

PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA

**PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(HANSARD)**

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

FIFTY-EIGHTH PARLIAMENT

FIRST SESSION

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

20 and 22 October 2015

(Extract from book 15)

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By authority of the Victorian Government Printer

The Governor

The Honourable LINDA DESSAU, AM

The Lieutenant-Governor

The Honourable Justice MARILYN WARREN, AC, QC

The ministry

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

Legislative Council committees

Privileges Committee — Mr Drum, Ms Hartland, Mr Herbert, Ms Mikakos, Ms Pulford, Mr Purcell, Mr Rich-Phillips and Ms Wooldridge.

Procedure Committee — The President, Dr Carling-Jenkins, Mr Davis, Mr Jennings, Ms Pennicuik, Ms Pulford, Ms Tierney and Ms Wooldridge.

Legislative Council standing committees

Standing Committee on the Economy and Infrastructure — Mr Eideh, Mr Elasmarr, Mr Finn, Ms Hartland, Mr Morris, Mr Ondarchie and Ms Tierney.

Standing Committee on the Environment and Planning — Ms Bath, #Mr Bourman, Mr Dalla-Riva, Mr Davis, Ms Dunn, #Ms Hartland, Mr Leane, #Mr Purcell, #Mr Ramsay, Ms Shing, Mr Somyurek and Mr Young.

Standing Committee on Legal and Social Issues — Ms Fitzherbert, Mr Melhem, Mr Mulino, Mr O'Donohue, Ms Patten, Mrs Peulich, #Mr Rich-Phillips, Ms Springle and Ms Symes.

participating members

Legislative Council select committees

Port of Melbourne Select Committee — Mr Barber, Mr Drum, Mr Mulino, Mr Ondarchie, Mr Purcell, Mr Rich-Phillips, Ms Shing and Ms Tierney.

Joint committees

Accountability and Oversight Committee — (*Council*): Ms Bath, Mr Purcell and Ms Symes. (*Assembly*): Mr Angus, Mr Gidley, Mr Staikos and Ms Thomson.

Dispute Resolution Committee — (*Council*): Mr Bourman, Mr Dalidakis, Ms Dunn, Mr Jennings and Ms Wooldridge. (*Assembly*): Ms Allan, Mr Clark, Mr Merlino, Mr M. O'Brien, Mr Pakula, Ms Richardson and Mr Walsh

Economic, Education, Jobs and Skills Committee — (*Council*): Mr Bourman, Mr Elasmarr and Mr Melhem. (*Assembly*): Mr Crisp, Mrs Fyffe, Mr Nardella and Ms Ryall.

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

Environment, Natural Resources and Regional Development Committee — (*Council*): Mr Ramsay and Mr Young. (*Assembly*): Ms Halfpenny, Mr McCurdy, Mr Richardson, Mr Tilley and Ms Ward.

Family and Community Development Committee — (*Council*): Mr Finn. (*Assembly*): Ms Couzens, Mr Edbrooke, Ms Edwards, Ms Kealy, Ms McLeish and Ms Sheed.

House Committee — (*Council*): The President (*ex officio*), Mr Eideh, Ms Hartland, Ms Lovell, Mr Mulino and Mr Young. (*Assembly*): The Speaker (*ex officio*), Mr J. Bull, Mr Crisp, Mrs Fyffe, Mr Staikos, Ms Suleyman and Mr Thompson.

Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission Committee — (*Council*): Mr Ramsay and Ms Symes. (*Assembly*): Mr Hibbins, Mr D. O'Brien, Mr Richardson, Ms Thomson and Mr Wells.

Law Reform, Road and Community Safety Committee — (*Council*): Mr Eideh and Ms Patten. (*Assembly*): Mr Dixon, Mr Howard, Ms Suleyman, Mr Thompson and Mr Tilley.

Public Accounts and Estimates Committee — (*Council*): Dr Carling-Jenkins, Ms Pennicuik and Ms Shing. (*Assembly*): Mr Dimopoulos, Mr Morris, Mr D. O'Brien, Mr Pearson, Mr T. Smith and Ms Ward.

Scrutiny of Acts and Regulations Committee — (*Council*): Mr Dalla-Riva. (*Assembly*): Mr J. Bull, Ms Blandthorn, Mr Dimopoulos, Ms Kealy, Ms Kilkenny and Mr Pesutto.

Heads of parliamentary departments

Assembly — Clerk of the Parliaments and Clerk of the Legislative Assembly: Mr R. W. Purdey

Council — Clerk of the Legislative Council: Mr A. Young

Parliamentary Services — Secretary: Mr P. Lochert

**MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
FIFTY-EIGHTH PARLIAMENT — FIRST SESSION**

President: The Hon. B. N. ATKINSON

Deputy President: Ms G. TIERNEY

Acting Presidents: Ms Dunn, Mr Eideh, Mr Elasmar, Mr Finn, Mr Morris, Ms Patten, Mr Ramsay

Leader of the Government:
The Hon. G. JENNINGS

Deputy Leader of the Government:
The Hon. J. L. PULFORD

Leader of the Opposition:
The Hon. M. WOOLDRIDGE

Deputy Leader of the Opposition:
The Hon. G. K. RICH-PHILLIPS

Leader of The Nationals:
The Hon. D. K. DRUM

Leader of the Greens:
Mr G. BARBER

Member	Region	Party	Member	Region	Party
Atkinson, Mr Bruce Norman	Eastern Metropolitan	LP	Mikakos, Ms Jenny	Northern Metropolitan	ALP
Barber, Mr Gregory John	Northern Metropolitan	Greens	Morris, Mr Joshua	Western Victoria	LP
Bath, Ms Melina ²	Eastern Victoria	Nats	Mulino, Mr Daniel	Eastern Victoria	ALP
Bourman, Mr Jeffrey	Eastern Victoria	SFP	O'Brien, Mr Daniel David ¹	Eastern Victoria	Nats
Carling-Jenkins, Dr Rachel	Western Metropolitan	DLP	O'Donohue, Mr Edward John	Eastern Victoria	LP
Crozier, Ms Georgina Mary	Southern Metropolitan	LP	Ondarchie, Mr Craig Philip	Northern Metropolitan	LP
Dalidakis, Mr Philip	Southern Metropolitan	ALP	Patten, Ms Fiona	Northern Metropolitan	ASP
Dalla-Riva, Mr Richard Alex Gordon	Eastern Metropolitan	LP	Pennicuik, Ms Susan Margaret	Southern Metropolitan	Greens
Davis, Mr David McLean	Southern Metropolitan	LP	Peulich, Mrs Inga	South Eastern Metropolitan	LP
Drum, Mr Damian Kevin	Northern Victoria	Nats	Pulford, Ms Jaala Lee	Western Victoria	ALP
Dunn, Ms Samantha	Eastern Metropolitan	Greens	Purcell, Mr James	Western Victoria	V1LJ
Eideh, Mr Khalil M.	Western Metropolitan	ALP	Ramsay, Mr Simon	Western Victoria	LP
Elasmar, Mr Nazih	Northern Metropolitan	ALP	Rich-Phillips, Mr Gordon Kenneth	South Eastern Metropolitan	LP
Finn, Mr Bernard Thomas C.	Western Metropolitan	LP	Shing, Ms Harriet	Eastern Victoria	ALP
Fitzherbert, Ms Margaret	Southern Metropolitan	LP	Somyurek, Mr Adem	South Eastern Metropolitan	ALP
Hartland, Ms Colleen Mildred	Western Metropolitan	Greens	Springle, Ms Nina	South Eastern Metropolitan	Greens
Herbert, Mr Steven Ralph	Northern Victoria	ALP	Symes, Ms Jaelyn	Northern Victoria	ALP
Jennings, Mr Gavin Wayne	South Eastern Metropolitan	ALP	Tierney, Ms Gayle Anne	Western Victoria	ALP
Leane, Mr Shaun Leo	Eastern Metropolitan	ALP	Wooldridge, Ms Mary Louise Newling	Eastern Metropolitan	LP
Lovell, Ms Wendy Ann	Northern Victoria	LP	Young, Mr Daniel	Northern Victoria	SFP
Melhem, Mr Cesar	Western Metropolitan	ALP			

¹ Resigned 25 February 2015

² Appointed 15 April 2015

PARTY ABBREVIATIONS

ALP — Labor Party; ASP — Australian Sex Party;
DLP — Democratic Labour Party; Greens — Australian Greens;
LP — Liberal Party; Nats — The Nationals;
SFP — Shooters and Fishers Party; V1LJ — Vote 1 Local Jobs

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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.

Headings reflect the portfolio of the minister answering the question.

Tuesday, 20 October 2015

Tourism and major events

31. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Tourism and Major Events): To provide details of all appointments to Boards, Commissions and Committees made or approved by the Minister since 4 December 2014, indicating —

- (a) the expression of interest process, and selection process that was used;
- (b) the terms of appointment;
- (c) any remuneration applicable;
- (d) when the positions became subject to remuneration; and
- (e) what changes have been made to the level of remuneration.

ANSWER:

The Government is in the process of appointing and reappointing vacancies on Boards, Commissions and Committees.

The process for recruitment is consistent with past practice. Details of vacancies and the recruitment process are available on getonboard.vic.gov.au/

Details of appointments and reappointments such as terms of appointment and remuneration can be found at www.publicboards.vic.gov.au or www.premier.vic.gov.au

Tourism and major events

440. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Tourism and Major Events): What is the total number of department staff seconded to the Minister's private office and what are their position titles as at 23 February 2015.

ANSWER:

Recruitment of staff began upon entering government in 2014.

All recruitment for staff in the Minister's private office complied with the guidelines set out in the Public Administration Act 2004.

As the Member would be aware, Departmental Liaison Officer (DLO) are employed by Departments to assist Ministers and their offices with departmental liaison and administrative functions.

Their position title is Departmental Liaison Officer.

Public transport

712. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): in relation to the Metro Rail Authority:

- (1) How many staff were employed at:
 - (a) 1 January 2015;

- (b) 1 February 2015;
 - (c) 1 March 2015;
 - (d) 1 April 2015;
 - (e) 1 May 2015; and
 - (f) 1 June 2015.
- (2) What is the breakdown of staff classification for all staff employed as of 23 June 2015.

ANSWER:

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

The number of staff working for the Administration Office known as the Melbourne Metro Rail Authority will be publically outlined in the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources 2014-15 Annual Report.

Public transport

713. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): in relation to the Level Crossing Removal Authority:

- (1) How many staff were employed at —
- (a) 1 January 2015;
 - (b) 1 February 2015;
 - (c) 1 March 2015;
 - (d) 1 April 2015;
 - (e) 1 May 2015; and
 - (f) 1 June 2015.
- (2) What is the breakdown of staff classification for all staff employed as of 23 June 2015.

ANSWER:

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

The number of staff working for the Administration Office known as the Level Crossing Removal Authority (LXRA) will be publically outlined in the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources 2014-15 Annual Report.

Tourism and major events

715. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Tourism and Major Events): in relation to the Victorian Visitor Economy Review:

- (1) What is the contract cost with KPMG to review current government bodies responsible for tourism and major events.
- (2) What is the list of current government bodies that KPMG are reviewing.

ANSWER:

- (1) On 10th March the Premier of Victoria announced a review into the Victorian Visitor Economy to identify the best ways for Victoria to stay competitive and enjoy strong growth access to the sector. This was the first review of its kind in nearly two decades.

Funding for the review was sourced from within the budget of the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources.

On 17th June the Premier announced the Victorian Government would bring our tourism and major events sector under one roof, to safeguard the state’s strengths as the events and sporting capital of the world.

Tourism generates 206 000 jobs and delivers more than \$20 billion to the economy annually. The newly established Visit Victoria will safeguard our State’s tourism and major events sector, whilst working to attract more cultural, sporting and business events across metropolitan and regional Victoria.

- (2) KPMG undertook the Victorian Visitor Economy Review. The Review was wide ranging and considered primarily Tourism Victoria, and the Victorian Major Events Company. The Review also assessed how they work with the Melbourne Convention Bureau and Regional Tourism Boards.

Public transport

- 736. **MS WOOLDRIDGE** — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): what is the current remuneration paid to the Chair of VicTrack.

ANSWER:

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

The current remuneration paid to the Chair of VicTrack will be publically outlined in VicTrack’s 2014-15 Annual Report.

Roads and road safety

- 821. **MS HARTLAND** — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Roads and Road Safety):
 - (1) Which roads in Melbourne’s inner western suburbs have been approved for High Productivity Vehicle last mile access to the Port of Melbourne.
 - (2) In each case, when is this approval effective from.

ANSWER:

I am advised that, at the date the question was raised:

The below table provides a list of inner west roads that have been approved for High Productivity Freight Vehicles access, including the approval date.

Road	Suburb	Road Manager	Date of Approval
Footscray Rd	West Melb	VicRoads	08/08/2013
Wurundjeri Way	Melb	VicRoads	08/08/2013
Montague St	Sth Melb	VicRoads	08/08/2003
Westgate Freeway	Port Melb-Altona Nth	VicRoads	08/08/2013
Grieve Parade	Altona-Altona Nth	VicRoads	08/08/2013
Dohertys Rd	Laverton Nth	VicRoads	04/08/2015
Kororoit Creek Rd	Altona	VicRoads	07/02/2014
Princes Highway	West Footscray-Altona Nth	VicRoads	08/08/2013
Princes Freeway	Altona Nth-Altona	VicRoads	07/02/2014
Leakes Rd	Laverton Nth	Wyndham	21/01/2014
Fitzgerald Rd	Laverton Nth	VicRoads	21/01/2014
Mount Derrimut Rd	Derrimut	VicRoads	03/08/2015
Palmers Rd	Truganina	VicRoads	07/2015
Boundary Rd	Laverton Nth	VicRoads	08/08/2013

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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COUNCIL

Tuesday, 20 October 2015

Road	Suburb	Road Manager	Date of Approval
Little Boundary Rd	Laverton Nth	VicRoads	08/08/2013
Fairbairn Rd	Sunshine West	VicRoads	28/10/2013
Somerville Rd West of Princes Highway West	Sunshine West-Footscray	VicRoads	08/08/2013
McDonald Rd	Brooklyn	VicRoads	08/08/2013
Market Rd	Brooklyn	VicRoads	28/10/2013
Sunshine Rd	Tottenham-West Footscray	VicRoads	28/10/2013
Geelong St	West Footscray	VicRoads	28/10/2013
Millers Rd	Brooklyn	VicRoads	03/2015
Francis St between Millers Rd and Stooke St	Yarraville	VicRoads	28/10/2013
Moreland St	Footscray	VicRoads	28/10/2013
Whitehall St between Moreland St and Somerville Rd	Footscray	VicRoads	28/10/2013
Blackshaws Rd	Altona Nth	VicRoads	08/08/2013
Westgate Freeway	Pt Melb-Altona Nth	VicRoads	08/08/2013
Western Ring Rd	Laverton Nth	VicRoads	28/10/2014
Lorimer St	Port Melbourne	VicRoads	21/06/2014
Todd Rd	Port Melbourne	VicRoads	21/06/2014
Williamstown Rd	Port Melbourne	VicRoads	21/06/2014
Francis St-Geelong Rd Link Rd	Yarraville	VicRoads	28/10/2013

Public transport

1102. MS DUNN — To ask the Minister for Public Transport: In relation to the \$56 million high capacity signalling trial to be conducted on the Sandringham Line (the Project):

- (1) What is the status of the Project.
- (2) What technology or technologies will be trialled.
- (3) What are the technical specifications of the signalling system that will be trialled.
- (4) What is the ultimate intended capacity (in trains per hour) that will be delivered by the Project.
- (5) What is the percentage improvement that the intended capacity increase will represent against each line on Melbourne’s metropolitan rail network.
- (6) What is the process and status of selection of technology providers for the Project.
- (7) What are the proposed timeframes of the Project.
- (8) What are the intended outcomes of the Project.

ANSWER:

The procurement process for the High Capacity Signalling trial is underway and consequently no further information can be provided at this stage in order to protect the State of Victoria’s interests and the project’s probity framework.

Employment

1105. MR ONDARCHIE — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Employment): In relation to the loss of jobs at JBS in May 2015:

- (1) On what date was the Minister's office advised or made aware of these job losses.
- (2) On what date was the Minister advised or made aware of these jobs losses.
- (3) Who advised or made the Minister aware of these job losses.
- (4) Who advised or made the Minister's office aware of these job losses.
- (5) If the Minister was advised or made aware of these job losses other than personally by a representative of JBS, did the Minister, subsequent to receiving advice or information of the losses, make personal contact with JBS and, if so, on what date did the Minister make that contact.
- (6) Subsequent to receiving advice or information of the job losses, did the Minister instruct the Department to make contact with JBS and, if so, on what date did the Minister give that instruction.
- (7) Did the Minister make any public comments or statements about these job losses and, if so, on what date or dates were those statements made.
- (8) According to the Minister's latest advice, how many jobs are at risk, and what date was that advice received.
- (9) What action did the Minister take to try and maintain these jobs at JBS.

ANSWER:

JBS Australia informed its workforce on Friday 1 May that reduced production would lead to 200 staff being temporarily stood down at the Brooklyn facility from 11 May 2015.

I am advised that the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources (the Department) became aware of these workforce changes at this time and were informed that the reduction in JBS Australia's workforce was due to seasonal factors such as lower supply of livestock, as well as price increases, with corresponding declines in demand in domestic and export markets.

JBS Australia has also assured the Department that affected workers would be brought back as soon as supply and demand improves.

The Department continue to be in regular contact with JBS Australia to ensure that, in the event that any redundancies do eventuate, the company is aware of assistance available to affected workers.

I am regularly informed of developments in relation to these matters.

I have not made any public comments on this matter.

Employment

1106. MR ONDARCHIE — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Employment): In relation to the loss of jobs at Australian Munitions in May 2015:

- (1) On what date was the Minister's office advised or made aware of these job losses.
- (2) On what date was the Minister advised or made aware of these jobs losses.
- (3) Who advised or made the Minister aware of these job losses.
- (4) Who advised or made the Minister's office aware of these job losses.
- (5) If the Minister was advised or made aware of these job losses other than personally by a representative of Australian Munitions, did the Minister, subsequent to receiving advice or information of the losses, make personal contact with Australian Munitions and, if so, on what date did the Minister make that contact.
- (6) Subsequent to receiving advice or information of the job losses, did the Minister instruct the Department to make contact with Australian Munitions and, if so, on what date did the Minister give that instruction.
- (7) Did the Minister make any public comments or statements about these job losses and, if so, on what date or dates were those statements made.

- (8) According to the Minister's latest advice, how many jobs are at risk, and what date was that advice received.
- (9) What action did the Minister take to try and maintain these jobs at Australian Munitions.

ANSWER:

On 1 July 2015 the Commonwealth Department of Defence began a five year Strategic Munitions Interim Contract with Australian Munitions for the continued supply of munitions to the Australian Defence Force.

The Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources (the Department) became aware that the new contract was likely to see Australian Munitions, a subsidiary of Thales, make changes to its operations at Benalla, Victoria and Mulwala, New South Wales, to significantly improve the productivity and competitiveness of its manufacturing operations.

I am informed that on 5 May 2015, Australian Munitions advised the Department that the company would reduce its permanent staff by up to 40 positions at its Benalla and Mulwala facilities combined, via a process of redeployment, retirement, and voluntary and involuntary redundancies.

Furthermore, the Department has supported affected employees through the Victorian Government's Business in Transition Support Program, with information sessions offered to affected staff at Australian Munitions on 17 June 2015.

I am regularly informed of developments in relation to these matters.

I have not made any public comments on this matter.

Employment

1107. MR ONDARCHIE — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Employment): In relation to the loss of Victorian freight driver jobs at Pacific National in June 2015:

- (1) On what date was the Minister's office advised or made aware of these job losses.
- (2) On what date was the Minister advised or made aware of these jobs losses.
- (3) Who advised or made the Minister aware of these job losses.
- (4) Who advised or made the Minister's office aware of these job losses.
- (5) If the Minister was advised or made aware of these job losses other than personally by a representative of Pacific National, did the Minister, subsequent to receiving advice or information of the losses, make personal contact with Pacific National and, if so, on what date did the Minister make that contact.
- (6) Subsequent to receiving advice or information of the job losses, did the Minister instruct the Department to make contact with Pacific National and, if so, on what date did the Minister give that instruction.
- (7) Did the Minister make any public comments or statements about these job losses and, if so, on what date or dates were those statements made.
- (8) According to the Minister's latest advice, how many jobs are at risk, and what date was that advice received.
- (9) What action did the Minister take to try and maintain these jobs at Pacific National.

ANSWER:

I am advised that the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources (the Department) became aware of this issue in June when Pacific National announced redundancies of freight train drivers in Dimboola, Maryborough, Ouyen and Geelong as a result of significantly lower forecasted volumes of export grain and a reduction in Illawarra coal transport demand.

Subsequent advice from Pacific National is that some drivers accepted redundancy packages, some have been re-employed on a casual or part-time basis and some have relocated to other Pacific National depots where there is more work for train drivers.

The Department will make the Business in Transition Support Program available to assist affected employees as required.

I am regularly informed of developments in relation to these matters.

I have not made any public comments on this matter.

Employment

1108. MR ONDARCHIE — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Employment): In relation to the loss of jobs at Austube Mills in June 2015:

- (1) On what date was the Minister's office advised or made aware of these job losses.
- (2) On what date was the Minister advised or made aware of these jobs losses.
- (3) Who advised or made the Minister aware of these job losses.
- (4) Who advised or made the Minister's office aware of these job losses.
- (5) If the Minister was advised or made aware of these job losses other than personally by a representative of Austube Mills, did the Minister, subsequent to receiving advice or information of the losses, make personal contact with Austube Mills and, if so, on what date did the Minister make that contact.
- (6) Subsequent to receiving advice or information of the job losses, did the Minister instruct the Department to make contact with Austube Mills and, if so, on what date did the Minister give that instruction.
- (7) Did the Minister make any public comments or statements about these job losses and, if so, on what date or dates were those statements made.
- (8) According to the Minister's latest advice, how many jobs are at risk, and what date was that advice received.
- (9) What action did the Minister take to try and maintain these jobs at Austube Mills.

ANSWER:

I am advised that the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources (the Department) contacted Austube Mills on 9 April 2015 regarding the announcement on 8 April 2015 that 105 jobs would be lost from the company's Austube Mills site in Somerton.

The Department continue to be in regular contact with Austube Mills to ensure that employees who face redundancy or retrenchment are aware of the assistance available to them through the Victorian Government's Business in Transition Support Program.

I am regularly informed of developments in relations to these matters.

I have not made any public comments on this matter.

Employment

1109. MR ONDARCHIE — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Employment): In relation to the loss of jobs at Woolworths Broadmeadows Distribution Centre in June 2015:

- (1) On what date was the Minister's office advised or made aware of these job losses.
- (2) On what date was the Minister advised or made aware of these jobs losses.
- (3) Who advised or made the Minister aware of these job losses.

- (4) Who advised or made the Minister's office aware of these job losses.
- (5) If the Minister was advised or made aware of these job losses other than personally by a representative of Woolworths, did the Minister, subsequent to receiving advice or information of the losses, make personal contact with Woolworths and, if so, on what date did the Minister make that contact.
- (6) Subsequent to receiving advice or information of the job losses, did the Minister instruct the Department to make contact with Woolworths and, if so, on what date did the Minister give that instruction.
- (7) Did the Minister make any public comments or statements about these job losses and, if so, on what date or dates were those statements made.
- (8) According to the Minister's latest advice, how many jobs are at risk, and what date was that advice received.
- (9) What action did the Minister take to try and maintain these jobs at Woolworths.

ANSWER:

I am advised that the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources (the Department) was contacted by Woolworths Ltd on 9 June 2015 regarding the announcement that it plans to build a \$350 million state-of-the-art grocery distribution centre in south-east Melbourne, delivering more than 190 new jobs to the area when the facility opens in 2018.

The Department was advised that the facility will eventually replace Woolworths' existing Distribution Centre in Hume, Victoria. The company advised that the Hume staff will be assisted over the next three years to work through options that are available and best suited to them.

The Department continues to be in regular contact with Woolworths Ltd to ensure that employees who face redundancy or retrenchment are aware of the assistance available to them through the Victorian Government's Business in Transition Support Program.

The Department is working with Woolworths Ltd to facilitate continued investment by the company into Victoria.

I am regularly informed of developments in relation to these matters.

I have not made any public comments on this matter.

Employment

1110. MR ONDARCHIE — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Employment): In relation to the loss of jobs at Qantas call centre in June 2015:

- (1) On what date was the Minister's office advised or made aware of these job losses.
- (2) On what date was the Minister advised or made aware of these jobs losses.
- (3) Who advised or made the Minister aware of these job losses.
- (4) Who advised or made the Minister's office aware of these job losses.
- (5) If the Minister was advised or made aware of these job losses other than personally by a representative of Qantas, did the Minister, subsequent to receiving advice or information of the losses, make personal contact with Qantas and, if so, on what date did the Minister make that contact.
- (6) Subsequent to receiving advice or information of the job losses, did the Minister instruct the Department to make contact with Qantas and, if so, on what date did the Minister give that instruction.
- (7) Did the Minister make any public comments or statements about these job losses and, if so, on what date or dates were those statements made.

- (8) According to the Minister's latest advice, how many jobs are at risk, and what date was that advice received.
- (9) What action did the Minister take to try and maintain these jobs at Qantas.

ANSWER:

On 28 May 2014, Qantas announced that it will close its Camberwell call centre by mid-2015, with the loss of approximately 250 full-time equivalent jobs, as part of a rationalisation of its Australian call centre operations from three centres to one.

On 16 June 2015, Qantas confirmed the closure of its Camberwell call centre.

These job losses formed part of the Qantas transformation program announced in February 2014 involving 5000 job losses across Qantas.

I am regularly informed of developments in relation to these matters.

I have not made any public comments on this matter.

Employment

1111. MR ONDARCHIE — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Employment): In relation to the loss of jobs at Nissan Dandenong South in July 2015:

- (1) On what date was the Minister's office advised or made aware of these job losses.
- (2) On what date was the Minister advised or made aware of these jobs losses.
- (3) Who advised or made the Minister aware of these job losses.
- (4) Who advised or made the Minister's office aware of these job losses.
- (5) If the Minister was advised or made aware of these job losses other than personally by a representative of Nissan, did the Minister, subsequent to receiving advice or information of the losses, make personal contact with Nissan and, if so, on what date did the Minister make that contact.
- (6) Subsequent to receiving advice or information of the job losses, did the Minister instruct the Department to make contact with Nissan and, if so, on what date did the Minister give that instruction.
- (7) Did the Minister make any public comments or statements about these job losses and, if so, on what date or dates were those statements made.
- (8) According to the Minister's latest advice, how many jobs are at risk, and what date was that advice received.
- (9) What action did the Minister take to try and maintain these jobs at Nissan.

ANSWER:

I am advised that the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources (the Department) were informed by Nissan on 7 July 2015 that there will be 42 jobs lost with the closure of Nissan's warehouse in Dandenong South.

The Department has been in contact with Nissan to discuss support for the affected workers with information on the Victorian Government's Business in Transition Support Program provided to Nissan on 10 July 2015.

Furthermore, I am informed that the Departments of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources, and Education and Training have provided Nissan with information on the Victorian Training Guarantee (which offers subsidised training), Victorian Skills Gateway (on-line assistance for vocational education and training) and the Workforce Development Centre based in Dandenong where face-to-face meetings have taken place with the 42 affected workers.

I am regularly informed of developments in relation to these matters.

I have not made any public comments on this matter.

Employment

1112. MR ONDARCHIE — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Employment): In relation to the loss of jobs at BHP Billiton in July 2015:

- (1) On what date was the Minister's office advised or made aware of these job losses.
- (2) On what date was the Minister advised or made aware of these jobs losses.
- (3) Who advised or made the Minister aware of these job losses.
- (4) Who advised or made the Minister's office aware of these job losses.
- (5) If the Minister was advised or made aware of these job losses other than personally by a representative of BHP Billiton, did the Minister, subsequent to receiving advice or information of the losses, make personal contact with BHP Billiton and, if so, on what date did the Minister make that contact.
- (6) Subsequent to receiving advice or information of the job losses, did the Minister instruct the Department to make contact with BHP Billiton and, if so, on what date did the Minister give that instruction.
- (7) Did the Minister make any public comments or statements about these job losses and, if so, on what date or dates were those statements made.
- (8) According to the Minister's latest advice, how many jobs are at risk, and what date was that advice received.
- (9) What action did the Minister take to try and maintain these jobs at BHP Billiton.

ANSWER:

I am advised that the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources (the Department) made contact with BHP Billiton on 29 July 2015 regarding the announcement on 28 July 2015 that the company was reducing the size of its Melbourne head office.

The company confirmed it will potentially reduce its head office staff from 400 to 300 over coming years as part of corporate cost cutting and downsizing across its organisation due to the current slump in commodity prices.

The Department is in regular contact with BHP Billiton with regard to this matter and the impacts to other head office functions.

I am regularly informed of developments in relation to these matters.

I have not made any public comments on the matter.

Employment

1113. MR ONDARCHIE — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Employment): In relation to the loss of jobs at Andersons Fruit and Vegetables in August 2015:

- (1) On what date was the Minister's office advised or made aware of these job losses.
- (2) On what date was the Minister advised or made aware of these jobs losses.
- (3) Who advised or made the Minister aware of these job losses.
- (4) Who advised or made the Minister's office aware of these job losses.
- (5) If the Minister was advised or made aware of these job losses other than personally by a representative of Andersons Fruit and Vegetables, did the Minister, subsequent to receiving advice or information of the losses, make personal contact with Andersons Fruit and Vegetables and, if so, on what date did the Minister make that contact.

- (6) Subsequent to receiving advice or information of the job losses, did the Minister instruct the Department to make contact with Andersons Fruit and Vegetables and, if so, on what date did the Minister give that instruction.
- (7) Did the Minister make any public comments or statements about these job losses and, if so, on what date or dates were those statements made.
- (8) According to the Minister's latest advice, how many jobs are at risk, and what date was that advice received.
- (9) What action did the Minister take to try and maintain these jobs at Andersons Fruit and Vegetables.

ANSWER:

I am advised that the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources (the Department) was made aware of these job losses by Andersons Fruit and Vegetables on 29 July 2015. As reported in the "Kyabram Free Press" on 29 July 2015, seven jobs have been lost as a result of this business closure.

I am advised that the Department attempted to liaise with the business in relation to these job losses and offer the services of the Business in Transition Support Program to assist affected employees.

I am regularly informed of developments in relation to these matters. I have not made any public comments on this matter.

Small business, innovation and trade

1117. MR ONDARCHIE — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade: With specific regards to the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources:

- (1) What was the cost incurred due to the 5 April 2015 Easter Sunday Public Holiday.
- (2) If an answer to (1) is unavailable, what was the value of any adjustment made to base wage funding costs to reflect the 5 April 2015 Easter Sunday Public Holiday.
- (3) If an answer to (2) is unavailable, did the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources use an unadjusted fund to implement the gazettal of the Easter Sunday Public Holiday in 2015, and if so, from which cost centre were the funds appropriated.
- (4) What is the cost to be incurred for the 2015 Grand Final Eve Public Holiday.
- (5) If an answer to (4) is unavailable, what is the projected or budgeted value of any adjustment made to base wage funding costs to reflect the 2015 Grand Final Eve Public Holiday.

ANSWER:

- (1) There was no additional cost incurred by the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources.
- (2) Refer to answer (1).
- (3) Refer to answer (1).
- (4) Refer to answer (1).
- (5) Refer to answer (1).

Small business, innovation and trade

1119. MR ONDARCHIE — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade: With specific regards to the Victorian Small Business Commissioner:

- (1) What was the cost incurred due to the 5 April 2015 Easter Sunday Public Holiday.

- (2) If an answer to (1) is unavailable, what was the value of any adjustment made to base wage funding costs to reflect the 5 April 2015 Easter Sunday Public Holiday.
- (3) If an answer to (2) is unavailable, did the Victorian Small Business Commissioner use an unadjusted fund to implement the gazettal of the Easter Sunday Public Holiday in 2015, and if so, from which cost centre were the funds appropriated.
- (4) What is the cost to be incurred for the 2015 Grand Final Eve Public Holiday.
- (5) If an answer to (4) is unavailable, what is the projected or budgeted value of any adjustment made to base wage funding costs to reflect the 2015 Grand Final Eve Public Holiday.

ANSWER:

- (1) There was no additional cost incurred by the Victorian Small Business Commissioner.
- (2) Refer to answer (1):
- (3) Refer to answer (1).
- (4) Refer to answer (1).
- (5) Refer to answer (1).

Small business, innovation and trade

1223. MR ONDARCHIE — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade: In relation to the Food and Hotel Indonesia expo in April 2015:

- (1) What was the Victorian Government financial contribution.
- (2) What were the names of the 37 Victorian organisations that participated.
- (3) Were any Victorian Government MPs in attendance.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (1) The Victorian Government provided grants to eligible companies of up to \$2000 per organisation.
- (2) When participating in trade missions, applicants are informed that their personal information will be treated in accordance with the Information Privacy Act 2000, which has now been replaced with the Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014. These laws place certain obligations on the department to use and disclose personal information appropriately. It would not be appropriate, nor would individual participants reasonably expect their personal details to be disclosed in Parliament without their consent.
- (3) No Victorian MPs attended Food and Hotel Indonesia 2015.

Planning

1236. MS DUNN — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Planning): In relation to the increased Metropolitan Planning Levy and in reference to the rising costs to municipal councils in providing statutory planning services, and considering the proposed introduction of the Government's rate-capping framework, will the Minister —

- (1) Consider increasing Planning Permit Application fees that are collected by municipal councils.
- (2) Consider allocating at least 50 per cent of the Metropolitan Planning Levy to municipal councils to enable them to undertake planning in their local areas.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

With regard to planning application fees, I am committed to ensuring that new planning and subdivision fees regulations are made that better reflect the cost of providing planning and subdivision services at the local level. On this basis, I have directed the department to formally review planning and subdivision fees, including planning application fees, through a regulatory impact statement process.

As part of this process a consultant has been engaged to advise on the costs that councils have to meet in fulfilling their planning and subdivision functions in order to ensure that fees are based on up-to-date costs. The review will include public consultation that is anticipated to take place mid 2016.

The metropolitan planning levy will go into consolidated revenue to be used by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, and the Metropolitan Planning Authority to implement Plan Melbourne initiatives and fund ongoing strategic planning for the metropolitan area. This work will ensure quality growth and development of the Melbourne metropolitan area. The levy will not be allocated to local councils.

Roads and road safety

1280. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Roads and Road Safety): In relation to the P-turn at the intersection of Cranbourne Road and Moorooduc Highway, Frankston —

- (1) What was the throughput of vehicles at this intersection when the P-turn was first introduced in 2009.
- (2) What is the present throughput of vehicles at this intersection.
- (3) Is the Andrews Government committed to the long-term retention of the P-turn at this intersection.
- (4) Has the Government considered any alternative options for the removal of the P-turn at this intersection.
- (5) Is the Government considering any further rollout of P-turns at intersections across Victoria to manage traffic congestion issues.

ANSWER:

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

- (1) The average weekday throughput of vehicles when the P-turn was introduced in May 2009 was 5845 vehicles during the AM peak hour and 6093 vehicles during the PM hour.
- (2) The average weekday throughput of vehicles in May 2015 was 5211 vehicles during the AM peak hour and 5685 vehicles during the PM peak hour.
- (3) The Government is committed to retaining the P-turn treatment while it is effective at easing congestion at this busy intersection.
- (4) VicRoads has investigated a number of alternative options for managing traffic at the intersection. However, the P-turn arrangement has been found to be the most effective and efficient treatment for managing traffic flow at the intersection.
- (5) The Government will always consider suitable treatment options to reduce congestion Victoria.

Small business, innovation and trade

1365. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade: In relation to the March 2015 announcement by the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade that Labor is developing a new ICT Industry Strategy —

- (1) When will the new ICT Industry Strategy be completed and released.
- (2) What funding and departmental resources have been allocated by the Government for the development of the new ICT Industry Strategy.
- (3) Will the government engage private sector consultants for advice in developing its new ICT Industry Strategy.
- (4) Will the new ICT Industry Strategy be funded from the Future Industries Fund.

ANSWER:

- (1) The ICT Industry strategy will be released in the future.
- (2) We're allocating internal resources for the Industry strategy's development.
- (3) It's not our intention to engage external consultants.
- (4) Refer to answer two.

Agriculture

1366. **MS DUNN** — To ask the Minister for Agriculture: In relation to the 284 logging coupes that the Minister stated have been removed from the latest amendment to VicForests' Timber Release Plan, how many of those coupes:

- (1) include areas in coupes that have already been logged and are currently subject to regeneration; and
- (2) have been removed from the Timber Release Plan without previously being logged.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Of the 284 coupes removed from the latest Timber Release Plan, 60 coupes were unharvested and 224 coupes were successfully regenerated.

Treasurer

1632. **MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Treasurer): What is the total value of chartered flights taken by the Minister between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015.

ANSWER:

As part of their duties, Ministers and relevant staff travel within Victoria using chartered flights and interstate using domestic airlines.

Compiling this information is voluminous and will take more than the 30 day response time afforded under the standing orders of the Legislative Council.

Treasurer

1633. **MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Treasurer): What is the total value of domestic commercial flights within Victoria taken by the Minister between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015.

ANSWER:

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Treasurer

1635. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Treasurer): What is the total value of international commercial flights leaving from or outside of Australia taken by the Minister between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that details of international travel for Ministers and staff either have been or will be uploaded to the relevant departmental website.

Treasurer

1636. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Treasurer): What is the total value of chartered flights taken by Ministerial staff between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015.

ANSWER:

As part of their duties, Ministers and relevant staff travel within Victoria using chartered flights and interstate using domestic airlines.

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ANSWER:

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ANSWER:

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ANSWER:

I am informed that details of international travel for Ministers and staff either have been or will be uploaded to the relevant departmental website.

Women

1656. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Women): What is the total value of chartered flights taken by the Minister between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

As part of their duties Ministers and relevant staff travel within Victoria using chartered flights and interstate using domestic airlines.

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Women

1657. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Women): What is the total value of domestic commercial flights within Victoria taken by the Minister between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

As part of their duties Ministers and relevant staff travel within Victoria using chartered flights and interstate using domestic airlines.

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1658. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Women): What is the total value of domestic commercial flights within Australia taken by the Minister between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

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ANSWER:

I am informed that:

As part of their duties Ministers and relevant staff travel within Victoria using chartered flights and interstate using domestic airlines.

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Women

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ANSWER:

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ANSWER:

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Prevention of family violence

1664. **MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for the Prevention of Family Violence): What is the total value of chartered flights taken by the Minister between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

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I am informed that details of international travel for Ministers and staff either have been or will be uploaded to the relevant departmental website.

Prevention of family violence

1669. **MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for the Prevention of Family Violence): What is the total value of domestic commercial flights within Victoria taken by Ministerial staff between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

As part of their duties Ministers and relevant staff travel within Victoria using chartered flights and interstate using domestic airlines.

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Prevention of family violence

1670. **MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for the Prevention of Family Violence): What is the total value of domestic commercial flights within Australia taken by Ministerial staff between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

As part of their duties Ministers and relevant staff travel within Victoria using chartered flights and interstate using domestic airlines.

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Prevention of family violence

1671. **MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for the Prevention of Family Violence): What is the total value of international commercial flights leaving from or outside of Australia taken by Ministerial staff between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Compiling this information is voluminous and will take more than the 30 day response time afforded under the standing orders of the Legislative Council.

I am informed that details of international travel for Ministers and staff either have been or will be uploaded to the relevant departmental website.

Families and children

2047. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to child immunisation: What was the immunisation rate for children as at December 2014.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Immunisation rates are a matter for the Minister for Health.

Families and children

2048. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to child immunisation: What was the immunisation rate for children as at 30 June 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Immunisation rates are a matter for the Minister for Health.

Premier

2431. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Premier’s administration, for the period 1 January 2015 to 3 October 2015: How many public servants were appointed in the above period that are being paid more than the base salary rate for Victorian Members of Parliament, indicating their —

- (a) classifications;
- (b) salary package;
- (c) position; and
- (d) responsibilities

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Information on staff numbers and VPS classifications is provided in the annual reports of departments, agencies and authorities.

Special Minister of State

2442. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Special Minister of State: In relation to each department, agency and authority within the Minister’s administration, for the period 1 January 2015 to 3 October 2015: How many public servants were appointed in the above period that are being paid more than the base salary rate for Victorian Members of Parliament, indicating their —

- (a) classifications;
- (b) salary package;
- (c) position; and
- (d) responsibilities.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Information on staff numbers and VPS classifications are provided in the annual reports of departments, agencies and authorities.

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.

Headings reflect the portfolio of the minister answering the question.

Thursday, 22 October 2015

Employment

1104. MR ONDARCHIE — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Employment): In relation to the loss of jobs at Fairfax in April 2015:

- (1) On what date was the Minister's office advised or made aware of these job losses.
- (2) On what date was the Minister advised or made aware of these jobs losses.
- (3) Who advised or made the Minister aware of these job losses.
- (4) Who advised or made the Minister's office aware of these job losses.
- (5) If the Minister was advised or made aware of these job losses other than personally by a representative of Fairfax, did the Minister, subsequent to receiving advice or information of the losses, make personal contact with Fairfax and, if so, on what date did the Minister make that contact.
- (6) Subsequent to receiving advice or information of the job losses, did the Minister instruct the Department to make contact with Fairfax and, if so, on what date did the Minister give that instruction.
- (7) Did the Minister make any public comments or statements about these job losses and, if so, on what date or dates were those statements made.
- (8) According to the Minister's latest advice, how many jobs are at risk, and what date was that advice received.
- (9) What action did the Minister take to try and maintain these jobs at Fairfax.

ANSWER:

On 14 August 2014, Fairfax Media announced that it was undertaking a 12-18 month transformation of its national regional media network.

I am advised that the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources (the Department) contacted Fairfax Media on 13 March 2015 regarding the announcement on 11 March 2015 that, as part of this transformation process, approximately 80 jobs would be lost from the company's regional operations.

The Department continues to be in regular contact with Fairfax Media to ensure that employees who face redundancy or retrenchment as part of these proposed changes are aware of the assistance available to them through the Victorian Government's Business in Transition Support Program, and will work with Fairfax Media's outplacement services company, Redden Partners, to provide assistance to affected employees.

I am regularly informed of developments in relations to these matters.

On 12 March 2015 I made public comments regarding Fairfax Media's proposed changes.

Small business, innovation and trade

1118. MR ONDARCHIE — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade: With specific regards to Federation Square Pty Ltd:

- (1) What was the cost incurred due to the 5 April 2015 Easter Sunday Public Holiday.

- (2) If an answer to (1) is unavailable, what was the value of any adjustment made to base wage funding costs to reflect the 5 April 2015 Easter Sunday Public Holiday.
- (3) If an answer to (2) is unavailable, did Federation Square Pty Ltd use an unadjusted fund to implement the gazettal of the Easter Sunday Public Holiday in 2015, and if so, from which cost centre were the funds appropriated.
- (4) What is the cost to be incurred for the 2015 Grand Final Eve Public Holiday.
- (5) If an answer to (4) is unavailable, what is the projected or budgeted value of any adjustment made to base wage funding costs to reflect the 2015 Grand Final Eve Public Holiday.

ANSWER:

- (1) Federation Square does not fall within my portfolio responsibilities.
- (2) Refer to answer (1).
- (3) Refer to answer (1).
- (4) Refer to answer (1).
- (5) Refer to answer (1).

Finance

1282. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Finance): What was the total cost in common law legal fees paid to Maurice Blackburn Lawyers by the Victorian WorkCover Authority in the 2014-15 financial year.

ANSWER:

WorkSafe has advised that \$82 484 090 in Common Law legal professional fees, disbursements and Counsel fees were paid in 2014–15, of which Maurice Blackburn were paid a proportion.

Finance

1283. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Finance): What was the total cost in common law legal fees paid to Maurice Blackburn Lawyers by the Transport Accident Commission in the 2014-15 financial year.

ANSWER:

The Transport Accident Commission has advised that \$32 493 310 Common Law legal professional fees, disbursements and Counsel fees were paid in 2014–15, of which Maurice Blackburn were paid a proportion.

Families and children

1299. MS SPRINGLE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: How many protection orders meet the following criteria —

- (a) the orders were in place on 1 September 2015; and
- (b) the orders include conditions that have been consented to by a child’s parent (via group conferencing or any other method); and
- (c) the orders would lose those conditions if the new provisions under the Children Youth and Families Act 2005 (as amended by the Children Youth and Families Amendment (Permanent Care and Other Matters) Act 2014) were to come into effect on 1 September 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (a) Data about the number of protection orders made by the Children’s Court is available in the Children’s Court Annual Report.
- (b) A manual audit of each case file would be needed to determine the details of conditions attached to orders and whether or not conditions were attached to an order by agreement.
- (c) Under the Children, Youth and Families Amendment (Permanent Care and Other Matters) Act 2014 any conditions attached to Custody to Secretary orders would no longer be in effect as result of the orders transitioning to care by Secretary orders. However, unless there had been a change in circumstances, the conditions would have become part of the case plan.

Families and children

1308. MS SPRINGLE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: What placement prevention programs are operating in each local government area (LGA) and how much funding is available for each LGA.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Department of Health & Human Services provides \$20.6 million across the state for placement prevention, across the three activities of placement prevention services, stronger families and finding solutions. These activities operate across a number of local government areas however the Department does not report on the funding levels for each.

Families and children

1317. MS SPRINGLE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: What is the percentage of children in residential care who currently have a plan for transition to home-based care within six months.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Andrews Labor Government’s reform agenda is focused on ensuring as many children as possible live in home-based care. For some children this means intervening early to ensure they can remain living safely at home with their families. For others, who cannot live safely with their families, the Labor Government is committed to supporting home-based care options.

From the age of 15 years, a care and transition plan is developed for young people in out of home care. This plan is based on the seven domains in the Looking After Children framework, and it is designed to identify the strategies and actions required to build the young person’s independent living skills.

In March 2015, the Andrews Labor Government also announced \$43 million for Targeted Care Packages to move children out of residential care and into home-based care. The priority is to move primary school age children and Aboriginal children who are living in residential care into home-based care.

Families and children

1321. MS SPRINGLE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: What is the average annual financial cost to the Department of Health and Human Services for providing a foster care placement to a —

- (a) 6 year old child;
- (b) 10-year-old child;
- (c) 14-year-old child.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

In 2014-15, the Department of Health and Human Services provided funding of \$45 million to 26 community service organisations to deliver foster care services to vulnerable children and young people.

The annual cost of providing a foster care placement will depend on the complexity of the child or young person's needs.

On average in 2014-15, the annual financial cost to the Department for providing a foster care placement:

- for a six year old child was between approximately \$23 000 to \$68 000
- for a 10-year-old child was between approximately \$24 000 to \$68 000
- for a 14-year-old young person was between approximately \$28 000 to \$69 000.

The annual financial cost is inclusive of carer allowances also provided to the foster carer.

Families and children

1326. **MS SPRINGLE** — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: What was the amount of funding provided to Kinship Carers Victoria in 2014-15.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

In 2014-15, the Department of Health and Human Services provided \$150 575 (excl. GST) to Kinship Carers Victoria.

The 2015-16 State Budget also provided \$31.4 million to improve financial support to carers, including kinship carers, for the first time in a decade.

Families and children

1351. **MS SPRINGLE** — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: What is the percentage of currently approved foster carers who have completed mental health first aid training.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

All potential foster carers in Victoria are required to undergo mandatory training and accreditation prior to becoming a foster carer. Shared Stories Shared Lives is the mandatory pre-service training for all prospective carers. The training is supported by a comprehensive assessment tool, Step by Step Victoria that is completed by trained foster care staff.

Each year the Foster Care Association of Victoria receives funding from the Department of Health and Human Services to deliver voluntary training to foster carers across the state. Individual foster care organisations may also offer additional non-mandatory training to their carers.

Employment

1416. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Employment): What is the total value of chartered flights taken by the Minister between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015.

ANSWER:

As part of their duties Ministers and relevant staff travel within Victoria using chartered flights and interstate using domestic airlines.

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Employment

1417. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Employment): What is the total value of domestic commercial flights within Victoria taken by the Minister between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015.

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Employment

1419. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Employment): What is the total value of international commercial flights leaving from or outside of Australia taken by the Minister between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015.

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Employment

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Health

1536. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): What is the total value of chartered flights taken by the Minister between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

As part of their duties Minister and relevant staff travel within Victoria using chartered flights and interstate using domestic airlines.

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Health

1537. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): What is the total value of domestic commercial flights within Victoria taken by the Minister between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

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Health

1538. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): What is the total value of domestic commercial flights within Australia taken by the Minister between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015.

ANSWER:

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Health

1539. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): What is the total value of international commercial flights leaving from or outside of Australia taken by the Minister between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

I am informed the details of international travel of Ministers and staff either have been or will be uploaded to the relevant departmental website.

Health

1540. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): What is the total value of chartered flights taken by Ministerial staff between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

As part of their duties Minister and relevant staff travel within Victoria using chartered flights and interstate using domestic airlines.

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Health

1541. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): What is the total value of domestic commercial flights within Victoria taken by Ministerial staff between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

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Health

1542. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): What is the total value of domestic commercial flights within Australia taken by Ministerial staff between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

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Health

1543. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): What is the total value of international commercial flights leaving from or outside of Australia taken by Ministerial staff between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

I am informed the details of international travel of Ministers and staff either have been or will be uploaded to the relevant departmental website.

Ambulance services

1544. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Ambulance Services): What is the total value of chartered flights taken by the Minister between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question is a duplicate of LC1536. I refer to the answer provided.

Ambulance services

1545. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Ambulance Services): What is the total value of domestic commercial flights within Victoria taken by the Minister between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question is a duplicate of LC 1537. I refer to the answer provided.

Ambulance services

1546. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Ambulance Services): What is the total value of domestic commercial flights within Australia taken by the Minister between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question is a duplicate of LC 1538. I refer to the answer provided.

Ambulance services

1547. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Ambulance Services): What is the total value of international commercial flights leaving from or outside of Australia taken by the Minister between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question is a duplicate of LC1539. I refer to the answer provided.

Ambulance services

1548. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Ambulance Services): What is the total value of chartered flights taken by Ministerial staff between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question is a duplicate of LC1540. I refer to the answer provided.

Ambulance services

1549. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Ambulance Services): What is the total value of domestic commercial flights within Victoria taken by Ministerial staff between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

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Ambulance services

1550. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Ambulance Services): What is the total value of domestic commercial flights within Australia taken by Ministerial staff between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question is a duplicate of LC 1542. I refer to the answer provided.

Ambulance services

1551. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Ambulance Services): What is the total value of international commercial flights leaving from or outside of Australia taken by Ministerial staff between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question is a duplicate of LC 1543. I refer to the answer provided.

Environment, climate change and water

1592. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water): What is the total value of chartered flights taken by the Minister between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

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Environment, climate change and water

1593. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water): What is the total value of domestic commercial flights within Victoria taken by the Minister between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015.

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Environment, climate change and water

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Environment, climate change and water

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Families and children

1707. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to secure welfare service—activity number 31208: What was the daily average number of placements of clients aged between 10 and 17 in each of the two facilities at Maribyrnong and Ascot Vale during the March 2015 quarter.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

In relation to secure welfare service, the daily average number of placements of clients aged between 10 and 17 in each of the two facilities during the March 2015 quarter was 6.3 placements at Maribyrnong and 4.5 placements at Ascot Vale.

Families and children

1708. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to secure welfare service—activity number 31208: What was the daily average number of placements of clients aged between 10 and 17 in each of the two facilities at Maribyrnong and Ascot Vale during the June 2015 quarter.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

In relation to secure welfare service the daily average number of placements of clients aged between 10 and 17 in each of the two facilities during the June 2015 quarter was 4.9 placements at Maribyrnong and 5.8 placements at Ascot Vale.

Families and children

1709. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to secure welfare service—activity number 31208: What was the total number of admissions of clients aged between 10 and 17 in each of the two facilities at Maribyrnong and Ascot Vale during the March 2015 quarter.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

In relation to secure welfare service, the total number of admissions of clients aged between 10 and 17 in each of the two facilities during the March 2015 quarter was 64 at Maribyrnong and 34 at Ascot Vale.

Families and children

1710. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to secure welfare service—activity number 31208: What was the total number of admissions of clients aged between 10 and 17 in each of the two facilities at Maribyrnong and Ascot Vale during the June 2015 quarter.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

In relation to secure welfare services, the total number of admissions of clients aged between 10 and 17 in each of the two facilities during the June 2015 quarter were 61 at Maribyrnong and 31 at Ascot Vale.

Small business, innovation and trade

1773. MR ONDARCHIE — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade: In relation to the Tourism Demand Driver Infrastructure Program and the Glenelg Shire, between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015:

- (1) How many grant applications from businesses within the Shire have been received for the program.
- (2) What is the value of grants that have been awarded to the applicants.
- (3) How many grant applications were accepted.
- (4) How many grant applications were rejected.
- (5) What is the total funding pool for the grant program.

ANSWER:

- (1) The Tourism Demand Driver Infrastructure Program does not fall under my portfolio responsibilities.
- (2) Refer to answer (1).
- (3) Refer to answer (1).
- (4) Refer to answer (1).
- (5) Refer to answer (1).

Small business, innovation and trade

1774. MR ONDARCHIE — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade: In relation to the Tourism Demand Driver Infrastructure Program and the Corangamite Shire, between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015:

- (1) How many grant applications from businesses within the Shire have been received for the program.
- (2) What is the value of grants that have been awarded to the applicants.
- (3) How many grant applications were accepted.
- (4) How many grant applications were rejected.
- (5) What is the total funding pool for the grant program.

ANSWER:

- (1) The Tourism Demand Driver Infrastructure Program does not fall under my portfolio responsibilities.
- (2) Refer to answer (1).
- (3) Refer to answer (1).
- (4) Refer to answer (1).
- (5) Refer to answer (1).

Small business, innovation and trade

1775. MR ONDARCHIE — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade: In relation to the Tourism Demand Driver Infrastructure Program and the Moyne Shire, between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015:

- (1) How many grant applications from businesses within the Shire have been received for the program.
- (2) What is the value of grants that have been awarded to the applicants.
- (3) How many grant applications were accepted.
- (4) How many grant applications were rejected.
- (5) What is the total funding pool for the grant program.

ANSWER:

- (1) The Tourism Demand Driver Infrastructure Program does not fall under my portfolio responsibilities.
- (2) Refer to answer (1).
- (3) Refer to answer (1).
- (4) Refer to answer (1).
- (5) Refer to answer (1).

Small business, innovation and trade

1776. MR ONDARCHIE — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade: In relation to the Tourism Demand Driver Infrastructure Program and the City of Warrnambool, between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015:

- (1) How many grant applications from businesses within the City have been received for the program.

- (2) What is the value of grants that have been awarded to the applicants.
- (3) How many grant applications were accepted.
- (4) How many grant applications were rejected.
- (5) What is the total funding pool for the grant program.

ANSWER:

- (1) The Tourism Demand Driver Infrastructure Program does not fall under my portfolio responsibilities.
- (2) Refer to answer (1).
- (3) Refer to answer (1).
- (4) Refer to answer (1).
- (5) Refer to answer (1).

Small business, innovation and trade

1777. **MR ONDARCHIE** — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade: In relation to the Tourism Demand Driver Infrastructure Program and the Colac Otway Shire, between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015:

- (1) How many grant applications from businesses within the Shire have been received for the program.
- (2) What is the value of grants that have been awarded to the applicants.
- (3) How many grant applications were accepted.
- (4) How many grant applications were rejected.
- (5) What is the total funding pool for the grant program.

ANSWER:

- (1) The Tourism Demand Driver Infrastructure Program does not fall under my portfolio responsibilities.
- (2) Refer to answer (1).
- (3) Refer to answer (1).
- (4) Refer to answer (1).
- (5) Refer to answer (1).

Small business, innovation and trade

1778. **MR ONDARCHIE** — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade: In relation to the Tourism Demand Driver Infrastructure Program and the Surf Coast Shire, between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015:

- (1) How many grant applications from businesses within the Shire have been received for the program.
- (2) What is the value of grants that have been awarded to the applicants.
- (3) How many grant applications were accepted.
- (4) How many grant applications were rejected.
- (5) What is the total funding pool for the grant program.

ANSWER:

- (1) The Tourism Demand Driver Infrastructure Program does not fall under my portfolio responsibilities.
- (2) Refer to answer (1).
- (3) Refer to answer (1).
- (4) Refer to answer (1).
- (5) Refer to answer (1).

Small business, innovation and trade

1779. **MR ONDARCHIE** — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade: In relation to the Tourism Demand Driver Infrastructure Program and the Golden Plains Shire, between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015:

- (1) How many grant applications from businesses within the Shire have been received for the program.
- (2) What is the value of grants that have been awarded to the applicants.
- (3) How many grant applications were accepted.
- (4) How many grant applications were rejected.
- (5) What is the total funding pool for the grant program.

ANSWER:

- (1) The Tourism Demand Driver Infrastructure Program does not fall under my portfolio responsibilities.
- (2) Refer to answer (1).
- (3) Refer to answer (1).
- (4) Refer to answer (1).
- (5) Refer to answer (1).

Small business, innovation and trade

1801. **MR ONDARCHIE** — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade: In relation to the Next Generation Manufacturing Investment Program and the Glenelg Shire, between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015:

- (1) How many grant applications from businesses within the Shire have been received for the program.
- (2) What is the value of grants that have been awarded to the applicants.
- (3) How many grant applications were accepted.
- (4) How many grant applications were rejected.
- (5) What is the total funding pool for the grant program.

ANSWER:

- (1) The Next Generation Manufacturing Investment Program does not fall within my portfolio responsibilities.
- (2) Refer to answer (1).
- (3) Refer to answer (1).

- (4) Refer to answer (1).
- (5) Refer to answer (1).

Small business, innovation and trade

1802. **MR ONDARCHIE** — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade: In relation to the Next Generation Manufacturing Investment Program and the Corangamite Shire, between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015:

- (1) How many grant applications from businesses within the Shire have been received for the program.
- (2) What is the value of grants that have been awarded to the applicants.
- (3) How many grant applications were accepted.
- (4) How many grant applications were rejected.
- (5) What is the total funding pool for the grant program.

ANSWER:

- (1) The Next Generation Manufacturing Investment Program does not fall within my portfolio responsibilities.
- (2) Refer to answer (1).
- (3) Refer to answer (1).
- (4) Refer to answer (1).
- (5) Refer to answer (1).

Small business, innovation and trade

1803. **MR ONDARCHIE** — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade: In relation to the Next Generation Manufacturing Investment Program and the Moyne Shire, between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015:

- (1) How many grant applications from businesses within the Shire have been received for the program.
- (2) What is the value of grants that have been awarded to the applicants.
- (3) How many grant applications were accepted.
- (4) How many grant applications were rejected.
- (5) What is the total funding pool for the grant program.

ANSWER:

- (1) The Next Generation Manufacturing Investment Program does not fall within my portfolio responsibilities.
- (2) Refer to answer (1).
- (3) Refer to answer (1).
- (4) Refer to answer (1).
- (5) Refer to answer (1).

Small business, innovation and trade

1804. MR ONDARCHIE — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade: In relation to the Next Generation Manufacturing Investment Program and the City of Warrnambool, between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015:

- (1) How many grant applications from businesses within the City have been received for the program.
- (2) What is the value of grants that have been awarded to the applicants.
- (3) How many grant applications were accepted.
- (4) How many grant applications were rejected.
- (5) What is the total funding pool for the grant program.

ANSWER:

- (1) The Next Generation Manufacturing Investment Program does not fall within my portfolio responsibilities.
- (2) Refer to answer (1).
- (3) Refer to answer (1).
- (4) Refer to answer (1).
- (5) Refer to answer (1).

Small business, innovation and trade

1805. MR ONDARCHIE — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade: In relation to the Next Generation Manufacturing Investment Program and the Colac Otway Shire, between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015:

- (1) How many grant applications from businesses within the Shire have been received for the program.
- (2) What is the value of grants that have been awarded to the applicants.
- (3) How many grant applications were accepted.
- (4) How many grant applications were rejected.
- (5) What is the total funding pool for the grant program.

ANSWER:

- (1) The Next Generation Manufacturing Investment Program does not fall within my portfolio responsibilities.
- (2) Refer to answer (1).
- (3) Refer to answer (1).
- (4) Refer to answer (1).
- (5) Refer to answer (1).

Small business, innovation and trade

1806. MR ONDARCHIE — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade: In relation to the Next Generation Manufacturing Investment Program and the Surf Coast Shire, between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015:

- (1) How many grant applications from businesses within the Shire have been received for the program.

- (2) What is the value of grants that have been awarded to the applicants.
- (3) How many grant applications were accepted.
- (4) How many grant applications were rejected.
- (5) What is the total funding pool for the grant program.

ANSWER:

- (1) The Next Generation Manufacturing Investment Program does not fall within my portfolio responsibilities.
- (2) Refer to answer (1).
- (3) Refer to answer (1).
- (4) Refer to answer (1).
- (5) Refer to answer (1).

Small business, innovation and trade

1807. MR ONDARCHIE — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade: In relation to the Next Generation Manufacturing Investment Program and the Golden Plains Shire, between 4 December 2014 and 15 September 2015:

- (1) How many grant applications from businesses within the Shire have been received for the program.
- (2) What is the value of grants that have been awarded to the applicants.
- (3) How many grant applications were accepted.
- (4) How many grant applications were rejected.
- (5) What is the total funding pool for the grant program.

ANSWER:

- (1) The Next Generation Manufacturing Investment Program does not fall within my portfolio responsibilities.
- (2) Refer to answer (1).
- (3) Refer to answer (1).
- (4) Refer to answer (1).
- (5) Refer to answer (1).

Families and children

2017. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to Ministerial Advisory Committees and Councils: On what dates has the Ministerial Advisory Committee for Children in out-of-home care met since April 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Ministerial Advisory Committee for Children in Out-of-Home Care met on 29 July 2015.

Families and children

2024. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to the Francis-Coslovich case: How many contacts, either by phone, email or in person were made between Mallee Family Services and the Francis-Coslovich family.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

As I have indicated to the Member on previous occasions, I am mindful of the caution that I should exercise under the sub judice convention, about speaking on current or pending court cases in Parliament, if it could prejudice cases.

I am just as mindful of the important public policy underpinning confidentiality provisions in legislation such as the Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014 and the Children, Youth and Families Act 2005 that applies to prevent public disclosure of personal information about individual families and children.

Further, every Victorian is entitled to privacy. This is particularly the case for children impacted by the tragedy of the death of a sibling. The Andrews Labor Government respects the right of all children to grow up free of stigma and without community members knowing intimate details about the complexities of their family life.

Having regard to these matters, as the Minister for Families & Children, I consider it inappropriate to make comment on this child and her family.

Families and children

2025. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to the Francis-Coslovich case: Which programs were recommended to the Francis-Coslovich family.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

As I have indicated to the Member on previous occasions, I am mindful of the caution that I should exercise under the sub judice convention, about speaking on current or pending court cases in Parliament, if it could prejudice cases.

I am just as mindful of the important public policy underpinning confidentiality provisions in legislation such as the Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014 and the Children, Youth and Families Act 2005 that applies to prevent public disclosure of personal information about individual families and children.

Further, every Victorian is entitled to privacy. This is particularly the case for children impacted by the tragedy of the death of a sibling. The Andrews Labor Government respects the right of all children to grow up free of stigma and without community members knowing intimate details about the complexities of their family life.

Having regard to these matters, as the Minister for Families & Children, I consider it inappropriate to make comment on this child and her family.

Families and children

2026. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to the Francis-Coslovich case: When was the last review of Nikki Francis-Coslovich’s case undertaken.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

As I have indicated to the Member on previous occasions, I am mindful of the caution that I should exercise under the sub judice convention, about speaking on current or pending court cases in Parliament, if it could prejudice cases.

I am just as mindful of the important public policy underpinning confidentiality provisions in legislation such as the Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014 and the Children, Youth and Families Act 2005 that applies to prevent public disclosure of personal information about individual families and children.

Further, every Victorian is entitled to privacy. This is particularly the case for children impacted by the tragedy of the death of a sibling. The Andrews Labor Government respects the right of all children to grow up free of stigma and without community members knowing intimate details about the complexities of their family life.

Having regard to these matters, as the Minister for Families & Children, I consider it inappropriate to make comment on this child and her family.

Families and children

2027. **MS CROZIER** — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to women’s refuges: How many women’s refuges are there in the Mallee area.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Women’s refuges fall within the portfolio responsibility of the Minister for Housing, Disability & Ageing.

Families and children

2028. **MS CROZIER** — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to women’s refuges: How many women’s refuges are there in the Loddon area.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Women’s refuges fall within the portfolio responsibility of the Minister for Housing, Disability & Ageing.

Families and children

2029. **MS CROZIER** — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to women’s refuges: How many women’s refuges are there in the Hume Moreland area.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Women’s refuges fall within the portfolio responsibility of the Minister for Housing, Disability & Ageing.

Families and children

2030. **MS CROZIER** — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to women’s refuges: How many women’s refuges are there in the North Eastern Melbourne area.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Women’s refuges fall within the portfolio responsibility of the Minister for Housing, Disability & Ageing.

Families and children

2031. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to women’s refuges: How many women’s refuges are there in the Ovens Murray area.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Women’s refuges fall within the portfolio responsibility of the Minister for Housing, Disability & Ageing.

Families and children

2032. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to women’s refuges: How many women’s refuges are there in the Goulburn area.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Women’s refuges fall within the portfolio responsibility of the Minister for Housing, Disability & Ageing.

Families and children

2033. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to women’s refuges: How many women’s refuges are there in the Outer Eastern Melbourne area.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Women’s refuges fall within the portfolio responsibility of the Minister for Housing, Disability & Ageing.

Families and children

2034. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to women’s refuges: How many women’s refuges are there in the Inner Eastern Melbourne area.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Women’s refuges fall within the portfolio responsibility of the Minister for Housing, Disability & Ageing.

Families and children

2035. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to women’s refuges: How many women’s refuges are there in the Outer Gippsland area.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Women’s refuges fall within the portfolio responsibility of the Minister for Housing, Disability & Ageing.

Families and children

2036. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to women’s refuges: How many women’s refuges are there in the Inner Gippsland area.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Women's refuges fall within the portfolio responsibility of the Minister for Housing, Disability & Ageing.

Families and children

2037. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to women's refuges: How many women's refuges are there in the Southern Melbourne area.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Women's refuges fall within the portfolio responsibility of the Minister for Housing, Disability & Ageing.

Families and children

2038. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to women's refuges: How many women's refuges are there in the Bayside Peninsula area.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Women's refuges fall within the portfolio responsibility of the Minister for Housing, Disability & Ageing.

Families and children

2039. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to women's refuges: How many women's refuges are there in the Western District area.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Women's refuges fall within the portfolio responsibility of the Minister for Housing, Disability & Ageing.

Families and children

2040. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to women's refuges: How many women's refuges are there in the Barwon area.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Women's refuges fall within the portfolio responsibility of the Minister for Housing, Disability & Ageing.

Families and children

2041. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to women's refuges: How many women's refuges are there in the Central Highlands area.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Women's refuges fall within the portfolio responsibility of the Minister for Housing, Disability & Ageing.

Families and children

2042. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to women's refuges: How many women's refuges are there in the Western Melbourne area.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Women's refuges fall within the portfolio responsibility of the Minister for Housing, Disability & Ageing.

Families and children

2043. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to women's refuges: How many women's refuges are there in the Brimbank Melton area.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Women's refuges fall within the portfolio responsibility of the Minister for Housing, Disability & Ageing.

Families and children

2044. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: What is the total number of places available for women within women's refuges in Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Women's refuges fall within the portfolio responsibility of the Minister for Housing, Disability & Ageing.

Families and children

2045. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: How many places have been allocated or are filled within women's refuges in Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Women's refuges fall within the portfolio responsibility of the Minister for Housing, Disability & Ageing.

Families and children

2046. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: How many people are on the waiting list for a place within a women's refuge within Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Women's refuges fall within the portfolio responsibility of the Minister for Housing, Disability & Ageing.

Families and children

2051. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to the Department of Health and Human Services: What was the total number of personnel employed by the Department of Health and Human Services in Family Violence Services as at 31 December 2014.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Family violence programs are delivered by Community Service Organisations.

Families and children

2052. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to the Department of Health and Human Services: What was the total number of personnel employed by the Department of Health and Human Services in Family Violence Services as at 30 June 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Family violence programs are delivered by Community Service Organisations.

Families and children

2059. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to early childhood educators: What was the total number of early childhood educators employed, recorded by the Department of Education and Training as at December 2014.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Workforce data for early childhood educators is only recorded by the Department in relation to funded kindergarten programs. In 2014, 7658 early childhood educators were employed in funded kindergarten services in Victoria.

Families and children

2060. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to early childhood educators: What was the total number of early childhood educators employed, recorded by the Department of Education and Training as at March 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Workforce data for early childhood educators is only recorded by the Department in relation to funded kindergarten programs. No confirmed data is yet available for 2015.

Families and children

2061. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to early childhood educators: What was the total number of early childhood educators employed, recorded by the Department of Education and Training as at June 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Workforce data for early childhood educators is only recorded by the Department in relation to funded kindergarten programs. No confirmed data is yet available for 2015.

Families and children

2096. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to the Francis-Coslovich case: What contact, by phone, email, mail or in person has the Department of Health and Human Services had with any of the Francis-Coslovich family members between July 2015 and 17 September 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

As I have indicated to the Member on previous occasions, I am mindful of the caution that I should exercise under the sub judice convention, about speaking on current or pending court cases in Parliament, if it could prejudice cases.

I am just as mindful of the important public policy underpinning confidentiality provisions in legislation such as the Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014 and the Children, Youth and Families Act 2005 that applies to prevent public disclosure of personal information about individual families and children.

Further, every Victorian is entitled to privacy. This is particularly the case for children impacted by the tragedy of the death of a sibling. The Andrews Labor Government respects the right of all children to grow up free of stigma and without community members knowing intimate details about the complexities of their family life.

Having regard to these matters, as the Minister for Families & Children, I consider it inappropriate to make comment on this child and her family.