

PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA

**PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(HANSARD)**

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

FIFTY-SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

FIRST SESSION

WRITTEN ADJOURNMENT RESPONSES

11 and 13 June 2013

(Extract from book 8)

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By authority of the Victorian Government Printer

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The Honourable ALEX CHERNOV, AC, QC

The Lieutenant-Governor

The Honourable Justice MARILYN WARREN, AC

The ministry (from 22 April 2013)

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Minister for Local Government and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs.	The Hon. E. J. Powell, MP
Assistant Treasurer, Minister for Technology and Minister responsible for the Aviation Industry	The Hon. G. K. Rich-Phillips, MLC
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Cabinet Secretary	Mr N. Wakeling, MP

Legislative Council committees

Privileges Committee — Ms Darveniza, Mr D. Davis, Mr P. Davis, Mr Hall, Ms Lovell, Ms Pennicuik and Mr Scheffer.

Procedure Committee — The President, Mr Dalla-Riva, Mr D. Davis, Mr Hall, Mr Lenders, Ms Pennicuik and Mr Viney

Legislative Council standing committees

Economy and Infrastructure Legislation Committee — Mr Barber, Mrs Coote, #Ms Crozier, Mr Drum, Mr Finn, #Ms Hartland, #Mr Leane, Mr Lenders, Mr Melhem, #Mr Ondarchie, Ms Pulford and Mr Ramsay.

Economy and Infrastructure References Committee — Mr Barber, Mrs Coote, #Ms Crozier, Mr Drum, Mr Finn, #Mr Leane, Mr Lenders, Mr Melhem, #Mr Ondarchie, Ms Pulford and Mr Ramsay.

Environment and Planning Legislation Committee — Mr Dalla-Riva, Mr Elsbury, #Mr Finn, #Ms Hartland, Mrs Kronberg, #Mr Leane, Mr Ondarchie, Ms Pennicuik, #Mrs Petrovich, #Mrs Peulich, Mr Scheffer, #Mr Tarlamis, Mr Tee and Ms Tierney.

Environment and Planning References Committee — Mr Dalla-Riva, Mr Elsbury, #Mr Finn, #Ms Hartland, Mrs Kronberg, #Mr Leane, Mr Ondarchie, Ms Pennicuik, #Mrs Petrovich, #Mrs Peulich, Mr Scheffer, #Mr Tarlamis, Mr Tee and Ms Tierney.

Legal and Social Issues Legislation Committee — Ms Crozier, Mr Elasmr, #Mr Elsbury, Ms Hartland, Ms Mikakos, Mr O'Brien, Mrs Petrovich, Mrs Peulich, #Mr Ramsay and Mr Viney.

Legal and Social Issues References Committee — Ms Crozier, Mr Elasmr, #Mr Elsbury, Ms Hartland, Ms Mikakos, Mr O'Brien, Mrs Petrovich, Mrs Peulich, #Mr Ramsay and Mr Viney.

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Drugs and Crime Prevention Committee — (*Council*): Mr Leane, Mr Ramsay and Mr Scheffer. (*Assembly*): Mr Battin and Mr McCurdy.

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

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

Parliamentary Services — Secretary: Mr P. Lochert

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FIFTY-SEVENTH PARLIAMENT — FIRST SESSION

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Leader of the Opposition:

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The Hon. P. R. HALL

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Mr D. DRUM

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Coote, Mrs Andrea	Southern Metropolitan	LP	Mikakos, Ms Jenny	Northern Metropolitan	ALP
Crozier, Ms Georgina Mary	Southern Metropolitan	LP	O'Brien, Mr David Roland Joseph	Western Victoria	Nats
Dalla-Riva, Hon. Richard Alex Gordon	Eastern Metropolitan	LP	O'Donohue, Mr Edward John	Eastern Victoria	LP
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Hartland, Ms Colleen Mildred	Western Metropolitan	Greens	Tarlamis, Mr Lee Reginald	South Eastern Metropolitan	ALP
Jennings, Mr Gavin Wayne	South Eastern Metropolitan	ALP	Tee, Mr Brian Lennox	Eastern Metropolitan	ALP
Koch, Mr David Frank	Western Victoria	LP	Tierney, Ms Gayle Anne	Western Victoria	ALP
Kronberg, Mrs Janice Susan	Eastern Metropolitan	LP	Viney, Mr Matthew Shaw	Eastern Victoria	ALP
Leane, Mr Shaun Leo	Eastern Metropolitan	ALP			

¹ Resigned 26 March 2013

² Appointed 8 May 2013

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WRITTEN ADJOURNMENT RESPONSES

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

Tuesday, 11 June 2013

Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal: regional hearings

Raised with: Attorney-General

Raised by: Mr Ramsay

Raised on: 20 February 2013

REPLY:

VCAT is committed to reducing delays for users and identifying greater efficiencies in the use of resources to manage the increasing demand and complexity of cases in regional Victoria.

Until mid-2012, VCAT conducted quarterly circuits across five regions for matters in its Planning and Environment list. However, this practice was discontinued due to the inefficiencies it gave rise to, such the inability to backfill or make other use of a member's time when cases settled or were withdrawn at short notice. However, cases continue to be listed in major regional centres such as Geelong and Ballarat, as well as at Berwick.

VCAT currently manages the Planning and Environment List by grouping cases from a particular region for hearing in Melbourne. VCAT considers there are a number of benefits of this practice. The enhanced efficiencies achieved mean that parties are able to have an earlier hearing of their matter. As well, Melbourne hearing rooms are purpose-built with audio-visual equipment that allows both parties to provide good visual images of sites and their surrounds, significantly reducing the need for inspections. Another benefit for parties is that the costs of calling expert witnesses, most of whom are Melbourne-based, are reduced. Where on-site inspections are required, the member is able to make a single journey to visit multiple sites in the same region.

The current practices for hearing regional cases have resulted in a reduction in waiting times by up to eight weeks. It should be noted that for more straightforward matters, applications can be made to have the case added to the Short Cases List, which can further expedite the matter.

For these reasons, VCAT considers that the current model for hearing regional cases is serving the regions well by ensuring matters are heard in a more effective and timely manner.

Employment: Gippsland

Raised with: Minister for Employment and Trade

Raised by: Mr Viney

Raised on: 20 March 2013

REPLY:

This question was asked of my colleague, the Hon. Richard Dalla-Riva, MLC, in February. It is unclear as to whether the member directed the question to him in his capacity as the Minister for Manufacturing, Export and Trade or the Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations. However, in the interests of answering this adjournment debate question, I will provide the response.

The announcement on 13 February 2013 of the closure of Drypac is a decision that USA-based Sealed Air Corporation has made as an overall strategy to consolidate operations and increase manufacturing productivity and competitiveness in Victoria.

This closure is an issue of great concern to my parliamentary colleagues in Gippsland, Mr Gary Blackwood, member for Narracan, and Mr Russell Northe, member for Morwell.

Sealed Air has advised the Department of State Development, Business and Innovation (DSDBI) that employees made redundant will receive all entitlements and will be offered an employee support program including outplacement services, counselling, and potential relocation for some employees.

In response to these job losses, DSDBI has coordinated information and support for affected employees from the relevant government agencies and service providers. This includes the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development and the Workers in Transition Program for retraining opportunities supported by the Victorian Training Guarantee.

DSDBI is working with Drypac, the Baw Baw Shire Council and businesses in the region to identify potential alternative employment opportunities for skilled employees affected by the closure.

DSDBI has also discussed with Baw Baw shire the potential to support locally driven investment attraction initiatives through the Regional Growth Fund following the Drypac announcement.

High Street Road, Wantirna South: duplication

Raised with: The Treasurer

Raised by: Mr Leane

Raised on: 20 March 2013

REPLY:

The member for Eastern Metropolitan needs to check his facts. He has made incorrect claims that no progress has been made since the coalition government came to office on the commitment to duplicate High Street Road between Stud Road and Burwood Highway.

In fact the coalition government's first budget in 2011–12 provided funding to commence the necessary planning and development work for this project; work that was essential to ensure the project was properly planned and managed. The coalition government won't be making the mistakes made by the former Labor government when they failed to properly plan infrastructure projects.

With that vital work completed, the 2013–14 budget has provided a further \$15.6 million to construct the duplication of High Street Road (between Stud Road and Burwood Highway), bringing the total investment in the project to \$16.2 million and fully delivering on our election commitment.

In addition to upgrading High Street Road, the coalition government is also delivering on other election commitments to improve and upgrade roads to benefit the local community, including projects such as the duplication of Stud Road between Boronia Road and Mountain Highway, and upgrading both of these arterial intersections to reduce congestion and improve safety.

Carrum to Warburton shared-use track: completion

Raised with: Minister for Sport and Recreation

Raised by: Mr Leane

Raised on: 18 April 2013

REPLY:

The coalition made two specific trail commitments as part of its pre-election Plan for Sport and Recreation. These were to construct the eastern rail trail between Box Hill and Ringwood and the completion of an integrated bike/walking track from Carrum to Warburton.

The delivery of these commitments is now being led by the Minister for Transport and I am pleased to note that funding has been announced to construct the Box Hill to Ringwood bike path. This is in line with our commitment to commence funding for this project in 2013–2014.

Last year, I am advised that VicRoads reviewed the scope of the Principle Bike Network (PBN) and the route to complete the Carrum to Warburton is now within the PBN. I understand VicRoads is leading the planning for this project. This project is being undertaken as part of the Victorian Cycling Strategy which was launched by the Minister for Transport in December 2012.

National broadband network: federal opposition policy

Raised with: Minister for Technology

Raised by: Mr Somyurek

Raised on: 18 April 2013

REPLY:

Shadow Minister Turnbull's quote in the Fairfax Media of 10 April 2013 refers to state offers to NBN Co to use state government owned fibre networks.

It is on the public record that the government has sought to collaborate with both the commonwealth government and NBN Co to support the rollout of the national broadband network where there are demonstrable benefits to the state, including access to state-owned fibre optic cable.

For example, the government has funded an extension of the VicTrack fibre network from Geelong to Warrnambool. The government has offered access to this extension to the commonwealth government and NBN Co for an equivalent exchange with access to commonwealth-funded fibre links in Victoria to support rollout of the national broadband network and other public benefits.

The government is also willing to discuss the opportunities of leveraging the state's fibre assets to support the rollout of the NBN.

Puppy farms: code of practice

Raised with: Minister for Agriculture and Food Security

Raised by: Mr Lenders

Raised on: 7 May 2013

REPLY:

I refer to the adjournment debate matter you raised for my attention on 7 May 2013, regarding possible impacts of the draft Code of Practice for the Operation of Breeding and Rearing Businesses on farmers who breed working dogs and occasionally sell excess puppies and the time provided for public consultation.

Any person who owns three or more fertile dogs used for breeding and selling puppies is required to register with their local government council as a domestic animal business for breeding and rearing to comply with the prescribed standards in the current Code of Practice. This includes farmers who breed and sell dogs. This requirement has been in place for over 10 years using the standards in the Code of Practice for the Operation of Breeding and Rearing Establishments. The standards in the code do not apply to farmers with less than three fertile dogs used for breeding puppies for sale.

The current Code of Practice for the Operation of Breeding and Rearing Establishments is a mandatory Code of Practice under the Domestic Animals Act 1994. The Code of Practice is designed to ensure the welfare of dogs and cats in breeding and rearing establishments by setting minimum standards for their management and care, and to offer appropriate consumer protection for people purchasing a dog or cat from a domestic animal business.

The proposed revised draft Code of Practice for the Operation of Breeding and Rearing Businesses was developed over 18 months in consultation with representatives of organisations for animal welfare, councils, dog breeders, cat breeders, guide dogs and regulators. This process led to the release of a consultation draft of the code with a 28-day public comment period that ended on the 13 May 2013. The length of the consultation period is set by the Domestic Animals Act 1994.

Submissions from farm working dog breeders have suggested some practical amendments to kennelling requirements that will be included in the next draft of the code for public consultation.

There will be a second round of public consultation, following review of the comments received in the first round, with the release of a further revised draft of the code. This second consultation period is expected to commence in early July 2013.

Constituents who are concerned or wish to comment or offer alternatives to the proposed code are advised to do so through the formal submission processes.

Thank you for raising this matter with me.

Elwood RSL: commemoration site

Raised with: Minister for Veterans' Affairs

Raised by: Mrs Coote

Raised on: 7 May 2013

REPLY:

Thank you for bringing this matter to my attention.

The Veterans Council, through the Veterans Fund, may provide assistance towards the construction of new memorials in areas that do not already have an adequate memorial.

It is noted that a substantial World War 1 memorial is located in nearby Catani Gardens, St Kilda.

Any new memorial would need to be constructed on public land and therefore any application should be developed in conjunction with the City of Port Phillip.

Drought: western Victoria

Raised with: Minister for Agriculture and Food Security

Raised by: Mr Barber

Raised on: 8 May 2013

REPLY:

I refer to the matter you raised during the adjournment debate on 8 May 2013, regarding drought in western Victoria.

The Victorian government is aware of the dry conditions that have been experienced in south-west Victoria over the summer and autumn period. The government recognises this is placing pressure on many primary producers who are also impacted by other economic factors.

Dry conditions and drought are a normal part of the Victorian climate and are just one risk factor that Victorian farm businesses successfully manage. The Department of Environment and Primary Industries is responding to the dry conditions by shifting extension services to focus on drought preparedness and management.

There are existing Victorian government programs that assist primary producers in difficulty. The Rural Financial Counselling service provides free financial counselling to primary producers. The Farm Debt Mediation service requires banks to offer mediation with farmers before commencing enforcement action on farm mortgages.

The Australian government provides the Transitional Farm Family Payment, which provides income support to eligible farm families for up to 12 months and Farm Management Deposits, which can be used by farm businesses during difficult times.

The Victorian government is working with the Australian government to ensure that the Australian government's Farm Finance package, announced on 27 April 2013, is implemented in full in Victoria. This may assist eligible farmers facing high debt levels in the short-term and includes the provision of concessional loans. This type of financial assistance is the primary responsibility of the Australian government.

Unlike the Queensland government, the Victorian government does not make drought declarations. Nationally, Exceptional Circumstances (EC) arrangements allow state governments to apply for a declaration if criteria are met. It is highly unlikely that the Australian government will consider an EC declaration from the Victorian government at this time. An EC declaration is not made for all dry or drought conditions. To be considered an EC event, the event:

- must be rare and severe, that is, it must not have occurred more than once on average in every 20 to 25 years and must be a significant scale (i.e. the rainfall deficiency must be within the historical 0–5th percentile range for the application period);
- must result in a rare and severe downturn in farm income over a prolonged period of time (e.g. greater than 12 months); and
- must not be predictable or part of a process of structural adjustment.

There have been severe rainfall deficiencies in the south-west region since October 2012. However, the 12-month profile for the south-west does not indicate a severe deficiency, as required by the EC criteria, which is set by the Australian government.

The Victorian government will continue to monitor conditions and consult with industry over the coming months.

Thank you for raising this matter with me.

Trafalgar: abattoir closure

Raised with: Minister for Agriculture and Food Security

Raised by: Mr Lenders

Raised on: 8 May 2013

REPLY:

I refer to the matter you raised for my attention during the Adjournment debate on 8 May 2013, regarding the closure of L. E. Giles abattoir in Trafalgar.

Allegations of animal cruelty are treated with utmost seriousness. When cruelty allegations are made the department will undertake thorough investigations and, when the circumstances are warranted, prosecute those concerned.

The Department of Primary Industries (DPI) conducted an investigation and in 2012, animal cruelty charges were laid by DPI against four persons employed at the abattoir and the owner of the business, Mr Colin Giles. On 6 September 2012, three of the accused pleaded guilty to the charges and were each sentenced, without conviction, to a 12-month undertaking to be of good behaviour. Charges against the other two persons were withdrawn on the advice of the department's legal counsel.

PrimeSafe has advised that the previous licensees can reapply for a licence and I would encourage the licensees to work with PrimeSafe if they wish to resume their operations.

I understand the difficulties of the situation for both the Giles family and for the livestock producers who have not found alternative processing facilities. If the Giles family or other local pig farmers are interested in a meeting, they should approach their state member for Narracan, Gary Blackwood, MP, who can liaise with my office.

Thank you for raising this matter with me.

Goulburn Valley: fruit industry

Raised with: Minister for Agriculture and Food Security

Raised by: Ms Darveniza

Raised on: 9 May 2013

REPLY:

I refer to the adjournment debate matter you raised for my attention on the 9 May 2013, regarding restructuring of the Goulburn Valley fruit growing industry following SPC Ardmona's announcement that it will be significantly reducing its intake of some varieties of canning fruit in 2014.

Responding to a challenge of this magnitude requires a well-coordinated and collaborative effort from all affected parties. From the Victorian government's perspective, we have already undertaken some short term responses and are currently helping frame up a longer term response:

- working with relevant industry bodies, such as Fruit Growers Victoria, to ensure there is an accurate understanding of individual grower impacts;
- working with SPCA to ensure it is best positioned to maximise any existing or alternative market opportunities which may arise;

- collaborating with local government to support the development of a plan to better understand the opportunities for northern Victoria's food industry;
- working with the Australian government to ensure that Rural Financial Counselling Services personnel are available and in the right place; and
- offering to visit all affected growers to ensure they are aware of the range of services that are currently available.

We have already put in place the Farm Debt Mediation Act 2011, which ensures farmers get a fair hearing from their lenders, if and when that becomes necessary. We are working with the Australian government to determine what assistance, if any, may be available to growers from the Australian government's recently announced Farm Finance Package.

The Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional and Rural Victoria has written to all Victorian government ministers asking they ensure all government departments and agencies purchase Victorian and Australian-produced food products, wherever possible and practical.

A survey being undertaken by Fruit Growers Victoria will provide additional information to help shape the government's response.

Thank you for raising this matter with me.

Employment: youth programs

Raised with: Minister for Employment and Trade

Raised by: Ms Mikakos

Raised on: 9 May 2013

REPLY:

Thank you for your question in the adjournment debate of 9 May 2013.

I refer you to my response in the Legislative Assembly adjournment debate of 29 May 2013 which can be found on page 1854 of the *Hansard* transcript.

WRITTEN ADJOURNMENT RESPONSES

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

Thursday, 13 June 2013

Asbestos: non-occupational exposure

Raised with: Minister for Health

Raised by: Mr Scheffer

Raised on: 27 November 2012

REPLY:

I refer to matters raised by Mr Scheffer (Eastern Victoria) in relation to the enHealth publication *Asbestos: A guide for householders and the general public—May 2012* (the guide).

The guide was produced by the Australian Environmental Health Standing Committee (enHealth), of which the Victorian Department of Health is a member. The guide was endorsed by the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee, and is a national publication to which all state and territory governments and the Australian government contributed.

The guide uses a risk management/harm minimisation approach to describe the risks to health from being exposed to asbestos fibres in the non-occupational environment. It also explains who is at risk and how to reduce exposure to householders, their families and others. I did not agree with the first version of the document expressing concerns. To this extent, I agree with Mr Scheffer. The document has been revised and corrections made.

I am advised that:

1. the information in the guide is based on research and scientific evidence, and has been developed by public health experts to minimise potential health risk associated with asbestos in the home
2. the guide has the support of public health experts in all jurisdictions
3. no safe level of exposure to asbestos has been established, and this is clearly stated in a highlighted section on page 17 of the guide.

As with any guide, it is important for the reader to read the whole section and to not focus on a few words or a sentence which the reader may take out of context with the main messages of the guide.

I have been advised that reaction to the guide has been largely positive, and that there is currently a back order of requests for hard copies of the document. State and territory health departments and several councils and asbestos groups have placed links to the guide on their websites.

The amended guide is an important means of assisting householders to identify and to manage the potential risks of asbestos in the home. I am advised that the guide is currently out of print, and enHealth is reviewing how the key messages will be delivered in the next edition, which is expected in coming months.

The key message is that there is no safe level of asbestos exposure and Mr Scheffer — I welcome your advocacy and vigilance.

Mental health: women's facilities**Raised with: Minister for Mental Health****Raised by: Mr Finn****Raised on: 16 April 2013****REPLY:**

The Victorian government has committed to making the safety, comfort and security of women in mental health care a priority. To ensure that women have safer facilities, the government allocated \$4 million in capital funding in the 2011–12 state budget fulfilling our election commitment to improve conditions for women in psychiatric facilities.

Women can feel vulnerable in mixed gender inpatient mental health services. Ensuring that services are sensitive to women's needs and their safety is important for the Victorian government. Women have the right to receive mental health treatment and care, free from fear of victimisation, violence, sexual assault and retraumatisation.

In 2011–12, more than \$2.5 million was made available for 13 capital projects to 11 inpatient mental health services to improve the safety and comfort of female consumers. Projects included: creating women-only bedroom corridor wings; installation of nurse call buzzers in bedrooms and bathroom; and developing female-only lounge rooms, quiet rooms, bathrooms and toilet areas.

The Victorian government recently invited submissions from Victorian mental health inpatient services for the second round of funding. At the launch of the Victorian government's Gender Sensitive training module at the Alfred hospital, I was pleased to announce \$1.6 million of capital funding in 2012–13 for 34 projects at 11 health services under the Safety of women in mental health inpatient care initiative.

In the Western Metropolitan Region, Mercy Health (Werribee) received \$259 000 to install locks on bedroom doors. This will afford women and men improved safety (both day and night), and create a women's courtyard and sensory room in the low dependency area.

Additionally, Melbourne Health will receive \$319 989 for five projects, of which \$134 302 will create a women's wing and lounge area at Sunshine Hospital Adult Acute Inpatient Service, as well as a women's-only corridor, sitting area and garden courtyard at Sunshine Hospital Aged Acute Service.

Mental health: women's facilities**Raised with: Minister for Mental Health****Raised by: Mr Ondarchie****Raised on: 16 April 2013****REPLY:**

The Victorian government has committed to making the safety, comfort and security of women in mental health care a priority. To ensure that women have safer facilities, the government allocated \$4 million in capital funding in the 2011–12 state budget fulfilling our election commitment to improve conditions for women in psychiatric facilities.

Women can feel vulnerable in mixed gender inpatient mental health services. Ensuring that services are sensitive to women's needs and their safety is important for the Victorian government. Women have the right to receive mental health treatment and care, free from fear of victimisation, violence, sexual assault and retraumatisation.

In 2011–12, more than \$2.5 million was made available for 13 capital projects to 11 inpatient mental health services to improve the safety and comfort of female consumers. Projects included: creating women-only bedroom

corridor wings; installation of nurse call buzzers in bedrooms and bathroom; and developing female-only lounge rooms, quiet rooms, bathrooms and toilet areas.

Under this initiative Austin Health received \$16 000 to create a female bedroom wing with swipe card access and installation of motion sensor lights in all bedroom areas, affording women improved safety both day and night.

The Victorian government recently invited submissions from Victorian mental health inpatient services for the second round of funding. At the launch of the Victorian government's Gender Sensitive training module at the Alfred hospital, I was pleased to announce \$1.6 million of capital funding in 2012–13 for 34 projects at 11 health services under the Safety of women in mental health inpatient care initiative.

In the Northern Metropolitan Region, Austin Health received \$144 537 this year for five projects, including for:

- a women's-only bedroom corridor, with swipe card access and the installation of motion sensor lights, affording women improved safety both day and night in the Secure Extended Care Unit;
- development of a women's-only lounge with swipe access and a lounge within the Parent Infant Program and creation of a secure garden area with vegetable and sensory plot for the Adult Inpatient Unit;
- the installation of ceiling hoist equipment in four ensuite bedrooms for staff to assist patients with a physical disability in the Adult Neuropsychiatric Unit.

Additionally, Melbourne Health will receive \$319 989 for five projects of which \$75 237 was provided to the Northern Psychiatry Unit to: create a women's wing and lounge area on Unit One; develop flexible women's-only corridor doors on Unit Two; and develop an outdoor courtyard garden space for women only. Royal Melbourne Hospital also received \$88 772 to create a women's bedroom corridor and lounge area in the John Cade Unit adult inpatient unit last financial year.

Buses: local manufacture

Raised with: Minister for Manufacturing

Raised by: Ms Tierney

Raised on: 8 May 2013

REPLY:

On 26 April 2013 the Minister for Public Transport announced that Transdev Melbourne Pty Ltd was the preferred tenderer for the Melbourne Metropolitan Bus Franchise.

As part of the tender process, Transdev provided a Victorian Industry Participation Policy plan outlining its processes for engaging with local industry in the delivery of this contract. The plan was certified as completed by the Industry Capability Network and was taken into account in the evaluation of the tender bids by Public Transport Victoria.

Transdev Melbourne will operate approximately 30 per cent of Melbourne's bus network.