

**PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA**

**PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES  
(HANSARD)**

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

**FIFTY-EIGHTH PARLIAMENT**

**FIRST SESSION**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**12, 14 and 15 December 2017**

**(Extract from book 22)**

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## **The Governor**

The Honourable LINDA DESSAU, AC

## **The Lieutenant-Governor**

The Honourable KEN LAY, AO, APM

## **The ministry**

(from 16 October 2017)

Premier . . . . .	The Hon. D. M. Andrews, MP
Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Minister for Emergency Services . . . . .	The Hon. J. A. Merlino, MP
Treasurer and Minister for Resources . . . . .	The Hon. T. H. Pallas, MP
Minister for Public Transport and Minister for Major Projects . . . . .	The Hon. J. Allan, MP
Minister for Industry and Employment . . . . .	The Hon. B. A. Carroll, MP
Minister for Trade and Investment, Minister for Innovation and the Digital Economy, and Minister for Small Business . . . . .	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
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 Health and Minister for Ambulance Services . . . . .	The Hon. J. Hennessy, MP
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Women and Minister for the Prevention of Family Violence . . . . .	The Hon. N. M. Hutchins, MP
Special Minister of State . . . . .	The Hon. G. Jennings, MLC
Minister for Consumer Affairs, Gaming and Liquor Regulation, and Minister for Local Government . . . . .	The Hon. M. Kairouz, MP
Minister for Families and Children, Minister for Early Childhood Education and Minister for Youth Affairs . . . . .	The Hon. J. Mikakos, MLC
Minister for Police and Minister for Water . . . . .	The Hon. L. M. Neville, 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 Finance and Minister for Multicultural Affairs . . . . .	The Hon. R. D. Scott, MP
Minister for Training and Skills, and Minister for Corrections . . . . .	The Hon. G. A. Tierney, MLC
Minister for Planning . . . . .	The Hon. R. W. Wynne, MP
Cabinet Secretary . . . . .	Ms M. Thomas, MP

## **The Governor**

The Honourable LINDA DESSAU, AC

## **The Lieutenant-Governor**

The Honourable Justice MARILYN WARREN, AC, QC

## **The ministry**

(to 15 October 2017)

Premier .....	The Hon. D. M. Andrews, MP
Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Minister for Emergency Services .....	The Hon. J. A. Merlino, MP
Treasurer .....	The Hon. T. H. Pallas, MP
Minister for Public Transport and Minister for Major Projects .....	The Hon. J. Allan, MP
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
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 Health and Minister for Ambulance Services .....	The Hon. J. Hennessy, MP
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Women and Minister for the Prevention of Family Violence .....	The Hon. N. M. Hutchins, MP
Special Minister of State .....	The Hon. G. Jennings, MLC
Minister for Consumer Affairs, Gaming and Liquor Regulation, and Minister for Local Government .....	The Hon. M. Kairouz, MP
Minister for Families and Children, and Minister for Youth Affairs. ....	The Hon. J. Mikakos, MLC
Minister for Police and Minister for Water .....	The Hon. L. M. Neville, MP
Minister for Industry and Employment, and Minister for Resources ....	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 Finance and Minister for Multicultural Affairs. ....	The Hon. R. D. Scott, MP
Minister for Training and Skills, and Minister for Corrections .....	The Hon. G. A. Tierney, MLC
Minister for Planning .....	The Hon. R. W. Wynne, MP
Cabinet Secretary .....	Ms M. Thomas, MP

## **The Governor**

The Honourable LINDA DESSAU, AC

## **The Lieutenant-Governor**

The Honourable Justice MARILYN WARREN, AC, QC

## **The ministry**

(to 12 September 2017)

Premier . . . . .	The Hon. D. M. Andrews, MP
Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Minister for Emergency Services . . . . .	The Hon. J. A. Merlino, MP
Treasurer . . . . .	The Hon. T. H. Pallas, MP
Minister for Public Transport and Minister for Major Projects . . . . .	The Hon. J. Allan, MP
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
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Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services . . . . .	The Hon. J. Hennessy, MP
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 Consumer Affairs, Gaming and Liquor Regulation . . . . .	The Hon. M. Kairouz, MP
Minister for Families and Children, and Minister for Youth Affairs . . . . .	The Hon. J. Mikakos, MLC
Minister for Police and Minister for Water . . . . .	The Hon. L. M. Neville, MP
Minister for Industry and Employment, and Minister for Resources . . . . .	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 (until 23 August 2017) . . . . .	The Hon. F. Richardson, MP
Minister for Finance and Minister for Multicultural Affairs . . . . .	The Hon. R. D. Scott, MP
Minister for Training and Skills, and Minister for Corrections . . . . .	The Hon. G. A. Tierney, MLC
Minister for Planning . . . . .	The Hon. R. W. Wynne, MP
Cabinet Secretary . . . . .	Ms M. Thomas, MP

### Legislative Council committees

**Privileges Committee** — Ms Hartland, Ms Mikakos, Mr O’Sullivan, Ms Pulford, Mr Purcell, Mr Rich-Phillips and Ms Wooldridge.

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

### Legislative Council standing committees

**Standing Committee on the Economy and Infrastructure** — Mr Bourman, #Ms Dunn, Mr Eideh, Mr Finn, Mr Gepp, Ms Hartland, Mr Leane, #Mr Melhem, Mr Ondarchie, Mr O’Sullivan and #Mr Rich-Phillips.

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

**Standing Committee on Legal and Social Issues** — #Ms Crozier, #Mr Elasmarr, Ms Fitzherbert, #Ms Hartland, Mr Morris, Mr Mulino, Ms Patten, Mrs Peulich, #Dr Ratnam, #Mr Rich-Phillips, Mr Somyurek, Ms Springle and Ms Symes.

# participating members

### Legislative Council select committees

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

**Fire Services Bill Select Committee** — Ms Hartland, Ms Lovell, Mr Melhem, Mr Mulino, Mr O’Sullivan, Mr Rich Phillips, Ms Shing and Mr Young.

### Joint committees

**Accountability and Oversight Committee** — (*Council*): Mr O’Sullivan, 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, Ms Hutchins, Mr Merlino, Mr M. O’Brien, Mr Pakula and Mr Walsh.

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

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

**Environment, Natural Resources and Regional Development Committee** — (*Council*): Mr O’Sullivan, Mr Ramsay and Mr Young. (*Assembly*): Mr J. Bull, Ms Halfpenny, Mr Richardson and Mr Riordan.

**Family and Community Development Committee** — (*Council*): Dr Carling-Jenkins and Mr Finn. (*Assembly*): Ms Britnell, Ms Couzens, Mr Edbrooke, Ms Edwards and Ms McLeish.

**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 Gepp and Ms Patten. (*Assembly*): Mr Dixon, Mr Howard, Ms Suleyman, Mr Thompson and Mr Tilley.

**Public Accounts and Estimates Committee** — (*Council*): Ms Patten, 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* — Acting Clerk of the Legislative Assembly: Ms Bridget Noonan

*Council* — Acting Clerk of the Parliaments and 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:**

Mr K. EIDEH

**Acting Presidents:**

Ms Dunn, Mr Elasmarr, Mr Melhem, Mr Morris, Ms Patten, Mr Purcell, 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:**

Mr L. B. O'SULLIVAN

**Leader of the Greens:**

Dr S. RATNAM

Member	Region	Party	Member	Region	Party
Atkinson, Mr Bruce Norman	Eastern Metropolitan	LP	Mikakos, Ms Jenny	Northern Metropolitan	ALP
Barber, Mr Gregory John <sup>1</sup>	Northern Metropolitan	Greens	Morris, Mr Joshua	Western Victoria	LP
Bath, Ms Melina <sup>2</sup>	Eastern Victoria	Nats	Mulino, Mr Daniel	Eastern Victoria	ALP
Bourman, Mr Jeffrey	Eastern Victoria	SFFP	O'Brien, Mr Daniel David <sup>7</sup>	Eastern Victoria	Nats
Carling-Jenkins, Dr Rachel <sup>3</sup>	Western Metropolitan	AC	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	O'Sullivan, Luke Bartholomew <sup>8</sup>	Northern Victoria	Nats
Dalla-Riva, Mr Richard Alex Gordon	Eastern Metropolitan	LP	Patten, Ms Fiona	Northern Metropolitan	ASP
Davis, Mr David McLean	Southern Metropolitan	LP	Pennicuik, Ms Susan Margaret	Southern Metropolitan	Greens
Drum, Mr Damian Kevin <sup>4</sup>	Northern Victoria	Nats	Peulich, Mrs Inga	South Eastern Metropolitan	LP
Dunn, Ms Samantha	Eastern Metropolitan	Greens	Pulford, Ms Jaala Lee	Western Victoria	ALP
Eideh, Mr Khalil M.	Western Metropolitan	ALP	Purcell, Mr James	Western Victoria	V1LJ
Elasmarr, Mr Nazih	Northern Metropolitan	ALP	Ramsay, Mr Simon	Western Victoria	LP
Finn, Mr Bernard Thomas C.	Western Metropolitan	LP	Ratnam, Dr Samantha Shantini <sup>9</sup>	Northern Metropolitan	Greens
Fitzherbert, Ms Margaret	Southern Metropolitan	LP	Rich-Phillips, Mr Gordon Kenneth	South Eastern Metropolitan	LP
Gepp, Mr Mark <sup>5</sup>	Northern Victoria	ALP	Shing, Ms Harriet	Eastern Victoria	ALP
Hartland, Ms Colleen Mildred	Western Metropolitan	Greens	Somyurek, Mr Adem	South Eastern Metropolitan	ALP
Herbert, Mr Steven Ralph <sup>6</sup>	Northern Victoria	ALP	Springle, Ms Nina	South Eastern Metropolitan	Greens
Jennings, Mr Gavin Wayne	South Eastern Metropolitan	ALP	Symes, Ms Jaclyn	Northern Victoria	ALP
Leane, Mr Shaun Leo	Eastern Metropolitan	ALP	Tierney, Ms Gayle Anne	Western Victoria	ALP
Lovell, Ms Wendy Ann	Northern Victoria	LP	Wooldridge, Ms Mary Louise Newling	Eastern Metropolitan	LP
Melhem, Mr Cesar	Western Metropolitan	ALP	Young, Mr Daniel	Northern Victoria	SFFP

<sup>1</sup> Resigned 28 September 2017

<sup>2</sup> Appointed 15 April 2015

<sup>3</sup> DLP until 26 June 2017

<sup>4</sup> Resigned 27 May 2016

<sup>5</sup> Appointed 7 June 2017

<sup>6</sup> Resigned 6 April 2017

<sup>7</sup> Resigned 25 February 2015

<sup>8</sup> Appointed 12 October 2016

<sup>9</sup> Appointed 18 October 2017

**PARTY ABBREVIATIONS**

AC — Australian Conservatives; ALP — Labor Party; ASP — Australian Sex Party;  
DLP — Democratic Labour Party; Greens — Australian Greens;  
LP — Liberal Party; Nats — The Nationals;  
SFFP — Shooters, Fishers and Farmers 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, 12 December 2017**

**Health**

**10 575. MS WOOLDRIDGE** — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): In relation to an audit to investigate whether the almost 1000 elective surgery patients left off the Victorian waiting list, was a deliberate data manipulation —

- (1) when will/did the audit commence;
- (2) who is responsible for leading the audit;
- (3) when is the audit report for government due;
- (4) which health services will be investigated as part of this audit;
- (5) which health services have been investigated so far; and
- (6) what is the expected cost of the audit.

**ANSWER:**

The Victorian Agency for Health Information released its report, *Elective surgery waiting lists: a rapid review to ensure full transparency* in July 2017. The report is available on the Victorian Agency Health Information website.

**Health**

**11 711. MS CROZIER** — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): In relation to the 2017-18 Budget, budget paper 3, page 5, family violence initiatives, as the Minister responsible for line item ‘Enhanced role for universal service providers’, \$1.9 million in funding is listed for 2016-17, the only funding in the whole of Government Family Violence funding for that year —

- (1) has the funding of \$1.9 million been fully expended; and
- (2) if not, how much has been expended.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

\$1.495 million was expended in 2016-17 through direct allocations to health services. The remaining \$405 000 will be allocated over the life of the initiative.

**Premier**

**11 721. MR ONDARCHIE** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Can the Minister please advise what was the calendar date you received the Ministerial travel report from the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade for the Minister’s travel to Indonesia in March 2017.

**ANSWER:**

The Minister’s travel report was received before it was published on the departmental website.

The Victorian Labor Government takes Victoria’s trade capability very seriously. Since coming to Government, Labor has encouraged international engagement with Victoria. This is evidenced by the opening of a Victorian

Government Business Office in Santiago, Chile, as well as a Victorian Government Trade and Investment office in Boston, USA. This year, the then Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade led Victoria's first ever trade mission to Myanmar.

Victoria is renowned for international education, digital innovation and food and fibre, and engaging with these new and emerging markets ensure we spruik these great local exports, which will bolster our economy and create more jobs.

This is in stark contrast to the former Government who saw the unemployment rate rise to 6.7% and only managed to create 16 000 full time jobs in four years. In comparison, during the three years so far of this Victorian Labor Government, we have created 174 400 full time jobs and seen unemployment drop to 5.7%.

*[Question 11 721 reinstated by order of President on 18 October 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 17 October 2017, page 5389.]*

**Premier**

**11 722. MR ONDARCHIE** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Can the Minister please advise what was the calendar date you received the Ministerial travel report from the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade for the Minister's travel to China in May 2017.

**ANSWER:**

The Minister's travel report was received before it was published on the departmental website.

The Victorian Labor Government takes Victoria's trade capability very seriously. Since coming to Government, Labor has encouraged international engagement with Victoria. This is evidenced by the opening of a Victorian Government Business Office in Santiago, Chile, as well as a Victorian Government Trade and Investment office in Boston, USA. This year, the then Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade led Victoria's first ever trade mission to Myanmar.

Victoria is renowned for international education, digital innovation and food and fibre, and engaging with these new and emerging markets ensure we spruik these great local exports, which will bolster our economy and create more jobs.

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*[Question 11 722 reinstated by order of President on 18 October 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 17 October 2017, page 5389.]*

**Premier**

**11 723. MR ONDARCHIE** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Can the Minister please advise what penalties apply for failing to publish travel reports within the timelines determined by the Guidelines for Ministerial Overseas Travel.

**ANSWER:**

The guidelines for Ministerial Overseas Travel are for all Ministers to be guided by.

The Victorian Labor Government takes Victoria's trade capability very seriously. Since coming to Government, Labor has encouraged international engagement with Victoria. This is evidenced by the opening of a Victorian Government Business Office in Santiago, Chile, as well as a Victorian Government Trade and Investment office in Boston, USA. This year, the then Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade led Victoria's first ever trade mission to Myanmar.

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*[Question 11 723 reinstated by order of President on 18 October 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 17 October 2017, page 5390.]*

**Premier**

**11 724. MR ONDARCHIE** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): Can the Minister please advise during the term of the Andrews Government, have any Ministers been investigated for breaching the Guidelines for Ministerial Overseas Travel.

**ANSWER:**

No minister has been investigated for breaching Guidelines for Ministerial Overseas Travel.

The Victorian Labor Government takes Victoria’s trade capability very seriously. Since coming to Government, Labor has encouraged international engagement with Victoria. This is evidenced by the opening of a Victorian Government Business Office in Santiago, Chile, as well as a Victorian Government Trade and Investment office in Boston, USA. This year, the then Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade led Victoria’s first ever trade mission to Myanmar.

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This is in stark contrast to the former Government who saw the unemployment rate rise to 6.7% and only managed to create 16 000 full time jobs in four years. In comparison, during the three years so far of this Victorian Labor Government, we have created 174 400 full time jobs and seen unemployment drop to 5.7%.

*[Question 11 724 reinstated by order of President on 18 October 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 17 October 2017, page 5390.]*

**Ambulance services**

**11 820. MS WOOLDRIDGE** — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Ambulance Services): In relation to the Independent Broad-Based Anti-Corruption Commission’s report titled ‘Operation Tone: Special report concerning drug use and associated corrupt conduct involving Ambulance Victoria paramedics’, what role has the Ambulance Employees Association’s opposition to random drug testing had on the delay of Ambulance Victoria commencing this policy.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

There has not been a delay in the implementation of the Ambulance Victoria drug testing policy.

**Roads and road safety**

**11 836. MS WOOLDRIDGE** — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Roads and Road Safety): What proportion of trips crossing Fitzsimons Lane during the morning peak have destinations in the vicinity of the Eastern Freeway such as Bulleen, Doncaster and Box Hill.

**ANSWER:**

VicRoads advises me that its current data does not include such a detailed origin and destination study.

**Police**

**11 839. MS WOOLDRIDGE** — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Police): How many of the 58 new police officers and 22 new protective services officer graduates from squads 16 and 17 have been assigned to the Banyule region.

**ANSWER:**

The 58 new Police Officers and 22 Protective Service Officers (PSOs) referred to in the members question are yet to be allocated to police service areas.

The 58 new police recruits, comprised of graduates of Squads 16 and 17 as well as the Constable Qualifying Program, will be allocated upon the completion of an additional 20 weeks of training that is designed to cement their understanding of designated training areas such as Highway Patrol and the Road Policing Drug and Alcohol section. Following the completion of this additional training, assigned locations will be determined using the Staff Allocation Model (SAM).

The SAM was developed last year to ensure our resources are allocated where they are needed most. The SAM was created in partnership with The Police Association of Victoria to forecast and distribute resources based on the real evidence of service demand and delivery needs. The SAM considers a number of factors in measuring these indicators such as calls for assistance, travel time, recorded crime, event management, traffic incidents, and the time required to respond to calls.

In relation to PSOs, upon graduating all PSOs are initially deployed to the Central Local Area Command in Melbourne to cement their training before being permanently assigned to local areas.

**Police**

**11 840. MS WOOLDRIDGE** — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Police): How many of the 58 new police officers and 22 new protective services officer graduates from squads 16 and 17 have been assigned to the Nillumbik region.

**ANSWER:**

The 58 new Police Officers and 22 Protective Service Officers (PSOs) referred to in the members question are yet to be allocated to police service areas.

The 58 new police recruits, comprised of graduates of Squads 16 and 17 as well as the Constable Qualifying Program, will be allocated upon the completion of an additional 20 weeks of training that is designed to cement their understanding of designated training areas such as Highway Patrol and the Road Policing Drug and Alcohol section. Following the completion of this additional training, assigned locations will be determined using the Staff Allocation Model (SAM).

The SAM was developed last year to ensure our resources are allocated where they are needed most. The SAM was created in partnership with The Police Association of Victoria to forecast and distribute resources based on the real evidence of service demand and delivery needs. The SAM considers a number of factors in measuring these indicators such as calls for assistance, travel time, recorded crime, event management, traffic incidents, and the time required to respond to calls.

In relation to PSOs, upon graduating all PSOs are initially deployed to the Central Local Area Command in Melbourne to cement their training before being permanently assigned to local areas.

**Education**

**11 842. MS WOOLDRIDGE** — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Education): How many students are anticipated to enrol in the Banyule-Nillumbik Tech School when it opens in 2018.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Tech Schools will operate as shared learning centres with innovative, industry linked science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) programs that are integrated with the teaching and learning programs of the partner schools and accessed by teachers and students throughout the year. Students will access Tech Schools through their existing enrolments. So while no students will enrol in Banyule-Nillumbik Tech School, upon opening in mid-2018 students from 18 partner government and non-government secondary schools in the Banyule and Nillumbik areas will have access to the facility.

The Banyule-Nillumbik Tech School continues to meet key milestones including the first sod-turn on 17 August 2017 marking the commencement of construction.

The host, Melbourne Polytechnic, the Tech School Director Marc Blanks, and partner school teachers are making great progress in developing STEM learning programs specific to the needs and opportunities faced by schools and students in the Banyule-Nillumbik area.

**Housing, disability and ageing**

**11 849. MS CROZIER** — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing): What was the total and average value of relocation grants in Victoria between 1 July 2015 and 30 June 2017.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

All associated costs for relocation are paid by the department via direct payment to the vendor such as the removalist (engaged by the department) or claims by the tenant for reimbursement of costs, such as service fees for utility connections.

**Housing, disability and ageing**

**11 852. MS CROZIER** — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing): How many applications for relocation grants were declined between 1 July 2015 and 30 June 2017.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

All associated costs for relocation are paid by the department via direct payment to the vendor such as the removalist (engaged by the department) or claims by the tenant for reimbursement of costs, such as service fees for utility connections.

**Energy, environment and climate change**

**11 867. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): The Parks Victoria Annual Report 2016-17 details that Parks Victoria manages 58 playgrounds throughout Victoria, can the Minister list each park where these playgrounds are located.

**ANSWER:**

Information about parks with playgrounds is freely available on the Parks Victoria website.

**Energy, environment and climate change**

**11 868. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): The Parks Victoria Annual Report 2016-17 details that Parks Victoria will deliver 60 additional rangers, what is the current budgeted recurrent cost per ranger per annum and what Parks Victoria Grade will they be employed as.

**ANSWER:**

Rangers will be employed at the Parks Victoria Grade 2 level. Associated salary details can be found in the Parks Victoria Enterprise Agreement 2016: <https://www.fwc.gov.au/documents/documents/agreements/fwa/ae423611.pdf>.

**Energy, environment and climate change**

**11 869. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): The Parks Victoria Annual Report 2016-17 details a 14.3 per cent drop in visitation to piers and jetties, what issues has Parks Victoria identified as to the cause of this significant decline.

**ANSWER:**

Parks Victoria undertakes a major survey of the number of visits to its parks estate every two years. Visits to bays, piers and jetties are surveyed every four years. Parks Victoria will be undertaking more detailed visitor satisfaction surveys at key sites in the coming months and this will help to explain if there is a link between visitor satisfaction levels and visitor numbers for at piers and jetties. The 2015/16 visitor satisfaction surveys of piers found 86% of visitors were satisfied with their visit and overall the satisfaction index had increased.

**Energy, environment and climate change**

**11 870. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): The Parks Victoria Annual Report 2016-17 details that Parks Victoria was promoted at 80 public events in Victoria throughout 2016-17, what is the list of those 80 events, and were there any costs to the organisation associated with this promotion.

**ANSWER:**

Expenditure associated with the 80 public events was in line with relevant Government policies and procedures.

**Energy, environment and climate change**

**11 871. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): The Parks Victoria Annual Report 2016-17 details that 45 visitor experience areas were developed in the River Red Gum landscape, what are each of those visitor experience areas and where specifically are they located.

**ANSWER:**

Information about the visitor experience areas in River Red Gum parks is listed in the River Red Gums draft management plan, freely available on the Parks Victoria website.

**Energy, environment and climate change**

**11 872. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): In relation to Parks Victoria —

- (1) what was the final cost to complete the —
  - (a) Falls to Hotham Alpine Crossing Master Plan;
  - (b) Point Nepean National Park Master Plan;



- (c) Albert Park Master Plan;
  - (d) Olinda Golf Course Precinct Plan; and
- (2) for each of the plans listed above, what was the total printing and promotion cost invoiced to Parks Victoria.

**ANSWER:**

The costs associated with completing and publishing the master plans listed above are captured in the total expenditure for development of the master plans.

**Energy, environment and climate change**

- 11 873. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): What was the total printing and promotion cost invoiced to Parks Victoria for the new Junior Ranger activity book and the Junior Ranger turtle totem sticker and what was the quantity printed of each.

**ANSWER:**

The Junior Ranger program is one of Parks Victoria's most popular activities to connect children with nature. In 2016/17 the Junior Ranger program was implemented in 58 parks attracting 10 208 participants. The Junior Ranger website received 140 000 page views from 16 800 users. Over 5200 self-guided activities were uniquely downloaded.

Expenditure associated with the Junior Ranger program was in line with relevant Government policies and procedures.

**Energy, environment and climate change**

- 11 875. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): Of the 37 seasonal rangers employed by Parks Victoria in 2016-17, how many identified as being from an Aboriginal background.

**ANSWER:**

In 2016-17, no seasonal rangers identified as being from an Aboriginal background.

Parks Victoria is committed to sustainable and longer-term career opportunities and development for Aboriginal people. Currently 4% of the Parks Victoria FTE workforce identify as Aboriginal.

Parks Victoria proudly works in partnership with Traditional Owners through Joint Management Agreements and alongside Registered Aboriginal Parties to manage Country together.

We are committed to building stronger relationships with Traditional Owner to protect and manage cultural heritage as a core park management function.

**Energy, environment and climate change**

- 11 876. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): The Parks Victoria Annual Report 2016-17 details the relocation of the Albert Park depot was completed on time and on budget —

- (1) on what date did Parks Victoria move out of the old Albert Park office building;
- (2) on what date did Parks Victoria move into the new Albert Park office building; and
- (3) what was the final grant amount from the State Government that Parks Victoria received to relocate out of the old Albert Park office building.

**ANSWER:**

Parks Victoria received \$5M from the State Government for the relocation and construction of its office and depot in Albert Park in the 2016/17 budget.

Further information about the Albert Park office and depot can be found here:  
<https://www.premier.vic.gov.au/new-green-home-for-parks-victoria-in-albert-park/>.

**Energy, environment and climate change**

**11 877. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): The Parks Victoria Annual Report 2016-17 details that Parks Victoria has developed a centralised asbestos register —

- (1) has this work been concluded;
- (2) what role will the Victorian Asbestos Eradication Agency have in the removal of asbestos from the parks estate; and
- (3) can the Minister please provide the list of the 1500 assets, detailing in which park each asset is located, that Parks Victoria has identified as having asbestos.

**ANSWER:**

The Victorian Asbestos Eradication Authority (VAEA) have been provided with a copy of the PV Asbestos Register.

Under the Operational Health and Safety Regulations, the Asbestos Register must be made available to any person whose business is located at the workplace, or intends to be located at the workplace, and any person who may undertake activities at a work place that may disturb asbestos containing materials.

**Energy, environment and climate change**

**11 878. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): According to the latest advice, what is the recorded number of hooded plovers in the Mornington Peninsula National Park.

**ANSWER:**

The most recent advice on hooded plover numbers can be found at the link here:  
<http://birdlife.org.au/projects/beach-nesting-birds/biennial-count-reports>.

**Energy, environment and climate change**

**11 879. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): In relation to the feral horse management in the Alpine National Park —

- (1) which organisations have been involved in the management of feral horses in the Alpine National Park;
- (2) has Parks Victoria hired any consultants or contractors to undertake this work, if so, what was the expenditure for those consultants or contractors in 2016-17; and
- (3) what have been the outcomes of Parks Victoria's feral horse management in the Alpine National Park, including the number of feral horses captured, killed or relocated.

**ANSWER:**

(1) Parks Victoria manages feral horses in the Alpine National Park, collaboratively wherever possible, including the involvement of the following organisations:

- Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning
- East Gippsland, West Gippsland and North-East Catchment Management Authorities

- Australian Alps National Parks Co-operative Management Program (Australian Alps Liaison Committee)
  - Alpine Brumby Management Association
  - Victorian Brumby Association
- (2) Parks Victoria has engaged contractors to undertake feral horse removal. The expenditure for these contractors was around \$75 000 in 2016/17.
- (3) Parks Victoria’s feral horse management programs help to protect threatened alpine peatlands, streamsides and the many threatened species they support such as the Alpine She-oak Skink, the Alpine Spiny Crayfish, and a wide range of unique alpine plants.

Between 2004 and 2017, a total of 1924 feral horses have been removed live from the Alpine National Park. In collaboration with partnering pro-horse organisations, these horses are transported off the parks estate. Parks Victoria does not maintain statistics on the horses once they have left the parks estate.

### Energy, environment and climate change

- 11 880. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): In relation to the deer control programs in the Dandenong and Yarra Ranges —
- (1) which organisations have been involved in the deer control programs in the Dandenong and Yarra Ranges;
  - (2) has Parks Victoria hired any consultants or contractors to undertake this work, if so, what was the expenditure for those consultants or contractors in 2016-17; and
  - (3) what have been the outcomes of Parks Victoria’s deer control programs in the Dandenong and Yarra Ranges, including the number of deer captured, killed or relocated.

**ANSWER:**

Information regarding deer management programs can be found at the links below:

<http://parkweb.vic.gov.au/explore/parks/dandenong-ranges-national-park/plans-and-projects/deer-control-program>

<http://parkweb.vic.gov.au/explore/parks/yellingbo-n.c.r./plans-and-projects/deer-control-program>

<http://parkweb.vic.gov.au/explore/parks/warramate-hills-n.c.r./plans-and-projects/deer-control-program>.

Estimates for harvest of pest species can be found here:

[http://www.gma.vic.gov.au/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0020/332093/Deer,-duck-and-quail-harvests-1985-to-2015-FOR-WEB.pdf](http://www.gma.vic.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0020/332093/Deer,-duck-and-quail-harvests-1985-to-2015-FOR-WEB.pdf).

### Energy, environment and climate change

- 11 881. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): Has there been or is there currently a program at Parks Victoria to cull the number of wombats in Victoria and if so, what is the target number of wombats to cull.

**ANSWER:**

Information about Authority to Control Wildlife permits can be found here:

[https://www.wildlife.vic.gov.au/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0020/61256/Attachment-1.-ATCW-data-2009-2016-and-January-and-February-2017.pdf](https://www.wildlife.vic.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0020/61256/Attachment-1.-ATCW-data-2009-2016-and-January-and-February-2017.pdf).

**Energy, environment and climate change**

**11 883. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): As of 31 October 2017, what is the number of Parks Victoria staff with accreditation in a fire role.

**ANSWER:**

Parks Victoria has both an ongoing and seasonal workforce involved in firefighting, including the seasonal fire project firefighters. Parks Victoria has 823 staff with an accreditation in a fire role.

**Energy, environment and climate change**

**11 884. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): The Parks Victoria Annual Report 2016-17 details \$3.4 million of funding was provided following the Wye River/Jamieson Track fire —

- (1) has Parks Victoria received the entire \$3.4 million, and if not, how much has Parks Victoria received; and
- (2) what is the basis that Parks Victoria have detailed that the recovery program for Wye River will take up to five years.

**ANSWER:**

Parks Victoria has received \$3.4m to support recovery after the Wye River Jamieson Track fire.

Regeneration and rehabilitation of vegetation, and associated weed and pest management programs take time to deliver effective outcomes.

**Energy, environment and climate change**

**11 885. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): The Parks Victoria Annual Report 2016-17 details Victoria’s parks contribute over \$2.1 billion to local economies, can the Minister please provide the basis of modelling which calculates that entire \$2.1 billion figure outlined.

**ANSWER:**

The total economic contribution (direct plus indirect) of ‘park-attributable’ tourism was modelled by using and adapting the Regional Tourism Satellite Accounts developed by Deloitte Access Economics for Tourism Victoria.

**Energy, environment and climate change**

**11 886. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): The Parks Victoria Annual Report 2016-17 details more than 102 250 bookings for camping and accommodation were processed, in the form of a table, what is the breakdown of bookings per park for the 2016-17 financial year.

**ANSWER:**

Parks Victoria takes bookings at a number of its most popular parks. The most popular of these were:

<b>Location</b>	<b>Bookings</b>
Lake Eildon National Park	3076
Great South West Walk	3833
Mount Arapiles-Toooan State Park	5146

Location	Bookings
Great Ocean Walk	5996
Lower Glenelg National Park	6842
Great Otway National Park	7001
Grampians National Park	8416
Wilsons Promontory National Park	45200

**Energy, environment and climate change**

**11 887. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change) The Parks Victoria Annual Report 2016-17 details more than 1300 permits were processed, in the form of a table, what is the breakdown of bookings per park for the 2016-17 financial year and what percentage of permits issued received a discount in permit fees.

**ANSWER:**

Many of Victoria’s national parks are popular locations for community, commercial, filming and photography events. Community events attract a discounted permit fee to encourage more people to use their local parks. 67.9 percent of events attracted the discounted community event permit fee.

Our most popular parks for events are:

Park Name	# of Events
Cobram Regional Park	52
Lysterfield Park	75
Mornington Peninsula National Park	79
Werribee Park	82
Yarra Valley Parklands	86
Karkarook Park	88
Port Phillip Bay	90
You Yangs Regional Park	104
Dandenong Valley Parklands	163
National Water Sports Centre	165
Albert Park	193
Yarra Bend Park	335

**Energy, environment and climate change**

**11 888. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): What were the names and positions of the Parks Victoria staff members that attended the International Union for the Conservation of Nature World Conservation Congress in Hawaii and what was the final cost of flights and accommodation for staff members to attend the Congress.

**ANSWER:**

All expenditure was incurred in accordance with Parks Victoria policies for travel and accommodation.

**Energy, environment and climate change**

**11 889. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): In relation to interstate flight travel during the 2016-17 financial year, in a table form, what were the names and positions of the Parks Victoria staff members who undertook interstate travel, what was the purpose of the travel and what was the cost of flights and accommodation to Parks Victoria.

**ANSWER:**

All expenditure was incurred in accordance with Parks Victoria policies for travel and accommodation.

**Energy, environment and climate change**

**11 895. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): The Parks Victoria Annual Report 2016-17 details \$33 160 was funded for employee relations consultant Bruce K Nadenbousch, what was the nature and basis of that consultancy.

**ANSWER:**

The nature of the consultancy work, conducted by the abovenamed supplier, was tied directly to professional services relating to human resources matters, rendered over the period 06 April 2016 to 11 July 2016.

**Energy, environment and climate change**

**11 896. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): The Parks Victoria Annual Report 2016-17 details \$12 000 was funded for human resources consultant Peter James Parkinson, what was the nature and basis of that consultancy.

**ANSWER:**

The nature of the consultancy work, conducted by the abovenamed supplier, was tied directly to professional services relating to human resources matters, rendered over the period 31 May 2016 to 26 October 2016.

**Energy, environment and climate change**

**11 897. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): The Parks Victoria Annual Report 2016-17 details Bradley Fauteux was the Chief Executive Officer until his employment with Parks Victoria was terminated on 12 October 2016 —

- (1) what were the external legal costs to Parks Victoria associated with the termination of Mr Fauteux's contract; and
- (2) what were the external legal costs to Parks Victoria associated with the investigation into the conduct of Mr Fauteux.

**ANSWER:**

The external legal costs associated with the investigation and termination of Mr Fauteux's employment were \$33 351.15. It is not possible to separate the costs because the investigation and termination were treated as the one legal matter.

**Energy, environment and climate change**

**11 898. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): Is the Minister aware of any concluded or ongoing investigations into the conduct of Bradley Fauteux, the former Chief Executive Officer of Parks Victoria.

**ANSWER:**

A preliminary investigation into the former Chief Executive Officer of Parks Victoria was undertaken by the Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission which concluded in January 2017.

**Energy, environment and climate change**

**11 899. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): What is the current balance of the Parks and Reserves Trust.

**ANSWER:**

See page 210 of the Parks Victoria Annual Report.

**Energy, environment and climate change**

**11 900. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): On what basis has the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning cut the Parks and Reserves Trust funding to Parks Victoria in 2016-17 and what was the modelling that was used by the Department to justify the funding cut.

**ANSWER:**

Total asset and output funding from the Parks and Reserves Trust Account to Parks Victoria actually increased from \$101.037 million in 2015-16 to \$104.582 million in 2016-17.

**Energy, environment and climate change**

**11 901. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): The Parks Victoria Annual Report 2016-17 details \$11 207 000 of revenue collected from national parks that was returned to the Government, what is the breakdown of that \$11.2 million and on what basis is there a requirement to return the funds to the Government, instead of retaining the funds at Parks Victoria for service improvement.

**ANSWER:**

The National Parks Act 1975 and Land Act 1958 requires that all the earned revenue be returned to Treasury.

Through agreements between Treasury and the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (under section 29 of the Financial Management Act), all the earned revenue, except for the leases and licences component specific to national parks (\$1.0m), is returned to Parks Victoria.

The leases and licences component specific to national parks (\$1.0m) is retained in full by Treasury as this revenue is deemed to be generated by the asset, not by the services provided by the entity.

**Energy, environment and climate change**

**11 902. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): The Parks Victoria Annual Report 2016-17 details that changes to the Australian Accounting Standards Board 16 Leases will result in an increase to net debt of Parks Victoria from 1 January 2019, on the current advice, what is the expected impact on the net result that Parks Victoria has identified.

**ANSWER:**

Please refer to page 63 of the Parks Victoria Annual Report.

**Education**

**12 265. MS WOOLDRIDGE** — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Education): Has the Government determined that Apollo Parkways Primary School’s facilities contain asbestos and if so —

- (1) when will work to remove the asbestos be carried out; and
- (2) how much is it expected to cost.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Andrews Labor Government is rolling out the largest ever removal of asbestos from our schools. The Government is investing \$155 million as part of the Asbestos Removal Program. The state-wide audit of 1712 government school sites found high risk asbestos at 497 schools. And by March 2016 we had removed it all.

We are now moving on to the next phase of our asbestos removal program — targeting asbestos that, although not classified as high risk, may pose a risk in the future. Any asbestos that may pose a risk in the future will be removed from Apollo Parkways Primary School by 2020 with a cost to be determined at a school level at the time. Over the next three years we will replace 100 school buildings and remove asbestos at more than 1200 schools.

You are no doubt acutely aware of the fact the Liberals did not allocate one cent to fund a dedicated Asbestos Removal Program. Instead the Department was forced to fund removal of Asbestos on a reactive basis, through a very small internal allocation of funds. Your solution, as a member of Cabinet under the former Liberal Government solution, was to slap asbestos stickers on buildings, turn your back, and walk away.

I am sure parents and students at Apollo Parkways Primary School will be confident in knowing that it is only the Labor Government who will support them with any required asbestos removal in the future. It is also worth noting that the current Labor Government has now invested more than \$35 million into school infrastructure across the Eltham electorate, compared to a mere \$4 million under the former Liberal Government’s first 3 budgets.

**Education**

**12 266. MS WOOLDRIDGE** — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Education): Has the Government determined that Briar Hill Primary School’s facilities contain asbestos and if so —

- (1) when will work to remove the asbestos be carried out; and
- (2) how much is it expected to cost.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Andrews Labor Government is rolling out the largest ever removal of asbestos from our schools. The Government is investing \$155 million as part of the Asbestos Removal Program. The state-wide audit of 1712 government school sites found high risk asbestos at 497 schools. And by March 2016 we had removed it all.

We are now moving on to the next phase of our asbestos removal program — targeting asbestos that, although not classified as high risk, may pose a risk in the future. Any asbestos that may pose a risk in the future will be removed from Briar Hill Primary School by 2020 with a cost to be determined at a school level at the time. Over the next three years we will replace 100 school buildings and remove asbestos at more than 1200 schools.

You are no doubt acutely aware of the fact the Liberals did not allocate one cent to fund a dedicated Asbestos Removal Program. Instead the Department was forced to fund removal of Asbestos on a reactive basis, through a very small internal allocation of funds. Your solution, as a member of Cabinet under the former Liberal Government solution, was to slap asbestos stickers on buildings, turn your back, and walk away.



I am sure parents and students at Briar Hill Primary School will be confident in knowing that it is only the Labor Government who will support them with any required asbestos removal in the future. It is also worth noting that the current Labor Government has now invested more than \$35 million into school infrastructure across the Eltham electorate, compared to a mere \$4 million under the former Liberal Government's first 3 budgets.

**Education**

**12 267. MS WOOLDRIDGE** — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Education): Has the Government determined that Diamond Valley Special Developmental School's facilities contain asbestos and if so —

- (1) when will work to remove the asbestos be carried out; and
- (2) how much is it expected to cost.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Andrews Labor Government is rolling out the largest ever removal of asbestos from our schools. The Government is investing \$155 million as part of the Asbestos Removal Program. The state-wide audit of 1712 government school sites found high risk asbestos at 497 schools. And by March 2016 we had removed it all.

We are now moving on to the next phase of our asbestos removal program — targeting asbestos that, although not classified as high risk, may pose a risk in the future. Any asbestos that may pose a risk in the future will be removed from Diamond Valley Special Developmental School by 2020 with a cost to be determined at a school level at the time. Over the next three years we will replace 100 school buildings and remove asbestos at more than 1200 schools.

You are no doubt acutely aware of the fact the Liberals did not allocate one cent to fund a dedicated Asbestos Removal Program. Instead the Department was forced to fund removal of Asbestos on a reactive basis, through a very small internal allocation of funds. Your solution, as a member of Cabinet under the former Liberal Government solution, was to slap asbestos stickers on buildings, turn your back, and walk away.

I am sure parents and students at Diamond Valley Special Developmental School will be confident in knowing that it is only the Labor Government who will support them with any required asbestos removal in the future. It is also worth noting that the current Labor Government has now invested more than \$35 million into school infrastructure across the Eltham electorate, compared to a mere \$4 million under the former Liberal Government's first 3 budgets.

**Education**

**12 268. MS WOOLDRIDGE** — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Education): Has the Government determined that Eltham East Primary School's facilities contain asbestos and if so —

- (1) when will work to remove the asbestos be carried out; and
- (2) how much is it expected to cost.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Andrews Labor Government is rolling out the largest ever removal of asbestos from our schools. The Government is investing \$155 million as part of the Asbestos Removal Program. The state-wide audit of 1712 government school sites found high risk asbestos at 497 schools. And by March 2016 we had removed it all.

We are now moving on to the next phase of our asbestos removal program — targeting asbestos that, although not classified as high risk, may pose a risk in the future. Any asbestos that may pose a risk in the future will be removed

from Eltham East Primary School by 2020 with a cost to be determined at a school level at the time. Over the next three years we will replace 100 school buildings and remove asbestos at more than 1200 schools.

You are no doubt acutely aware of the fact the Liberals did not allocate one cent to fund a dedicated Asbestos Removal Program. Instead the Department was forced to fund removal of Asbestos on a reactive basis, through a very small internal allocation of funds. Your solution, as a member of Cabinet under the former Liberal Government solution, was to slap asbestos stickers on buildings, turn your back, and walk away.

I am sure parents and students at Eltham East Primary School will be confident in knowing that it is only the Labor Government who will support them with any required asbestos removal in the future. It is also worth noting that the current Labor Government has now invested more than \$35 million into school infrastructure across the Eltham electorate, compared to a mere \$4 million under the former Liberal Government's first 3 budgets.

### Education

**12 269. MS WOOLDRIDGE** — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Education): Has the Government determined that Eltham High School's facilities contain asbestos and if so —

- (1) when will work to remove the asbestos be carried out; and
- (2) how much is it expected to cost.

#### ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

The Andrews Labor Government is rolling out the largest ever removal of asbestos from our schools. The Government is investing \$155 million as part of the Asbestos Removal Program. The state-wide audit of 1712 government school sites found high risk asbestos at 497 schools. And by March 2016 we had removed it all.

We are now moving on to the next phase of our asbestos removal program — targeting asbestos that, although not classified as high risk, may pose a risk in the future. Any asbestos that may pose a risk in the future will be removed from Eltham High School by 2020 with a cost to be determined at a school level at the time. Over the next three years we will replace 100 school buildings and remove asbestos at more than 1200 schools.

You are no doubt acutely aware of the fact the Liberals did not allocate one cent to fund a dedicated Asbestos Removal Program. Instead the Department was forced to fund removal of Asbestos on a reactive basis, through a very small internal allocation of funds. Your solution, as a member of Cabinet under the former Liberal Government solution, was to slap asbestos stickers on buildings, turn your back, and walk away.

I am sure parents and students at Eltham High School will be confident in knowing that it is only the Labor Government who will support them with any required asbestos removal in the future. It is also worth noting that the current Labor Government has now invested more than \$35 million into school infrastructure across the Eltham electorate, compared to a mere \$4 million under the former Liberal Government's first 3 budgets.

### Education

**12 270. MS WOOLDRIDGE** — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Education): Has the Government determined that Eltham North Primary School's facilities contain asbestos and if so —

- (1) when will work to remove the asbestos be carried out; and
- (2) how much is it expected to cost.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Andrews Labor Government is rolling out the largest ever removal of asbestos from our schools. The Government is investing \$155 million as part of the Asbestos Removal Program. The state-wide audit of 1712 government school sites found high risk asbestos at 497 schools. And by March 2016 we had removed it all.

We are now moving on to the next phase of our asbestos removal program — targeting asbestos that, although not classified as high risk, may pose a risk in the future. Any asbestos that may pose a risk in the future will be removed from Eltham North Primary School by 2020 with a cost to be determined at a school level at the time. Over the next three years we will replace 100 school buildings and remove asbestos at more than 1200 schools.

You are no doubt acutely aware of the fact the Liberals did not allocate one cent to fund a dedicated Asbestos Removal Program. Instead the Department was forced to fund removal of Asbestos on a reactive basis, through a very small internal allocation of funds. Your solution, as a member of Cabinet under the former Liberal Government solution, was to slap asbestos stickers on buildings, turn your back, and walk away.

I am sure parents and students at Eltham North Primary School will be confident in knowing that it is only the Labor Government who will support them with any required asbestos removal in the future. It is also worth noting that the current Labor Government has now invested more than \$35 million into school infrastructure across the Eltham electorate, compared to a mere \$4 million under the former Liberal Government’s first 3 budgets.

**Education**

**12 271. MS WOOLDRIDGE** — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Education): Has the Government determined that Eltham Primary School’s facilities contain asbestos and if so —

- (1) when will work to remove the asbestos be carried out; and
- (2) how much is it expected to cost.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Andrews Labor Government is rolling out the largest ever removal of asbestos from our schools. The Government is investing \$155 million as part of the Asbestos Removal Program. The state-wide audit of 1712 government school sites found high risk asbestos at 497 schools. And by March 2016 we had removed it all.

We are now moving on to the next phase of our asbestos removal program — targeting asbestos that, although not classified as high risk, may pose a risk in the future. Any asbestos that may pose a risk in the future will be removed from Eltham Primary School by 2020 with a cost to be determined at a school level at the time. Over the next three years we will replace 100 school buildings and remove asbestos at more than 1200 schools.

You are no doubt acutely aware of the fact the Liberals did not allocate one cent to fund a dedicated Asbestos Removal Program. Instead the Department was forced to fund removal of Asbestos on a reactive basis, through a very small internal allocation of funds. Your solution, as a member of Cabinet under the former Liberal Government solution, was to slap asbestos stickers on buildings, turn your back, and walk away.

I am sure parents and students at Eltham Primary School will be confident in knowing that it is only the Labor Government who will support them with any required asbestos removal in the future. It is also worth noting that the current Labor Government has now invested more than \$35 million into school infrastructure across the Eltham electorate, compared to a mere \$4 million under the former Liberal Government’s first 3 budgets.

**Education**

**12 272. MS WOOLDRIDGE** — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Education): Has the Government determined that Glen Katherine Primary School’s facilities contain asbestos and if so —

- (1) when will work to remove the asbestos be carried out; and
- (2) how much is it expected to cost.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Andrews Labor Government is rolling out the largest ever removal of asbestos from our schools. The Government is investing \$155 million as part of the Asbestos Removal Program. The state-wide audit of 1712 government school sites found high risk asbestos at 497 schools. And by March 2016 we had removed it all.

We are now moving on to the next phase of our asbestos removal program — targeting asbestos that, although not classified as high risk, may pose a risk in the future. Any asbestos that may pose a risk in the future will be removed from Glen Katherine Primary School by 2020 with a cost to be determined at a school level at the time. Over the next three years we will replace 100 school buildings and remove asbestos at more than 1200 schools.

You are no doubt acutely aware of the fact the Liberals did not allocate one cent to fund a dedicated Asbestos Removal Program. Instead the Department was forced to fund removal of Asbestos on a reactive basis, through a very small internal allocation of funds. Your solution, as a member of Cabinet under the former Liberal Government solution, was to slap asbestos stickers on buildings, turn your back, and walk away.

I am sure parents and students at Glen Katherine Primary School will be confident in knowing that it is only the Labor Government who will support them with any required asbestos removal in the future. It is also worth noting that the current Labor Government has now invested more than \$35 million into school infrastructure across the Eltham electorate, compared to a mere \$4 million under the former Liberal Government’s first 3 budgets.

**Education**

**12 273. MS WOOLDRIDGE** — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Education): Has the Government determined that Greenhills Primary School’s facilities contain asbestos and if so —

- (1) when will work to remove the asbestos be carried out; and
- (2) how much is it expected to cost.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Andrews Labor Government is rolling out the largest ever removal of asbestos from our schools. The Government is investing \$155 million as part of the Asbestos Removal Program. The state-wide audit of 1712 government school sites found high risk asbestos at 497 schools. And by March 2016 we had removed it all.

We are now moving on to the next phase of our asbestos removal program — targeting asbestos that, although not classified as high risk, may pose a risk in the future. Any asbestos that may pose a risk in the future will be removed from Greenhills Primary School by 2020 with a cost to be determined at a school level at the time. Over the next three years we will replace 100 school buildings and remove asbestos at more than 1200 schools.

You are no doubt acutely aware of the fact the Liberals did not allocate one cent to fund a dedicated Asbestos Removal Program. Instead the Department was forced to fund removal of Asbestos on a reactive basis, through a very small internal allocation of funds. Your solution, as a member of Cabinet under the former Liberal Government solution, was to slap asbestos stickers on buildings, turn your back, and walk away.

I am sure parents and students at Greenhills Primary School will be confident in knowing that it is only the Labor Government who will support them with any required asbestos removal in the future. It is also worth noting that the current Labor Government has now invested more than \$35 million into school infrastructure across the Eltham electorate, compared to a mere \$4 million under the former Liberal Government's first 3 budgets.

**Education**

**12 274. MS WOOLDRIDGE** — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Education): Has the Government determined that Lower Plenty Primary School's facilities contain asbestos and if so —

- (1) when will work to remove the asbestos be carried out; and
- (2) how much is it expected to cost.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Andrews Labor Government is rolling out the largest ever removal of asbestos from our schools. The Government is investing \$155 million as part of the Asbestos Removal Program. The state-wide audit of 1712 government school sites found high risk asbestos at 497 schools. And by March 2016 we had removed it all.

We are now moving on to the next phase of our asbestos removal program — targeting asbestos that, although not classified as high risk, may pose a risk in the future. Any asbestos that may pose a risk in the future will be removed from Lower Plenty Primary School by 2020 with a cost to be determined at a school level at the time. Over the next three years we will replace 100 school buildings and remove asbestos at more than 1200 schools.

You are no doubt acutely aware of the fact the Liberals did not allocate one cent to fund a dedicated Asbestos Removal Program. Instead the Department was forced to fund removal of Asbestos on a reactive basis, through a very small internal allocation of funds. Your solution, as a member of Cabinet under the former Liberal Government solution, was to slap asbestos stickers on buildings, turn your back, and walk away.

I am sure parents and students at Lower Plenty Primary School will be confident in knowing that it is only the Labor Government who will support them with any required asbestos removal in the future. It is also worth noting that the current Labor Government has now invested more than \$35 million into school infrastructure across the Eltham electorate, compared to a mere \$4 million under the former Liberal Government's first 3 budgets.

**Education**

**12 275. MS WOOLDRIDGE** — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Education): Has the Government determined that Montmorency Primary School's facilities contain asbestos and if so —

- (1) when will work to remove the asbestos be carried out; and
- (2) how much is it expected to cost.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Andrews Labor Government is rolling out the largest ever removal of asbestos from our schools. The Government is investing \$155 million as part of the Asbestos Removal Program. The state-wide audit of 1712 government school sites found high risk asbestos at 497 schools. And by March 2016 we had removed it all.

We are now moving on to the next phase of our asbestos removal program — targeting asbestos that, although not classified as high risk, may pose a risk in the future. Any asbestos that may pose a risk in the future will be removed

from Montmorency Primary School by 2020 with a cost to be determined at a school level at the time. Over the next three years we will replace 100 school buildings and remove asbestos at more than 1200 schools.

You are no doubt acutely aware of the fact the Liberals did not allocate one cent to fund a dedicated Asbestos Removal Program. Instead the Department was forced to fund removal of Asbestos on a reactive basis, through a very small internal allocation of funds. Your solution, as a member of Cabinet under the former Liberal Government solution, was to slap asbestos stickers on buildings, turn your back, and walk away.

I am sure parents and students at Montmorency Primary School will be confident in knowing that it is only the Labor Government who will support them with any required asbestos removal in the future. It is also worth noting that the current Labor Government has now invested more than \$35 million into school infrastructure across the Eltham electorate, compared to a mere \$4 million under the former Liberal Government's first 3 budgets.

### Education

**12 276. MS WOOLDRIDGE** — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Education): Has the Government determined that Montmorency Secondary College's facilities contain asbestos and if so —

- (1) when will work to remove the asbestos be carried out; and
- (2) how much is it expected to cost.

#### ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

The Andrews Labor Government is rolling out the largest ever removal of asbestos from our schools. The Government is investing \$155 million as part of the Asbestos Removal Program. The state-wide audit of 1712 government school sites found high risk asbestos at 497 schools. And by March 2016 we had removed it all

We are now moving on to the next phase of our asbestos removal program — targeting asbestos that, although not classified as high risk, may pose a risk in the future. Any asbestos that may pose a risk in the future will be removed from Montmorency Secondary College by 2020 with a cost to be determined at a school level at the time. Over the next three years we will replace 100 school buildings and remove asbestos at more than 1200 schools.

You are no doubt acutely aware of the fact the Liberals did not allocate one cent to fund a dedicated Asbestos Removal Program. Instead the Department was forced to fund removal of Asbestos on a reactive basis, through a very small internal allocation of funds. Your solution, as a member of Cabinet under the former Liberal Government solution, was to slap asbestos stickers on buildings, turn your back, and walk away.

I am sure parents and students at Montmorency Secondary College will be confident in knowing that it is only the Labor Government who will support them with any required asbestos removal in the future. It is also worth noting that the current Labor Government has now invested more than \$35 million into school infrastructure across the Eltham electorate, compared to a mere \$4 million under the former Liberal Government's first 3 budgets.

### Education

**12 277. MS WOOLDRIDGE** — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Education): Has the Government determined that Montmorency South Primary School's facilities contain asbestos and if so —

- (1) when will work to remove the asbestos be carried out; and
- (2) how much is it expected to cost.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Andrews Labor Government is rolling out the largest ever removal of asbestos from our schools. The Government is investing \$155 million as part of the Asbestos Removal Program. The state-wide audit of 1712 government school sites found high risk asbestos at 497 schools. And by March 2016 we had removed it all.

We are now moving on to the next phase of our asbestos removal program — targeting asbestos that, although not classified as high risk, may pose a risk in the future. Any asbestos that may pose a risk in the future will be removed from Montmorency South Primary School by 2020 with a cost to be determined at a school level at the time. Over the next three years we will replace 100 school buildings and remove asbestos at more than 1200 schools.

You are no doubt acutely aware of the fact the Liberals did not allocate one cent to fund a dedicated Asbestos Removal Program. Instead the Department was forced to fund removal of Asbestos on a reactive basis, through a very small internal allocation of funds. Your solution, as a member of Cabinet under the former Liberal Government solution, was to slap asbestos stickers on buildings, turn your back, and walk away.

I am sure parents and students at Montmorency South Primary School will be confident in knowing that it is only the Labor Government who will support them with any required asbestos removal in the future. It is also worth noting that the current Labor Government has now invested more than \$35 million into school infrastructure across the Eltham electorate, compared to a mere \$4 million under the former Liberal Government’s first 3 budgets.

**Education**

**12 278. MS WOOLDRIDGE** — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Education): Has the Government determined that Research Primary School’s facilities contain asbestos and if so —

- (1) when will work to remove the asbestos be carried out; and
- (2) how much is it expected to cost.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Andrews Labor Government is rolling out the largest ever removal of asbestos from our schools. The Government is investing \$155 million as part of the Asbestos Removal Program. The state-wide audit of 1712 government school sites found high risk asbestos at 497 schools. And by March 2016 we had removed it all

We are now moving on to the next phase of our asbestos removal program — targeting asbestos that, although not classified as high risk, may pose a risk in the future. Any asbestos that may pose a risk in the future will be removed from Research Primary School by 2020 with a cost to be determined at a school level at the time. Over the next three years we will replace 100 school buildings and remove asbestos at more than 1200 schools.

You are no doubt acutely aware of the fact the Liberals did not allocate one cent to fund a dedicated Asbestos Removal Program. Instead the Department was forced to fund removal of Asbestos on a reactive basis, through a very small internal allocation of funds. Your solution, as a member of Cabinet under the former Liberal Government solution, was to slap asbestos stickers on buildings, turn your back, and walk away.

I am sure parents and students at Research Primary School will be confident in knowing that it is only the Labor Government who will support them with any required asbestos removal in the future. It is also worth noting that the current Labor Government has now invested more than \$35 million into school infrastructure across the Eltham electorate, compared to a mere \$4 million under the former Liberal Government’s first 3 budgets.

**Education**

**12 279. MS WOOLDRIDGE** — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Education): Has the Government determined that Sherbourne Primary School’s facilities contain asbestos and if so —

- (1) when will work to remove the asbestos be carried out; and
- (2) how much is it expected to cost.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Andrews Labor Government is rolling out the largest ever removal of asbestos from our schools. The Government is investing \$155 million as part of the Asbestos Removal Program. The state-wide audit of 1712 government school sites found high risk asbestos at 497 schools. And by March 2016 we had removed it all.

We are now moving on to the next phase of our asbestos removal program — targeting asbestos that, although not classified as high risk, may pose a risk in the future. Any asbestos that may pose a risk in the future will be removed from Sherbourne Primary School by 2020 with a cost to be determined at a school level at the time. Over the next three years we will replace 100 school buildings and remove asbestos at more than 1200 schools.

You are no doubt acutely aware of the fact the Liberals did not allocate one cent to fund a dedicated Asbestos Removal Program. Instead the Department was forced to fund removal of Asbestos on a reactive basis, through a very small internal allocation of funds. Your solution, as a member of Cabinet under the former Liberal Government solution, was to slap asbestos stickers on buildings, turn your back, and walk away.

I am sure parents and students at Sherbourne Primary School will be confident in knowing that it is only the Labor Government who will support them with any required asbestos removal in the future. It is also worth noting that the current Labor Government has now invested more than \$35 million into school infrastructure across the Eltham electorate, compared to a mere \$4 million under the former Liberal Government’s first 3 budgets.

**Education**

**12 280. MS WOOLDRIDGE** — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Education): Has the Government determined that St Helena Secondary College’s facilities contain asbestos and if so —

- (1) when will work to remove the asbestos be carried out; and
- (2) how much is it expected to cost.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Andrews Labor Government is rolling out the largest ever removal of asbestos from our schools. The Government is investing \$155 million as part of the Asbestos Removal Program. The state-wide audit of 1712 government school sites found high risk asbestos at 497 schools. And by March 2016 we had removed it all.

We are now moving on to the next phase of our asbestos removal program — targeting asbestos that, although not classified as high risk, may pose a risk in the future. Any asbestos that may pose a risk in the future will be removed from St Helena Secondary College by 2020 with a cost to be determined at a school level at the time. Over the next three years we will replace 100 school buildings and remove asbestos at more than 1200 schools.

You are no doubt acutely aware of the fact the Liberals did not allocate one cent to fund a dedicated Asbestos Removal Program. Instead the Department was forced to fund removal of Asbestos on a reactive basis, through a very small internal allocation of funds. Your solution, as a member of Cabinet under the former Liberal Government solution, was to slap asbestos stickers on buildings, turn your back, and walk away.



I am sure parents and students at St Helena Secondary College will be confident in knowing that it is only the Labor Government who will support them with any required asbestos removal in the future. It is also worth noting that the current Labor Government has now invested more than \$35 million into school infrastructure across the Eltham electorate, compared to a mere \$4 million under the former Liberal Government's first 3 budgets.

### **Public transport**

**12 291. MS DUNN** — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): In relation to the heritage pedestrian overpass at Ballarat Railway Station which is not compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Cth) (DDA), how will the redevelopment provide DDA-compliant access to both platforms, between platforms and to the station carpark.

#### **ANSWER:**

The Ballarat Station Precinct Redevelopment project will deliver a new, more accessible and user friendly bus interchange as well as extra DDA compliant car spaces to make it simpler for people with a disability to park and ride.

The new commuter car park at Ballarat Station precinct will provide up to 405 spaces for public transport users. This will include designated car spaces for people with a disability. The DDA compliant car parks on the south side of the station will also be retained.

People with disabilities (or prams) can continue to access between platforms by crossing the rail tracks at the pedestrian crossing at Lydiard Street.

Transport for Victoria will continue to investigate improvements to accessibility as part of ongoing station upgrade programs.



**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, 14 December 2017**

**Public transport**

**12 284. MS HARTLAND** — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): According to the Level Crossing Removal Authority website, boom gates are down for 27 minutes in the morning peak period at the Ferguson Street level crossing in Williamstown, could the Minister please provide the raw data of when the boom gates are down and for how long each time.

**ANSWER:**

I thank the Member for Western Metropolitan for her continued interest in the Andrews Labor Government's program to remove congested and dangerous level crossings.

VicRoads produced a report as part of the Level Crossing Removal Program Business Case outlining its estimated delays caused by level crossings. The times used by Level Crossing Removal Authority (LXRA) are drawn from this document, which is available on the LXRA website as part of the Business Case that was published in May this year.

**Public transport**

**12 285. MS HARTLAND** — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): There are currently rules limiting the movement of large trucks over train tracks, with the removal of the Kororoit Creek Road level crossing and the pending Ferguson Street level crossing, does this mean that vehicles longer than 26 metres could travel without permit east of Millers Road along Kororoit Creek Road as far as Williamstown Road/Melbourne Road.

**ANSWER:**

I thank the Member for Western Metropolitan for her continued interest in the Andrews Labor Government's program of level crossing removals.

Questions regarding trucks using roads across Melbourne's west should be directed to the Minister for Roads, Road Safety and Ports, as the responsible Minister.

**Public transport**

**12 287. MS HARTLAND** — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): Will the level crossing removal at Ferguson Street, Williamstown, and the West Gate Tunnel go ahead, is will the Minister guarantee Williamstown residents that Kororoit Creek Road/Ferguson Street and Williamstown Road/Melbourne Road will not be used by trucks avoiding the West Gate Tunnel tolls.

**ANSWER:**

I thank the Member for Western Metropolitan for her continued interest in the Andrews Labor Government's program of level crossing removals.

Questions regarding trucks using roads across Melbourne's west should be directed to the Minister for Roads, Road Safety and Ports, as the responsible Minister.

**Public transport**

**12 288. MS HARTLAND** — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): With a possible increase in truck traffic on Kororoit Creek Road/Ferguson Street and Williamstown Road/Melbourne Road with removal of level crossings is there consideration for the trade-off between risks mitigated at the level crossing and the increased risks (both from a crossing safety and pollution point of view) in the surrounding area given the four schools in the area.

**ANSWER:**

I thank the Member for Western Metropolitan for her continued interest in the Andrews Labor Government’s program of level crossing removals.

Removing these level crossings is all about saving lives.

Work to remove the level crossing at Kororoit Creek Road — including the partial duplication of the Altona Loop — is now underway, with the project due for completion by the end of 2018. The level crossing at Ferguson Street will be removed by 2022.

Removal of the Ferguson Street, Williamstown level crossing is in the early planning stage. The dangerous level crossing at Ferguson Street has claimed the life of two school aged children and caused serious permanent injuries to a cyclist, who was hit and dragged along by a train.

Locals know that separating the road and rail line at Ferguson Street will keep the hundreds of school children who use this crossing each week safe.

Removing these two dangerous level crossings will significantly increase safety and better protect all members of the Williamstown community, regardless if they cycle, drive, walk or catch the train.

**Public transport**

**12 289. MS HARTLAND** — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): Will all residents in a set geographic area be contacted as part of the consultation process for the Ferguson Street level crossing removal, if so, what are the boundaries of this area.

**ANSWER:**

I thank the Member for Western Metropolitan for her continued interest in the Andrews Labor Government’s program to remove congested and dangerous level crossings.

The distribution of community updates introducing the Ferguson Street level crossing removal project have previously been sent out to approximately 8500 properties within Williamstown.

The project is currently in the early planning stage and when it moves into the first phase of consultation, the community will be notified through ads in local papers, social media, emails to community groups and subscribers, pop-ups at the local train stations and shopping areas, as well as distribution of community updates or letters inviting residents to participate.

**Public transport**

**12 348. MS WOOLDRIDGE** — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): Is any consideration being given to introducing a bus route along Bolton Street, Eltham, once it has been upgraded.

**ANSWER:**

The Andrews Labor Government recognises the important role that buses play in meeting the travel needs of people living in Melbourne’s outer suburbs, and regularly reviews the entire metropolitan bus network.

Transport for Victoria will consider this request as part of a future bus network review once the road is upgraded.

**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.*

**Friday, 15 December 2017**

**Special Minister of State**

**11 475. MR RICH-PHILLIPS** — To ask the Special Minister of State: How many full time equivalent ministerial staff (including those working on secondment from departments or agencies) were working within your ministerial office, as of 1 July 2017.

**ANSWER:**

I can advise that no ministerial staff are employed by myself but rather employed by the Premier.

I refer you to his answer to Question on Notice 11476.

Please note that numbers regarding departmental staff on secondment are not held by my office or the Premier's office but their own relevant agency.

**Premier**

**11 476. MR RICH-PHILLIPS** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): How many full time equivalent ministerial staff (including those working on secondment from departments or agencies) were working within the Premier's office, as of 1 July 2017.

**ANSWER:**

All ministerial advisers who work across government are employed through my office.

As of 1 July 2017, I am advised that 250.38 FTE people were employed.

Please note that numbers regarding departmental staff on secondment are not held by my office but their own relevant agency.

*[Question 11 476 reinstated by order of President on 20 October 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 17 October 2017, page 5351.]*

**Special Minister of State**

**11 497. MR RICH-PHILLIPS** — To ask the Special Minister of State: How many female ministerial staff (including those working on secondment from departments or agencies) were working within your ministerial office, as of 1 July 2017.

**ANSWER:**

I can advise that no ministerial staff are employed by myself but rather employed by the Premier.

I refer you to his answer to Question on Notice 11498.

Please note that numbers regarding departmental staff on secondment are not held by my office or the Premier's office but their own relevant agency.

**Premier**

**11 498. MR RICH-PHILLIPS** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): How many female ministerial staff (including those working on secondment from departments or agencies) were working within the Premier's office, as of 1 July 2017.

**ANSWER:**

All ministerial advisers who work across government are employed through my office.

As of 1 July 2017, I am advised that 120.20 FTE female employees were employed.

Please note that numbers regarding departmental staff on secondment are not held by my office but their own relevant agency.

*[Question 11 498 reinstated by order of President on 20 October 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 17 October 2017, page 5353.]*

**Special Minister of State**

**11 520. MR RICH-PHILLIPS** — To ask the Special Minister of State: How many full time equivalent ministerial staff (including those working on secondment from departments or agencies) were working within your ministerial office, as of 1 July 2016.

**ANSWER:**

I can advise that no ministerial staff are employed by myself but rather employed by the Premier.

I refer you to his answer to Question on Notice 11521.

Please note that numbers regarding departmental staff on secondment are not held by my office or the Premier's office but their own relevant agency.

**Premier**

**11 521. MR RICH-PHILLIPS** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): How many full time equivalent ministerial staff (including those working on secondment from departments or agencies) were working within the Premier's office, as of 1 July 2016.

**ANSWER:**

All ministerial advisers who work across government are employed through my office.

As of 1 July 2016, I am advised that 217.59 FTE people were employed.

Please note that numbers regarding departmental staff on secondment are not held by my office but their own relevant agency.

*[Question 11 521 reinstated by order of President on 20 October 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 17 October 2017, page 5356.]*

**Special Minister of State**

**11 542. MR RICH-PHILLIPS** — To ask the Special Minister of State: How many female ministerial staff (including those working on secondment from departments or agencies) were working within your ministerial office, as of 1 July 2016.

**ANSWER:**

I can advise that no ministerial staff are employed by myself but rather employed by the Premier.

I refer you to his answer to Question on Notice 11543.

Please note that numbers regarding departmental staff on secondment are not held by my office or the Premier's office but their own relevant agency.

**Premier**

**11 543. MR RICH-PHILLIPS** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): How many female ministerial staff (including those working on secondment from departments or agencies) were working within the Premier's office, as of 1 July 2016.

**ANSWER:**

All ministerial advisers who work across government are employed through my office.

As of 1 July 2016, I am advised that 122.19 FTE female employees were employed.

Please note that numbers regarding departmental staff on secondment are not held by my office but their own relevant agency.

*[Question 11 543 reinstated by order of President on 20 October 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 17 October 2017, page 5358.]*

**Special Minister of State**

**11 564. MR RICH-PHILLIPS** — To ask the Special Minister of State: How many new employees commenced work within your ministerial office (including those working on secondment from departments or agencies) between 1 July 2015 and 1 July 2016.

**ANSWER:**

I can advise that no ministerial staff are employed by myself but rather employed by the Premier.

I refer you to his answer to Question on Notice 11565.

Please note that numbers regarding departmental staff on secondment are not held by my office or the Premier's office but their own relevant agency.

**Premier**

**11 565. MR RICH-PHILLIPS** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Premier): How many new employees commenced work within the Premier's office (including those working on secondment from departments or agencies) between 1 July 2015 and 1 July 2016.

**ANSWER:**

All ministerial advisers who work across government are employed through my office.

I am advised that 69 new employees commenced their employment between 1 July 2015 and 1 July 2016.

Numbers regarding departmental staff on secondment are not held by my office but their own relevant agency.

*[Question 11 565 reinstated by order of President on 20 October 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 17 October 2017, page 5361.]*

**Energy, environment and climate change**

**11 874. MRS PEULICH** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): The Parks Victoria Annual Report 2016-17 details that Parks Victoria is implementing a Healthy Choices program for staff, how does this Healthy Choices program reconcile with the fact that Parks Victoria credit card statements have revealed staff spent more than \$48 000 on takeaway food for lunches and dinners and that healthy food options only made up 0.46 per cent of takeaway spend.

**ANSWER:**

Parks Victoria staff work in regional and remote locations with limited food options, especially while travelling. An increasing number of retail take-away food outlets are offering healthier food choices and staff are encouraged to purchase healthier options in line with the Healthy Food Choices guidelines.

Parks Victoria is working to reduce the number of active credit cards following an independent external audit earlier in 2017.

**Public transport**

**12 347. MS WOOLDRIDGE** — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Public Transport): Will the Government build further car parking, such as a multi-storey building, at Watsonia Railway Station as part of the North East Link construction.

**ANSWER:**

On 24 November 2017, the Victorian Government announced the preferred corridor for the North East Link.

The North East Link business case will be submitted next year. Planning for the project is now underway to inform the planning and environmental approvals required for the project.

As part of the Victorian Government's \$20 million commitment to fund additional park spaces at 16 railway stations, on 2 November 2017 VicTrack completed the upgrade of Watsonia Station, having opened 101 new commuter parking spaces.

The North East Link route will run beside the Watsonia railway station. As part of the planning and development work, the North East Link Authority will investigate how the project can enable further improvements for commuters accessing the station.