

PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA

**PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(HANSARD)**

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

FIFTY-EIGHTH PARLIAMENT

FIRST SESSION

WRITTEN ADJOURNMENT RESPONSES

Tuesday, 21 November 2017

(Extract from book 20)

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By authority of the Victorian Government Printer

The Governor

The Honourable LINDA DESSAU, AC

The Lieutenant-Governor

The Honourable KEN LAY, AO, APM

The ministry

(from 16 October 2017)

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

The Governor

The Honourable LINDA DESSAU, AC

The Lieutenant-Governor

The Honourable Justice MARILYN WARREN, AC, QC

The ministry

(to 15 October 2017)

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

The Governor

The Honourable LINDA DESSAU, AC

The Lieutenant-Governor

The Honourable Justice MARILYN WARREN, AC, QC

The ministry

(to 12 September 2017)

Premier	The Hon. D. M. Andrews, MP
Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Minister for Emergency Services	The Hon. J. A. Merlino, MP
Treasurer	The Hon. T. H. Pallas, MP
Minister for Public Transport and Minister for Major Projects	The Hon. J. Allan, MP
Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade	The Hon. P. Dalidakis, MLC
Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change, and Minister for Suburban Development	The Hon. L. D'Ambrosio, MP
Minister for Roads and Road Safety, and Minister for Ports	The Hon. L. A. Donnellan, MP
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:

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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	VILJ
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; VILJ — Vote 1 Local Jobs

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WRITTEN ADJOURNMENT RESPONSES

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

Tuesday, 21 November 2017

Setting the Record Straight for the Rights of the Child Initiative

Raised with: Minister for Families and Children
Raised by: Ms Springle
Raised on: 21 September 2017

REPLY:

Good record keeping is essential in out-of-home care to help children develop and nurture their sense of identity and connection to family and community.

The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse and the Betrayal of Trust report have highlighted the negative long term impacts poor record-keeping and inconsistent record release practices can have on people seeking records relating to their time in out-of-home care and has identified a number of ways this can be improved.

The Department of Health and Human Services has listened to these findings and is working hard to improve its record keeping and release practices.

The department has undertaken a range of projects to streamline and improve services offered to care leavers seeking to access their records:

The department holds more than 1 million ward-related paper based records. The department has completed its Ward Records Plan. All of the department's ward-related records are now indexed electronically and easier to find.

On 1 October 2016 the Care Leavers' Records Service was established and handles all requests for records from care leavers. The service adopts a pro-release approach to records access. Staff are trained to understand the distress that some care leavers may experience upon receiving their records. The service uses a sensitive and trauma informed approach to assist care leavers to: understand what records may be available; lodge an application to access records; and understand the historical context in which the records were created.

Importantly if care leavers have previously tried to find information where none was available but later a record is found, the department proactively contacts them in order to provide them with that documentation.

The Finding Records website was launched on 1 December 2016 to ensure that care leavers are easily able to find information about accessing records and support.

Recent amendments to the Freedom of Information Act mean that processing times for most FOI requests received from 1 September 2017 will be reduced from 45 days to 30 days. This is a positive step forward.

I acknowledge and applaud the important work of the Setting the Record Straight for the Rights of the Child Initiative.

My department is looking into the matters raised by this Initiative and assessing how this might further assist in improving our future record keeping practices for children in out-of-home care.

Wonthaggi Secondary College

Raised with: Minister for Education
Raised by: Ms Bath
Raised on: 17 October 2017

REPLY:

I am informed as follows:

When I along with Member for Eastern Victoria, Harriet Shing, met with the principal of Wonthaggi Secondary College, Darren Parker and other college representatives on 18 October 2017, they were cognisant of the significant school infrastructure backlog inherited by the Andrews Labor Government and the challenges associated with addressing this.

So, I was thrilled that the Andrews Government could deliver where the previous Liberal-National Government failed so miserably.

As you may be aware, the Premier joined Ms Shing in announcing a new \$32.5 million senior campus for Wonthaggi Secondary College. This project is being funded through the Andrews Labor Government's total allocation of \$31 million and a contribution of \$1.5 million by the Bass Coast Council. It will provide Wonthaggi Secondary with modern and inclusive facilities that are capable of delivering a broad curriculum.

This funding is in addition to the previously announced allocation of \$175 000 to Wonthaggi Secondary College for planned maintenance. I can confirm that the College will have asbestos removal works programmed as part of its capital works project, and any additional removal required will be scheduled within the next three years.

This is all in contrast with the mean and miserly efforts of the former Liberal-National Government, which invested nothing in Wonthaggi Secondary College.

Your Legislative Council colleague, Harriet Shing, deserves full credit for her continued representations and record of delivery for the people of Eastern Victoria, including the school and the school community at Wonthaggi Secondary College.

Thank you for bringing your belated concerns about Wonthaggi Secondary College to my attention.

In summary, only Labor invests in our government schools.

Queenscliff cultural hub

Raised with: Minister for Regional Development
Raised by: Mr Ramsay
Raised on: 17 October 2017

REPLY:

I thank the Hon Member for his question as it provides an opportunity for me to outline the very substantial support provided to the Borough of Queenscliffe to date by the Government.

Firstly, \$5 850 550 of State funding has been provided towards the \$9.69 million Destination Queenscliff project.

Secondly, the \$750 000 Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserve Stage 1 Project has received \$500 000 from the Regional Infrastructure Fund. This project will revitalise the Reserve while also protecting the area's rich natural and heritage assets, making it a more attractive location to be enjoyed by residents and visitors.

In addition, the \$65 000 Economic Development Strategy for the Borough of Queenscliffe has received \$40 000 from the Regional Infrastructure Fund. This Strategy will provide strategic direction for the Borough to actively promote and facilitate new economic activity, investment and employment creation.

The Hon Member is incorrect in his assumption that a funding application for the Queenscliff Hub has been rejected by the Government. In fact, it is the Federal Government's, not the State Government's, application that has been rejected.

The discussion on advancing this project is ongoing with Regional Development Victoria. Due to the failure of the Federal Government to fund this project, the Borough of Queenscliffe now have the very significant task to work through how they might fund the now significant shortfall.

Shepparton Sports Stadium

Raised with: Minister for Sport
Raised by: Ms Lovell
Raised on: 19 October 2017

REPLY:

Thank you for your recent adjournment matter regarding the Shepparton Sports Stadium.

I had the pleasure of visiting the site of the Shepparton Sports Stadium upgrade in August this year, when I toured the Greater Shepparton Regional Sports Precinct, including the Regional BMX Complex.

Providing high quality sport and recreation facilities in Victoria is integral to the health and well-being of all Victorians. That is why the government is investing \$120 million into the Community Sports Infrastructure Fund and a further \$22m into the Better Indoor Stadiums Fund to facilitate the upgrade and development of community sports facilities.

I can confirm the Victorian Government has funded 21 infrastructure projects and events in Greater Shepparton, including:

- Kialla Park Recreation Reserve Multi-Purpose Oval Lighting — \$100 000 for the installation of 200 lux lighting
- Regional BMX Track Upgrade — \$100 000 for the installation of junior pumps track, upgraded lighting and construction of an eight metre starting hill
- Deakin Reserve Female Facilities — \$100 000 for female-friendly change facilities for netballers and the AFL Youth Girls team
- 2017 and 2018 Beach Volleyball World Tour — \$100 000 to host the Beach Volleyball World Tour.

There are also a further four infrastructure proposals currently under assessment with Sport and Recreation Victoria. They are:

- 2018-19 Community Sports Infrastructure Fund — Minor Facilities category — Kialla Park Oval Redevelopment requesting \$100 000
- 2018-19 Community Sports Infrastructure Fund — Minor Facilities category — Youth SPOTS requesting \$100 000
- 2018-19 Community Sports Infrastructure Fund — Small Aquatic Projects category — Merrigum Pool Water Play Facility requesting \$200 000

Further to this the Government, through the Significant Sporting Events Fund and the Regional Events Fund, has funded the following events in the Greater Shepparton region:

- \$50 000 for the 2014 BMX National Championships
- \$30 000 for the 2017 and 2018 Challenge Shepparton
- \$10 000 for the recent Melbourne City preseason match
- \$10 000 for the 2015 Junior Davis/Fed Cup
- \$10 000 for the 2016 TSA Australian Teams Carnival and Individual Championships

- \$5000 for the 2016 ANZ Pre Season Netball Challenge
- \$10 000 for the 2016 AFL National Girls Diversity Championships
- \$10 000 for the 2017 Shepparton Festival
- \$5000 for the 2015 Kids Fest

Through the Better Indoor Stadiums Fund, local councils are eligible to apply for up to \$3 million towards the development of indoor multi-sport courts.

I encourage Greater Shepparton City Council to consider applying for support from this fund, as they have not submitted an application to redevelop the Shepparton Sports Stadium as yet.

Thank you for raising this matter with me, I trust this information has been useful.

Ballarat rail services

Raised with: Minister for Public Transport
Raised by: Mr Morris
Raised on: 19 October 2017

REPLY:

The Andrews Labor Government is delivering the \$518 million in the Ballarat Line Upgrade to deliver more trains and improved reliability for Melbourne's outer western suburbs, Melton, Bacchus Marsh, Ballan and Ballarat. Construction started in October 2017, with upgrades to stations and track duplication to start next year and the project to be completed by late 2019.

The Ballarat Line Upgrade will enable much needed extra services in the morning and afternoon peak, and a train every 40 minutes off-peak for these growing communities, and all others along the rail corridor.

The Ballarat Line Upgrade will duplicate 18 kilometres of single track between Deer Park West and Melton, and build new stabling facilities, station platforms and car parking — creating space for more trains, more often for growing communities right along the line. Extra passing loops will provide more ways for trains to pass each other, which will help services recover from unexpected delays more quickly. The removal of five level crossings as part of the decommissioning of the Bungaree loop will improve safety for motorists and the local community.

The Ballarat Line Upgrade will create up to 400 jobs during construction, with apprentices, trainees, and engineering cadets making up at least 10 per cent of the project's total labour hours.

The Andrews Labor Government is committed to further improving regional rail, and has confirmed its Regional Rail Revival package of major upgrades across regional Victoria, which includes a further \$39 million for Stage 2 of the project, to pave the way for better services for Ararat and Maryborough.

Frankston line elevated rail proposal

Raised with: Minister for Public Transport
Raised by: Mrs Peulich
Raised on: 1 November 2017

REPLY:

The Andrews Labor Government is delivering on our election commitments and getting on with removing 50 of Victoria's most dangerous and congested level crossings. It is acknowledged that the Member for South-Eastern Metropolitan has been a strong advocate against the Government's level crossing removal projects and the Victorian community is very aware of the Liberal Party's continued opposition to the removal of these dangerous crossings.

Some of Melbourne's most vibrant precincts exist immediately adjacent to elevated rail, including Glenferrie, Canterbury and Balaclava. In relation to the removal of the crossings on the Cranbourne/Pakenham and Frankston lines, the Government is undertaking a number of projects to enhance precincts and provide more open space.

All of the local councils listed by the Member in her Adjournment debate matter support these precinct and open space developments, and the Government continues to work with these councils proactively on all aspects of level crossings removals, including the ongoing opportunities and maintenance of the public spaces.

Concord School, Bundoora

Raised with: Minister for Education

Raised by: Mr Ondarchie

Raised on: 3 November 2017

REPLY:

I am informed as follows:

The Department of Education and Training encourages active transport, such as walking or cycling to school, to promote the health and wellbeing of students and staff. Active transport also reduces the environmental impact of travelling to and from school by car, and can foster a strong sense of belonging and community between students and their families.

The Department provides on-site car parking for school staff where it is practical to do so. Where site conditions permit and funding is available, provision will be made in accordance with long-term enrolment numbers.

When acquiring school sites, the Department endeavours to purchase properties with three street frontages, preferably with indented parking, to allow for a wider dispersal of parking spaces. The Department, however, does not provide visitor car parking on school grounds or on adjacent sites to accommodate visitors to the school. Since the Department does not oversee traffic management, all matters concerning traffic congestion and parking beyond school boundaries fall within the jurisdiction of the relevant local council.

I am advised that the Concord School in Bundoora has a number of parking spaces as well as a special purpose drive way within the school grounds, where a number of buses and cars can safely deliver students to and from school.

If the school would like further information, they can discuss this matter with their Senior Education Improvement Leader.

I trust this information is of assistance.