

PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA

**PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(HANSARD)**

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

FIFTY-EIGHTH PARLIAMENT

FIRST SESSION

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

24, 25 and 26 May 2016

(Extract from book 8)

Internet: www.parliament.vic.gov.au/downloadhansard

By authority of the Victorian Government Printer

HANSARD¹⁵⁰



1866–2016

Following a select committee investigation, Victorian Hansard was conceived when the following amended motion was passed by the Legislative Assembly on 23 June 1865:

That in the opinion of this house, provision should be made to secure a more accurate report of the debates in Parliament, in the form of *Hansard*.

The sessional volume for the first sitting period of the Fifth Parliament, from 12 February to 10 April 1866, contains the following preface dated 11 April:

As a preface to the first volume of “Parliamentary Debates” (new series), it is not inappropriate to state that prior to the Fifth Parliament of Victoria the newspapers of the day virtually supplied the only records of the debates of the Legislature.

With the commencement of the Fifth Parliament, however, an independent report was furnished by a special staff of reporters, and issued in weekly parts.

This volume contains the complete reports of the proceedings of both Houses during the past session.

In 2016 the Hansard Unit of the Department of Parliamentary Services continues the work begun 150 years ago of providing an accurate and complete report of the proceedings of both houses of the Victorian Parliament.

The Governor

The Honourable LINDA DESSAU, AM

The Lieutenant-Governor

The Honourable Justice MARILYN WARREN, AC, QC

The ministry (to 22 May 2016)

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

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Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade	The Hon. P. Dalidakis, MLC
Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change, and Minister for Suburban Development	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
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Minister for Planning	The Hon. R. W. Wynne, MP
Cabinet Secretary.....	Ms M. Kairouz, MP

Legislative Council committees

Privileges Committee — Ms Hartland, Mr Herbert, Ms Mikakos, Mr O’Donohue, 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 — #Ms Dunn, Mr Eideh, Mr Elasmarr, Mr Finn, Ms Hartland, Mr Leane, Mr Morris and Mr Ondarchie.

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

Standing Committee on Legal and Social Issues — Ms Fitzherbert, #Ms Hartland, 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*): Ms Bath and Mr Dalla-Riva. (*Assembly*): Ms Blandthorn, Mr J. Bull, Mr Dimopoulos, 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, 24 May 2016

Regional development

- 3311.** **MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Minister for Regional Development: What is the total dollar amount that Regional Development Victoria spent on advertising with Facebook for each month between and including December 2014 to September 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Details of government advertising are reported annually in the Victorian Government's advertising report. The report is being finalised and will be released upon completion, before the end of the year.

Regional development

- 3312.** **MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Minister for Regional Development: What is the total dollar amount that Regional Development Victoria spent on advertising with Twitter for each month between and including December 2014 to September 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Details of government advertising are reported annually in the Victorian Government's advertising report. The report is being finalised and will be released upon completion, before the end of the year.

Regional development

- 3313.** **MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Minister for Regional Development: What is the total dollar amount that Regional Development Victoria spent on advertising in any suburban newspaper for each month between and including December 2014 to September 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Details of government advertising are reported annually in the Victorian Government's advertising report. The report is being finalised and will be released upon completion, before the end of the year.

Regional development

- 3314.** **MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Minister for Regional Development: What is the total dollar amount that Regional Development Victoria spent on advertising in any regional newspaper for each month between and including December 2014 to September 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Details of government advertising are reported annually in the Victorian Government's advertising report. The report is being finalised and will be released upon completion, before the end of the year.

Agriculture

4934. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Agriculture: Since being appointed a Minister of the Crown, have you received any gifts from the private sector up to the sum of AUD\$500 and if so, please specify —

- (a) the donor;
- (b) the gift;
- (c) the value of the gift; and
- (d) whether this gift was disclosed in a declaration.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Members of the Victorian Parliament are required to declare personal interests in accordance with the Members of Parliament (Register of Interests) Act 1978.

Regional development

4938. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Regional Development: Since being appointed a Minister of the Crown, have you received any gifts from the private sector up to the sum of AUD\$500 and if so, please specify —

- (a) the donor;
- (b) the gift;
- (c) the value of the gift; and
- (d) whether this gift was disclosed in a declaration.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Members of the Victorian Parliament are required to declare personal interests in accordance with the Members of Parliament (Register of Interests) Act 1978.

Families and children

4942. MS SPRINGLE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: How will the Health Assessment Initiative and the Pathways to Good Health Pilot be assessed for effectiveness.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Health and Education Assessment Initiative, including the Pathways to Good Health pilot, has been independently evaluated. The Department is considering recommendations of the report and exploring opportunities to improve the health and education outcomes of children and young people in out-of-home care.

The Andrews Labor Government is committed to improving the health and education outcomes for children and young people in out of home care in Victoria

We have established new LOOKOUT Education Support Centres to help ensure vulnerable children and young people in out of home care stay remain engaged in education.

As part of the initiative, the Government will provide \$13.2 million over four years and \$4.8 million ongoing from 2019–20 to establish the centres to help about 6000 vulnerable children and young people overcome the challenges they face in education and training.

The new LOOKOUT centres will work with schools and carers to advocate for, and protect, the rights and interests of school-aged children and young people in Victoria who are in out of home care.

Agriculture

5000. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Agriculture: As at 29 February 2016 —

- (1) How many ministerial staff based in the Ministers Office are employed or engaged in communications, including public, corporate and media relations;
- (2) What is the salary band for each of these officers; and
- (3) What is the job title.

ANSWER:

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

Remuneration for ministerial staff varies depending on experience and responsibility.

Regional development

5004. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Regional Development: As at 29 February 2016 —

- (1) How many ministerial staff based in the Ministers Office are employed or engaged in communications, including public, corporate and media relations;
- (2) What is the salary band for each of these officers; and
- (3) What is the job title.

ANSWER:

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

Remuneration for ministerial staff varies depending on experience and responsibility.

Industry

5023. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Industry): In relation to your October 2015 overseas travel to Japan:

- (a) did any Departmental official accompany you and your staff and if so, what was the cost and class of their airfares paid;
- (b) what were the accommodation costs paid by the Department for this Departmental official;
- (c) what meetings, events or locations detailed in your travel report did this Departmental official exclude themselves from during the trip;
- (d) what was the breakdown of the additional costs paid by the Department;

- (e) were you offered an upgrade on any leg of your flights and did you accept that offer; and
- (f) did you claim Frequent Flyer (or any other alternative scheme) points as part of this travel and if so, how many.

ANSWER:

- (a) Yes, Mr Jason (Jay) Meek, Deputy Secretary-Trade Victoria to Japan between 30 September and 7 October 2015. Mr Meek travelled Business Class from Melbourne to the three locations in Japan at a total cost of \$8342.62.
- (b) Mr Meek incurred accommodation costs over five nights at a total cost of \$1889.79.
- (c) Mr Meek did not exclude himself from the Minister's program at any stage during this trip.
- (d) A travel allowance entitlement of \$1481.87 was paid to Mr Meek which was calculated at the ECA International Senior Executive Service rate-as determined by the Department of Premier and Cabinet Standards on Reimbursement of Expenses for Official Travel.
- (e) No.
- (f) No.

Agriculture

5036. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Minister for Agriculture: Between 1 July 2015 and 31 December 2015, what were the dates you met with representatives from the Almond Board of Australia.

ANSWER:

Last year, I met with the Chair of the Almond Board of Australia personally in February.

Families and children

5083. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: As at 8 March 2016, what is the total number of residential care beds in Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

As at 8 March 2016, there were approximately 464 funded residential care beds in Victoria.

Families and children

5089. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: Will the Department of Health and Human Services make quarterly data on Category one incidents in child protection and youth justice publicly available after each quarter, in addition to annual reports.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

I refer the Member to my response to Question on Notice 5255 in respect of publishing quarterly data.

Families and children

5090. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: What is the full web link to Category 1 data in child protection on the Department of Health and Human Services website for the December 2015 quarter.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

I refer the Member to my response to Question on Notice 5255 in respect of publishing quarterly data.

Families and children

5091. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: Will any “subsequently released incident reporting information” be released updating Category one incident numbers as reported in Human service delivery data, child protection 2014-15.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Current Human service delivery data, child protection 2014-15 is available on the Department of Health and Human Services website.

There is no intention to re-release this data.

Families and children

5092. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: Of the 2014-15 Category one data published in Human Service delivery data, child protection 2014-15, how many allegations were not substantiated.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Department’s reporting system records the number of critical incidents reported to the department.

Incident reporting data is a snapshot in time of allegations made by clients of the Department.

They are recorded and remain as incidents regardless of whether further information becomes available to substantiate or disprove an event.

Incident reports include disclosures of historic abuse and assault that were alleged to have occurred before a client entered state care.

Data relating to Category One incidents is published on the Department of Health & Human Services website.

Families and children

5094. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: As at 8 March 2016 how many Aboriginal children were in out of home care in —

- (a) Foster care;
- (b) Residential care; and
- (c) Kinship care.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Data relating to the number of Aboriginal children in out of home care is published in the annual Report on Government Services.

Families and children

5110. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: For 2014-15 —

- (a) what was the number of Aboriginal children protection notifications in Victoria where notifications have been substantiated; and
- (b) the rate per 1000 children, which was not included in Table 30 of the Victorian Government Aboriginal Affairs Report for 2014-15.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The 2016 Report on Government Services publishes data, including an overview of child protection activity in 2014-15 relating to notifications, investigations and substantiations for Aboriginal children. This report was published on 27 January 2016.

Families and children

5123. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: As at 8 March 2016, how much of the \$16.9 million allocated to the Springboard program has been expended.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Springboard provides intensive case management support to young people leaving residential care to help them transition to independence.

Under the previous Coalition Government, funding for the Springboard program was due to lapse in June 2015.

The Andrews Labor Government committed \$21.3 million over four years in the 2015-16 State Budget to continue the Springboard program.

This Government is committed to providing better support to care leavers, making a difference in the lives of young people and ensuring they have opportunities to achieve their potential.

Families and children

5126. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: How many children entering residential care in 2015 did not receive a Health and Education Assessment.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This information is contained in individual client records. A manual review of every client record would be required to provide this information.

The Department of Health and Human Services has a number of mechanisms in place to support the provision of health and education assessments. As part of the Health and Education Assessment Initiative, there are eight Health and Education Coordinators across the State with responsibility for initiating and managing timely health and education assessments; coordinating treatment and support packages; and supporting compliance with obligations relating to health and education supports for children in out-of-home care.

Agriculture

5138. MR BARBER — To ask the Minister for Agriculture: Broken down by local government areas, what is the number of Authority to Control Wildlife permits issued for Western Grey Kangaroos for each of the following —

- (a) 2013;
- (b) 2014;
- (c) 2015; and
- (d) to date in 2016.

ANSWER:

If landholders or land managers are experiencing a problem with wildlife, they may apply to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) for an Authority to Control Wildlife to scare, disperse, trap or destroy wildlife, if the wildlife is damaging buildings, pasture, crops or other property; posing a risk to human health and safety; or impacting on biodiversity.

Authority to Control Wildlife permits do not fall within my responsibilities as Minister for Agriculture. The specific details sought by the Member are most appropriately requested through a question directed to the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water.

Agriculture

5139. MR BARBER — To ask the Minister for Agriculture: Broken down by local government areas, what is the number of Authority to Control Wildlife permits issued for Red Kangaroos for each of the following —

- (a) 2013;
- (b) 2014;
- (c) 2015; and
- (d) to date in 2016.

ANSWER:

If landholders or land managers are experiencing a problem with wildlife, they may apply to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) for an Authority to Control Wildlife to scare, disperse, trap or destroy wildlife, if the wildlife is damaging buildings, pasture, crops or other property; posing a risk to human health and safety; or impacting on biodiversity.

Authority to Control Wildlife permits do not fall within my responsibilities as Minister for Agriculture. The specific details sought by the Member are most appropriately requested through a question directed to the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water.

Education

5177. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Education): What was the advertising expenditure including public, corporate and media relations but not including mandatory or staff recruitment for the Calendar year ending 31 December 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

The Victorian Government Advertising Report 2014/2015 is published on www.dpc.vic.gov.au. This report provides a reasonable overview of government advertising expenditure, including media expenditure and details on advertising categories.

Agriculture

5184. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Agriculture: What was the advertising expenditure including public, corporate and media relations but not including mandatory or staff recruitment for the Calendar year ending 31 December 2015.

ANSWER:

The Victorian Government Advertising Report 2014/2015 is published on www.dpc.vic.gov.au.

This report provides a reasonable overview of government advertising expenditure, including media expenditure and details on advertising categories.

Regional development

5188. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Regional Development: What was the advertising expenditure including public, corporate and media relations but not including mandatory or staff recruitment for the Calendar year ending 31 December 2015.

ANSWER:

The Victorian Government Advertising Report 2014/2015 is published on www.dpc.vic.gov.au.

This report provides a reasonable overview of government advertising expenditure, including media expenditure and details on advertising categories.

Families and children

5252. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: How many client-to-staff assaults were reported at the Melbourne Youth Justice Centre in Parkville in 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Many young people involved with youth justice come from troubled backgrounds.

Youth justice workers help young people to address their underlying problems, understand the impact of their offending and learn to be accountable for their actions.

Staff undergo training to work in a youth justice environment, including managing difficult situations and behaviours.

Any injury sustained by staff is treated seriously and adequate support is provided.

The Andrews Labor Government has increased the oversight powers of the Commissioner for Children and Young People to ensure they receive reports of serious incidents involving a child or young person in a youth justice facility.

The previous Coalition Government only published Category One incident data annually on the Department of Human Services website.

I have instructed the Department of Health and Human Services to publish quarterly data on Category One incident reports in youth justice services on the Department of Health and Human Services website as well as other data relating to youth justice services.

Families and children

5253. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: How many client-to-staff assaults were reported at the Malmsbury Youth Justice Centre in 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Many young people involved with youth justice come from troubled backgrounds.

Youth justice workers help young people to address their underlying problems, understand the impact of their offending and learn to be accountable for their actions.

Staff undergo training to work in a youth justice environment, including managing difficult situations and behaviours.

Any injury sustained by staff is treated seriously and adequate support is provided.

The Andrews Labor Government has increased the oversight powers of the Commissioner for Children and Young People to ensure they receive reports of serious incidents involving a child or young person in a youth justice facility.

The previous Coalition Government only published Category One incident data annually on the Department of Human Services website.

I have instructed the Department of Health and Human Services to publish quarterly data on Category One incident reports in youth justice services on the Department of Health and Human Services website as well as other data relating to youth justice services.

Families and children

5255. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: How many staff reported receiving an injury in 2015 at the:

- (a) Melbourne Youth Justice Centre in Parkville; and
- (b) Malmsbury Youth Justice Centre.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Many young people involved with youth justice come from troubled backgrounds.

Youth justice workers help young people to address their underlying problems, understand the impact of their offending and learn to be accountable for their actions.

Staff undergo training to work in a youth justice environment, including managing difficult situations and behaviours.

Any injury sustained by staff is treated seriously and adequate support is provided.

The Andrews Labor Government has increased the oversight powers of the Commissioner for Children and Young People to ensure they receive reports of serious incidents involving a child or young person in a youth justice facility.

The previous Coalition Government only published Category One incident data annually on the Department of Human Services website.

I have instructed the Department of Health and Human Services to publish quarterly data on Category One incident reports in youth justice services on the Department of Health and Human Services website as well as other data relating to youth justice services.

Families and children

- 5260. MS CROZIER** — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: How many casual employees were employed by the Department of Health and Human Services in 2015 in the:
- (a) Melbourne Youth Justice Centre in Parkville; and
 - (b) Malmsbury Youth Justice Centre.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Data relating to employees employed by the Department of Health and Human Services in 2014-15, including fixed term and casual employees for youth justice is available in the Department’s Annual Report.

Families and children

- 5268. MS CROZIER** — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to youth diversion programs:
- (a) what youth diversion programs were operating as at 22 March 2016;
 - (b) what pilot programs were operating as at 22 March 2016 and dates they conclude;
 - (c) what programs have ceased since December 2014; and
 - (d) what were the total funds expended on youth diversion programs from December 2014 to 22 March 2016.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Andrews Labor Government has not discontinued funding for any youth diversion program since December 2014.

By contrast, the previous Coalition government cut funding for 20 youth justice workers in 2014.

The Youth Support Service, Youth Justice Bail Supervision and Youth Justice Group Conferencing programs operate to divert a young person from more intensive supervisory court outcomes by raising their understanding of the impact of their offending on the victim and further supporting the young person.

In June 2015, a Youth Diversion Pilot Program commenced in seven Children’s Court locations around the State. The program allows children to undertake a suitable diversion activity and avoid a criminal record. A further pilot will soon commence at the Melbourne Children’s Court.

In addition to this, the Andrews Labor Government’s 2016-17 State Budget provides \$6.73 million for a state-wide youth diversion program to help continue to reduce youth offending and further progression into the criminal justice system.

This also follows the Government’s \$1.2 million in funding for a program to divert Aboriginal young people from the youth justice system.

Families and children

5271. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: How much new money was allocated for Aboriginal cultural plan support in 2015.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The 2016-17 State Budget provides \$16.5 million to support Aboriginal children and families. This includes additional cultural support to be provided to Aboriginal children in the out of home care systems by expanding the Aboriginal Child Specialist Advice and Support Services and ensuring children have a cultural support plan.

Consumer affairs, gaming and liquor regulation

5275. MS HARTLAND — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Consumer Affairs, Gaming and Liquor Regulation): In relation to multi-terminal gambling devices, including automated or semi-automated ‘table games’ whether virtual or based on an actual table game and which permit multiple users to place bets on the game using a computerised terminal:

- (1) how many are currently operating at Crown Casino;
- (2) when were these devices approved by VCGLR (or VCGR) for use at Crown Casino;
- (3) what games can be played on these devices;
- (4) how many connect to an actual table game;
- (5) how many operate electronic games;
- (6) are there any betting limits on these devices;
- (7) what is the ‘spin rate’ or the rate between games;
- (8) on what basis was approval of these devices granted;
- (9) what is the average loss per session incurred by users operating these devices at Crown Casino;
- (10) what is the average session length for users of these devices at Crown Casino;
- (11) what are the demographic characteristics of users of these devices in respect to gender, age and any other information available;
- (12) are these devices generally associated with greater risk to gambling patrons than other forms of gambling at Crown Casino or elsewhere;
- (13) have any applications been submitted by any pubs or clubs to install these devices; and
- (14) if so, which venue/s and how many devices.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

(1)–(14)

Details for fully-automated table games and semi-automated table games are outlined on the Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation website at

<http://www.vcglr.vic.gov.au/home/gambling/existing+licensees/crown+casino>

Additional information for the fully-automated table games and semi-automated table games is available at <http://www.crownmelbourne.com.au/casino/casino-games>.

Consumer affairs, gaming and liquor regulation

5276. MS HARTLAND — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Consumer Affairs, Gaming and Liquor Regulation): In relation to multi-terminal gambling devices, which are automated or semi-automated ‘table games’, whether virtual or based on an actual table game such as roulette, which permit multiple users to place bets on the game using a computerised terminal:

- (1) do any of these devices at Crown Casino permit users to gamble on more than one game concurrently;
- (2) if so, how many games concurrently;
- (3) are there any betting limits on these concurrent multi-game devices;
- (4) what is the ‘spin rate’ or the rate between games;
- (5) when were concurrent multi-game devices approved for use at the Casino;
- (6) on what basis was approval of these multi-game devices granted;
- (7) what is the average loss per session incurred by users operating these concurrent multi-game devices at Crown Casino;
- (8) what is the average session length for users of these concurrent multi-game devices Crown Casino;
- (9) what are the demographic characteristics of users of these multi-game devices in respect to gender, age and any other information available;
- (10) are these concurrent multi-game devices generally associated with greater risk to gambling patrons than other forms of gambling at Crown Casino or elsewhere;
- (11) have any applications been submitted by any pubs or clubs to install these concurrent multi game devices; and
- (12) if so, which venue/s and how many devices.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

(1)–(12)

I refer the Member to the response at question number LC5275.

Consumer affairs, gaming and liquor regulation

5277. MS HARTLAND — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Consumer Affairs, Gaming and Liquor Regulation): In relation to all multi-terminal gambling devices, whether they be single game or concurrent multi-game devices, in approving their installation and use at Crown Casino:

- (1) what process was undertaken by the Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation (VCGLR);
- (2) what technical detail was considered by the VCGLR;
- (3) what research or inquiries were undertaken by VCGLR in determining the suitability, risk of harm, and likely effect on problem gamblers and problem gambling when undertaking the approval process for both single and multi-game devices;
- (4) was data provided by Crown Casino to the VCGLR during consideration of the approval process;
- (5) is approval of multi-game/concurrent devices for use at Crown Casino conditional, provisional or temporary;
 - (a) if so, on what grounds would full approval be granted for use of such devices;

- (6) is the VCGLR monitoring or evaluating the operation of these devices;
 - (a) If so, what data are being captured to permit evaluation; and
 - (b) If so, on what basis would VCGLR make any decisions around continued operation of these devices.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

(1)–(6)

I refer the Member to the response at question number LC5275

Attorney-General

5278. MS PENNICUIK — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Attorney-General): Given the rise of women in Victorian prisons by 25 per cent in the past five years, and that many are in prison on short sentences which will mean the loss of any accommodation they may have, their children, and employment, and that many have backgrounds of family violence and sexual abuse as well as having a drug and/or alcohol addiction, what action is being undertaken to ensure magistrates and other judicial officers receive ongoing education about the particular context of female offending, including sentencing impacts on children.

ANSWER:

I am informed:

The Judicial College of Victoria (JCV) is the statutory body charged with the responsibility of providing education for judicial and quasi-judicial (tribunal) officers in Victoria. JCV ensures that these officers remain abreast of developments in the law, are able to respond to modern challenges of judging, and respond to the needs of Victoria’s socially and culturally diverse community.

JCV conducts a range of programs designed to educate judicial officers about the issues that lead to, and surround, offending, including issues particular to female offending.

The JCV also produces a range of bench books for judicial officers, including the Sentencing Manual, which is available online at judicialcollegevic.edu.au. The Manual contains information on the relevance of gender to sentencing and when hardship is a relevant consideration in sentencing, and provides examples of circumstances where family hardship may be taken into account.

In relation to sentencing impacts on children, the Magistrates’ Court is aware of the hardship that children experience from the incarceration of their parent. The Court has advised that matters pertaining to children which are raised in bail applications and pleas, are given appropriate weight by magistrates. Generally, arrangements are already in-place for the care of children by the time sole parents come before the Court.

Consumer affairs, gaming and liquor regulation

5280. MS HARTLAND — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Consumer Affairs, Gaming and Liquor Regulation): In relation to multi terminal gambling devices, including both automated or semi-automated ‘table games’ —

- (1) what is the minimum return to player rate; and
- (2) on devices where multiple games can be bet on concurrently, what is the minimum return to player rate on each game.

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

(1)-(2)

I refer the Member to the response at question number LC5275.

Health

5295. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): In relation to the Department of Health and Human Services 2014-15 annual report, page 182 Note 5(a) shows that employee expenses were \$162.3 million in 2014 and \$662.3 million in 2015, an increase of \$500 million. What is an accurate, comparable 2015 figure of the employee expenses before the DHHS restructure.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The \$162.3 million in 2014 is in respect to the former Department of Health only. An accurate, comparable 2015 figure would be one that includes the departments that are now amalgamated under the Department of Health and Human Services.

Health

5296. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): In relation to the Department of Health and Human Services 2014-15 annual report, page 182 Note 5(c) shows the Department of Treasury and Finance debt liability interest expense is seen to be \$10.2 million. What does the debt liability interest relate to.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Department of Treasury and Finance debt liability interest relates to the Director of Housing's debt portfolio, which was centralised in 1997-98 by the State's Treasurer.

Health

5298. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): In relation to the Department of Health and Human Services 2014-15 annual report, page 182 Note 5(e) which shows that administrative costs were \$89.3 million in 2014 and \$164.1 million in 2015, an increase of \$74.8 million —

- (a) why was there a 83.8% increase; and
- (b) if the increase was due to machinery of government changes, which changes does the increase relate to.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (a) The administrative costs referred to at Note 5(e) of the Department of Health and Human Services 2014-15 annual report are not comparable due to machinery of government changes which incorporate the Department of Human Services effective from 1 January 2015.
- (b) The costs are not comparable.

Health

5299. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): In relation to the Department of Health and Human Services 2014-15 annual report, page 183 Note 5(f); why did the following health services receive less Grants and other expense transfers in 2015, compared with 2014 —

- (a) Dental Health Services Victoria;
- (b) Eastern Health;
- (c) Melbourne Health;
- (d) Peter MacCallum Cancer Institute;
- (e) Alfred Health;
- (f) Barwon Health;
- (g) Peninsula Health;
- (h) Austin Health;
- (i) Bendigo Health Care Group;
- (j) Western Health;
- (k) Latrobe Regional Hospital;
- (l) Northern Health;
- (m) South West Healthcare;
- (n) Kilmore and District Hospital;
- (o) East Wimmera Health Service;
- (p) Western District Health Service;
- (q) Hepburn Health Services;
- (r) Northeast Health Wangaratta;
- (s) Numurkah District Health Service;
- (t) Kerang District Health;
- (u) Wimmera Health Care Group; and
- (v) Yarrawonga Health.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (a) Dental Health Services Victoria received less funding because of the reduction in Commonwealth funding associated with the National Partnership Agreement on Adult Public Dental Services (\$21.5m) offset by the 2013-14 carryover and the 2014-15 indexation on the state component.
- (b-u) Under the National Health Reform Agreement, activity based funding is reported through the department’s administered entity. Note 23(b) on page 224 of the department’s Annual Report contains details of grants and transfers paid through the Administered Entity. When these funds are combined with the grants and expenses transfers paid directly by the department all health services received additional funding in 2014-15 compared with 2013-14. Details of each health service are outlined below:

	Agency	2013-14 Funding	2014-15 Funding	Increase	% Increase
b	EASTERN HEALTH	\$646.0	\$672.6	\$26.6	4.1%
c	MELBOURNE HEALTH	\$658.1	\$689.7	\$31.6	4.8%
d	PETER MACCALLUM CANCER INSTITUTE	\$149.9	\$157.0	\$7.1	4.7%
e	ALFRED HEALTH	\$673.9	\$690.3	\$16.4	2.4%
f	BARWON HEALTH	\$413.8	\$428.9	\$15.1	3.6%
g	PENINSULA HEALTH	\$379.7	\$393.8	\$14.1	3.7%

	Agency	2013-14 Funding	2014-15 Funding	Increase	% Increase
h	AUSTIN HEALTH	\$560.8	\$566.2	\$5.4	1.0%
i	BENDIGO HEALTH CARE GROUP	\$236.8	\$242.1	\$5.3	2.2%
j	WESTERN HEALTH	\$499.5	\$529.5	\$30.1	6.0%
k	LATROBE REGIONAL HOSPITAL	\$161.8	\$165.8	\$4.0	2.5%
I	NORTHERN HEALTH	\$312.2	\$331.3	\$19.1	6.1%
m	SOUTH WEST HEALTHCARE	\$111.1	\$114.6	\$3.6	3.2%
n	KILMORE AND DISTRICT HOSPITAL	\$10.0	\$10.7	\$0.7	7.0%
o	EAST WIMMERA HEALTH SERVICE	\$9.3	\$10.3	\$1.1	11.8%
p	WESTERN DISTRICT HEALTH SERVICE	\$42.2	\$43.9	\$1.8	4.3%
q	HEPBURN HEALTH SERVICE	\$7.6	\$7.7	\$0.1	1.3%
r	NORTHEAST HEALTH WANGARATTA	\$81.4	\$83.3	\$2.0	2.5%
s	NUMURKAH DISTRICT HEALTH SERVICE	\$6.8	\$7.4	\$0.7	10.3%
t	KERANG & DISTRICT HEALTH	\$5.8	\$5.8	\$0.1	1.7%
u	WIMMERA HEALTH CARE GROUP	\$50.3	\$52.4	\$2.0	4.0%

- (v) The exception is Yarrawonga District Health Service. Yarrawonga District Health Service received less capital funding in 2014-15 compared to 2013-14. If capital funds are excluded, service funding increased from \$7.6m in 2013-14 to \$7.7m in 2014-15 which is an increase of \$0.1m or 1.3%.

Health

5300. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): In relation to the Department of Health and Human Services 2014-15 annual report, page 184 Note 5(f) shows that payments to the Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust were \$19 million in 2014 and \$51.1 million in 2015, an increase of \$32.1 million. Why was there a 168.9 per cent increase.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The payments for 2015 and 2014 to the Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust referred to at Note 5(f) of the Department of Health and Human Services 2014-15 annual report are not comparable due to the machinery of government change that incorporated the former Department of Human Services with effect from 1 January 2015.

Health

5301. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): In relation to the Department of Health and Human Services 2014-15 annual report, page 185 Note 6(a) shows that net gain/loss on non-financial assets was a loss of \$6.4 million —

- (a) which assets were sold; and
- (b) why were they sold at a loss.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (a) The reported loss is not comparable due to machinery of government changes which created the Department of Health and Human Services.

Health

5302. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): In relation to the Department of Health and Human Services 2014-15 annual report, page 201

Note 15(c) shows that total Provisions increased from \$38.3 million in 2014 to \$67.3 million in 2015. Why was there a 75.7 per cent increase.

ANSWER:

I am informed that: The numbers are not directly comparable due to the machinery of government transfers.

Health

5303. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): In relation to the Department of Health and Human Services 2014-15 annual report, page 216 Note 21(e) lists \$6.9 million in Contingent Liabilities. ‘The Department of Health and Human Services has estimated that potential liability exists in respect of a number of legal actions instigated by clients and their representatives, employees and others, and other contractual liabilities’ —

- (a) what are the total number of claims;
- (b) what is the nature of each of the claims; and
- (c) how much of the total \$6.9 million was allocated to each of these claims.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- (a) the total number of claims was approximately 120
- (b) The nature of the claims is varied depending on where they sit within the Department of Health and Human Services
- (c) It would be inappropriate to give the dollar value of the contingent liabilities associated with individual claims because to do so would identify those claims by reason of their nature and could unduly place the State at risk in relation to ongoing legal proceedings.

Environment, climate change and water

5305. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water):

- (a) what was the Minister’s ‘Ministerial Office’ air travel expenditure from the beginning of calendar year 1 January 2015 to 29 February 2016; and
- (b) what is the breakdown of that expenditure, including but not limited to, flight locations, individual cost and type of class (i.e. first, premium economy or economy) of travel undertaken.

ANSWER:

I refer the Member to my previous answers to questions LC 1592 to LC 1599.

Treasurer

5306. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Treasurer):

- (a) what was the Minister’s ‘Ministerial Office’ air travel expenditure from the beginning of calendar year 1 January 2015 to 29 February 2016; and
- (b) what is the breakdown of that expenditure, including but not limited to, flight locations, individual cost and type of class (i.e. first, premium economy or economy) of travel undertaken.

ANSWER:

I refer the Member to my answer to Question on Notice number 4776.

Planning

5308. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Planning):

- (a) what was the Minister’s ‘Ministerial Office’ air travel expenditure from the beginning of calendar year 1 January 2015 to 29 February 2016; and
- (b) what is the breakdown of that expenditure, including but not limited to, flight locations, individual cost and type of class (i.e. first, premium economy or economy) of travel undertaken.

ANSWER:

I refer the Member to my previous answers to questions LC 1680 to LC 1687.

Industry

5309. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Industry):

- (a) what was the Minister’s ‘Ministerial Office’ air travel expenditure from the beginning of calendar year 1 January 2015 to 29 February 2016; and
- (b) what is the breakdown of that expenditure, including but not limited to, flight locations, individual cost and type of class (i.e. first, premium economy or economy) of travel undertaken.

ANSWER:

See my previous answer for LC4868 and LC4869.

Ports

5313. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Ports):

- (a) what was the Ministers ‘Ministerial Office’ air travel expenditure from beginning of Calendar year 1 January 2015 to 29 February 2016?, and
- (b) what was the breakdown of that expenditure, including but not limited to, flight locations, individual cost and type of class (First, Premium Economy or Economy) of travel undertaken.

ANSWER:

I refer the Member to my previous answer for LC question 4801.

Finance

5315. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Finance):

- (a) what was the Minister’s ‘Ministerial Office’ air travel expenditure from the beginning of calendar year 1 January 2015 to 29 February 2016; and
- (b) what is the breakdown of that expenditure, including but not limited to, flight locations, individual cost and type of class (i.e. first, premium economy or economy) of travel undertaken.

ANSWER:

I refer the Member to my answer to Question 4810.

Multicultural affairs

5317. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Multicultural Affairs):

- (a) what was the Minister’s ‘Ministerial Office’ air travel expenditure from the beginning of calendar year 1 January 2015 to 29 February 2016; and
- (b) what is the breakdown of that expenditure, including but not limited to, flight locations, individual cost and type of class (i.e. first, premium economy or economy) of travel undertaken.

ANSWER:

I refer the Member to my answer to Question 4810.

Women

5318. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Women):

- (a) what was the Minister’s ‘Ministerial Office’ air travel expenditure from the beginning of calendar year 1 January 2015 to 29 February 2016; and
- (b) what is the breakdown of that expenditure, including but not limited to, flight locations, individual cost and type of class (i.e. first, premium economy or economy) of travel undertaken.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Flights required to perform ministerial responsibilities are factored into the budget allocations to Departments. Department expenditure is public in their Annual Report. Guidelines for the use of flights are outlined in the Victorian Public Section Travel Principles, which is available online.

Training and skills

5322. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills:

- (a) what was the Minister’s ‘Ministerial Office’ air travel expenditure from the beginning of calendar year 1 January 2015 to 29 February 2016; and
- (b) what is the breakdown of that expenditure, including but not limited to, flight locations, individual cost and type of class (i.e. first, premium economy or economy) of travel undertaken.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

I refer the Member to my previous answers for LC4736, LC4737 and LC4811.

Prevention of family violence

5323. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Prevention of Family Violence):

- (a) what was the Minister’s ‘Ministerial Office’ air travel expenditure from the beginning of calendar year 1 January 2015 to 29 February 2016; and
- (b) what is the breakdown of that expenditure, including but not limited to, flight locations, individual cost and type of class (i.e. first, premium economy or economy) of travel undertaken.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Flights required to perform ministerial responsibilities are factored into the budget allocations to Departments. Department expenditure is public in their Annual Report. Guidelines for the use of flights are outlined in the Victorian Public Section Travel Principles, which is available online.

Sport

5324. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Sport):

- (a) what was the Minister's 'Ministerial Office' air travel expenditure from the beginning of calendar year 1 January 2015 to 29 February 2016; and
- (b) what is the breakdown of that expenditure, including but not limited to, flight locations, individual cost and type of class (i.e. first, premium economy or economy) of travel undertaken.

ANSWER:

I am informed that: I refer the Member to previous tabled responses 1488-1495.

Veterans

5325. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Veterans):

- (a) what was the Minister's 'Ministerial Office' air travel expenditure from the beginning of calendar year 1 January 2015 to 29 February 2016; and
- (b) what is the breakdown of that expenditure, including but not limited to, flight locations, individual cost and type of class (i.e. first, premium economy or economy) of travel undertaken.

ANSWER:

I am informed that: I refer the Member to previous tabled responses 1488-1495.

Families and children

5328. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Families and Children:

- (a) what was the Minister's 'Ministerial Office' air travel expenditure from the beginning of calendar year 1 January 2015 to 29 February 2016; and
- (b) what is the breakdown of that expenditure, including but not limited to, flight locations, individual cost and type of class (i.e. first, premium economy or economy) of travel undertaken.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

I refer the Member to my response to Question on Notice 4785. All international travel has been disclosed on the departmental website.

Attorney-General

5329. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Attorney-General):

- (a) what was the Minister's 'Ministerial Office' air travel expenditure from the beginning of calendar year 1 January 2015 to 29 February 2016; and
- (b) what is the breakdown of that expenditure, including but not limited to, flight locations, individual cost and type of class (i.e. first, premium economy or economy) of travel undertaken.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

I refer the Member to my previous answers LC4778 and LC4779.

Racing

5330. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Racing):

- (a) what was the Minister's 'Ministerial Office' air travel expenditure from the beginning of calendar year 1 January 2015 to 29 February 2016; and
- (b) what is the breakdown of that expenditure, including but not limited to, flight locations, individual cost and type of class (i.e. first, premium economy or economy) of travel undertaken.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

I refer the Member to my previous answers LC4847 and LC4848.

Police

5331. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Police):

- (a) what was the Minister's 'Ministerial Office' air travel expenditure from the beginning of calendar year 1 January 2015 to 29 February 2016; and
- (b) what is the breakdown of that expenditure, including but not limited to, flight locations, individual cost and type of class (i.e. first, premium economy or economy) of travel undertaken.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Flights required to perform ministerial responsibilities are factored into the budget allocated to Departments. Department expenditure is published in their Annual Report. Guidelines for the use of flights are outlined in the Victorian Public Sector Principles, which is available online.

Corrections

5332. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Corrections):

- (a) what was the Minister's 'Ministerial Office' air travel expenditure from the beginning of calendar year 1 January 2015 to 29 February 2016; and
- (b) what is the breakdown of that expenditure, including but not limited to, flight locations, individual cost and type of class (i.e. first, premium economy or economy) of travel undertaken.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Flights required to perform ministerial responsibilities are factored into the budget allocated to Departments. Department expenditure is published in their Annual Report. Guidelines for the use of flights are outlined in the Victorian Public Sector Principles, which is available online.

Energy and resources

5334. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Energy and Resources):

- (a) what was the Minister’s ‘Ministerial Office’ air travel expenditure from the beginning of calendar year 1 January 2015 to 29 February 2016; and
- (b) what is the breakdown of that expenditure, including but not limited to, flight locations, individual cost and type of class (i.e. first, premium economy or economy) of travel undertaken.

ANSWER:

See my previous answer for LC4803 and LC4804.

Consumer affairs, gaming and liquor regulation

5337. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Consumer Affairs, Gaming and Liquor Regulation):

- (a) what was the Minister’s ‘Ministerial Office’ air travel expenditure from the beginning of calendar year 1 January 2015 to 29 February 2016; and
- (b) what is the breakdown of that expenditure, including but not limited to, flight locations, individual cost and type of class (i.e. first, premium economy or economy) of travel undertaken.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

I refer the Member to my previous answers LC4792 and LC4793.

Emergency services

5338. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Emergency Services):

- (a) what was the Minister’s ‘Ministerial Office’ air travel expenditure from the beginning of calendar year 1 January 2015 to 29 February 2016; and
- (b) what is the breakdown of that expenditure, including but not limited to, flight locations, individual cost and type of class (i.e. first, premium economy or economy) of travel undertaken.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

I refer the Member to my previous answers LC4814 and LC4815.

Roads and road safety

5341. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister of Roads and Road Safety):

- (a) what was the Minister’s ‘Ministerial Office’ air travel expenditure from the beginning of calendar year 1 January 2015 to 29 February 2016; and
- (b) what is the breakdown of that expenditure, including but not limited to, flight locations, individual cost and type of class (i.e. first, premium economy or economy) of travel undertaken.

ANSWER:

I refer the Member to my previous answer for LC question 4800.

Youth affairs

5342. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Youth Affairs:

- (a) what was the Minister's 'Ministerial Office' air travel expenditure from the beginning of calendar year 1 January 2015 to 29 February 2016; and
- (b) what is the breakdown of that expenditure, including but not limited to, flight locations, individual cost and type of class (i.e. first, premium economy or economy) of travel undertaken.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

I refer the Member to my response to Question on Notice 4785. All international travel has been disclosed on the departmental website.

Environment, climate change and water

5346. MS PENNICUIK — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water): How many protected bird species have been shot on Victorian wetlands since the opening of the 2016 duck shooting season.

ANSWER:

The matters raised fall within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for Agriculture. The member will need to redirect her question to the Hon Jaala Pulford.

Environment, climate change and water

5347. MS PENNICUIK — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Environment and Climate Change): How many prosecutions for the shooting of protected bird species have been initiated since the opening of the 2016 duck shooting season.

ANSWER:

The matters raised fall within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for Agriculture. The member will need to redirect her question to the Hon Jaala Pulford.

Premier

5378. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): In relation to the multi-agency taskforce established by the Premier and Acting Minister for Police to investigate the increase in gang activity and youth violence involving gangs with multicultural membership:

- (1) What short term measures has this multi-agency taskforce taken to address the escalating violence of gangs with multicultural membership such as the Apex gang.
- (2) What are the medium and long term measures planned to address the violent activities of gangs with multicultural membership such as the Apex gang.

ANSWER:

The Government has made it clear that we will give Police the powers and resources they need to crack down on serious crime.

We have invested \$596 million in this year's Budget to recruit an additional 406 sworn police. This includes 30 additional members of the Anti-Gang division and 40 new members to the Public Order Response Team.

Police have established Taskforce Tense to target gangs breaking into homes to steal car keys at night, and Operation Cosmas, focused on gangs that cross regional boundaries. Police are working around the clock to bring people engaging in gang related crime to justice.

We are absolutely committed to coordinating resources across Government to keep Victoria safe.

Premier

5379. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor's Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Bendigo East electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5380. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor's Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Mulgrave electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5381. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor's Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Pascoe Vale electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5382. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor's Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Bundoora electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5383. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Sunbury electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5384. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Ivanhoe electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5385. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Niddrie electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5386. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Geelong electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5387. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Mill Park electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5388. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Oakleigh electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5389. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Narre Warren North electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5390. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Frankston electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5391. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Bendigo West electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5392. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Lara electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5393. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Albert Park electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5394. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Brunswick electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5395. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Narre Warren South electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5396. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Yan Yean electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5397. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Thomastown electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5398. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Altona electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5399. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Buninyong electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5400. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Sydenham electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5401. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Kororoit electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5402. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Carrum electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5403. **MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Wendouree electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5404. **MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Tarneit electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5405. **MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Clarinda electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5406. **MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Broadmeadows electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5407. **MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Monbulk electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5408. **MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Melton electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5409. **MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Bellarine electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5410. **MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Williamstown electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5411. **MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Keysborough electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5412. **MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Werribee electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5413. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Essendon electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5414. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Cranbourne electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5415. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Northcote electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5416. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Mordialloc electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5417. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Preston electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5418. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Yuroke electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5419. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Bentleigh electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5420. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 St Albans electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5421. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Macedon electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5422. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor’s Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Footscray electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5423. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor's Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Eltham electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5424. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor's Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Dandenong electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

Premier

5425. MRS PEULICH — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Were any of Labor's Community Action Network staff for the 2014 Richmond electorate election campaign partly paid by the Parliament of Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

This question does not appear to relate to a matter falling within my portfolio responsibilities.

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.

Wednesday, 25 May 2016

Environment, climate change and water

4955. MS SPRINGLE — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water): In relation to the impact of plastic shopping bags in Victoria:

- (1) If the government has the figures, how many plastic shopping bags did Victorians consume in the following years —
 - (a) 2015;
 - (b) 2014;
 - (c) 2013;
 - (d) 2012;
 - (e) 2011; and
 - (f) 2010.
- (2) If so, how are these figures obtained.

ANSWER:

The Government does not have figures for the number of plastic shopping bags consumed specifically in Victoria between 2010 and 2015.

Plastic bags pose a threat to our environment, contaminate our recycling streams and choke up our landfill. Plastic bags also pose a significant risk to the environment, particularly marine life, with a recent Federal Senate inquiry hearing there are billions of pieces of visible plastic in Australian waters.

Approximately 7-8 billion plastic bags are consumed nationally each year.

We are working with Queensland and NSW to explore the best consistent national approach to implement a ban on plastic bags. It is important to get the balance right for the environment, customers and retailers.

Environment, climate change and water

4956. MS SPRINGLE — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water): In relation to the impact of plastic shopping bags in Victoria:

- (1) If the government has the figures, how many plastic shopping bags were recycled in Victoria in the following years —
 - (a) 2015;
 - (b) 2014;
 - (c) 2013;
 - (d) 2012;
 - (e) 2011; and
 - (f) 2010.
- (2) If so, how are these figures obtained.

ANSWER:

The Government does not have figures for the number of plastic shopping bags recycled in Victoria between 2010 and 2015.

Plastic bags pose a threat to our environment, contaminate our recycling streams and choke up our landfill. Plastic bags also pose a significant risk to the environment, particularly marine life, with a recent Federal Senate inquiry hearing there are billions of pieces of visible plastic in Australian waters.

Approximately 7-8 billion plastic bags are consumed nationally each year.

We are working with Queensland and NSW to explore the best consistent national approach to implement a ban on plastic bags. It is important to get the balance right for the environment, customers and retailers.

Environment, climate change and water

4957. MS SPRINGLE — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water): In relation to the impact of plastic shopping bags in Victoria:

- (1) If the government has the figures, how many plastic shopping bags ended up in landfill in the following years —
 - (a) 2015;
 - (b) 2014;
 - (c) 2013;
 - (d) 2012;
 - (e) 2011; and
 - (f) 2010.
- (2) If so, how are these figures obtained.

ANSWER:

The Government does not have figures for the number of plastic shopping bags that ended up in Victorian landfills between 2010 and 2015.

Plastic bags pose a threat to our environment, contaminate our recycling streams and choke up our landfill. Plastic bags also pose a significant risk to the environment, particularly marine life, with a recent Federal Senate inquiry hearing there are billions of pieces of visible plastic in Australian waters.

Approximately 7-8 billion plastic bags are consumed nationally each year.

We are working with Queensland and NSW to explore the best consistent national approach to implement a ban on plastic bags. It is important to get the balance right for the environment, customers and retailers.

Environment, climate change and water

5050. MS HARTLAND — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water): In relation to water and sewerage concessions in the 2014-15 financial year —

- (1) how many people received a water and sewerage concession in Victoria;
- (2) what number and/or percentage of these recipients were granted a concession due to possession of a Health Card;
- (3) what number and/or percentage of these recipients were granted a concession due to possession of a Pensioner Concession Card;
- (4) what number and/or percentage of these recipients were granted a concession due to possession of a DVA Gold Card; and

- (5) what were the demographics of water and sewerage recipients in relation to:
- (a) age;
 - (b) gender;
 - (c) marital status;
 - (d) country of birth (top Ten Countries);
 - (e) language spoken at home;
 - (f) home ownership;
 - (g) rental status;
 - (h) low income earners; and
 - (i) income support type.

ANSWER:

Information regarding to water and sewerage concessions in provided in the Department of Health Services annual report which is on their website:

<http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/about-the-department/our-organisation/annual-reports>

Environment, climate change and water

5052. MS HARTLAND — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water): In relation to water and sewerage concessions, what was the total Victorian budget expenditure on provisions of this water and sewerage concessions in each of the following financial years —

- (a) 2009-10;
- (b) 2010-11;
- (c) 2011-12;
- (d) 2012-13;
- (e) 2013-14; and
- (f) 2014-15.

ANSWER:

The total budget expenditure on water and sewerage concessions by concession type are provided on the Department of Health Services website:

<http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/about-the-department/documents-and-resources/reports-publications/department-of-health-and-human-services-concessions-2014-15>

Roads and road safety

5140. MS HARTLAND — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Roads and Road Safety): In relation to the new Bell street to Pascoe Vale road bridge proposal associated with the CityLink-Tulla widening —

- (1) did the government consider any other options for the placement of the bridge or the management of traffic taking this route;
- (2) if so, please detail what these options are and why were these are not preferred by the government;
- (3) how much were these alternative approaches estimated to cost to construct; and
- (4) how much is the current bridge proposed estimated to cost to construct.

ANSWER:

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

- (1) Alternative options were considered.
- (2) Alternative options included modifying the existing Bell Street bridge or changing the position of the new bridge. These options would not allow for safe traffic weaving distances, would require drivers to continue to make a dangerous left-hand merge and would not improve the congestion that occurs with freeway-bound traffic banking back onto Bell Street. The existing bridge, ramps, vertical geometry and the locations of each road connection means there are a number of constraints to the new bridge design. In addition, there are certain requirements such as merge distances and site distances that are detailed in codes and standards that must be met. Designers have taken these constraints and requirements into account in development of the final design, resulting in the alignment of the bridge in the limited space available. The new bridge is the best option for addressing the safety and traffic congestion issues at the Bell Street intersection. The new bridge will separate freeway bound traffic from Pascoe Vale Road bound traffic, reducing the weaving that currently happens. It will also increase ramp storage, meaning that vehicles will enter the freeway quicker and not affect local streets. The positioning of the bridge ensures that it meets the strict road safety requirements that all roads in Victoria must adhere to.
- (3) The Bell Street bridge alternative approaches were estimated to cost approximately \$30 to 40 million.
- (4) The current Bell Street bridge to be built as part of the CityLink Tulla Widening Project is estimated to cost approximately \$20 million, but cost was not the overall driver of this outcome. Rather, safety and congestion issues drove the final design.

Roads and road safety

5141. MS HARTLAND — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Roads and Road Safety): In relation to the new Bell Street to Pascoe Vale Road bridge proposal associated with the CityLink-Tulla widening, if the current route goes ahead —

- (1) what safety barriers and measures will be put in place given the bridge comes within meters of classrooms and the school ground; and
- (2) will the government guarantee that no vehicle, truck load or road debris will ever land on Strathmore Secondary College classrooms, grounds or playing fields.

ANSWER:

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

- (1) The safety barriers on the bridge are designed in accordance with the relevant Australian Standards, in particular AS5100 (Bridge Design) to ensure the safety of road users and the community.
- (2) The containment barriers on the bridge meet VicRoads' high standards for a road of this nature, and are designed to ensure the safety of road users and the community. VicRoads advises me that the bridge design has been thoroughly reviewed and is an appropriate structure in this location. As part of the works, bridge barriers (including noise barriers and safety barriers), which range in total height from two to three metres will be provided over the length of the bridge adjacent to the school.

Roads and road safety

5142. MS HARTLAND — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Roads and Road Safety): In relation to the new Bell Street to Pascoe Vale Road bridge proposal associated with the CityLink-Tulla widening, if the current route goes ahead —

- (1) will the construction of the road encroach onto the school land;

- (2) will construction occur during school hours, if so;
 - (a) how does the Government anticipate students will cope with the noise associated with construction of an elevated road within meters of classrooms;
 - (b) what will the Government do if the construction impacts on students studies and learning ability due to noise, vibrations, dust and the general distraction;
 - (c) will the students be relocated off site during construction; and
 - (d) how will the school be compensated for costs associated with managing any student relocation and other impacts

ANSWER:

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

- (1) Construction of the road does not require any land from the school and will not intrude over the boundary.
- (2) VicRoads is working with the school and the education department to minimise the disruption to classes that results from the works. At times when certain construction works are incompatible with outdoor classes or the type of work students are expected to undertake at that time (such as exams), VicRoads will work with the school to identify where such classes or activities can be relocated. VicRoads has offered to support the school with funding and logistical assistance to ensure such relocations can be undertaken effectively and with minimal disruption to the normal school timetable.
 - (a) Modelling shows noise and air pollution will be no more than it currently is. These results have been shared with the school and are available on the VicRoads website. During construction, VicRoads and the project contractors will work with the school to address any issues the construction works may cause during school hours.
 - (b) VicRoads is in discussions with the Department of Education and Training about how to ensure that the students' learning environment is maintained and the impacts of construction activities can be mitigated. These discussions will continue during the entire project period.
 - (c) There are no current plans to relocate students off-site during construction. However, to mitigate the impacts of construction activities on the learning environment, VicRoads will continue to discuss a number of options with the school, which may involve temporary relocation of certain classes or activities. However, any such relocations would only occur with the full support of the school.
 - (d) The costs of any temporary relocation would be discussed by VicRoads and the school as part of any decision to implement temporary relocations.

Roads and road safety

5143. MS HARTLAND — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Roads and Road Safety): In relation to the AECOM air quality Assessment of the CityLink Tulla widening —

- (1) how can data from an air quality measuring station in Footscray credibly be extrapolated to model background air quality conditions at the Bulla Road end of the project, given it is some 10 km away and subject to very different local conditions in terms of weather patterns, industry, roads and traffic;
- (2) will the Government begin monitoring air pollution at the school now, during the construction phase and when the new bridge is built to establish the actual exposure students at the school to air pollution; and
- (3) if so, will the Government make the hour by hour data publically available on the EPA website.

ANSWER:

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

- (1) Air quality information from Footscray was used, as Footscray is the nearest Environment Protection Authority (EPA) Victoria monitoring station to the project. It is worth noting that the Footscray site is located close to the port industrial area, as well as the Melbourne CBD, so measured levels at this site are expected to be higher than those likely at Bulla Road. As such, its use in the model is considered conservative.
- (2) There is no need to monitor air pollution at the school, given the above.
- (3) There is no need to make hour-by-hour data publically available on the EPA website, given the above.

Roads and road safety

5144. MS HARTLAND — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Roads and Road Safety): In relation to the AECOM air quality Assessment of the CityLink Tulla widening:

- (1) why did the air pollution modelling not consider PM2.5, the most deadly form of particulate matter; and
- (2) why did it not consider photochemical oxidants (as ozone), sulfur dioxide and lead, pollutants that Victoria is required to report on in relation to traffic air pollution in accordance with the National Environment Protection Council (ambient Air Quality) measure.

ANSWER:

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

- (1) PM2.5 is a subset of PM10, which was measured. The emissions of PM2.5 cannot exceed that of PM10. Therefore, because the PM10 levels did not exceed the PM2.5 standard, the PM2.5 levels would not be exceeded. As such, PM2.5 was not originally modelled. A review of modelling data shows that PM10 emissions at Strathmore Secondary College would be approximately 25 per cent lower than the reported maximums in the model. This is because the maximum receptors are generally the receptors nearest to the designated section of highway, and the school is set back from the freeway compared to other receptors.
- (2) Ozone was not considered because it is not emitted from vehicles during the combustion of vehicle fuel. Sulfur dioxide was not measured because the Environment Protection Authority Victoria report Future air quality in Victoria (2013) identified that sulfur dioxide concentrations were “extremely low in Melbourne, and this is expected to remain the case”. The allowable sulfur content in fuel standards legislated by the Federal Government has and will continue to decrease with time. Lead was not measured because it was effectively phased out of vehicle fuel on 1 January 2002 by the Federal Government.

Aboriginal affairs

5336. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs):

- (a) what was the Minister’s ‘Ministerial Office’ air travel expenditure from the beginning of calendar year 1 January 2015 to 29 February 2016; and
- (b) what is the breakdown of that expenditure, including but not limited to, flight locations, individual cost and type of class (i.e. first, premium economy or economy) of travel undertaken.

ANSWER:

Flights required to perform ministerial responsibilities are factored into the budget allocated to Departments. Department expenditure is published in their Annual Report. Guidelines for the use of flights are outlined in the Victorian Public Sector Travel Principles, which is available online.

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, 26 May 2016

Public transport

5190. **MR MORRIS** — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the average number of passengers on V/Line Ballarat-Melbourne (including Wendouree) line services for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line patronage data is reported in V/Line's annual report.

Public transport

5191. **MR MORRIS** — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the average number of passengers on V/Line Ararat-Melbourne (via Ballarat) line services for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;

- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line patronage data is reported in V/Line's annual report.

Public transport

5192. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the average number of passengers on V/Line Maryborough-Melbourne (via Ballarat and Castlemaine) line services for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line patronage data is reported in V/Line's annual report.

Public transport

5193. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the average number of passengers on V/Line Bendigo-Melbourne line services for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;

- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line patronage data is reported in V/Line's annual report.

Public transport

5194. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the average number of passengers on V/Line Swan Hill-Melbourne line services for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line patronage data is reported in V/Line's annual report.

Public transport

5195. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the average number of passengers on V/Line Echuca-Melbourne line services for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line patronage data is reported in V/Line's annual report.

Public transport

5196. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the average number of passengers on V/Line Warrnambool-Melbourne line services for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line patronage data is reported in V/Line's annual report.

Public transport

5197. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the average number of passengers on V/Line Geelong-Melbourne line services for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line patronage data is reported in V/Line's annual report.

Public transport

- 5198. MR MORRIS** — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the average number of passengers on V/Line Traralgon-Melbourne line services for the month of:
- (a) January 2015;
 - (b) February 2015;
 - (c) March 2015;
 - (d) April 2015;
 - (e) May 2015;
 - (f) June 2015;
 - (g) July 2015;
 - (h) August 2015;
 - (i) September 2015;
 - (j) October 2015;
 - (k) November 2015;
 - (l) December 2015;
 - (m) January 2016;
 - (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line patronage data is reported in V/Line's annual report.

Public transport

- 5199. MR MORRIS** — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the average number of passengers on V/Line Bairnsdale-Melbourne (via Sale, Traralgon & Warragul) line services for the month of:
- (a) January 2015;
 - (b) February 2015;
 - (c) March 2015;
 - (d) April 2015;
 - (e) May 2015;
 - (f) June 2015;
 - (g) July 2015;
 - (h) August 2015;
 - (i) September 2015;
 - (j) October 2015;
 - (k) November 2015;
 - (l) December 2015;
 - (m) January 2016;
 - (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line patronage data is reported in V/Line's annual report.

Public transport

- 5200. MR MORRIS** — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the average number of passengers on V/Line Seymour-Melbourne line services for the month of:
- (a) January 2015;
 - (b) February 2015;
 - (c) March 2015;
 - (d) April 2015;
 - (e) May 2015;
 - (f) June 2015;
 - (g) July 2015;
 - (h) August 2015;
 - (i) September 2015;
 - (j) October 2015;
 - (k) November 2015;
 - (l) December 2015;
 - (m) January 2016;
 - (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line patronage data is reported in V/Line's annual report.

Public transport

- 5201. MR MORRIS** — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the average number of passengers on V/Line Albury/Wodonga-Melbourne (via Wangaratta, Benalla and Seymour) line services for the month of:
- (a) January 2015;
 - (b) February 2015;
 - (c) March 2015;
 - (d) April 2015;
 - (e) May 2015;
 - (f) June 2015;
 - (g) July 2015;
 - (h) August 2015;
 - (i) September 2015;
 - (j) October 2015;
 - (k) November 2015;
 - (l) December 2015;
 - (m) January 2016;
 - (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line patronage data is reported in V/Line's annual report.

Public transport

- 5202. MR MORRIS** — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the average number of passengers on V/Line Shepparton-Melbourne line services for the month of:
- (a) January 2015;
 - (b) February 2015;
 - (c) March 2015;
 - (d) April 2015;
 - (e) May 2015;
 - (f) June 2015;
 - (g) July 2015;
 - (h) August 2015;
 - (i) September 2015;
 - (j) October 2015;
 - (k) November 2015;
 - (l) December 2015;
 - (m) January 2016;
 - (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line patronage data is reported in V/Line's annual report.

Public transport

- 5203. MR MORRIS** — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the average number of seats available on V/Line Ballarat-Melbourne (including Wendouree) line services for the month of:
- (a) January 2015;
 - (b) February 2015;
 - (c) March 2015;
 - (d) April 2015;
 - (e) May 2015;
 - (f) June 2015;
 - (g) July 2015;
 - (h) August 2015;
 - (i) September 2015;
 - (j) October 2015;
 - (k) November 2015;
 - (l) December 2015;
 - (m) January 2016;
 - (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

Each V/Locity three-car set can seat 220 passengers. Some services run as a three car set, and some run as a six car set. In addition to V/Locity trains, there are Sprinters and Classic Fleet locomotives.

Sprinters have 90 seats per car and 180 per two-car set. N-sets have 206 seats per three-car set, 282 per four-car set and 370 seats per five-car set. H-sets have 180 seats per three-car set and 360 seats per six-car set.

Public transport

5204. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the average number of seats available on V/Line Ararat-Melbourne (via Ballarat) line services for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

Each V/Locity three-car set can seat 220 passengers. Some services run as a three car set, and some run as a six car set. In addition to V/Locity trains, there are Sprinters and Classic Fleet locomotives.

Sprinters have 90 seats per car and 180 per two-car set. N-sets have 206 seats per three-car set, 282 per four-car set and 370 seats per five-car set. H-sets have 180 seats per three-car set and 360 seats per six-car set.

Public transport

5205. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the average number of seats available on V/Line Maryborough-Melbourne (via Ballarat and Castlemaine) line services for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;

- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

Each V/Locity three-car set can seat 220 passengers. Some services run as a three car set, and some run as a six car set. In addition to V/Locity trains, there are Sprinters and Classic Fleet locomotives.

Sprinters have 90 seats per car and 180 per two-car set. N-sets have 206 seats per three-car set, 282 per four-car set and 370 seats per five-car set. H-sets have 180 seats per three-car set and 360 seats per six-car set.

Public transport

5206. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the average number of seats available on V/Line Bendigo-Melbourne line services for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

Each V/Locity three-car set can seat 220 passengers. Some services run as a three car set, and some run as a six car set. In addition to V/Locity trains, there are Sprinters and Classic Fleet locomotives.

Sprinters have 90 seats per car and 180 per two-car set. N-sets have 206 seats per three-car set, 282 per four-car set and 370 seats per five-car set. H-sets have 180 seats per three-car set and 360 seats per six-car set.

Public transport

5207. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the average number of seats available on V/Line Swan Hill-Melbourne line services for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;

- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

Each V/Locity three-car set can seat 220 passengers. Some services run as a three car set, and some run as a six car set. In addition to V/Locity trains, there are Sprinters and Classic Fleet locomotives.

Sprinters have 90 seats per car and 180 per two-car set. N-sets have 206 seats per three-car set, 282 per four-car set and 370 seats per five-car set. H-sets have 180 seats per three-car set and 360 seats per six-car set.

Public transport

5208. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the average number of seats available on V/Line Echuca-Melbourne line services for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

Each V/Locity three-car set can seat 220 passengers. Some services run as a three car set, and some run as a six car set. In addition to V/Locity trains, there are Sprinters and Classic Fleet locomotives.

Sprinters have 90 seats per car and 180 per two-car set. N-sets have 206 seats per three-car set, 282 per four-car set and 370 seats per five-car set. H-sets have 180 seats per three-car set and 360 seats per six-car set.

Public transport

5209. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the average number of seats available on V/Line Warrnambool-Melbourne (via Geelong) line services for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;

- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

Each V/Locity three-car set can seat 220 passengers. Some services run as a three car set, and some run as a six car set. In addition to V/Locity trains, there are Sprinters and Classic Fleet locomotives.

Sprinters have 90 seats per car and 180 per two-car set. N-sets have 206 seats per three-car set, 282 per four-car set and 370 seats per five-car set. H-sets have 180 seats per three-car set and 360 seats per six-car set.

Public transport

5210. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the average number of seats available on V/Line Geelong-Melbourne line services for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

Each V/Locity three-car set can seat 220 passengers. Some services run as a three car set, and some run as a six car set. In addition to V/Locity trains, there are Sprinters and Classic Fleet locomotives.

Sprinters have 90 seats per car and 180 per two-car set. N-sets have 206 seats per three-car set, 282 per four-car set and 370 seats per five-car set. H-sets have 180 seats per three-car set and 360 seats per six-car set.

Public transport

- 5211. MR MORRIS** — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the average number of seats available on V/Line Traralgon-Melbourne line services for the month of:
- (a) January 2015;
 - (b) February 2015;
 - (c) March 2015;
 - (d) April 2015;
 - (e) May 2015;
 - (f) June 2015;
 - (g) July 2015;
 - (h) August 2015;
 - (i) September 2015;
 - (j) October 2015;
 - (k) November 2015;
 - (l) December 2015;
 - (m) January 2016;
 - (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

Each V/Locity three-car set can seat 220 passengers. Some services run as a three car set, and some run as a six car set. In addition to V/Locity trains, there are Sprinters and Classic Fleet locomotives.

Sprinters have 90 seats per car and 180 per two-car set. N-sets have 206 seats per three-car set, 282 per four-car set and 370 seats per five-car set. H-sets have 180 seats per three-car set and 360 seats per six-car set.

Public transport

- 5212. MR MORRIS** — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the average number of seats available on V/Line Bairnsdale-Melbourne (via Sale, Traralgon & Warragul) line services for the month of:
- (a) January 2015;
 - (b) February 2015;
 - (c) March 2015;
 - (d) April 2015;
 - (e) May 2015;
 - (f) June 2015;
 - (g) July 2015;
 - (h) August 2015;
 - (i) September 2015;
 - (j) October 2015;
 - (k) November 2015;
 - (l) December 2015;
 - (m) January 2016;
 - (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

Each V/Locity three-car set can seat 220 passengers. Some services run as a three car set, and some run as a six car set. In addition to V/Locity trains, there are Sprinters and Classic Fleet locomotives.

Sprinters have 90 seats per car and 180 per two-car set. N-sets have 206 seats per three-car set, 282 per four-car set and 370 seats per five-car set. H-sets have 180 seats per three-car set and 360 seats per six-car set.

Public transport

5213. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the average number of seats available on V/Line Seymour-Melbourne line services for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

Each V/Locity three-car set can seat 220 passengers. Some services run as a three car set, and some run as a six car set. In addition to V/Locity trains, there are Sprinters and Classic Fleet locomotives.

Sprinters have 90 seats per car and 180 per two-car set. N-sets have 206 seats per three-car set, 282 per four-car set and 370 seats per five-car set. H-sets have 180 seats per three-car set and 360 seats per six-car set.

Public transport

5214. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the average number of seats available on V/Line Albury/Wodonga-Melbourne (via Wangaratta, Benalla and Seymour) line services for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;

- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

Each V/Locity three-car set can seat 220 passengers. Some services run as a three car set, and some run as a six car set. In addition to V/Locity trains, there are Sprinters and Classic Fleet locomotives.

Sprinters have 90 seats per car and 180 per two-car set. N-sets have 206 seats per three-car set, 282 per four-car set and 370 seats per five-car set. H-sets have 180 seats per three-car set and 360 seats per six-car set.

Public transport

5215. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the average number of seats available on V/Line Shepparton-Melbourne line services for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

Each V/Locity three-car set can seat 220 passengers. Some services run as a three car set, and some run as a six car set. In addition to V/Locity trains, there are Sprinters and Classic Fleet locomotives.

Sprinters have 90 seats per car and 180 per two-car set. N-sets have 206 seats per three-car set, 282 per four-car set and 370 seats per five-car set. H-sets have 180 seats per three-car set and 360 seats per six-car set.

Public transport

5216. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): For each time that the V/Line Passenger Count revealed more passengers than seats on the V/Line Ballarat-Melbourne (including Wendouree) line, what was the average seat deficit for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;

- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line publishes a guide to the average capacity on peak trains on its website at www.vline.com.au/About-V-Line/Performance. The guide is based on customer trips during November 2015 and will be updated after the full restoration of train services in mid-2016. The capacity section on the V/Line website shows the best representation of an average month without service disruptions or reductions in patronage due to public holidays.

Public transport

5217. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): For each time that the V/Line Passenger Count revealed more passengers than seats on the V/Line Ararat-Melbourne (via Ballarat) line, what was the average seat deficit for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line publishes a guide to the average capacity on peak trains on its website at www.vline.com.au/About-V-Line/Performance. The guide is based on customer trips during November 2015 and will be updated after the full restoration of train services in mid-2016. The capacity section on the V/Line website shows the best representation of an average month without service disruptions or reductions in patronage due to public holidays.

Public transport

5218. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): For each time that the V/Line Passenger Count revealed more passengers than seats on the V/Line Maryborough-Melbourne (via Ballarat and Castlemaine) line, what was the average seat deficit for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line publishes a guide to the average capacity on peak trains on its website at www.vline.com.au/About-V-Line/Performance. The guide is based on customer trips during November 2015 and will be updated after the full restoration of train services in mid-2016. The capacity section on the V/Line website shows the best representation of an average month without service disruptions or reductions in patronage due to public holidays.

Public transport

5219. MR MORRIS — To ask the for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): For each time that the V/Line Passenger Count revealed more passengers than seats on the V/Line Bendigo-Melbourne line, what was the average seat deficit for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line publishes a guide to the average capacity on peak trains on its website at www.vline.com.au/About-V-Line/Performance. The guide is based on customer trips during November 2015 and will be updated after the full restoration of train services in mid-2016. The capacity section on the V/Line website shows the best representation of an average month without service disruptions or reductions in patronage due to public holidays.

Public transport

5220. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): For each time that the V/Line Passenger Count revealed more passengers than seats on the V/Line Swan Hill-Melbourne line, what was the average seat deficit for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line publishes a guide to the average capacity on peak trains on its website at www.vline.com.au/About-V-Line/Performance. The guide is based on customer trips during November 2015 and will be updated after the full restoration of train services in mid-2016. The capacity section on the V/Line website shows the best representation of an average month without service disruptions or reductions in patronage due to public holidays.

Public transport

5221. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): For each time that the V/Line Passenger Count revealed more passengers than seats on the V/Line Echuca-Melbourne line, what was the average seat deficit for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;

- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line publishes a guide to the average capacity on peak trains on its website at www.vline.com.au/About-V-Line/Performance. The guide is based on customer trips during November 2015 and will be updated after the full restoration of train services in mid-2016. The capacity section on the V/Line website shows the best representation of an average month without service disruptions or reductions in patronage due to public holidays.

Public transport

5222. **MR MORRIS** — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): For each time that the V/Line Passenger Count revealed more passengers than seats on the V/Line Warrnambool-Melbourne (via Geelong) line, what was the average seat deficit for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line publishes a guide to the average capacity on peak trains on its website at www.vline.com.au/About-V-Line/Performance. The guide is based on customer trips during November 2015 and will be updated after the full restoration of train services in mid-2016. The capacity section on the V/Line website shows the best representation of an average month without service disruptions or reductions in patronage due to public holidays.

Public transport

5223. **MR MORRIS** — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): For each time that the V/Line Passenger Count revealed more passengers than seats on the V/Line Geelong-Melbourne line, what was the average seat deficit for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;

- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line publishes a guide to the average capacity on peak trains on its website at www.vline.com.au/About-V-Line/Performance. The guide is based on customer trips during November 2015 and will be updated after the full restoration of train services in mid-2016. The capacity section on the V/Line website shows the best representation of an average month without service disruptions or reductions in patronage due to public holidays.

Public transport

5224. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): For each time that the V/Line Passenger Count revealed more passengers than seats on the V/Line Traralgon-Melbourne line, what was the average seat deficit for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line publishes a guide to the average capacity on peak trains on its website at www.vline.com.au/About-V-Line/Performance. The guide is based on customer trips during November 2015 and will be updated after the full restoration of train services in mid-2016. The capacity section on the V/Line website shows the best representation of an average month without service disruptions or reductions in patronage due to public holidays.

Public transport

5225. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): For each time that the V/Line Passenger Count revealed more passengers than seats on the V/Line Bairnsdale-Melbourne (via Sale, Traralgon & Warragul) line, what was the average seat deficit for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line publishes a guide to the average capacity on peak trains on its website at www.vline.com.au/About-V-Line/Performance. The guide is based on customer trips during November 2015 and will be updated after the full restoration of train services in mid-2016. The capacity section on the V/Line website shows the best representation of an average month without service disruptions or reductions in patronage due to public holidays.

Public transport

5226. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): For each time that the /Line Passenger Count revealed more passengers than seats on the V/Line Seymour-Melbourne line, what was the average seat deficit for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line publishes a guide to the average capacity on peak trains on its website at www.vline.com.au/About-V-Line/Performance. The guide is based on customer trips during November 2015 and will be updated after the full restoration of train services in mid-2016. The capacity section on the V/Line website shows the best representation of an average month without service disruptions or reductions in patronage due to public holidays.

Public transport

5227. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): For each time that the V/Line Albury/Wodonga-Melbourne (via Wangaratta, Benalla and Seymour) line, what was the average seat deficit for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line publishes a guide to the average capacity on peak trains on its website at www.vline.com.au/About-V-Line/Performance. The guide is based on customer trips during November 2015 and will be updated after the full restoration of train services in mid-2016. The capacity section on the V/Line website shows the best representation of an average month without service disruptions or reductions in patronage due to public holidays.

Public transport

5228. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): For each time that the V/Line Shepparton-Melbourne line, what was the average seat deficit for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;

- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line publishes a guide to the average capacity on peak trains on its website at www.vline.com.au/About-V-Line/Performance. The guide is based on customer trips during November 2015 and will be updated after the full restoration of train services in mid-2016. The capacity section on the V/Line website shows the best representation of an average month without service disruptions or reductions in patronage due to public holidays.

Public transport

5229. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the number of times that the V/Line Passenger Count revealed more passengers than seats on the V/Line Ballarat-Melbourne (including Wendouree) line for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line publishes a guide to the average capacity on peak trains on its website at www.vline.com.au/About-V-Line/Performance. The guide is based on customer trips during November 2015 and will be updated after the full restoration of train services in mid-2016. The capacity section on the V/Line website shows the best representation of an average month without service disruptions or reductions in patronage due to public holidays.

Public transport

5230. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the number of times that the V/Line Passenger Count revealed more passengers than seats on the V/Line Ararat-Melbourne (via Ballarat) line for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;

- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line publishes a guide to the average capacity on peak trains on its website at www.vline.com.au/About-V-Line/Performance. The guide is based on customer trips during November 2015 and will be updated after the full restoration of train services in mid-2016. The capacity section on the V/Line website shows the best representation of an average month without service disruptions or reductions in patronage due to public holidays.

Public transport

5231. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the number of times that the V/Line Passenger Count revealed more passengers than seats on the V/Line Maryborough-Melbourne (via Ballarat and Castlemaine) line for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line publishes a guide to the average capacity on peak trains on its website at www.vline.com.au/About-V-Line/Performance. The guide is based on customer trips during November 2015 and will be updated after the full restoration of train services in mid-2016. The capacity section on the V/Line website shows the best representation of an average month without service disruptions or reductions in patronage due to public holidays.

Public transport

- 5232. MR MORRIS** — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the number of times that the V/Line Passenger Count revealed more passengers than seats on the V/Line Bendigo-Melbourne line for the month of:
- (a) January 2015;
 - (b) February 2015;
 - (c) March 2015;
 - (d) April 2015;
 - (e) May 2015;
 - (f) June 2015;
 - (g) July 2015;
 - (h) August 2015;
 - (i) September 2015;
 - (j) October 2015;
 - (k) November 2015;
 - (l) December 2015;
 - (m) January 2016;
 - (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line publishes a guide to the average capacity on peak trains on its website at www.vline.com.au/About-V-Line/Performance. The guide is based on customer trips during November 2015 and will be updated after the full restoration of train services in mid-2016. The capacity section on the V/Line website shows the best representation of an average month without service disruptions or reductions in patronage due to public holidays.

Public transport

- 5233. MR MORRIS** — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the number of times that the V/Line Passenger Count revealed more passengers than seats on the V/Line Swan Hill-Melbourne line for the month of:
- (a) January 2015;
 - (b) February 2015;
 - (c) March 2015;
 - (d) April 2015;
 - (e) May 2015;
 - (f) June 2015;
 - (g) July 2015;
 - (h) August 2015;
 - (i) September 2015;
 - (j) October 2015;
 - (k) November 2015;
 - (l) December 2015;
 - (m) January 2016;
 - (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line publishes a guide to the average capacity on peak trains on its website at www.vline.com.au/About-V-Line/Performance. The guide is based on customer trips during November 2015 and will be updated after the full restoration of train services in mid-2016. The capacity section on the V/Line website shows the best representation of an average month without service disruptions or reductions in patronage due to public holidays.

Public transport

5234. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the number of times that the V/Line Passenger Count revealed more passengers than seats on the V/Line Echuca-Melbourne line for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line publishes a guide to the average capacity on peak trains on its website at www.vline.com.au/About-V-Line/Performance. The guide is based on customer trips during November 2015 and will be updated after the full restoration of train services in mid-2016. The capacity section on the V/Line website shows the best representation of an average month without service disruptions or reductions in patronage due to public holidays.

Public transport

5235. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the number of times that the V/Line Passenger Count revealed more passengers than seats on the V/Line Warrnambool-Melbourne (via Geelong) line for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;

- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line publishes a guide to the average capacity on peak trains on its website at www.vline.com.au/About-V-Line/Performance. The guide is based on customer trips during November 2015 and will be updated after the full restoration of train services in mid-2016. The capacity section on the V/Line website shows the best representation of an average month without service disruptions or reductions in patronage due to public holidays.

Public transport

5236. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the number of times that the V/Line Passenger Count revealed more passengers than seats on the V/Line Geelong-Melbourne line for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line publishes a guide to the average capacity on peak trains on its website at www.vline.com.au/About-V-Line/Performance. The guide is based on customer trips during November 2015 and will be updated after the full restoration of train services in mid-2016. The capacity section on the V/Line website shows the best representation of an average month without service disruptions or reductions in patronage due to public holidays.

Public transport

5237. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the number of times that the V/Line Passenger Count revealed more passengers than seats on the V/Line Traralgon-Melbourne line for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;

- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line publishes a guide to the average capacity on peak trains on its website at www.vline.com.au/About-V-Line/Performance. The guide is based on customer trips during November 2015 and will be updated after the full restoration of train services in mid-2016. The capacity section on the V/Line website shows the best representation of an average month without service disruptions or reductions in patronage due to public holidays.

Public transport

5238. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the number of times that the V/Line Passenger Count revealed more passengers than seats on the V/Line Bairnsdale-Melbourne (via Sale, Traralgon & Warragul) line for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line publishes a guide to the average capacity on peak trains on its website at www.vline.com.au/About-V-Line/Performance. The guide is based on customer trips during November 2015 and will be updated after the full restoration of train services in mid-2016. The capacity section on the V/Line website shows the best representation of an average month without service disruptions or reductions in patronage due to public holidays.

Public transport

5239. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the number of times that the V/Line Passenger Count revealed more passengers than seats on the V/Line Seymour-Melbourne line for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line publishes a guide to the average capacity on peak trains on its website at www.vline.com.au/About-V-Line/Performance. The guide is based on customer trips during November 2015 and will be updated after the full restoration of train services in mid-2016. The capacity section on the V/Line website shows the best representation of an average month without service disruptions or reductions in patronage due to public holidays.

Public transport

5240. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the number of times that the V/Line Passenger Count revealed more passengers than seats on the V/Line Albury/Wodonga-Melbourne (via Wangaratta, Benalla and Seymour) line for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line publishes a guide to the average capacity on peak trains on its website at www.vline.com.au/About-V-Line/Performance. The guide is based on customer trips during November 2015 and will be updated after the full restoration of train services in mid-2016. The capacity section on the V/Line website shows the best representation of an average month without service disruptions or reductions in patronage due to public holidays.

Public transport

5241. MR MORRIS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): What was the number of times that the V/Line Passenger Count revealed more passengers than seats on the V/Line Shepparton-Melbourne line for the month of:

- (a) January 2015;
- (b) February 2015;
- (c) March 2015;
- (d) April 2015;
- (e) May 2015;
- (f) June 2015;
- (g) July 2015;
- (h) August 2015;
- (i) September 2015;
- (j) October 2015;
- (k) November 2015;
- (l) December 2015;
- (m) January 2016;
- (n) February 2016.

ANSWER:

V/Line publishes a guide to the average capacity on peak trains on its website at www.vline.com.au/About-V-Line/Performance. The guide is based on customer trips during November 2015 and will be updated after the full restoration of train services in mid-2016. The capacity section on the V/Line website shows the best representation of an average month without service disruptions or reductions in patronage due to public holidays.

Education

5333. MR DALLA-RIVA — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Education):

- (a) what was the Minister's 'Ministerial Office' air travel expenditure from the beginning of calendar year 1 January 2015 to 29 February 2016; and
- (b) what is the breakdown of that expenditure, including but not limited to, flight locations, individual cost and type of class (i.e. first, premium economy or economy) of travel undertaken.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Flights required to perform ministerial responsibilities are factored into the budget allocated to Departments. Department expenditure is published in their Annual Reports. Guidelines for the use of flights are outlined in the Victorian Public Sector Principles, which is available online.