

PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA

**PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(HANSARD)**

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

FIFTY-EIGHTH PARLIAMENT

FIRST SESSION

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

17, 18, 19 and 20 October 2017

(Extract from book 17)

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

By authority of the Victorian Government Printer

The Governor

The Honourable LINDA DESSAU, AC

The Lieutenant-Governor

The Honourable Justice MARILYN WARREN, AC, QC

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

(from 13 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
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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
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 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, #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 Elasmar, 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 ¹	Northern Metropolitan	Greens	Morris, Mr Joshua	Western Victoria	LP
Bath, Ms Melina ²	Eastern Victoria	Nats	Mulino, Mr Daniel	Eastern Victoria	ALP
Bourman, Mr Jeffrey	Eastern Victoria	SFFP	O'Brien, Mr Daniel David ⁷	Eastern Victoria	Nats
Carling-Jenkins, Dr Rachel ³	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 ⁸	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 ⁴	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
Elasmar, Mr Nazih	Northern Metropolitan	ALP	Ramsay, Mr Simon	Western Victoria	LP
Finn, Mr Bernard Thomas C.	Western Metropolitan	LP	Ratnam, Dr Samantha Shantini ⁹	Northern Metropolitan	Greens
Fitzherbert, Ms Margaret	Southern Metropolitan	LP	Rich-Phillips, Mr Gordon Kenneth	South Eastern Metropolitan	LP
Gepp, Mr Mark ⁵	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 ⁶	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

¹ Resigned 28 September 2017

² Appointed 15 April 2015

³ DLP until 26 June 2017

⁴ Resigned 27 May 2016

⁵ Appointed 7 June 2017

⁶ Resigned 6 April 2017

⁷ Resigned 25 February 2015

⁸ Appointed 12 October 2016

⁹ 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, 17 October 2017

Health

11 217. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): In December 2016, it was publically reported that 943 patients waiting for plastic and reconstructive surgery were not on the waiting list —

- (1) were all 943 patients offered an appointment within three months;
- (2) are all these patients now recorded on the waiting list;
- (3) has the subsequent independent audit of all Victorian Health Services been completed; and
- (4) did the audit find any evidence of data manipulation.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

- The independent audit has been completed and the report is available on the www.health.vic.gov.au web-site.

Health

11 221. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children (for the Minister for Health): In relation to the Victorian Agency for Health Information —

- (1) what is the total full time equivalent (FTE) allocation at the Victorian Agency for Health Information;
- (2) how many FTE at the Victorian Agency for Health Information are new positions;
- (3) how many FTE are existing positions transferred from other parts of Department of Health and Human Services and other Departments;
- (4) do these numbers include contractors and consultants;
- (5) how many contractors and consultants does Victorian Agency for Health Information employ; and
- (6) what is the establishment and operational cost, including governance, of the Victorian Agency for Health Information in 2016-17 and 2017-18.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Andrews Labor Government is determined that the devastating consequences of chronic underfunding and poor management of the health system, revealed in the investigation prompted by avoidable stillbirths or deaths of babies at Djerriwarrah Health Services in 2013 and 2014, should not be repeated.

To this end, in 2016/2017 the Victorian Government provided \$17 million to strengthen oversight of quality and safety. The 2017-18 Victorian Budget allocated a further \$215 million to implement the recommendations of the report Targeting Zero: supporting the Victorian hospital system to eliminate avoidable harm and strengthen quality of care, including the establishment, operationalisation, and governance of Safer Care Victoria and the Victorian Agency for Health Information. Better Care Victoria is part of Safer Care Victorian.

As at May 2017, these organisations were staffed by approximately 100 full time equivalent (FTE) staff. This includes ongoing and time limited positions. A majority of these positions have been transferred from other parts of the Department of Health and Human Services and other Departments.

Families and children

11 359. MS SPRINGLE — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to the number of children receiving an intensive support service: In the 2017-18 Budget Papers, the number of children receiving intensive support services remained at 1400 since 2014-15, a small decrease on the 2013-14 outcome, and as Victoria's population has grown at record pace in recent years, there is an upward trend in the number of reports of child abuse and neglect: Could the Minister advise why the Government is investing in fewer and fewer intensive support services for vulnerable children in real terms every year.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Intensive support services are only one of a number of programs funded to support vulnerable children and young people and form a small part of the Government's overall response.

Since coming to office this Government has invested in a major expansion in programs to deliver support to vulnerable children and young people and their families. The budget for the Child Protection and Family Services output has increased from \$866 million in 2014-15 to an expected \$1364.2 million in 2017-18.

This Government has put in place a major reform policy through the Roadmap for Reform, and has funded this policy through a range of investments including, but not limited to:

- \$31.3 million over four years to improve financial support for carers by increasing care allowances
- \$35.9 million to improve safety in residential care by funding a night time stand-up staff member and development of Overnight Safety Plans
- \$21.3 million over four years extend the Springboard program to support young people in residential care to transition to independent living
- \$39.4 million over four years announced in the 2015-16 Budget to meet the need for additional out-of-home care placements.
- \$62 million over four years for Targeted Care Packages announced in 2015.
- \$59.6 million in the 2017-18 Budget to deliver an 1982 home-based care placements and funding for 100 additional Targeted Care Packages to divert children and young people from residential care.
- \$71.1 million in the 2017-18 budget to employ an additional 450 child protection workers to support a continued capacity to respond to child protection reports.
- \$29.2 million in the 2017-18 budget to expand capacity in the family services program to provide support to over 1200 additional families experiencing challenges while also expanding the range of supports available to offer more families more intensive assistance (up to 200 hours).
- \$19 million to expand Cradle to Kinder to statewide coverage, and Aboriginal Cradle to Kinder to 10 locations.

In 2015-16, the government also invested an additional \$48.1 million (over four years and ongoing) to boost capacity in Child FIRST and Integrated Family Services.

In 2016-17, the government provided \$5.65 million (12 month funding) to increase responses in family services, particularly for those experiencing family violence.

In 2016-17, the government provided \$22.87 million to trial 26 pilot projects across Victoria to provide therapeutic support to women and children who are victim/survivors of family violence. A further \$100 million over four years was provided in the 2017-18 budget for counselling and therapeutic supports for victims of family violence. This will fund 11 000 additional cases of assistance including 3500 children.

Emergency services

11 459. MS WOOLDRIDGE — For the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade (for the Minister for Emergency Services): Will the Minister guarantee that the State Emergency Service Nillumbik Unit will continue to carry out car rescues following proposed Governmental changes to local firefighting arrangements.

ANSWER:

The Government's proposed changes to the Victorian fire services will not change the role of VICSES Units in respect to road crash rescue. The State Emergency Service Nillumbik Unit will continue to carry out road crash rescues now and into the future.

Roads and road safety

11 474. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Roads and Road Safety): 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 am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

[Question 11 474 reinstated by order of President on 21 September 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 19 September 2017, page 4999.]

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:

I am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

[Question 11 476 reinstated by order of President on 6 September 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 23 August 201X, page 4433.]

Treasurer

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

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

[Question 11 477 reinstated by order of President on 21 September 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 19 September 2017, page 5000.]

Industry and employment

11 479. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Industry and Employment): 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 am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

Energy, environment and climate change

11 480. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): 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 am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

[Question 11 480 reinstated by order of President on 19 September 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 6 September 2017, page 4697.]

Major projects

11 482. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Major Projects): 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 am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

[Question 11 482 reinstated by order of President on 21 September 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 19 September 2017, page 5000.]

Training and skills

11 492. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills: 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 am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

[Question 11 492 reinstated by order of President on 19 September 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 8 September 2017, page 4717.]

Attorney-General

11 493. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Attorney-General): 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 am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

Roads and road safety

11 496. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Roads and Road Safety): 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 am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

[Question 11 496 reinstated by order of President on 21 September 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 19 September 2017, page 5003.]

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:

I am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

[Question 11 498 reinstated by order of President on 6 September 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 23 August 2017, page 4434.]

Treasurer

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

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

[Question 11 499 reinstated by order of President on 21 September 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 19 September 2017, page 5004.]

Industry and employment

11 501. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Industry and Employment): 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 am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

Energy, environment and climate change

11 502. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): 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 am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

[Question 11 502 reinstated by order of President on 19 September 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 6 September 2017, page 4699.]

Industrial relations

11 503. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Industrial Relations): 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 am advised that:

Budget allocation of staff is reported as per past practice.

It is ironic that the member has asked fishing questions to Ministers including questions about female employment, given the Coalition only has three women sitting on the front bench in each house of Parliament.

The Andrews Labor Government is proud to stand in contrast to the Coalition on its record of hiring and promoting women into leadership positions.

This is demonstrated by our Government's policy to ensure women are better represented on boards—with a requirement of reaching 50 per cent representation. This pledge has increased the number of women appointed to paid boards in Victoria from 38 per cent to over 50 per cent in just two years.

In addition, Victoria's first female Minister for Agriculture Jaala Pulford announced funding from the 2017–2018 Victorian Budget to re-establish the much loved Victorian Rural Women's Network. It speaks volumes that the former Coalition Government cut this vital service.

Minister Neville, Victoria's first female Minister for Police, recently honoured Madge Connor, Victoria's first policewoman, to recognise her role as a pioneer for women in the force. In 2017, Victoria Police is proud to have more than 4000 women serving as police officers, and many more public servants, Protective Services Officers and Police Custody Officers. A third of all police recruits are female and the current recruitment drive for 3135 new police encourages women to sign up, as part the Labor Government's push through the Community Safety Statement to improve gender equality within Victoria Police.

These are just some of the many examples of our Labor Government's commitment to pursuing the interests of all Victorians.

Major projects

11 504. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Major Projects): 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 am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

[Question 11 504 reinstated by order of President on 21 September 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 19 September 2017, page 5004.]

Training and skills

11 515. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills: 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 am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

[Question 11 515 reinstated by order of President on 19 September 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 8 September 2017, page 4718.]

Attorney-General

11 516. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Attorney-General): 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 am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

Roads and road safety

11 519. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Roads and Road Safety): 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 am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

[Question 11 519 reinstated by order of President on 21 September 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 19 September 2017, page 5007.]

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:

I am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

[Question 11 521 reinstated by order of President on 6 September 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 23 August 2017, page 4435.]

Treasurer

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

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

[Question 11 522 reinstated by order of President on 21 September 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 19 September 2017, page 5008.]

Industry and employment

11 524. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Industry and Employment): 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 am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

Energy, environment and climate change

11 525. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): 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 am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

[Question 11 525 reinstated by order of President on 19 September 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 6 September 2017, page 4701.]

Industrial relations

11 526. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Industrial Relations): 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 am advised that:

Budget allocation of staff is reported as per past practice.

It is ironic that the member has asked fishing questions to Ministers including questions about female employment, given the Coalition only has three women sitting on the front bench in each house of Parliament.

The Andrews Labor Government is proud to stand in contrast to the Coalition on its record of hiring and promoting women into leadership positions.

This is demonstrated by our Government's policy to ensure women are better represented on boards—with a requirement of reaching 50 per cent representation. This pledge has increased the number of women appointed to paid boards in Victoria from 38 per cent to over 50 per cent in just two years.

In addition, Victoria's first female Minister for Agriculture Jaala Pulford announced funding from the 2017–2018 Victorian Budget to re-establish the much loved Victorian Rural Women's Network. It speaks volumes that the former Coalition Government cut this vital service.

Minister Neville, Victoria's first female Minister for Police, recently honoured Madge Connor, Victoria's first policewoman, to recognise her role as a pioneer for women in the force. In 2017, Victoria Police is proud to have more than 4000 women serving as police officers, and many more public servants, Protective Services Officers and Police Custody Officers. A third of all police recruits are female and the current recruitment drive for 3135 new police encourages women to sign up, as part the Labor Government's push through the Community Safety Statement to improve gender equality within Victoria Police.

These are just some of the many examples of our Labor Government's commitment to pursuing the interests of all Victorians.

Major projects

11 527. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Major Projects): 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 am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

[Question 11 527 reinstated by order of President on 21 September 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 19 September 2017, page 5009.]

Training and skills

11 537. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills: 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 am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

[Question 11 537 reinstated by order of President on 19 September 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 8 September 2017, page 4718.]

Attorney-General

11 538. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Attorney-General): 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 am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

Roads and road safety

11 541. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Roads and Road Safety): 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 am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

[Question 11 541 reinstated by order of President on 21 September 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 19 September 2017, page 5012.]

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:

I am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

[Question 11 543 reinstated by order of President on 6 September 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 23 August 2017, page 4435.]

Treasurer

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

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

[Question 11 544 reinstated by order of President on 21 September 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 19 September 2017, page 5012.]

Industry and employment

11 546. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Industry and Employment): 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 am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

Energy, environment and climate change

11 547. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): 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 am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

[Question 11 547 reinstated by order of President on 19 September 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 6 September 2017, page 4703.]

Industrial relations

11 548. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Industrial Relations): 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 am advised that:

Budget allocation of staff is reported as per past practice.

It is ironic that the member has asked fishing questions to Ministers including questions about female employment, given the Coalition only has three women sitting on the front bench in each house of Parliament.

The Andrews Labor Government is proud to stand in contrast to the Coalition on its record of hiring and promoting women into leadership positions.

This is demonstrated by our Government's policy to ensure women are better represented on boards—with a requirement of reaching 50 per cent representation. This pledge has increased the number of women appointed to paid boards in Victoria from 38 per cent to over 50 per cent in just two years.

In addition Victoria's first female Minister for Agriculture Jaala Pulford announced funding from the 2017–2018 Victorian Budget to re-establish the much loved Victorian Rural Women's Network. It speaks volumes that the former Coalition Government cut this vital service.

Minister Neville, Victoria's first female Minister for Police, recently honoured Madge Connor, Victoria's first policewoman, to recognise her role as a pioneer for women in the force. In 2017, Victoria Police is proud to have more than 4000 women serving as police officers, and many more public servants, Protective Services Officers and Police Custody Officers. A third of all police recruits are female and the current recruitment drive for 3135 new police encourages women to sign up, as part the Labor Government's push through the Community Safety Statement to improve gender equality within Victoria Police.

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Major projects

11 549. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Major Projects): 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 am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

[Question 11 549 reinstated by order of President on 21 September 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 19 September 2017, page 5013.]

Training and skills

11 559. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills: 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 am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

[Question 11 559 reinstated by order of President on 19 September 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 8 September 2017, page 4719.]

Attorney-General

11 560. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Attorney-General): 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 am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

Roads and road safety

11 563. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Roads and Road Safety): 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 am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

[Question 11 563 reinstated by order of President on 21 September 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 19 September 2017, page 5015.]

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:

I am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

[Question 11 565 reinstated by order of President on 6 September 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 23 August 2017, page 4436.]

Treasurer

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

ANSWER:

I am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

[Question 11 566 reinstated by order of President on 21 September 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 19 September 2017, page 5016.]

Industry and employment

11 568. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Industry and Employment): 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 am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

Energy, environment and climate change

11 569. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change): 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 am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

[Question 11 569 reinstated by order of President on 19 September 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 6 September 2017, page 4705.]

Industrial relations

11 570. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Industrial Relations): 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 am advised that:

Budget allocation of staff is reported as per past practice.

It is ironic that the member has asked fishing questions to Ministers including questions about female employment, given the Coalition only has three women sitting on the front bench in each house of Parliament.

The Andrews Labor Government is proud to stand in contrast to the Coalition on its record of hiring and promoting women into leadership positions.

This is demonstrated by our Government's policy to ensure women are better represented on boards.-with a requirement of reaching 50 per cent representation. This pledge has increased the number of women appointed to paid boards in Victoria from 38 per cent to over 50 per cent in just two years.

In addition, Victoria's first female Minister for Agriculture Jaala Pulford announced funding from the 2017–2018 Victorian Budget to re-establish the much loved Victorian Rural Women's Network. It speaks volumes that the former Coalition Government cut this vital service.

Minister Neville, Victoria's first female Minister for Police, recently honoured Madge Connor, Victoria's first policewoman, to recognise her role as a pioneer for women in the force. In 2017, Victoria Police is proud to have more than 4000 women serving as police officers, and many more public servants, Protective Services Officers and Police Custody Officers. A third of all police recruits are female and the current recruitment drive for 3135 new

police encourages women to sign up, as part the Labor Government's push through the Community Safety Statement to improve gender equality within Victoria Police.

These are just some of the many examples of our Labor Government's commitment to pursuing the interest of all Victorians.

Major projects

11 571. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Major Projects): 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 am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

[Question 11 571 reinstated by order of President on 21 September 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 19 September 2017, page 5017.]

Water

11 572. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Water): 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:

Budget allocation of staff is reported as per past practice.

It is ironic that the member has asked fishing questions to Ministers including questions about female employment, given the Coalition only has three women sitting on the front bench in each house of Parliament.

The Andrews Labor Government is proud to stand in contrast to the Coalition on its record of hiring and promoting women into leadership positions.

This is demonstrated by our Government's policy to ensure women are better represented on boards—with a requirement of reaching 50 per cent representation. This pledge has increased the number of women appointed to paid boards in Victoria from 38 per cent to over 50 per cent in just two years.

In addition, Victoria's first female Minister for Agriculture Jaala Pulford announced funding from the 2017–2018 Victorian Budget to re-establish the much loved Victorian Rural Women's Network. It speaks volumes that the former Coalition Government cut this vital service.

In my capacity as Victoria's first female Minister for Police, I recently honoured Madge Connor, Victoria's first policewoman, to recognise her role as a pioneer for women in the force. In 2017, Victoria Police is proud to have more than 4000 women serving as police officers, and many more public servants, Protective Services Officers and Police Custody Officers. A third of all police recruits are female and the current recruitment drive for 3135 new police encourages women to sign up, as part the Labor Government's push through the Community Safety Statement to improve gender equality within Victoria Police.

These are just some of the many examples of our Labor Government's commitment to pursuing the interests of all Victorians.

Training and skills

11 581. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills: 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 am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

[Question 11 581 reinstated by order of President on 19 September 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 8 September 2017, page 4719.]

Attorney-General

11 582. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Attorney-General): 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 am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

Finance

11 584. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Finance): In relation to the Greener Government Buildings program, how much was spent on this program by Government in 2016-17.

ANSWER:

Money spent on the Greener Government Buildings program by the Government in 2016-17 was enough to fund one project.

This project not only brings environmental benefits, but it strengthens the State's finances by producing savings on energy bills.

Finance

11 585. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Finance): In relation to the Greener Government Buildings program, how many different projects were funded under this program in 2016-17.

ANSWER:

In relation to the Greener Government Buildings program, one project was funded in 2016-17.

This project not only brings environmental benefits, but it strengthens the State's finances by producing savings on energy bills.

Finance

11 586. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Finance): In relation to the Greener Government Buildings program, how many different suppliers were engaged by the Government under Greener Government Buildings projects in 2016-17.

ANSWER:

In relation to the Greener Government Buildings program, two suppliers were engaged in 2016-17.

This project not only brings environmental benefits, but it strengthens the State's finances by producing savings on energy bills.

Finance

11 587. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Finance): In relation to the Greener Government Buildings program, how much does the Government plan to spend on the Greener Government Buildings program in 2017-18, and on how many different projects.

ANSWER:

The Government intends to spend enough money on the Greener Government Buildings program in 2017-18 to fund nine projects.

This project not only brings environmental benefits, but it strengthens the State's finances by producing savings on energy bills.

Finance

11 588. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Finance): In relation to the Greener Government Buildings program, what is the estimated saving for the Government, in the dollar terms to the nearest thousand, on electricity and gas bills in 2017-18 specifically as a result of the projects completed under the Greener Government Buildings program in 2016-17.

ANSWER:

In relation to the Greener Government Buildings program, the Government estimates to save \$510 928 specifically as a result of projects completed in 2016-17.

This project not only brings environmental benefits, but it strengthens the State's finances by producing savings on energy bills.

Finance

11 589. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Finance): In relation to Greener Government Buildings program, what is the estimated saving for Government, in the dollar terms to the nearest thousand, on electricity and gas bills in 2017-18 specifically as a result of the projects completed under the Greener Government Buildings program in 2017-18.

ANSWER:

In relation to the Greener Government Buildings program, the Government estimates to save \$973 475 on electricity and gas bills in 2017-18 specifically as a result of projects completed in 2017-18.

This project not only brings environmental benefits, but it strengthens the State's finances by producing savings on energy bills.

Finance

11 590. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Finance): In relation to the Government’s decision to increase stamp duty on new cars, how is this decision consistent with the road safety outcomes pursued by the Transport Accident Commission (TAC), given the TAC has stated that driving a new car is one of the most significant factors in reducing road death and serious injury, and this policy will make new cars substantially less affordable for Victorians.

ANSWER:

Stamp duty is an issue that falls under the portfolio responsibility of the Treasurer.

Resources

11 598. MS HARTLAND — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Resources): In relation to the Woodvale Evaporative Ponds, including the risks to public safety and correspondence between the Bendigo and District Environment Council Inc. and the Minister: Did the Minister authorise correspondence sent from his office by Mr Stensholt on 21 April 2017 to the Bendigo and District Environmental Council Inc. regarding the Woodvale Evaporative Ponds.

ANSWER:

Responses are prepared for signature by a Minister or a Minister’s Chief of Staff, on appropriate letterhead allowing Ministers to communicate directly with Members of Parliament, key stakeholders and the public.

Resources

11 599. MS HARTLAND — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Resources): In relation to the Woodvale Evaporative Ponds: How was risk to public safety measured at the Woodvale Evaporative Ponds site.

ANSWER:

Earth Resources Regulation, in consultation with the community, regulates Victoria’s earth resources industry to ensure the public is protected from any risks associated with mining activity.

The risks at the Woodvale Evaporative Ponds site were determined as part of the risk-based work plan assessment provided by the operator and reviewed by Earth Resources Regulation.

Earth Resources Regulation also obtained environmental monitoring data for the site during the assessment, reviewed independent technical reports and consulted with the Environment Protection Authority.

Resources

11 600. MS HARTLAND — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Resources): In relation to the Government commissioned study (‘Water Tank and Soil Sampling Report–Woodvale’ by Senversa completed June 2015) which found that there were elevated levels of arsenic in soil and domestic water tanks close to the Woodvale site: Was this taken into account when measuring risk to public safety.

ANSWER:

Earth Resources Regulation’s assessment of the risk based work plan for the Woodvale Evaporative Ponds site included review of the Senversa July 2015 report.

The report concluded that there were no tank water samples which reported arsenic concentrations above the potable water guideline of 0.01 mg/L.

The report also concluded that arsenic concentrations in soil were not considered to be a risk to human health.

As part of the recent work plan variation approved by Earth Resources Regulation, the licence holder, GBM Gold, is required to engage an EPA appointed environmental auditor by 10 November 2017 to conduct a risk audit at Woodvale in accordance with section 53V of the Environment Protection Act 1970.

Following completion of the section 53V audit and rehabilitation of the site, the licensee will also be required to undertake a section 53X audit to verify that rehabilitation plan outcomes have been achieved.

Families and children

11 602. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to the responsibility for Youth Justice moving from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to the Department of Justice and Regulation (DJR) on 3 April 2017 —

- (1) how many staff who worked in Youth Justice under DHHS will not, or have not been offered a role under the DJR; and
- (2) how many new staff have been employed by the DJR to work in the Youth Justice area.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

In 2016 the Andrews Labor Government funded an additional 41 new youth justice worker positions across the system, and undertaken new recruitment processes to have a pipeline of applicants. This will improve the safety of staff and young offenders at Youth Justice precincts.

In response to the Armytage/Ogloff reviews, I announced \$50 million to address its most pressing recommendations, including greater workforce capability by providing better training and a targeted recruitment campaign including an additional 21 Safety and Emergency Response Team (SERT) staff. Recruitment is underway to strengthen the youth justice workforce, including additional frontline unit staff to bolster coverage of day to day operations.

All staff who worked in Youth Justice under DHHS were offered a role under DJR.

As at 9 September 2017, 46 new staff have been employed by DJR to work in Youth Justice.

Families and children

11 606. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to the responsibility for Youth Justice moving from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to the Department of Justice and Regulation (DJR) on 3 April 2017, as at 15 August 2017, what is the total cost for changes for new Youth Justice uniforms under Corrections Victoria.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

As at 15 August 2017, there have been no costs for new Youth Justice uniforms under the Department of Justice and Regulation.

Families and children

11 615. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to Youth Justice Diversion programs, as at 31 July 2017 —

- (a) how many are currently involved in the Youth Diversion program; and
- (b) how many are on waiting list to access a Youth Diversion program.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

In the first six months of operating, the Children’s Court Youth Diversion service has responded to over 700 young people.

At the same date, there were no young people on a waiting list to access diversion through the Children’s Court Youth Diversion service.

Families and children

11 616. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to Youth Justice case management, as at 31 July 2017 —

- (1) how many youths have been assigned a case manager;
- (2) how many youths were on the wait list to be assigned a case manager; and
- (3) how many youths in the Youth Justice system did not have an active case manager.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

All young people are assigned a case manager on admission to the youth justice system. This means that as at 31 July 2017, all young people under youth justice supervision would have been assigned a case manager.

Families and children

11 618. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to child protection cases, as at 31 July 2017, how many children who came into the care of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) —

- (1) have had parents who use or who have used methamphetamines;
- (2) have had parents who have been diagnosed with mental illness; and
- (3) have had parents who have or have had a criminal history.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Department of Health and Human Services reporting systems are not currently structured in a way to report on which substances are used by parents of children in the care of the Department.

Many children who come into contact with DHHS do so due to parental issues such as substance abuse, mental illness and criminal offending.

This is why the \$168m Roadmap for Reform focuses on transforming the child protection and family services sector from early intervention and prevention. This includes a focus on improving family capability.

The Andrews Labor Government invested \$48 million in Child First and Integrated Family Services in 2015-16 to enable earlier and more effective assistance for parents. A further \$5.65 million in 2016-17 and \$29.2 million in the 2017-18 budget was provided to expand case management and support for 2000 vulnerable families.

The Government has also invested \$17 million over four years in additional drug treatment services for parents seeking support to help them to resolve issues that have led to a child being removed from their care. This initiative will provide stronger access to treatment services for up to 3800 parents each year.

Families and children

11 619. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to child protection cases, as at 31 July 2017, how many children under care have been reported to be using methamphetamines.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Department of Health and Human Services reporting systems are not currently structured in a way to report an answer to the Question on Notice.

The \$180 million Ice Action Plan included funding for youth-specific drug treatment tailored to the needs of younger people, including youth specific phone and web-based services.

In 2016 the Andrews Labor Government invested \$1.9 million to expand youth alcohol and other drug treatment across the state, with youth alcohol and drug providers funded to increase the provision of early intervention and support to vulnerable young people, such as those entering and leaving out of home care, as well as individuals engaged in the child protection system.

Families and children

11 620. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to the Sexually Abusive Behaviours Treatment services being offered by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), as at 31 July 2017 —

- (1) how many children under 10 years old have accessed the service;
- (2) how many females between the age of 11 to 15-year-old have accessed the service; and
- (3) how many males between the age of 11 to 15 years old have accessed the service.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

I refer to the answer to QON 11621.

Families and children

11 621. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: Of those who have accessed Sexually Abusive Behaviours Treatment (SABT) services being offered by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), as at 31 July 2017 —

- (a) how many children have come from the metropolitan divisions; and
- (b) how many children have come from the rural divisions.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Sexually Abusive Behaviour Treatment Services seek to address problem sexual behaviours or sexually abusive behaviours in children and young people, and help families and carers understand and support the child or young person to change their behaviour.

These services work with the child or young person, their family, carers, school and community services to determine developmentally appropriate responses, such as individual and family counselling and group work.

Services for children, young people and their families are provided for up to two years, either in a voluntary capacity or subject to an order. An increasing number of young people are achieving positive outcomes through the

service. Children from across the state in metropolitan and rural areas access this support and can be referred from either child protection services, Victoria Police, schools and hospitals.

In the 12 month period to 30 June 2017 1269 children and young people accessed SABTS services.

In December 2016 the Andrews Labor Government announced \$7.51 million for Sexually Abusive Behaviour Treatment Services to 12 agencies delivering this service including a boost of \$2.45 million to expand the program to 15 to 17-year-olds. This funding will also help provide more support for children and young people under 15 years of age.

This funding directly responds to recommendations from the Royal Commission into Family Violence that call for Sexually Abusive Behaviours Treatment Services to be expanded for young people up to and including 17 years of age.

Families and children

11 622. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to the Sexually Abusive Behaviours Treatment (SABT) services being offered by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), how many cases have been referred by —

- (a) child protection services;
- (b) the Police force;
- (c) schools; and
- (d) hospitals.

ANSWER:

I am informed that: I refer to the answer to QON 11621.

Families and children

11 623. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to the Sexually Abusive Behaviours Treatment (SABT) services being offered by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), how are community organisations selected for funding for this program.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

State-wide funding for Sexually Abusive Behaviours Treatment (SABT) services was introduced with the commencement of the Children Youth and Families Act 2005. At that time, organisations were selected on the basis of their clinical and counselling expertise.

Families and children

11 624. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to the Sexually Abusive Behaviours Treatment (SABT) services being offered by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), how many of those clients have —

- (a) a background of family violence;
- (b) parents who use or who have used methamphetamines;
- (c) mental illnesses; and
- (d) physical disabilities.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

In relation to the Sexually Abusive Behaviours Treatment (SABT) services being offered by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), this information is contained in individual client records. A manual review of every client record would be required to provide this information.

Families and children

11 625. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to the \$168 million Roadmap for Reform policy, as at 31 July 2017 —

- (1) how much has been spent; and
- (2) which initiatives in the Report have started.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The \$168 million Roadmap for Reform, launched in April 2016, sets out to transform our child protection and family services system from a crisis response to early intervention and prevention.

The Roadmap aims to deliver a system focused on:

- Strengthening communities to better prevent neglect and abuse
- Delivering early support to children and families at risk
- Keeping more families together through crisis
- Securing a better future for children who cannot live at home.

The Roadmap is creating services that are co-ordinated and work together to meet the needs of vulnerable families and children, forming an important step in the government's long term response to the Royal Commission into Family Violence.

All initiatives in the Roadmap have commenced.

As the funding was for two years it is not expected to be fully expended as at 31 July 2017.

Families and children

11 626. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to the South Trial initiative launched in 2016, as at 31 July 2017 —

- (1) how many children and young people have benefitted from the Trial;
- (2) which community service organisations have been involved; and
- (3) how many carers have been recruited.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The South Initiative project which includes design and delivery of innovative service models for children and young people in, or at risk of entering, out-of-home care. They aim to divert children from entering care, improve experiences for those requiring care and develop more supported pathways out of care.

Models include the Intensive Support Service aimed at young people in residential care who have complex trauma and mental health issues, Better Futures-to help vulnerable young people make a successful transition to adulthood and Treatment Foster Care Oregon.

Anglicare Victoria, Children Australia (Ozchild), Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency, Gippsland East and Gippsland Aboriginal Cooperative, MOIRA, Quantum, Mind and Monash Health currently have a direct role in the delivery of the models being tested.

Families and children

11 627. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: Of the 260 children who moved out from residential care in 2016, as at 31 July 2017 —

- (a) have any gone back to residential care;
- (b) how many have been reunited with their families;
- (c) how many are in foster care;
- (d) how many are in the Youth Justice system; and
- (e) have had some contact with the Youth Justice system.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

Data relating to the number of children and young people in residential care by quarter is available on the Department's website.

In March 2015, the Andrews Labor Government announced \$43 million for Targeted Care Packages which aim to move children out of residential care and into home-based care.

A further \$19 million was allocated in October 2015 with a view to preventing children and young people coming into residential care in the first place. The 2017-18 budget allocated funding for a further 100 Targeted Care Packages.

As at 30 August 2017, 405 young people have moved from residential care into home-based care and are now with foster carers, extended family or their parents.

In respect of contact with the youth justice system, this information is contained in individual client records. A manual review of every client record would be required to provide this information.

Families and children

11 628. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: Of the \$180 000 funding for buddy bags through the Alannah and Madeline Foundation, as at 31 July 2017, how many buddy bags have been provided to children in care.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

\$180 000 over three years has been allocated to support the Alannah and Madeline Buddy Bags program. This program has provided basic and welcome essentials for children and young people in out-of-home care since 2007 without departmental funding. Since this funding commenced in October 2016, 340 Buddy Bags have been distributed to Child Protection offices and 811 to Community Services Organisations.

Families and children

11 630. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: Of the \$8 million funding provided for vocational training for residential care workers, as at 31 July 2017 —

- (a) how many residential care workers have benefitted from the funding;
- (b) which training providers have been commissioned to do the training; and
- (c) how much has each training provider received.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

\$8 million from Skills First was allocated to ensure all Victorian Residential Care workers achieve a mandatory minimum qualification.

Training can be delivered by any training provider that meets Australian Qualification Skills Authority requirements for the Certificate IV in Child, Youth and Family Intervention (Residential and Out of Home Care).

A consortium of five Victorian TAFEs, including Melbourne Polytechnic, SuniTAFE, Bendigo Kangan Institute, Federation Training and The Gordon are supporting the training state-wide.

Families and children

11 631. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: Of the \$32.3 million funding to develop a new intensive early years support service, as at 31 July 2017 —

- (a) how much has been spent;
- (b) which agencies or community service organisations have been involved; and
- (c) how many children have benefitted from the services.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Victorian Government has invested \$32.3 million to create a new intensive early childhood support service tailored to the needs of families who need the most support in their child's first years. This new service will expand current support, incorporating the latest evidence and consolidating best practice from existing early intervention programs such as Cradle to Kinder, right@home and Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies.

Through the new service, maternal and child health nurses, social workers, and other professionals will help parents to create a supportive home environment and develop confidence in their parenting skills, including through home visits. This new service will be available across the state and will support early years services to work more closely together.

As the funding was for two years it is not expected to be fully expended as at 31 July 2017.

The additional services involved as at 31 July 2017 are:

- Anglicare
- Australian Childhood foundation
- Ballarat Community Health
- Barwon Child, Youth & Family
- Bendigo Community Health Service
- CatholicCare Sandhurst

-
- City of Casey
 - Colac Area Health
 - Dianella Health
 - Early Childhood Management Services
 - East Gippsland Shire Council
 - Echuca Regional Health
 - Gateway health
 - Gippsland and East Gippsland Aboriginal Cooperative
 - Gippsland Lakes Community Health
 - Goolum Goolum Aboriginal Co-operative
 - Grampians Community Health
 - Gunditjmara Aboriginal Co-operative
 - Hume City Council
 - IPC Health
 - Kildonan Uniting Care
 - LaTrobe City Council
 - Latrobe Community Health
 - Lentara Uniting Care
 - Mallee District Aboriginal Service
 - McKillop Family Services
 - Melbourne City Mission
 - Melton City Council
 - Mercy Health-O’Connell Family Centre
 - Merri Health
 - Moreland City Council
 - Njernda Aboriginal Corporation
 - Orbost Regional Health
 - Queen Elizabeth Centre
 - Ramahyuck District Aboriginal Corporation
 - Save the Children
 - Southern Family Life
 - South West Healthcare
 - Sunbury Health
 - Sunraysia Community Health Services
 - Take Two Berry Street
 - Tweddle Child and Family Health Service
 - Unitingcare

It is estimated that 1400 families per year will benefit from this service.

Families and children

11 632. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: As at 31 July 2017, what is the average call wait time for people seeking referrals for child protection.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The member's question is unclear as to what information she is seeking.

Families and children

11 633. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: As at 31 July 2017, how many calls has the Department of Health and Human Services received in relation to child protection.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The member's question is unclear as to what information she is seeking.

Families and children

11 635. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: Of the calls the Department of Health and Human Services received, as at 31 July 2017, how many went unanswered.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The member's question is unclear as to what information she is seeking.

Families and children

11 636. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to the stress and trauma training, as at 31 July 2017 —

- (1) how many early childhood professionals have been provided with the training and of those —
 - (a) what does the training consist of;
 - (b) how many hours of training was provided;
 - (c) which training providers undertook the training; and
 - (d) how were these training providers chosen.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

As of 31 July 2017, 781 early childhood professionals have attended the half day Stress and Trauma in Young Children Foundational Workshop. An additional 302 early childhood professionals attended this Foundational Workshop in August 2017.

This three hour workshop consisting of presentations and activities examined the most recent research on the impact of trauma on brain development, provided a framework for understanding the consequences of stress on children's cognitive, social and emotional development and explored the implications for practice in early childhood settings.

Early childhood professionals across Victoria who have attended the Foundational Workshop or similar training will have the opportunity to attend an interactive Advanced Workshop throughout September to November 2017 to explore the practical applications of trauma informed principles and approaches within early childhood settings and the traumatic consequences of family violence for young children.

The Australian Childhood Foundation facilitated the Foundational Workshops and were chosen based on their knowledge, expertise, delivery of similar workshops and ability to contextualise and modify content to the Victorian early childhood context.

Families and children

11 643. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: As at 31 July 2017, how many service providers have accessed the \$1.6 million allocated funding for Aboriginal early years services delivering kindergarten.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

All six Aboriginal early years services delivering kinder accessed the \$1.6 million allocated.

Families and children

11 646. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to the \$1.4 million Dairy Kindergarten Fee Subsidy, as at 31 July 2017 —

- (1) how many dairy farming families have received subsidy;
- (2) how much did each dairy farming family receive; and
- (3) in which local government areas are the recipients from

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

A total of 147 children received access to free or low cost kindergarten in 2016 through the Dairy Kindergarten Fee Subsidy (KFS).

The Dairy KFS was \$1386 per child for the calendar year which was equivalent to the standard KFS subsidy at that time.

Children that accessed the Dairy KFS attended funded kindergarten programs in the following LGAs:

- Bass Coast Shire
- Baw Baw Shire
- Campaspe Shire
- Cardinia Shire
- Colac-Otway Shire
- Corangamite Shire
- East Gippsland Shire
- Glenelg Shire
- Greater Bendigo City
- Greater Geelong City
- Greater Shepparton City
- Indigo Shire
- Latrobe City
- Macedon Ranges Shire
- Mitchell Shire
- Moira Shire
- Moorabool Shire
- Mount Alexander Shire
- Moyne Shire
- South Gippsland Shire
- Southern Grampians Shire
- Towong Shire
- Warrnambool City
- Wellington Shire

Families and children

11 649. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: Of the 500 kindergarten places across Victoria to give vulnerable children access to kinder —

- (a) how many places are in each local government area have been identified; and
- (b) in which local government areas are the kindergarten places located.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

All kindergartens in Victoria provide places to vulnerable children. I assume the member is referring to the Pre-purchased Places initiative that has been established by the Andrews Labor Government to enable children who enrol later in the kindergarten year to find a kindergarten place. This initiative received \$2.3 million in the Victorian Budget 2017–18.

In 2017, 468 Pre-purchased Places are available across Victoria for vulnerable children who enrol late, at no cost to families or carers. Participation is voluntary-Pre-purchased Places were allocated to services through an expression of interest process.

The below table sets out Pre-purchased Places available by local government area.

Local Government Area	No. of Pre-purchased Places
Ararat	2
Ballarat	21
Banyule	10
Bass Coast	9
Baw Baw	12
Brimbank	50
Casey	33
Central Goldfields	8
Darebin	8
East Gippsland	4
Frankston	2
Greater Bendigo	11
Greater Dandenong	46
Greater Geelong	24
Hobsons Bay	7
Hume	25
Latrobe	10
Maribyrnong	1
Maroondah	5
Melton	18
Mildura	8

Local Government Area	No. of Pre-purchased Places
Moira	6
Monash	4
Moonee Valley	2
Moorabool	4
Moreland	11
Mornington Peninsula	14
Mount Alexander	3
Northern Grampians	2
South Gippsland	2
Stonnington	4
Warrnambool	14
Whitehorse	2
Whittlesea	9
Wodonga	24
Wyndham	21
Yarra	8
Yarra Ranges	24
Total	468

Families and children

11 656. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to early childhood education and the Let’s Count program, how many educators in funded kindergartens participated in the program between August 2016 and 30 June 2017.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

231 educators in funded kindergartens participated in the program between August 2016 and 30 June 2017.

Families and children

11 657. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to early childhood education and the Let’s Count program, how many funded kindergartens participated in the program between August 2016 and 30 June 2017.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

173 funded kindergartens participated in the program between August 2016 and 30 June 2017.

Families and children

11 658. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to early childhood education and the Let’s Count program, can the Minister please list each local government area in which the initial 76 kindergartens participating were located.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

In August 2016, 76 services confirmed that they would be participating in the Let’s Count Program prior to delivery of the professional learning in the following LGAs:

Local Government Area		
City of Brimbank	City of Moreland	Shire of Mornington Peninsula
City of Casey	City of Whittlesea	Shire of Murrindindi
City of Darebin	City of Wodonga	Shire of South Gippsland
City of Frankston	Rural City of Benalla	Shire of Towong
City of Greater Dandenong	Rural City of Wangaratta	Shire of Tungamah
City of Greater Shepparton	Shire of Alpine	Shire of Wangaratta
City of Hume	Shire of Bass Coast	Shire of Wellington
City of Knox	Shire of Baw Baw	Shire of Yarra Ranges
City of Latrobe	Shire of Cobram	
City of Maribyrnong	Shire of Indigo	
City of Mooney Valley	Shire of Moira	

Families and children

11 659. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to early childhood education and the Let’s Count program, how many additional kindergartens was the program rolled out to between 1 January and 30 July 2017 and in which local government area were these kindergartens located.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Between 1 January and 30 July 2017 a further 99 services participated in the Let’s Count program in the following LGAs:

Local Government Area		
Bass Coast Shire	City of Boroondara	City of Brimbank
City of Casey	City of Frankston	City of Greater Bendigo
City of Greater Dandenong	City of Hume	City of Latrobe
City of Moreland	City of Whittlesea	Greater City of Ballarat
Greater City of Shepparton	Rural City of Benalla	Rural City of Horsham
Rural City of Mildura	Rural City of Swan Hill	Rural City of Wangaratta

Local Government Area		
Shire of Buloke	Shire of Campaspe	Shire of Cardinia
Shire of Central Goldfields	Shire of East Gippsland	Shire of Gannawarra
Shire of Hindmarsh	Shire of Loddon	Shire of Mitchell
Shire of Moira	Shire of Moorabool	Shire of Mornington Peninsula
Shire of Northern Grampians	Shire of Southern Grampians	Shire of Strathbogie
Shire of Wellington	Shire of West Wimmera	Shire of Yarra Ranges

Families and children

11 660. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to child protection and interstate child protection liaison officers, how many of those positions have been recruited since August 2016.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

I refer the member to my answer for QON 11661.

Families and children

11 661. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to child protection and interstate child protection liaison officers, how many of those positions are currently filled.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Andrews Labor Government has provided the biggest ever expansion of the child protection workforce in the Victorian Budget 2017–18.

The 2016–17 budget provided funding for the creation of dedicated interstate child protection liaison officer positions for the first time.

All four divisional and head office interstate child protection liaison officer positions have been filled.

Families and children

11 662. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to child protection and interstate child protection liaison officers, where are those positions located.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

An interstate child protection liaison officer is located in each division ensuring coverage of the entire State. Divisions are:

- North
- South
- West
- East

In addition, there is a coordinating interstate child protection liaison officer located at central office, 50 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne.

Families and children

11 663. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to child protection workers, how many full time protection practitioners left the system between 1 January and 31 July 2017.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Department of Health & Human Services Annual Report provides data relating to numbers of child protection practitioners.

The 2017-18 budget provided funding for 450 new Child Protection Staff, this is the biggest ever expansion of the Child Protection Workforce.

Our first three budgets have funded 610 new child protection workers. The previous coalition government only recruited 192 over their four year term.

There has been 20% increase in child protection practitioners since the election of the Andrews Labor government.

Families and children

11 664. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: In relation to child protection workers, how many part-time protection practitioners left the system between 1 January and 31 July 2017.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

The Department of Health & Human Services Annual Report provides data relating to numbers of child protection practitioners.

The 2017-18 budget provided funding for 450 new Child Protection Staff, this is the biggest ever expansion of the Child Protection Workforce.

Our first three budgets have funded 610 new child protection workers. The previous coalition government only recruited 192 over their four year term.

There has been 20% increase in child protection practitioners since the election of the Andrews Labor Government.

Families and children

11 666. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: Of the \$1 million allocated funding provided to 37 organisations to deliver counselling and support services to women and children —

- (a) which organisations have been awarded with funding; and
- (b) in which local government areas are these organisations located.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

A \$1 million funding boost was provided in 2016-17 to support all 47 funded family violence women's and children's counselling services as follows:

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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COUNCIL

Tuesday, 17 October 2017

Service Provider
Australian Childhood Foundation
Nexus Primary Health
EACH
Junction Support Services Inc
Doncaster Community Care and Counselling Centre Inc
Link Health and Community Limited
Relationships Australia (Victoria) Inc
Eastern Domestic Violence Service Inc
Whitehorse Community Health Service Limited
Eastern Health
Mitcham Community House Incorporated
Ranges Community Health
Womens Centre Albury/Wodonga Inc
Anglicare Eastern
Migrant Information Centre (Eastern Melbourne) Limited
inTouch Inc.
Gateway Health Limited
Women's Health in The North Inc
Berry Street Victoria Incorporated
Centre for Non-Violence Inc.
Mallee Sexual Assault Unit Inc
Elizabeth Morgan House Aboriginal Women's Services Inc.
Anglicare Victoria
Windermere Child and Family Services Inc
Monash Health
Family Life Limited
Latrobe Community Health Service
Connections UnitingCare
Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand
Inner South Community Health Service Limited
Gippsland Lakes Community Health
UnitingCare Gippsland
Bass Coast Health
West Gippsland Healthcare Group
WAYSS Limited
Springvale Indo-Chinese Mutual Assistance Association Inc
Women's Health West Inc
Cohealth Limited
Barwon Centre Against Sexual Assault Inc
Court Network Inc
WRISC Family Violence Support Inc.
Grampians Community Health

Service Provider
Ballarat Community Health
Colac Area Health
Emma House Domestic Violence Services Inc
Brophy Family & Youth Services Inc
South West Healthcare

These organisations provide services to all 79 LGAs across the state.

Multicultural affairs

11 675. MS CROZIER — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Multicultural Affairs): In relation to the 2017-18 Budget, budget paper 3, page 5, family violence initiatives, line item ‘Building the capacity to deliver family violence services for culturally diverse communities, can the Minister please provide a detailed breakdown of what the yearly amount of \$2.3 million over four years is allocated to.

ANSWER:

1. The Victorian Government has delivered record funding to put an end to family violence. The Victorian Budget 2017–2018 allocated an unprecedented \$1.9 billion to further implement all 227 recommendations of the Royal Commission into Family Violence, which was on top of the \$572 million invested as part of the 2016–18 Budget.

The \$1.9 billion will support an extensive four-year package of family violence services and reform, including:

- the establishment of 17 Support and Safety Hubs to act as visible, first-stop contact points for survivors to access a broad range of services;
 - the creation of Victoria’s first primary prevention strategy and the establishment of Victoria’s first ever Prevention Agency;
 - a significant increase in after-hours crisis support, counselling and therapy;
 - a major overhaul of our courts and justice system to be more responsive to the needs of victims of domestic violence;
 - the strengthening of our family violence workforce, including an additional 450 extra child protection workers;
 - improvements to frontline services, such as long-term housing, rental assistance and crisis accommodation.
2. \$2.3 million per annum over four years represents a significant investment that will deliver an accessible, inclusive and non-discriminatory system where women and children from culturally and linguistically diverse communities can have the same access to family violence services, such as:
- financial counselling and mentoring to support those at risk of economic abuse;
 - leadership training and mentoring opportunities;
 - social network building to grow connectivity within their cultural communities and the broader Victorian community;
 - language and communication assistance;
 - culturally sensitive counselling and support.

Multicultural affairs

11 676. MS CROZIER — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Multicultural Affairs): In relation to the 2017-18 Budget, budget paper 3, page 5, family violence initiatives, line item ‘Building the capacity to deliver family violence services for culturally diverse communities-\$2.3 million over four years, can the Minister explain why is there no increase in funding over the forward estimates.

ANSWER:

1. The Victorian Government has delivered record funding to put an end to family violence. The Victorian Budget 2017–2018 allocated an unprecedented \$1.9 billion to further implement all 227 recommendations of the Royal Commission into Family Violence, which was on top of the \$572 million invested as part of the 2016–18 Budget.

The \$1.9 billion will support an extensive four-year package of family violence services and reform, including:

- the establishment of 17 Support and Safety Hubs to act as visible, first-stop contact points for survivors to access a broad range of services;
- the creation of Victoria’s first primary prevention strategy and the establishment of Victoria’s first ever Prevention Agency;
- a significant increase in after-hours crisis support, counselling and therapy;
- a major overhaul of our courts and justice system to be more responsive to the needs of victims of domestic violence;
- the strengthening of our family violence workforce, including an additional 450 extra child protection workers;
- improvements to frontline services, such as long-term housing, rental assistance and crisis accommodation.

2. \$2.3 million per annum over four years represents a significant investment that will deliver an accessible, inclusive and non-discriminatory system where women and children from culturally and linguistically diverse communities can have the same access to family violence services, such as:

- financial counselling and mentoring to support those at risk of economic abuse;
- leadership training and mentoring opportunities;
- social network building to grow connectivity within their cultural communities and the broader Victorian community;
- language and communication assistance;
- culturally sensitive counselling and support.

Multicultural affairs

11 677. MS CROZIER — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Multicultural Affairs): In relation to the 2017-18 Budget, budget paper 3, page 5, family violence initiatives, line item ‘Building the capacity to deliver family violence services for culturally diverse communities, how much of the \$2.3 million over four years in funding has been allocated to the InTouch Centre.

ANSWER:

Funding to InTouch Multicultural Centre Against Family Violence is provided through DPC and DHHS.

DPC funding supports InTouch as a specialist body and in relation to Royal Commission Recommendation 139. The 2017-18 funding agreement between DPC and InTouch provides \$650 000.

Multicultural affairs

11 678. MS CROZIER — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Multicultural Affairs): In relation to the 2017-18 Budget, budget paper 3, page 5, family violence initiatives, line item ‘Building the capacity to deliver family violence services for culturally diverse communities, can the Minister advise how many programs will be delivered from the \$2.3 million over four years in funding.

ANSWER:

1. The Victorian Government has delivered record funding to put an end to family violence. The Victorian Budget 2017–2018 allocated an unprecedented \$1.9 billion to further implement all 227 recommendations of the Royal Commission into Family Violence, which was on top of the \$572 million invested as part of the 2016–18 Budget.

The \$1.9 billion will support an extensive four-year package of family violence services and reform, including:

- the establishment of 17 Support and Safety Hubs to act as visible, first-stop contact points for survivors to access a broad range of services;
- the creation of Victoria’s first primary prevention strategy and the establishment of Victoria’s first ever Prevention Agency;
- a significant increase in after-hours crisis support, counselling and therapy;
- a major overhaul of our courts and justice system to be more responsive to the needs of victims of domestic violence;
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- improvements to frontline services, such as long-term housing, rental assistance and crisis accommodation.

2. \$2.3 million per annum over four years represents a significant investment that will deliver an accessible, inclusive and non-discriminatory system where women and children from culturally and linguistically diverse communities can have the same access to family violence services, such as:

- financial counselling and mentoring to support those at risk of economic abuse;
- leadership training and mentoring opportunities;
- social network building to grow connectivity within their cultural communities and the broader Victorian community;
- language and communication assistance;
- culturally sensitive counselling and support.

Multicultural affairs

11 679. MS CROZIER — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Multicultural Affairs): In relation to the 2017-18 Budget, budget paper 3, page 5, family violence initiatives, line item ‘Building the capacity to deliver family violence services for culturally diverse communities, can the Minister please outline what programs for male victims of family violence will be funded from this \$2.3 million over four years funding allocation.

ANSWER:

1. The Victorian Government has delivered record funding to put an end to family violence. The Victorian Budget 2017–2018 allocated an unprecedented \$1.9 billion to further implement all 227 recommendations of the Royal Commission into Family Violence, which was on top of the \$572 million invested as part of the 2016–18 Budget.

The \$1.9 billion will support an extensive four-year package of family violence services and reform, including:

- the establishment of 17 Support and Safety Hubs to act as visible, first-stop contact points for survivors to access a broad range of services;
 - the creation of Victoria’s first primary prevention strategy and the establishment of Victoria’s first ever Prevention Agency;
 - a significant increase in after-hours crisis support, counselling and therapy;
 - a major overhaul of our courts and justice system to be more responsive to the needs of victims of domestic violence;
 - the strengthening of our family violence workforce, including an additional 450 extra child protection workers;
 - improvements to frontline services, such as long-term housing, rental assistance and crisis accommodation.
2. \$2.3 million per annum over four years represents a significant investment that will deliver an accessible, inclusive and non-discriminatory system where women and children from culturally and linguistically diverse communities can have the same access to family violence services, such as:
- financial counselling and mentoring to support those at risk of economic abuse;
 - leadership training and mentoring opportunities;
 - social network building to grow connectivity within their cultural communities and the broader Victorian community;
 - language and communication assistance;
 - culturally sensitive counselling and support.

Multicultural affairs

11 680. MS CROZIER — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Multicultural Affairs): In relation to the 2017-18 Budget, budget paper 3, page 5, family violence initiatives, line item ‘Building the capacity to deliver family violence services for culturally diverse communities, can the Minister advise how many programs to assist women in relation to dowry issues will be delivered from the \$2.3 million over four years in funding.

ANSWER:

1. The Victorian Government has delivered record funding to put an end to family violence. The Victorian Budget 2017–2018 allocated an unprecedented \$1.9 billion to further implement all 227 recommendations of the Royal Commission into Family Violence, which was on top of the \$572 million invested as part of the 2016–18 Budget.

The \$1.9 billion will support an extensive four-year package of family violence services and reform, including:

- the establishment of 17 Support and Safety Hubs to act as visible, first-stop contact points for survivors to access a broad range of services;
- the creation of Victoria’s first primary prevention strategy and the establishment of Victoria’s first ever Prevention Agency;
- a significant increase in after-hours crisis support, counselling and therapy;
- a major overhaul of our courts and justice system to be more responsive to the needs of victims of domestic violence;
- the strengthening of our family violence workforce, including an additional 450 extra child protection workers;

- improvements to frontline services, such as long-term housing, rental assistance and crisis accommodation.
2. \$2.3 million per annum over four years represents a significant investment that will deliver an accessible, inclusive and non-discriminatory system where women and children from culturally and linguistically diverse communities can have the same access to family violence services, such as:
- financial counselling and mentoring to support those at risk of economic abuse;
 - leadership training and mentoring opportunities;
 - social network building to grow connectivity within their cultural communities and the broader Victorian community;
 - language and communication assistance;
 - culturally sensitive counselling and support.

Multicultural affairs

- 11 681. MS CROZIER** — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Multicultural Affairs): In relation to the 2017-18 Budget, budget paper 3, page 5, family violence initiatives, line item ‘Building the capacity to deliver family violence services for culturally diverse communities, can the Minister please advise how many programs to tackle child marriage will be delivered from the \$2.3 million over four years in funding?’

ANSWER:

1. The Victorian Government has delivered record funding to put an end to family violence. The Victorian Budget 2017–2018 allocated an unprecedented \$1.9 billion to further implement all 227 recommendations of the Royal Commission into Family Violence, which was on top of the \$572 million invested as part of the 2016–18 Budget.

The \$1.9 billion will support an extensive four-year package of family violence services and reform, including:

- the establishment of 17 Support and Safety Hubs to act as visible, first-stop contact points for survivors to access a broad range of services;
 - the creation of Victoria’s first primary prevention strategy and the establishment of Victoria’s first ever Prevention Agency;
 - a significant increase in after-hours crisis support, counselling and therapy;
 - a major overhaul of our courts and justice system to be more responsive to the needs of victims of domestic violence;
 - the strengthening of our family violence workforce, including an additional 450 extra child protection workers;
 - improvements to frontline services, such as long-term housing, rental assistance and crisis accommodation.
2. \$2.3 million per annum over four years represents a significant investment that will deliver an accessible, inclusive and non-discriminatory system where women and children from culturally and linguistically diverse communities can have the same access to family violence services, such as:
- financial counselling and mentoring to support those at risk of economic abuse;
 - leadership training and mentoring opportunities;
 - social network building to grow connectivity within their cultural communities and the broader Victorian community;
 - language and communication assistance;
 - culturally sensitive counselling and support.

Multicultural affairs

11 682. MS CROZIER — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Multicultural Affairs): In relation to the 2017-18 Budget, budget paper 3, page 5, family violence, line item ‘Building the capacity to deliver family violence services for culturally diverse communities’ —

- (a) what is the process for review of services delivered from the \$2.3 million over four years in funding; and
- (b) how many times will a review be conducted over the forward estimates.

ANSWER:

The four-year package will incorporate an evaluation mechanism to assess the outcomes of the various funded activities, that will make recommendations and, where appropriate, lead to appropriate adjustments.

Health

11 712. 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’, how much of the \$10.2 million in 2017-18 will be provided to public hospitals.

ANSWER:

I am informed that: All of it.

Health

11 713. 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’, how much of the \$13.9 million in 2018-19 will be provided to public hospitals.

ANSWER:

I am informed that: All of it.

Health

11 714. 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’, how much of the \$7.8 million in 2019-20 will be provided to public hospitals.

ANSWER:

I am informed that: All of it.

Health

11 715. 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’, how much of the \$4.6 million in 2020-21 will be provided to public hospitals.

ANSWER:

I am informed that: All of it.

Health

11 716. 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’ and the statement “This program will prepare all public hospitals to respond to people who have experienced family violence”, how many public hospitals are budgeted for.

ANSWER:

I am informed that: All public hospital will be beneficiaries of the program.

Health

11 717. 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’ and the statement “This program will prepare all public hospitals to respond to people who have experienced family violence”, can the Minister please detail how many and in which areas, public hospitals will participate in —

- (a) 2017-18;
- (b) 2018-19;
- (c) 2019-20; and
- (d) 2020-21.

ANSWER:

I am informed that:

All 88 Victorian public health services.

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:

Ministerial travel reports can be found on the relevant department’s websites.

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:

Ministerial travel reports can be found on the relevant department’s websites.

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:

Ministerial travel reports can be found on the relevant department's websites.

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:

Ministerial travel reports can be found on the relevant department's websites.

Roads and road safety

11 726. MS DUNN — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Roads and Road Safety): Has the Government provided any approvals, clearances or licenses for oBike to operate its floating bike share scheme in Melbourne, if so, did this include —

- (1) any requirement for repair, maintenance and retrieval of bicycles; and
- (2) any stipulations on use of street space for bicycle parking.

ANSWER:

The Victorian Government is closely following the development of the share bike industry in Victoria.

The Victorian Government has not provided any approvals, clearances or licenses for oBike. Under current legislation, there is no requirement for them to apply for approval to operate. This is primarily a local government issue. The Victorian Government is supporting local government through the development of Share Bike Parking Guidelines by VicRoads which, like other similar guidelines, will provide councils with the ability to designate particular areas as being suitable for share bike parking.

A Share Bike Advisory Group that is being established to ensure there is a forum for local governments and share bike operators to discuss the implications of share bike operations.

Corrections

11 727. MR O'DONOHUE — To ask the Minister for Corrections: As at 31 August 2017, how many prisoners currently in the Victorian prison system have unpaid fines.

ANSWER:

I am advised that Corrections Victoria does not hold this information.

Corrections

11 728. MR O'DONOHUE — To ask the Minister for Corrections: As at 31 August 2017, what is the total value of the unpaid fines of Victorian prisoners.

ANSWER:

I am advised that Corrections Victoria does not hold this information.

Corrections

11 729. MR O'DONOHUE — To ask the Minister for Corrections: Under the decision of the Andrews Government to allow prisoner fines to be wiped, as at 31 August 2017, how many prisoners in the Victorian prison system may be exempt from paying their fines.

ANSWER:

I am advised that this information is not able to be extracted from available databases for the date requested.

Corrections

11 730. MR O'DONOHUE — To ask the Minister for Corrections: As at 31 August 2017, how many prisoners are held in the —

- (1) male prison system; and
- (2) female prison system.

ANSWER:

I am advised that on 31 August 2017 there were 6623 male prisoners and 502 female prisoners in the prison system.

Roads and road safety

11 734. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Roads and Road Safety): Has VicRoads undertaken any work to enhance traffic flow and improve safety measures along St Helena Road, Eltham North, especially where it intersects with Glen Katherine Drive or Karingal Drive.

ANSWER:

VicRoads advises me that it manages the arterial road section of St Helena Road between Karingal Drive and Diamond Creek Road and is monitoring this section for the need for any traffic flow or safety improvements.

I understand that the section of St Helena Road between Glen Katherine Drive and Karingal Drive is a local road managed by the Banyule City Council. VicRoads advises me that it has forwarded your question to the council for consideration.

Roads and road safety

11 735. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Roads and Road Safety): Has VicRoads given any consideration to upgrading Diamond Creek Road between the Greensborough Bypass and Yan Yean Road.

ANSWER:

Diamond Creek Road between the Greensborough Bypass and Yan Yean Road is a four lane two-way road with a central median. This section of Diamond Creek Road was duplicated in the 1990s.

Intersection upgrades have been completed at the intersection of Diamond Creek Road / Yan Yean Road / Aqueduct Road in 2007 and at the Diamond Creek Road / Civic Drive / Green Hill Road roundabout in 2012 for the purpose of improving capacity and safety. Further intersection upgrades are planned for the intersection of Diamond Creek Road / Yan Yean Road / Aqueduct Road as part of the Yan Yean Road duplication project, which is expected to be completed by mid-2019.

In 2008, works were undertaken from Oldstead Road to Sunrise Drive, which provided for improved safety and capacity improvements at the intersection with Plenty River Drive.

VicRoads will continue to monitor the operation and safety of Diamond Creek Road at this location.

Roads and road safety

11 737. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Roads and Road Safety): Has VicRoads given any consideration to installing pedestrian or intersection signals at Main Road, Eltham, near Falkiner Street.

ANSWER:

VicRoads advises me that it investigated this site in mid-2017. Since this time, VicRoads has been in discussions with the Nillumbik Council about ways to improve the operation of the network in this area.

VicRoads has recently taken over the management of nearby BoltOn Street from local councils. The improvements to Bolton Street are to enhance traffic flow, safety and accessibility. The works are expected to be completed in early 2018 and VicRoads anticipates that this upgrade will help alleviate conditions along Falkiner Street. I understand the council is also investigating traffic calming measures in Falkiner Street to further discourage through traffic.

Roads and road safety

11 738. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Roads and Road Safety): Has VicRoads given any consideration to intersection improvements at Research Park on Main Road, Eltham.

ANSWER:

VicRoads advises, me that it has investigated safety along Main Road, near Research Park in Eltham. This included a review of crash history at the entrance to Research Park as well as the nearby intersection of Main Road and Reynolds Road, which indicated no history of casualty crashes in the last five years. However, VicRoads will continue to monitor the operation of this intersection for any safety improvements.

Roads and road safety

11 739. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Roads and Road Safety): Has VicRoads given any consideration to installing intersection signals at the Pryor Street and Main Road intersection in Eltham.

ANSWER:

VicRoads has investigated safety issues along Main Road between Para Road (Montmorency) to

Luck Street (Eltham), including the intersection at Pryor Street. A review of the crash history at this intersection indicates no injury crashes have been recorded at this location in the last five years.

VicRoads will continue to work with stakeholders, including the Nillumbik Shire Council, to help identify pedestrian safety and transport priority needs across the metropolitan north west region.

Roads and road safety

11 740. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Roads and Road Safety): Has VicRoads given any consideration regarding safety improvements along Fitzsimons Lane from Main Road, Eltham to Rosehill Road and further to the Yarra River.

ANSWER:

VicRoads advises me that it is investigating options to address traffic congestion along Fitzsimons

Lane between Main Road in Eltham and Foote Street in Templestowe. The preliminary investigations and recommendations are scheduled to be completed by mid 2018.

Training and skills

11 741. MS WOOLDRIDGE — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills: How many students enrolled at the Greensborough TAFE during Semester 2, 2017.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

Four years after it closed because of funding cuts by the previous Liberal Government the Greensborough campus of Melbourne Polytechnic was successfully reopened, returning skills and training to the people of Greensborough and north-east Melbourne.

The Andrews Labor Government is proud of its \$10 million investment to reopen the Greensborough campus which will focus on three main areas including health and community services, business and entrepreneurship and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).

Melbourne Polytechnic's Greensborough campus is becoming a vibrant, multipurpose community and education precinct.

Labor is making sure that the people of Greensborough and surrounding suburbs get the skills they need for the jobs they want.

The co-location of partners such as the Melbourne Innovation Centre and the Banyule-Nillumbik Tech School on the site will create significant opportunities and benefits for the community and Melbourne Polytechnic, attracting potential students to the site and offering a variety of opportunities for cross-pollination and industry experience for students already enrolled at Greensborough.

TAFE Institutes are not required to report commercially sensitive training activity by campus.

Roads and road safety

11 743. MS HARTLAND — To ask the Minister for Agriculture (for the Minister for Roads and Road Safety): Has the Victorian Government undertaken any analysis of cross-portfolio benefits which cycling accrues in Victoria, such as health benefits as an offset to bike path delivery cost.

ANSWER:

The Andrews Labor Government supports initiatives to improve cycling. The Australian Transport Assessment and Planning guidelines provide a comprehensive framework for the evaluation of transport projects, including cycling. These guidelines include health benefits of active transport. The Victorian Government considers these and broader economic, social and environmental factors in the course of prioritising investments and preparing business cases for bicycle infrastructure.

Families and children

11 751. MS CROZIER — To ask the Minister for Families and Children: Of the maternal and child health nurses the Department of Health and Human Services has employed, as at 31 June 2017, how many are aged —

- (a) 30 to 35;
- (b) 36 to 40;
- (c) 41 to 45;
- (d) 46 to 50;
- (e) 51 to 55; and
- (f) 56 to 60.

ANSWER:

I am informed as follows:

The Department of Health and Human Services does not employ maternal and child health nurses.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Answers to the following questions on notice were circulated on the date shown.

Questions have been incorporated from the notice paper of the Legislative Council.

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

Headings reflect the portfolio of the minister answering the question.

Wednesday, 18 October 2017

Police

11 439. MR O'DONOHUE — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Police): How many members left the Victorian police force in the following periods —

- (1) 2015;
- (2) 2016; and
- (3) 1 January 2017 to 30 June 2017.

ANSWER:

The Andrews Labor Government has made the biggest investment in frontline police in Victoria's history, funding 3135 additional police, on top of attrition.

The Office of the Chief Commissioner of Police has advised that in the years 2015 and 2016, 366 and 364 police members respectively left Victoria Police.

During the period 1 January 2017 to 30 June 2017, 168 police members had left the Victorian police force.

I note that over four years, not one additional front line police officer was funded by those opposite, nor were any police personnel funded.

Thanks to the Government's commitment to give police the resources they need, and the sophisticated new Staff Allocation Model, which is strongly supported by The Police Association, we will no longer see the boom and bust cycle of police investment that has been detrimental to our police force in the past.

Currently, the separation rate is 2.63%, compared to 3.01% under the previous government. Recruitment for attrition occurs at 3%, to ensure there are adequate police numbers across the state.

Small business

11 484. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Minister for Small Business Innovation and Trade: 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 am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports as per past practise.

[Question 11 484 reinstated by order of President on 19 September 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 6 September 2017, page 4697.]

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, 19 October 2017

Special Minister of State

11 694. MS CROZIER — To ask the Special Minister of State: In relation to the *Support and Safety Hubs: Statewide Concept* (July 2017), how many consultations were undertaken prior to and during the development of the concept.

ANSWER:

A range of formal mechanisms were used to develop the *Support and Safety Hubs: Statewide Concept* including:

- seven regional forums attended by over 700 community members and workers from across the service system;
- nine small group discussions with people who have experienced the service system, including victim survivors and families engaged with child and family services;
- four expert design workshops with practitioners and leading thinkers from across the social, community and justice service systems; and
- multiple workshops and consultations with the Family Violence Steering Committee, Social Services Taskforce, Aboriginal Co-Design forum, Diverse Communities and intersectionality working group and the Victims Survivors Advisory Council.

In addition, informal consultation with service providers, peak bodies and government departments and representatives continued throughout the development of the *Support and Safety Hubs: Statewide Concept* prior to its release on 5 July 2017.

Special Minister of State

11 695. MS CROZIER — To ask the Special Minister of State: In relation to the *Support and Safety Hubs: Statewide Concept* (July 2017) and the consultation process —

- (1) how was the consultation process undertaken;
- (2) which organisations participated in the consultation process; and
- (3) how long did the consultation process take.

ANSWER:

(1) A range of formal mechanisms were used to develop the *Support and Safety Hubs: Statewide Concept* including:

- seven regional forums attended by over 700 community members and workers from across the service system;
- nine small group discussions with people who have experienced the service system, including victim survivors and families engaged with child and family services;
- four expert design workshops with practitioners and leading thinkers from across the social, community and justice service systems; and

- multiple workshops and consultations with the Family Violence Steering Committee, Social Services Taskforce, Aboriginal Co-Design forum, Diverse Communities’ and Intersectionality working group and the Victims Survivors Advisory Council.

In addition, informal consultation with service providers, peak bodies and government departments and representatives continued throughout the development of the Concept prior to its release on 5 July 2017.

- (2) More than 90 organisations from across the community, justice and health sectors participated in the consultation process.
- (3) The consultation process to develop the *Support and Safety Hubs: Statewide Concept* took place from October 2016 until its release on 5 July 2017.

Special Minister of State

11 696. MS CROZIER — To ask the Special Minister of State: In relation to the Support and Safety Hubs —

- (1) are there any plans to roll out more Multi-Disciplinary Centres (currently located in Geelong, Mildura, Seaford, Dandenong, Bendigo and Morwell);
- (2) are Multi-Disciplinary Centres being superseded by the Support and Safety Hubs; and
- (3) will the existing Multi-Disciplinary Centres continue in their current form.

ANSWER:

- (1) Work is in progress to establish a further Multi-Disciplinary Centre in Wyndham.
- (2) No.
- (3) The Support and Safety Hubs and Multi-Disciplinary Centres will need to work together in areas where both are established to ensure an effective and coordinated response for victims of sexual assault and family violence. This work may result in new protocols or other arrangements to support the role of Hubs and Multi-Disciplinary Centres.

Special Minister of State

11 697. MS CROZIER — To ask the Special Minister of State: In relation to the 2017-18 Budget, budget paper 3, page 5, family violence initiatives, as the Minister responsible for line item ‘Delivering on the Royal Commission into Family Violence recommendations on funding reform’ —

- (1) what new funding approaches have been designed; and
- (2) have any new funding approaches been piloted, if so which ones.

ANSWER:

The Victorian Government’s aim is to ensure that funding approaches enable services to achieve outcomes for the unique needs of the people they support.

The Government is currently working with the community sector to develop new funding approaches. These funding models will prioritise achieving outcomes for those experiencing family violence and support more flexible, integrated services.

Following this collaborative process, we will identify and work with suitable organisations to test new funding approaches, providing a tested model for broader reform across the sector.

Special Minister of State

11 698. MS CROZIER — To ask the Special Minister of State: In relation to the 2017-18 Budget, budget paper 3, page 5, family violence initiatives, as the Minister responsible for line item ‘Delivering on the Royal Commission into Family Violence recommendations on funding reform’, can the Minister please outline how ‘research capacity will be expanded’.

ANSWER:

Research capacity for family violence and related services is paramount to ensuring we understand how well services are delivering on the Family Violence Outcomes Framework and to build an evidence base to inform best practice.

Capacity will be expanded through a range of improvements to evidence and evaluation guidelines and standards across government, improved training and support for those conducting evaluations and appropriately sharing expertise and evaluation results across government. These improvements will be supported by partnerships between government and academia, drawing on the skills and knowledge of social research experts.

Special Minister of State

11 699. MS CROZIER — To ask the Special Minister of State: In relation to the 2017-18 Budget, budget paper 3, page 5, family violence initiatives, as the Minister responsible for line item ‘Delivering on the Royal Commission into Family Violence recommendations on funding reform’, can the Minister please outline what ‘tools to better capture data’ have been developed.

ANSWER:

The Victorian Government is committed to ensuring that family violence services work together to respond to the needs of people and families. This includes providing a system that supports effective and evidence based efforts.

In order to achieve this, the tools that will allow us to better capture data and evidence include:

- a demand modelling tool, which will provide a robust picture of current and future demand for family violence and related social and justice services needed by people experiencing family violence; and
- the cost measurement tool that was used to develop the estimates of the cost of family violence in Victoria.

These tools and additional data collection and recording systems will support an improved understanding of family violence and its impact on our community.

Special Minister of State

11 704. MS CROZIER — To ask the Special Minister of State: In relation to the new Centre for Workforce Excellence and as the Minister responsible for ‘Family violence industry planning’, can the Minister please outline the ‘range of measures’ developed to support Aboriginal workforces responding to family violence.

ANSWER:

The measures designed to build the Aboriginal workforce to respond to demand for Aboriginal family violence and family services workers are:

- Building the Aboriginal Workforce-upskilling and building the Aboriginal workforce through methods of credentialing which map work experience against traditional education outcomes;
- Aboriginal Organisation Workforce Planning and Development-supporting Aboriginal service providers to undertake workforce planning and development to meet the demands of current reforms by establishing six Aboriginal workforce development roles in key Aboriginal services providers;

- Supporting Aboriginal Workforce Health and Wellbeing-improved access to appropriate cultural supports and specialised training to reduce the impacts of vicarious trauma and support worker health and wellbeing;
- Aboriginal Future Workforce Grants Program-a grants program to support and provide training opportunities for the Aboriginal workforce (e.g. workforce traineeships and cadetships); and
- Aboriginal Human Services Workforce Research and Evaluation-a research and evaluation initiative to provide essential data and information to close the significant gaps in Aboriginal workforce data.

In line with Government’s commitment to self-determination, the design and implementation of initiatives will be sector-led.

Special Minister of State

11 705. MS CROZIER — To ask the Special Minister of State: In relation to the new Centre for Workforce Excellence and as the Minister responsible for ‘Family violence industry planning’, how much of the \$29.2 million in 2017-18 has been allocated to support Aboriginal workforces responding to family violence.

ANSWER:

\$4.671 million has been allocated in 2017-18 to support Aboriginal workforces responding to family violence. In line with Government’s commitment to self-determination, the design and implementation of initiatives will be sector-led.

Special Minister of State

11 706. MS CROZIER — To ask the Special Minister of State: In relation to the new Centre for Workforce Excellence and as the Minister responsible for ‘Family violence industry planning’, how much of the \$22.8 million in 2018-19 has been allocated to support Aboriginal workforces responding to family violence.

ANSWER:

\$3.216 million has been allocated in 2018-19 to support Aboriginal workforces responding to family violence. In line with Government’s commitment to self-determination, the design and implementation of initiatives will be sector-led.

Special Minister of State

11 707. MS CROZIER — To ask the Special Minister of State: In relation to the new Centre for Workforce Excellence and as the Minister responsible for ‘Family violence industry planning’, how much of the \$22.6 million in 2019-20 has been allocated to support Aboriginal workforces responding to family violence.

ANSWER:

\$3.283 million has been allocated in 2019-20 to support Aboriginal workforces responding to family violence. In line with Government’s commitment to self-determination, the design and implementation of initiatives will be sector-led.

Special Minister of State

11 708. MS CROZIER — To ask the Special Minister of State: In relation to the new Centre for Workforce Excellence and as the Minister responsible for ‘Family violence industry planning’, how much of the \$20.9 million in 2020-21 has been allocated to support Aboriginal workforces respond to family violence.

ANSWER:

\$3.352 million has been allocated in 2020-21 to support Aboriginal workforces responding to family violence. In line with Government's commitment to self-determination, the design and implementation of initiatives will be sector-led.

Special Minister of State

11 709. MS CROZIER — To ask the Special Minister of State: In relation to the new Centre for Workforce Excellence and as the Minister responsible for 'Family violence industry planning', as at 30 July 2017, how many service providers have been engaged to provide training.

ANSWER:

The Centre for Workforce Excellence was established on 3 July 2017. It has not yet engaged' any service providers to provide training.

Special Minister of State

11 710. MS CROZIER — To ask the Special Minister of State: In relation to the new Centre for Workforce Excellence and as the Minister responsible for 'Family violence industry planning', how many service providers have been budgeted for to provide training.

ANSWER:

The Centre for Workforce Excellence was established on 3 July 2017. In accordance with the Family Violence Royal Commission recommendations, a Family Violence Industry Plan will be released later this year and will outline the implementation approach for industry planning funding.

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, 20 October 2017

Water

11 483. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Water): 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 am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

[Question 11 483 reinstated by order of President on 21 September 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 19 September 2017, page 5001.]

Water

11 506. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Water): 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 am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

[Question 11 506 reinstated by order of President on 21 September 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 19 September 2017, page 5005.]

Water

11 528. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Water): 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 am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

[Question 11 528 reinstated by order of President on 21 September 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 19 September 2017, page 5009.]

Water

11 550. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Water): 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 am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

[Question 11 550 reinstated by order of President on 21 September 2017. Hansard reference to original answer: 19 September 2017, page 5014.]

Water

11 572. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State (for the Minister for Water): 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 am advised that:

Details on staffing arrangements are outlined in departmental annual reports, as per past practice.

Special Minister of State

11 591. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State: Has the Government referred a draft version of its Five Year Plan to Infrastructure Victoria (IV), if so, on what date was this draft Five Year Plan referred to IV, if not, in which month do you expect to refer a draft Five Year Plan to IV.

ANSWER:

Under the Infrastructure Victoria Act 2015, the Government has the option to request formal advice from Infrastructure Victoria (IV) on a draft Five Year Plan. The draft Five Year Plan was referred to IV for advice on 27 September 2017.

Special Minister of State

11 592. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State: In relation to advice provided by Infrastructure Victoria (IV) in relation to the Government's draft Five Year Plan, will all advice provided by IV be made available to the public.

ANSWER:

Under the Infrastructure Victoria Act 2015, the Government has the option to request formal advice from Infrastructure Victoria (IV) on a draft Five Year Plan. The draft Five Year Plan was referred to IV for advice on 27 September 2017. The Government will consider advice received from IV in accordance with the provisions of the Infrastructure Victoria Act 2015.

Special Minister of State

11 594. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State: Will the Victorian Government's Five Year Plan be tabled in the Parliament in 2017 as required by the Infrastructure Victoria Act 2015.

ANSWER:

The Five Year Plan and Response to Infrastructure Victoria's (IV) 30-year Infrastructure Strategy was tabled in Parliament on 18 October 2017 as required under the Infrastructure Victoria Act 2015.

Special Minister of State

11 595. MR RICH-PHILLIPS — To ask the Special Minister of State: Infrastructure Victoria's 2015-16 Annual Report indicates that the agency's main operational activity is the commissioning of consultants' reports, which account for almost 60 per cent of non-wage expenditure, is it the Government's expectation that Infrastructure Victoria's principle activity will remain as a clearing house for third party consultants' reports.

ANSWER:

The object of Infrastructure Victoria (IV) is set out in Section 7 of the Infrastructure. Victoria Act 2015 (the Act) as: "...to provide independent and expert advice about Victoria's current and future infrastructure needs and priorities to support improved social, economic and environmental outcomes for the State."

IV's functions are also set out in the Act as:

- preparing and publishing a 30-year infrastructure strategy for Victoria, to be refreshed every three to five years
- providing written advice to government on specific infrastructure matters
- publishing original research on infrastructure-related issues
- providing support as requested during the development of sectoral infrastructure strategies by public service bodies or public entities.

In order to deliver 'expert advice about Victoria's current and future infrastructure needs and priorities' which is independent of government, IV must first produce this advice.

IV's 2015-16 Annual Report outlines consultancies that were commissioned in support of these functions and details can be found of page 28 of the report.

IV has also published 25 IV authored reports and 41 consultant reports (excluding corporate documents and fact sheets), including many of the reports referenced in your question, which are freely available to the entire Victorian community at www.infrastructurevictoria.com.au/document-library.

Police

11 731. MR O'DONOHUE — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Police): How many female prisoners were held in police cells at 7.00 am on 31 August 2017.

ANSWER:

At 7.00am on 31 August 2017 there were 12 female prisoners held in police cells.

Police

11 732. MR O'DONOHUE — To ask the Minister for Training and Skills (for the Minister for Police): How many male prisoners were held in police cells at 7.00 am on 31 August 2017.

ANSWER:

At 7.00am on 31 August 2017 there were 235 male prisoners held in police cells.