

PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA

**PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(HANSARD)**

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

FIFTY-SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

FIRST SESSION

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

8 February 2011

(Extract from book 2)

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By authority of the Victorian Government Printer

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Economy and Infrastructure References Committee — Mr Barber, Ms Broad, Mrs Coote, Mr Drum, Mr Finn, Ms Pulford, Mr Ramsay and Mr Somyurek.

Environment and Planning Legislation Committee — Mr Elsbury, Mrs Kronberg, Mr Ondarchie, Ms Pennicuik, Mrs Peulich, Mr Scheffer, Mr Tee and Ms Tierney.

Environment and Planning References Committee — Mr Elsbury, Mrs Kronberg, Mr Ondarchie, Ms Pennicuik, Mrs Peulich, Mr Scheffer, Mr Tee and Ms Tierney.

Legal and Social Issues Legislation Committee — Ms Crozier, Ms Hartland, Ms Mikakos, Mr O'Brien, Mr O'Donohue, Mr Pakula, Mrs Petrovich and Mr Viney.

Legal and Social Issues References Committee — Ms Crozier, Ms Hartland, Ms Mikakos, Mr O'Brien, Mr O'Donohue, Mr Pakula, Mrs Petrovich and Mr Viney.

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(*Assembly*): Mr Battin and Mr McCurdy.

Education and Training Committee — (*Council*): Mr Elasmarr and Ms Tierney. (*Assembly*): Mr Crisp, Ms Miller and Mr Southwick.

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

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(*Assembly*): Ms Graley, Ms Hutchins and Ms McLeish.

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FIFTY-SEVENTH PARLIAMENT — FIRST SESSION

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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

Tuesday, 8 February 2011

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of Alpine

1. **MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Alpine Shire Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria’s approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — rural city of Ararat

2. **MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Ararat Rural City Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government's failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

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Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — city of Ballarat

3. **MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Ballarat City Council, how will the Government's election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children's Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government's failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

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The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — city of Banyule

4. **MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Banyule City Council, how will the Government's election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children's Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government's failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

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3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of Bass Coast

5. **MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Bass Coast Shire Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

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3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of Baw Baw

6. **MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Baw Baw Shire Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

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3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — city of Bayside

7. **MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Bayside City Council, how will the Government's election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children's Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government's failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

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The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — rural city of Benalla

8. **MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Benalla Rural City Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

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3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — city of Boroondara

9. **MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Boroondara City Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

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3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — city of Brimbank

10. **MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Brimbank City Council, how will the Government's election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children's Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government's failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of Buloke

11. **MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Buloke Shire Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria’s approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of Campaspe

12. **MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Campaspe Shire Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government's failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of Cardinia

- 13. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Cardinia Shire Council, how will the Government's election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children's Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government's failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — city of Casey

14. **MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Casey City Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria’s approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of Central Goldfields

15. **MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Central Goldfields Shire Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional

\$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria’s approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of Colac Otway

16. **MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Colac Otway Shire Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of Corangamite

- 17. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Corangamite Shire Council, how will the Government's election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children's Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government's failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — city of Darebin

- 18. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Darebin City Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria’s approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of East Gippsland

- 19. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the East Gippsland Shire Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — city of Frankston

- 20. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Frankston City Council, how will the Government's election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children's Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government's failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of Gannawarra

21. **MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Gannawarra Shire Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria’s approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — city of Glen Eira

22. **MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Glen Eira City Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of Glenelg

- 23. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Glenelg Shire Council, how will the Government's election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children's Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government's failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of Golden Plains

24. **MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Golden Plains Shire Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria’s approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — city of Greater Bendigo

25. **MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Greater Bendigo City Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government's failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — city of Greater Dandenong

- 26. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Greater Dandenong City Council, how will the Government's election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children's Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government's failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — city of Greater Geelong

- 27. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Greater Geelong City Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria’s approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — city of Greater Shepparton

- 28. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Greater Shepparton City Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional

\$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria’s approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of Hepburn

- 29. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Hepburn Shire Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of Hindmarsh

- 30. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Hindmarsh Shire Council, how will the Government's election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children's Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government's failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — city of Hobsons Bay

- 31. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Hobsons Bay City Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria’s approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — rural city of Horsham

- 32. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Horsham Rural City Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — city of Hume

- 33. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Hume City Council, how will the Government's election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children's Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government's failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of Indigo

34. MS MIKAKOS — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Indigo Shire Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria’s approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — city of Kingston

35. MS MIKAKOS — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Kingston City Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — city of Knox

- 36. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Knox City Council, how will the Government's election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children's Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government's failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — city of Latrobe

37. **MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Latrobe City Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria’s approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of Loddon

38. **MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Loddon Shire Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government's failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of Macedon Ranges

- 39. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Macedon Ranges Shire Council, how will the Government's election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children's Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government's failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — city of Manningham

- 40. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Manningham City Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria’s approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of Mansfield

- 41. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Mansfield Shire Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional

\$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria’s approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — city of Maribyrnong

42. **MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Maribyrnong City Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — city of Maroondah

- 43. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Maroondah City Council, how will the Government's election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children's Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government's failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — city of Melbourne

- 44. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Melbourne City Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria’s approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of Melton

- 45. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Melton Shire Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — rural city of Mildura

- 46. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Mildura Rural City Council, how will the Government's election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children's Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government's failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of Mitchell

- 47. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Mitchell Shire Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria’s approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of Moira

- 48. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Moira Shire Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — city of Monash

- 49. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Monash City Council, how will the Government's election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children's Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government's failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — city of Moonee Valley

50. **MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Moonee Valley City Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria’s approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of Moorabool

51. **MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Moorabool Shire Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government's failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — city of Moreland

52. MS MIKAKOS — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Moreland City Council, how will the Government's election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children's Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government's failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of Mornington Peninsula

- 53. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Mornington Peninsula Shire Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria’s approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of Mount Alexander

- 54. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Mount Alexander Shire Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional

\$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria’s approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of Moyne

55. MS MIKAKOS — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Moyne Shire Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of Murrindindi

- 56. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Murrindindi Shire Council, how will the Government's election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children's Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government's failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of Nillumbik

- 57. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Nillumbik Shire Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria’s approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of Northern Grampians

- 58. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Northern Grampians Shire Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — city of Port Phillip

- 59. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Port Phillip City Council, how will the Government's election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children's Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government's failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of Pyrenees

60. MS MIKAKOS — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Pyrenees Shire Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria’s approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — borough of Queenscliffe

61. MS MIKAKOS — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Borough of Queenscliffe, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of South Gippsland

- 62. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the South Gippsland Shire Council, how will the Government's election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children's Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government's failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of Southern Grampians

63. **MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Southern Grampians Shire Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria’s approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — city of Stonnington

64. **MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Stonnington City Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government's failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of Strathbogie

- 65. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Strathbogie Shire Council, how will the Government's election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children's Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government's failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of Surf Coast

- 66. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Surf Coast Shire Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria’s approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — rural city of Swan Hill

- 67. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Swan Hill Rural City Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional

\$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

Victoria’s approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
2. Pilot a range of service delivery models. Thirty-five services are currently piloting innovative approaches in a range of settings to implement 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.
3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of Towong

- 68. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Towong Shire Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

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1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
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3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — rural city of Wangaratta

- 69. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Wangaratta Rural City Council, how will the Government's election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children's Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government's failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

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Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
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3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — city of Warrnambool

- 70. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Warrnambool City Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

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3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of Wellington

- 71. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Wellington Shire Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

As a result this commitment is placing significant pressure on services to meet demand as well as having the potential to displace other valuable programs such as three year old kindergarten programs and play groups.

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3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of West Wimmera

- 72. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the West Wimmera Shire Council, how will the Government's election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children's Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government's failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

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Victoria's approach in the first years of implementing the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education is intended to:

1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
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3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — city of Whitehorse

73. MS MIKAKOS — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Whitehorse City Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

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1. Facilitate detailed planning to assess the capacity for the implementation of universal access within municipalities which responds to the unique needs of local communities.
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3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — city of Whittlesea

74. MS MIKAKOS — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Whittlesea City Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

The Brumby government agreed to adopt this federal policy without assessing the capacity of services to deliver the additional hours and without securing adequate funding from the Commonwealth to provide the necessary infrastructure and cover the cost of providing the additional program hours.

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The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — city of Wodonga

75. MS MIKAKOS — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Wodonga City Council, how will the Government's election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children's Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government's failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

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3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — city of Wyndham

76. **MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Wyndham City Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

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The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — city of Yarra

77. **MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Yarra City Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government's failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

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The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of Yarra Ranges

- 78. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Yarra Ranges Shire Council, how will the Government's election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children's Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government's failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

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3. Seek full funding from the Commonwealth government for the commitment to provide 15 hours of early childhood education.

The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Children and early childhood development: kindergartens — shire of Yarriambiack

- 79. MS MIKAKOS** — To ask the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development: In relation to the Yarriambiack Shire Council, how will the Government’s election policy of only an additional \$15 million in capital funding over the next four years under the Children’s Facilities Capital Program meet the growing demand for kindergarten places.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Unfortunately the effects of the Brumby government’s failure to adequately plan for both the baby boom and the impacts of new policy commitments such as the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education will be felt for some time.

In 2007 Federal Labor made an election commitment to implement Universal Access to 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year before school.

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The \$15 million in capital funding will be important in addressing these needs, and further funding consideration will be informed by the information gathered through these activities.

Attorney-General: Magistrates Court — judicial registrar

- 94. MS PENNICUIK** — To ask the Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations (for the Attorney-General): Has there been an independent evaluation of the judicial registrar in the Magistrates Court; if so, is it publicly available.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

There has not been an independent evaluation of the office of judicial registrar in the Magistrates' Court.

Sport and recreation: Icehouse — access

96. MS PENNICUIK — To ask the Minister for Housing (for the Minister for Sport and Recreation):

- (1) What is the rationale behind the exclusion of members of the Victorian Professional Skating Association from training elite figure skaters at the Icehouse skating rink.
- (2) What conditions, if any, were imposed by the former Minister on the management of the Icehouse with regard to skaters' access to its facilities.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Icehouse was constructed as a venue to cater for national and international level ice sports including curling, figure skating, ice hockey and speed skating as well as recreational skating.

The facility was required to enter into agreements with the Olympic Winter Institute of Australia (OWIA) and Ice Sports Victoria as well as engage with Ice Hockey Australia, Ice Hockey Victoria, Ice Skating Victoria [figure skating], the Victorian Curling Association and the Victorian Ice Racing Association [speed skating] in relation to their access and use of the Icehouse.

The OWIA has based its administration and training programs for ice sports at the Icehouse to facilitate training access for elite and high level skaters and coaches for the Sochi 2014 Olympics and beyond.

The Icehouse has also worked in partnership with Ice Sports Victoria, Ice Sports Australia and the OWIA to develop its Skate School program. This program creates pathways for Victoria's beginner level ice sport participants through to OWIA's high performance and Olympic Programs.

Victoria's ice sports associations have been provided with training times at the Icehouse to provide opportunities for Victoria's elite participants as well as grass roots ice sports clubs and members to train and compete at a world class Olympic Training Centre.

I understand the Victorian Professional Skating Association (VPSA) is an unincorporated organisation of professional figure skating coaches. VPSA coaches do have the opportunity to access facilities at the Icehouse to coach their elite figure skaters under a policy developed by the Icehouse's operational manager, Grollo Leisure Tourism.

I am advised that the Elite Athlete Development Policy provides a process for high-level athletes approved by Ice Skating Victoria and Ice Skating Australia, and the athlete's nominated coach (which may be a VPSA member), to train and utilise the facilities at the Icehouse. The policy stipulates that coaches undergo a short briefing to educate them on the mission, vision and values of the Icehouse and that the venue handles all transactions in relation to the conduct of the coaching sessions.

I am also advised that no management restrictions have been imposed on the Icehouse by government in relation to access to the facilities by skaters.