

**PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA**

**PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES  
(HANSARD)**

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

**FIFTY-EIGHTH PARLIAMENT**

**FIRST SESSION**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**23, 24 and 25 June 2015**

**(Extract from book 9)**

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## **The Governor**

The Honourable ALEX CHERNOV, AC, QC

## **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
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Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services . . . . .	The Hon. J. Hennessy, MP
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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 Small Business, Innovation and Trade . . . . .	The Hon. A. Somyurek, MLC
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** — Dr Carling-Jenkins, Mr Dalidakis, Mr Eideh, Mr Elasmarr, Mr Finn, Ms Hartland, Mr Morris and Mr Ondarchie.

**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, Ms Tierney 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

### 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 Elasmarr, Mr Melhem and Mr Purcell. (*Assembly*): Mr Crisp, Mrs Fyffe and Ms Ryall.

**Electoral Matters Committee** — (*Council*): Mr Dalidakis and Ms Patten. (*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* — Acting 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 <sup>2</sup>	Eastern Victoria	Nats	Mulino, Mr Daniel	Eastern Victoria	ALP
Bourman, Mr Jeffrey	Eastern Victoria	SFP	O'Brien, Mr Daniel David <sup>1</sup>	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			

<sup>1</sup> Resigned 25 February 2015

<sup>2</sup> 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 Assembly.  
Answers have been incorporated in the form supplied by the departments on behalf of the appropriate ministers.  
The portfolio of the minister answering the question on notice starts each heading.*

**Tuesday, 23 June 2015**

**Equality**

**525. MS PATTEN** — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Equality):

- (1) How many staff are employed within the Ministers office as part of the new Equality portfolio.
- (2) What dates were they appointed and what costs are incurred on salary and other expenses.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

Funding and tenure for Ministerial Staff is consistent with past practice. Ministerial Office staff are employed under the Public Administration Act 2004.

**Planning**

**545. MS PATTEN** — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Planning): In relation to construction of noise walls along the southern side of the Western Ring Road (M80):

- (1) When will the promised construction commence along the southern side of the Western Ring Road where it abuts the City of Moreland.
- (2) Will the City of Moreland be consulted in the design phase of the noise walls.

**ANSWER:**

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

The matter is not part of my portfolio.

On 5 May 2015 the State Budget announced a package of small road and public transport initiatives. Noise walls in Glenroy, Gowanbrae and Endeavour Hills are to be included in the first phase.

I direct any further enquiries about this matter to the Hon Luke Donnellan, Minister for Roads.

**Roads and road safety**

**546. MS PATTEN** — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Roads and Road Safety): In relation to traffic filtering for scooters, motorbikes and bicycles:

- (1) Will the Government allow Learner and Probationary riders to filter through traffic.
- (2) Will the Government lift its ban on filtering in 40 kph school speed zones.
- (3) Will the Government lift its ban on filtering between parked cars and a lane of slow or stopped traffic.
- (4) Will the Government lift its ban on filtering near slow or stopped large vehicles like buses and trucks.

**ANSWER:**

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

The Andrews Labor Government has committed to introducing motorcycle lane filtering laws in Victoria.

The Government has not yet made any decision on either to ban or allow filtering in any of the scenarios described by the Honourable Member.

**Creative industries**

**547. MS PATTEN** — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Creative Industries): in relation to The Victorian Library, a proposal developed through the Ministerial Advisory Council on Public Libraries:

- (1) Will the Government issue single statewide library cards.
- (2) Will the Government enable statewide movement of collection and interlibrary loans.
- (3) Will the Government create statewide radio-frequency identification tagging of collections.
- (4) Will the Government create a statewide library management system.
- (5) Will the Government create a statewide platform for digital material.
- (6) Will the Government fund a statewide 'Languages other than English' collection.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

This question is not the portfolio responsibility of the Minister for Creative Industries and should be directed to the Minister for Local Government.

However, I am advised that all of the initiatives the Member raises are part of the Victorian Library concept developed by a Ministerial Advisory Council commissioned by the former Liberal Government.

The Ministerial Advisory Council made these recommendations in 2013, but the previous Liberal Government failed to progress a single recommendation.

The Andrews Labor Government will perform a critical review of the Victorian Library concept and all current Library funding in order to find a sustainable model for a modern Library system in Victoria.

**Corrections**

**558. MR O'DONOHUE** — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Corrections): how many prisoners were in the Victorian male prison system on-

- (a) 4 May 2015;
- (b) 11 May 2015; and
- (c) 18 May 2015.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that:

There were 5806 male prisoners on 31 May 2015.

**Corrections**

**559. MR O'DONOHUE** — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Corrections): how many prisoners were in the Victorian female prison system on-

- (a) 4 May 2015;
- (b) 11 May 2015; and
- (c) 18 May 2015.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that:

There were 412 female prisoners on 31 May 2015.

**Corrections**

**560. MR O'DONOHUE** — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Corrections): how many male prisoners were held in police cells in Victoria at 7am on-

- (a) 4 May 2015;
- (b) 11 May 2015; and
- (c) 18 May 2015.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that:

There were 108 male prisoners in police cells at 7 am on 31 May 2015.

**Corrections**

**561. MR O'DONOHUE** — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Corrections): how many female prisoners were held in police cells in Victoria at 7am on-

- (a) 4 May 2015;
- (b) 11 May 2015; and
- (c) 18 May 2015.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that:

There were 10 female prisoners in police cells at 7 am on 31 May 2015.

**Corrections**

**562. MR O'DONOHUE** — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Corrections): how many current parole orders were there on-

- (a) 4 May 2015;
- (b) 11 May 2015; and
- (c) 18 May 2015.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that:

There were 1139 current parole orders on 31 May 2015.

**Health**

**563. MS HARTLAND** — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): in relation to the 2015-16 Victorian Budget-

- (1) How much has the Government allocated to address infrastructure and structural problems at Footscray Hospital and under which item does this expenditure sit.
- (2) Will this expenditure sit under the \$25 million Engineering Infrastructure replacement program and, if so, how much of this allocation will it utilise in 2015-16.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The Andrews Labor Government is committed to delivering safe, high quality public health services and in support of this, has allocated \$25 million to replace engineering infrastructure plant and equipment used to support acute services in public hospitals across Victoria.

Approximately half the \$25 million funding for 2015-16 will be allocated directly to health services via specific-purpose capital grants by August 2015.

The balance of funds is for high value, state-wide at-risk engineering infrastructure replacements. Submissions will be sought from health services in June 2015, with allocations to be rolled out from September 2015.

**Health**

**565. MS HARTLAND** — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): in the 2015-16 Victorian Budget, how much funding has been allocated to prevention activities related to reducing the negative health impacts and saving lives from-

- (a) road accidents;
- (b) alcohol abuse;
- (c) use of illicit drugs;
- (d) abuse of prescription drugs; and
- (e) obesity and its associated health risks, such as preventable diabetes and heart disease.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

- Over \$600 million in funding is allocated to prevention activities across government including funding in support of road safety
- The funding also includes significant allocations to cancer prevention, VicHealth, oral health promotion and women’s health services
- New investments in this year’s budget included allocations for sexual health and blood borne viruses, eye health and planning towards a real-time prescription monitoring system.
- Investment in road safety involves four major partners: VicRoads, Transport Accident Commission, the Department of Justice and Regulation and Victoria Police.
- Primary Care Partnerships also undertake some preventive health activities as part of their core business.

**Health**

**566. MS HARTLAND** — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): in relation to the discontinuation of the dedicated capital funding for rural health services in the 2015-16 Victorian Budget-

- (1) Does the Government intend to reinstate the Rural Capital Support Fund in future budgets.
- (2) How does the Government plan on meeting the challenge of ageing and inadequate health services infrastructure in rural areas.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The 2015–16 State Budget made a significant investment in health services in both metropolitan and rural and regional Victoria, including an additional \$1.38 billion for hospital and ambulance service delivery. This investment stands in stark contrast to around \$1 billion in cuts to health by the previous Government over the past 4 years.

The Andrews Labor Government is committed to ensuring that all Victorians, no matter where they live, have access to quality health care.

Almost 40 per cent of the \$200 million Hospital Beds Rescue Fund will support services in rural and regional hospitals. This investment will deliver more beds at hospitals in Albury, Ballarat, Bendigo, Castlemaine, Echuca, Shepparton, Mildura, West Gippsland and Yarrawonga.

Other specific budget commitments in rural and regional areas include:

- \$10 million to expand Ballarat Health’s cardiovascular services;
- \$1 million for planning works to redevelop Goulburn Valley Health in Shepparton; and
- \$4 million to the National Centre for Farmer Health.

Significant investment has been dedicated to upgrading ambulance stations and equipment, and establishing super pharmacies. These initiatives will be rolled out right across the state, including in rural and regional areas.

**Health**

**568. MS HARTLAND** — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): how does the Government intend on tackling the need for GPs to have access to patient discharge summaries, medication charts and relevant information relating to a patient’s hospital stay considering there is no funding upgrading public hospital and general practice IT systems in the 2015-16 Victorian Budget.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The Commonwealth Government has responsibility to ensure that general practice systems are able to send and receive nationally standard clinical documents (including discharge summaries and eReferrals).

Victoria recognises the importance of timely and accurate transfer of patient information. Significant progress has been made within Victorian health services through the development of clinical/electronic medical record systems. A number of major information technology projects are currently underway including implementation of an electronic medical record at the Royal Children’s Hospital.

In addition, the Andrews Labor Government has allocated \$10 million in the 2015-16 state budget to establish a clinical services hardware replacement program.

There are also currently a range of strategies in place to ensure effective and timely communication between health services and general practitioners. This includes the employment of 32 General Practice Liaison Officers in 17 major hospitals and health services.

In addition Primary Health Networks which will be established from 1 July 2015, will have a key focus to improve integration between primary and acute sectors and will work with hospitals. This will include the transfer of patient information.

**Health**

**570. MS WOOLDRIDGE** — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): how much funding has been provided to Victorian Health Services to cover the additional cost of the 2015 Easter Sunday public holiday.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The cost of the additional 2015 Easter Sunday public holiday has been fully funded as part of a total budget funding provided to health services for the 2014-15 financial year.

**Health**

**571. MS WOOLDRIDGE** — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): in relation to the one-off payment to every Victorian Health Service to cover the additional cost of the 2015 Easter Sunday Public Holiday, how much funding did each Health Service receive to cover this additional cost.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The cost of the additional 2015 Easter Sunday public holiday has been fully funded as part of a total budget funding provided to health services for the 2014-15 financial year.

**Health**

**572. MS WOOLDRIDGE** — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): what is the Department of Health and Human Services estimation of the cost of the new AFL Grand final eve public holiday for Victorian Health Services.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The cost of the additional 2015 AFL Grand final eve public holiday will be fully funded and incorporated in the base funding provided to health services for the 2015-16 financial year.

**Health**

**577. MS WOOLDRIDGE** — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): why has the Maroondah Breast Cancer Centre not been funded in the 2015-16 Budget and when will it be funded and completed.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

Prior to last year's election, the now Labor Government made a \$10 million commitment to deliver Stage 1 of a Breast Cancer Centre in the Maroondah Hospital precinct. This service will bring together breast screening, oncology, medical care and support services all under one roof.

The Andrews Labor Government provided \$10 million for this project in the Victorian 2015-16 Budget and is held in the contingency fund.

The Victorian Government is committed to the delivery of this important service, and to that end, the Department of Health & Human Services is working closely with Eastern Health in undertaking the necessary planning to inform the development of this addition to the Maroondah Hospital precinct.

Planning for the breast cancer centre is complex and cannot be done independent of consideration of the broader precinct needs.

It is expected that the facility will be operational in 2018.





**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

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**Wednesday, 24 June 2015**

**Families and children**

- 580. MS CROZIER** — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: how many Category One incidents were notified to the Department of Health and Human Services by each departmental division during-
- (a) December 2014;
  - (b) January 2015;
  - (c) February 2015;
  - (d) March 2015; and
  - (e) April 2015.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

In the Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) there are eight health regions and seventeen human service areas.

Category 1 incident data is published on the Department of Health & Human Services website at [www.dhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au)

**Families and children**

- 581. MS CROZIER** — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: how many Category One incidents were notified to the Department of Health and Human Services by each Area within each departmental division during-
- (a) December 2014;
  - (b) January 2015;
  - (c) February 2015;
  - (d) March 2015; and
  - (e) April 2015.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

In the Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) there are eight health regions and seventeen human service areas.

Category 1 incident data is published on the Department of Health & Human Services website at [www.dhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au)

**Treasurer**

- 582. MS HARTLAND** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Treasurer): in relation to the Market-led Proposals Interim Guideline and Transurban's Western Distributor unsolicited proposal:

- (1) What is the specific probity plan for the proposal.
- (2) Given the probity plan should be implemented from the beginning of stage 3, when will the Government publish the probity plan.
- (3) Will the Government be appointing an independent probity auditor or advisor for this project.

**ANSWER:**

The Market-led Proposal process is designed to ensure transparency, and to maintain the highest level of probity and public accountability in receiving and assessing market-led proposals.

The Stage Three probity plan sets out the principles and practices for engaging with Transurban (the “Proponent”), and for conducting the Stage Three assessment of the Western Distributor under the Market-led Proposals Interim Guideline.

The objectives of a probity plan are to:

- ensure prescribed processes have been identified and can be followed or adhered to;
- ensure the processes designed are equitable and conducted with integrity;
- clarify accountability; and
- preserve public and Proponent confidence in government processes

The Government published the Stage Three probity plan on the DTF Market-led Proposals website on 12 June 2015.

The Government has appointed RSM Bird Cameron as its independent Stage Three probity adviser.

**Treasurer**

**583. MS HARTLAND** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Treasurer): in relation to the Market-led Proposals Interim Guideline and Transurban’s Western Distributor unsolicited proposal:

- (1) When does the Government anticipate completing stage 3 of the process.
- (2) When does the Government anticipate completing stage 4 of the process, if the project proceeds to a stage 4.
- (3) When does the Government anticipate completing stage 5 of the process, if the project proceeds to a stage 5.

**ANSWER:**

- (1) Stage Three is expected to be completed toward the latter half of 2015.
- (2) The timing of Stage Four will depend on the outcome of Stage Three.
- (3) The timing of Stage Five will depend on the outcomes of Stages Three and Four.

**Treasurer**

**584. MS HARTLAND** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Treasurer): in relation to the Market-led Proposals Interim Guideline and Transurban’s Western Distributor unsolicited proposal:

- (1) Is the Western Distributor proposal being considered a High Value High Risk proposal.
- (2) Has the Government decided to proceed with an exclusive procurement approach, a Swiss challenge or competitive approach.

- (3) If an exclusive approach is being recommended, how will competition be incorporated into components of the project.

**ANSWER:**

The Government is assessing the proposal at Stage Three of its Market led Proposals Interim Guideline. The Guideline requires principles of High Value High Risk to be applied in the assessment of market-led proposals in various Stages of the process, including Stage Three.

The Government is still assessing the proposal at Stage Three of its Market-led Proposals Interim Guideline. As part of its Stage Three assessment, the Government is considering what procurement approach is likely to create the most value for Victoria.

Should the Government ultimately seek to pursue exclusive negotiations with Transurban, the State will still benefit from competition. More than 90 per cent of project costs will be procured through competitive processes.

**Treasurer**

- 585. MS HARTLAND** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Treasurer): in relation to the Market-led Proposals Interim Guideline and Transurban’s Western Distributor unsolicited proposal, when will the Government release the detailed plan as part of stage 3 of the process.

**ANSWER:**

Transurban’s proposal is undergoing rigorous assessment as part of Stage Three of the Market-led Proposals Interim Guideline. A detailed description of the proposal will be publicly disclosed at the end of Stage Three if the proposal proceeds. The probity plan was publicly released on 12 June 2015.

In addition, Transurban has release proposal information on its website.

**Treasurer**

- 586. MS HARTLAND** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Treasurer): in relation to the Market-led Proposals Interim Guideline and Transurban’s Western Distributor unsolicited proposal:

- (1) At what point of the process is the community consulted by the Government.
- (2) Will the community be consulted before the end of stage 3, when the Government makes the decision to not proceed or not to proceed with an exclusive negotiation or tender process.

**ANSWER:**

Community consultation is essential to ensure the final project design delivers the greatest benefit for Victorians. An extensive Transurban led community consultation process has already commenced to assist Transurban in further developing and refining its proposal to Government. Should the proposal progress past Stage Three, the Government will then undertake community consultation in accordance with usual practice and statutory requirements.

**Treasurer**

- 587. MS HARTLAND** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Treasurer): in relation to the Market-led Proposals Interim Guideline and Transurban’s Western Distributor unsolicited proposal, given information including -

- (a) how the proposal was evaluated;
- (b) what value of money was achieved by the Government; and

- (c) an assessment of a project's compliance with its probity plan — is only released publically via a project summary after the contractual or financial close of the project: can the Minister advise what information is available to enable Victorian taxpayers to properly scrutinise the proposal in time to influence the Government's decision and where can such information be accessed.

**ANSWER:**

The Government has assessed the proposal in Stages One and Two of the Market-led Proposals Interim Guideline. The Stage Two assessment and recommendations were independently reviewed by a panel of eminent industry experts who confirmed the assessment conclusion.

The Stage Two assessment looks at whether a proposal has the potential to deliver material benefits and value for money to the Victorian public. Part of the Stage Three assessment process will look at a detailed value for money assessment framework which will be applied to evaluate whether the final proposal by Transurban is value for money.

The probity plan was published on the Market-led Proposals website on 12 June 2015.

**Treasurer**

- 588. MS HARTLAND** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Treasurer): in relation to the Market-led Proposals Interim Guideline and Transurban's Western Distributor unsolicited proposal, at what point in time and at what stage of the project will Transurban be given permission to start drilling to investigate the substrate the tunnel would pass through.

**ANSWER:**

The Western Distributor proposal is currently being assessed under Stage Three of the Market-led Proposals Interim Guideline. During this assessment, Transurban will further develop its proposal to confirm the technical feasibility and design solution, including undertaking technical investigations. Any Transurban requests for technical investigations (including drilling) will proceed under the established approvals processes.

**Treasurer**

- 589. MS HARTLAND** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Treasurer): in relation to the Market-led Proposals Interim Guideline and Transurban's Western Distributor unsolicited proposal, when in the staged process of assessment would the Western Distributor proposal, pursuant to the Major Transport Projects Facilitation Act 2009, be declared and the various assessment processes associated with that Act be undertaken.

**ANSWER:**

As part of its Stage Three assessment, Government is considering the preferred approvals pathway. No decision has been made in respect of the Major Transport Projects Facilitation Act or otherwise. In order to determine the best planning approvals pathway, Government needs to consider which legislation will best protect the community's interests.

**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 Assembly.  
Answers have been incorporated in the form supplied by the departments on behalf of the appropriate ministers.  
The portfolio of the minister answering the question on notice starts each heading.*

**Thursday, 25 June 2015**

**Treasurer**

**573. MS WOOLDRIDGE** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Treasurer): is there any Department of Health and Human Services funding in Budget Paper No. 2, page 58, under the lines “Adjustments” or “Savings” and, if so, what health programs or initiatives are included and how much funding is allocated for each.

**ANSWER:**

The “Adjustments” line reflects the net impact of creating not yet allocated contingencies, together with the release of contingencies as appropriate.

The “Savings” line incorporates Whole of Victorian Government savings and efficiencies as detailed in Budget Paper No. 3, page 105. These savings are:

- Abolish taxpayer funded political advertising
- Disband the Construction Code Compliance Unit
- Freedom of Information Commissioner
- Implementing electronic purchasing
- More efficient government car fleet arrangements
- Reduce government travel expenses
- Reduce hard copy reports tabled in Parliament
- Reduce the number of executive officers; and
- Reduce the use of labour hire firms.

These are general corporate savings and efficiencies, rather than reductions to specific programs or initiatives.

**Corrections**

**595. MR O'DONOHUE** — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Corrections): how many prisoners were in the Victorian male prison system on —

- (a) 25 May 2015; and
- (b) 1 June 2015.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that:

There were 5806 male prisoners on 31 May 2015.

**Corrections**

**596. MR O'DONOHUE** — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Corrections): how many prisoners were in the Victorian female prison system on —

- (a) 25 May 2015; and
- (b) 1 June 2015.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that:

There were 412 female prisoners on 31 May 2015.

**Corrections**

**597. MR O'DONOHUE** — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Corrections): how many male prisoners were held in police cells in Victoria at 7am on —

- (a) 25 May 2015; and
- (b) 1 June 2015.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that:

There were 108 male prisoners in police cells at 7am on 31 May 2015.

**Corrections**

**598. MR O'DONOHUE** — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Corrections): how many female prisoners were held in police cells in Victoria at 7am on —

- (a) 25 May 2015; and
- (b) 1 June 2015.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that:

There were 10 female prisoners in police cells at 7am on 31 May 2015.

**Corrections**

**599. MR O'DONOHUE** — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Corrections): how many current parole orders were there on —

- (a) 25 May 2015; and
- (b) 1 June 2015.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that:

There were 1139 current parole orders on 31 May 2015.