

PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA

**PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(HANSARD)**

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

FIFTY-SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

FIRST SESSION

WRITTEN ADJOURNMENT RESPONSES

15, 16 and 17 October 2013

(Extract from book 13)

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By authority of the Victorian Government Printer

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The Lieutenant-Governor

The Honourable Justice MARILYN WARREN, AC

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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 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 Peulich, Mr Scheffer, #Mr Tarlamis, Mr Tee and Ms Tierney.

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

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

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Scrutiny of Acts and Regulations Committee — (*Council*): Mr Dalla-Riva. (*Assembly*): Ms Barker, Ms Campbell, Mr Gidley, Mr Nardella, Dr Sykes and Mr Watt.

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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 Nationals:

The Hon. P. R. HALL

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Mr D. DRUM

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Crozier, Ms Georgina Mary	Southern Metropolitan	LP	Millar, Mrs Amanda Louise ⁴	Northern Victoria	LP
Dalla-Riva, Hon. Richard Alex Gordon	Eastern Metropolitan	LP	O'Brien, Mr David Roland Joseph	Western Victoria	Nats
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Hall, Hon. Peter Ronald	Eastern Victoria	Nats	Scheffer, Mr Johan Emiel	Eastern Victoria	ALP
Hartland, Ms Colleen Mildred	Western Metropolitan	Greens	Somyurek, Mr Adem	South Eastern Metropolitan	ALP
Jennings, Mr Gavin Wayne	South Eastern Metropolitan	ALP	Tarlamis, Mr Lee Reginald	South Eastern Metropolitan	ALP
Koch, Mr David Frank	Western Victoria	LP	Tee, Mr Brian Lennox	Eastern Metropolitan	ALP
Kronberg, Mrs Janice Susan	Eastern Metropolitan	LP	Tierney, Ms Gayle Anne	Western Victoria	ALP
Leane, Mr Shaun Leo	Eastern Metropolitan	ALP	Viney, Mr Matthew Shaw	Eastern Victoria	ALP

¹ Resigned 26 March 2013

² Appointed 8 May 2013

³ Resigned 1 July 2013

⁴ Appointed 21 August 2013

CONTENTS

WRITTEN ADJOURNMENT RESPONSES

TUESDAY, 15 OCTOBER 2013

<i>Department of Premier and Cabinet: catering</i>	3251
<i>Rail: St Albans level crossing</i>	3251
<i>Fringe benefits tax</i>	3252
<i>Mitcham rooming house</i>	3252
<i>Broadband access.....</i>	3253
<i>The Geelong Project.....</i>	3253
<i>Caroline Springs railway station.....</i>	3254
<i>National broadband network.....</i>	3254
<i>Anglesea Bowling Club.....</i>	3254
<i>Foodbank Victoria.....</i>	3255
<i>Watergardens railway station</i>	3255
<i>Greens Creek flood recovery funding</i>	3256
<i>School bus services.....</i>	3256
<i>Bethanga bus shelter</i>	3257
<i>Landmate program.....</i>	3257

WEDNESDAY, 16 OCTOBER 2013

<i>Shire of Mornington Peninsula kindergartens</i>	3259
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THURSDAY, 17 OCTOBER 2013

<i>Snowy Scientific Committee: re-establishment.....</i>	3261
<i>Abalone industry levies</i>	3261
<i>Dairy industry regulation.....</i>	3261
<i>Parks Victoria job losses.....</i>	3262
<i>CenITex</i>	3263

WRITTEN ADJOURNMENT RESPONSES

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

Tuesday, 15 October 2013

Department of Premier and Cabinet: catering

Raised with: Premier

Raised by: Mr Lenders

Raised on: 11 December 2012

REPLY:

As previously advised by the former Premier, ministers pay for the cost of the food and the drinks (tea, coffee, orange juice and soft drinks) provided by the Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC) for cabinet meetings.

This arrangement is administered by the Cabinet Secretary.

This is a different approach from that followed by the previous Labor government.

DPC pays the caterers initially, and the ministers are invoiced personally each quarter by the department. Ministers send their payments to DPC.

For cabinet committees, light refreshments (tea, coffee, soft drinks, biscuits et cetera) are provided, significantly pared back from what was provided under the previous government, and these are paid for by the department as they are available not only to Ministers but to officials who attend meetings of such committees.

Rail: St Albans level crossing

Raised with: Minister for Roads

Raised by: Mr Melhem

Raised on: 11 June 2013

REPLY:

The Victorian government has confirmed the removal of the Main Road rail level crossing in St Albans as a priority, with works to commence in the first term of government.

The \$52.3 million funding boost under the Metro Level Crossing Removal Blitz program, for works at seven dangerous level crossings, including the level crossing on Main Road in St Albans, takes the government's funding total to \$418.6 million since 2010.

This funding boost will now allow essential preconstruction activities to be undertaken at Main Road, St Albans, which are essential to clear the way for major construction works.

The preconstruction works demonstrate the Victorian government is committed to this project and to the people of St Albans.

Fringe benefits tax

Raised with: Minister for Health

Raised by: Ms Crozier

Raised on: 22 August 2013

REPLY:

Ms Crozier has asked that I raise the issue of the proposed federal government changes to FBT legislation in regard to vehicle leasing with my federal counterparts.

I have brought this matter to the attention of the federal Minister for Health in her role as a member of the Standing Council on Health and I have also raised this matter with the federal shadow minister, and I note that were the coalition to be elected the FBT changes would not proceed.

I have also issued a media release on 20 August 2013 expressing my concerns about the proposed changes.

Fringe benefits tax

Raised with: Minister for Ageing

Raised by: Mr Finn

Raised on: 22 August 2013

REPLY:

Mr Finn has asked about the impact of changes to the proposed federal government changes to FBT legislation in regard to vehicle leasing on health and aged services in the western suburbs.

I issued a media release on 20 August 2013 outlining the potential impacts of the proposed changes.

Western Health is the major provider of health services in the western suburbs of Melbourne. At that health service alone, approximately 300 families will be affected. The loss of these benefits has the potential to have a major impact on the ability of health services to retain and attract staff. These changes could have a significant impact on the delivery of health services through the government and also the NGO sector.

Mitcham rooming house

Raised with: Minister for Consumer Affairs

Raised by: Mr Leane

Raised on: 22 August 2013

REPLY:

All rooming houses must comply with the requirements of the Residential Tenancies Act 1997 (the act) and, specifically, the Residential Tenancies (Rooming House Standards) Regulations 2012 (minimum standards).

The minimum standards relate to the privacy, security, safety and amenity in rooming houses. The minimum standards became enforceable on 31 March 2013 and since that date Consumer Affairs Victoria (CAV) has been conducting inspections to ensure compliance.

CAV officers attended the rooming house in question on 9 August 2013 and conducted an inspection to ensure compliance with the minimum standards. Following the inspection, several minor issues were raised with the

operator that required rectification. A second inspection of the premises was conducted on 28 August 2013 and the premises were found to be compliant with the minimum standards.

Registered rooming houses are also required to comply with nuisance requirements in the Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008. Local councils administer and ensure compliance with this act.

CAV advises that any concerns about public nuisance should be raised with the local council. Further, Victoria Police deals with matters of conduct of a threatening nature or offences against people and property.

Broadband access

Raised with: Minister for Technology

Raised by: Mr Somyurek

Raised on: 22 August 2013

REPLY:

The Victorian government supports the rollout of affordable and cost efficient broadband to meet business needs.

Victoria had consistently advocated to the commonwealth government and NBN Co to prioritise the rollout of the National Broadband Network to underserved areas of the State.

NBN have commenced construction in a number of new developments in Narre Warren South including Sanctuary Springs and Kimberley Downs Estate. However as the government has consistently pointed out, the NBN has been very slow to roll out services in Victoria. The government has raised this issue with the former commonwealth Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy in correspondence and formal submissions.

The government has continued the Telecommunications Spend Demand reports for Victoria which provides detailed and localised data on areas where broadband coverage needs improvement. The government has also made submissions to the Regional Independent Telecommunications Review Committee and the Joint Committee on the National Broadband Network's fifth review calling for a better response for Victorians who have poor access to broadband.

The incoming commonwealth government has committed to review the NBN, including to reprioritise the rollout plan. The government will advocate for business needs to be prioritised in any review of the rollout plan. The Victorian government will continue to closely monitor the NBN and any policy changes as a result of the new coalition commonwealth government.

The Geelong Project

Raised with: Minister for Community Services

Raised by: Ms Hartland

Raised on: 3 September 2013

REPLY:

The Innovation Action Projects are an initiative under the *Victorian Homelessness Action Plan 2011–2015*.

As such, this issue is the responsibility of my colleague the Hon. Minister Lovell, MLC, as the Minister for Housing.

Caroline Springs railway station**Raised with: Minister for Public Transport****Raised by: Mr Melhem****Raised on: 4 September 2013****REPLY:**

A new V/Line railway station is planned at Caroline Springs, on the Ballarat line between Deer Park and Rockbank stations.

The government is reviewing the time frame for construction of the new station.

National broadband network**Raised with: Minister for Technology****Raised by: Mr Somyurek****Raised on: 4 September 2013****REPLY:**

The Victorian government welcomes the federal coalition government's new approach to the national broadband network (NBN). It is increasingly important for a government to take advantage of the capabilities offered by the digital world and the rewards are considerable. The federal coalition government's NBN will be a key telecommunications platform to support activity of the Victorian government ICT Strategy. The new NBN will be effective as long as it supports a competitive market for broadband services, provides diverse offerings at affordable prices and is able to satisfy customer demands.

It is a customer's decision that should determine what level of service is provided to their premises. Under the federal coalition NBN all Australians would have access to broadband speeds of at least 25 to 100 megabits per second. One would expect under this NBN plan retail service providers will offer a range of broadband plans providing different download speeds with the customer, including government customers where relevant, deciding on which service they want to buy.

Anglesea Bowling Club**Raised with: Minister for Sport and Recreation****Raised by: Ms Tierney****Raised on: 4 September 2013****REPLY:**

The 2014–15 Community Facility Funding Program (CFFP) received a project proposal from Surf Coast Shire Council for the Anglesea Bowls Club redevelopment project requesting the maximum grant amount of \$650 000 from the major facilities category.

The project proposal was assessed against the CFFP eligibility and assessment criteria and compared to other proposals from across Victoria. Given the assessment and the project benefits, it was judged to have lower active sport and recreation participation outcomes compared to other projects submitted under the major facilities category and was not supported to proceed to full application.

Regional staff have made contact with council to provide feedback regarding the project proposal, and I would encourage the Anglesea Bowls Club and Surf Coast Shire Council to further discuss the potential for future funding based on the feedback provided.

Foodbank Victoria

Raised with: Minister for Community Services

Raised by: Mr Finn

Raised on: 5 September 2013

REPLY:

I would like to thank Mr Finn for bringing this matter to my attention.

I agree with Mr Finn that Foodbank Victoria is indeed an extraordinary organisation. Foodbank Victoria has a strong and proud history of delivering healthy food to those experiencing hardship — including elderly pensioners, people with disability and budget stretched individuals and families.

The important task of assisting people who are food insecure is one that is shared by the government, community organisations and businesses. The Victorian government contributes to this work through its funding of Foodbank Victoria.

The Victorian government provides recurrent funding to Foodbank to cover salaries, administration, operating and accommodation costs. In 2013–14 the government will provide approximately \$2.6 million for Foodbank Victoria to collect donations of food and material aid to be distributed through more than 500 community organisations across the state.

The Victorian government, through the Department of Human Services, will be meeting with Foodbank Victoria to discuss issues affecting the organisation.

Watergardens railway station

Raised with: Minister for Public Transport

Raised by: Mr Melhem

Raised on: 5 September 2013

REPLY:

The car park at Watergardens railway station is not a permanent car-park facility. This site has been leased by Public Transport Victoria to provide additional spaces for customers at Watergardens station. The land is owned by QIC, which is the owner and operator of the Watergardens Shopping Centre.

QIC has advised Public Transport Victoria that it will not be renewing the lease on the land on which the car park is located.

Public Transport Victoria is investigating options to increase car-parking facilities on the Sunbury line.

Greens Creek flood recovery funding

Raised with: Minister for Regional and Rural Development

Raised by: Mr O'Brien

Raised on: 5 September 2013

REPLY:

I thank the member for Western Victoria for his question in relation to Flood Recovery Funding for farmers located in Greens Creek.

I am saddened to hear about the adverse effect of the December 2011 floods has had on the community and I am acutely aware of the financial strain of clean-up efforts and the disruption severe events cause to livelihoods of Victorians.

Currently, the commonwealth provides financial assistance to the states following natural disasters that cause significant damage to households, businesses, primary producers and local infrastructure. This assistance is provided through the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Assistance (NDRRA) arrangements.

As the member for Western Victoria would be aware, the Victorian government requested broad activation of NDRRA category C grants following the severe floods of December 2011, February–March 2012 and June 2012. The commonwealth agreed to offer \$25 000 grants to only four of the 26 local government areas for which they were requested, as part of the February–March 2012 event.

In December 2012, following further advocacy from the Victorian government, Victorian primary producers only, in selected postcodes, were offered grants of up to \$10 000.

Unfortunately, this decision by the previous commonwealth government has created a situation where some flood-affected communities, such as Greens Creek, have missed out on assistance.

Given this inequitable outcome a further request was made by the Victorian government to have the category C assistance extended to other regions.

Despite this appeal, the previous commonwealth government decided not to increase the quantum or expand the eligibility of these grants to any other regions, industry sectors or communities.

The Victorian government acknowledges that this is a very disappointing outcome and will now engage with the new commonwealth government on this issue, continuing to strongly advocate for an equitable outcome.

Victoria would also welcome the opportunity to work with the commonwealth to strengthen these arrangements and provide a more transparent decision making process.

School bus services

Raised with: Minister for Public Transport

Raised by: Ms Pulford

Raised on: 5 September 2013

REPLY:

Public Transport Victoria (PTV) manages the free school bus network in line with eligibility and service rules set by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD). These guidelines are available on the DEECD website at <www.education.vic.gov.au>.

In consultation with local schools and bus operators, PTV routinely reviews all free school bus services in Victoria to ensure they are meeting demand and operating in accordance with DEECD guidelines.

The review of the Kaniva bus service is such a review and reflective of many appraisals taking place across the state using the same DEECD policy and guidelines.

PTV has worked with Kaniva College and the bus operator to finalise the Kaniva bus service review recommendations. PTV advises that no changes will occur to Kaniva school bus services until a further review is undertaken in late 2014. The final report has been issued to the school, the bus operator and DEECD.

Bethanga bus shelter

Raised with: Minister for Public Transport

Raised by: Ms Broad

Raised on: 18 September 2013

REPLY:

All requests for regional shelter funding from PTV need to be made by the local regional council with the use of the 'PTV initial projects scoping outline' form.

Towong Shire Council will need to provide the details as outlined on the form in relation to the request for a shelter, the type of shelter proposed and associated costs.

If the proposal is approved by PTV, the funding would be provided to Towong Shire Council to carry out the installation of the shelter. At that point, Towong Shire Council would become the owner of the shelter and would be responsible for its maintenance.

Landmate program

Raised with: Minister for Corrections

Raised by: Mr Ramsay

Raised on: 19 September 2013

REPLY:

I refer to the adjournment debate raised on 19 September 2013 by the member for Western Victoria, Mr Simon Ramsay, MLC, asking that I visit the Western Victorian region to inspect the work of the Landmate crews in restoring the public spaces around the Dereel area and to meet with stakeholders to discuss the merits of this important program which makes a significant contribution to regional communities and assists in reducing recidivism.

Victoria's recidivism rate is the second lowest in the country and well below the national average. It is programs such as Landmate that contribute to that good result. People serving sentences in our prisons are given new skills and a sense of purpose that help them travel a new path once they are released. In doing so, they are also contributing to the communities in which Landmate's work is done.

The government is in the process of delivering one of the largest prison expansion programs in Victoria's history. Already, more than 560 new prison beds have been opened in this term of government, with close to another 2000 in the pipeline.

As part of the 2013–14 Victorian state budget, more than \$131.5 million in funding was announced for 357 extra prison beds and a major expansion of Victoria's high-security prison facilities. This was in addition to the \$670 million announced in last year's budget for the new Ravenhall prison and an additional 395 beds at existing

prisons. And, as recently announced, the new medium-security male prison, to be built at Ravenhall in Melbourne's West, will now be expanded to accommodate 1000 prisoners.

This expansion of Victoria's prison system will help deliver the prison beds Victoria needs while also providing a modern and adaptable corrections system for future growth. The coalition government inherited from Labor a corrections system in crisis due to 11 long years of significant underinvestment by the former government. This has been confirmed by the Auditor-General. Not only are we fixing the problems left by Labor, we are also adding jobs to the West — 600 ongoing jobs and 650 construction jobs.

The Landmate program undertakes a range of activities including building and mending fencing, large-scale tree plantings, removing weeds and assisting recovery after flood and bushfire emergencies. The program has been greatly valued by the regional communities that it has supported during this time.

I would be delighted to accept your invitation. My office will be in contact with you to make the necessary arrangements at the earliest mutual convenience.

WRITTEN ADJOURNMENT RESPONSES

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

Wednesday, 16 October 2013

Shire of Mornington Peninsula kindergartens

Raised with: Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development

Raised by: Ms Mikakos

Raised on: 19 September 2013

REPLY:

I am informed as follows:

Mornington Peninsula Shire will implement a central kindergarten enrolment process across the municipality by 2015.

Under the central enrolment process, priority will be given to vulnerable children and families, and where demand for a particular kindergarten service exceeds available places, any non-placed children will be offered an available place at another service.

While drafting the new central enrolment policy, the shire sought advice from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (the department), as well as from other bodies, including the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV).

The MAV's Central Registrations for Kindergarten Placements Framework and Resource Guide (Central Registrations Guide) advises that children at risk of disadvantage should be granted priority of access to funded kindergarten places, while secondary priority criteria should be determined locally and may include residential proximity and the attendance of a child's siblings at a particular service.

The shire has advised the department that a community consultation process was undertaken as part of the development of the central enrolment process, and a further consultation has been carried out. The shire is currently collating the community feedback received, and plans to communicate the results of the consultation with the community.

I have asked the Department's South-Eastern Victoria regional office to continue to work together with the shire in order to increase the availability of kindergarten places in growth areas and to support the shire in conforming to the MAV Central Registrations Guide and the department's kindergarten funding policy guidelines.

The shire has advised the department that all eligible children who have applied to enrol in kindergarten in 2014 have been offered a place, and vacant places remain available.

WRITTEN ADJOURNMENT RESPONSES

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

Thursday, 17 October 2013

Snowy Scientific Committee: re-establishment

Raised with: Minister for Water

Raised by: Mr Lenders

Raised on: 20 February 2013

REPLY:

On 26 February 2013 the New South Wales government announced its intention to review the role and function of the Snowy Scientific Committee.

Victoria supports in principle the NSW government's decision to undertake this review. It is important that there continues to be a requirement for some members to be nominated by the Victorian government, which is highlighted in the discussion paper.

Victoria will continue engaging with the NSW government regarding the future of environmental water management arrangements for the Snowy River.

Abalone industry levies

Raised with: Minister for Agriculture and Food Security

Raised by: Mr Lenders

Raised on: 22 August 2013

REPLY:

The government is working with the abalone central zone fishery entitlement holders to establish improved governance arrangements for the use of grants levy funds collected in the zone. Representatives of both the Victorian Abalone Divers' Association and the Victorian Abalone Council are being engaged in this process.

Dairy industry regulation

Raised with: Minister for Agriculture and Food Security

Raised by: Mr O'Brien

Raised on: 22 August 2013

REPLY:

I refer to the matter you raised in the adjournment debate on 22 August 2013 in the Legislative Council regarding food safety regulation of Victoria's dairy industry.

The dairy industry is a significant contributor to the Victorian economy and particularly to regional Victoria. In 2011–12 the gross value of the Victorian dairy industry was \$2.52 billion, with exports valued at \$1.9 billion. The government, in partnership with industry, is investing in programs to improve productivity and grow our dairy exports.

As we have seen, a food safety incident, either real or suspected, can have a devastating impact on the company involved and the industry as a whole. Victoria's regulatory system to manage food safety is therefore critical in underpinning the safety and reputation of our dairy products.

Dairy Food Safety Victoria (DFSV) is the statutory authority responsible for regulating food safety. DFSV administers the Dairy Act 2000 (the act) and is accountable to the Minister for Agriculture and Food Security. DFSV has the objective of ensuring that standards which safeguard public health are maintained in the Victorian dairy industry.

Under the act, DFSV licenses all dairy premises operating in Victoria, including premises that export dairy products. DFSV requires dairy farms and dairy manufacturers to implement food safety programs that are approved by DFSV. The food safety program describes how each business will manage and prevent food safety risks occurring. The program also describes how the requirements of applicable national standards will be met. This includes microbiological limits. Microbiological testing forms part of a manufacturer's food safety program.

DFSV actively assesses compliance by auditing each business at a set frequency based on risk and business performance. Dairy manufacturers are audited at least every six months and dairy farmers are audited at least once every two years.

Manufacturers are required to notify DFSV when serious pathogens have been discovered in their products. DFSV works closely with licensees to identify affected product to ensure complete traceability. During the recent incident referred to in the adjournment debate, the company was able to trace all affected product very quickly through the traceability systems documented in the food safety program approved by DFSV.

If contaminated product has been released to the market, DFSV works with the Department of Health, which has the responsibility under the Food Act 1984 to recall product from the market. DFSV also works with the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, if any contaminated product has been exported.

The Victorian Auditor-General's Office undertook a performance audit of agricultural food safety regulation in 2011–12, which included an extensive audit of DFSV. The final report concluded that 'Agricultural food safety is being effectively managed, supported by the three regulators — DPI, DFSV and PrimeSafe — actively monitoring and enforcing compliance with regulations and food safety standards' (reference p. vii, *Agricultural Food Safety*, Victorian Auditor-General's Report, March 2012).

Parks Victoria job losses

Raised with: Minister for Environment and Climate Change

Raised by: Ms Tierney

Raised on: 22 August 2013

REPLY:

The decision by Parks Victoria to offer voluntary departure packages was taken to help restore the financial position of the agency after it had been left in a parlous state for the former government. Serious funding issues for the agency were identified by the incoming coalition government — based on a report that was originally commissioned by the former government. The coalition government is now working with Parks Victoria to help secure the financial future of the agency.

The decision by Parks Victoria to offer some 60 voluntary packages earlier in 2013 was not new. It was a follow-up round to fulfil an offer in 2012 relating to 120 positions. The vast majority of staff who accepted the VDP were over the age of 55 and have served Victoria's parks for well in excess of 30 years. For these staff, the VDP was a chance for an early retirement.

Strict conditions were placed around those who could apply for the voluntary packages. Staff with active fire roles were deemed ineligible as supporting the Victorian government's fire prevention and response programs remains a

top priority for Parks Victoria. Parks Victoria will also continue its program of seasonal employment to ensure parks and visitors are well cared for during peak visitor times.

In terms of immediate impact, Parks Victoria has undertaken an assessment of the work requirements given staff departures and is confident that individual work load issues are being managed and that frontline service to the community continues to be a priority.

Parks Victoria will continue to work to provide strong service while taking balanced measures to restore its financial security after decisions during the previous government which had put this security at risk.

CenITex

Raised with: Minister for Technology

Raised by: Mr Somyurek

Raised on: 3 September 2013

REPLY:

An expression of interest (EOI) for ICT services currently provided by CenITex was released to the market on 11 September 2013 and closes 10 October 2013. Following the EOI, a request for proposal (RFP) will be issued in early 2014 and it is intended to have contracts for selected services in place by May 2014. This timing is indicative as it will depend on the number and complexity of responses to the EOI.

It is not possible to advise of the implications for CenITex personnel of CenITex's transition to an ICT services broker until the RFP process is complete and the arrangements for the delivery of the ICT services currently provided by CenITex have been determined.