informed through nine station ‘pop-ups’ during February. Posters at railway stations along the Frankston line and ground decals at the eight level crossings scheduled for removal, as well as at nearby crossings, also provided information about the forthcoming sessions.

Level Crossing Removal Authority staff visited local traders by dropping into their businesses to inform them about the project and community information sessions, and also left multiple copies of the information flyer with cafes and restaurants.

In light of the above extensive distribution of information, the Level Crossing Removal Authority did not send personally addressed mail to residents.

Further to the community information sessions, the LXRA has also door knocked over 1000 businesses in close proximity to the eight level crossings as part of its comprehensive community consultation, of which information sessions are just one part.

Housing, disability and ageing

6991. **Mr T. BULL** to ask the Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing — With reference to the reduction in the number of applicants on Victoria’s public housing waiting list from 34 736 to 32 564 between September 2015 and December 2015:

- (1) How many applicants were removed from the waiting list because they were placed into public housing.
- (2) How many applicants were removed from the waiting list as a result of the Eligibility Confirmation Questionnaire process.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Individual clients circumstances are subject to confidentiality provisions.

The main reasons that applicants are removed from the waiting list is because they have either into public housing, they no longer meet eligibility criteria, or they are unable to be contacted by the Department of Health and Human Services.

Housing, disability and ageing

6992. **Mr T. BULL** to ask the Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing — With reference to the reduction in the number of applicants on Victoria’s public housing waiting list from 34 736 to 32 564 between September 2015 and December 2015, how many applicants were removed because:

- (1) The local office was unable to contact the applicant.
- (2) The household no longer met the eligibility criteria.
- (3) The applicant requested in writing that their application be temporarily removed from the waiting list.
- (4) The applicant advised in writing that they were no longer interested in continuing with their application.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Individual clients circumstances are subject to confidentiality provisions.

The main reasons that applicants are removed from the waiting list is because they have either moved into public housing, they no longer meet eligibility criteria, or they are unable to be contacted by the Department of Health and Human Services.

Public transport

7065. **Mr THOMPSON** to ask the Minister for Public Transport — With reference to the Level Crossing Removal Authority’s public consultations on grade separation proposed to be undertaken on the Frankston rail line and the display pictures at the presentation held in the Cheltenham Library on

19 March 2016, what is the relevance of the 200-year-old heritage listed Amsterdam Central Station by renowned architect Pierre Cuypers.

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Sandringham for his question.

The photos that were on display at the community information session held by the Level Crossing Removal Authority at Cheltenham Library on 19 March, showed a range of rail over and rail under, and road over and road under solutions from around the world. The images were taken from the Level Crossing Removal Project Precedent Study, which was developed to inform the assessment of design solutions in relation to previous successful designs from around Melbourne, Australia and internationally. These photos, including the one of Amsterdam Central Station, were displayed for the purpose of generating discussion and feedback from the community.

The Level Crossing Removal Authority have recorded in detail all of the community feedback from this and the other eight community information sessions held along the Frankston line during March. This data will form part of LXRA's reporting and decision-making as they work towards options for each of the eight level crossings. Feasible options are planned to be presented to local communities along the Frankston line in the middle of 2016.

Energy, environment and climate change

7093. **Mr SOUTHWICK** to ask the Minister for Energy and Resources — With reference to the planned electricity outage in Caulfield on 10 April 2016, which lasted until 8.30 pm even though residents and businesses were told it would last until 5 pm:

- (1) What are the current rules relating to planned power outages by electricity network companies that exceed the communicated outage time.
- (2) Has the Minister's office or the department investigated issues relating to planned power outages exceeding the communicated outage time.
- (3) What is the Government doing to address the cost to businesses and inconvenience to residents due to planned outages that exceed the communicated period or are altered suddenly.

ANSWER:

Electricity distribution and transmission businesses have statutory obligations to ensure their networks are safe, and are subject to licensing obligations and financial incentives relating to reliability and quality of supply. Electricity distribution businesses may interrupt supply of electricity to undertake works to maintain the safety and reliability of the electricity supply network and to minimise unplanned disruptions to electricity supply.

Distribution and transmission businesses are required to give customers at least four days' notice of any planned outages. They must specify the expected date, time and duration of the interruption and provide a 24 hour telephone number for enquiries.

Planned outages sometimes extend beyond the communicated restoration time due to unforeseen circumstances and complexities in the works required to be completed. Distribution businesses must use best endeavours to restore power supply as quickly as possible.

Customers who are dissatisfied with the level of service provided by their distributor, can refer the matter to the independent Energy and Water Ombudsman Victoria (EWOV). EWOV has the power to investigate and facilitate a resolution to matters between electricity distribution businesses and customers. More information about EWOV's complaints process is available at: <http://www.ewov.com.au/complaints/process-for-complaints>.

EWOV issues an annual report where it identifies any concerns of a systemic nature that may require attention by the Government. EWOV has not reported any systemic issues related to planned outages lasting longer than the communicated time in its latest report.

Mental health

7117. **Mr T. BULL** to ask the Minister for Mental Health — With reference to the plans for a new \$6 million mental health treatment facility in the Grampians region containing up to 20 residential rehabilitation beds:

- (1) Are these public residential rehabilitation beds or beds for community corrections or forensic patients.
- (2) If they are public residential rehabilitation beds, why was it stipulated in media releases that they will specifically service the people of Ballarat rather than all Victorians.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (1) These are public residential rehabilitation beds.
- (2) All Victorian Government funded residential rehabilitation facilities are available to the public on the basis of need. Need is defined by the severity of the alcohol or other drug dependency and other life complexities such as being a victim of domestic violence or being homeless. The location of the service in the Grampians region will give people in the region and surrounding areas improved access to residential services for alcohol and other drug issues.

Housing, disability and ageing

7118. **Mr T. BULL** to ask the Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing — Will any recipients of individual support packages will be worse off financially under their National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) package once the NDIS roll out is complete.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Bilateral Agreement between the Commonwealth and Victoria for the Transition to the National Disability Insurance Scheme states that people will not be disadvantaged as a result of the full roll out of the scheme. In addition, the parties have agreed that the transition of people, currently accessing services will be as seamless as possible with streamlined eligibility and intake.

Public transport

7499. **Mr THOMPSON** to ask the Minister for Public Transport — With reference to the operation of the Level Crossing Removal Authority and capacity planning measures on the Frankston railway line, will the stations be designed to cater for best practice in bicycle infrastructure inside and around the stations and proximate to where the crossings are being removed.

ANSWER:

I'd like to thank the member for Sandringham for his questions in relation to the Level Crossing Removal Project and the future operation of the Frankston Line.

As the statutory authority responsible for public transport in Victoria, Public Transport Victoria (PTV) has developed a detailed long term Network Development Plan for the future operation and infrastructure requirements of the rail network, including stations.

PTV, Metro Trains Melbourne (MTM) and the Level Crossing Removal Authority (LXRA) are working closely together in the planning for the removal of the 11 level crossings on the Frankston line including those currently under construction and those in development.

PTV, MTM and LXRA meet regularly and discussions have included the provision of bicycle infrastructure inside and around the stations.

Public transport

7500. **Mr THOMPSON** to ask the Minister for Public Transport — With reference to the Level Crossing Removal Authority and capacity planning measures on the Frankston railway line, are the stations able to cater for significant increase in the number of trains.

ANSWER:

I'd like to thank the member for Sandringham for his questions in relation to the Level Crossing Removal Project and the future operation of the Frankston Line.

As the statutory authority responsible for public transport in Victoria, Public Transport Victoria (PTV) has developed a detailed long term Network Development Plan for the future operation and infrastructure requirements of the rail network, including stations.

PTV, Metro Trains Melbourne (MTM) and the Level Crossing Removal Authority (LXRA) are working closely together in the planning for the removal of the 11 level crossings on the Frankston line including those currently under construction and those in development.

PTV, MTM and LXRA meet regularly and discussions have included the design of stations to cater for existing and forecast future passenger numbers.

Public transport

7501. **Mr THOMPSON** to ask the Minister for Public Transport — With reference to the Level Crossing Removal Authority and capacity planning measures on the Frankston railway line, will the stations and new crossings be constructed to facilitate a third track to cater for the expansion of greater Melbourne, freight or passenger bypass trains.

ANSWER:

I'd like to thank the member for Sandringham for his questions in relation to the Level Crossing Removal Project and the future operation of the Frankston Line.

As the statutory authority responsible for public transport in Victoria, Public Transport Victoria (PTV) has developed a detailed long term Network Development Plan for the future operation and infrastructure requirements of the rail network, including stations.

PTV and the Level Crossing Removal Authority (LXRA) are working closely together in the planning for the removal of the 11 level crossings on the Frankston line including those currently under construction and those in development.

Where future infrastructure needs have been identified by PTV but are not required as part of a level crossing removal, works to be undertaken by LXRA will be designed to not preclude future provision of these as far as possible.

PTV and LXRA meet regularly and discussions have included requirements for provision of a third track and design of station and platform lengths to cater for existing and forecast future train lengths.

Public transport

7502. **Mr THOMPSON** to ask the Minister for Public Transport — With reference to the operation of the Level Crossing Removal Authority and capacity planning measures on the Frankston railway line:

- (1) Are the stations at Mentone and Cheltenham to be rebuilt with capacity expected in:

- (a) the Melbourne 2030 planning policy;
 - (b) 2050 or beyond.
- (2) How will the heritage features of the station be preserved.

ANSWER:

I'd like to thank the member for Sandringham for his questions in relation to the Level Crossing Removal Project and the future operation of the Frankston Line.

As the statutory authority responsible for public transport in Victoria, Public Transport Victoria (PTV) has developed a detailed long term Network Development Plan for the future operation and infrastructure requirements of the rail network, including stations.

PTV and the Level Crossing Removal Authority (LXRA) are working closely together in the planning for the removal of the 11 level crossings on the Frankston line including those currently under construction and those in development.

The Level Crossing Removal Authority is also working with Heritage Victoria, councils and community groups throughout this year during the design development of feasible and recommended options to ensure heritage considerations at stations are well understood and considered.

Public transport

7503. **Mr THOMPSON** to ask the Minister for Public Transport — With reference to the operation of the Level Crossing Removal Authority and capacity planning measures on the Frankston railway line, will the train stations be built so they are easily extended to cater for longer trains.

ANSWER:

I'd like to thank the member for Sandringham for his questions in relation to the Level Crossing Removal Project and the future operation of the Frankston Line.

As the statutory authority responsible for public transport in Victoria, Public Transport Victoria (PTV) has developed a detailed long term Network Development Plan for the future operation and infrastructure requirements of the rail network, including stations.

PTV and the Level Crossing Removal Authority (LXRA) are working closely together in the planning for the removal of the 11 level crossings on the Frankston line including those currently under construction and those in development.

Where future infrastructure needs have been identified by PTV but are not required as part of a level crossing removal, works to be undertaken by LXRA will be designed to not preclude future provision of these as far as possible.

PTV and LXRA meet regularly and discussions have included the design of station and platform lengths to cater for existing and forecast future passenger numbers and train lengths.

Public transport

7504. **Mr THOMPSON** to ask the Minister for Public Transport — With reference to the operation of the Level Crossing Authority and capacity planning measures on the Frankston railway line, does the design process allow for the planning and providing for future capacity demand, ensuring that new crossings cater for a significant increase in passenger traffic along with bicycle traffic.

ANSWER:

I'd like to thank the member for Sandringham for his questions in relation to the Level Crossing Removal Project and the future operation of the Frankston Line.

As the statutory authority responsible for public transport in Victoria, Public Transport Victoria (PTV) has developed a detailed long term Network Development Plan for the future operation and infrastructure requirements of the rail network, including stations.

PTV, the Level Crossing Removal Authority (LXRA) and local councils are working closely together in the planning for the removal of the 11 level crossings on the Frankston line including those currently under construction and those in development.

PTV and LXRA meet regularly and discussions have included the provision of cycling infrastructure and the design of stations to cater for existing and forecast future passenger numbers.

Public transport

7505. **Mr THOMPSON** to ask the Minister for Public Transport — With reference to the operation of the Level Crossing Removal Authority and capacity planning measures on the Frankston railway line, what evidence is there that the Level Crossing Removal Authority is making planning provisions for the future with broader issues of transport policy in their project scope rather than a narrow focus on removing level crossings.

ANSWER:

I'd like to thank the member for Sandringham for his questions in relation to the Level Crossing Removal Project and the future operation of the Frankston Line.

As the statutory authority responsible for public transport in Victoria, Public Transport Victoria (PTV) has developed a detailed long term Network Development Plan for the future operation and infrastructure requirements of the rail network, including stations.

PTV and the Level Crossing Removal Authority (LXRA) are working closely together in the planning for the removal of the 11 level crossings on the Frankston line including those currently under construction and those in development.

Where future infrastructure needs have been identified by PTV but are not required as part of a level crossing removal, works to be undertaken by LXRA will be designed to not preclude future provision of these as far as possible.

PTV and LXRA meet regularly to work on these vital infrastructure projects.

Housing, disability and ageing

7516. **Mr T. BULL** to ask the Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing — With reference to people who are receiving mental health care in Victoria in state-run facilities or psychiatric or outpatient supports from the Department of Health and Human Services:

- (1) How many deaths have occurred in each of the 2014 and 2015 calendar years.
- (2) How many investigations were carried out in relation to those deaths.
- (3) If this information is already available, where is it located.

ANSWER:

I am informed that much of the material is reported and is publicly available.

- (1) The Chief Psychiatrist receives reports from publically-funded mental health services of the deaths of all inpatients and the deaths due to unnatural, unexpected or violent causes of persons who had been in contact with services in the three months prior to death.
- (2) The Chief Psychiatrist reviews all reports of deaths as they are received from services and conducts a formal review every three years of deaths on inpatient units. Inpatient deaths in the period 2011-2014 are being reviewed at present.
- (3) Information regarding the numbers of deaths each year is contained in the Chief Psychiatrist's Annual Report.

Consumer affairs, gaming and liquor regulation

7520. **Mr NORTHE** to ask the Minister for Consumer Affairs, Gaming and Liquor Regulation — With reference to the appointment of an administrator at LJ Hooker franchises in Glen Waverley, Keysborough, Box Hill, Mount Waverley, Doncaster and Burwood:

- (1) What date was Consumer Affairs Victoria first alerted to possible issues at these businesses.
- (2) What date was the Minister and the Minister's office advised of issues at these businesses.
- (3) Upon being notified, what actions were taken and when were they taken by Consumer Affairs Victoria.
- (4) Upon being notified, what actions were taken and when were they taken by the Minister and the Minister's office.
- (5) How many complaints in total have been received by Consumer Affairs Victoria in relation to this matter.
- (6) What is the approximate amount of funding that is likely to be spent from the Victorian Property Fund to support consumers affected by this issue.
- (7) What amount of money that was claimed by the franchisee to have been moved has been located.

ANSWER:

(1-7)

This matter is the subject of an ongoing investigation which may involve court proceedings. Therefore it is inappropriate to comment at this stage.

The answers to questions 6 and 7 will not be known with any accuracy for some time, and will be determined as the work of the Statutory Manager and the CAV investigation reconstruct the agency records and consumers lodge their claims.

Housing, disability and ageing

7531. **Ms SANDELL** to ask the Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing — With reference to the Public Housing Waiting and Transfer List for March 2016:

- (1) What portion of decreases during the latest quarter were a result of individuals securing public housing.
- (2) What portion of decreases during the latest quarter were a result of people being removed from the list without being offered a tenancy.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Individual clients circumstances are subject to confidentiality provisions.

The main reasons that applicants are removed from the waiting list is because they have either moved into public housing, they no longer meet eligibility criteria, or they are unable to be contacted by the Department of Health and Human Services.

Energy, environment and climate change

7544. Mr THOMPSON to ask the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change — With reference to the use of jet skis in Port Phillip Bay:

- (1) How many fines were issued for noncompliance with speed limitations in proximity to the foreshore for jet ski users in the calendar year 2015.
- (2) How many fines have been issued for noncompliance with speed limitations in proximity to the foreshore for jet ski users in 2016 to date.

ANSWER:

The matters raised fall within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for Police. The member will need to redirect his question to the Hon Lisa Neville.

Housing, disability and ageing

7545. Mr T. BULL to ask the Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing — With reference to the Minister’s answer to question 6676, stating that information on deaths in disability care is published online by the Department of Health and Human Services, what is the exact web address for this data.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Incident reporting data, including Category one deaths in disability services, is published through the Department of Health and Human Services’ annual report additional data. This can be accessed via the following web address:

<http://dhhs.vic.gov.au/publications/department-of-health-and-human-services-annual-report-2014-15/>

Housing, disability and ageing

7546. Mr T. BULL to ask the Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing — For each of the years 2009–10, 2010–11, 2011–12, 2012–13, 2013–14 and 2014–15, how many deaths in disability residential services were reported as:

- (1) Category one incidents.
- (2) Category two incidents.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

My department takes the death of a person in receipt of services very seriously. People who live in disability residential services often have complex healthcare needs or chronic medical conditions (such as cardiovascular disease) and comorbidities (additional disorders) associated with their disability.

Data regarding deaths that occur in unusual or unexpected circumstances is published online through the Department of Health and Human Services’ annual report additional data. This can be accessed via the following web address:

<http://dhhs.vic.gov.au/publications/department-of-health-and-human-services-annual-report-2014-15/>

Roads and road safety

7553. Ms **BRITNELL** to ask the Minister for Roads and Road Safety — With reference to the Macarthur-Myamyn Road in South-West Victoria:

- (1) How much funding has the Government allocated to upgrade Macarthur-Myamyn Road.
- (2) What date will works commence on upgrades to the Macarthur-Myamyn Road.

ANSWER:

Over the past 12 months, the State Government has invested \$297 000 to rehabilitate and seal pavement on two sections of Myamyn-Macarthur Road.

Proposals to widen 4.5 km of the single lane section of Myamyn-Macarthur Road to two lanes, and to upgrade the Hamilton-Port Fairy Road intersection to construct a standard T intersection, have been developed.

This will be submitted for assessment with other similar projects for consideration for funding in 2017–18.

Premier

7569. Ms **SANDELL** to ask the Premier — With reference to recommendations from the Hazelwood Mine Fire Inquiry Report to establish a post-closure trust fund and a post-closure community fund, does the line in the 2016–17 Budget committing \$13.8 million for the transition of land use for the Hazelwood, Yallourn and Loy Yang mine sites include the establishment of these funds; if not, when will these recommendations be funded.

ANSWER:

The Hazelwood Mine Fire Inquiry Board’s final report recommended that a post-closure trust fund for the Latrobe Valley coal mines be established.

The Government has committed to implementing the Inquiry Reports’ recommendations and will consider the design of a post closure trust fund and any complementary mechanisms, to manage the costs of ongoing monitoring, maintenance and management of the Latrobe Valley coal mines sites.

More information about the timelines for the implementation of the Inquiry recommendations will be available in the Government’s formal response to the Inquiry that will soon be made publicly available.