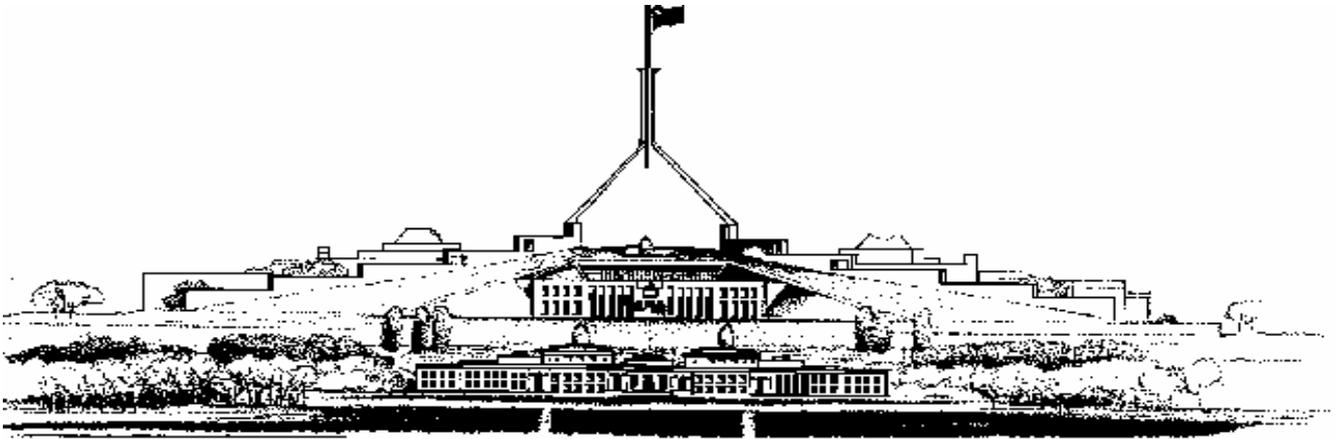




COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES



Senate

Official Hansard

No. 7, 2005

TUESDAY, 10 MAY 2005

**FORTY-FIRST PARLIAMENT
FIRST SESSION—THIRD PERIOD**

BY AUTHORITY OF THE SENATE

INTERNET

The Journals for the Senate are available at
<http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/work/journals/index.htm>

Proof and Official Hansards for the House of Representatives,
the Senate and committee hearings are available at
<http://www.aph.gov.au/hansard>

For searching purposes use
<http://parlinfoweb.aph.gov.au>

SITTING DAYS—2005

Month	Date
February	8, 9, 10
March	7, 8, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16, 17
May	10, 11, 12
June	14, 15, 16, 20, 21, 22, 23
August	9, 10, 11, 15, 16, 17, 18
September	5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 13, 14, 15
October	4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, 13
November	7, 8, 9, 10, 28, 29, 30
December	1, 5, 6, 7, 8

RADIO BROADCASTS

Broadcasts of proceedings of the Parliament can be heard on the following Parliamentary and News Network radio stations, in the areas identified.

<i>CANBERRA</i>	1440 AM
<i>SYDNEY</i>	630 AM
<i>NEWCASTLE</i>	1458 AM
<i>GOSFORD</i>	98.1 FM
<i>BRISBANE</i>	936 AM
<i>GOLD COAST</i>	95.7 FM
<i>MELBOURNE</i>	1026 AM
<i>ADELAIDE</i>	972 AM
<i>PERTH</i>	585 AM
<i>HOBART</i>	747 AM
<i>NORTHERN TASMANIA</i>	92.5 FM
<i>DARWIN</i>	102.5 FM

**FORTY-FIRST PARLIAMENT
FIRST SESSION—THIRD PERIOD**

Governor-General

His Excellency Major-General Michael Jeffery, Companion in the Order of Australia, Commander of the Royal Victorian Order, Military Cross

Senate Officeholders

President—Senator the Hon. Paul Henry Calvert

Deputy President and Chairman of Committees—Senator John Joseph Hogg

Temporary Chairmen of Committees—Senators the Hon. Nick Bolkus, George Henry Brandis, Hedley Grant Pearson Chapman, John Clifford Cherry, Patricia Margaret Crossin, Alan Baird Ferguson, Stephen Patrick Hutchins, Linda Jean Kirk, Susan Christine Knowles, Philip Ross Lightfoot, John Alexander Lindsay (Sandy) Macdonald, Gavin Mark Marshall, Claire Mary Moore and John Odin Wentworth Watson

Leader of the Government in the Senate—Senator the Hon. Robert Murray Hill

Deputy Leader of the Government in the Senate—Senator the Hon. Nicholas Hugh Minchin

Leader of the Opposition in the Senate—Senator Christopher Vaughan Evans

Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the Senate—Senator Stephen Michael Conroy

Manager of Government Business in the Senate—Senator the Hon. Christopher Martin Ellison

Manager of Opposition Business in the Senate—Senator Joseph William Ludwig

Senate Party Leaders and Whips

Leader of the Liberal Party of Australia—Senator the Hon. Robert Murray Hill

Deputy Leader of the Liberal Party of Australia—Senator the Hon. Nicholas Hugh Minchin

Leader of the National Party of Australia—Senator the Hon. Ronald Leslie Doyle Boswell

Deputy Leader of the National Party of Australia—Senator John Alexander Lindsay (Sandy) Macdonald

Leader of the Australian Labor Party—Senator Christopher Vaughan Evans

Deputy Leader of the Australian Labor Party—Senator Stephen Michael Conroy

Leader of the Australian Democrats—Senator Lynette Fay Allison

Liberal Party of Australia Whips—Senators Jeannie Margaret Ferris and Alan Eggleston

National Party of Australia Whip—Senator Julian John James McGauran

Opposition Whips—Senators George Campbell and Geoffrey Frederick Buckland

Australian Democrats Whip—Senator Andrew John Julian Bartlett

Printed by authority of the Senate

Members of the Senate

Senator	State or Territory	Term expires	Party
Abetz, Hon. Eric	Tas	30.6.2005	LP
Allison, Lynette Fay	Vic	30.6.2008	AD
Barnett, Guy ⁽⁵⁾	Tas	30.6.2005	LP
Bartlett, Andrew John Julian	Qld	30.6.2008	AD
Bishop, Thomas Mark	WA	30.6.2008	ALP
Bolkus, Hon. Nick	SA	30.6.2005	ALP
Boswell, Hon. Ronald Leslie Doyle	Qld	30.6.2008	NATS
Brandis, George Henry ⁽²⁾	Qld	30.6.2005	LP
Brown, Robert James	Tas	30.6.2008	AG
Buckland, Geoffrey Frederick ⁽⁴⁾	SA	30.6.2005	ALP
Calvert, Hon. Paul Henry	Tas	30.6.2008	LP
Campbell, George	NSW	30.6.2008	ALP
Campbell, Hon. Ian Gordon	WA	30.6.2005	LP
Carr, Kim John	Vic	30.6.2005	ALP
Chapman, Hedley Grant Pearson	SA	30.6.2008	LP
Cherry, John Clifford ⁽³⁾	Qld	30.6.2005	AD
Colbeck, Richard Mansell	Tas	30.6.2008	LP
Collins, Jacinta Mary Ann	Vic	30.6.2005	ALP
Conroy, Stephen Michael	Vic	30.6.2005	ALP
Cook, Hon. Peter Francis Salmon	WA	30.6.2005	ALP
Coonan, Hon. Helen Lloyd	NSW	30.6.2008	LP
Crossin, Patricia Margaret ⁽¹⁾	NT		ALP
Denman, Kay Janet	Tas	30.6.2005	ALP
Eggleston, Alan	WA	30.6.2008	LP
Ellison, Hon. Christopher Martin	WA	30.6.2005	LP
Evans, Christopher Vaughan	WA	30.6.2005	ALP
Faulkner, Hon. John Philip	NSW	30.6.2005	ALP
Ferguson, Alan Baird	SA	30.6.2005	LP
Ferris, Jeannie Margaret	SA	30.6.2008	LP
Fierravanti-Wells, Concetta Anna ⁽⁸⁾	NSW	30.6.2005	LP
Fifield, Mitchell Peter ⁽⁷⁾	Vic	30.6.2008	LP
Forshaw, Michael George	NSW	30.6.2005	ALP
Greig, Brian Andrew	WA	30.6.2005	AD
Harradine, Brian	Tas	30.6.2005	Ind
Harris, Leonard William	QLD	30.6.2005	PHON
Heffernan, Hon. William Daniel	NSW	30.6.2005	LP
Hill, Hon. Robert Murray	SA	30.6.2008	LP
Hogg, John Joseph	QLD	30.6.2008	ALP
Humphries, Gary John Joseph ⁽¹⁾	ACT		LP
Hutchins, Stephen Patrick	NSW	30.6.2005	ALP
Johnston, David Albert Lloyd	WA	30.6.2008	LP
Kemp, Hon. Charles Roderick	VIC	30.6.2008	LP
Kirk, Linda Jean	SA	30.6.2008	ALP
Knowles, Susan Christine	WA	30.6.2005	LP
Lees, Meg Heather	SA	30.6.2005	APA
Lightfoot, Philip Ross	WA	30.6.2008	LP
Ludwig, Joseph William	QLD	30.6.2005	ALP
Lundy, Kate Alexandra ⁽¹⁾	ACT		ALP

Senator	State or Territory	Term expires	Party
Macdonald, Hon. Ian Douglas	QLD	30.6.2008	LP
Macdonald, John Alexander Lindsay (Sandy)	NSW	30.6.2008	NATS
McGauran, Julian John James	VIC	30.6.2005	NATS
Mackay, Susan Mary	TAS	30.6.2008	ALP
McLucas, Jan Elizabeth	QLD	30.6.2005	ALP
Marshall, Gavin Mark	VIC	30.6.2008	ALP
Mason, Brett John	QLD	30.6.2005	LP
Minchin, Hon. Nicholas Hugh	SA	30.6.2005	LP
Moore, Claire Mary	QLD	30.6.2008	ALP
Murphy, Shayne Michael	TAS	30.6.2005	Ind
Murray, Andrew James Marshall	WA	30.6.2008	AD
Nettle, Kerry Michelle	NSW	30.6.2008	AG
O'Brien, Kerry Williams Kelso	TAS	30.6.2005	ALP
Patterson, Hon. Kay Christine Lesley	VIC	30.6.2008	LP
Payne, Marise Ann	NSW	30.6.2008	LP
Ray, Hon. Robert Francis	VIC	30.6.2008	ALP
Ridgeway, Aden Derek	NSW	30.6.2005	AD
Santoro, Santo ⁽⁶⁾	QLD	30.6.2008	LP
Scullion, Nigel Gregory ⁽¹⁾	NT		CLP
Sherry, Hon. Nicholas John	TAS	30.6.2008	ALP
Stephens, Ursula Mary	NSW	30.6.2008	ALP
Stott Despoja, Natasha Jessica	SA	30.6.2008	AD
Tchen, Tsebin	VIC	30.6.2005	LP
Troeth, Hon. Judith Mary	VIC	30.6.2005	LP
Vanstone, Hon. Amanda Eloise	SA	30.6.2005	LP
Watson, John Odin Wentworth	TAS	30.6.2008	LP
Webber, Ruth Stephanie	WA	30.6.2008	ALP
Wong, Penelope Ying Yen	SA	30.6.2008	ALP

- (1) Term expires at close of day next preceding the polling day for the general election of members of the House of Representatives.
- (2) Chosen by the Parliament of Queensland to fill a casual vacancy vice Hon. Warwick Raymond Parer, resigned.
- (3) Chosen by the Parliament of Queensland to fill a casual vacancy vice John Woodley, resigned.
- (4) Chosen by the Parliament of South Australia to fill a casual vacancy vice John Andrew Quirke, resigned.
- (5) Appointed by the Governor of Tasmania to fill a casual vacancy vice Hon. Brian Francis Gibson AM, resigned.
- (6) Chosen by the Parliament of Queensland to fill a casual vacancy vice Hon. John Joseph Herron, resigned.
- (7) Chosen by the Parliament of Victoria to fill a casual vacancy vice Hon. Richard Kenneth Robert Alston, resigned.
- (8) Chosen by the Parliament of New South Wales to fill a casual vacancy vice John Tierney, resigned.

PARTY ABBREVIATIONS

AD—Australian Democrats; AG—Australian Greens; ALP—Australian Labor Party; APA—Australian Progressive Alliance; CLP—Country Labor Party; Ind—Independent; LP—Liberal Party of Australia; NATS—The Nationals; PHON—Pauline Hanson's One Nation

Heads of Parliamentary Departments

Clerk of the Senate—H Evans

Clerk of the House of Representatives—IC Harris

Secretary, Department of Parliamentary Services—HR Penfold QC

HOWARD MINISTRY

Prime Minister	The Hon. John Winston Howard MP
Minister for Transport and Regional Services and Deputy Prime Minister	The Hon. John Duncan Anderson MP
Treasurer	The Hon. Peter Howard Costello MP
Minister for Trade	The Hon. Mark Anthony James Vaile MP
Minister for Defence and Leader of the Government in the Senate	Senator the Hon. Robert Murray Hill
Minister for Foreign Affairs	The Hon. Alexander John Gosse Downer MP
Minister for Health and Ageing and Leader of the House	The Hon. Anthony John Abbott MP
Attorney-General	The Hon. Philip Maxwell Ruddock MP
Minister for Finance and Administration, Deputy Leader of the Government in the Senate and Vice-President of the Executive Council	Senator the Hon. Nicholas Hugh Minchin
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	The Hon. Warren Errol Truss MP
Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs and Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Indigenous Affairs	Senator the Hon. Amanda Eloise Vanstone
Minister for Education, Science and Training	The Hon. Dr Brendan John Nelson MP
Minister for Family and Community Services and Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Women's Issues	Senator the Hon. Kay Christine Lesley Patterson
Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources	The Hon. Ian Elgin Macfarlane MP
Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations and Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Public Service	The Hon. Kevin James Andrews MP
Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts	Senator the Hon. Helen Lloyd Coonan
Minister for the Environment and Heritage	Senator the Hon. Ian Gordon Campbell

(The above ministers constitute the cabinet)

HOWARD MINISTRY—*continued*

Minister for Justice and Customs and Manager of Government Busines in the Senate	Senator the Hon. Christopher Martin Ellison
Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation	Senator the Hon. Ian Douglas Macdonald
Minister for the Arts and Sport	Senator the Hon. Charles Roderick Kemp
Minister for Human Services	The Hon. Joseph Benedict Hockey MP
Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs and Deputy Leader of the House	The Hon. Peter John McGauran MP
Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer	The Hon. Malcolm Thomas Brough MP
Special Minister of State	Senator the Hon. Eric Abetz
Minister for Vocational and Technical Education and Minister Assisting the Prime Minister	The Hon. Gary Douglas Hardgrave MP
Minister for Ageing	The Hon. Julie Isabel Bishop MP
Minister for Small Business and Tourism	The Hon. Frances Esther Bailey MP
Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads	The Hon. James Eric Lloyd MP
Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence	The Hon. De-Anne Margaret Kelly MP
Minister for Workforce Participation	The Hon. Peter Craig Dutton MP
Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration	The Hon. Dr Sharman Nancy Stone MP
Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources	The Hon. Warren George Entsch MP
Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing	The Hon. Christopher Maurice Pyne MP
Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Defence	The Hon. Teresa Gambaro MP
Parliamentary Secretary (Foreign Affairs and Trade)	The Hon. Bruce Fredrick Billson MP
Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister	The Hon. Gary Roy Nairn MP
Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer	The Hon. Christopher John Pearce MP
Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Transport and Regional Services	The Hon. John Kenneth Cobb MP
Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage	The Hon. Gregory Andrew Hunt MP
Parliamentary Secretary (Children and Youth Affairs)	The Hon. Sussan Penelope Ley MP
Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Education, Science and Training	The Hon. Patrick Francis Farmer MP
Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	Senator the Hon. Richard Mansell Colbeck

SHADOW MINISTRY

Leader of the Opposition	The Hon. Kim Christian Beazley MP
Deputy Leader of the Opposition and Shadow Minister for Education, Training, Science and Research	Jennifer Louise Macklin MP
Leader of the Opposition in the Senate and Shadow Minister for Social Security	Senator Christopher Vaughan Evans
Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the Senate and Shadow Minister for Communications and Information Technology	Senator Stephen Michael Conroy
Shadow Minister for Health and Manager of Opposition Business in the House	Julia Eileen Gillard MP
Shadow Treasurer	Wayne Maxwell Swan MP
Shadow Minister for Industry, Infrastructure and Industrial Relations	Stephen Francis Smith MP
Shadow Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Security	Kevin Michael Rudd MP
Shadow Minister for Defence and Homeland Security	Robert Bruce McClelland MP
Shadow Minister for Trade	The Hon. Simon Findlay Crean MP
Shadow Minister for Primary Industries, Resources and Tourism	Martin John Ferguson MP
Shadow Minister for Environment and Heritage and Deputy Manager of Opposition Business in the House	Anthony Norman Albanese MP
Shadow Minister for Public Administration and Open Government, Shadow Minister for Indigenous Affairs and Reconciliation and Shadow Minister for the Arts	Senator Kim John Carr
Shadow Minister for Regional Development and Roads and Shadow Minister for Housing and Urban Development	Kelvin John Thomson MP
Shadow Minister for Finance and Superannuation	Senator the Hon. Nicholas John Sherry
Shadow Minister for Work, Family and Community, Shadow Minister for Youth and Early Childhood Education and Shadow Minister Assisting the Leader on the Status of Women	Tanya Joan Plibersek MP
Shadow Minister for Employment and Workplace Participation and Shadow Minister for Corporate Governance and Responsibility	Senator Penelope Ying Yen Wong

(The above are shadow cabinet ministers)

SHADOW MINISTRY—*continued*

Shadow Minister for Immigration	Laurence Donald Thomas Ferguson MP
Shadow Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries	Gavan Michael O'Connor MP
Shadow Assistant Treasurer, Shadow Minister for Revenue and Shadow Minister for Banking and Financial Services	Joel Andrew Fitzgibbon MP
Shadow Attorney-General	Nicola Louise Roxon MP
Shadow Minister for Regional Services, Local Government and Territories	Senator Kerry Williams Kelso O'Brien
Shadow Minister for Manufacturing and Shadow Minister for Consumer Affairs	Senator Kate Alexandra Lundy
Shadow Minister for Defence Planning, Procurement and Personnel and Shadow Minister Assisting the Shadow Minister for Industrial Relations	The Hon. Archibald Ronald Bevis MP
Shadow Minister for Sport and Recreation	Alan Peter Griffin MP
Shadow Minister for Veterans' Affairs	Senator Thomas Mark Bishop
Shadow Minister for Small Business	Tony Burke MP
Shadow Minister for Ageing, Disabilities and Carers	Senator Jan Elizabeth McLucas
Shadow Minister for Justice and Customs, Shadow Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs and Manager of Opposition Business in the Senate	Senator Joseph William Ludwig
Shadow Minister for Pacific Islands	Robert Charles Grant Sercombe MP
Shadow Parliamentary Secretary to the Leader of the Opposition	John Paul Murphy MP
Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Defence	The Hon. Graham John Edwards MP
Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Education	Kirsten Fiona Livermore MP
Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Environment and Heritage	Jennie George MP
Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Infrastructure	Bernard Fernando Ripoll MP
Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Health	Ann Kathleen Corcoran MP
Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Regional Development (House)	Catherine Fiona King MP
Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Regional Development (Senate)	Senator Ursula Mary Stephens
Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Northern Australia and Indigenous Affairs	The Hon. Warren Edward Snowdon MP

CONTENTS

TUESDAY, 10 MAY

Chamber

Representation of New South Wales	1
Senators Sworn	1
Privilege	1
Workplace Relations Amendment (Right of Entry) Bill 2004—	
Second Reading	2
Questions Without Notice—	
Treatment of Detainees	21
Distinguished Visitors	22
Questions Without Notice—	
Iraq	22
Ms Cornelia Rau	23
Indian Ocean Tsunami	24
Immigration	25
Immigration	26
Anzac Cove	28
Mr David Hicks	29
Anzac Cove	30
Workplace Relations	31
Medicare	32
Treatment of Detainees	33
Questions Without Notice: Additional Answers—	
Immigration	35
Questions Without Notice: Take Note of Answers—	
Anzac Cove	35
Immigration	41
Estimates—	
Answers to Questions on Notice	42
Answers to Questions on Notice—	
Question Nos 447 and 477	43
60th Anniversary of VE Day	43
Business—	
Rearrangement	56
Condolences—	
His Holiness Pope John Paul II	58
Hon. Albert (Al) Jaime Grassby AM	74
Notices—	
Presentation	75
Committees—	
Legislation Committees—Reports	77
Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee—Report	78
Business—	
Rearrangement	78
Budget—	
Statement and Documents	78
Proposed Expenditure—Consideration by Legislation Committees	78
Portfolio Budget Statements	79

CONTENTS—*continued*

Adjournment—	
Child Abuse.....	80
Mr Gerry Adams.....	82
Sir Johannes (Joh) Bjelke-Petersen.....	84
Hon. Albert (Al) Jaime Grassby AM.....	87
Multiculturalism.....	87
Documents—	
Tabling.....	89
Tabling.....	89
Questions on Notice	
Immigration: Protection Visas—(Question No. 3175 amended).....	102
Visas—(Question No. 23).....	104
Iraq—(Question No. 27).....	105
National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality—(Question No. 30).....	106
National Safe Schools Framework—(Question No. 47).....	112
Unfair Dismissal Applications—(Question No. 50).....	112
AGM-142 Weapons—(Question No. 61).....	116
Defence Reservists Lunch—(Question No. 62).....	116
Puckapunyal Landfill Site—(Question No. 63).....	118
Defence Properties—(Question No. 64).....	119
Rio Tinto Foundation for a Sustainable Minerals Industry—(Question No. 71).....	121
Ministerial Briefing—(Question No. 102).....	121
Communications, Information Technology and the Arts: Advertising Campaign—(Question No. 107).....	122
Environment and Heritage: Advertising Campaign—(Question No. 108).....	124
Environment and Heritage: Advertising Campaign—(Question No. 109).....	125
Health and Ageing: Advertising Campaign—(Question No. 120).....	126
Health and Ageing: Advertising Campaign—(Question No. 128).....	128
Industry, Tourism and Resources: Advertising Campaign—(Question No. 135).....	129
Communications, Information Technology and the Arts: Advertising Campaign—(Question No. 137).....	130
Mortality Data—(Question No. 158).....	131
Minister for Defence: Visit to Iraq—(Question No. 170).....	131
Human Cloning—(Question No. 173).....	132
Australian Rail Track Corporation—(Question No. 184).....	132
Federation Fund—(Question No. 194).....	134
Regional Partnerships—(Question No. 210).....	138
Bass Strait Passenger Vehicle Equalisation Scheme—(Question No. 215).....	138
Federal Road Safety Black Spot Program—(Question No. 216).....	139
Travel Management Services—(Question Nos 217 to 235).....	226
Qantas Business Travel—(Question No. 236).....	227
Regional Partnerships—(Question No. 238).....	228
Regional Partnerships Client Satisfaction Survey—(Question No. 252).....	230
Ansett Australia: Employee Entitlements—(Question No. 257).....	231
Ansett Australia: Employee Entitlements—(Question No. 259).....	240
Ansett Australia: Employee Entitlements—(Question No. 263).....	241
Immigration: Christmas Island Reception and Processing Centre—(Question No. 269 amended).....	241
Tasmanian Freight Equalisation Scheme Review Authority—(Question No. 277).....	244
Regional and Rural Development Grant Program—(Question No. 287).....	245

CONTENTS—*continued*

Trafigura Fuels Australia Pty Ltd—(Question Nos 294 and 295)	245
Environment: Tailings Ponds—(Question No. 312).....	246
Abortion—(Question No. 325).....	247
Defence Housing Authority Properties—(Question No. 335).....	267
Global Information System—(Question Nos 336 and 339)	267
Family Court of Australia—(Question No. 337)	267
Inspector of Transport Security—(Question No. 342)	269
Dash 8 Aircraft—(Question No. 343).....	270
Driver Training Programs—(Question No. 345 amended).....	271
Airservices Australia—(Question No. 346).....	271
Freight Train Derailment—(Question No. 348)	272
Civil Aviation Safety Authority—(Question No. 352)	272
Civil Aviation Safety Authority—(Question No. 357)	273
Civil Aviation Safety Authority—(Question No. 362)	275
Calton Hills Station—(Question No. 363).....	275
Ms Sarah Murfett—(Question No. 367).....	277
Baggage Screening—(Question No. 368)	278
Medicare—(Question No. 371)	278
Immunisation—(Question No. 373)	279
Capital Infrastructure Program—(Question No. 378)	280
Flagpole Funding—(Question No. 379).....	282
National Safe Schools Framework—(Question No. 381)	282
Sex Education Programs—(Question No. 382).....	284
Mount Leyshon Gold Mine—(Question No. 387)	284
Coastwatch—(Question No. 392)	284
SIEV X Inquiry—(Question No. 432).....	286
Mr Noorpolat Abdulla—(Question No. 433)	286
Family Court of Australia: Employee Entitlements—(Question No. 436).....	287
Australian Electoral Commission: Employee Entitlements—(Question No. 438).....	288
Foreign Affairs and Trade: Employee Entitlements—(Question No. 439).....	289
Health and Ageing: Employee Entitlements—(Question No. 440).....	289
Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs: Employee Entitlements—(Question No. 441)	290
Education, Science and Training: Employee Entitlements—(Question No. 442).....	291
Family and Community Services: Employee Entitlements—(Question No. 443)	291
Employment and Workplace Relations: Sick Leave—(Question No. 444).....	292
Iran and Iraq—(Question No. 448)	292
Bettering the Evaluation and Care of Health Program—(Question No. 459)	293
Energy and Climate Change—(Question No. 465)	296
Energy and Fossil Fuel Technology—(Question No. 466).....	297
IP Australia: Employee Entitlements—(Question No. 467)	302
‘Two Pass’ Implementation Process—(Question No. 481)	302
AusAID Scholarships—(Question No. 484)	303

Tuesday, 10 May 2005

The PRESIDENT (Senator the Hon. Paul Calvert) took the chair at 12.30 pm and read prayers.

REPRESENTATION OF NEW SOUTH WALES

The PRESIDENT (12.31 pm)—I inform the Senate that Senator Tierney resigned his place as a senator for the state of New South Wales on 14 April 2005. Pursuant to the provisions of section 21 of the Constitution, the Governor of New South Wales was notified of the vacancy in the representation of that state caused by the resignation. I table the original and facsimile copy of the letter of resignation and a copy of the letter to the Governor of New South Wales. I have received, through the Governor-General's office, from the Lieutenant-Governor of New South Wales, a facsimile copy of the certificate of the choice by the New South Wales parliament of Concetta Anna Fierravanti-Wells to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Senator John Tierney. I table the document.

SENATORS SWORN

Senator Fierravanti-Wells made and subscribed the oath of allegiance.

PRIVILEGE

The PRESIDENT (12.35 pm)—Order! Senator Evans, by letter dated 17 March 2005, has raised a matter of privilege under standing order 81. The matter is the failure of Senator Lightfoot to provide a statement to the Registrar of Senators' Interests in relation to sponsorship of a trip which he took to Iraq in July 2004. Senator Lightfoot referred to the sponsorship of this trip in his written statement presented to the Senate on 17 March 2005, but did not provide a statement declaring the sponsored trip to the Reg-

istrar of Senators' Interests until later that day.

The resolution of the Senate of 17 March 1994, requiring that senators declare registrable interests, includes in the list of registrable interests sponsored travel exceeding \$300 in value. The resolution provides that any senator who knowingly fails to provide a statement of registrable interests to the Registrar of Senators' Interests by the due date shall be guilty of a serious contempt of the Senate.

I am required to determine whether a motion to refer the matter to the Privileges Committee should have precedence over other business, having regard to the following criteria:

(a) the principle that the Senate's power to adjudge and deal with contempts should be used only where it is necessary to provide reasonable protection for the Senate and its committees and for senators against improper acts tending substantially to obstruct them in the performance of their functions and should not be used in respect of matters which appear to be of a trivial nature or unworthy of the attention of the Senate; and

(b) the existence of any remedy other than the power for any act which may be held to be a contempt.

A matter has been held in past presidential determinations as passing criterion (a) if the matter could be found by the Senate to meet the test specified in that criterion, having regard to past determinations of the Senate.

By its resolution of 17 March 1994 the Senate has, in effect, determined that any matter involving a knowing failure to register interests in accordance with the resolution will automatically pass criterion (a). My decision on criterion (a) is therefore made for me by the resolution.

In relation to criterion (b), matters have been held to meet that criterion if there are no other readily available remedies. There is no remedy for the failure of a senator to declare a registrable interest other than the jurisdiction of the Senate itself.

The matter therefore clearly meets the criteria I am required to consider. I therefore determine that a motion to refer the matter to the Privileges Committee may have precedence over other business under standing order 81.

It will now be for the Senate to determine whether the referral should take place, having regard to the circumstances of the particular case. If the reference is made, it will then be for the Privileges Committee and the Senate to determine what finding should be made on the particular case; for example, whether the failure to declare the interest was a knowing failure. I table the letter from Senator Evans. Notice of a motion may now be given.

Senator CHRIS EVANS (Western Australia—Leader of the Opposition in the Senate) (12.38 pm)—First of all, with the Senate's indulgence, could I congratulate Senator Fierravanti-Wells on her election to the Senate and welcome her. I am not sure what she did wrong to get seated next to Senator Lightfoot. It is one of the first lessons: always be nice to the whip!

I give notice that, on the next day of sitting, I shall move:

That the following matter be referred to the Committee of Privileges:

Whether there was a failure by Senator Lightfoot to comply with the Senate's resolution of 17 March 1994 relating to registration of interests, and, if so, whether any contempt was committed in that regard.

**WORKPLACE RELATIONS
AMENDMENT (RIGHT OF ENTRY)
BILL 2004**

Second Reading

Debate resumed from 15 March, on motion by **Senator Ellison**:

That this bill be now read a second time.

Senator MARSHALL (Victoria) (12.39 pm)—Labor opposes the Workplace Relations Amendment (Right of Entry) Bill 2004, for the reasons I will now outline. The principles underpinning any right of entry regime need to be about rights and responsibilities, the implementation of which are fair for both employees and employers. The bill does not meet this basic requirement. The principal objectives of the Workplace Relations Act 1996 are found in section 3. They include:

- (e) providing a framework of rights and responsibilities for employers and employees, and their organisations, which supports fair and effective agreement-making and ensures that they abide by awards and agreements applying to them; and
- (f) ensuring freedom of association, including the rights of employees and employers to join an organisation or association of their choice, or not to join an organisation or association ...

Freedom of association is a fundamental right. To have genuine freedom of association requires that an employee has a personal choice to access his or her union at the workplace. As a consequence of this general principle, the ILO's tripartite committee has, for example, determined that unions should have access to workplaces to meet with employees. In Australia there has long been a tradition of allowing unions reasonable access to workplaces. In this bill, the government is seeking to severely and unfairly restrict employees' access to their representatives and restrict the representatives of employees from being able to properly and ef-

fectively represent their members in industrial matters.

Another fundamental right infringed upon by this bill is the right of an individual employee to decide to collectively bargain with other employees. Collective bargaining is only able to be effectively exercised when employees have access to a level of skills, advice, support and information comparable to that of employers. Without such access, employees do not have access to a fair collective-bargaining environment. The according of a right to an individual brings with it the obligation on an individual to exercise that right with responsibility and to not unreasonably impinge upon the rights, dignity or civil liberty of others. That is why a right of entry regime has to be fair and balanced. The regime created by this bill is simply not.

A legislative right of entry was described in the former Industrial Relations Act 1988. Pursuant to section 286 an officer of an organisation was allowed to inspect premises 'for the purposes of ensuring the observance of an award or order of the commission'. Those premises which could be inspected by the officer of an organisation were those occupied by an employer bound by the award or order, or those at which work to which the award or order applied was being carried out. An inspection under section 286 could be authorised by the secretary of the organisation, or the secretary of a branch. If required, the officer was obliged to produce evidence of this authority. Inspection could only be permitted during working hours, and the right to inspect was subject to conditions provided by the award itself. The section also authorised the interviewing of any member or person eligible for membership of the organisation. This regime was amended in 1996.

The Workplace Relations and Other Legislation Act 1996 made a number of amend-

ments to the Commonwealth's then legislative right of entry regime. Since 1996, right of entry has been provided for through division 11A of the Workplace Relations Act 1996. Right of entry is now allowed only for the purposes of investigating a suspected breach of an award, agreement or relevant legislation rather than for the general purpose of ensuring the compliance of an award or commission order.

The Workplace Relations and Other Legislation Act 1996 abolished award based right of entry. Section 127AA of the Workplace Relations Act 1996 provides that any award or order giving union officers or employees the right to enter premises or inspect records and other things and interview employees is unenforceable. Award based right of entry was replaced with a right to enter to hold discussions with employees who wish to participate in these discussions, provided that discussions with employees are held only during breaks. As well, a requirement that a union give at least 24 hours notice to the employer of their intention to enter premises was introduced.

The Workplace Relations Act 1996 does not at present limit the inclusion of right of entry provisions in certified agreements. It is common for agreements to include such provisions, although this is now being tested as a result of Electrolux and other cases in the High Court. Right of entry has been considered by relevant Senate committees on a number of occasions since these changes were made in 1996. A coalition majority of the Senate Employment, Workplace Relations, Small Business and Education Legislation Committee recommended in 1999 that 'changes to right of Entry in the Workplace Relations Legislation Amendment (More Jobs, Better Pay) Bill 1999 should be passed, including requiring a written invitation from an employee and allowing the employer to

choose the place where discussions take place.

The report of the Senate Standing Committee for the Scrutiny of Bills on entry and search provisions in Commonwealth legislation unanimously concluded in 2000 that no evidence was put before the committee suggesting that unions should not have a right to enter. The committee found that, while dissatisfaction was expressed about the way that the provisions operated in certain circumstances, a voluntary code of practice developed between employers and employees, as opposed to legislation, was a more appropriate remedy.

The bill was introduced in the House on 2 December 2004. It was referred to the Senate Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee on 8 December 2004. The committee will report today, 10 May 2005. The bill will further restrict the ability of union representatives to enter the workplace. It seeks to limit the scope of state law by using a range of constitutional powers to allow the Commonwealth to exclude the operation of state right of entry laws. The bill introduces a raft of more stringent criteria before a union employee or official can be deemed a fit and proper person to be granted an entry permit. The bill also expands the grounds for suspension and revocation of permits.

The government argues that the bill would continue to allow unions to represent their members in the workplace, to hold discussions with potential members and to investigate suspected breaches of industrial laws and instruments, but that this would be balanced against the rights of employers and occupiers of premises to conduct their business without undue interference or harassment. Labor believes that employers already have significant protections in the current act

to enable them to conduct their businesses without undue interference.

This bill will severely impact upon employees' access to their representatives. The restrictions to right of entry proposed in the bill would prevent employees from being able to choose to be effectively represented by a union in collective-bargaining processes and would limit unions' capacity to ensure that employers abide by awards and agreements applying to them. The bill would prevent unions from being able to effectively represent employees who choose to be members of a union and from being able to recruit members. Restricting union entry to once every six months per work site for recruitment purposes assumes that the employer would have knowledge of the content of the conversations between an employee and a union. Further, the size of most workplaces would mean that many employees—especially shift workers, part-time employees and those in industries with high staff turnover—would not see a union representative at all. It amounts to a practical banning of recruitment at the workplace. There is no explanation for choosing this time limit in the bill.

As a part of the rights both to freely associate and to collectively bargain, employees should be able to choose to have conversations with their representatives without fear of retaliation from their employer. An employee should have the right to join a union and have discussions with their union representative without any undue interference from their employer. In practical terms this means that an employer does not need to know which employees are meeting with a union. Further, an employer should not know without the employee's consent whether the employee is or is not a member of a union. And it is a breach of the employee's privacy for the employer to know the content of dis-

cussions between an employee and the union.

Because of the nature of Australia's industrial relations system, unions are the only properly resourced enforcement mechanism for awards and agreements. The level of enforcement able to be provided from the government departments' inspectors is massively underresourced and certainly has no capacity to systematically ensure compliance with awards and agreements. This bill erodes an employee's rights to freedom of association by effectively conferring upon employers a right to oversee interactions between employees and unions. The bill offends an employees' right to privacy and potentially allows discrimination against an employee on the basis of union membership through the requirements for unions to access only members' employment records.

The bill proposes that permit holders comply with a reasonable request from the employer to conduct interviews in a particular room or area of the premises and to take a particular route to reach that room or area. The bill will restrict the capacity of the Australian Industrial Relations Commission to exercise discretion to resolve disputes in this area and again may place employees' privacy and freedom of association at risk. Genuine freedom of association and an effective right to bargain collectively depend upon employees having ready, practical access to advice, information and representation by trade unions in their workplace.

The rights of workers to organise are articulated in ILO convention 87, on freedom of association and protection of the right to organise. ILO convention 98, on the right to organise and collectively bargain, is undermined by the proposed prohibition of right of entry as a legitimate subject about which the parties to an agreement may bargain. It is also inconsistent with the scheme of the

Workplace Relations Act 1996—which seeks to encourage employees and employers to determine matters affecting the relationship between them at the workplace or enterprise level, subject to appropriate and fair minimum standards—to impose this limitation about what may or may not be the subject of bargaining, especially where both parties agree.

The bill is not balanced. It does not address any existing problem with the right of entry provisions. For example, employees covered by AWAs currently have no rights to visits from a union at their workplace. This is discriminatory as these employees have lesser rights to access assistance and information than employees on other industrial instruments. The issue is only partially addressed in this bill.

There is no compelling evidence of widespread difficulties for employers associated with the operation of the current right of entry provisions. Indeed, even the current right of entry provisions in the Workplace Relations Act 1996 make it difficult in practice for unions to operate effectively. The proposed more stringent requirements for granting a right of entry permit are unnecessary, onerous and discriminatory. The commission and the registrar have already shown an ability to deal with inappropriate behaviour by permit holders, including by the revocation of permits.

Finally, the bill does not create a single statutory scheme; it creates confusion. It replaces simple, well-understood state laws with a highly restrictive federal scheme for the sake of the 35 per cent of corporate employers who are currently covered by state systems. The bill adds to this confusion by proposing to retain different laws for small businesses that are not incorporated.

The bill was referred to the Senate Employment, Workplace Relations and Educa-

tion Committee for inquiry. The New South Wales, Queensland and ACT governments each made submissions to the Senate inquiry into this bill. Key points made in these submissions included: there has been no consultation with state governments, employees, employers or industrial organisations in the development of the bill; there is no policy case for change; there is no legal case for change; the bill seeks to impose a centralised 'one size fits all' approach on employers and unions; the bill aims to replace simple, effective and non-controversial state legislation; the bill would create contradictions with existing state and federal legislation; the bill will hamper unions' ability to monitor effectiveness of state laws and otherwise carry out statutory duties; the bill unnecessarily and arbitrarily restricts employees' rights to collectively organise using representatives of their own choosing, contrary to international obligations; and, finally, the bill will facilitate the identification of employees on the basis of their union membership, contrary to the principles of freedom of association.

A number of employer groups, including the Master Builders Association of Australia, the Australian Industry Group, the Australian Mines and Metals Association and the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, made submissions to the Senate inquiry. The views of the employer groups can be summarised as being in support of the bill as they believe it will provide a more balanced framework for right of entry. The employer groups are particularly supportive of measures designed to produce a more uniform or unitary national system of right of entry provisions. The employer groups believe that the bill will assist in preventing and addressing abuse of right of entry provisions. Employer groups maintain that right of entry should only be exercised where employees choose to be represented by trade unions in respect of a particular workplace matter and

that such an approach is consistent with freedom of association principles.

Submissions were received from a wide range of unions and trade union councils. Key aspects of the unions' submissions include the views that: the bill would impose unreasonable restrictions on employees' access to unions at their workplace; the bill would place Australian law in further breach of international obligations in respect of freedom of association and collective bargaining; the bill ignores unions' role as parties principal to awards and agreements; there is no evidence that there is widespread abuse of union right of entry and that the basis of the current scheme is in need of major change; and, under current laws, both state and federal tribunals have a wide discretion to revoke right of entry permits if they are found to have been misused.

The Senate committee was due to report its findings on Monday, 7 March 2005. This has been delayed until 10 May 2005 by request of the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations as they are considering possible amendments to the bill. The department indicated to the Senate committee:

Following a number of concerns raised by submissions to this inquiry, the minister has decided to consider some possible amendments to aspects of the bill. These aspects are the limitation in the bill on a permit holder being able to engage in recruitment conduct only once every six months; the maintenance of the existing rights of union officials to enter premises, pursuant to the Victorian Outworkers (Improved Protection) Act 2003—

the Labor Party will be moving amendments in the committee stage in that respect—

and the requirement that notice of entry must be provided during working hours. The department is not yet in a position to provide any details of the precise nature of these amendments.

That is what Mr James Smyth, Chief Counsel of DEWR, said in the committee *Hansard*

of 18 February 2005. The possible amendments, while welcome, would not appear to be significant enough to warrant Labor's support of the bill overall. The bill is deficient because it does not meet the basic tests. It does not prescribe fair and reasonable right of entry provisions that meet the needs of both employers and employees, and their representatives. In addition, the bill will override state laws and in this respect create gaps and uncertainty in its application. The states have not been consulted in the development of this bill.

The bill will undermine the role played by unions in ensuring compliance with the various awards and agreements they are party to, thus further eroding the rights and entitlements of Australia's working people. Unions are party to awards and certified agreements. Their role is not confined to merely representing their members. As a party to a type of contract, unions have a direct interest in ensuring that the provisions of the award or agreement are adhered to, that breaches are investigated and that the award or agreement continues to meet the needs of the employees whose employment is subject to it. This principle underpins the current provisions permitting unions to enter premises for the purposes of inspecting wage records as well as other documents and things and to interview employees in order to investigate any suspected breaches and ensure the enforcement of the award or agreement.

The bill infringes on basic rights: the right to freely associate and the right to collectively bargain. Freedom of association is a fundamental right. Genuine freedom of association requires that employees have a choice to access their unions at their workplace. An effective right to bargain collectively can only exist when employees choose to have ready, practical access to advice, information and representation by trade unions in their workplace. In these respects the bill breaches

our international obligations to abide by ILO conventions. Neither of these rights is anything other than undermined by this legislation. In summary, this bill undermines union members' right to privacy, it undermines rights to representation and it undermines freedom of association and rights to organise. It compromises both individual and collective rights, and as such undermines the most basic principles of our democracy. Labor will oppose this bill.

Senator BARNETT (Tasmania) (12.59 pm)—I stand in strong support of the Workplace Relations Amendment (Right of Entry) Bill 2004 for the fundamental reason that boosting productivity in Australia through a combination of workplace relations reform and sound economic management is the most generous gift that a government can bestow upon, firstly, its work force and, secondly, their families. This is a fundamental policy understanding. The government are committed to continuing a program of workplace relations reform that started in 1996. We are still doing it and we will continue to do it in the months and years ahead. We are doing this because it will improve living standards, it will increase jobs and, as I said, it will boost productivity and, indeed, enhance international competitiveness.

The good thing about this bill is that it commits to and locks in an election commitment right on the head. That election commitment was to reform the union right-of-entry laws and to exclude the operation of state right-of-entry laws where federal right-of-entry laws also apply. The right-of-entry provisions in the Workplace Relations Act confer significant rights and privileges on unions to enter workplaces to represent their members, but the government believe—and I want to emphasise this—that these significant rights must be carefully balanced with the rights of employers, such as small businesses and the occupiers of those premises,

to conduct their business without undue interference or harassment.

The government also consider that as far as possible a single statutory scheme should apply across Australia. In workplaces where both federal and state right-of-entry laws apply, confusion about rights and responsibilities may arise. In fact we had an inquiry of the Senate Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee and that confusion was made clear to the members of that committee. Such confusion and uncertainty can leave employers—small businesses, big businesses—vulnerable to abuse by the unions of their statutory right to enter the workplace.

Senator Marshall made it clear in the Senate today that he believes there is no legal case for this legislation. He believes there is no business or economic case for this legislation and for this reform. I would like to draw his attention and the Senate's attention to the Federal Court case of BGC Contracting Pty Ltd and the CFMEU. The Federal Court found that unions could gain entry to sites under state right-of-entry law, despite the fact that all workers on the site were working under the federal law. This is clearly unsatisfactory. It is clearly in breach, in my view, of the intent of the federal law. It imposes an unnecessary extra layer of regulation and paperwork on businesses. So, in workplaces where federal and state right-of-entry laws apply, confusion about rights and responsibilities clearly exists at the moment. This uncertainty, as I said earlier, can leave employers vulnerable to the abuse by unions of their statutory right to enter the workplace and, importantly, can subject employers to inconsistency with respect to the law: whether they are a big or small business, exactly what law does apply to them?

The government believe very strongly that workplaces operating under the federal sys-

tem should not be subject to inconsistent elements of the state system. Workplaces under the federal system should be free to operate under a single system of workplace regulation without having to also contend with aspects of the state system. That is why this bill uses the corporations power under our Constitution to enact a single system for right of entry, to the extent possible within the limits of this power. Where an employer operating under a federal system is a constitutional corporation, unions will be able to exercise their right of entry only under the federal act.

The bill will restore certainty. It will ensure a secure understanding by businesses and employers across the country of what law applies, whereas at the moment there is inconsistency and there are potential loopholes and complex duplications that the BGC Federal Court case has created—and this is the legislative response to that Federal Court case. So there is a legal impediment to enact the legislation to ensure consistency and there is also a business and economic case in favour of workplace relations reform. The Workplace Relations Act should be able to provide a single system of regulation for a workplace in which all employees are employed under the federal act. It was never intended that state law would be able to be used in this way to create a backdoor right of entry where none exists under federal law.

If the act is not amended in this way, it is conceivable that state governments could widen their state right-of-entry powers so much that unions could gain entry wherever they liked, even if they were denied the right under the act. This is a fundamental reason why we are proceeding with this workplace relations reform as quickly as possible to ensure that consistency is injected back into the economic and business environment in this country. It is also important to note that the bill will not restrict the rights of entry

that unions currently have under state occupational health and safety legislation.

I want to make a few comments about our government's past performance in terms of workplace relations reform. I advise the Senate that, since the Howard government came to office, average wages have increased in real terms from \$811.80 a week to \$961 a week. We have delivered historically low unemployment and historically low inflation. We have delivered high growth in real wages and we have delivered more than 1.3 million new jobs—that is, jobs that have been created. We are looking forward to seeing that locked in and bedded down again tonight with the Treasurer's delivery of the federal budget, which will lock in the benefits that have flowed through to Australian workers and their families.

It is disappointing, in my view, that some in the union movement and other critics of the Howard government's foreshadowed workplace relations reform are still saying that it is an attack on workers' rights. What is good for the worker is the increase in real wages. The Howard government is a friend of employees because we have delivered—the runs are on the board—and we will continue to deliver, and we are confident about that. Sadly, the opposition in the Senate has already blocked 28 separate pieces of workplace relations legislation since 1996. The opposition parties have blocked unfair dismissal reform legislation, for example, over 41 times.

Senator Ian Campbell—That's because Mr Beazley said that it's all done—there's nothing to do.

Senator BARNETT—That is right. That is exactly the point.

Senator Ian Campbell—Reform fatigue.

Senator BARNETT—It is reform fatigue from Mr Beazley. He expressed a view at the Australian newspapers' sustainable devel-

opment summit in Melbourne not so long ago and essentially said: 'I've got reform fatigue. I believe that enough has been done in terms of workplace relations reform and we don't need to do any more.' The Australian public will make that decision with respect to whether or not Mr Beazley is spot-on. We believe he is entirely wrong with his small target policy and his view that nothing further is required in terms of workplace relations. I know the views of the business community and I am sure that the employees, particularly of small business, would have a different view.

Senator Ian Campbell—He should take up a chair at the John F Kennedy School of Government on how to govern without governing.

Senator BARNETT—He could do exactly that—learn how to govern the country without actually governing. The Hon. Senator Ian Campbell has made it quite clear that that is an option for Mr Beazley, perhaps in his next chapter. In terms of bargaining at the workplace relations level, this encourages wage increases to be linked to productivity improvements. That is a fundamental understanding ensuring flexibility. Higher productivity, of course, leads to higher wages, higher employment and higher living standards—the runs are on the board, as I said. Workplace relations reform is, in my view, no magic pudding but it does produce a bigger pie for all of us to share—the employees, their families and the like—and the benefits spread. We have come so far, so why not keep going? Mr Beazley says: 'Stop. Everything has been done. We don't want to go any further.' There is no reason to believe that, in another eight years, sensible reform cannot deliver an extra \$100, \$150 or whatever a week more for the work force in real terms.

I have long supported a single national industrial relations system to supersede the cumbersome spread of six separate federal and state jurisdictions and a jumble of awards. This legislation is part of the tapestry, although it is a comprehensive tapestry, of workplace relations reform. What it will do is simplify the arrangements for business. It will ensure certainty and security for business across this nation instead of having the hotchpotch approach that we have, which is our current 100-year-old system, which is indeed antiquated.

Let us have a look. Why do we need to clutter the system with costly myriad federal and state awards? The recent count of awards in Australia showed that there were over 2,200 federal awards and over 1,700 state awards—nearly 4,000 awards across this country. We have businesses operating across state borders. Of course they operate across state borders. They are operating in a federal jurisdiction and in state jurisdictions. In different states they are operating under different terms and conditions. It is that simple. So a single jurisdiction is the way to go. This was so eloquently put by the Hon. Kevin Andrews just last week in Adelaide to a business forum which was very well attended and well appreciated. If you read his speech—it is on the minister's web site—it gives very clear arguments in favour of a single workplace relations system. It makes it clear that the constitutional powers are there, under the Corporations Law, to cover 85- to 90-odd per cent or thereabouts of the businesses across this country. And, of course, the constitutional corporations are covered.

In the last count that I had a squiz at, there were 857 state awards in New South Wales, more than 300 in Queensland, 80 in South Australia, 354 in Western Australia and, in my home state of Tasmania, 129-odd. Most large and small business employers in the

states have to deal with this complex nightmare of both federal and state awards, particularly if they are operating across borders, as many do. We have many home based businesses operating across state borders as well, via the internet. In the 21st century this is happening more commonly. We are asking the Labor Party and the other opposition parties to come on board and to get with it to ensure the benefits flow through to the employees and their families.

Senator Marshall referred to the Senate committee hearings. Indeed, I was there with Senator Marshall. We had hearings, including here in Canberra. We had business groups—including the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Australian Industry Group, the Australian Mines and Metals Association and, indeed, others—who expressed their views. The employers, the businesses, expressed their strong support for this legislation to be passed—and not only to be passed but to be passed as soon as possible. That is why we are debating this bill today as the first agenda item on the Senate list. I hope that the Senate will see the merit of this bill and have it passed quickly.

In terms of the Senate committee hearings, I was told of the different provisions applying in different states regarding the unions' right of entry to the workplace. Why shouldn't the same provisions apply across the country in the different states when you are operating under one system? Of course they should. Let us look at it from a business perspective, from the employers' perspective. Let us not just see it from our perspective or the unions' perspective. That is wrong. What is in the public interest? We know what it is: it is to ensure that this reform is passed. Legal experts have looked at the single-jurisdiction option. Minister Kevin Andrews made it very clear that the constitutional corporations will be covered. The large, overwhelming majority will be covered by this

legislation and by similar legislation that has been foreshadowed by the Prime Minister and by Minister Kevin Andrews. It will remove the duplication and streamline the arrangements, and it will, of course, have a guaranteed safety net and minimum conditions.

I also want to mention that, in addition to the awards I have referred to—129-odd in Tassie—the business lobby say that employers in Tasmania have to navigate their way through 2,000 pages of laws, regulations and amendments, often covering dual federal and state awards. While large companies have an industrial or human resources department to deal with this—and, to give them their due, that is their right and entitlement, and indeed it is entirely appropriate—let us think of the small businesses that have to find their way through this myriad complex regulation and red tape. Let us make it easier for small businesses—and remember that over 80 per cent of small businesses are microbusinesses of five employees or fewer and small businesses of 20 employees or fewer. We have to be out there helping them.

Remember as well that, with regard to employment, small businesses employ on average 50 per cent of the private sector work force. That is where the work force is—in small business. In Tasmania, my home state, over 50 per cent of the private sector work force is in small business. We lead the country; we are a small business state. I want to support these small businesses by ensuring that there is reform of the workplace relations agenda and these arrangements, which, quite honestly, are antiquated. They are 100 years old and in desperate need of reform.

This is one of the reasons why the Labor Minister for Industrial Relations in Victoria, Rob Hulls, supports this approach of a single jurisdiction. That should be noted. Thank

you for that encouragement, Minister Robert Hulls.

Senator Marshall—That's not what he said.

Senator BARNETT—Indeed, he did say it. He did put reservations on it, Senator Marshall. He said, 'As long as it's fair and robust and protects the rights of workers and employers'—and be assured that that is exactly what will happen; that is our approach. Our approach will be to cut back the quagmire of award red tape.

I want to draw the attention of the Senate to the February 2003 Senate Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee report, *Small business employment*. Some people might think that this is new or revolutionary, but page 152 of the government senators' part of the report of that committee, of which I was a government member, clearly says:

Government senators also believe that moving to a single jurisdiction for industrial relations could do much to remove complexity and uncertainty from the employment framework and that this would be of significant benefit to small business.

Too right it will! We recognised that in February 2003 and indeed over the course of that inquiry, which took nearly 12 months. And here we are in 2005 and people would think that the sky is about to fall in. That is the way the Labor Party would like to see it.

In the few moments I have left, let us have a look at the Labor Party's platform and views with regard to right of entry. Let us see what they say about it. The Labor Party's current platform—the policy they took to the last election—proposes an enormous widening of the right of entry powers for unions. They have not said that yet here in the Senate. Let them speak about their own policy and actually own up to the fact that they wanted to widen the right of entry powers for unions. The ALP's policy would have given

unions unfettered rights of entry by abolishing this requirement and replacing it with the requirement that an industrial award need only have the potential to apply to a workplace, regardless of whether it actually does and regardless of whether there are any union members on the site. So under the ALP's policy there would be nothing to stop union right of entry to a family home if an employer were running a home based business. Bear that in mind. So the legitimate role of unions in the workplace is still preserved. This is Labor policy. We have expounded on our policy. Let us hear from the Labor Party and the opposition parties.

Senator BUCKLAND (South Australia) (1.19 pm)—Labor are opposing the Workplace Relations Amendment (Right of Entry) Bill 2004, as we rightly should do as people who have respect for workers and respect for those who play an integral part in the industrial development and progress of Australia's industry—that is, the union movement. I make no apology for saying that I am a proud union member and former proud union official who took part in many industrial campaigns and of course was a regular right-of-entry operative within the bounds of the branch that I was secretary of.

This piece of legislation before the Senate is just one of many that the government will of course be pursuing. It is part of the broader attack on workers and the union movement. It really shows, I think, the hatred of workers that the government have. The very mention of unions for this government reminds them of Darth Vader and the evil empire. They think something strange is going to happen because a union is going to be involved in a workplace. Workers do have rights and workers do have rights to be members of unions. This bill will take away the freedom of association that is enjoyed by workers in Australia today. Workers depend on unions to represent them, and to take

away the access of a union official to visit members in their workplace—

Senator Ian Campbell interjecting—

Senator BUCKLAND—You would not know, Minister, would you? You have never been out there to talk to workers in the real sense.

Senator Ian Campbell—You wouldn't know, Comrade.

Senator BUCKLAND—I wouldn't know? I think I might know, Comrade—if we are using that term across the chamber. It is nice to have you on board, and I expect you to get up and speak in favour of the rights of workers to have access to unions and the rights of unions to represent their members in the workplace—

Senator Ian Campbell—And the right not to join a union too.

Senator BUCKLAND—And the right to not join unions also. If you want to debate that, Comrade, let us debate that at the right time, because you are not making much of a contribution now.

Senator Ian Campbell interjecting—

Senator BUCKLAND—I take exception if the minister was suggesting for one moment that I or the union I represented was involved in corruption. I take exception to that and ask him to repeat it outside, where it can be developed a little bit further.

Senator Ian Campbell—I've said it outside, a hundred times.

Senator BUCKLAND—Just make the comment regarding myself outside, Comrade, and we will see what develops from that.

This bill severely restricts the representation that unions can give their members. To suggest that they have to be a right and proper person to enter a workplace is farci-

cal. Union officials are elected by their members—

Senator Eggleston interjecting—

Senator BUCKLAND—In secret ballots as it might turn out. I see Comrade Eggleston is joining the fray.

Government senators interjecting—

Senator BUCKLAND—In secret ballots, postal ballots—find out for yourself how it works and you will see. They are elected because it is believed that they are right and proper people to represent that workplace. It is suggested that you have to apply to enter a workplace to talk to members, whose problems could be associated with many things. It could be the manner in which the employer is operating under the award or the agreement. It could be something to do with superannuation. It could be something to do with workers compensation. There are a range of issues. To suggest that union officials be restricted in their access to workers is something that this government really need to reconsider.

Senator Ian Campbell—Can they be restricted from hurting them? Victimising them?

Senator BUCKLAND—Victimisation! Get in the real world.

Government senators interjecting—

Senator Marshall interjecting—

Senator BUCKLAND—It is union bashing. You are right, Senator Marshall. They will take every opportunity to do it. But the worm turns. They will have their time on this side, and they will see what they have done to this nation when workers revolt against the unscrupulous methods of the government. That will happen. It is bound to happen because history does repeat itself and it will repeat itself against the government for the way they treat workers. To suggest that right of entry should be restricted to, say, once

every six months or a set period of time is a nonsense.

Senator Ian Campbell interjecting—

The ACTING DEPUTY PRESIDENT (Senator Cherry)—Order! Senator Campbell, you have been repeatedly interjecting. Senator Buckland has the floor.

Senator BUCKLAND—I do not mind a bit. If I have only got 10 minutes, this will go for 20 minutes without any disruption. It is nice to hear this minister trying to be one of the workers! I think he is a long way from being that.

The bill will prevent unions from being able to recruit members, and recruitment is an important part of the exercise. But, as the minister pointed out, workers have a right to say no, they do not want to be a member. That is the way it is. It seems terribly difficult for employers to say, ‘You do not have to be a member.’ What about the pressure that is put on companies by the employer organisations to ensure that they have all of the companies in their organisations to represent them? Are they going to be restricted from entering workplaces? If a union official goes to talk to a worker in the workplace, there is good reason for it. Quite often the worker has said, ‘I want to see you about an issue.’ It could be—

Senator Ian Campbell interjecting—

Senator BUCKLAND—Again, Comrade, you point to an instance of where I stopped someone entering a workplace because they were not a member.

The ACTING DEPUTY PRESIDENT (Senator Cherry)—Senator Buckland, could you address the senator by his appropriate title.

Senator BUCKLAND—Yes, I will try to do that. He is so excited over there I thought he was one of those on the shop floor at a mass meeting. Anyway, we will press on.

When a person wants to see a representative, it could be about a range of issues. That range of issues could include, as I said before, workers compensation or superannuation. It could be an issue that they have at home that is affecting their attendance at work. It could be a range of things, and it could be something that is private and that they want advice on. They do not want to be hampered by an employer standing around or stopping the representative going to talk to them at a time that is convenient to them. To say, 'You can only see them in a lunchroom or in a special room that we have set aside,' is a nonsense. It just shows that this government does not understand what the workplace is all about. How many times do you go to a plant or a workplace where there are shift workers and where there is a continuous process going on? The workers do not actually go to a crib room. They do not have that privilege. They eat at their workplace. They take their lunch or their morning tea break when it fits in with what is going on at work. So if you go and make your right of entry to comply with that and you go to the workplace, some may be working and some can usually stop to talk to you while you are there. It is not a way of disrupting and stopping productivity.

I took note of the comment made earlier by Senator Barnett that this bill will boost productivity. That comes out of fairyland; it is a nonsense. This bill has nothing to do with productivity. All it will do is restrict that ability of unions to carry out their proper and legal business. I find it difficult to understand why this government is trying to erode the rights and freedoms of any people. We fight wars to protect people's freedoms and rights and to ensure that democracy reigns. I believe in democracy. I believe that we should protect democracy as much as we can, and democracy even goes down to the workplace. But that does not seem to apply to this

government. It seems to think that it stops before you get to the worker and that the employer has a democratic right to prevent their employees from being members of associations.

If you look at the great developments that occurred during the late 1980s and 1990s, there were revolutions in industry, there were massive changes to productivity and there were massive changes to workplace structures and to how people went about their work. There was multiskilling and upskilling and cross-skilling of people so that they were not tied to one job; they could do a multitude of things. Workers were allowed for the very first time to take their brains to work. I point out that all that was brought in under a Labor government. That process has been hampered ever since. Those things were brought in so that workers have opportunities to do things. They have the ability to do a lot more than what they are given credit for.

All of those changes during the 1980s and the 1990s—and I was very proud to be involved in much of the restructuring of industry and workplaces—took place because the unions and the companies cooperated. It was not company led; it was not union led. It was a matter of companies and unions assisting each other in the workplace. I will point out, because it is so close to home for me, the now OneSteel plant at Whyalla. Look at the structure they have there. That could never have happened without the involvement of the union. The reason it did happen was that the union was prepared to work with the company and got credit and praise from the company for its actions. That was repeated all over the country. Workers, their unions and companies worked together. In workplaces where they were stifled—where the employer wanted to have the upper hand at all times—progress and development did not happen. Some of those companies are not in existence now.

Other companies came knocking on union doors to see how they could do it. They did not go to their chamber of commerce or their employer organisation; they came to the unions first. They said, 'We don't have a unionised workplace. We have only a few people employed. But can you help us make our company more productive and more competitive in the industry?' And we did it. The unions did not hesitate. They went in there and they helped, taking the role of the employer organisation as well. They do not get any credit for that from this government because this government is too interested in knocking workers on the head.

I am particularly offended by the government's approach to this bill—one of many that they will seek to introduce and force through the Senate when they get control in July. We come back all the time when we are talking about workers' rights to the fundamental right they have to freedom of association. In essence, what this bill is going to do is prevent them having the right to freedom of association. That is what is behind all of this: stopping them being union members. If the union cannot freely go and visit their membership in the workplace then the membership will say, 'We don't need the union,' despite the fact that behind the scenes everything is happening because of their actions. This bill will take away a right that is given to every worker. They will fight back eventually and we will have another revolution against the employers and the government for their meanness. The present government will not be there all the time. I look forward to them exiting the treasury bench at the next election.

This is something that is a personal choice of the employee. I agree that if someone says, 'I don't want to be a member of the union,' then that person has made a choice. I have never argued against that. It does not mean that I do not support the idea of bar-

gaining fees applying, because you are doing the work for them anyway. But as I said to the minister earlier, if you can find an instance where that occurred where I was involved you must be looking in the wrong books, because it never occurred. And I would say that I speak for most union officials. That was the way it was.

The bill also seeks to severely and unfairly restrict employees' access to their representatives in that their representatives will not be able to go down and talk to them at the workplace and find out what the problems are. I was very fortunate as a union official because my branch was, on the whole, in a small area. Everyone knew where I lived. If they could not get to the office, they could come to the house in the evening or I could visit them. But many of our outlying members, such as those in Alice Springs or in Woomera or Roxby Downs, did not have as much access and we would go to them. We could not always say, 'We'll be here on Thursday'; we would go when we could. This government does not understand that that is the way things happen.

The other thing is that if we are talking about an agreement to operate in the workplace, and if we are looking at an industrial agreement concerning wages and conditions, we will see there has always been an insistence by the employer and by the commission that the union determine whether its members agree with it. The easiest way to find that out is to call a stop-work meeting and all get outside the gate and have a meeting about it to go through, clause by clause and line by line, the agreement.

I have done that many times. Over a period of two or three hours, union officials and members can go through the agreement so that everyone is clear about what they are voting on and everyone is asked, 'Do you agree with what we have negotiated?' If they

do, we are all happy. If they do not, we go back and do more work and have another stop-work meeting until agreement is reached, because the employer insists on all of his work force agreeing.

To avoid that, a system of workplace meetings based on the right of entry is used by union officials to go and talk to members and explain what they have been doing. It might mean going to six or eight work sites in a particular plant over a period of the day. It should not always be at lunchtime when they stop for lunch—if they do stop for lunch—but should be when officials can see them on the job. This should not be by invitation but should still be at the convenience of the workers and the union and it should cause least disruption to the workplace so that productivity continues and the goods come out the other end of the factory, unaffected by union involvement. There are good reasons why union officials should continually be going down to see what the problems are. One is so that in drafting, redrafting and negotiating agreements officials will continually have the ear of the worker and understand what they want and the workers will understand why the union is doing what it is doing. Inevitably, what we want does not always come out. We cannot get everything we ask for. That is understood but, if union officials are continually down there talking to their members, they understand what their members really want to have and do in the workplace.

My concern about the idea that union officials would be restricted to visiting work sites to perhaps once every six months—and it might be agreed that they would visit every two months or whatever—is that there is a real danger where workers do not have easy access to the officials, as they did in my branch. If you are in a capital city or a large regional centre, it is often a long way to go at the end of the day to see a union official. The

unions, like any other office or business, do not stay open 24 hours a day. I know most union officials see people after hours by going to their house or have them come to the office late at night to try to get that business done. To restrict them to going to a workplace perhaps only once every six months means that members do not have access to the union official. The problems within the business get worse. (*Time expired*)

Senator McLUCAS (Queensland) (1.40 pm)—I appreciate the opportunity to engage in this debate about the right of entry of union officials to a workplace to represent the interests of their union members. In making this presentation on the Workplace Relations Amendment (Right of Entry) Bill 2004 this afternoon, I want to talk about the right of a union member to seek representation from their union in an industrial sense. The other thing that comes out of that, especially in the human services sector, is the flow-on effect of the benefit of the right of entry to the service that is being provided.

In a former life I was a schoolteacher. I was a very proud and active member of the Queensland Teachers Union. I valued very much the experience that I had in that union. I want to share with the Senate an experience of mine when I was a teacher at a one-teacher school. I contacted my union because of my concern about the workplace environment in which I was teaching. That environment was a very beautiful one, but the construction company that was building a resort, as it was in this case, had a road that went past the school that I was the principal of. It was a coral road, and I was concerned about the dust that was billowing into my school. I was concerned not only for my health and that of my teacher aide but also for the health of the 13 children who lived there. Upon ringing my Queensland Teachers Union organiser, he said that, because of his budget, he would find it hard to justify to the

union a trip to Hayman Island where I was the teacher. I said to the organiser: 'You really do need to come. This is potentially an unsafe environment.' Fortunately, that union organiser had a background in chemistry. When he finally came, he expressed his concern about the potential carcinogenic effects of the dust from the coral not only on me as a union member but also on the 13 children that I had in my charge. The right of entry for a union organiser not only supports the rights—in this case, the occupational workplace health and safety rights—of a union member but also supports the rights of those in the broader community. For that reason, I will not be supporting this bill, and I urge people on the other side of this chamber to consider its potential effects not only on union members but also on others.

Senator CROSSIN (Northern Territory) (1.43 pm)—The Workplace Relations Amendment (Right of Entry) Bill 2004 is one of many in a long line of attempts by this government to undermine the rights of workers in Australian workplaces and no doubt take a sledgehammer to the trade union movement. It specifically relates to the rights of entry for trade union officials in workplaces to conduct what is not only rightfully their business under the Workplace Relations Act but also rightfully their business under international law and having regard to the rights of workers around the world.

As a former union official I can say with absolute certainty and knowledge that the ability to access your members or even potential members and to quickly respond to their requests is a vital function of the union, and the right of entry is a necessary key to undertake this role. Workers who are experiencing problems and difficulties in their workplace come to rely on this fact and come to know with some confidence that you will be able to enter their workplace and seek to talk either to them or to their fellow work-

ers and respond to their requests as soon as possible without the restrictions that this bill attempts to put in place. If you are not able to access those members or those potential members then the capacity to recruit, represent or just be there to deal with the concerns of members in a timely manner is severely limited. This has a tremendous impact on the capacity of unions to represent their members. But of course that is what this government wants—to limit the effectiveness of the trade union movement in this country.

It has always been patently clear that the Howard government have real problems with the concept of unions insofar as Australian workers go. They do not like them. They want to try to blame unions for everything that is wrong in the Australian economy, and they do not like any united or collective voice that might criticise their mindless, unrealistically ideologically driven policies. This is another malicious attack on Australian workers by the Howard government—no doubt one of many to come in this country in the following months. It is not surprising that Labor will be opposing this bill.

The right of entry is about the rights and responsibilities of both sides: the right of entry needs of the worker and also the needs of the employer. The rules need to truly represent a balance which is fair to both sides. This bill does not meet those requirements—far from it. It is extremely skewed to represent the interests of the employers. But this is a government that is devoid of any original workplace relations policy. It has to rely on the work of the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry or the Business Council of Australia to push its industrial relations agenda in this parliament. It does not provide a balanced framework which would support fair and effective agreement making. It does not ensure freedom of association. Instead, this bill seeks to severely and unfairly restrict employees' access to

their representatives. It infringes on the rights of individual employees to decide to collectively bargain with other employees.

I am a member of the Senate Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee. We had a hearing into this bill in Canberra, in which we took evidence from a whole range of representatives from both the employer side and the trade union movement. We tabled a report in our last sittings. During the Senate committee hearing on this matter, the President of the ACTU, Ms Sharan Burrow, said:

As a member of the ILO governing body, I can assure you that the cases I watch and participate in ... in terms of breach of freedom of association and the capacity to organise, would absolutely provide a similar context into which this bill would fit. Fundamental rights under ILO convention 87 and its capacity to support ILO convention 98 would be breached by the nature of this bill.

Ms Burrow went on to say that, by its nature, this bill 'absolutely fetters' the right of employees to access union support, advice and information about a wide range of matters relevant to employees. Furthermore, she said that, as the bill will make access to union officials more difficult—and make it a potentially very lengthy and unnecessarily complicated process, I believe—many matters which are now able to be solved quickly will develop into much larger disputes.

I would like to summarise, albeit briefly, the background to the right of entry legislation that is before us today. It was first included in the Industrial Relations Act 1988, when an officer of an organisation was allowed to inspect premises to ensure observance of awards or an order of the commission. That officer could be obliged to provide evidence of his or her authority to do so. Access to premises was during work hours only and subject to conditions contained within the award itself. This provision was amended

in 1996 under the Workplace Relations Act, which started to restrict the rights of access to investigate only suspected breaches of awards or agreements—not just general compliance, as was previously the case. The 1996 act abolished the award based right of entry provision, further restricted the timing of any meetings to break times only and introduced the requirement that 24 hours notice of the intention of the trade union official to enter the premises be given to the employer. Of course, many will know that the trade union officials were forced to go to the commission to get a right of entry permit.

Right of entry has been considered by Senate committees on a number of occasions since 1996. For instance, in 2000 the Senate Standing Committee for the Scrutiny of Bills concluded on entry and search provisions that there was no evidence suggesting that unions should not have a right to enter. I was a member of the committee at that time. The Scrutiny of Bills Committee further found that there was a voluntary code which had been developed between employers and employees and that it would in fact have been a more appropriate way to go if this code were to have been subject to some formal agreement between the ACCI and the ACTU rather than amending further legislation.

The bill now being debated further and severely restricts the right of entry by union officials and officers, introducing a raft of more stringent criteria before an officer can be deemed a fit and proper person to be granted an entry permit. It also expands the grounds on which permits can be revoked or suspended. For these, among other reasons, the Labor Party believes this bill is far from a balanced approach to right of entry. Indeed, we can only wonder how any fair-minded person could even attempt to justify the bill as balanced.

As well as requiring employees to put in a request for a union officer to visit, their reason and identity must be stated openly. This bill will leave such an employee open to harassment and retribution and make reporting of complaints less likely. It will leave employers able to get away with breaches of agreements and awards and ignore workplace bullying and occupational health and safety problems in the workplace. During the committee hearing, the ACTU stated:

Finally, there is a real issue about the creation of a workplace based on fear and intimidation and potential invasion of privacy. For an employee who might already be concerned about the security of their employment, who might not have the confidence to actually approach the CEO or the appropriate human resources or industrial relations manager about an issue concerning them to have to put their name potentially to a request for an investigation ... or simply to be seen by the employer to approach the union ... is something we would be very concerned about.

That in itself will limit employees' rights of access to their representative, even without the other measures which will be imposed—for example, an employer having the right to determine the location for a meeting and the route to be taken in order to get to that meeting. These are extreme measures that are unnecessary and unwarranted in this day and age.

During the hearing we heard of one instance, from the financial services union, where a major bank in Melbourne—in abuse even of existing law—was able to drag out the time between an initial request for access to a trade union official to investigate a problem and the union official actually getting there to 18 months. It did this by saying that interviews with employees, which should have been confidential, had to take place in a room open to other common use. Let there be absolutely no doubt: this bill will severely impact on employee access to their representatives and vice versa. It will also severely

limit the opportunity for unions to recruit. It will severely weaken the rights of both workers and unions, but this is what the Howard government has always dreamed of, wished for and now planned for.

Because of the nature of our industrial relations system, the unions are the only real, properly resourced bodies to enforce mechanisms for awards and agreements. We all know that, under this government, the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations have had their ability to enforce mechanisms for awards and pay conditions taken right away from them, out of their hands. The Howard government have, lo and behold, hacked away at this ability. They are determined to move Australian workers towards the conditions of our Asian competitors—working in sweatshop conditions with minimal rights of protest or action. But, of course, they will sell this as being in the national interest. This morning, I heard people on the government side saying that this measure would lead to improved productivity and keep us globally competitive. Smash the trade union movement, smash the rights of workers to access international rights and conventions, and that will make us globally competitive!

During the committee hearing, the highly experienced Ms Burrow was asked if she had any reports of problems on right of entry from peak employer organisations. She had this to say:

Prior to the discussion at the workplace relations consultative committee with the minister where it was in fact raised by us, I cannot recall an incident where a peak body has actually raised an issue with me.

If it is of such concern to the employer groups in this country, why hasn't it been raised with the ACTU? Why is it not an issue that is foremost in the mind of a peak trade union body like the ACTU? It is because no-one has actually picked up the phone and

said that it is an issue. We heard evidence during the Senate committee hearing about that very fact. In fact, all the submissions made to the committee lacked any substantial evidence of systemic misuse of the rights of entry. Figures provided by the ACTU show that only 15 cases have occurred since 2000. The ACTU have examples of being called by employers to come in and help solve problems—again showing that informal, voluntary codes of conduct have been perfectly adequate.

I can see no evidence of the need for this bill. There was no evidence put before us during the committee hearing that showed that there is any need for this bill. It does not address, in a fair way, the right of entry provisions. There can be no doubt that this bill is being put forward by the Howard government as an ongoing part of its blinkered, ideological, confrontational approach to trade unions.

I will now turn to the report produced by the committee in order to further emphasise this point. Even the government senators on the committee had some sympathy for concerns about various aspects of the bill which were raised during the public hearing. These concerns were mainly about the imprecise terminology used in several clauses. I refer, for example, to clauses 280F, 280J and 280M of the bill, which cover, respectively, when permits are not to be issued, orders by the commission for abuse of the system, and the use of right of entry to investigate suspected breaches of awards. A majority of committee members accepted the view that a number of terms covered by these provisions appear to be neither properly thought out nor defined with due regard to how they might conflict with other areas of the law.

Notwithstanding the government's stated objectives, opposition senators are concerned that the intention and practical effect of this

bill will make it harder for employees to join a union and participate in legitimate union activities. Evidence given in written submissions and at the public hearing demonstrated that the bill places unreasonable impediments to the rights of trade union officials by further restricting the grounds for entry, the number of workplaces that can be visited, the locations of meeting places, and the route that a union official can take to access a meeting place. Opposition senators agreed with the assessment of the Australian Rail, Tram and Bus Industry Union that the provisions of the bill—and I quote:

... establish a kind of labyrinthine structure of bureaucracy and regulation to undermine the capacity of a union to simply speak to his or her members or potential members, and vice versa.

The claim made by the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations, Mr Andrews, and DEWR, that the bill strikes a balance between the rights of unions and the rights of employers, does not wash with the trade union movement, with most workers in this country, and certainly not with opposition senators. Evidence before the committee from various unions demonstrated that the relatively uniform state right of entry laws work effectively and have done so for some time. This was acknowledged by government senators at the public hearing.

The government's so-called policy justification for the bill amounts to unfounded paranoia about fictitious unions flouting the law and exploiting, or potentially exploiting, vulnerable employers by pressuring and harassing employees at their workplaces. Apart from isolated cases in one or two industries, there is absolutely no evidence to back up this proposition.

Debate interrupted.

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE**Treatment of Detainees**

Senator LUDWIG (2.00 pm)—My question is to the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs, Senator Vanstone, and it concerns recent findings by Justice Paul Finn of the Federal Court. Is the minister aware of the court's recent finding that the treatment of two detainees was negligent and that for one of them it amounted to 'culpable neglect'? Minister, why is it that both detainees spent 12 months and 21 months respectively without seeing a psychiatrist? Why didn't they receive help or treatment earlier? Is the minister satisfied with her own running of a detention system which puts detainees at serious risk of becoming mentally ill, as the Federal Court has found?

Senator VANSTONE—Yes, I am aware of the decision to which you refer. In relation to the detail of that case, I will take it on notice. You do invite me to comment on whether I am satisfied with the detention system, which you assert—roughly using the senator's words, Mr President—'puts patients at serious risk of mental illness'. I am not prepared to come to that conclusion, but I am prepared to say that I think we can do better—we can do much better. I would not get too excited about that. For Senator Ludwig's benefit, my basic approach to life is that everyone can do better. But it is clear, to me at least, that in relation to care we can do better. I am in the process of ascertaining what precisely we can do in the short term.

The senator will be aware that there are a number of things that were changed in the department as a consequence of the Rau matter. I indicated at the time of making those changes that the department were happy, willing and desperate to be looking for more changes to see what we could do to make these exceptional cases not fall through the

cracks, as they have apparently done. The department have not stopped there. I have made sure of that. I have asked them to come up with further things and see what else they can do to make sure these things do not happen again.

To put it in perspective, Mr President, because I think that is fair, over the period we are looking at, which is roughly a three-year period, I have received advice that there are a number of cases of people who were detained and who were subsequently found to be lawful. It would be a mistake to assume that all of those cases were people who had been lawful all along. That category refers—for Senator Ludwig's benefit, because I know he has a genuine interest in this—to people who may not have been able to identify themselves at the time but whose identity we were subsequently able to get and who were then released. That would mean that they were lawfully detained at the time because a reasonable suspicion was held that they were an unlawful noncitizen. But within a relatively short period of time that suspicion, having been checked, was cleared and removed and the person was released. One cannot infer that, because a number of cases have been referred to Mr Palmer, they are all cases of people who should not in the first instance have been detained.

I might indicate to you, Mr President, that some people might be detained for a number of hours—for example, in a raid late at night—and released early the next day. That would show as a day in detention, because that is done on a daily basis. Some people will have been detained for longer periods than that, some will have become lawful while they were in detention and some will have been lawful in the very beginning but have presented identification problems. Ms Rau is a classic example of that: someone who gives another name. The expectation is that somehow the department can easily find

someone who gives us another name. That is of course the case with Ms Alvarez.

The short answer is that I think the department do an excellent job. We are talking about 0.2 per cent of the cases. Nonetheless, it is not satisfactory and we can do a better job and we should. (*Time expired*)

Senator LUDWIG—I ask a supplementary question, Mr President. I thank the minister for her response. However, we are talking about the Federal Court case and I think the minister is going to take that part on notice. Can the minister inform the Senate as to why her department has spent more than \$13,000 in eight court hearings defending the denial of proper psychiatric care to another detainee? That is what the minister needs to be able to provide. Why do we now have the situation where detainees suffering from mental illness need to go to court to try to get proper medical treatment? Minister, how many more tales of suffering do we have to hear before you will admit you were wrong, that there is a need for a royal commission and that you will call for one?

Senator VANSTONE—I remind the senator that his question did go specifically to one case, but he did add a general question at the end and that is the question that I answered. As he rightly indicated, I said I would take it on notice. In relation to the case he refers to, I will come back with a detailed answer as to the reason the department defended the particular matter. It may not be fairly categorised as Senator Ludwig chose to categorise it. I am not going to agree with that, but I will come back to him with an answer with respect to that.

The immigration area is a very litigious area. The senator will understand that many people have tried continuous litigation as a means of hoping, I think against all hope, that the department would simply give up. The department and the government are cer-

tainly determined to ensure that people are offered appropriate health care. There have been some examples that have been unsatisfactory. I do not say, 'You would expect that and therefore it is okay.' It is not, and we will be fixing it.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS

The PRESIDENT—Order! I draw the attention of honourable senators to the presence in the chamber of a parliamentary delegation from the state of Kuwait, led by Mr Abdul Wahid Al-Awadhi MP. On behalf of all senators, I wish you a warm welcome to Australia and, in particular, to the Senate.

Honourable senators—Hear, hear!

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Iraq

Senator FERGUSON (2.07 pm)—My question is to the Minister for Defence, Senator Hill. Will the minister provide the Senate with an update on the deployment of Australian Defence Force troops to southern Iraq as part of the Al Muthanna Task Group?

Senator HILL—I am pleased to be able to inform the Senate that the first main body of Australian Defence Force troops that make up the Al Muthanna Task Group has arrived in southern Iraq and has commenced operations in the Al Muthanna province. The balance of the force will be joining them in the near future.

I can also inform the Senate that I recently met the governor of Al Muthanna, Mohammed Al Hassani, and reinforced to him the fact that Australian forces are there in his province to assist the people of Iraq, particularly in helping to train Iraqi armed forces and ensuring the security environment within which the Japanese Self Defence Force can continue their important humanitarian work.

The job of training the Al Muthanna provincial security force is an important contribution to help prepare Iraq to take on the task

of providing its own security in the future. The governor indicated to me that the Australian forces were welcome, and that certainly seems to also be the early response of the Iraqi people from within the province.

It is also encouraging to note the further progress being made in the formation of the new Iraqi government, the transitional government. The Iraqi constitutional assembly has now approved the cabinet, which includes representatives of the key ethnic and community groupings, including those who boycotted the elections. A willingness to be inclusive is going to be very important in building public confidence in a very fragile environment.

During a meeting with the Iraqi Prime Minister, Ibrahim al-Jafari, I passed on the Australian government's congratulations on the formation of the new government and restated the Australian government's commitment to help build a peaceful and democratic Iraq. The Prime Minister, in turn, indicated to me how much he valued Australia's role in providing training to help the Iraqi people take responsibility for their own security.

Unfortunately, Iraq remains a dangerous and violent place, as witnessed by the kidnapping of the Australian Douglas Wood. It has distressed us all, but for his family, in particular, it is clearly a terrible experience. The government, through all possible avenues, continues intense efforts to achieve his safe recovery. We pray that his kidnapers will exercise compassion and release him.

In this difficult environment, Australian forces continue to perform superbly in providing medical aid, in the training of a new security force, in supporting the new ministries, in providing security for our diplomats and in so many other ways. Their professionalism and their good spirit is an inspiration greatly appreciated by the bulk of the Iraqi

people and our coalition allies, and we thank them for their service.

Ms Cornelia Rau

Senator KIRK (2.11 pm)—My question is to Senator Vanstone, the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs. In light of the Federal Court findings last week by Justice Finn, can the minister now give the Senate the absolute assurance that detaining Cornelia Rau for 10 months did not worsen her medical condition in any way? If the minister cannot give this absolute assurance, if she cannot give that question a straight answer, isn't it time for a royal commission?

Senator VANSTONE—I thank the senator for the question, albeit I would not have expected one structured in that way from her. She asked two questions. Can I give an absolute guarantee that the detention of Cornelia Rau did not in any way further damage her condition? Of course I cannot give that guarantee. I am not a psychiatrist; I would not purport to be. I would not allege that it has not, and I would not allege, if I were you, that it has.

Senator Forshaw—Why not?

Senator VANSTONE—Because I would leave it to people who are specialists in that area to come to that conclusion. If specialists in that area do come to that conclusion, we will deal with it at that time. That I think is the appropriate answer. It is not a matter for idle speculation by senators, members or commentators; it is a matter of fact, and it is a matter of fact that should be dealt with by the appropriate people. With respect, we are not the appropriate people to come to that conclusion. We are the appropriate people to answer for it—if that conclusion is drawn and agreed to—but not to come to it.

Senator, because you asked me a question that you must know, with your intellect, it is impossible to give a yes to—an absolute set-

up question designed to have me say, 'No, of course I can't'—of course I am going to say, 'No, of course I can't.' You say to me that because I cannot give an absolute guarantee in relation to something that there should be a royal commission. There will be a very long list of matters into which there will be royal commissions, if, simply because a minister cannot give an absolute guarantee to a question on which he or she would not be able to give one anyway, we have a royal commission.

In relation to the inquiry that we have set up, I am aware of the fact that it does not please members of the media and it does not please some people in the opposition that Mr Palmer has been given the opportunity to set about doing his work. I have faith in Mr Palmer. He is trained as a lawyer and practises as a lawyer. He was the Commissioner of the Northern Territory Police. He was Commissioner of Police of the Australian Federal Police, appointed first by the Labor Party and then reappointed by us. I cannot say whether you have confidence, but I do. I am happy to give Mr Palmer the tools to do the job. I met with Mr Palmer yesterday and asked him directly, squarely, eyeball to eyeball: are you satisfied that you are getting every bit of cooperation that you possibly could get and are requiring from the department? The answer was yes.

The findings will be made public in relation to both this and the Alvarez matter, but we do not assist Mr Palmer in coming to the findings by idle speculation in the meantime. They will be made public, and we will have to answer for them, but the appropriate time will be when the inquiry is concluded.

Senator KIRK—I ask a supplementary question, Mr President. In relation to the Palmer inquiry, what is going on behind closed doors and how are the secret investigations into Cornelia Rau proceeding? If the

Palmer inquiry cannot give us a completion date for just one case, how will it be expected to deal with another hundred or more that may be in the pipeline? Minister, why can't the families of these victims see justice being done? When will the public find out exactly what is going on in your failed detention system?

Senator VANSTONE—I thank the senator. What is going on behind closed doors, Senator? A normal federal inquiry where seconded people are undertaking tasks at the instruction of former Commissioner Palmer to find the facts in a matter. That is what is going on. I would not have thought it required someone to spell out for you what happens in an inquiry. 'When will the families get justice?' you ask. The implication is that they are not getting that by the inquiry being conducted. As I have said, when we have the conclusions we can have a discussion about what ought to happen. I do not think it is appropriate to come to those conclusions now.

Senator, you refer to a failed detention system. I remind you that mandatory detention is in fact a Labor policy and it is not one with which the Labor Party disagrees. I also remind you that, as I have said, the cases referred to Mr Palmer amount to 0.2 per cent of the cases. By and large, the immigration department does a fantastic job. There are mistakes, and the ones that I am aware of are not good ones. I am annoyed about them and will get them fixed. But I will not stand by and let someone pretend that therefore every case that is dealt with is a mistake, when on my advice that is not the case. (*Time expired*)

Indian Ocean Tsunami

Senator BRANDIS (2.16 pm)—My question is to the Minister for Defence, Senator Hill. Will the minister advise the Senate of the work carried out by the Australian Defence Force in assisting the Indonesian peo-

ple who lost so much followed the devastating tsunami and the earthquake that followed?

Senator HILL—Australia's humanitarian mission to provide emergency disaster relief to Indonesia is now complete. The last of the personnel returned home on board HMAS *Kanimbla* just over a week ago. The ADF did an outstanding job in a very difficult environment. They provided much needed emergency assistance in some of the worst hit areas of Banda Aceh and Nias Island. Operation Sumatra Assist was the largest humanitarian assistance mission ever performed by the Australian Defence Force, with more than 1,000 ADF personnel involved in the operation. All Australians should feel a deep sense of pride in the work that our men and women have done. Our sailors, soldiers, airmen and airwomen have worked tirelessly together to help those in need, and their work has made an incredible difference to the many tsunami and earthquake victims.

However, it has been at a high cost, with the death of nine ADF personnel and two others severely injured in the recent Sea King helicopter crash. Following the death of so many young people in that terrible tragedy, I pass my deepest sympathy and no doubt that of all honourable senators to the families and loved ones of those who died. Australians will always remember their sacrifice in helping to provide emergency medical assistance to the people of Indonesia. The sacrifice was commemorated in a moving national ceremony in the Great Hall of this parliament. We hope it provided some comfort to the families.

The accident investigation has made progress. Its work will feed into a board of inquiry which has now been established and which has the complex task of determining the cause of the accident. The Indonesian government has expressed its appreciation to

the Australian government and all who have assisted in the response to the tsunami and the earthquake. The Indonesian military has also been very grateful for the support Australia has provided, and its leadership has personally thanked both me and the Chief of the Defence Force for Australia's early contribution.

Overall, the ADF's contribution included three RAAF transport aircraft, aviation support crews, Army medical personnel, logistics specialists, engineers and support from HMAS *Kanimbla*. They worked tirelessly to clean drains and buildings, delivered many tonnes of medical and humanitarian supplies, carried out urgent medical evacuations and treated hundreds of patients. Assistance in Aceh and Nias has now progressed to a repair and reconstruction phase and Australian assistance will continue, but it is to be provided through our civilian agencies.

Immigration

Senator JACINTA COLLINS (2.20 pm)—My question is to Senator Vanstone, the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs. Has the minister now been briefed on the new case of an Australian citizen with a mental illness who was wrongfully deported by DIMIA to the Philippines and who has not been seen nor heard of since? When did the department first come to know that this Australian woman had a child and when did the minister first become aware of this fact? Why was this woman deported when she had a nine-year-old boy waiting for her in Australia in foster care? How is it that the acting minister, Minister McGauran, claimed that the department only knew of its mistake some four years after her deportation? Isn't it actually the case that the department has known of this issue since 2003? Minister, when did your office first become aware of this case?

Senator VANSTONE—Senator, you asked me four questions. The first was: have I been briefed? Yes, in a limited way while I was overseas and in a somewhat more substantial way yesterday afternoon, which was my first day back here in Canberra. When did the department first know the woman had a child? I will get you the date, but the advice that I have is that, when the woman was sent back, it was on the basis that she had indicated she had no family in Australia. I will just make that clear—that is the advice I have at this point. They may have subsequently become aware of that. Clearly they have. I will get you the date of that.

Your third question was: why was a woman who had a child here sent back to the Philippines? The answer is, on the basis of the advice I have, that she had indicated at the time that she did not have any family here. She had given a different name from that in which her passport or citizenship was held, and those cases always make it more difficult. I do not say that as an excuse or an explanation; it is in no way satisfactory. There is not an ameliorating circumstance I can think of to explain why an Australian citizen is sent away. But I do say that when someone presents with an alternative name it does make it extraordinarily hard. So, as I indicated, the advice I have is that the department was not aware at the time she was sent away that she had a child. As to the dates you ask about, I will get you those quite specifically on notice.

Senator JACINTA COLLINS—Mr President, I have a supplementary question. Further in relation to this matter: did this woman receive a psychiatric assessment when her self-report was given such regard? Also, in relation to the treatment of children of detainees: has the minister been briefed on the detainee Naomi Leong, who was born and who recently celebrated her third birthday in Villawood detention centre? Does the

minister think it is satisfactory that a child could be born in a detention centre and should be there long enough to celebrate her third birthday? Minister, what possible threat does this three-year-old girl pose to the Australian community and why have you kept her locked up this long?

Senator VANSTONE—I am not aware. I am inclined on the basis of advice that I have been given at this point to say that no, she did not have a psychiatric assessment between the time that she came to the attention of the department and the time she left. But I will check that, and the reason I will check that is that there is a gap between the time period that she came to the attention of the department and when she was first interviewed. She came to the attention of the department in early April and she was first interviewed by the department in early May. I cannot say what happened while she was in hospital during that month gap but I do not have advice that she received a psychiatric assessment after she was released from hospital. I make that point because she was not in fact sent back to the Philippines until late July. The proposition was put to me— (*Time expired*)

Immigration

Senator BARTLETT (2.24 pm)—My question is also to the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs. I ask the minister about matters relating to the Edmund Rice Centre's report *Deported to danger*, which was produced last year, which interviewed 40 different asylum seekers of 13 different nationalities who had been returned by Australia to 11 different countries. The report found that some of those people were deported on false paperwork and, of those 40, only five could be deemed to be safe. Can the minister outline what actions her department has taken to follow up the veracity of the information

contained in that report? She has stated on radio that the centre was asked to give information to verify those claims and has not provided it. Isn't it the case that there have been meetings with the centre? Isn't it the case that the report is on the web? What is the information that the department has not got that has prevented it from properly validating these very serious claims?

Senator VANSTONE—I thank the senator for his question. I might take the opportunity to complete briefly an answer to Senator Collins—

Senator Allison—Come off it.

Senator VANSTONE—You will get the full answer.

Senator Robert Ray—You know you can't do that.

The PRESIDENT—Order! You were asked a question—

Senator VANSTONE—All right, I will not do that. I will leave it until after question time. It might have assisted the Senate, but I will leave it. In relation to the Edmund Rice Centre, Senator, you correctly identify what I said. That is what I have been told—that they have not been forthcoming. There may well have been a number of meetings. That does not mean that the information has been provided. The Edmund Rice Centre has made these allegations. Presumably you make allegations on the basis of evidence that you have. I have in the past said publicly, and I say it again now: give us the information and we will follow it up. It is not appropriate for the Edmund Rice Centre or anybody else to simply make a bald allegation and say, 'You go away and check it out.' If you have made an allegation, I assume in good faith and I assume therefore on the basis of some evidence, we would appreciate the evidence and we will follow it up. That will always be the case.

Senator BARTLETT—Mr President, I have a supplementary question. Given that in itself the centre has provided a 63-page report, available on the internet, surely that provides sufficient information for some following up by the department. Can the minister also indicate whether the government will now reconsider the recommendation made by the Senate Legal and Constitutional Committee over five years ago—a unanimous recommendation, including her colleagues Senators Coonan and Payne, who I am sure she would agree take a very considered approach to difficult issues—to consider establishing some mechanism with non-government organisations to informally monitor the fate of people who are returned to countries that are unstable.

Senator VANSTONE—I thank the senator for the question. Yes, I do have great respect for Senator Coonan and Senator Payne. I will have a look at that recommendation and what the government response was to it. But I can say automatically that if anyone, an NGO or an individual—you do not have to have the status of being an NGO—has evidence that someone has been improperly returned they should give us that evidence and they are free to do that at this point, and it will always be taken into account. We do not need a mechanism—I am intuitively responding to you here—because the door is always open to someone who has the evidence to come forward and give us the evidence. If they are unhappy giving the evidence solely to the immigration department then let them give the evidence to a parliamentary committee by way of letter so that members of that committee can always check on whether the immigration department has done the right thing and followed that information up. (*Time expired*)

Anzac Cove

Senator MARK BISHOP (2.28 pm)—My question is to Senator Hill, representing the Prime Minister and the Minister for Veterans' Affairs. Can the minister confirm that, in the letter of August 2004 to the Turkish government seeking roadworks at Gallipoli, the then Minister for Veterans' Affairs also requested in the attachment:

A suitable turnaround facility for coaches would be a most useful addition to the Anzac Cove road which ... may solve the problem of having visitors walk many kilometres to attend the dawn service.

Can the minister also confirm that the same paragraph stated:

A turnaround facility constructed adjacent to the Ari Burnu War Cemetery would similarly be most useful in resolving traffic congestion with official vehicles.

In light of these direct requests to the Turkish government to ease congestion for official vehicles, how can the Prime Minister continue to deny that the Australian government has sought work on the Anzac Cove road?

Senator HILL—I am sure that the letter has been correctly read into the *Hansard*. From when I read it some time ago, I do recall mention of a turnaround area for coaches. The purpose of the works was to provide a safer and more convenient environment for the many thousands of visitors who attend commemoration services at Anzac Cove on Anzac Day. The justification for that work, I think, came out of the circumstances of there not being either a safe or a convenient environment for these people, who include the elderly. The work was of course to be carried out by the Turkish authorities, and that has been taking place. I had a lot of trouble following the relevance of the last part of the question, but I do agree that the works are being done. If the honourable senator is putting to me that that was the purpose of the work then I agree with him. I

hope that it has successfully provided the safer and more convenient environment which we sought for visitors to that very important commemoration.

Senator MARK BISHOP—I ask a supplementary question, Mr President. Can the minister confirm that he has received a briefing from the Office of Australian War Graves on the construction of the road in question and that options considered include the need to construct a rock retaining-wall to prevent erosion of the site in the future? Minister, given that the office of war graves was fully involved in the construction of this road and that ministers have been fully briefed, why did the Prime Minister seek to suspend the works? Why has he not sought instead to suspend work specifically requested by former Minister Vale on the Chunuk Bair road, which cuts across the former front line, and is most likely to uncover many remains of Australian soldiers?

Senator HILL—I think it is unfortunate that the opposition seeks to make political mileage out of this attempt to provide a safer environment for the thousands of visitors attending the dawn service at Anzac Cove. As I said, the work was to be carried out by the Turkish authorities; it is their peace park, it is their responsibility. We can provide some guidance through the war graves authorities, and did so. My recollection is that, when we learned of the retaining wall that was to be constructed, officials who visited the site expressed some concern about the consequences of that wall, as a result of which we requested that the Turkish authorities pause in their works. What has flowed therefrom, I am not sure, but I am quite happy to make inquiries of the Minister for Veterans' Affairs and bring the honourable senator up to date. But I stress again: the purpose is well based, and it would have been helpful if we had got a bit more support. (*Time expired*)

Mr David Hicks

Senator NETTLE (2.34 pm)—My question is to Senator Hill, representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs. My question relates to comments made by the foreign minister last week in the United States, as reported by AAP, about David Hicks. The minister is reported as saying:

... the government had not really considered what should happen—

in the case of David Hicks—

if the military commission process was stalled indefinitely.

In the article he is quoted as saying:

“We’ll cross that bridge if we come to it ...”

My question is: how long does the government intend to wait to determine that the military commission process has been stalled indefinitely and then choose to act? How long will the government wait before it decides to act in relation to Mr Hicks?

Senator HILL—Mr Hicks is detained by American authorities and he is to be tried by a military commission in the United States—

Senator Bolkus—With your endorsement!

The PRESIDENT—Order, Senator Bolkus!

Senator HILL—following allegations of serious criminality. We have taken an interest in Mr Hicks from a consular perspective to best ensure that he will receive a fair trial—

Senator Bolkus interjecting—

Senator HILL—and part of fairness is, I believe, to bring justice—

The PRESIDENT—Senator Bolkus!

Senator HILL—as promptly as possible.

Senator Bolkus—Promptly? What a joke!

Senator HILL—Our representations, not surprisingly—you can ask a question if you like, Senator Bolkus. You do not ask many

questions these days from up in the back row.

The PRESIDENT—Order! Minister, ignore the interjections, and, Senator Bolkus, I have called you to order twice now.

Senator HILL—When you have to defer to the Greens, you have dropped pretty low in the barrel! Mr President, we believe that early justice is good justice, and we have made representations for the trial of Mr Hicks to be brought on as quickly as possible. As all honourable senators know, legal processes in the United States mean that civilian courts are now addressing issues of procedure in relation to the military commissions, and that has further held up the process. That is really out of the hands of Australian authorities, which I suppose is the point to which the honourable senator was referring in her question. But we will continue to make representations to the Americans—and this is where I believe Senator Nettle is wrong—that there be an early resolution of this matter and that the trial of Mr Hicks be pursued in a way that is fair and just and which accords with the standards of justice that we believe are important.

Senator NETTLE—I ask a supplementary question, Mr President. In light of the comments made by Erik Saar, the former translator for interrogation sessions in Guantanamo Bay, which support the claims put forward by Mr Habib and others about the treatment of detainees in Guantanamo Bay—the sexual abuse, the female interrogators smearing menstrual blood on Muslim prisoners et cetera—what additional steps or representations has the Australian government made in relation to the treatment of David Hicks?

Senator HILL—My recollection is that Australian authorities have had consular access to Mr Hicks, which has included an opportunity for him to make any allegations. I

certainly do not recall from him any allegations of the type that have just been mentioned by the honourable senator. There has also been Red Cross access and there have also been further investigations by US defence department officials as a result of representations made by the Australian government. So we do take an interest in the welfare of Mr Hicks in the same way as we take a consular interest in the welfare of all Australians. But he is detained and he will be tried by a US military commission on serious offences. Our interest in that regard is to ensure that the trial is fair and is conducted as promptly as possible.

Anzac Cove

Senator FORSHAW (2.39 pm)—My question is directed to Senator Hill, representing the Prime Minister and the Minister for Veterans' Affairs. Minister, given the Prime Minister's panic action to remedy the damage done at Anzac Cove by the roadworks his ministers have oversighted, what specific action has been taken either to build or to suspend the new road proposed from Lone Pine to Chunuk Bair? Wasn't this new road specifically requested by the former Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Mrs Danna Vale? Given that over 4,200 Australian bodies were never recovered at Gallipoli, what archaeological research has been conducted on that route to ensure that those bodies are not disturbed by Australian funded or requested roadworks? When is this vandalism going to stop? When will we see a properly considered plan for the protection of the heritage of Gallipoli?

Senator HILL—I wonder what would have occurred if the Australian government had turned its back on the urgent need for roadworks and a serious accident had resulted and an elderly person had been injured or had died. I suspect the loudest voice would have come from the opposition in this

place saying, 'Why didn't the Australian government make representations to the Turkish people to provide a safe environment for our visitors to attend the commemorations?'

Senator Forshaw—Mr President, on a point of order: my question was not 'what if'; my question was 'what is'. I ask that the minister be requested to answer the question and not to answer a hypothetical question which I have not asked.

The PRESIDENT—Minister, I remind you of the question.

Senator HILL—I really do regard this as a cheap shot because surely the Labor Party would say that we have a responsibility to the 20,000 visitors to try and provide for their safety. As everybody knows, the road system was inadequate. It meant that there was a danger for people having to walk long distances before dawn with vehicles on the road. It was not a safe environment. Something needed to be done. The Australian authorities spoke to the Turks and asked that work be done to provide a safer environment. I would have thought that that was the responsible thing to do and something that the Labor Party ought to applaud. But, no, it is a cheap shot because it is difficult. There is no doubt that it is difficult to expand roadworks within what is basically a cemetery environment without disturbing the grave sites or other aspects of the wartime heritage that are important to preserve. It is not an easy task to fulfil. But this government asked the Turks to do it.

The Turks, in my experience, have put in a great deal of effort to conserve and preserve that heritage that is so important to us—something that is sacred to us. I would have suggested a bit more support from the Australian Labor Party for the Turks in doing that would also have been helpful. But, of course, that is far too much to expect when

there is a chance of a cheap political shot. As to what is happening in relation to further works that need to be done, I will seek advice from the Minister for Veterans' Affairs and report back to the Senate. But, so far, what was intended to be done, and what was done, was for the benefit and safety of those who were to visit the site. I think that was a responsibility of this Australian government, and I am certainly not going to apologise for that.

Senator FORSHAW—I ask a supplementary question, Mr President. The minister might think it is a cheap shot, but the Australian public and those who were at Anzac Cove this year know that it was an expensive disaster. Is the minister aware that the Prime Minister's blaming of the Turkish government for these roadworks has been directly repudiated by the Turkish Ambassador to Australia and that, as a result, relations with the Turkish government have now been severely strained? Further, can the minister confirm that this is the reason that the Prime Minister's belated attempt for heritage listing has been rejected and that in future all negotiations on Gallipoli are to be managed by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade?

Senator HILL—That is a load of nonsense. I know that because I made representations to the Turkish government a year ago on the heritage issue. It had nothing to do with these roadworks at all. It is just further evidence that what the Labor Party is up to in the Senate is simply a cheap shot and not an attempt to address the issue of either the conservation of the heritage or the safety of Australian visitors. I think that is disappointing. The relationship between the Australian and Turkish governments is good. I certainly do not hear the Prime Minister criticising the Turkish government. This government appreciates the work that the Turks have done to conserve this very important heritage

which is, in many ways, a joint heritage of the Turkish people, the Australian people and others who lost young men during the Gallipoli campaign. We, the government, will seek to provide a safe environment for visitors and we will also seek to provide the proper heritage protection. (*Time expired*)

Workplace Relations

Senator BARNETT (2.45 pm)—My question is to the Special Minister of State, Senator Abetz, representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations. Will the minister outline the need for further reform of Australia's workplace relations system and is he aware of any alternative policies?

Senator ABETZ—I thank Senator Barnett for this important question and recognise his longstanding interest in ensuring that the Australian economy continues to grow. It is no accident that the Australian economy has been one of the best performing in the world during the period of this government, nor is it an accident that since being elected the government has overseen the creation of over 1,500,000 new jobs. These outstanding achievements are the result of the good policy decisions and, at times, the difficult policy decisions taken by this government—policies such as the introduction of Australian workplace agreements, which have improved flexibility and pay for those workers who chose to take them. I note in passing that in the last 12 months there have been 200,000 AWAs approved. How about our waterfront reform, which has massively increased our productivity? And let us not forget the building industry royal commission which is cleaning up our building industry. All of these, might I add, were opposed by Labor. But there is more to be done, and over the course of the next few months this place will be asked to further improve our industrial relations system, including outlawing

compulsory union fees, increasing the power of the building and construction industry task force and reforming the unfair unfair-dismissal laws—all relating to bills which Labor has vigorously opposed in the past and no doubt will continue to oppose in the future.

It is reported that Mr Beazley yesterday pledged to back his union masters in a ‘blood fight’ with the government over our IR reforms. Let me just place on record my disappointment that Mr Beazley would be reduced to using such inflammatory and violent language when discussing policy issues. But that is what you resort to when you run out of logic and commonsense. If Mr Beazley is really after a blood fight, he will have to start with his shadow ministry. On 12 April, in the National Press Club, Mr Beazley claimed, ‘The industrial relations lemon has been squeezed dry.’ But on Sunday the shadow Treasurer, Mr Swan, said, ‘There will always be more to be done in industrial relations.’ And let us not forget that on 7 April, just a week before Mr Beazley’s press club address, Mr Beazley’s own IR spokesman, Mr Smith, said, ‘I am happy to contemplate serious industrial relations reforms that improve the productivity and efficiency of the economy.’

Mr President, talk about lemons being squeezed dry! Mr Beazley has simply run out of policy and reform juice. As the Prime Minister noted recently, the recycled Labor leader really does seem to have reform fatigue before he has even started on the task—without having undertaken anything, except to carp from the sidelines. It is time for the Labor Party to stop grovelling to their union masters and to support our sensible industrial relations reforms for the sake of future jobs and wages growth in this country.

Medicare

Senator McLUCAS (2.49 pm)—My question is to Senator Patterson, representing the Minister for Health and Ageing. Is the minister aware that, in answer to questions on the *Four Corners* program on 6 September 2004, Health Minister Tony Abbott said that the government was fully committed to keeping the Medicare safety net? Didn’t he in fact say—to quote Mr Abbott directly—‘That is an absolutely rock-solid, ironclad commitment’? How can the minister justify breaking this absolutely rock-solid, ironclad election commitment?

Senator PATTERSON—I might start by saying that when we were in opposition and Labor put up a policy that was a reasonable one we actually supported it. There were a number of measures that we might have disagreed with, but in opposition we did not try to be a government-in-exile and we supported reasonable suggestions and reasonable propositions from the government. But, as people will remember, when we brought legislation into this place—I think it was Senator Ian Campbell who brought in the legislation—what did Labor do in their typical style? They opposed the measure.

We are talking about a measure that Labor have indicated they are prepared to get rid of. This is a measure that helps families who have large out-of-hospital out-of-pocket expenses, a measure that did not exist and a measure that had to be amended because Labor failed to support the government. It was a measure that had to be amended—and I say this again—because Labor failed to support the government. What we have done is to bring back the Medicare safety net to the level we introduced here in this chamber to ensure that it is sustainable and to ensure that people who have high out-of-hospital out-of-pocket expenses actually get some assistance, with 80 per cent of their fee being

paid. Labor indicated that they were going to get rid of the Medicare safety net.

Senator McLUCAS—Mr President, I ask a supplementary question. Can the minister confirm that the government's pre-election economic and fiscal outlook, released on 10 September 2004, showed that the cost of the Medicare safety net had already blown out by \$142 million in 2004-05? Can the minister also confirm that Treasury and Finance figures released under the Charter of Budget Honesty on 27 September 2004 showed an \$800 million blow-out in the four-year cost of the safety net? How can the Minister for Health and Ageing possibly claim that when he made his rock-solid, ironclad commitment he had 'not the slightest inkling that there would ever be any intention to change it'?

Senator PATTERSON—What I can confirm is that, when Labor was in government, people had high out-of-pocket out-of-hospital expenses and got no relief or assistance. So people, particularly low-income families, would face unexpected high out-of-pocket expenses. What we will see now with the Medicare safety net is that about 2.3 million Australians will be assisted by the safety net during 2005, a safety net that I can confirm Labor said they would get rid of, a safety net that Labor sat in this chamber and opposed. They opposed people who, because of illness in their families, face high out-of-pocket out-of-hospital expenses. That is what Labor opposed. They do not want to accept that now, but that is what they opposed. What we have done is brought back what we proposed in the chamber here. It is achievable and sustainable. What Labor did was oppose that measure, leaving people with high out-of-pocket out-of-hospital expenses.

Treatment of Detainees

Senator BARTLETT (2.52 pm)—My question is again to the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs, Senator Vanstone. I ask the minister: in light of last week's findings by the Federal Court in South Australia that the government had comprehensively failed in its duty of care to severely mentally ill long-term detainees, and reports of a three-year-old girl in detention in Villawood with serious effects on her wellbeing as a result of the detention, will the government now act immediately to bring an end to indefinite long-term detention? Given the court's finding; the unanimous all-party recommendation of the Human Rights Subcommittee of this parliament, chaired by Senator Ferguson, that there should be a time limit on the detention of asylum seekers; the unanimous finding of the same committee that detention is not conducive to good mental health; the unanimous recommendations of the Senate committee in 2000; and the comprehensive inquiry by the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission into the harm that detention does to children, how many more alarm bells does this government need to hear before it will act to address and end long-term detention?

Senator VANSTONE—Senator, I have not read the full judgment of the case that you refer to, but I am sure it does not go to the whole question of detention. It goes quite specifically, as the senator indicated in his question, to the health care providers. I indicated in an answer to an earlier question from a senator of another party that I have already asked the department to have a look at what changes they can make to make sure that the opportunity is not there for that sort of finding again. In other words, there will have to be some changes. There will be changes, and we will not be waiting for any inquiry to do as much as we can in the short term. But, if subsequently Mr Palmer has

further things he wants us to look at, I indicate we will also do those. If the judgment clearly indicated that there was a problem in the circumstances of those people, I do not say therefore that I am not prepared to look any further than that. The judgment may well be a warning bell and I am determined that we will have a look across the board to see what changes can be made to make improvements in health services and in particular in mental health services.

Senator, you refer to the policy of indefinite long-term detention. There is not indefinite long-term detention. You raised the case, for example, of Ms Leong and her mother. I am advised that this family has no ongoing migration related litigation. I am further advised that they can choose to depart Australia voluntarily at any time, subject to obtaining travel documentation. The advice that I was given before I came into the chamber is that the mother refuses to sign an application for travel documentation for the daughter. So I think it is fair to say, given that advice is correct, that the child is not in detention simply because of a policy of mandatory detention of unlawful noncitizens but is there because the mother refuses to sign an application for the child to get travel documents to leave with her and go home.

I draw your attention also, Senator, to an announcement made some time ago that the government will be introducing a new form of visa to accommodate those people who are cooperating in terms of identifying who they are and whom, for one reason or another, it is not practicable to remove at this time. This will therefore give the immigration minister at the time greater flexibility than they now have, because the flexibility available at the moment is either in the limited form of a bridging visa—and that is not available to as broad a group as some people might like—or to say, ‘We give in. We will give you a full blown visa.’ Either of those

might not be appropriate in some cases, so I have argued, and the government has agreed, that we should have a further visa to cater for those whom we cannot yet identify, who agree that they do not have a further claim and who agree that when it is safe they will go home but should not necessarily be kept in detention in the meantime. So, provided they cooperate and agree, we can look to giving those people a visa that will keep them out of detention. But many people are there because they are, rightly and fairly, choosing to use their opportunity to appeal decisions. I do not seek to take that away from them, but there is a policy that people will remain in detention until their status is clarified, and that includes until litigation has concluded.

Senator BARTLETT—Mr President, I ask a supplementary question. I acknowledge the various things the minister has said are being done but, to return to my initial question, will the minister and the department revisit the many inquiries that have already been done, including those by this parliament, and the finding of the all-party Human Rights Subcommittee, chaired by government members and with government control, which found the issue of mental health associated with long-term detention of particular concern and that physical conditions in detention centres are not conducive to good mental health and cannot negate the impact of long-term detention, particularly the psychological effects? Will the government also revisit the comprehensive report by the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission, which as its major finding said:

Australia’s immigration detention laws ... as applied to ... children, create a detention system that is fundamentally inconsistent with the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

How many more cases, reports and court findings do we have to have before there is action?

The PRESIDENT—Order! Senator, that was a very long supplementary question and well over the time limit.

Senator VANSTONE—What you have particularly asked about is the mental health of long-term detainees. I answered that in relation to your first question and I indicated to you that I believe there has been a court finding. I will have a good look at the case. I have already asked the department to look at what changes they can make to provide a better system, not just so that it does not happen to people in the circumstances of the case to which you refer but so that we have a better system. When I have some answers on that, I will obviously be making an announcement with respect to that matter.

As to children, this is a vexed issue. No-one wants to see children in detention. But I do not want to separate children from their parents, either; nor do I want to say to people smugglers, 'If you bring people with children they will be out and will not be detained.' It is a very difficult issue. I note that Senator Bolkus faced this issue when Labor was detaining hundreds of children at a time. Did I hear a peep from the Democrats then? I do not think I did. We were the first to start residential housing projects. (*Time expired*)

Senator Hill—Mr President, I ask that further questions be placed on the *Notice Paper*.

**QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE:
ADDITIONAL ANSWERS**

Immigration

Senator VANSTONE (South Australia—Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs and Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Indigenous Affairs) (3.00 pm)—I wish to add briefly to an answer that I gave today to a question from Senator Jacinta Collins. I had not been focusing on the time and therefore did not get to make the point concisely. In relation to Ms

Alvarez, there have been media reports that she was removed within three days of coming to Immigration's attention. The answer is more like 3½ months to four months, as I indicated to Senator Collins. She first came to Immigration's attention in early April. As I am advised, she was first interviewed in early May. She was then on a number of bridging visas and was in fact removed towards late July. That is a very long way from three days. That may give senators opposite and senators on this side of the chamber some indication of how careful they have to be about relying on media reports.

**QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE:
TAKE NOTE OF ANSWERS**

Anzac Cove

Senator MARK BISHOP (Western Australia) (3.01 pm)—I move:

That the Senate take note of the answers given by the Minister for Defence (Senator Hill) to questions without notice asked by Senators Bishop and Forshaw today relating to road works at ANZAC Cove, Gallipoli.

Predictably, the minister's answers to the questions concerning the construction of the new road at Anzac Cove were inadequate; in fact, they are probably best described as waffle, all things being considered. That is understandable, as these are not questions the government wishes to respond to meaningfully in any way at all. What we have seen in this debate is the Prime Minister at his evasive best. What is crystal clear is that neither the government nor the Prime Minister had any idea as to what has been happening at Gallipoli for some time.

What the Prime Minister expected was a 90th anniversary commemoration of the 1915 landing, starring him. What he received was a stormy controversy about the destruction of Anzac Cove by roadworks which his minister had sought by letter. First, he proudly accepted responsibility through the

confession of the Minister for Foreign Affairs. Now the Prime Minister has sought to evade responsibility by denying that the letter to the Turks requested any such thing. He must have been reading a different letter to the one that was released on 22 April. That letter quite specifically asked the government of Turkey—under cover of diplomatic note, as I understand it—to fix the road at Anzac Cove. Specifically, the letter and the attachment seek improved bus turnaround facilities. Further, such facilities, as we now know, were designed to improve VIP access. It is there in black and white in the correspondence released.

The request by the Howard government to destroy Anzac Cove is undeniable. Neither can the Prime Minister or his hapless Minister for Veterans' Affairs deny that they had any knowledge of this sequence of events. The minister has read to me excerpts from a detailed briefing he has been given, presumably via the Minister for Veterans' Affairs, on this matter. That brief, from the director of the Office of Australian War Graves, clearly set out the problems being encountered with the roadworks sought. The need to construct a rock retaining wall to prevent further erosion of the cliff face was a key issue identified by the minister in her letter written to the Turkish government and pursued by our government. Yet it is with respect to that rock wall that the Prime Minister has requested that construction cease. The Prime Minister and those briefing him seem to be completely ignorant of the fact that the Office of Australian War Graves has been consulting with the Turks on this exact and particular issue for a long time—indeed, over many years. The government not only requested this work but has had full knowledge of the detail of it from the very beginning until the present time.

The result, as we know and as has been reported by the press, is one that can only be

described as disastrous. What we have as a direct result of the Australian government's urging is the complete destruction of significant portions of Anzac Cove. The cliff faces scaled by the Anzacs in the dark of 25 April 1915 have been bulldozed into oblivion; they are now sheer. The beach across which they ran and died has been covered with spoil and because of erosion will continue to be covered by spoil. The sites of valuable headquarters no longer exist. The Prime Minister cannot wriggle his way out of this mess that he has been responsible for creating. No matter what spin is tried, the government remains culpable in this matter. The Prime Minister tried to throw money at this issue to solve the problem—in his typical fashion—but it is too late. The damage has been done and that cannot be changed in the future.

Moreover, it is not unfair to say that arising out of this the government has a diplomatic incident on its hands. Not only has the Prime Minister seriously breached diplomatic protocol in releasing the letter of August 2004 as part of his desperate bid for self-preservation; he has also had the gall to blame the Turks for his own mistake. The Turkish Ambassador to Australia has properly directly repudiated this claim in the press. One asks the obvious question: is it any wonder that the Turks have refused his heritage listing proposal and the Prime Minister's bid for them to cease work on the rock wall? Is that any surprise at all? Sadly, and more importantly for the future, they might also ignore the Prime Minister's other request and proceed with the new road from Lone Pine to Chunuk Bair. In those circumstances, we have a very serious problem indeed. (*Time expired*)

Senator SANTORO (Queensland) (3.07 pm)—What a disgraceful display of politicking about a sacred time and a sacred place in our nation's history! I recently had the honour and privilege of attending the 90th anni-

versary celebrations at Anzac Cove as part of the Australian Defence Force Parliamentary Program. I say that it was an honour and a privilege, and I know that those feelings are shared by many other colleagues from this place and the other place who also attended. I want to say to you, Mr Deputy President, and to honourable senators here and listening elsewhere that nowhere in Turkey—nowhere at Anzac Cove and nowhere at Gallipoli—did we pick up any of the political static that those senators opposite are perpetrating within the Australian community.

We just heard Senator Bishop talking about diplomatic issues that have arisen and which he says are to Australia's detriment. I spoke to hundreds of Turks who regard Australians as the closest of friends politically, socially and economically. At no time during any of those discussions did any of them talk about the diplomatic issues and incidents that the senator opposite has talked about and which other senators opposite have alluded to during question time. Our diplomatic and political position in relation to Turkey is unchallenged and unquestioned by the Turks themselves. Let me also list the others with whom I and many of my other colleagues spoke. We spoke to the labourers; we spoke to the transport people that carried us to Anzac Cove in buses; we spoke to the porters; and we spoke to many other people of Turkish birth and Turkish nationality who work at, around and in relation to Anzac Cove. Not one of them was able to tell us from their knowledge, their insights or their permanent residency in Turkey that they had heard of, seen or had any evidence that suggested that war graves had been disturbed or that any were going to be disturbed.

I will tell you what else I saw there. I saw thousands and thousands of Australians, mainly young Australians, who were able to make their way in their thousands, to that sacred piece of Australian soil at Anzac Cove

in far greater comfort and with far greater ease than people previously had been able to enjoy. The claim by the senator opposite about the Prime Minister wanting to create a facility to accommodate VIPs is just an outright untruth. That road—the construction of which I totally support as a result of first-hand experience from only a week or so ago—caters for all Australians who want to get closer to their history, to their heritage and to the spirit that spawned this nation. That is what we are all about in this debate. To hear senators opposite belittle the sanctity of the 90th anniversary celebrations—

Senator Mark Bishop—That is what Minister Kelly requested—the term was 'official vehicles'.

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT—Senator Bishop, you were heard in silence. Give Senator Santoro the same respect.

Senator SANTORO—I know why they are objecting: it is because they know that they have been caught out, because only a week ago we were there and were able to repudiate through first-hand knowledge, first-hand inquiries and first-hand witnesses the arguments that have been put forward by those opposite. That road is not a road for VIPs; it is a road for all Australians—present and future—who want to access a sacred Australian site and pay respect to the memory and the sacrifice of the Australians buried there, Australians who made it possible for people like us to stand in a place like this as free citizens exercising and enjoying our democracy. I cannot understand how senators opposite have lost the plot in such a comprehensive way and in such an unpatriotic manner. I suggest that next year they should go over to Anzac Cove like thousands of other Australians and make their own direct inquiries. They will be inspired. (*Time expired*)

Senator FORSHAW (New South Wales) (3.12 pm)—It was once said that patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel. We have just seen a perfect example of that. For Senator Santoro to stand up here and accuse us of belittling the Anzac heritage and memory is a disgrace. Senator Santoro has supposedly just given us the benefit of his on-site research because he was there.

Senator Santoro—I am going to talk a lot more about it.

Senator FORSHAW—Actually, Senator Santoro, I would prefer to take the word of Senator Bishop on this. There is a very good reason why: last year Senator Bishop and I were in attendance at the Anzac ceremonies in Gallipoli. Senator Hill was there too. This year, Senator Bishop was back there and, as such, has had the first-hand experience of seeing what the situation was prior to the roadworks at Anzac Cove being undertaken and seeing the impact since. On this score, I think Senator Bishop talks with far greater experience than you do, Senator Santoro.

Gallipoli is a very special place. We know that. That is why thousands and thousands of Australians go there in increasing numbers each year. As I said, I had the great benefit and privilege of being there last year and participating in the ceremonies. It was estimated that 15,000 people attended last year, despite warnings from the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade that, due to terrorism concerns, Australians should not attend. This year, it was reported that there were over 20,000 in attendance at the 90th anniversary.

As we all know, Gallipoli is not Australian land, despite what Senator Santoro said a moment ago. He seems to have forgotten that fundamental fact. It is Turkish land. However, the memory of that conflict is as important to the Turkish people and to the Turkish government as it is to the Australian public

and the Australian government, and has been since 1915. That is why there has always been this close relationship and spirit of co-operation between Australia and Turkey in looking after that site and in sitting down and looking at what improvements and maintenance need to be done, particularly in those parts of the Gallipoli peninsula which are so special for the Anzac tradition and for the tradition of other nations who fought there.

It has been kept as a park. The Turkish government honoured Australia and honoured the memory of our soldiers who fought and died there by naming the beach Anzac Cove. We are all aware of the pressures that occur on the entire peninsula, but particularly at Anzac Cove, on Anzac Day—we are all aware of that—with the increasing numbers and the difficulties of access. But the problem with this situation is that the government, having made a request to the Turkish government to undertake roadworks and other works in that area, then dropped the ball. The then Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Mrs Vale—who is fortunately no longer the minister—basically stuffed this up. She made the request on behalf of the Australian government. Apparently that request was unbeknown to the Minister for Foreign Affairs at the time. Then there was a failure to oversee and report in full.

We do know that briefings were given to various ministers on the roadworks that were being undertaken, but along the line nobody was focusing on what was really happening. Those of us who were not there this year have seen the photos and the coverage. Those of you who were there, like Senator Bishop, Mr Beazley and others, have seen first hand the destruction that occurred. It is an incredible tragedy. It is a terrible disaster, really, to have seen that happen. What is even worse is that today Minister Hill stood up and essentially repeated the line of the Prime Minister, which was to say, 'It's really

the responsibility of the Turks.' Somehow it was their fault. But it was not their fault.

Senator Hill—I didn't say it was their fault.

Senator FORSHAW—You said it was the responsibility of the Turks—that somehow we had no influence. The Prime Minister basically put the blame for this on the Turkish government, and it is totally inappropriate. (*Time expired*)

Senator BARNETT (Tasmania) (3.17 pm)—It is a great privilege to stand here and respond to the grubby accusations made by the senators opposite, because I had the immense honour and privilege of attending the Anzac dawn service at Gallipoli and spending several days there around Anzac Day this year. It was at that dawn service that young people wept and mourned their personal loss. You anticipate this emotion when you go to Gallipoli—it was the first time for me—but it still hits you like a thunderbolt when you are there. That is what happened to me and indeed to many thousands of other Australians—predominantly young Australians. You simply cannot visit Gallipoli without being gripped by this loss, but you are also gripped by a pride in your Australian heritage.

I start by saying that because I believe the opposition's tactics today are going to be seen for what they are: grubby political tactics to gain a media headline. It is a cheap political shot. It is undeserved. You are trying to gain a media headline, and it is demeaning to your position in the Senate. Senator Forshaw should know better. He has been to Anzac Cove.

Senator Santoro, Mrs Bishop, Mark Baker MHR and Stewart McArthur MHR were there, as were members of the Labor Party, who I will mention because they were there: Harry Quick, Kim Beazley, Senator Mark Bishop and Senator Chris Evans. Of course

the Prime Minister of Australia, the Hon. John Howard, was there. How proud I felt to be not only an Australian but a part of Mr Howard's government at that Anzac Day commemorative service.

Senator Forshaw—We all know this—get on with the real issues.

Senator BARNETT—This is the real issue. This is the crux of it: you are making a cheap political shot. You are undermining the work of the Department of Veterans' Affairs. I want to commend the department for the work they did. This is a logistical nightmare. You know it, because you have been there, Senator Forshaw. This year we had record crowds again. I want to comment on that. The increasing relevance and resilience of Anzac Day has brought with it record attendances at commemorative services both here in Australia and at Gallipoli. It has also brought challenges and problems—of course it has. Gaining access, catering and caring for a growing number of visitors in a Turkish national park is not easy. Members opposite are trying to gain media attention on this issue. That is what you have done in recent weeks, and now you are doing it again, to no avail.

An estimated 20,000 patriotic, passionate Australians attended the 90-year anniversary. In my view they have been sadly misrepresented by people in the media and by people on the other side of the Senate chamber, because the overwhelming majority of those people travelled over 14,000 kilometres at their own expense and in their own time. They made this investment because they want to show respect and honour for their forebears and for those Anzacs. They were motivated to do that because they love Australia and they love the qualities demonstrated by our Anzac diggers. What is happening today is a cheap political shot.

I want to speak about the Turkish government. I want to commend them and thank them, because this is an Australian event, an Anzac event, happening on foreign soil. How gracious of our Turkish hosts to work with the Australian government, the New Zealand government and the other countries involved in hosting such an event. I want to pay tribute to them, because I cannot conceive of an occasion when the Japanese would be doing this on US soil—or the Germans in London. That is inconceivable to me.

I also want to acknowledge President Ataturk. He was involved in the Anzac battle and was successful. He became the President of Turkey, and he was the one who said that the Gallipoli peninsula is now the home of the Australian, New Zealand and allied men who died and that they are now in the bosom of Turkey. He said to the mothers of the Anzac diggers, 'Do not be saddened.' (*Time expired*)

Senator MARSHALL (Victoria) (3.22 pm)—It is regrettable that the government speakers today want to turn this debate into a contest about who is the most patriotic and try to avoid the real issues about the vandalism that is taking place over in Gallipoli at the moment. It is well known that 8,709 Australians were killed at the Gallipoli site. It is well known that 4,223 Australians were never recovered from the Gallipoli site. It is also well known that there are more unrecovered bodies at the Gallipoli site than there are bodies buried there. These are important facts to Australians, and these facts should be well known by the government. They should be well aware of these facts. But when we asked the government, in question time today, when we would see a properly considered plan for the protection of the heritage of Gallipoli and when the government would put a halt to the vandalism of the road building, what did we get in answer? We got hypotheticals. We got a hypothetical proposi-

tion about an accident involving a bus and an elderly person who was injured or killed, and we were asked what we would say about that. It completely avoids the responsibility that this government have to ensure that this site which is very sacred to all Australians is properly protected and monitored.

We then got the accusation that we were having a cheap shot, as if we wanted to make some political gain out of this. This is something the government seeks to hide behind. Accusations about hypothetical accidents and cheap shots do not say anything about the competence of this government. They do not in any way defend the competence of this government. Their actions throughout this very sorry tale have simply been those of incompetence and misrepresentation.

Senator Hill told us how difficult it is to construct a road over there. I probably accept that. I do not know how difficult it might be. But that does not mean that it is impossible to construct a road, having due regard to the burial ground and the sacred nature of Anzac Cove and Gallipoli. He told us that there is a great deal of effort going into this—but obviously not enough. He made the very firm statement, which this government likes to rely upon, that this government will not apologise for what has happened over there. We are all owed an apology for this incompetence, and the minister should apologise.

Then we saw, in defence of this proposition, Senator Santoro wrapping himself in the flag—as if that is a defence of the vandalism that is taking place over in Gallipoli, with this government's consent, with the road building. He wants to avoid the whole issue of competence and responsibility and talk about who is more patriotic than anyone else. That is not the issue, because the opposition are just as patriotic about what happened at Gallipoli. We care about it just as much as they do, and I do not want to

cheapen this debate by trying to say that we care more than they do. It is something that all Australians care very deeply about. There is no dignity in this government trying to lower this very important debate, which is a public issue, by trying to wrap themselves in the flag as if that is some sort of defence of the incompetence that is going on at Gallipoli.

Let us look at the sequence of events as they have unfolded. After listening to Senator Barnett and Senator Santoro, I do not think that they could have read a newspaper and followed this issue at all. I do not understand why they were asked to get up and defend the government's position—or maybe their ignorance is the reason why they were asked. The Howard government asked the Turkish government in August 2004 for the extensive roadworks at Anzac Cove to be carried out in time for the 90th anniversary of the Gallipoli landing. I do not think that is disputed by anyone. Dr David Cameron, an Australian archaeologist from Sydney University, found human remains in early 2003 at the site where the roadworks were to be done. Dr Cameron told the Office of Australian War Graves and the Australian Ambassador to Turkey what he had found. He also briefed Environment Australia before he began his archaeological survey. In April 2003, Dr Cameron reported directly, and in detail, to Air Vice Marshal Gary Beck, the head of the Office of Australian War Graves. Dr Cameron gave Air Vice Marshal Beck photos of a human thighbone and other wartime artefacts that he had found at Anzac Cove. The Turkish government began work at Anzac Cove, following the request from the Australian government. Dr Cameron emailed Air Vice Marshal Beck on 13 March this year, reminding him of their discussion two years ago. Dr Cameron says that he was condescendingly dismissed. (*Time expired*)

Question agreed to.

Immigration

Senator BARTLETT (Queensland) (3.28 pm)—I move:

That the Senate take note of the answers given by the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (Senator Vanstone) to questions without notice asked today relating to immigration and detention centres.

This really boils down to a simple point: how many times can this government get a clear signal that the long-term detention regime directly causes immense, irreversible and unnecessary suffering for a huge range of people, including children? How many more examples do we need of the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs overseeing major failings in the administration of law and major injustices towards individual people? It is getting to a stage where it is not possible to list all the different examples that are pouring into the public domain.

Last week there was a court case which found a clear-cut breach in the government's duty of care—the absurd situation of people with severe mental illness having to go to court simply to get proper medical treatment. That sends pretty bad signals about contempt for the mentally ill, let alone the poor running of the detention centre regime. Then there was the deportation of an Australian woman to the Philippines. No-one knows if there are any others. According to evidence provided by this government, at least 33 people have been released after being found not to be unlawful. We do not know further details about how long those people were detained, or whether there were others.

None of this information is publicly available. It all has to be crowbarred out, piece by piece, by the community sector, by the Senate and by others. We have a situation in which the Edmund Rice Centre, a non-government organisation, is having to take

the trouble to follow up 40 different people who have been deported—failed asylum seekers—to see whether they are facing a situation of danger, because the government will not do it. I guess it comes to the point of how many different people this government is going to ignore. It is not just a matter of the scandal of the day; it is a matter of a comprehensive examination of these issues by a whole range of different people.

I mentioned in my question the report *A Sanctuary under review*, from June 2000. It is a very comprehensive report of over 400 pages into our onshore assessment regime. It made a wide range of recommendations, including a unanimous one recommending that the government follow up the possibility of some form of arrangement with non-government organisations to informally monitor people who are returned, particularly to areas where there is a general risk of danger. A unanimous recommendation by that Senate committee, which included Liberal party members, was not agreed to by the government.

The Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission did a report in 2001 on detention centres in a whole range of areas. Amongst other things, its recommendation was quite clear that indefinite long-term detention should not be continued:

The Migration Act ... should be amended to impose specific time limits on detention, with provision for review of continuing detention ...

That recommendation from the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission was ignored.

The Human Rights Subcommittee of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade did an inquiry in 2002—with members from all parties and chaired by a Liberal Party senator of long standing, Senator Ferguson—and unanimously recommended a time limit on migra-

tion detention. Again, that recommendation was rejected, with gratuitous abuse of the members of the committee from the then migration minister, I might say. The same committee, a year or two later, made another unanimous finding:

Of particular concern is the issue of mental health associated with long-term detention ...

While the physical conditions in the Baxter—immigration detention facility—were unquestionably better than the facilities we had seen in our previous visits ... they are not conducive to good mental health and well-being, and cannot negate the impact of long-term detention, particularly the psychological effects.

It was a clear-cut and unanimous finding from the committee. The findings of the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission and its comprehensive report into children in detention, *A last resort*, were ignored. Ombudsman committee inquiries have been ignored. The Select Committee on Ministerial Discretion in Migration Matters heard widespread problems associated with the ministerial discretion regime, which were ignored. How many more times? How many more court findings, committee inquiries, Palmer inquiries are we going to have before we get a simple recognition that the system does not work? It is time to change it and the government should do so without delay.

Question agreed to.

ESTIMATES

Answers to Questions on Notice

Senator MARK BISHOP (Western Australia) (3.34 pm)—by leave—Pursuant to standing order 74(5), I ask the Minister for Defence for an explanation as to why an answer has not been provided to a question placed on notice at the additional estimates hearings for the Department of Veterans' Affairs in February 2004 concerning the letting of a film contract without proper tendering process.

Senator HILL (South Australia—Minister for Defence) (3.34 pm)—by leave—I advise the Senate that I have inquired of the Minister for Veterans' Affairs, who tells me that an answer has now been prepared and is with the minister for signature, and that I can expect to get the answer in the near future. I regret I cannot explain why it has taken so long. Presumably the matter was a very complex one. In any event, it seems to be quite close to being finalised.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question Nos 447 and 477

Senator MARK BISHOP (Western Australia) (3.35 pm)—Pursuant to standing order 74(5), I ask the Minister for Defence for an explanation as to why an answer has not been provided to questions on notice Nos 447 and 477, which I asked on 10 March and 18 March respectively.

Senator HILL (South Australia—Minister for Defence) (3.35 pm)—These questions are not as aged as the previous one. Again, I have asked the minister for progress and have been informed in these instances that the questions are still with the department, which is preparing a response.

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF VE DAY

Senator HILL (South Australia—Leader of the Government in the Senate) (3.37 pm)—by leave—I move:

That the Senate—

- (a) records that the 8 May 2005 marked 60 years from the surrender of Nazi Germany thus ending the second World War in Europe;
- (b) honours, remembers and thanks the thousands of Australians who fought in that war and in particular the over eleven thousand Australian soldiers, sailors and airmen who gave their lives;
- (c) pays tribute to the sacrifices of allied nations in that conflict;
- (d) recalls the magnitude of Nazi crimes against humanity and in particular the Holocaust which claimed the lives of six million Jews and other minorities; and
- (e) records its gratitude for 60 years of relative peace and its commitment to the universal values of freedom and democracy.

At 9.15 pm on 3 September 1939, in a radio broadcast, Australians heard the voice of the Prime Minister, Robert Menzies. He said:

... it is my melancholy duty to inform you officially that, in consequence of the persistence by Germany in her invasion of Poland, Great Britain has declared war upon her, and that, as a result, Australia is also at war.

When hostilities ceased on 8 May 1945, more than 50 million people were dead, including over 11,000 Australian soldiers, sailors and airmen who had sacrificed their lives for the freedom of Europe. Of course, victory in Europe marked the end of the war on only one front. Another three months of bloody fighting against the Japanese lay ahead before victory in the Pacific would also be achieved.

The war against Germany and Italy cost Australia dearly. In the campaigns of North Africa, the Middle East, Greece and Crete in 1941 and 1942, the Australian Army suffered the loss of 2,718 men killed and had 6,203 taken prisoner of war. Three warships of the Royal Australian Navy were sunk by enemy action in the Mediterranean, and the Navy's most grievous loss ever in war occurred on 19 November 1941. On that day the cruiser HMAS *Sydney* sank with all hands, 645 men, after an encounter with the German raider *Kormoran* off the coast of Western Australia. In the skies of Europe and the Middle East, the RAAF lost 6,532 airmen killed and more than 1,450 airmen became prisoners of war.

This massive military effort was sustained by a truly incredible performance on the home front. It remains the case to this day

that those at the front line can only be sustained by the efforts of others left behind. In the type of total war that enveloped the globe between 1939 and 1945, the entire industrial resources of this nation were called into action to sustain the military struggle. It is important that we also remember today the efforts of the workers in the essential resource and manufacturing industries and the women who held families together whilst also serving as test pilots, drivers, machinists and engineers.

Some today might question Australia's commitment to a war in Europe, and it is sometimes said that this nation was fighting other people's wars. No-one, however, should be in any doubt that, had Germany prevailed in those dark days of 1940 and 1941, the consequences for this country would have been dire. In control of all of Europe with access to the Suez Canal, Germany could have joined forces much more readily with Japan, her ally in the East, and increased greatly the threat to Australia's security. Then also, as now, Australia made common cause with allies and friends in the service of freedom. In helping to liberate occupied Europe from the yoke of Nazi rule at a cost of much blood and national treasure, Australia marked itself as one of the great democratic and free nations of the world.

As we look back upon the span of 60 years, it is hard for most of us to imagine the sacrifice and loss endured by a generation of Australian men and women who knew the full horrors of global war. For what they endured and for the countries they helped liberate from tyranny and occupation, they deserve our great respect and our solemn remembrance. As the passage of time sees their numbers dwindle, they should know that today's Australians and those that follow will never forget the debt we owe them. I commend the motion to the Senate.

Senator MARK BISHOP (Western Australia) (3.42 pm)—The opposition joins with the government in supporting this motion. We welcome this opportunity to reflect on the significance of VE Day some 60 years ago. Last Saturday evening I had the privilege of speaking to a large crowd of Russian veterans hosted by the member for Melbourne Ports, Mr Michael Danby. Present were many hundred Russian veterans, men and women, resplendent in their World War II uniforms, with row upon row of decorations. Such is their pride and custom.

In addressing them I paused to consider the links we have between Australia and Russia. These, of course, go back to Gallipoli where, if the grand strategy of Churchill had succeeded, our two armies might have met outside the city of Constantinople. The 8,709 Anzacs who died at Gallipoli did so in an attempt to open up a second front against Germany together with the Tsar. The rest is history.

Later we were allies against Germany again, though Australia's role was smaller. But, as with many engagements around the world, Australians served where they were needed. One of those areas was service on the convoys which plied the North Sea, carrying to Russia necessary supplies. Australian seamen and merchant mariners served on those ships.

I am reminded of this by my family in Adelaide, who befriended a number of these young men as they signed on. My mother corresponded with a number of them, knowing that any contact from home would be most welcome in those very dark days. Sadly, in some cases the replies ceased arriving and outward letters were returned unread. I can recall from when I was a boy the terrible sadness, which lingered long after the war, about their inevitable loss at sea. I use this simple anecdote to show how far the

effects of war in Europe reached across the world to Australia. Our losses by contrast were small. No matter what one's occupation, every person was directly touched in some way.

The war between 1939 and 1945 in Europe remains the greatest calamity of the 20th century simply in terms of lives lost. We can never forget the horrors of the western front and our own symbols such as Gallipoli in World War I. That was sheer waste in an age of transition to a more liberal and democratic world. But World War II was worse for its total impact. Australia made a magnificent contribution to the war effort in Europe. Australian service was probably most conspicuous in the Royal Air Force and, of course, in the deserts of North Africa. There cannot be any doubt about the value of that commitment, which, as we know, was terminated due to our own defence needs against the Japanese. Therein lies another chapter but, despite that diversion of our forces, our effort in Europe continued.

It is appropriate that this motion today be in the form of a condolence motion. As I have said, the loss of life in Europe was horrific. Unlike World War I, this war also entailed the loss of many millions of civilians—not just Jewish people but millions of others as well. In Russia alone, millions of civilians perished as the Germans invaded and then retreated. The bombing of countless large cities in Britain and Germany in particular saw massive numbers of civilians lost. In fact, it has taken almost 50 years for that loss to be made good in economic terms as well.

It is appropriate, therefore, that we remember these losses and the pain left in so many families. We particularly remember the pain of Australian families whose sons and daughters left for Europe and never returned. We will remember them. However, we must

not forget that VE Day, while significant for us, is only part of our war experience. As VJ Day approaches we need to consider a phase of the war which was even more important. No doubt we will have that opportunity next August or September.

Having noted the nature of this motion today, we cannot avoid the sense of celebration on VE Day as well. The television portrayal from Europe that we have all seen in the last few days, from Moscow in particular, has been one of triumphalism. That is understandable given that Russia fought off the Nazi invaders at a cost of at least 20 million dead—and some now put the figure at 26 million. That is more than Australia's current population. Many find such a loss of life difficult to comprehend. What has followed has been some controversy as the victors parade in Red Square. That celebration is totally warranted by the Russian people. Indeed, of all the nations involved in World War II, none suffered as much as the Russian people. The people of eastern Europe, of course, have objected to this sense of celebration. It is hardly likely they will celebrate the removal of the Nazis to remain subservient to another invader for another 50 years.

To that extent, it is also relevant to note that VE Day is not just symbolic of the removal of Nazism or fascism. It also marked a shift which occurred between those competing pressures of totalitarianism, communism and liberalism. As we know, liberalism has won. But it has been a struggle for those caught in the sharing of spoils and the carving up of the globe between the winners. So there can be no doubt that VE day does symbolise the end of the tyranny of totalitarianism. VE Day saw the absolute removal of Nazism and Hitler—noting that Mussolini had already departed the scene and Franco would later. What remained were the remnants of Stalinism, which, along with communism in Russia, in turn met its own slow

demise. The turning point can therefore be said to have been VE Day, without question. Liberal and democratic ideals were restored throughout Europe and have prospered without hesitation ever since. Indeed, in Europe now there is no further conflict from those former competing ideologies. Instead they have returned to the more traditional competition in trade in a world of largely free-market economies.

May I conclude that, while it is appropriate and proper that we remember the enormous loss of life in this motion, let us also celebrate the passing of a great horror in the world. We live in prosperous times, and that is because of those who fought and died in the fight against the tyranny of totalitarianism. We should not forget what the world endured between 1939 and 1945. Those who celebrate should do so with gusto. They are truly entitled to do so. At the same time, we know they will also remember their mates, friends, families and loved ones. We share that with them today.

As we remember the sacrifice of generations past, it would be remiss of the opposition not to note the successful conclusion of our assistance to Indonesia and the return of our defence forces today, which the minister talked about in a response in question time. We should also note our other forces in the Solomon Islands, Iraq, Afghanistan and other parts of the world. There are a range of other peacekeeping missions in which men and women of the Australian Defence Force currently serve. We remember them, we wish them well in their endeavours and we look forward also to their safe return in due course.

Senator IAN MACDONALD (Queensland—Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation) (3.52 pm)—I wanted to speak on this motion on the conclusion of the Second World War in Europe because it is a pe-

riod of history that has had a particular fascination for me. I was born just a few months after the war concluded but when I was a young boy some of the evidence of the war was still around in Australia. I can remember that in the backyard of a house I lived in there was still a zigzag trench dug right down the back. I could not work out what it was for except that it was a good thing to play in, but the significance of it dawned on me many years later.

This was a time in the world's history which was very complex politically. There were huge divisions and debates between fascism and communism and what we followed in the democratic free world. Those particular ideologies arose from some of the mistakes that the world made in the First World War. Indeed, in retrospect many commentators have said, and I agree, that the Second World War was but an extension and continuation of the First World War. The reparations put on Germany were such that it actually swelled a series of political manoeuvrings within Germany that led to the rise of the National Socialist Party. It started off in a democratic form. Hitler was actually elected to a parliament. There were a few incidents that happened that may have been manipulated in a much greater way than any of the political parties manipulate in Australia these days. We do not go to things like burning the Reichstag to get a particular political emphasis. There were a lot of machinations which seemed to be a lot more extreme than we ever experience in the Western democracies. It did start out that way but degenerated into one of the vilest activities that this world has ever seen. That was the slaughter of some six million people for no other reason than their racial origin. Certainly the extermination of the Jews by Hitler's Europe was something about which all human beings must hang their heads in shame.

The period also demonstrated what appeasement will do. You might remember, Mr President, that the British Prime Minister at the time did all in his power to appease Germany and to allow Hitler to continue in his march towards some of the programs that we later saw executed. That appeasement, I think, demonstrates to all of us that we should never appease tyrants. It is a lesson that some in this chamber could well understand and well follow as they debate issues of contemporary Australian politics.

The war had an important and at times quite devastating political impact quite right across Europe. In France at least 50 per cent of the people thought that Hitler was right and fascism was not too bad. Another 50 per cent of the people thought quite differently. There were great problems faced by the French government at that time and, as a politician looking back 60 or 70 years, one can understand some of the traumatic decisions that had to be made at that time. History shows that Marshal Petain collaborated with the Nazis and gave the northern half of France to German occupation. He moved his headquarters to Vichy and ran a collaborationist government in Vichy for several years before the Germans finally understood that they needed the whole of France under Nazi control to try and protect the borders. That must have caused particular problems in France. It is interesting to read of some of the difficulties in France, with de Gaulle in London running his freedom fighters but on the mainland of France all these different groups who were fighting against the Germans and very often fighting amongst themselves. There were the Free French on one hand and the Communists on the other hand fighting each other at the same time as fighting the Germans. That pattern was followed in many parts of the Balkans as well. They must have been very difficult times in that era.

The Australian involvement with the war started the day that the British government declared war on Germany over the invasion of Poland. You will recall the famous words of Robert Menzies saying that, when Britain goes to war, so does Australia. That was the sentiment of the time. Australians enthusiastically went to the defence of the mother country, as it was then seen, and in the early years of the war many Australians participated in Europe and in the Middle East, particularly, with great distinction. Many Australian pilots were involved in both the RAF and the RAAF in the fight against Germany. I had two uncles—of course I never knew either of them—both of whom were killed in the 1,000-plane air raids over Germany in 1943-44. They were one of my mother's brothers and one of my father's brothers, one of whose diaries we have. It is very poignant to read it and to follow through from the day he left Cooktown, where he was shire clerk, went to Canada with the Air Training Corps and ended up in England. He went to Egypt, as I recall, and went back to England and wrote a diary about his particular exploits every night. It is quite eerie when there is one diary entry that says, 'Going again. Tomorrow we might be doing this but today we are off,' and that is where the diary comes to a stop.

There were a lot of Australians involved in what we see as the defence of the Free World in that area. Of course, by D-day, on 6 June 1944, Australians had been recalled to our homeland to fight a menace to our own country—the threat from the Japanese forces in the north. Some Australians stayed in various elements, but our involvement in the final days of the war in the landing at Normandy was fairly minor.

I have just come back from a trip to Canada, to a fishing conference at St John's in Newfoundland. We were there when the Canadians were opening their war memorial,

and they had a series of paintings on loan from the Australian War Memorial. I had the honour of being present when that art exhibition was opened as part of their new war memorial. At the time we were there the Canadians were involved in commemorative activities in Holland, where the Canadians were during the last few days and weeks before the end of the war. The Canadian press were running some again very poignant stories about Canadians who were killed two, three and four days before the war ended. One reads those and cannot help but feel the futility of war in many respects.

The aftermath of the war was very traumatic for people. We do not fully understand, I think, the extent of the civilian casualties of the war. Certainly, when Germany were on the advance, their treatment of civilians, particularly in Russia, was horrific. Similarly, when the Russians were advancing in turn, their treatment of civilians in the occupied countries, particularly in the Baltic States, was equally devastating. I understand from people I know who were German civilians that the period after the Russians reached Berlin was quite horrific. It does not matter which side you are on; the civilians always lose out. And I suspect that no side is any better than any other side when it comes to some of the atrocities committed. In France in particular, and in Britain to a much lesser extent, there were recriminations against those who had collaborated—all very popular at the time, but in retrospect, after 60 years, one wonders about some of these elements.

The end of the Second World War really signalled the start of the Cold War. We then had a couple of decades of Russian totalitarianism. It is interesting to note that, while the Russians ended up on our side, that only occurred after Operation Barbarossa—when Germany turned on what was then its ally, Russia. You might recall that, before Opera-

tion Barbarossa, Russia and Germany had agreed between them to collaborate in splitting up Poland. They were allies, but then the Germans attacked their own ally—Hitler had always mistrusted the Russians—and they became total enemies. It is quite interesting, but not thought about a lot, that when the war started the communist countries were on the side of the Nazis, against the Free World. Of course, it did not end up that way. Following the conclusion of hostilities, the Cold War started, and we have learned of or read about some of the atrocities in the Russian-occupied territories that occurred until the fall of the Berlin Wall, not all that long ago.

One thing that is perhaps useful for us to reflect on as we think about the termination of hostilities 60 years ago is that we do seem to have, to a degree, learnt from our mistakes in that era. I think we have learnt that total war is entirely unacceptable; it achieves nothing. Since the collapse of the USSR totalitarian regime, we have been a world relatively at peace. However, I think we must always remember that appeasement never helps. Since that time there have been a number of lesser conflicts—the most recent being Iraq, of course, and Timor and various other places—in which Australia has played a leading role. Fortunately, the world conflagration that was exemplified by the first and second world wars has not happened again. I do not think it ever will, because we have learnt the lessons from the wars fought midway through last century.

Like other senators, I celebrate today that milestone in the world's history, the conclusion of the Second World War, with victory to the allied forces, the forces of democracy. In doing that we should of course always recall all of those who paid the supreme sacrifice for what they believed in—from all sides, I might say. We as Australians and as part of the allied forces are grateful to those on our side who died, but there were others

on the other side who died fighting for a cause they believed in. It is an appropriate time to recognise the courage and the sacrifice of so many combatants from Australia and other countries in that war. It is, I think, great encouragement for us all in our determination that those sorts of worldwide conflicts never again occur.

Senator SANDY MACDONALD (New South Wales) (4.06 pm)—I am very pleased to have the opportunity to support on behalf of The Nationals this VE Day condolence motion moved by Senator Hill. When Senator Hill commenced his speech, he quoted part of Prime Minister Menzies's famous speech on 3 September 1939, where he said:

... it is my melancholy duty to inform you officially that, in consequence of the persistence of Germany in her invasion of Poland, Great Britain has declared war upon her, and that, as a result, Australia is also at war.

So commenced nearly six years of war, which ceased with VE Day on 8 May 1945. Of course, the total conflict ceased with VJ Day the following August, later in 1945. VE Day brought to an end probably the greatest conflict that the world has ever seen. It saw the destruction of fascist Germany and the unconditional surrender of fascist Germany on 8 May. Germany, on that day, ceased to exist as a recognisable state. It was divided up between the successful allies. It brought to an end World War II, which had seen the devastation of much of eastern Europe—Poland, East Russia, much of Russia and, of course, the Baltic States. World War II had also seen the annihilation of European Jewry, the death camps, the genocide of millions of eastern Europeans, millions and millions of Russian civilians and, of course, a very large number of Russian soldiers. It is estimated that between 30 and 40 million lives were lost in those six years. You also have to remember the impact on Italy, Greece, the Middle East and occupied Europe—the

western European countries and the Scandinavian countries—which were also subject to the rigours of occupation and the pain that the Nazi regime was able to extend towards them.

In May 1940, just before Dunkirk, which was in June 1940, when England stood alone, Prime Minister Churchill made one of his many famous speeches. I think it is worth reminding the Senate of what he said, in part:

We have before us an ordeal of the most grievous kind. We have before us many, many long months of struggle and ... suffering. You ask, What is our policy? I will say; "It is to wage war, by sea, land and air, with all our might and with all the strength that God can give us: to wage war against a monstrous tyranny, never surpassed in the dark lamentable catalogue of human crime. That is our policy." You ask, What is our aim? I can answer with one word: "Victory—victory at all costs, victory in spite of all terror, victory however long and hard the road may be; for without victory there is no survival."

That in fact was the absolute core of the success of the Allies. They had that feeling that they were fighting the war of all wars and, without that, they would not have succeeded. If you read the history of the time, and you read the interpretation of the history by experts since, you really start to understand just how close the Allies were to being defeated by the might of Nazi Germany.

Later on, of course, Hitler, having been unsuccessful in the Battle of Britain in September 1940, turned his attention towards Russia, which had previously been a friend of convenience. It was another totalitarian state. He invaded Russia in June of 1941. The Eastern Front was probably the greatest conflict in World War II—probably the greatest conflict of any that we have seen in human history. The Germans, by Christmas of 1941, had had over a million casualties. To put that in perspective, they may have had 20,000 casualties in successfully invading

France. They had a million casualties and, in the next 3½ years, the Germans suffered five million casualties and had many millions taken as prisoners of war. The Russians suffered the most horrific treatment. The Germans treated the domestic civil population of Russia with complete and utter disdain. This was a fight to the death between two very strong and mortal enemies. No-one knows quite how many were lost, but, in the next 3½ years, maybe 25 million Russians lost their lives. That was the case right up until the end in 1945 when, of course, the Russians stormed the Reichstag and secured Berlin.

I think it is worth saying that the effects of World War II have very much shaped the events of the last 60 years—a period during which almost everybody in the Senate, and certainly everybody in the chamber now, was born. It certainly has shaped the world that we have seen develop over the last six decades. We have seen the division of Europe. Very shortly after the end of World War II we saw the Iron Curtain come down. We saw the communist enslavement of many proud and formerly independent states, particularly in eastern Europe. We saw the Cold War and the concept of mutually assured destruction between NATO and the Soviet bloc. In the broad, the war has brought peace, prosperity and cohesion to many millions of Europeans. In fact, in a sense, it has brought an interdependence that has not been fully played out but will be seen in the next few years with the emergence of Germany and France as substantially the powerhouses of the EU and the broadening of membership of the EU also, which may extend even as far as Turkey and beyond. These are times of great interest in terms of convenient world trading blocs joining together and becoming powerful forces within themselves.

We have also seen the collapse of the Soviet Union. As we move forward and see the

very close interdependence of Russia and western Europe, these events are a cause for reflection and they have to be reflected on in the context of what has happened over the last 60 years as times have changed and as countries have forgotten perhaps the animosities they felt in the past. Of course, the eastern European bloc collapsed from within because it was not able to meet the challenges of modern economies and the development of free enterprise.

It was a remarkable day on 8 May 1945. We are now 60 years on. I think it is important to mark this date not only as a time of great excitement for those people who had been in World War II but also as a time when we remember those Australians and the many others who lost their lives, particularly our airmen who were in western Europe with the RAAF, which had its own airmen there, and also those who were embedded with the allied air force, which lost 7,000 men over western Europe, with many thousands of casualties. It is also important to remember the troops that served in the Middle East and North Africa. This was a very difficult time for Australia. We had 100,000 men serving in Europe and North Africa and we had around 17,000 people who died in those arenas. So it is a time to remember those people and it is a time to remember this enormous conflict of human proportions that has very much shaped the last 60 years and shaped the world in which we find ourselves.

Senator BARTLETT (Queensland) (4.17 pm)—I would like to support this motion commemorating the 60th anniversary of Victory in Europe Day. Of course, that event was not the formal end of the Second World War, and perhaps more relevant to Australia to some extent was the final surrender of Japan and victory in the Pacific. Nonetheless, it is a significant anniversary of a significant part of our nation's history. The Second World War was a war of such horror that

for many people it is literally unspeakable. We all would have heard of service men and women who returned from the war and never spoke about it. I think that is the perfect demonstration of when something is literally so horrific as to be unspeakable. There were the extraordinary—in the worst sense of the word—depravities of the Holocaust, in particular, with the deaths of the millions of Jews who are mentioned in this motion and also of the disabled, the mentally ill, gays, gypsies and political opponents, all of whom were exterminated in the most callous and dismissive way. The trauma of that alone lives on 60 years later in the lives of many people.

It is important to acknowledge anniversaries like this and it is important to honour, remember and thank Australians who gave their lives in the war—over 11,000 Australian soldiers, sailors and airmen—and also to remember the greater price in some ways, depending on how philosophical you want to get, paid by their loved ones, by their immediate family. Again, some of those people are still living with the pain of that loss some 60 years on. Similarly, some of those who did return still live with what is quite a visceral and—for those of us who did not go through it—barely imaginable pain. I think it is also appropriate in the context of a motion like this to pay particular tribute to our nation's wartime leader at the time, John Curtin, a man who perhaps had the curse but in some ways, for a leader, the appropriate ability to sense—to a greater extent than many people acknowledge—how immense that suffering and pain was for so many people. He felt that directly himself. I do not think there is much doubt that that was part of what significantly shortened his own life. He thankfully lived to see Victory in Europe Day, but he did not live to see the final conclusion of the Second World War. I think he should be part of the tribute we pay. It is pretty rare for me to put

a politician anywhere in the same vicinity as service men and women in terms of sacrifices and what should be noted, but I think John Curtin's contribution should specifically be noted.

I do think it is appropriate, however, in the context of motions like this to also note our own failings as nations, even on the winning side—the appropriate side of freedom and democracy—in this conflict. There was a blind eye turned to atrocities and I believe actions were taken that were unnecessary. The bombing of Dresden is the most notorious one, but I think there are others as well. After the war, many nations took in people who were perpetrators of war crimes, such as Nazi scientists and others—some unwittingly and some perhaps only unknowingly because they chose not to know. There is of course continuing controversy about the role of the Vatican in the Second World War and how much it did or did not look the other way. I do not seek to explore that further; I simply seek to ensure that those failings on our own side are not forgotten as part of continuing to aspire to not repeat some of these mistakes.

The 1951 refugee convention, which even this very day in the chamber was so topical in political debate, was something else that grew out of the enormous upheaval and suffering of the Second World War. Some of the failures at that time to offer sanctuary to people who were fleeing persecution were because it was not convenient. It is because some things are not done when it is not convenient to do them that things can move in the direction of the sorts of monumental atrocities that eventually became part of World War II.

The motion talks of the 60 years of relative peace and records gratitude for that. Again, I think it should be mentioned that we here in Australia—I suspect it is the same for others but I know for sure that I, having lived

all my life in this country—really do not know how lucky we are not to have been subjected in any significant way to large-scale conflict, war and violence on our soil. That is something that is a remarkable blessing and long may it continue for the sake of all of us. The importance of that peace, and the absence of the pain that results from the breakdown of peace, is probably the greatest privilege of being an Australian in many respects. It should be mentioned that, whilst the period of 60 years since the war has been one of relative peace, it certainly has not been one of absolute peace. It has mostly, although not completely, been one of relative peace in Europe. But clearly in other areas, including areas quite close to Europe, there continue to this day to be significant major conflicts and wars, some of them stemming over many, many years—much longer than the Second World War.

When we commemorate the end of such a horror as the Second World War, we should not do so out of triumphalism or even out of a sense of relief—although we certainly should out of a sense of gratitude—but as a reminder of our continuing duty to seek to do what we can to end war everywhere. The suffering that so many Australians endured, and, as I mentioned earlier, the continuing pain and the scarring of lives that some people feel as a consequence, is something that many others in the world are still experiencing today. Where we can help to alleviate that I think we should. That is the deeper purpose of motions such as this.

I would like to specifically emphasise that when we acknowledge the contribution of troops, whether it is in this conflict or in others, we should also acknowledge and emphasise at every opportunity our responsibility to properly care for those that do return, and for the families of those who do not return as well as those who do. They pay a significant price above and beyond the rest, and their

special contribution should be acknowledged not just with medals and parades, important though those are, but with ongoing assistance for them in dealing with what their lives have now become. I think we continue to fall short in those areas in some respects, and we should always use motions and opportunities like this to reaffirm our need to do better in that regard.

We should also take the opportunity to acknowledge the many Australian troops who are currently overseas and away from loved ones in circumstances of significant risk to themselves on peace enforcement missions around the world. Most notably and controversially, of course, are those in Iraq, but there are also those in the Solomon Islands, those in North-East Asia, those in other parts of the Middle East, those delivering aid in Indonesia, those still assisting in Timor Leste and those 15 who are soon to go to the Sudan. It is important to emphasise in all of those cases that, although individual Australians may not support the specific political decision to make some of those deployments, we should always support those troops who go where they are told to go. Whilst I will certainly continue to focus on the need for greater emphasis and effort towards peace and disarmament, I acknowledge that, whilst we want to avoid wars and do more to stop them, there must always be Australians willing to go off and fight them, and they should be supported and acknowledged in that particular sacrifice.

I do think that we have to ensure that we carefully tread the fine line between noting and commemorating events like these and glorifying war. It should not be mythologised; it should not be seen as romantic; it should not be politically exploited by politicians, religious leaders, commercial entities or anybody else. That in many ways cheapens the enormous sacrifice that has already been made. It can gloss over the atrocities,

the injustices, the poor decisions and the mistakes that all add to the slaughter and the loss and the pain. A commentary I read by one person on a web site flowing on from Anzac Day made an impact on me because it moved it back to the individual level. There were 11,000 Australian soldiers, sailors and airmen mentioned in this motion who lost their lives in the Second World War—defending their country and defending freedom and democracy for people in other countries as well as our own. In addition to that 11,000, there were many more who did survive but who returned changed forever by what they experienced. This one person spoke of their grandfather. He had left school at 15, fought for his country because he believed he should, become a major and, indeed, got married in his uniform. He was brought home from fighting in New Guinea half dead from disease. Whilst they never heard him speak about the war, they heard him fight it night after night in his sleep.

His great-uncle, who was a Rat of Tobruk, was not able to go home, even to see his wife, before he had to be shipped off to the Pacific to fight again. He survived—indeed, he is still alive—but his wife was rendered so fragile by the anxiety of his perpetual absence and the fear of what would happen to him that her mind shattered not long after he had finally returned. There is the impact of his father who did not go to Vietnam because he was at university, and his cousin who did go because he was not at university. Even though his father opposed the war, he still sometimes felt guilty because he did not go and his cousin felt gutted because he did. His mother took great care of a tiny leather bound diary her great-uncle had kept, which tells of trenches, gas attacks and the piercing fear. There are photos of the green miles in France that formed his unmarked grave. His grandmother would gently and regularly lead his grandfather back to bed, reassuring him

decades later that there were no enemy around.

Those are examples from just one family; I have truncated the story a little bit. If you multiply that by tens and tens of thousands of Australians and the millions from other nations, the enormity of the suffering and the stupidity of wars like this, in the most enormous way possible, are beyond what is comprehensible. Whether you look at it in terms of the large scale, the unthinkable numbers involved or the individual pain and suffering just to one family, it is something that we should continually use to remind ourselves that we must do all we can to halt it in other parts of the world in the future.

I think motions like these are important for all of those reasons. Sixty years on, our duty to those who made those sacrifices is as strong as ever. Reminding ourselves of that is a reminder of how far we have to go. Maybe things are relatively peaceable in some parts of the world, but we are still falling well and truly short of where we should be. There is still too much of that unspeakable pain happening and we should be doing a lot more to stop it. I think we should take occasions like this to reaffirm our commitment to do so. I support the motion, note the contributions that so many people made and reaffirm my desire to do what we can to ensure it does not happen again.

Senator LIGHTFOOT (Western Australia) (4.32 pm)—Victory in Europe was on 9 May, although some hostility ceased on 7 May, yet some wanted to hold it on 8 May, but journalists at the time could not hold the secret—‘So what is new?’ I hear someone say. So, instead of holding it on 9 May, as it should have been held, it was held prematurely in parts of Europe and Russia on 8 May. In other places I think it was held on 8 May.

A week before last, I was in Red Square in Moscow. It was quite eerie standing there knowing that they had celebrations there the day before, knowing that 27 million young Russians perished in that conflict with Germany and its allies—we must remember that Germany had allies: Romania and Italy, to mention some in Europe—and knowing that they were then subjected to the purges of Stalin, where another 25 million died. One wonders why Russians are able to march today with pride at what happened, given the atrocities that were committed against them over that 10-year period. But celebrate they did and in a grand fashion. One saw the old men and women marching proudly with their medals—chins up, chests out, shoulders back—and almost revelling in the fact that they defended their motherland and survived.

I travelled on through Europe and had the pleasure to be in Rome at a ceremony for Anzac Day, as we call it. In a small graveyard where the ceremony was held, I saw the graves of several young Australians—mostly airmen—who were shot down over Italy and the grave of a young woman who had been killed and buried in that picturesque and peaceful little cemetery where they are sleeping. She was a 26-year-old physiotherapist. It was particularly poignant to see that. I think of the First World War and other wars that Australia has participated in—the Boer War, even the Maori wars in the 1840s, the Vietnam War, the Malaysian emergency and the war between the Koreas—and I wonder when it is going to stop. I wonder when young men and young women are going to stop giving their lives for older people who make the decisions to send them to their deaths. I think of our Australians in Iraq, where I have been on a couple of occasions. You may have read recently that I was in Iraq in January. I wonder when the sacrifices are going to stop. I am buoyed by the fact that the Second World War seems to have her-

alded something of a cessation in the gargantuan number of lives that are given for the defence of one's country—ostensibly, at least, for the defence of one's country.

Being a former national serviceman, I am not given to visiting cemeteries normally. They are rather morbid places to be, even at the best of times. But I have been to a number of cemeteries around the world where young Australians are buried. There are 100,000 young Australians buried around the world in far-out places. They are not just in Europe, where many are sleeping in France, Poland, Germany, Belgium, Holland, Italy and Great Britain, but in way-out places like Labuan Island off the coast of Borneo, and Sandakan, where the death march, the atrocity committed by the Japanese, began from. I have been to the centre of Borneo. There is a picturesque little cemetery right in the centre of Borneo, up in the mountains.

I have been to cemeteries in India, South Africa and Crete. I was in Crete just last Friday. I had no idea how mountainous it was. I thought of my uncle, who had his shoulder blown away by a German Stuka. He was evacuated from Crete and rehabilitated in Egypt before he was taken home at the age of 22, already partly crippled. I have been to other places: Papua New Guinea—New Britain, part of Papua New Guinea—Java, in Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia and Iran. When I was in Iran a couple of years ago I went to a picturesque cemetery again, not far out of Teheran, in a walled area. It is maintained impeccably by the Iranian government. I do not know whether they are paid for it or not, but it is maintained impeccably. Some Australians who are buried there were fighting during the 1920s somewhere in Europe. They were evacuated to hospital, died there and were buried in Teheran.

I think 100,000 young Australians is enough. We had one million men under arms

during the 1939-45 conflict. It is too much for a nation of six million people to have a million men and women under arms. I would suspect that there is a tapering off on these great wars. Remember that the First World War was the war to end all wars. I do not know how many we have had since then. I suppose young men and women will go off again if they are called to do so.

On this occasion, we are remembering victory in Europe. I remember it. I remember the end of the war. I remember my mother being very excited about my father coming home. He had served for five or six years during the war, almost the entire period. Because he was married with children he stayed home for a while, but only for a few months. At the end of the war he did not come home, unfortunately, although he was not a casualty in terms of being wounded or killed. I guess my family was a casualty, because he found someone else and stayed away. There are all sorts of casualties of war. One does not need to be wounded or to die to be a casualty in war. I thought, 'How would I get on if I had served five or six years?' Thankfully, when I put my age up to 16 and joined the Army, hoping to get to the Korean War, the war ended before I was able to get there. My mother had me kicked out because I had forged a signature, and then I was called up for national service.

I am very pleased to be able to speak this afternoon on this condolence motion. I do have the utmost respect and affection for our young men and women who are sleeping all over the world. In the cemeteries that I have seen, they are being cared for reverently, with manifest affection, as one can see from the plots that are so immaculately tended and the flowers that are there. Those young people gave their lives so that I can stand here today in absolute freedom and speak of the sacrifice that they made. They are sleeping all over Europe.

When I was at the Menin Gate last year with Mr President, I found my grandmother's brother, who, at 26, was cut down. His grave had been somewhat 'lost', in a sense. The embassy in Brussels provided a magnificent bunch of flowers so that I could lay it at the foot of the grave. I am 70 next year. I have had a very interesting life. I reflected on all of those people who will never see that, never experience what I have, yet they made the greatest of all sacrifices. I thank all those young men and women who gave their lives for real freedom so that I can speak, so that people can choose to listen or turn off if they wish to and so that we can go about our busy lives. On this one day we reflect on those young Australians who never had the opportunity that I had.

In August we will celebrate the victory in the Pacific against the Japanese. No doubt people will be able to talk then about the atomic bomb and Nagasaki and Hiroshima. Let me say very briefly that victory in the Pacific was in a sense much more visible for us. I was in Adelaide when the Japanese capitulated and Emperor Hirohito signed the unconditional surrender as a result of the almost 200,000 people who died as the result of two atomic bombs. I remember it so well. I was 10 years old, and I remember the celebrations—the dancing in the street. I saw giant rockets. I do not know whether they were meant for combative purposes or celebration purposes, but they were big rockets. Perhaps they were just big because I was 10 years old. I had never seen anything like it before, nor have I experienced anything like it since. Once again, we will have the opportunity of reflecting on all those young men and young women who gave their lives in that theatre of war.

I want to finish by saying that it is not easy for me to talk about sacrifices or even to be emotional, but it is very easy for me to be emotional—even though it is difficult for me

to talk—about these issues. It is a great honour for me to have visited Russia in the week before last, to have visited Rome and to have participated in those celebrations. Whilst in a sense I do not look forward to the celebration in August, I do look forward to expressing myself and thanking those who sent their sons, their daughters, their fathers and their loved ones away to those wars. I trust that, whilst there will always be conflicts, they will never be on the scale of the First World War or the Second World War or of those massive losses that not just Australia but others in the world suffered.

Question agreed to.

BUSINESS

Rearrangement

Senator COONAN (New South Wales—Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts) (4.47 pm)—by leave—I move:

That the hours of meeting for Tuesday, 10 May 2005 be from 12.30 pm to 6.30 pm and 8 pm to adjournment, and for Thursday, 12 May 2005 be from 9.30 am to 6 pm and 8 pm to adjournment, and that:

- (a) the routine of business from 8 pm on Tuesday, 10 May 2005 shall be:
 - (i) Budget statement and documents 2005-2006, and
 - (ii) adjournment; and
- (b) the routine of business from 8 pm on Thursday, 12 May 2005 shall be:
 - (i) Budget statement and documents—party leaders and independent senators to make responses to the statement and documents for not more than 30 minutes each; and
 - (ii) adjournment.

Senator LUDWIG (Queensland—Manager of Opposition Business in the Senate) (4.48 pm)—The matters I raise go to the hours of sitting and the available hours that we have. Today we have heard a motion to

vary the hours of sitting, which is one of those areas where it is usual for discussion to take place between the government, the opposition and minor parties about how these matters are progressed. In the past, there has been reasonable discourse, discussion and consultation between the managers of business about both the hours and other matters that surround the hours and the use of the available time within the Senate. I would like to take a couple of moments now to set down a few issues that I think are important to ensure that there is management within this chamber to allow what will be quite a compressed period as we run up to 1 July. There are two weeks effectively remaining. We have Senate estimates, and then we go into the last two weeks before the end of the winter sittings.

I must say that there is usually more consultation leading up to these three days than I have experienced so far. One example is the condolence motions that we have here today. Of course Labor were aware that there would be a need for a condolence motion for Mr Grassby, for instance. We were aware that there were probably other matters such as the Sea King tragedy that should be reported or at least dealt with in this house. There was also the death of His Holiness. If you go back to precedent, that also looks like a matter that is dealt with by condolence motion. Having looked at those, we contacted the government about how we might proceed.

For whatever reason, and I do not really want to put blame here, it took quite a long time—I suspect right up to some time this morning—for the government to finalise its position. We also did not have a red. We had a draft red, but even then it was quite late in the process, for whatever reason. We finally had a red that we could follow to understand the position that the government had adopted in relation to the work but, for whatever reason, that was still quite late in the process.

We think that there are lessons to be learnt from this. If we are going to utilise the last two weeks of the sitting pattern in winter to deal with legislation, then we have to talk a little bit more and a little bit earlier as well about how we are going to manage the time. The condolence motions are one example. If they could have been discussed a little bit earlier, we would have made a number of other suggestions about how to deal with them in order to ensure that time management could be applied whilst ensuring that everyone could still deal with the issues they wanted to deal with. At the moment, not only do we have me speaking now for five minutes but also the government is eating up government time in dealing with condolences which would otherwise be spent in dealing with legislation. I understand that it is budget night, but we still can consider legislation or utilise government time. Instead, we are dealing with condolence motions. I do not have a problem with that if that is the government's wish. The issue will come in the next two weeks when we will also have valedictories to deal with—quite a number, I suspect—which will also need to be time managed, so we will need to discuss those.

The condolence motions that have been put today could have been put in alternative ways to utilise time that was otherwise not government time. That would have been our preference. It is not the case that we are disappointed that this is the way the government want to deal with them. If the government want to eat up government time, that is a matter for them, really. Some of these issues could have been dealt with in an adjournment debate. There might have been ways to ensure that everyone who wanted to had an opportunity to deal with them. But that was not to be.

We need to look at how we are going to program the government legislation, valedictories and any condolence motions that come

forward. There are usually side winds that turn up to take valuable time in the last two weeks. If the government decide not to engage and consult now when they do not have the numbers, my concern is that post 1 July they will act like an arrogant government and not consult. That will invariably eat up government time. Maybe I am giving them a warning that they do not need. But all they have done by managing the business in this way is eat up government time.

Notwithstanding all that, the other issue is the precedent that might be set by dealing with motions in this way—particularly condolence motions. My examination of the record indicates that this is not the way this place would normally deal with condolence motions, so there is a precedent being set here by these condolence motions. They will obviously be set down as markers for the future. Notwithstanding that, it seems to be the government's will to deal with them in this way. So be it. I simply put on the record that improved consultation would have assisted.

Senator HILL (South Australia—Leader of the Government in the Senate) (4.54 pm)—In the absence of the Manager of Government Business, I will very briefly respond to remind the Senate that this is a very consultative government. We seek to cooperate with the opposition party and the other parties in the Senate, firstly, because it is the right thing to do and, secondly, because it saves time in the long run. The only issue that is a little out of the norm here is the decision to move the condolence motion in relation to the late Sir Joh Bjelke-Petersen in the condolence section rather than perhaps in the general business section or alternatively in the adjournment debate. That is justified in the circumstance of his very close relationship, through his wife, with the Senate and by the fact that a like decision was taken in the House of Representatives and we would

not have wished there to be any misinterpretation. That is why we made that decision. That the program for the day was settled somewhat late is always to be regretted but it is quite often the case on a first day back and when we seek to work in close liaison with the other house.

Looking at the number of opposition members who are retiring, we will be asked a little later in the session to help the opposition with some government time in relation to valedictories. In a spirit of cooperation, we would want to do that. That does require a bit of give and take on both sides. I note what Senator Ludwig has said; I take it in a spirit of goodwill. We will seek to play our part in this chamber in a constructive and cooperative way.

Senator BROWN (Tasmania) (4.56 pm)—I will add a word to the problem, if I may, of such important matters coming before the Senate on the same day as the budget. The motion on VE Day is one that the Greens support. Here we have a recollection of and a memoriam to the possibly more than 50 million people who died in extraordinary circumstances from which the world has not learnt. I am aghast that the world is still divided and is spending more on arms than it ever has before and that the tragic loss of so many millions in the last century—some 200 million people—to wars has still not been learnt from. We must honour those lives that were lost because of human disputes not being settled in a better way. We must also honour those people who survived—no-one returns from war uninjured. We must honour the service they gave to great ideals and indeed to this country. The matter ought not be submerged on a day like this by other immediate matters. I hope the government can better arrange for such debates in the future.

Question agreed to.

CONDOLENCES

His Holiness Pope John Paul II

The PRESIDENT (4.58 pm)—It is with deep regret that I inform the Senate of the death on 2 April 2005 of His Holiness Pope John Paul II.

Senator HILL (South Australia—Leader of the Government in the Senate) (4.58 pm)—by leave—I move:

That the Senate notes the death on 2 April 2005 of His Holiness Pope John Paul II and expresses its profound regret at his passing.

The unprecedented outpouring of grief at the passing of Pope John Paul II stands as testament to his impact on many millions of people around the globe. In many ways, Pope John Paul II was the first entirely modern pope. It is said that his extensive travel meant that he was seen in person by more people than any other human being in history. This, plus his command of the modern media, made him one of the most widely recognised figures of the 20th century.

All people of goodwill, whether Catholic or not, will recognise Karol Wojtyla as a tireless advocate for world peace. In troubled times the world needs peacemakers. There is no doubt that John Paul was such a person. As a young man in Poland he witnessed first hand the ravages of Nazism and Communism. It was probably for his role in the downfall of the latter evil that he will most obviously be remembered. It was John Paul's instinctive support for the cause of freedom embodied by Lech Walesa and the Solidarity movement which was instrumental in the downfall of Communism in Poland. This set off waves that were felt across Europe.

In later years and at great personal risk during the height of the Balkans war he visited Sarajevo, with its divided orthodox and Muslim communities. In February 2000 he reached out to Jews and Muslims with a hugely important visit to the Holy Land. In

days following the September 11 terrorist attacks, he again ignored concerns for his safety by travelling to Kazakhstan.

There is no doubt that Pope John Paul II was a controversial figure to many. But, whatever judgments people may make about individual positions taken by the Pope, few could fail to acknowledge the grandeur of his life story, the courage of his convictions, the strength and humility of his personality and the compassion of his ministry. All people of goodwill will be saddened by the passing of a man who was one of the giants of the 20th century. I commend the motion to the Senate.

Senator LUDWIG (Queensland—Manager of Opposition Business in the Senate) (5.01 pm)—On behalf of the opposition I support the condolence motion moved by Senator Hill following the death of Pope John Paul II. John Paul was loved by millions of Catholics around the world and here in Australia. His loss was felt deeply by many and his contribution to the Catholic Church will continue to bear fruit in the years to come. I would also like to welcome the election of Pope Benedict XVI, formerly Joseph, Cardinal Ratzinger of Germany. I am sure he will continue the good work done by his predecessor and set his own mark on the life of the Catholic Church.

John Paul II was born in 1920 in Wadowice, Poland, and named Karol Jozef Wojtyla. His father had been in the military and his mother, who died when Karol was eight years old, encouraged him into the church from a very early age. He was also passionately interested in theatre and sports. By accident of birth, John Paul was born into perhaps the most turbulent period in European history. The Nazi invasion of Poland in 1939 was the start of a reign of terror directed against the Polish population in general and Polish Jewry in particular. The wholesale

destruction of the Polish nation was an aim of the occupation.

Recently we remembered the 60th anniversary of the end of the war in Europe and the liberation of the Nazi death camps. It is hard, 60 years on, to fully comprehend the scale of savagery that was inflicted on the Poles and other nations and peoples by the Nazis. John Paul was a survivor of these terrible times. During the war John Paul was involved with underground theatre in Krakow, an activity that put him at some personal risk. He was arrested by Nazi officials at one point but was freed due to the fact that he was a labourer in a quarry.

After the war he began his training for the priesthood. He served as a parish priest and later a professor of ethics at the Catholic University of Lubin. He was created Archbishop of Krakow in 1964 and a cardinal in 1967. John Paul's election to the papacy in 1978 was quite unexpected. He was the first non-Italian pope in many hundreds of years. Although it has been suggested that he was seen as a compromise candidate, his papacy has been recognised as one of the most significant. His early actions set the tone of his period in office. He refused a papal coronation and was instead installed in a papal mass. In his first year as pontiff he travelled to more than 100 countries, a trend which he was to maintain for the rest of his life. He visited Australia for the Eucharistic Congress in 1973 and later as pontiff in 1986 and 1995.

He is, of course, remembered for his impact on Polish national sentiment during the early period of his office. Through his visits to his homeland he raised the Polish spirit and was an inspiration to many Poles during another traumatic period of Polish history. Throughout his papacy he would continue to travel widely and communicate the Catholic message, both to the faithful and in ecumeni-

cal terms, building links with other denominations and faiths. Many people around the world were captivated by his personal charisma and his efforts to reach out to the poor, the powerless and the oppressed.

He was outspoken in his criticism of both communism and capitalism while taking a somewhat conservative line in his repudiation of liberation theology. For the limits he placed upon political action by the church he was criticised by some, as he was for his views on certain moral concerns, the place of women in the church and other issues. At the same time he recognised the past failings of the church. In the year 2000 he made an apology and a plea for forgiveness for the wrongs done by the Catholic Church over its 2,000-year history.

It is a testament to the power of his work and his message that his papacy saw a huge growth in the Catholic Church internationally from 750 million believers to more than one billion today. The growth was in large part a result of his evangelism in the developing world as well as his more formal work within the church and in the wider world. John Paul II was a figure whom many felt they could come to know personally.

He came close to death following an assassination attempt in Saint Peter's Square in 1981 by Mehmet Ali Agca, a member of the far right Turkish Grey Wolves. Following John Paul II's death, there were many television tributes to the pontiff. There was a particularly touching scene of his visit to Agca in prison following the assassination attempt, where he offered him his forgiveness and an embrace. You can see on John Paul's face the depth of emotion and pain that he is experiencing in his reconciliation with his would-be assassin. It was truly an inspiring display. In later years he kept in contact with the Agca family and met Mehmet Ali Agca's mother in 1987.

Just as we came to know him through his travels and the response to the attempt on his life, so too did many people share the experiences of his ill health in old age. He fought Parkinson's disease publicly and stoically. Even in his final days he continued, as far as possible, his public work. I think his ability to share that part of himself with the world endeared him to many both within and outside the church.

His passing was a time of great sadness to members of the Catholic faith and to many outside it. He will be remembered not only for his contribution to the church but for his deeply personal story so closely tied to the turmoil of the 20th century. He will be remembered for both and also, at a very human level, as a man. In closing, I would like to refer back to some footage that was shown following his death. In early days John Paul had been a passionate skier. In one documentary he was shown in his later years, dressed in white papal robes, walking across the snow covered slopes of the Italian alps, beneath clear, clean blue skies. He stops and looks around him at the snow and the sky. His joy in life is apparent, as he marvels at the purity and freshness of that amazing landscape. On behalf of the opposition, I offer our sincere condolences on his passing.

Senator BOSWELL (Queensland—Leader of The Nationals in the Senate) (5.08 pm)—I too would like to speak to the condolence motion moved by Senator Hill on behalf the government and spoken to by Senator Ludwig on behalf of the opposition. The Polish 263rd successor of Saint Peter died on 3 April this year aged 84, leaving his mark on the world as one of the most influential popes in the church's 2,000-year history and opening up the church to people all over the world. He is the most travelled pontiff in history, visiting around 100 countries in his first year alone. He encountered more indi-

viduals than any other pope, as he spread the word of God.

Many things to many people, Karol Jozef Wojtyla commenced his spiritual journey from a humble quarry worker, poet and actor to a much-lauded pontiff. He was the first pope to travel to England, the first to preach in a Lutheran Church and the first to enter a mosque. Revered as an heroic visionary and attacked as a remnant of a bygone era, the Pope remained true to the opinions he held since his youth. His faith and deep spirituality was shaped by the loss early in his life of his mother and brother and later by that of his father and strengthened during the Nazi occupation, when he became aware of his call to the priesthood. He is credited as giving the Polish people hope and direction after decades of communist rule, inspiring the Solidarity movement which would eventually lead Poland to abandon communism and establish its own identity away from the Soviet Union. Ordained after the war in 1946, he pursued studies in philosophy and theology before being nominated Archbishop of Krakow in the early 1960s and a cardinal in 1967.

His pontificate started in 1978 when, after eight rounds of voting in a secret concave, the cardinals chose the first non-Italian pope since the 16th century. It is reported that during his reign the number of Catholics in the world has risen to about 1.1 billion. As a conservative pope, John Paul II held the line against trendy Catholicism and firmly stood his ground on issues such as women's ordination, stem cell research and abortion. He became known as an opponent of communism, a champion of human rights and liberty, a powerful preacher and a sophisticated intellectual. He warned of the dangers of secularism, materialism and selfishness, urging people to be tolerant and to help the less fortunate. He was committed to bringing

together the churches and faiths of the world, with his theme of forgiveness and harmony.

Such was his faith and character that following an attempt on his life by a Turk in 1981 the Pope famously visited him in prison, offering his forgiveness. In 1984 the Pope approved the first revision in Catholic canon law to make the church more accessible by increasing the power of the bishops, widening the role of laypeople and expanding the role of women in the church. Despite several health scares during the 1990s, his travel and writing continued, culminating in a publication in 1995 in which he spoke of the modern world as a 'culture of death', citing violence, poverty, murder, suicide, human suffering, abortion and euthanasia. In 1998, the Vatican made a step towards repairing the relationship between Jews and the Vatican by apologising for the church's past positions regarding Jews and anti-Semitism.

In his later years, the Pope's tremendous spiritual strength overcame the limitations of his ailing body, until last month when he returned to his maker. An inspirational leader, he has touched the lives and hearts of many millions of people. This was demonstrated by the many tributes to him from people from all walks of life, following his passing. He will be sadly missed.

Senator BARTLETT (Queensland) (5.13 pm)—I place on the record my support for this motion in recognition of the work and the life of Pope John Paul II. It is appropriate to acknowledge his contribution as not just a leader of his church but also, in the real sense of the word, a world leader. He was not just a head of state—albeit the state is a fairly unusual one, being very small—but a world figure in terms of the broader things he spoke about. In that sense, it is appropriate to consider and acknowledge his contribution, despite many members of the cham-

ber not being of the Catholic faith. In the same way, for example, the Dalai Lama makes a significant impact as a world figure and many of us speak of the importance of that, even though, as far as I know, many of us are not practising Tibetan Buddhists.

Speaking personally, I do not think it is for me to comment at all on the debates within the Catholic Church about the rights and wrongs of the approach of the Pope on a whole range of issues. That should be very much an issue for those who see themselves as part of that church. I was brought up a Catholic and went to a Christian Brothers school, but I am not part of that faith anymore. I am an interested observer. Certainly, if people want to sign up to that faith, they can have those debates within that organisation, the same as you can have them within a political party or anything else. It is not for me to particularly comment on that.

In the sense that the Pope was a world leader—a role much wider than simply his role within his own church—he clearly had a very significant impact on the world, much more than most other people have had. It is hard to think of too many other people who have had such an impact on the globe over the last quarter of a century. It is easy to overstate things and say that he was the sole person responsible or the primary person responsible for the disintegration of the communist bloc and the Iron Curtain, but there is no doubt that he played a significant role. To have played a significant role in the collapse of a totalitarian regime as comprehensive and far-reaching as the communist regime was, is a contribution that is not too shabby at all. I think you would have to be pretty pleased with that.

It is important to acknowledge the Pope's consistent voice, standing up against not only human rights abuses in what might be termed the left of the communist regime but all hu-

man rights abuses regardless of the political flavour of the nation. Unlike many people in the US who like to see themselves as religious crusaders for the right to life, for example, he was anti-abortion and anti-capital punishment—a system which has logical consistencies which do not seem to apply to many others in the religious right in the US. It is that consistency that I admired. Even when I strongly disagree with their views, I admire people who follow a consistent line of argument rather than just tilt it to suit the particular political or ideological needs of the moment.

The Pope spoke out consistently and strongly against the injustices of capitalism. I hope that all those coalition members who today are speaking about the wisdom and strength of Pope John Paul II look at the comments in the encyclical he made on the 90th anniversary of *Rerum Novarum* when he spoke about the rights and dignity of workers. When we are looking at industrial relations legislation over the next six to 12 months, we should look at some of the words he said there. He spoke strongly about some of the injustices of capitalism as well as communism. He spoke strongly against the evil of poverty and he spoke consistently and strongly against war—including of course the decision to go to war in Iraq. He worked to build bridges with other religions. All those actions must be strongly acknowledged.

I have spoken publicly on my personal views about areas where I think the Pope did not do so well. Some of those are issues more for the church to decide. I think the role of women within the church, for example, is pretty poor, but it is not my church so it is not my business. But I do think that there are broader issues, because of the role that he played as a world leader and an influential leader, where his failures should be acknowledged. In the same way as he was a

straight-talking person, I think it is appropriate to note those failures here. I also believe it is important that there is action on those failures.

None of those failures was stronger than the failure to act on the widespread abuse of young people by Catholic priests and people holding Catholic ministry. That was a significant failure and it sent a very bad signal not only within the church. It is obviously an issue much wider than within the church, and that failure must be tackled because it sends an appalling signal across the wider community. I have spoken on this before—as have others—because I believe it is such an important issue. It is an issue nobody can afford to turn a blind eye to, however uncomfortable it can be to confront those types of issues. There is no doubt that there were significant failures in that regard, and there is still a challenge for the church. It is appropriate for people outside the church to point to that failure.

In the same way, I should note that the church specifically sees for itself a role of speaking beyond those who adhere to the Catholic faith. The area where I do have concerns for the broader social impact, wider than just those people who choose to be part of the Catholic faith, is the church's statements and attitudes towards homosexual people. One of the documents—it was not a full encyclical—put out by the Pope during his reign was *Considerations regarding proposals to give legal recognition to unions between homosexual persons*. That document specifically said:

... the arguments that follow are addressed not only to those who believe in Christ, but to all persons committed to promoting and defending the common good of society.

If they seek to engage with the wider society about those issues, that is fine, but they should be open to critique on the impact of

those views. That document specifically directed Catholic politicians to vote against particular laws, which I think is going a bit far, frankly. It said that Catholic politicians are obliged to oppose specific legislation regarding homosexual unions.

The plea I make—a plea I have made before in this place—is that we acknowledge the damage that language coming from people in major leadership positions can have on human beings when their innate sense of their own humanity is spoken about in a way that fundamentally devalues it at its core. I know that people have different views about that—theological, philosophical, social and the like—but I am simply talking about the impact I know that sort of language has on some people. Given the Pope's own words about how his views and statements go beyond those who are Catholics or even those who believe in Christ, I think that, in making such statements, there should be an acknowledgment of the impact those statements have on people.

Having said that—because I believe it needed to be said in a debate such as this—clearly, this was a man who had an enormous impact on the world. Anybody who is in a position where they have such an enormous impact—even if they are a saint, which for all I know he may well be deemed to be in some years time—will have failings and areas where they fall short, but that does not negate the significant impact that the Pope had or the appropriateness of acknowledging his contribution.

It was interesting to examine the way in which he carried on in the face of his very debilitating illness over the last period of his life, and it has been commented on. The Pope set an interesting example by going through that in the way that he did and staying in the position as he did. Being Pope is a bit different to being in other leadership posi-

tions, that is for sure; it has a certain unique character. There is too much talk here at the moment about how long people should stay in certain leadership positions, and that is not what I am talking about; I am simply talking about the example that he set. His display of that aspect of the ministry set an interesting example and one that is worth people reflecting on further when they look at some of the very difficult debates that we have about illness, old age, infirmity and disability and how we react to people in those circumstances. The simple reality is that despite their infirmities people can still be enormously effective. They can be effective in different ways, perhaps—obviously, he was not as good at certain things as he was in his younger days, but he could still be very effective at sending messages and playing a role. In some ways, that was because of the infirmities that he had and the illnesses that he was going through. That certainly provides a cause for reflection.

Overall, I wish to indicate support for the motion. As always with these motions, that should not be seen as blanket approval for every action, statement or inaction by the person concerned but rather as recognition of their significant contribution as well as an indication of what I believe are some legitimate issues that his successor should consider tackling. The document I quoted from earlier regarding homosexuality was issued through the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, which was headed by the now Pope Benedict XVI. Obviously, he has been intimately involved in some of those issues which I think need a rethink. I would certainly urge those of you that are engaged in the church to get onto that Pope of yours and tell him what he should do next time you get a chance! More seriously, I urge people to contribute to that debate within the church. I know there are difficult issues, but they do have an impact in society more widely and

they are issues that need to be given some stronger thought.

Senator HOGG (Queensland) (5.26 pm)—I rise to support the condolence motion moved by the Leader of the Government in the Senate. In doing so, I want to focus briefly on some words that Pope John Paul II wrote in a couple of encyclicals. Before doing so, it is important to acknowledge that he was a man of great social justice. If one just observed him casually from the outside, as I have—I have no intimate knowledge of the man—it was obvious that he was meek, humble, very caring, very peace loving and very peacemaking. He was a man of determination, energy and endurance. That was encapsulated in the way he lived his life both publicly and privately, although we knew of the latter to a lesser extent.

One of the things that probably stood out the most for me was the impact that he had on the situation in Poland with the rising of Solidarnosc, the Solidarity union. At the time of the emergence of Solidarity, my union in Australia, the SDA—the Shop, Distributive and Allied Employees Association—was one of many international unions that were supporting Solidarity and its emergence within Poland in response to the regime that was governing Poland at that time. Pope John Paul II was a man who in his own mild-mannered way influenced world events far beyond even his anticipation and expectation of what could be achieved. Others have referred to that here today. I suppose I gained some appreciation of the man and the influence that he had over people through my association with that movement at that time. It is interesting that the word they chose to use for that union—‘solidarity’—just so happened to be used in some of his encyclicals, and quite pointedly at that.

As a member of parliament I was proud to be part of a delegation presented to him at a

public audience on a bilateral visit to Italy in 1999. One could see the effects, even at that time, of the very rigorous program that he obviously set himself. But, nonetheless, he was always giving of his time and only too pleased to meet with the young, the old, the infirm, those who were poor, those who were advantaged and those who were disadvantaged. He was a man of the people.

I think the real nature of the person could be summed up if one looked at his funeral. He lay outside on the stairs of the basilica in a coffin that was not ornate—it was very simple in nature—and I think it reflected the simplicity of the man himself. The service itself was simple. Of course, even though it was a simple service with a simple coffin, the person who was being acknowledged during the funeral was a man of great stature and a man who was certainly admired by many throughout the world, including those who had congregated to say their farewell to him.

He left a legacy to us all, in my view. Some of that legacy will be ignored by some, some will be unnoticed and some will be cherished, depending on one's view of the man and the way in which he pursued his papacy. He no doubt had a caring, selfless nature and that, in my view, was reflected in the encyclicals that he put out during his 25-plus years as Pope. Some of those encyclicals of course were controversial and some were very thought-provoking, but I have no doubt that the man himself had great intellectual rigour in his approach to the proclamations that he brought forward.

I do not want his passing to go by in the Parliament of Australia without recording some of the views he had on issues that are close to my heart and the hearts of a number of the Australian public. I will refer to two of his encyclicals. The first is *Laborem Exercens*, which is on human work and was

promulgated on 14 September 1981. He reflected on the 90th anniversary of that great encyclical of Leo XIII's *Rerum Novarum*. The second I am going to look briefly at is *Sollicitudo Rei Socialis* on social concerns that was promulgated on 30 December 1987. Whilst that was promulgated some substantial time ago, his words in one sense are as true today as ever and I think reflect the forward-looking nature of the man. In 'Laborem exercens' he referred to the priority of labour and said at page 49:

In view of this situation we must first of all recall a principle that has always been taught by the Church: the principle of the priority of labour over capital. This principle directly concerns the process of production: in this process labour is always a primary efficient cause, while capital, the whole collection of means of production, remains a mere instrument or instrumental cause.

Those words of course ring as true today as when they were promulgated back in 1981. He went further in 'Laborem exercens' at page 81 to refer to the importance of unions, again a much maligned group of people by some people in our society today. He said:

All these rights, together with the need for the workers themselves to secure them, give rise to yet another right: the right of association, that is to form associations for the purpose of defending the vital interests of those employed in the various professions.

Interestingly enough in the same encyclical he then gave a mini historical version of the evolution of the trade union movement. He said:

In a sense, unions go back to the mediaeval guilds of artisans, insofar as those organizations brought together people belonging to the same craft and thus on the basis of their work. However, unions differ from the guilds on this essential point: the modern unions grew up from the struggle of the workers—workers in general but especially the industrial workers—to protect their ... rights vis-a-vis the entrepreneurs and the owners of the means of production.

Prophetic words indeed. He said in the same section:

The experience of history teaches that organizations of this type are an indispensable element of social life, especially in modern industrialized societies.

... ..

They are indeed a mouthpiece for the struggle for social justice, for the just rights of working people in accordance with their individual professions.

He did not particularise the professions or the nature of the work undertaken there, but he gave a very detailed analysis of human work, the problems associated with human work and even referred in some parts to the issue of peace itself.

In the encyclical on social concerns one sees some of his ability to provoke thought and provoke discussion. On page 32 of that encyclical he talked about other forms of poverty and he said:

We should add here that in today's world there are many other forms of poverty. For are there not certain privations or deprivations which deserve this name? The denial or the limitation of human rights—as for example the right to religious freedom, the right to share in the building of society, the freedom to organize and to form unions, or to take initiatives in economic matters—do these not impoverish the human person as much as, if not more than, the deprivation of material goods? And is development which does not take into account the full affirmation of these rights really development on the human level?

In brief, modern underdevelopment is not only economic but also cultural, political and simply human ...

In the encyclical he challenges our society. He does not challenge just those who claim to be of the Catholic persuasion; he is challenging society. Later in the encyclical, at page 85, he comes to the issue of solidarity—not that it has not been mentioned previously in the encyclical, but I particularly

want to mention this reference, where he says:

Solidarity helps us to see the “other”—whether a *person, people* or *nation*—not just as some kind of instrument, with a work capacity and physical strength to be exploited at low cost and then discarded when no longer useful, but as our “neighbour”, a “helper” ... to be made a sharer, on a par with ourselves, in the banquet of life to which all are equally invited by God.

I think that is very telling of the nature of the person and the way in which he perceived the world. Last, but not least, I refer to page 93. If anyone reads my first speech—and they are not generally read over and over—they will find that I made reference to a preferential option for the poor, and that is the basis on which my life has been founded fairly much. It was probably through this encyclical that he tied that issue up for me and put it all into perspective. He talks about his teachings in recent years, and goes on to say:

Here I would like to indicate one of them: the *option* or *love of preference* for the poor. This is an option, or a *special form* of primacy in the exercise of Christian charity, to which the whole tradition of the Church bears witness.

This is something we should all bear in mind in our daily lives. There is no doubt that Pope John Paul had a profound effect on our society. You did not have to be a Catholic or a Christian to embrace the thrust of his philosophy or even to listen to the points of view that he was expressing, not only through the many encyclicals that he released but also through the various media outlets that published his works.

He challenged the community and—whilst not everyone might have agreed with the words he challenged us with—he did so in a humble way. As I said, he did it with determination, he did it with sincerity and he did it with a love of his fellow human beings. I trust that his great concern for the poor, the

weak, the oppressed, the lonely and the sick will not be lost in the turmoil of our society today and that an opportunity such as speaking in this condolence motion will place on record the work, energy, effort and love that he has shown for his fellow human beings.

Senator BRANDIS (Queensland) (5.41 pm)—On a late July afternoon in 1982, I stood on the platform of the central railway station in Cracow. To this day, I remember being struck by the thought that four years earlier, in June 1978, the Cardinal Archbishop of that city, Karol Wojtyla, had embarked from that very place to attend, for the second time in only a few weeks, the conclave of cardinals—little expecting, no doubt, that he would not return. His departure was, I dare say, little noticed. It was certainly unremarked by the world's media. Yet it was the beginning of a journey which would change the world forever.

Over the 26 years that followed, Karol Wojtyla became, as Pope John Paul II, one of the undeniably greatest figures of the 20th century. In a century in which most of the titanic figures had been monsters—Lenin, Hitler, Stalin, Mao Tse Tung—we can take some comfort from the fact that the last of the titanic figures of the century was a man of overpowering goodness and simple virtue.

Pope John Paul II was, obviously, a great religious leader: the third-longest serving head of the church whose adherents comprise most of Christianity. He was also an important political leader. Yet when the news of the Pope's death broke in Australia on the morning of Sunday, 3 April, the common theme of so many of the tributes which flowed was that John Paul had been a great moral leader. His life and work so transcended even his role as the leader of the world's 1.1 billion Catholics that people of all faiths—and of no faith—felt a sense of loss. His passing was lamented with sincere

regret by political leaders of every sort. It united leaders of the democratic world with political figures as diverse as Fidel Castro, Hu Jintao and Vladimir Putin.

Mikhail Gorbachev, the last leader of the Soviet Union—that inhuman political system which John Paul did so much to bring to ruins—called him 'the No. 1 humanist on the planet'. Many of the tributes evoked the bond of family. Thus, to Lech Walesa, Poland had 'lost its mother', while President Ciampi of Italy said that Italians were 'mourning the loss of a father'. By the time he died, one can fairly claim that John Paul II had become the most respected figure on the planet, with a moral authority which transcended that of any other global leader—political, religious or otherwise.

On 7 April, the Archbishop of Brisbane, John Bathersby, led a concelebrated memorial mass at St Stephen's Cathedral. In his homily, Archbishop Bathersby described Pope John Paul in these words:

'He had a deep relationship with God where life and religion mingled easily ... There was his total detachment from the material things of life, and his deep love of the poor. There was a discipline of life that he expected equally of others. But above all there was his genuine love of people, especially young people, his sheer enjoyment of life, and his mischievous sense of humour, not always as apparent in later years, as he grappled with the ... demands of world and Church, and the slow, debilitating pain of sickness.

... he was driven utterly by his love of God and life, from which he learned to love people in all their incredible variety. ... He had a ... remarkable intellect ... linguistic brilliance ... mystic faith and ... remarkable capacity to endure discomfort and suffering. ... With an unshakeable faith and trust in God, inherited from his own parents, his Church, his cul-

ture, his study and his experience of life, he reached out to all people. ...

His mission drove the Pope beyond the previous narrow boundaries of Roman Catholicism to embrace all Christians, all religions, and all peoples, an action not always greeted with enthusiasm by certain sections of the Catholic Church. His Christian ecumenism, sprung from a love of God, was based upon the supreme importance and dignity of each and every person, underpinned by an exalted vision of the importance of human life in Jesus Christ. ... More than others he spoke with authority, not the authority of Christ which is utterly unique, but with an authority built upon years of prayer, study and experience, and forged in a furnace of suffering.

... ..

... he preached the dignity and freedom of the human person with such strength and vitality that his voice was eventually ... heard by every citizen and leader on this planet. The message is strong, simple, and powerful. Respect the human person because the human person is made in the image of God. Preach the gospel so that this may become a reality for all.'

Theologians tell us that John Paul II made a profound doctrinal impact upon the Catholic Church. I am in no position to comment on that. But I do want to spend a few moments to reflect on the Pope as an historical figure—for there is simply no doubt that, but for the moral and political influence of this one man, the events which resulted in the liberation of eastern Europe and the collapse of the Soviet leviathan would not have occurred as they did. No doubt it would have happened one day, but it happened when it did and how it did because of the extraordinary conjunction of events which placed the moral leader of the Polish people in a position of unique authority at one of history's

authentic turning points, and so gave an emphatic answer to Stalin's famous jibe, 'How many divisions has the Pope?'

I remember travelling in Poland in that northern summer of 1982, about six months after martial law had been declared by the military dictator, General Jaruzelski. There were military helicopters in the skies and armed militias on the street corners. There was much talk of an imminent Soviet military occupation—not, like Hungary in 1956 and Czechoslovakia in 1968, to dislodge a liberalising regime, but to prop up a decaying one. I remember, in particular, a conversation I had with some Polish students in Warsaw. I asked one of them what they had done when martial law had been declared. He replied, 'We all went to the cathedral,' and he described a scene of thousands upon thousands of Poles converging upon the cathedrals and churches of their cities and towns, apprehensive and afraid, and instinctively recognising the church as their place of refuge, of comfort, of solidarity and of strength.

The events which began in Poland in 1981 framed a world-changing confrontation between the military power of the state and the moral power of the church, between ideology and religious faith, between what another great Pole, Czeslaw Milosz, called the captive mind and the free conscience, between the transient and the everlasting, between the secular and the spiritual.

There is no doubt about the centrality of Pope John Paul II in the resolution of that apocalyptic conflict. This single man, whose childhood was forged in the furnace of one of the most evil regimes of the 20th century—Nazism—who grew to manhood in southern Poland literally a few miles from Auschwitz, whose middle years were spent in confrontation with the other of the most evil tyrannies of the twentieth century—

communism—came at the culmination of his life and work to be the principal agent by which that tyranny was brought crashing down. Religious people will see God's hand in Karol Wojtyla's life and work. Others, taking a more secular view, will see him as a great nationalist and a great liberator. He was, in my view, a man whose role and place in history was of such a mighty scale that he transcends easy classification. As Archbishop Bathersby said in his homily:

Neither conservative nor liberal, Pope John Paul II defies simple definition or shallow analysis.

On any view, he was a very great man—perhaps the greatest we will see in our lifetimes.

Senator HUTCHINS (New South Wales) (5.51 pm)—I would like to join in speaking to the condolence motion this evening on Pope John Paul II. I normally go to mass at 7.30 on Sunday mornings at St Finbar's in Glenbrook in the lower Blue Mountains. Normally, the church is probably about half full because of the hour and, I suppose, it reflects the population in that area. As we know, around 6 o'clock the ABC news bulletin was broadcasting the fact that Pope John Paul II had finally passed away. When I went to my usual mass at 7.30 the church was packed out. In the space of that 1½ hours from the announcement of His Holiness's death, people—who no doubt were born and raised Catholics, probably not practising—went to mass that day, probably for the first time in some time to join in the widespread grief and sadness that was enveloping the world at his passing.

Indeed, it is probably for historians to come up with some analysis of why in the week or so after his death there was that widespread grief and sadness at his passing. In fact, one of the last communist dictatorships in the world, headed by Fidel Castro, announced that there would be three days of

mourning in Cuba. As a number of the previous speakers have said, a number of world leaders commented on the passing of this colossal man. As I said, it will be for historians and others to come up with the final analysis of the impact that this man had on our world in our lifetime.

Plenty has already been written about His Holiness and about his contribution to the 20th century, to Catholicism and Christianity. If you look up 'John Paul II' on Google, as I did today, there are 73,800,000 references to him. I did not seek to look up anybody else or any other pope, but I thought he had made a tremendous contribution to have himself so regularly mentioned. Not all mentions were favourable, I might add, but many of them were. When we look back on the contribution this man made to the church and to the 20th century, as Senator Brandis has said, there are significant aspects of his life that stand out.

He lived through the seeing off of two forms of totalitarianism—one on the right, when he was a young man and lived through it in Poland, and one on the left, where he was a significant key in its downfall in his support of the independent trade union movement in Poland known as 'Solidarity'. A number of trade union leaders were imprisoned and they were able to have priests visit them. The priests used to secretly smuggle messages of support and encouragement to those independent trade union leaders, while they were being persecuted by the communist regime. In fact, when Pope John Paul II visited his home country after he was made Pope in 1978, he addressed a crowd of over one million people. He exalted them and reminded his fellow Poles:

You are men. You have dignity. Don't crawl on your bellies.

And that is what he stood for most of his life. An American cardinal said of the Pope that

his great hope was to awaken the entire world to the dignity and the responsibility of defending human rights, and that is what John Paul II sought to do throughout his whole life. It never worried him to go and pursue dictatorships, whether of the left or the right. He was very active in criticising the dictatorships of Stroessner in Paraguay, Pinochet in Chile and Ferdinand Marcos in the Philippines. But, as I said, his greatest support was for solidarity, which has been mentioned in the last few contributions.

He was not afraid at all either of commenting on what he saw as the other great evil in our time—that is, materialism. On his first visit to the United States he warned the Americans of the dangers of materialism, selfishness and secularism, and that warning was not welcomed by the Americans at that stage and probably still would not be. But he told them that that was what he stood for and that was what he saw as a danger.

He was the one Pope who said that it is up to priests to look after the spiritual side of their flock, not necessarily to get involved in spreading guns and revolution throughout Latin America. He said that the so-called liberation theology had to end. He supported the Palestinians in their quest for a homeland. But his greatest fear, as I said earlier, was the denigration of the dignity of human rights.

Senator Hogg has mentioned a number of encyclicals that John Paul II promoted in the areas of unions, the workplace, poverty and social justice. I add briefly some of the things that Pope John Paul II said in those encyclicals. In the first one that Senator Hogg mentioned, *Laborem Exercens*, Pope John Paul II said that governments must legislate to block shameful forms of exploitation, especially to the disadvantage of the most vulnerable workers. He railed against considering work as a form of merchandise,

according to economic theory, to which the price of labour could be applied. He also said, ‘As work is the expression of human potential, then solidarity’—once again, that word—‘is the expression of how humans collectively realise that potential.’

He believed that we should confirm our conviction of the priority of human labour over what we have grown accustomed to calling capital and noted that all capital was the product of human work at one stage or another. In every case he said that ‘a just wage is the concrete means of verifying the justice of the whole socioeconomic system—it is the key means’ and ‘unions are an indispensable element of social life’. They are not part of ‘a struggle against others’.

In another encyclical, *Sollicitudo Rei Socialis*, he talked of the denial of human freedom and potential as a form of poverty and commented on the need once again to form free trade unions. He said the state must ensure suitable employment for all who are capable of working and act against unemployment. In his 1991 encyclical, *Centesimus Annus*, he commented on how society and the state must ensure wage levels are adequate for the maintenance of the worker and his family, including a certain amount of savings.

He was a man who was consumed by the view of social justice and that it must be progressed. He commented on the need for Christians to take decisive and honest stands on the issues of social justice, especially in response to the intrusion of the market into public life. Once again he talked about the principle of solidarity by defending the weakest by placing certain limits on the autonomy of the parties that determine working conditions.

It is with great sadness that I comment on the passing of such a great historical figure. Already there are moves within the Catholic

Church to canonise Pope John Paul II. He canonised a number of people. In fact, I think he canonised more people in his period as Pope than all the popes put together. He saw the need for us to have heroes. I hope that, with his passing and with his life to be reflected on in time, we will have again, as we knew when we buried him, a great hero and a hero for our people in the future.

Senator McGAURAN (Victoria) (6.02 pm)—Pope John Paul II died having run his race fair to the line. He was a good example to all who cared to look at the dignity and worth of man to his last breath. It was said that his last word was ‘amen’—probably the most powerful word in the Christian lexicon. It is a single word, yet full of prayer and meaning. By this he used his last second on earth to reaffirm his faith and acknowledge the end of his mission.

John Paul was destined to be Pope. He was marked even beyond his own comprehension. The story was even told that the previous Pope, John Paul I, whose time as pontiff lasted some 30 days, told his closest advisers that they had chosen the wrong man—‘They should have chosen the man across from me.’ The conclave seating confirmed that that was Cardinal Wojtyla from Poland. His life’s experiences prepared him comprehensively for the physical and spiritual rigours and judgments needed to follow in the footsteps of the Fisherman. Like any of us, he could never have anticipated or comprehended why certain extreme events in his life were pitched at him as he grew up in Poland but, as we can all see now, his life in Poland was to shape his life as the pontiff and it gave him the talents to carry out his mission.

Born in 1920, he lost his mother at an early age and brother and father later. By the age of 21 he was alone in the world. It was a hole in his heart forever. He was a very

physical and athletic man. He loved the theatre and acting, and that is how he lived his life, virtually until he joined to train for the priesthood in 1942. From his priestly training days to his cardinalship, he was a noteworthy and relied upon intellect of the church. As is well known, incredibly he lived under the two most brutal, merciless and atheistic regimes in the 20th century, if not history. Firstly, in 1940 there was Poland’s occupation by the Nazis and, secondly, Poland’s occupation by the communists. This was the character chosen to be the church’s 264th Pope, and this is what made up the character of the 264th Pope.

It was this character who visited over 130 separate countries at breakneck pace. He visited some of those countries two or three times—Poland nine times and Australia twice. This was the man who took three bullets at point-blank range from a trained assassin, yet lived, but what is less known is that the wounds plagued him all his life with constant pain. It is also interesting to note that the assassin, who is now repentant, of course, was bewildered at how he could possibly have missed what he had in his sights. This was the man who, as a pope, bridged relationships with his brothers, being the first pope to visit a mosque and a synagogue. This was the pope who had audiences of sometimes two million people—one million regularly, and that was a small crowd—and held their respect to his death, where many millions attended and watched his funeral. As a young actor fielding the small audiences in Poland, how could he have known that the world stage awaited him? He played it well, like a pro.

This is the man history acknowledges as the key turner to bringing down communism without firing a shot. Well may the communists’ worst, Stalin, once mockingly have asked, ‘How many legions has the Pope?’ The story is told that when it first started to

look like an uprising was occurring in Poland, the United States government, the then Reagan government, dispatched a somewhat secretive delegation to the Vatican—I think Alexander Haig was party to that delegation—to meet Vatican officials and the Pope. They wanted to know how they could help Poland, via the Vatican. The rather stony reply that met them was: ‘Nothing. Leave it to us. We’ve been doing this for thousands of years.’ It has never been doubted by any historian that the Vatican brought down what no-one believed could collapse, let alone saw coming. Each country within the new map of Europe owes its freedom to what happened in Poland in the early eighties.

This is the man who, as Pope, wrote encyclical after encyclical and publication after publication reaffirming the teachings and direction of his church, cementing the faith for generations to come. Yet through his reign anyone and everyone who knew him deemed him humble. John Paul II was a man for the times. In a church that looks at time in centuries, not years or even decades, his time will be known as great.

Senator STEPHENS (New South Wales) (6.08 pm)—In supporting this condolence motion I thank the previous speakers for their contributions today to honour this very holy man. We have heard reflections this afternoon on a very different perspective of the Pope from that which has been expressed in other venues and at other opportunities. I think a very important record has been established here this afternoon.

In honouring the life of the Holy Father, Pope John Paul II, can I say that his papacy was marked by his steadfast faith in the human spirit and its ultimate capacity to do good. Our most recent images of him as a frail and suffering man at the end of his life reminded us of his belief in the value of every life, especially the elderly and the in-

firm. He carried on, enduring his afflictions, as Senator McGauran said, not asking for relief because he believed that:

It is suffering, more than anything else, which clears the way for the grace which transforms human souls.

He also said:

In suffering, a man discovers himself—his own humanity, his own dignity, his own mission.

Certainly John Paul II did that.

His concern with the dignity of man was behind his unswerving advocacy of social justice—and we have heard about that this afternoon—and his support for oppressed people everywhere. His strength of character was evident throughout his life. As many speakers have said this afternoon, he faced the Nazi occupation in Poland and later challenged the communist regime. In June 1979, less than a year after his election as Pope, he travelled to Poland, as Senator Hutchins reflected, telling his countrymen and countrywomen not to be afraid, triggering a wave of resistance to communism and having a decisive and material impact on the end of the Cold War. His promotion of democratic hopes extended well beyond eastern Europe. We have heard how he influenced the democratic transitions in the Philippines, Chile, Argentina and Central America.

As the spiritual leader of 1.1 billion followers, Pope John Paul II spoke out forcefully on issues of war and peace, claiming that ‘in our time every war is unjust’. In January 2003 he gave an address to the Vatican, stating:

I say: No to war! War is not always inevitable. It is always a defeat for humanity.

... ..

faced with the constant degeneration of the crisis in the Middle East, I say to you that the solution will never be imposed by recourse to terrorism or armed conflict, as if military victories could be the solution.

Such was his unstinting condemnation of war that no nation could automatically rely on his approval, whatever their political or religious allegiances. As a man of peace, he established diplomatic relations with Israel but he also supported the aspirations of the Palestinian people to statehood.

Through his experience of Catholicism, as well as his intellectual grasp of world history, he understood what it meant to be a victim of prejudice and discrimination. One of the important things Pope John Paul II will be remembered for is his commitment to Catholic-Jewish reconciliation. We heard several senators speak about that this afternoon. He was, as Senator McGauran reminded us, the first pope since apostolic times to visit a synagogue and the first ever to visit a mosque. His apology for evils done in the name of the church broke new ground as he begged forgiveness for Catholic anti-Semitism down the ages.

In his 2001 apostolic letter, entitled *At the Beginning of the New Millennium*, Pope John Paul II described a world entering a new era burdened by contradictions, where the affluent few enjoyed immense possibilities while millions of others lived on the margins of progress. His conviction that we pursued our attachment to material things to the detriment of our spiritual nourishment caused discomfort, debate and even, at times, outright ridicule. But Pope John Paul II was completely unafraid of controversy and truly had the courage of his convictions, never wavering or flinching in his struggle for what he believed was good and right.

We have heard today of the Holy Father's compassion, his intellect and his absolute commitment to human dignity and all humanity. But I would like to speak this afternoon about his commitment to the environment and his call for an ecological conversion. Pope John Paul II was highly educated.

He had two doctorates and he was a university professor. So it is not surprising that he loved ideas and intellectual argument. He was particularly interested in philosophy, including the philosophy of science. Because of his unflinching integrity, his public image sometimes suggested a conservative, even closed, mind but his thinking was much more complex and layered than that image would ever suggest.

Many people would be surprised to know that he agreed with most modern scientific thinking on the big bang and the expansion of the universe, the age of the earth and Darwinian evolution. And he was convinced of the interrelationship of all living things. In 1990, he observed:

... we cannot interfere in one area of the ecosystem without paying due attention both to the consequences of such interference in other areas and to the well-being of future generations.

A decade later, he was still preoccupied with that theme. He wrote:

... if one casts a gaze over the regions of our planet, one notices immediately that humanity has not fulfilled the divine expectation ... Especially in our times, man has devastated without hesitation plains and wooded valleys, polluted the waters, deformed the earth's habitats, made the air unbreathable, disturbed the hydro-geological and atmospheric systems [and] turned green spaces into deserts ...

He went on to argue that the people of the world need to undergo an 'ecological conversion' to protect the environment and to make the earth a place where all life is valued and can grow in harmony.

Of course, he understood the undeniable benefits that recent discoveries have brought to humanity. What made him remarkable was the way his thinking moved beyond that realisation to the idea that such discoveries actually demonstrate the nobility of the human vocation to participate responsibly in

God's creative action in the world. It was in the light of this idea that he argued:

... ecological awareness ... ought to be encouraged to develop into concrete programs and initiatives.

One of Pope John Paul II's convictions was that the domination which, according to Genesis, human beings were given over creation is one not of exploitation but of service and ministry—a responsibility to continue, as he said, 'the work of the Creator, a work of life and of peace'. His ideas had a contagious effect on those who read his scholarly and provocative works. He was a prolific writer, an extraordinary thinker, and he stimulated intellectual debate both within and beyond the Catholic hierarchy. He worked to bring the world closer to God's 'vision of beauty and harmony', and his life as a man of extraordinary faith, intellect, kindness and courage remains an inspiration to us all. May he rest in peace.

Question agreed to, honourable senators standing in their places.

Hon. Albert (Al) Jaime Grassby AM

The ACTING DEPUTY PRESIDENT (Senator Chapman) (6.19 pm)—It is with deep regret that I inform the Senate of the death on 23 April 2005 of the Hon. Albert (Al) Jaime Grassby AM, a member of the House of Representatives for the division of Riverina, New South Wales, from 1969 to 1974, and during part of that period Minister for Immigration.

Senator PATTERSON (Victoria—Minister for Family and Community Services and Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Women's Issues) (6.19 pm)—by leave—I move:

That the Senate record its deep regret at the death, on 23 April 2005, of the Honourable Albert (Al) Jaime Grassby, AM, former federal minister and member for Riverina, and places on record its appreciation of his long public service and ten-

ders its profound sympathy to his family in their bereavement.

Al Grassby was born on 12 July 1926 in Brisbane, Queensland, leaving Australia in the 1930s and travelling with his parents while his father took construction work in the Sudan, Italy, France, Spain and England. Mr Grassby went on to serve with the British Army in the Infantry and the Intelligence Corps from 1945 to 1946. Returning to Australia in 1948, he was employed first by the New South Wales Department of Agriculture and then the CSIRO as an information officer and editor of publications, having trained in journalism. Mr Grassby eventually moved to Griffith, where he met and married Ellnor Louez in February 1962.

A member of the Australian Labor Party since 1951, Mr Grassby was elected to the New South Wales Legislative Assembly as the member for Murrumbidgee in 1965, holding the seat until his resignation in 1969. He was then elected to the House of Representatives as the member for Riverina in 1969 and again in 1972, eventually losing his seat in the 1974 general elections.

In his first speech to the House, Mr Grassby conveyed his love of the land and rural Australia, although it was his appreciation of the richness and diversity of cultures which helped him make his mark with his commitment to multiculturalism during and after his time in federal parliament. Al Grassby was appointed as the Minister for Immigration in December 1972. He was a key player in implementing the then government's multicultural policies, introducing reforms in the areas of immigration, citizenship and human rights. Among his more significant reforms were improvements to migrant welfare services.

During his time as minister he represented Australia on a number of official visits overseas, including visits to South-East Asia, Ja-

pan, Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom and Italy. After leaving parliament Mr Grassby was appointed as Commissioner for Community Relations, a position he held until 1982. In this role he worked to educate the community against racism and discrimination and was a strong supporter of ethnic radio and television. In the 1985 Australia Day honours list, Mr Grassby was appointed as a Member of the Order of Australia for services to community relations. He will be well remembered as a man with great passion for Australia and for the diversity of its people. On behalf of the government, I extend to his wife Ellnor, to his daughter Gabriella and to other family members and friends our most sincere sympathy in their bereavement.

Senator LUDWIG (Queensland) (6.23 pm)—I seek leave to continue my remarks later.

Leave granted; debate adjourned.

NOTICES

Presentation

Senator O'Brien to move on the next day of sitting:

That the following matter be referred to the Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories for inquiry and report by the last sitting day in June 2006:

Current and future governance arrangements for the Indian Ocean Territories, with particular reference to:

- (a) accountability and transparency of decision-making in relation to the Indian Ocean Territories;
- (b) the role of the Shire of Christmas Island and the Shire of Cocos (Keeling) Islands;
- (c) aspirations of the residents of Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands for more representative governance arrangements;
- (d) the link between more effective governance and improved economic sustainability for the Indian Ocean Territories;
- (e) the operation of Western Australian applied laws;
- (f) community service delivery including the effectiveness of service delivery agreements with the Western Australian Government; and
- (g) proposals for reform of governance arrangements.

Senator Watson to move on the next day of sitting:

That the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit be authorised to hold a public meeting during the sitting of the Senate on Thursday, 12 May 2005, from 9.30 am to 11.30 am, to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into the review of Auditor-General's reports.

Senator Crossin to move on the next day of sitting:

That the time for the presentation of the report of the Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee on Indigenous education be extended to 15 June 2005.

Senator Allison to move on the next day of sitting:

That the Senate—

- (a) affirms:
 - (i) its support for the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and, in particular, Article 12 that refers to the need to ensure 'access to health care services, including those related to family planning',
 - (ii) the principle that health decisions should be made by those most closely involved with them, and
 - (iii) its respect for the right of women to make decisions regarding their fertility, including unplanned pregnancies, based on their life situations, personal values and beliefs;

- (b) notes that in the Australian Survey of Social Attitudes (2003), 81.2 per cent of Australians agreed that women should have the right to choose an abortion, 9 per cent disagreed and 10 per cent were undecided;
- (c) encourages:
- (i) the provision of unbiased, relevant and accurate information for women experiencing unwanted pregnancy, without coercion,
 - (ii) accurate advice and support for women to act on their own values in making reproductive decisions, whether they be adoption, motherhood or termination of pregnancy, including non-directive, all-options counselling,
 - (iii) improvements in the evaluation of, and access to, advice and support on contraceptive choices,
 - (iv) measures to ensure a wide variety of contraceptive measures are accessible and affordable, and that the privacy of women and men accessing such measures is protected,
 - (v) the more ready availability of emergency contraception from a variety of settings, and
 - (vi) lifelong sexuality and health education;
- (d) calls on the Government to work with state and territory governments to develop:
- (i) a thorough and inclusive national framework of evidence-based and age-appropriate sex education in all schools, and
 - (ii) national standards for pregnancy counselling services; and
- (e) supports the privacy of medical records for reproductive health, including abortion and access to Medicare rebates for termination services.

Senator Carr to move on the next day of sitting:

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations, no later than 3.30 pm on

Thursday, 12 May 2005, all submissions received by the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations in response to the Building on Success Community Development Employment Project Discussion Paper 2005.

Senator Greig to move on the next day of sitting:

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations (Senator Abetz), no later than 5 pm on Thursday, 12 May 2005, the final report of the Breaching Review Taskforce, presented to the Minister in December 2004.

Senator Brown to move on the next day of sitting:

That the following matters be referred to the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee for inquiry and report by 9 August 2005:

- (a) whether the new National Heritage List is protecting places of national significance given that only seven places have so far been entered on the list;
- (b) the reason behind the National Heritage Council being granted extensions of time, beyond the initial 12 months, to assess 10 sites nominated for the list, including Recherche Bay and ANZAC Cove;
- (c) the need to apply the precautionary principle when considering emergency listings of a place; and
- (d) the damage or threatened damage to ANZAC Cove and the north-east peninsula of Recherche Bay and the need for any action to stop further degradation.

Senator Brown to move on the next day of sitting:

That the Senate, aware of the concern by global health authorities that another bird flu pandemic is likely, calls on the Government to match the United Kingdom's much larger stockpile of antiviral drugs and to publish its national plan for dealing with a pandemic.

Senator Mark Bishop to move on the next day of sitting:

That the following matters be referred to the Finance and Public Administration References Committee for inquiry and report by 30 June 2005:

- (a) the circumstances surrounding the request by the Australian Government to the Turkish Government in August 2004 to undertake work to ease congestion on the Gallipoli Peninsula;
- (b) the role of the Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr Downer), the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Department of Veterans' Affairs, the Attorney-General's Department, the Office of Australian War Graves, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and Environment Australia in the road works, and related construction activity, at ANZAC Cove in the lead-up to ANZAC Day on 25 April 2005;
- (c) the heritage protection of ANZAC Cove, including the proposed joint historical and archaeological survey of ANZAC Cove and proposals for the establishment of an international peace park, as well as national and world heritage listing for the area; and
- (d) any other related matters.

Senator Mark Bishop to move on the next day of sitting:

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Defence, no later than Thursday, 12 May 2005, all briefings to the Minister and the Minister for Veterans' Affairs, on the matter of road works at Gallipoli over the past 4 years, and all internal minutes and file notes, including records of meetings between the Office of Australian War Graves and officials of the Government of Turkey on the same subject.

Senator Hill to move on the next day of sitting:

That the Senate—

- (a) records its deep regret at the death of nine servicemen and women and serious injuries to two further servicemen on the island of Nias, Indonesia, on 2 April 2005 as a result of a helicopter accident;
- (b) notes that these men and women were engaged in a humanitarian mission to provide medical assistance following a devastating earthquake;
- (c) expresses its sincere condolences to the families and loved ones of those who died and wishes those injured an early and full recovery;
- (d) recognises that there are inherent risks in military service, whether in war or peace operations; and
- (e) acknowledges with gratitude the commitment and contribution of our service personnel.

Senator Nettle to move on the next day of sitting:

That the Senate censures the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (Senator Vanstone) for her failure to:

- (a) instigate a full judicial public inquiry into the manifest failure of her department to fulfil its duty of care to those in its responsibility;
- (b) manage the timely and humane processing of asylum seekers;
- (c) abide by the letter and spirit of the international conventions relating to the treatment of children;
- (d) admit responsibility for the wrongful detention of at least 33 people and the illegal deportation of at least one Australian citizen;
- (e) take any steps to monitor the safety of asylum seekers deported from Australia by her department; and
- (f) take her accountability responsibilities seriously.

COMMITTEES

Legislation Committees

Reports

Senator EGGLESTON (Western Australia) (6.24 pm)—I seek leave to table four reports from two legislation committees which are pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee reports.

Leave granted.

Senator EGGLESTON—On behalf of the chairs of the respective committees, I present reports from the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport and the Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committees on certain bills, together with the *Hansard* record of proceedings and documents presented to the committees.

Ordered that the reports be printed.

**Finance and Public Administration
Legislation Committee**

Report

Senator EGGLESTON (Western Australia) (6.24 pm)—On behalf of the Chair of the Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee, Senator Mason, I present the report of the committee on its examination of annual reports tabled by 31 October 2004.

Ordered that the report be printed.

BUSINESS

Rearrangement

Senator PATTERSON (Victoria—Minister for Family and Community Services and Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Women's Issues) (6.24 pm)—I move:

That the sitting of the Senate be suspended until 8 pm.

Question agreed to.

**Sitting suspended from 6.25 pm to
8.00 pm**

BUDGET

Statement and Documents

Senator MINCHIN (South Australia—Minister for Finance and Administration) (8.00 pm)—I table the budget statement for 2005-06 and also the following documents:

Budget papers—

No. 1—Budget Strategy and Outlook 2005-06.

No. 2—Budget Measures 2005-06.

No. 3—Federal Financial Relations 2005-06.

No. 4—Agency Resourcing 2005-06.

Ministerial statements—2005-06

Australia's overseas aid program 2005-06—Statement by the Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr Downer), dated 10 May 2005.

Building stronger communities 2005-06—Statement by the Minister for Transport and Regional Services (Mr Anderson), the Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads (Mr Lloyd) and the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Transport and Regional Services (Mr Cobb), dated 10 May 2005.

Making Australia stronger: Delivering our commitments 2005-06—Statement by the Treasurer (Mr Costello), dated 10 May 2005.

Taking stock: Positioning our rural and food industries for the future 2005-06—Statement by the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (Mr Truss), the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation (Senator Ian Macdonald) and the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (Senator Colbeck) dated 10 May 2005.

I seek leave to move a motion in relation to the budget statement and documents.

Leave granted.

Senator MINCHIN—I move:

That the Senate take note of the statement and documents.

Debate (on motion by **Senator Chris Evans**) adjourned.

Proposed Expenditure

Consideration by Legislation Committees

Senator MINCHIN (South Australia—Minister for Finance and Administration) (8.01 pm)—I table the following documents:

Particulars of certain proposed expenditure in respect of the year ending on 30 June 2006.

Particulars of proposed expenditure in respect of the year ending on 30 June 2006.

Particulars of proposed expenditure in relation to the parliamentary departments in respect of the year ending on 30 June 2006.

Particulars of certain proposed supplementary expenditure in respect of the year ending on 30 June 2005.

Particulars of proposed supplementary expenditure in respect of the year ending on 30 June 2005.

Senator MINCHIN—I seek leave to move a motion to refer the particulars documents to legislation committees.

Leave granted.

Senator MINCHIN—I move:

That—

- (1) The particulars documents be referred to legislation committees for examination and report in accordance with the order of the Senate of 10 February 2005 relating to estimates hearings.
- (2) Legislation committees consider the proposed expenditure in accordance with the allocation of departments to committees, as varied on 17 November 2004.

Question agreed to.

Portfolio Budget Statements

The PRESIDENT—I table the portfolio budget statements for 2005-06 for the Department of the Senate and the Department of Parliamentary Services. Copies are available from the Senate Table Office.

Senator MINCHIN (South Australia—Minister for Finance and Administration) (8.03 pm)—I table portfolio budget statements for 2005-06 and portfolio supplementary additional estimates statements No. 2 2004-05 for portfolios and executive departments in accordance with the list circulated

in the chamber. Copies are available from the Senate Table Office.

The list read as follows—

Estimates of proposed expenditure for 2005-06—Portfolios and executive departments—Portfolio budget statements—

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry portfolio.

Attorney-General's portfolio.

Communications, Information Technology and the Arts portfolio.

Defence and Defence Housing Authority.

Education, Science and Training portfolio.

Employment and Workplace Relations portfolio.

Environment and Heritage portfolio.

Family and Community Services portfolio.

Finance and Administration portfolio.

Foreign Affairs and Trade portfolio.

Health and Ageing portfolio.

Human Services.

Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs portfolio.

Industry, Tourism and Resources portfolio.

Prime Minister and Cabinet portfolio.

Transport and Regional Services portfolio.

Treasury portfolio.

Veterans' Affairs.

Estimates of proposed supplementary expenditure for 2004-05—Portfolio supplementary additional estimates statements no. 2—Portfolios and executive departments—

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry portfolio.

Attorney-General's portfolio.

Communications, Information Technology and the Arts portfolio.

Defence.

Family and Community Services portfolio.

Finance and Administration portfolio.

Foreign Affairs and Trade portfolio.

Health and Ageing portfolio.

Human Services.
 Prime Minister and Cabinet portfolio.
 Treasury portfolio.
 Veterans' Affairs.

ADJOURNMENT

The PRESIDENT—Order! Pursuant to order, I propose the question:

That the Senate do now adjourn.

Child Abuse

Senator SANTORO (Queensland) (8.03 pm)—This is the ninth speech on the continuing issue of child abuse that I have made in this place since I entered the Senate in November 2002. Child abuse in all of its forms is a pervasive and sickening presence in our national life. Its reduction must be a constant focus of governments at all levels in this country. To achieve this, we need to ensure a sharp focus is kept on it. In some measure, part of the problem lies in the fact that we have yet to achieve an effective division of responsibilities in our federal system—and that is another topic I keep talking about—that ensures that effort expended results in desired outcomes.

Of course, in the area of child abuse, we are often dealing with subjective points of view as well as subjects. We are talking about the children concerned, who may not for all sorts of reasons, among them very young age, be the most reliable of witnesses to their own abuse. We must also deal with the increased incidence of reporting of abuse, which, unless analysed carefully and understood completely, can lead to claims that the epidemic—and it is an epidemic—is getting sharply worse. Even a single instance of child abuse, sexual or otherwise, is appalling. That must surely be the starting point of every attack on the problem.

Some figures that came to hand earlier this year show that nationally the number of suspected cases of child abuse, neglect or

harm referred to authorities had more than doubled in the previous five years. In spite of the many advances made in recent times in relation to better managing the prevention of child abuse in Queensland—and it is important to recognise those advances and applaud them, even though they are horribly belated—it is plain that many problems remain. Only very recently it was revealed that child safety resources in the Ipswich and Toowoomba regions were not keeping pace with notifications. This was revealed in an article in the *Courier-Mail* newspaper. That article, which was published on 26 April, also reported that the Queensland Minister for Child Safety had asked his department for an urgent review of resources in Toowoomba. Yet again we see the Queensland government, flusher than ever with discretionary spending dollars from the state's GST allocations, failing at the administrative level.

We need to recognise that case loads are increasing in terms of the number of notifications. To some extent, this increased workload will represent cases that would not perhaps have been notified in earlier times. But the fundamentally important point is to get on top of the case load. According to the *Courier-Mail*, the number of abuse notifications awaiting investigation in Toowoomba has doubled in four months. It is reported that, as of mid-April, the Toowoomba child safety centre had 432 unallocated initial assessments awaiting action. Last November the reported figure was 220. In Ipswich, the five-person child safety office team is reported to have 100 new notifications a month. In April there were 376 cases backed up, with 137 not even allocated to an officer. Apparently, five of these unallocated cases were priority 1 cases. Priority 1 covers cases where the child or children are considered to be at extremely high risk of sexual or violent abuse, torture or suicide. Nineteen were so-

called 'high 2' cases—those needing urgent attention. Under the rules, priority 1 cases must be dealt with within 24 hours. The Queensland government admits that, in one recent week in Toowoomba, two such cases were not dealt with in that time frame.

This is the very nub of the problem: the inability of the child safety infrastructure to deliver because of lack of resources to actually do the jobs required. This is something the Queensland government must look at very seriously and very urgently. What the Queensland government must do—and it must do; no more excuses—is make a substantial allocation for more staff in child safety in the 2005-06 state budget, which will be brought down on 7 June. As I said at the beginning of this address, it certainly has a lot of GST money to apply to that task. The Beattie Labor government must make a definitive commitment to sufficient funding and recruiting to achieve the staffing levels at the sharp end in child safety that are clearly required.

The Beattie government simply must deliver in this area. The minister says that staffing levels are being addressed and that by 2007 the number of child safety officers in Toowoomba will have doubled. He says that, by that year, staff in the Ipswich office will have increased by 65 per cent. I have a message for that minister: 'You'll have to work a lot faster than that.' In relation to Ipswich, he is obviously talking about full-time equivalent staff, since increasing a staff of five by 65 per cent will give them 3¼ new people.

There have been many announcements from the state government of strategies and plans to deal with Queensland's child abuse and child safety problems. We certainly need to recognise that extra resources have been allocated in the past to combat child abuse and secure child safety in Queensland. And it is not only the Queensland system that is

failing to work adequately; it is a national issue. At the same time, it is on Queensland that a large measure of the focus should lie, since the Beattie Labor government's management and budgetary allocation record was plainly inadequate for far too long. It knew there were horrendous problems as far back as 1999, when the Forde commission reported. But it effectively swept it all under the carpet until 2003, when it was forced by further evidence of burgeoning child abuse notifications to do something more than just talk about things.

We remember with profound distaste that following further inquiries by the Crime and Misconduct Commission in 2003—it reported in January 2004—Premier Beattie made the empty claim that the February 2004 state election campaign he then immediately called was 'for the kids'. Nearly 18 months later, many of those kids are still waiting. That is simply not good enough. Part of the problem seems to be that the projected expansion of calls on the system on which the Crime and Misconduct Commission based its recommendations has substantially outstripped the 15 per cent growth rate on which future staffing requirements were based. In fact, there was a 39 per cent increase in notifications and a 43 per cent increase in the number of children coming into contact with the Department of Child Safety between December 2003 and December 2004. Yet again, we see the triumph of illusion over substance that is the hallmark of the Beattie state government in Queensland.

We hear the rhetoric. We see the sound and light show. The Premier performs his Houdini tricks for the crowd. And, once he has everyone's attention focused on the frippery, he steals away and no-one derives any benefit, or precious little. It is the same situation in relation to child labour laws as they relate to children under 13, which the state Liberals have been pressing the Beattie La-

bor government to enact since 1999, when it repealed the existing provisions. Last November the state Liberals introduced private legislation into the Queensland parliament to protect children from workplace and sexual exploitation. It is only now, as state Liberal health spokesman Bruce Flegg pointed out last week, that the state government is finally moving to produce a child labour law for Queensland, after leaving loopholes open for six years that allowed children to work in adult entertainment and risk suffering workplace exploitation. The scope and extent of Labor's proposed laws are unclear at present. But it is certainly the case that they should not be used to unreasonably interfere with the working hours of older teenagers in part-time employment. The goal is protection of children from potential harm, not to proscribe individual initiative or to disadvantage employers.

Doing the right thing is important in relation to child safety nationally and doing the right thing by adult victims of abuse as children is also vital. We need to send a strong message that child abuse in any of its terrible forms will not be tolerated in our society. That is the message of White Balloon Day, which is held each year to focus community attention on an ongoing problem of the most concerning dimensions. This year it was held in April. It is a valuable occasion, and it is pleasing that it sprang from the initiative of a group of Queenslanders in 1999 and has gone from strength to strength ever since.

Mr Gerry Adams

Senator MARSHALL (Victoria) (8.12 pm)—Tonight I rise to comment in response to Senator McGauran's St Patrick's Day speech earlier this year, which I believe was intemperate, ill-judged and ill-timed coming on St Patrick's Day—a day of celebration when Irish people should be reaching out to each other. In his speech Senator McGauran

fell into the hate trap—the hate trap that has created the vicious circle that has at times torn the Irish people apart, bringing with it great misery and suffering for Irish people and their families and communities. By making this speech, Senator McGauran became part of the problem, not the solution.

His outrageous and unfounded accusations which included the head in the sand approach that supported Australia officially turning its back on Mr Adams and, worse, associating him by clear implication with involvement 'in the \$63 million robbery at an Australian-owned bank and the brutal murder of Catholic man Robert McCartney outside a Belfast pub'. And later he implicated Mr Adams by association with people who run arms and train terrorists and are involved in drug cartels. Senator McGauran also claims:

The truth is that he—

Mr Adams—

and his IRA association have held up peace for at least the last three decades.

These scurrilous allegations were put forward without the slightest bit of evidence. Senator McGauran, as a person who admits to being of pure Irish origin, should know better. Where has Senator McGauran been this last decade? This sort of sectarian approach, distortion, propagandising and mindless slander is the problem. It is the nub of the problem—the mindless hate cycle.

How does Senator McGauran's dismissal of Gerry Adams and Sinn Fein fit with the recent elections, where Sinn Fein clearly held their ground and continued to be supported as an important political force that have to be reckoned with, and negotiated with, for a peaceful future for Ireland? Sinn Fein are now the largest pro-agreement party. That status has been confirmed by the recent election. The simple point is that the situation in Ireland socially and economically has

improved only because there has been genuine discussion and negotiation between the main parties, including Sinn Fein and the unionists, amongst others.

The recent elections were crucially important. They were about the future and the type of Ireland people want to build in the 21st century. They were about the peace process and its success or failure. They were also about leadership—about who is best able to give the kind of leadership that can end conflict, build equality and make this century different from all those which have preceded it for the Irish people. So, when Sinn Fein said that real and lasting peace was the most important issue facing people in the election, I believe they meant that. When Sinn Fein say that republicans have to take risks and tough decisions, Sinn Fein mean that. When Sinn Fein say that making peace and building prosperity and a different and better future needs republicans and unionists working together, Sinn Fein mean that also.

The challenge—and it is a hard one—is to put the failures of the past behind us. This does not mean forgetting what happened; it means learning from those mistakes and doing our best not to repeat them. The focus has to be to build a new future in which difference and diversity enriches, rather than divides, society. The peace process provides, for the first time, an alternative way forward. It is an alternative through which issues of difference can be addressed and resolved through purely political and democratic methods.

On 6 April Gerry Adams made an appeal to the IRA to commit itself to purely political and democratic activity. Both the SDLP and DUP have dismissed this as a confidence trick. But, for those who have been listening to what Gerry Adams has been saying, it is clear that he has been emphasising the need for such a development for a long time now.

The initiative taken by Gerry Adams on 6 April was quite deliberately aimed at leap-frogging all the obstacles. It was intended to clear the decks and to create the conditions for proper engagements between the parties and the governments after the summer. It was about taking the next step in securing a peaceful Ireland. That much was obvious to everyone—except, it seems, to Senator McGauran.

The optimism of recent years appears at the moment to have dissipated. At the moment, not many hold a lot of hope for more progress. The danger of further stagnation or worse is there for all to see. But there is a clear willingness amongst Sinn Fein to go forward—and, significantly, the peace process can only go forward with Sinn Fein's involvement and the involvement of other parties. Of course, there are also those who have genuinely-held concerns about the IRA. The Gerry Adams initiative is an honest attempt to deal definitively with all these issues and concerns.

This presents a huge challenge to the IRA. But it is also a huge challenge to the other participants in the process of facing up to their responsibilities, facing the past and creating a better future for Irish people. It is a challenge to the British and Irish governments to face up to the many issues within their control. Of course, it is also a challenge to unionism. But these parties have faced these challenges in the immediate past and progress has been made. Further progress can be made. Further progress has to be made.

In my opinion, there is now an unprecedented opportunity to make progress, to finally and conclusively deal with outstanding issues and to see the Good Friday agreement realised in full. There is a collective responsibility on all political leaders to seize this opportunity, to build on the enormous poten-

tial that exists and to make politics work for all Irish people—nationalist, unionist and everyone else. This includes a responsibility of Australian Irish politicians, such as Senator McGauran, to embrace the politics of engagement and to reject the politics of hatred and division. It should be instructive for Senator McGauran—and it is a great sign of hope for the future—that staunch republican groups of Irish Australians, such as the Casement Group, are tirelessly working toward furthering the Irish peace process from this corner of the world.

After this election there will be a return to the negotiating table. Sinn Fein will go into these negotiations positively and determined to consolidate the significant progress that has been made over the last 10 years—and I am sure of that. The task is not an impossible one. The task is achievable, but it will only be achievable with goodwill and positive attitudes, not the sorts of attitudes that Senator McGauran was espousing. Together with all parties involved the Irish people need to keep moving in the right direction. The stakes are very high. Big decisions have to be taken. Yet again there are hurdles and obstacles to get over. This peace process is a hard road.

Gerry Adams has mapped out the necessary next steps in the process and the central role, the historic role, that republicans have to play. It is important that people support and endorse the Sinn Fein leadership and their intention to use whatever influence they can to bring as many republicans as possible along the road signposted by Gerry Adams. Gerry Adams should be welcomed in Australia to promote this path. The die is cast. The challenge now is for Sinn Fein to bring as many people as possible with them. Irish republicanism is at a defining point. The peace process is at a defining point. Beyond the politics of the peace process there are other big issues, such as job creation and

addressing the education and health needs of Irish people. All of these affect every Irish citizen and every Irish family—unionist, nationalist or republican.

Sinn Fein went into the recent election seeking an endorsement of the peace strategy and, in particular, of the initiative to get the process back on track. Despite months of disgraceful, dishonest and negative campaigning for cheap political advantage in the election—campaigning that set back the peace process and set back the settling of the major issue that has caused so much grief in Ireland—174,530 people came out and endorsed Sinn Fein's strategy. And, yes, Sinn Fein support has increased across the north.

The message is clear: people want to see progress and they want to see Sinn Fein leading and part of that change. There is a huge responsibility on Sinn Fein but there is also a huge responsibility on the DUP and on the two governments. The opportunity for progress must now be seized. Everyone wants to see a return to the talks as quickly as possible to get the Good Friday agreement implemented and the political institutions restored—everyone except perhaps Senator McGauran.

Sir Johannes (Joh) Bjelke-Petersen

Senator CHERRY (Queensland) (8.22 pm)—Last month, Queensland's longest-serving Premier, Sir Joh Bjelke-Petersen, died aged 94. Sir Joh became Premier of my home state when I was three and reigned until I was 22. To him I owe the credit for the political environment in which I grew up and my determination to fight government hypocrisy, corruption and mismanagement. Indeed, my first major political act was organising a protest against my university's decision toward him an honorary doctorate in 1986. There has been much written on Sir Joh in recent months. The ABC in Queensland has dedicated hundreds of hours of air

time to Joh's achievements and detractors, even delaying *Play School* to broadcast his funeral live. I must confess that given a choice I would have preferred to watch *Play School*.

At the outset, however, I state that I supported the decision of the Queensland government to hold a state funeral for Sir Joh—an honour appropriate for a former Premier. I also supported the decision of 16 of the 18 cabinet ministers and former Premier Wayne Goss to not attend funeral and the decision by several hundred opponents of his regime to peacefully protest Joh's policies on that day. Ironically, protesting was something which was not allowed very much during Joh's era. I still remember his ban on street marches and picketing and his constant harassment of unions and other opponents. During the height of the SEQEB dispute Sir Joh, despite his claim to Christian piety, allowed his police to ban the whistling of hymns on picket lines as a provocative political protest. My father-in-law, Neville Jones, who was involved with a group called the Concerned Christians, got caught up in the madness over the issue of a home-made fold-up cross. The cross was made to fold up so that the Concerned Christians group could move on quickly when the police found their prayers to be provocative acts. However, the police confiscated Mr Jones's cross, arguing that it was an offensive weapon. A bevy of lawyers were soon clamouring over themselves, desperate to take on the case to get the cross back. In the end, some more senior official in the police department realised that a PR disaster was looming and the offensive weapon—the home-made folding cross—was returned to its owner.

The use of the power of the state against individuals was part of the darker side of the Bjelke-Petersen regime. Who can forget the hounding of school teacher John Sinclair over his campaigning to stop sand mining on

Fraser Island? Who can forget Justice Douglas, passed over for a well-deserved judicial promotion because of a rumour he might have once voted Labor? And we should not forget Ray Whitrod, the reforming police commissioner with the odd view that the police should uphold the law, quietly removed in favour of the corrupt Terry Lewis. Phil Dickie, the Walkley award-winning journalist whose expose of police corruption helped usher in the Fitzgerald inquiry and the downfall of the Bjelke-Petersen regime, wrote in the *Australian* on Anzac Day that the legacy of the Bjelke-Petersen regime still lives on in Queensland:

Even after a series of Labor governments, the state still lags significantly behind the best and much of the rest of Australia in the provision of social as opposed to physical infrastructure. Consumers, public health and the environment continue to have all the protection of legislation full of loopholes that is rarely enforced.

... ..

Even premiers who had their political start marching against Bjelke-Petersen seem to have never really accepted that parliament may have a role beyond passing the government's legislation, that the citizenry may have a right to information or that communities may legitimately object to the government's plans for them.

Some of the recent actions of the Beattie government, while lacking the scale of rank corruption of the Bjelke-Petersen, certainly approach him in terms of hypocrisy. The rise and fall of the former Queensland Information Commissioner and his deputy, the watchdogs of freedom of information in Queensland, are a case in point. Last year, the former Information Commissioner, David Bevan, acting in accordance with his act, overruled the Premier's refusal to release details of the contracts on tens of millions of dollars of public subsidies paid to the Berri fruit juice company. The Premier responded by saying that he would change the law. A

few months later, the Information Commissioner, David Bevan, was quietly removed from his position.

His replacement, Ms Cathi Taylor, is a former ALP member, a former employee of the Premier, the partner of a department director-general and personal friend of the chair of the selection panel, the Premier's own director-general. Her first act as Information Commissioner was to sack Mr Bevan's long-standing and respected independently minded deputy, Greg Sorensen. No, Sir Joh would have been proud of that.

Of course, the Bjelke-Petersen regime survived as long as it did courtesy of its gerrymander—its electoral weighting of country electorates. Unfortunately, I can report to the Senate that gerrymanders are still alive and well in Australia. Take Western Australia, for example. Western Australia has the worst electoral weighting in Australia, with country voters bunched in electorates as little as a quarter of the size of larger city electorates. Last month, thanks to a former Liberal upper house member, Alan Cadby, it appeared that this was going to change. For the West Australian lower house there appears to have been a deal done so that there will be electoral parity, albeit with an electoral allowance for very large seats in remote Western Australia.

But for the upper house it looks like the electoral weighting will continue, thanks to the self-interest of the Green MPs in the West Australian parliament. Seventy-four per cent of Western Australia's population live in the metropolitan area, yet the 26 per cent who live outside the metropolitan area currently elect half of the members of the upper house, with an upper house MP for every 19,200 voters compared to 55,150 voters for every metropolitan MP. Yet in a bizarre decision the Greens are now insisting that this be entrenched—in fact that it should be made

worse. The current allowance for five members for the largest region in each zone compared with five for smaller regions is now being attacked by the Greens, who want to have the same number in every zone regardless of the number of the voters. Their spokesperson, Dr Chrissy Sharp, is calling for six regions, each electing six members as the first stage towards the Greens shift towards bioregions as a basis for government. This will apparently will be good for the environment. I quote from her press release:

We realise that without adequate political representation, the wide environment of WA and the people responsible for managing it, will be neglected.

That is why we support continued malapportionment in the Upper House: to provide for a Parliament that is better grounded in natural resource management.

I do not now how the number of votes allocated to sheep in far Western Australia is going to determine how good the natural resource management is, but that is her rationale. What absolute and utter twaddle! The truth is that the Greens believe they have a chance of winning back the two country seats they narrowly lost in this year's election if the quota is reduced. Dee Margetts, a former senator, and Robin Chapple, managed to fluke seats with votes of around 4.4 per cent in 2001 but fell short in 2005. With a lower quota they will probably return to the parliament at the next election.

To dress up naked self-interest as being good for the environment is the sort of self-serving twaddle that the Bjelke-Petersen regime would have been proud of. It is worth noting, of course, that the Greens and the National Party in Western Australia managed to exchange preferences. Indeed, the last Green, Dr Chrissy Sharp's successor, was actually elected by National Party preferences ahead of a Christian Democrat candidate. Hypocrisy in politics is something

which all of us should seek to ensure is not put ahead of good public policy.

I will finish today with a quote from another colleague of mine in the Democrats, Liz Willis, who wrote to the *Sydney Morning Herald* on Anzac Day, again thanking Joh Bjelke-Petersen for her political education. She said:

Joh Bjelke-Petersen was a hard-working and driven man and he made those of us who were on the other side of his political fence work even harder, unwittingly steeling and skilling up his political opponents.

The Queensland political scene is now populated by many who may never have been driven to politics had they not encountered the effects of the strongarm politics of his government in their jobs in law, community services, media and education or in their daily grind as foot soldiers in the army of the unemployed.

I am not angry we were denied the rich, varied and comparatively relaxed life that young Queenslanders now enjoy. I am proud to have lived through that time and also proud that Brisbane and Queensland emerged from being national jokes to be the desirable locations they are today.

I do wish to pass on my condolences to the Bjelke-Petersen family at this stage. I think that is appropriate. It is very sad to lose a father, a grandfather and a great-grandfather. I also wish to add my condolences to the many victims of the Bjelke-Petersen regime over the last two decades in Queensland. They are still alive and living with their pain in Queensland today—the SEQEB workers, including one of my cousins, who lost all of their superannuation months from retirement because of a political act of the Bjelke-Petersen regime. They are the victims and they should not be forgotten. Certainly at this time we should note what was bad about the regime and make sure it does not come into our public life, whether it be gerrymanders in Western Australia, accountability mechanisms in Queensland or shameless pork-

barrelling, as we saw in the last federal election.

Hon. Albert (Al) Jaime Grassby AM
Multiculturalism

Senator TCHEN (Victoria) (8.31 pm)—This afternoon the Senate debated a condolence motion for Mr Al Grassby, the former member for Riverina. I wish to continue the topic; however, the subject I wish to speak on is not the late Al Grassby the man, whom I met but twice and briefly, but the legacy he was supposed to have left the Australian society as the father of multiculturalism, as some of his admirers eulogised. While there can be little doubt that Al Grassby was the first Australian political figure to actively identify himself with multiculturalism—though in fact Hubert Opperman as Harold Holt's immigration minister in 1966 was the first Australian political leader to make an actual move to implement a non-racially based immigration policy; a fact which is not often recognised—whether Al Grassby was entitled to that accolade is questionable, especially of the dynamic and inclusive multiculturalism that is the hallmark of contemporary Australia, which is a far cry from the simple demand for tolerance of differences that characterised the multiculturalism of the Grassby era.

The fact is that we have come a long way since the landmark 1978 Galbally report. I note that by 1978 not only was Al Grassby long gone from political power but so was Gough Whitlam, his patron. The Galbally report first recognised the requirement for all government services and programs to specifically address the needs of migrants. The subsequent introduction of the Charter of Public Service in a Culturally Diverse Society was supposed to provide a nationally consistent set of principles which ensure culturally responsive service planning delivery and evaluation. Since then, to say that the

access and equity program introduced by the Hawke government, now in its 20th year, has not had a vigorous enforcement is to put it at best. It is a matter of historic record that at various times it had been used to gain electoral support amongst migrant communities, leading to the emergence of the multicultural industry as a political tool. So, at worst, it offered the prospect of separately developing communities.

This was a far cry from the multiculturalism we practise today. Today we recognise that one of the enduring strengths of Australian society is our linguistic, cultural and religious diversity. Today we recognise that we have benefited enormously from our ability to accept and embrace people from different backgrounds, whose skills and hard work contribute immeasurably to Australia's social, cultural and economic development. This success is too often taken for granted. In truth, it has required ongoing attention from the government and the broader community. We need to continually respond to changing circumstances, both domestically and internationally.

The whole purpose of our multicultural policy is to maximise the benefits of our diversity—in other words, to build on Australia's achievements as a prosperous and peaceful nation and to never take that for granted. Multiculturalism in Australia isn't something that we add on to our daily lives, such as attending a weekend festival, rather it is an intrinsic part of who we are and how we live our everyday lives. The challenge is to make it work for everybody. There is no benefit in separate development or one sector of the community benefiting at another's expense. Australians of all backgrounds must prosper together if we are to thrive as a nation.

Inclusiveness is the foundation stone of Australia's multiculturalism. In order to do

this we have to continue to adapt and evolve to the changing face of Australia's migrant communities. Therefore, the successful settlement of new migrants must be a focal point of our multicultural policy objectives. For migrants to succeed in Australia we must make sure they feel a sense of belonging and are given opportunities to achieve their goals and develop a commitment to Australia. It is also important for us to have in place policies that encourage community cohesion and harmony. After all, expanding cultural diversity, like all change, can create resistance.

Overseas events too have undeniably caused tension in our society, with many people feeling vulnerable to the potential of conflicts being imported into Australia. Our best response is to continue to build on the significant community harmony we enjoy today. To ensure this community harmony we must: make it clear that there is no place for racism in Australia; positively address any pockets of racism or intolerance that exist; reinforce and emphasise our shared values, focusing on what unites us as Australians, while still respecting our differences; and build upon the community harmony and cohesiveness already underpinning Australian society.

I am pleased to say that the Howard government has also been working towards changing the culture of the Public Service to make sure it responds to the cultural and linguistic diversity of the Australian population it serves. The Howard government has been committed to maximising the benefits of cultural diversity and changing and enhancing community harmony. I am pleased to be part of that. Most importantly, today multiculturalism in Australia means that every Australian will have equality of access and opportunity to make the most of their individual circumstances, regardless of whether Australia is their country of birth or of choice.

In retrospect, I have to conclude that the multiculturalism that Al Grassby championed was not the productive and harmonious one that has grown and developed to what we know today. But this is not to deny Al Grassby credit. Because of the very visible presence that he had, we might better say that rather than being the father of multiculturalism, he was the godfather.

Let us look forward: the future will bring increased movement of people, the opening of markets and advances in communications, presenting Australians with opportunities not to be missed. Australia's cultural diversity gives us a competitive advantage, helping us to trade and compete with other parts of the world. We know that 23 per cent of the Australian population was born overseas and that Australians speak over 200 languages. Tellingly, 27 per cent use a second language at home and on other occasions on a regular basis. Twenty-five per cent of the work force was born overseas, with 15 per cent coming from non-English-speaking countries, and nearly one-third of the total number of small businesses in Australia are owned or run by people born overseas.

Our cultural diversity provides us with market intelligence, insight and opportunity that would be the envy of many other countries. We must take full advantage of this edge to assure our economic growth and ongoing competitiveness. Operating in the international marketplace means that Australian companies will be faced with numerous challenges, including languages, customs, beliefs, social systems, ideologies and business practices. Expertise in overseas business protocols and local contacts provide a competitive edge that no business can afford to ignore. Importantly, this knowledge is available to businesses here in Australia. Let us make use of this.

In case anyone in the chamber thinks that my comments are merely the ramblings of my private wish list, let me say that much of what I have said was paraphrased from a speech given by the Hon. Peter McGauran to the transformations conference co-sponsored by UNESCO and the Federation of Ethnic Communities Councils of Australia on 8 February 2005. To use a colloquialism: it was 'no bull'.

Senate adjourned at 8.40 pm

DOCUMENTS

Tabling

The following government documents were tabled:

Australian Competition and Consumer Commission—Telecommunications report for 2003-04—Telstra's compliance with price control arrangements.

Australian Electoral Commission—Election 2001—Funding and disclosure report.

Customs Act 1901—Customs (Prohibited Exports) Regulations 1958—Permissions granted under regulation 7 for the period 1 July to 31 December 2004.

States Grants (Primary and Secondary Education Assistance) Act 2000—Report on financial assistance granted to each State in respect of 2003.

Tabling

The following documents were tabled by the Clerk:

[Legislative instruments are identified by a Federal Register of Legislative Instruments (FRLI) number]

A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act—A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Margin Scheme Valuation Requirements Determination MSV 2005/1 [F2005L00726]*.

A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax Transition) Act—Select Legislative In-

strument 2005 No. 63—A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax Transition) Amendment Regulations 2005 (No. 2) [F2005L00849]*.

ACIS Administration Act—ACIS Administration (Commonwealth Financial Assistance) Determination 2005 [F2005L001015]*.

Australian Citizenship Act—Select Legislative Instrument 2005 No. 53—Australian Citizenship Amendment Regulations 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00737]*.

Australian Communications Authority Act—Telecommunications (Freephone and Local Rate Numbers Auctions—Registration Charge) Determination 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00875]*.

Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act—

Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry (High Quality Beef Export to the European Union) Amendment Order 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00983]*.

Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry (High Quality Beef Export to the European Union) Order 2005 [F2005L00803]*.

Australian Prudential Regulation Authority Act—Non-Confidentiality Determinations Nos—

3 of 2005—Information provided by locally-incorporated banks and foreign ADIs under Reporting Standard ARS 320.0 (2003) [F2005L00730]*.

4 of 2005—Information provided by locally-incorporated banks and foreign ADIs under Reporting Standard ARS 320.0 (2003) [F2005L00947]*.

Australian Wine and Brandy Corporation Act—Select Legislative Instrument 2005 No. 39—Australian Wine and Brandy Corporation Amendment Regulations 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00752]*.

Banking Act—Banking (Prudential Standards) Determination No. 1 of 2005—Business Continuity Management [F2005L00950]*.

Broadcasting Services Act—

Broadcasting Services (Events) Notice (No. 1) 2004 (Amendment No. 1 of 2005) [F2005L00721]*.

Variations to Licence Area Plans for—

Albury Radio—No. 1 of 2005 [F2005L001021]*.

Gold Coast Radio—No. 1 of 2005 [F2005L00885]*.

Launceston Radio—No. 1 of 2005 [F2005L00839]*.

Murwillumbah Radio—No. 1 of 2005 [F2005L00799]*.

Newcastle Radio—No. 1 of 2005 [F2005L00959]*.

Civil Aviation Act—

Civil Aviation Regulations—

Exemptions Nos—

CASA EX03/2005—
Exemption—Recent experience requirements [F2005L00817]*.

CASA EX09/2005—
Exemption—Qantas operations at Auckland aerodrome [F2005L00771]*.

CASA EX10/2005—
Exemption—Refuelling with patients on board [F2005L00890]*.

CASA EX12/2005—
Exemption—Refuelling with patients on board [F2005L001013]*.

CASA EX13/2005—
Exemption—Refuelling with passengers on board [F2005L00977]*.

CASA EX14/2005—
Exemption—Refuelling with passengers on board [F2005L00993]*.

Instruments Nos—

CASA 105/05—Designation of airspace and direction—Cooma [F2005L00770]*.

CASA 107/05—Instructions—
Trial use of RNAV (GNSS) by

- Virgin Blue Airlines
[F2005L00916]*.
- CASA 119/05—Approval—
Charter operations without autopilot [F2005L00812]*.
- CASA 130/05—Direction—
Parachute operations in the vicinity of Barwon Heads aerodrome [F2005L00909]*.
- Civil Aviation Amendment Order
(No. 3) 2005 [F2005L00705]*.
- Civil Aviation Safety Regulations—
Airworthiness Directives—Part—
105—
- AD/A320/120 Amdt 4—
Slide Raft Telescopic Girt
Bar [F2005L001056]*.
- AD/A320/171—
Equipment/Furnishings—
Non Textile Floor (NTF)
Replacement
[F2005L00835]*.
- AD/A320/172—Main
Landing Gear Support Rib
5 [F2005L001055]*.
- AD/A320/173—DASELL
Toilet Walls Corrosion
[F2005L001054]*.
- AD/A320/174—Air
Data/Inertial Reference
Unit [F2005L001016]*.
- AD/A320/175—103VU
Panel Hinge Pin
[F2005L001053]*.
- AD/A330/49—
Equipment/Furnishings—
Non Textile Floor (NTF)
Replacement
[F2005L00836]*.
- AD/A330/50—CRFP Rudder
[F2005L00840]*.
- AD/ARRIUS/7—High
Pressure Turbine
[F2005L001014]*.
- AD/AS 355/82 Amdt 1—
BREEZE Hoist Hooks
[F2005L001052]*.
- AD/AS 355/86—Tail Rotor
Controls
[F2005L001067]*.
- AD/B727/182 Amdt 1—
Wing Rear Spar Upper
Chord [F2005L001051]*.
- AD/B737/185 Amdt 2—
Airframe Limit Cycle Oscillation
[F2005L00838]*.
- AD/B737/210 Amdt 1—
Elevator and Elevator Tab
Assembly
[F2005L00841]*.
- AD/B737/224 Amdt 2—
Horizontal Stabilisers Front
and Rear Spar Attachment
[F2005L001058]*.
- AD/B737/238—Digital
Transient Suppression
Units [F2005L00842]*.
- AD/B737/239—Engine
Fuel Feed System Electrical
Bonding
[F2005L00843]*.
- AD/B737/240—Flight
Control Computer Software
[F2005L001066]*.
- AD/B737/241—Aft Pressure
Bulkhead Webs
[F2005L001049]*.
- AD/B737/242—Fuselage
Skin, Doubler, Strap, and
Frames Surrounding Cargo
Doors [F2005L001031]*.
- AD/B737/243—Body Station
291.5 Frame at
Stringer 16R
[F2005L001048]*.
- AD/B747/224 Amdt 1—
Upper Deck Floor Beams
[F2005L001047]*.
- AD/B747/326—Flap Control
Unit [F2005L00857]*.

- AD/B747/327—Engine Fuel Feed System Electrical Bonding [F2005L00844]*.
- AD/B747/328—Fuselage Frame Joints at BS 1120 and 1140 [F2005L001046]*.
- AD/B767/20 Amdt 3—BS 1582 Pressure Bulkhead [F2005L00845]*.
- AD/B767/170 Amdt 1—MLG Outer Cylinder at Aft Trunnion [F2005L00846]*.
- AD/B767/209—Strut Vapour Barrier Seal [F2005L001045]*.
- AD/B767/210—In-Flight Entertainment System Cooling [F2005L001065]*.
- AD/BAe 146/52 Amdt 2—Fuselage Frame 29 [F2005L00847]*.
- AD/BAe 146/114—Centre Fuselage Skin [F2005L00986]*.
- AD/CAP 10/9—Ailerons Spade Supports [F2005L00809]*.
- AD/CL-600/64—Corrosion Prevention and Control Program [F2005L001044]*.
- AD/DA40/5—Aircraft Flight Manual Operating Limitation [F2005L00919]*.
- AD/DAUPHIN/4 Amdt 5—Fin to Tailboom Attachments [F2005L001043]*.
- AD/DAUPHIN/19 Amdt 1—Consolidation of Early Airworthiness Directives [F2005L001042]*.
- AD/EC 120/9 Amdt 1—Collective Pitch Lever Friction Mechanism [F2005L001041]*.
- AD/ECUREUIL/88 Amdt 1—Collective Pitch Lever Friction Mechanism [F2005L001040]*.
- AD/ECUREUIL/105 Amdt 1—BREEZE Hoist Hooks [F2005L001039]*.
- AD/ECUREUIL/110—Tail Rotor Controls [F2005L001062]*.
- AD/EMB-120/32 Amdt 1—Electrical Power System [F2005L001061]*.
- AD/EMB-120/37—Flight Data Acquisition Unit [F2005L001060]*.
- AD/F50/90—Escape Ropes [F2005L00851]*.
- AD/F50/91—Elevator Leading Edge [F2005L001037]*.
- AD/F100/63—Escape Ropes [F2005L00852]*.
- AD/F100/63 Amdt 1—Escape Ropes [F2005L001030]*.
- AD/F100/64—Main Landing Gear Main Fitting—3 [F2005L001038]*.
- AD/GAZELLE/31 Amdt 1—BREEZE Hoist Hooks [F2005L001036]*.
- AD/GBK 117/15—Main Rotor Blades with Bolted Lead Inner Weights [F2005L00926]*.
- AD/GENERAL/37 Amdt 9—Emergency Exits [F2005L00831]*.
- AD/IAI-W/28—Overhead Circuit Breaker Panel Elec-

trical Wire Bundles
[F2005L00920]*.

AD/GBK 117/23—Main
Rotor Blades with Bolted
Lead Inner Weights
[F2005L001083]*.

AD/JETSTREAM/90 Amdt
1—Main and Nose Land-
ing Gear—Life Limitations
[F2005L00848]*.

AD/JETSTREAM/95 Amdt
2—Steering Actuator Pis-
ton Rod Cracking
[F2005L00962]*.

AD/PC-12/39 Amdt 1—
Autopilot & Flap Selection
[F2005L00832]*.

AD/SC7/13 Amdt 4—
Fatigue Life Limitations
[F2005L00833]*.

AD/SC7/27 Amdt 4—
Fatigue Life Limitations on
Aircraft Subjected to Spe-
cial Flight Profiles
[F2005L00834]*.

AD/S-PUMA/55 Amdt 1—
BREEZE Hoist Hooks
[F2005L001035]*.

AD/S-PUMA/58—
Swashplate Bearing Attach-
ing Screws
[F2005L001085]*.

AD/SWSA226/86 Amdt
1—Wing Spar Centre Web
Cutout [F2005L001034]*.

AD/TBM 700/40—Floor
Panels and Cargo Strap
Rings Attachment
[F2005L001033]*.

106—

AD/AL 250/86 Amdt 1—
Compressor Adaptor Cou-
pling [F2005L00743]*.

AD/AL 250/86 Amdt 2—
Compressor Adaptor Cou-
pling [F2005L001068]*.

AD/ARRIUS/7 Amdt 1—
High Pressure Turbine
[F2005L001077]*.

AD/BR700/3 Amdt 1—LP
Compressor Fan Disc
Cracks [F2005L001064]*.

AD/CON/82 Amdt 1—
Crankshaft Replacement
and Ultrasonic Inspection
[F2005L00853]*.

AD/CT58/19—Stage 1
Compressor Disks
[F2005L001063]*.

AD/TAY/12 Amdt 3—Low
Pressure Compressor Ice
Impact Panels
[F2005L00854]*.

AD/THIELERT/1 Amdt
2—Engine Failure due to
Electrical System Failure
[F2005L00819]*.

AD/THIELERT/3—
FADEC Software
[F2005L00921]*.

AD/THIELERT/4—
Introduction of Chapter 5
to TAE125/01 Operation
and Maintenance Manual
[F2005L001017]*.

AD/TURMO/5 Amdt 4—
Centrifugal Compressor
[F2005L00855]*.

107—

AD/FPE/11—Engine and
Auxiliary Power Unit Fire
Extinguishers
[F2005L00856]*.

AD/PHS/18 Amdt 2—Hub
Cracking
[F2005L001059]*.

Civil Aviation Amendment Order
(No. 4) 2005 [F2005L00785]*.

Class Rulings—

Addendum—CR 2004/40.

CR 2005/11-CR 2005/27.

Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act—National Classification Code [F2005L00816]*.	0500319 [F2005L00750]*.
Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act—	0500568 [F2005L00790]*.
Notice under paragraph 45(1)(f)—Cessation of membership of Enterprise & Career Education Foundation Limited.	0500569 [F2005L00791]*.
Select Legislative Instrument 2005 No. 73—Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Amendment Regulations 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00961]*.	0500571 [F2005L00792]*.
Corporations Act—	0500954 [F2005L00860]*.
Accounting Standard—	0500978 [F2005L00892]*.
AASB 1039—Concise Financial Reports [F2005L00955]*.	0501085 [F2005L00941]*.
AASB 1048—Interpretation and Application of Standards [F2005L00740]*.	0501102 [F2005L00942]*.
ASIC Class Orders—	0501127 [F2005L00943]*.
[CO 05/27] [F2005L00999]*.	0501204 [F2005L00893]*.
[CO 05/142] [F2005L00772]*.	0501205 [F2005L00894]*.
Select Legislative Instrument 2005 No. 38—Corporations Amendment Regulations 2005 (No. 2) [F2005L00717]*.	0501208 [F2005L00895]*.
Currency Act—Currency (Royal Australian Mint) Determination 2005 (No. 2) [F2005L00821]*.	0501209 [F2005L00896]*.
Customs Act—	0501210 [F2005L001028]*.
CEO Instruments of Approval Nos—	0501259 [F2005L00897]*.
16 of 2005 [F2005L00878]*.	0501344 [F2005L00910]*.
17 of 2005 [F2005L00880]*.	0501409 [F2005L00944]*.
18 of 2005 [F2005L00881]*.	0501410 [F2005L00966]*.
Select Legislative Instrument 2005 No. 37—Customs Amendment Regulations 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00700]*.	0501411 [F2005L00968]*.
Tariff Concession Orders—	0501454 [F2005L001027]*.
0413763 [F2005L00742]*.	0501478 [F2005L00945]*.
0500118 [F2005L00744]*.	0501479 [F2005L00969]*.
0500220 [F2005L00745]*.	0501480 [F2005L00946]*.
0500221 [F2005L00746]*.	0501737 [F2005L00971]*.
0500317 [F2005L00749]*.	0501738 [F2005L00972]*.
	0501783 [F2005L00974]*.
	0501795 [F2005L001105]*.
	0501829 [F2005L00975]*.
	0501866 [F2005L00976]*.
	0501941 [F2005L001106]*.
	0502126 [F2005L001107]*.
	0502208 [F2005L001026]*.
	0502229 [F2005L001025]*.
	0502230 [F2005L001108]*.
	0502242 [F2005L001024]*.
	0502282 [F2005L001109]*.
	0502546 [F2005L001110]*.
	0502571 [F2005L001117]*.
	0502574 [F2005L001119]*.

- 0502740 [F2005L001120]*.
 Tariff Concession Revocation and Re-Issue Instrument 03/2005 [F2005L00783]*.
 Tariff Concession Revocation Instruments—
 04/2005 [F2005L00900]*.
 05/2005 [F2005L00901]*.
 06/2005 [F2005L00902]*.
- Defence Act—
 Determinations under section—
 52—Determination No. 1 of 2005—Defence Force (Superannuation) (Productivity Benefit) [F2005L00990]*.
 58B—Defence Determinations—
 2005/6—Post indexes—amendment.
 2005/7—Completion bonus for specified senior positions.
 2005/8—Civil practice support and hardship allowance—amendment.
 2005/9—Cadet forces allowance—amendment.
 2005/10—Overseas conditions of service—amendment.
 2005/11—Additional and extra recreation leave—amendment.
 58H—Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal Determination No. 2 of 2005—Specialist Operations Allowance.
- Select Legislative Instruments 2005 Nos—
 45—Australian Military Amendment Regulations 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00765]*.
 47—Defence (Personnel) Amendment Regulations 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00764]*.
- Defence Act, Naval Defence Act and Air Force Act—Select Legislative Instrument 2005 No. 70—Defence (Inquiry) Amendment Regulations 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00951]*.
 Defence Force Discipline Act—Select Legislative Instrument 2005 No. 46—Defence Force Discipline Amendment Regulations 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00766]*.
 Designs Act—Select Legislative Instrument 2005 No. 50—Designs Amendment Regulations 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00761]*.
 Diplomatic Privileges and Immunities Act—Diplomatic Privileges and Immunities Regulations—Certificates under regulation 5A, dated 15 March [2]; and 12 April [2] 2005.
 Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act—
 Instruments amending lists of—
 Exempt native specimens under section 303DB, dated—
 17 February 2005 [F2005L00687]*.
 10 March 2005 [F2005L00725]*.
 17 March 2005 [F2005L00787]*.
 17 March 2005 [F2005L00952]*.
 29 April 2005 [F2005L001057]*.
- Key threatening processes under section 183, dated—
 25 January 2005 [F2005L00886]*.
 5 April 2005 [F2005L00887]*.
- Specimens taken to be suitable for live import under section 303EB, dated 11 April 2005 [F2005L00922]*.
- Threatened ecological communities under section 181, dated 5 April 2005 [F2005L00918]*.
- Threatened species under section 178, dated—
 25 January 2005 [F2005L00889]*.
 31 March 2005 [F2005L00913]*.

- 5 April 2005 [F2005L00888]*.
- Notice of proposed accreditation of the Southern Squid Jig Fishery Management Plan 2005, dated 14 March 2005.
- Export Control Act—Export Control (Orders) Regulations—
- Export Control (Animals) Amendment Order 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00917]*.
- Export Control (Meat and Meat Products) Amendment Orders 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00998]*.
- Family Law Act—
- Family Law (Superannuation) Regulations—
- Family Law (Superannuation) (Methods and Factors for Valuing Particular Superannuation Interests) Amendment Approval 2005 (No. 2) [F2005L00695]*.
- Family Law (Superannuation) (Provision of Information—Parliamentary Contributory Superannuation Scheme) Determination 2005 [F2005L00822]*.
- Select Legislative Instrument 2005 No. 69—Family Law (Superannuation) Amendment Regulations 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00872]*.
- Farm Household Support Act—
- Farm Help Advice and Training Scheme Amendment 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00773]*.
- Farm Help Re-establishment Grant Scheme Amendment 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00774]*.
- Select Legislative Instrument 2005 No. 68—Farm Household Support Amendment Regulations 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00948]*.
- Financial Management and Accountability Act—
- Adjustments of Appropriations on Change of Agency Functions—Directions Nos—
- 33 of 2004-2005 [F2005L00800]*.
- 34 of 2004-2005 [F2005L00929]*.
- 35 of 2004-2005 [F2005L00970]*.
- 36 of 2004-2005 [F2005L00973]*.
- 37 of 2004-2005 [F2005L01009]*.
- Net Appropriation Agreements for the—
- Australian Competition and Consumer Commission [F2005L00776]*.
- Department of Finance and Administration [F2005L001070]*.
- Select Legislative Instrument 2005 No. 74—Financial Management and Accountability Amendment Regulations 2005 (No. 2) [F2005L00960]*.
- Fisheries Management Act—
- Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995—NPF Directions Nos—
- 83—Gear Trials [F2005L00788]*.
- 84—Protected Area Closures [F2005L00793]*.
- 85—Prohibition on Fishing (Prior to Seasons) [F2005L00794]*.
- 86—Prohibition on Daylight Trawling [F2005L00795]*.
- 87—First Season Closures [F2005L00796]*.
- Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery (Additional Quota Species) Temporary Order 2005 [F2005L001100]*.
- Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery Management Plan—
- 2005 SESSF TAC D1—Total Allowable Catch Determination—2005 season [F2005L001091]*.
- 2005 SESSF TAC D2—Total Allowable Catch for Determination for Non-Quota Species—2005 season [F2005L001102]*.
- 2005 SESSF D3—Overcatch and Undercatch—2005 season [F2005L001096]*.

- SESSF Direction No. 01—
Permanent Closures
[F2005L001097]*.
- Southern Squid Jig Fishery Management Plan 2005 [F2005L00964]*.
- Food Standards Australia New Zealand Act—Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code—Amendment No. 77—2005 [F2005L00989]*.
- Fringe Benefits Tax Assessment Act—Select Legislative Instrument 2005 No. 44—Fringe Benefits Tax Amendment Regulations 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00727]*.
- Goods and Services Tax Ruling—
Addendum—GSTR 2000/2.
GSTR 2005/2.
Notice of Withdrawal—GSTR 2003/2.
- Health Insurance Act—
Health Insurance (Pathologist-determinable Services) Determination 2005 [F2005L00925]*.
Select Legislative Instruments 2005 Nos—
64—Health Insurance Amendment Regulations 2005 (No. 2) [F2005L00938]*.
65—Health Insurance (Diagnostic Imaging Services Table) Amendment Regulations 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00935]*.
66—Health Insurance (General Medical Services Table) Amendment Regulations 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00937]*.
67—Health Insurance (Pathology Services Table) Amendment Regulations 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00936]*.
- Higher Education Support Act—
Commonwealth Grant Scheme Guidelines (Amendment No. 3) [F2005L00807]*.
Higher Education Provider Approval (No. 5 of 2005)—Australian College of
Natural Medicine Pty Ltd [F2005L001001]*.
- Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*—Select Legislative Instrument 2005 No. 75—Income Tax Assessment Amendment Regulations 2005 (No. 2) [F2005L00940]*.
- Insurance Act—Insurance (Prudential Standards) Determination No. 1 of 2005—Business Continuity Management [F2005L00949]*.
- International Transfer of Prisoners Act—Select Legislative Instrument 2005 No. 40—International Transfer of Prisoners (Transfer of Sentenced Persons Convention) Amendment Regulations 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00152]*.
- Jervis Bay Territory Acceptance Act—Administration Ordinance—Jervis Bay Territory Electricity Fee Determination No. 1 of 2005 [F2005L00939]*.
- Medical Indemnity Act—Premium Support Amendment Scheme 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L001007]*.
- Migration Act—
Migration Agents Regulations—MARA Notice MN16-05 of 2005—
Migration Agents (Continuing Professional Development—Attendance at a Seminar, Workshop, Conference or Lecture) [F2005L00927]*.
Migration Agents (Continuing Professional Development—Miscellaneous Activities) [F2005L00930]*.
Migration Agents (Continuing Professional Development—Private Study of Audio, Video or Written Material) [F2005L00928]*.
- Migration Regulations—
Specification of a class of persons for the purposes of—
Paragraph 1402(3)(a) and addresses for the purposes of subparagraphs 1402(3)(a)(i) and (ii),

dated 17 March 2005
[F2005L00655]*.

Subparagraph 1222(1)(a)(ii),
dated 22 March 2005
[F2005L00648]*.

Specification of assessment levels
for kinds of eligible passports in rela-
tion to subclasses of student visa for
the purposes of regulation 1.41,
dated 22 March 2005
[F2005L00808]*.

Specification of migration occupa-
tions in demand for the purposes of
regulation 1.03, dated 27 April 2005
[F2005L001022]*.

Specification of minimum salary
level for the purposes of regulation
1.20B, and occupations for the pur-
poses of subregulation 1.20G(2) and
subparagraph 1.20GA(1)(a)(i), dated
17 March 2005 [F2005L00657]*.

Specification of occupations and lo-
cations for the purposes of paragraph
5.19(2)(h), salaries for the purposes
of paragraph 5.19(2)(i), subpara-
graphs 121.211(b)(ii) and
856.213(b)(ii), and relevant assessing
authorities for the purposes of sub-
subparagraphs 121.211(b)(i)(A) and
856.213(b)(i)(A), dated 17 March
2005 [F2005L00806]*.

Specification of passports for the
purposes of subparagraph
1218(3)(bb)(ii), dated 23 March
2005 [F2005L00813]*.

Specification of post office box ad-
dress and address for courier delivery
for the purposes of paragraphs
1112(3)(a), 1113(3)(aa), 1115(3)(aa)
and 1118(3)(a), dated 20 April 2005
[F2005L001002]*.

Specification of regional and low
population growth metropolitan areas
for the purposes of items 6A1001
and 6A1002 of Schedule 6A, dated
31 March 2005 [F2005L00658]*.

Specification of skilled occupations
for the purposes of the definition of
“skilled occupation” in regulation
1.03 and relevant assessing authori-
ties for the purposes of regulation
2.26B, dated 29 March 2005
[F2005L00820]*.

Select Legislative Instrument 2005 No.
54—Migration Amendment Regulations
2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00762]*.

Military Rehabilitation and Compensation
Act—Education and Training Scheme
(Numbering/Double Orphan Amendments)
Determination No. M4/2005
[F2005L00805]*.

Miscellaneous Taxation Ruling MT
2005/1.

National Handgun Buyback Act—Select
Legislative Instrument 2005 No. 41—
National Handgun Buyback Amendment
Regulations 2005 (No. 1)
[F2005L00716]*.

National Health Act—

Arrangements Nos—

PB 7 of 2005—Highly Specialised
Drugs Program [F2005L00801]*.

PB 8 of 2005—Chemotherapy
Pharmaceutical Access Program
[F2005L00802]*.

Declarations Nos—

PB 1 of 2005 [F2005L00777]*.

PB 2 of 2005 [F2005L00775]*.

Determinations Nos—

HIB 04/2005 [F2005L00733]*.

HIB 05/2005 [F2005L00797]*.

HIB 06/2005 [F2005L00883]*.

HIB 07/2005 [F2005L001004]*.

HIB 08/2005 [F2005L001005]*.

HIB 09/2005 [F2005L001078]*.

PB 3 of 2005 [F2005L00778]*.

PB 4 of 2005 [F2005L00779]*.

PB 5 of 2005 [F2005L00780]*.

PB 6 of 2005 [F2005L00781]*.

PB 9 of 2005 [F2005L00984]*.

- PSO 4/2005 [F2005L00985]*.
- Navigation Act and Protection of the Sea (Prevention of Pollution from Ships) Act—Marine Orders Nos—
- 1 of 2005—Marine Pollution Prevention—Oil [F2005L00782]*.
- 2 of 2005—Marine Pollution Prevention—Noxious Liquid Substances [F2005L00784]*.
- Occupational Health and Safety (Commonwealth Employment) Act—Select Legislative Instrument 2005 No. 48—Occupational Health and Safety (Commonwealth Employment) (National Standards) Amendment Regulations 2004 (No. 2) Amendment Regulations 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00734]*.
- Ozone Protection and Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Management Act—Select Legislative Instrument 2005 No. 71—Ozone Protection and Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Management Amendment Regulations 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00953]*.
- Patents Act—Select Legislative Instrument 2005 No. 51—Patents Amendment Regulations 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00753]*.
- Primary Industries (Excise) Levies Act—Select Legislative Instrument 2005 No. 49—Primary Industries (Excise) Levies Amendment Regulations 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00731]*.
- Product Rulings—
- Addenda—PR 2005/28 and PR 2005/29.
- Notice of Withdrawal—PR 2004/60.
- PR 2005/27-PR 2005/66.
- Public Lending Right Act—Public Lending Right Scheme 1997 (Modification No. 1 of 2005) [F2005L00903]*.
- Radiocommunications Act—
- Radiocommunications (Issue of Broadcasting (Narrowcasting) Transmitter Licences) Determination No. 1 of 1996 (Amendment No. 12) [F2005L00882]*.
- Radiocommunications Licence Conditions (Fixed Licence) Amendment De-
- termination 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00967]*.
- Radiocommunications Licence Conditions (Fixed Receive Licence) Amendment Determination 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00760]*.
- Radiocommunications Licence Conditions (Major Coast Receive Licence) Amendment Determination 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00758]*.
- Radiocommunications Licence Conditions (PTS Licence) Amendment Determination 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00757]*.
- Radiocommunications Licence Conditions (Scientific Licence) Amendment Determination 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00756]*.
- Radiocommunications (Spectrum Re-allocation) Declaration No. 1 of 2005 [F2005L00898]*.
- Remuneration Tribunal Act—Determinations—
- 2005/03: Specified Statutory Officers—Remuneration and Allowances [F2005L00991]*.
- 2005/04: Remuneration and Allowances for Holders of Public Office [F2005L00992]*.
- Renewable Energy (Electricity) Act—Select Legislative Instrument 2005 No. 72—Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment Regulations 2005 (No. 2) [F2005L00954]*.
- Retirement Savings Accounts Act—
- Modification Declaration No. 1 [F2005L001080]*.
- Select Legislative Instrument 2005 No. 55—Retirement Savings Accounts Amendment Regulations 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00728]*.
- Superannuation Determination—Addendum—SD 2004/1.

Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act—

Modification Declaration No. 24 [F2005L001081]*.

Select Legislative Instrument 2005 No. 56—Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Amendment Regulations 2005 (No. 2) [F2005L00729]*.

Taxation Administration Act—Taxation Administration (Defence Related International Obligations—Indirect Tax Refunds) Determination 2005 [F2005L00814]*.

Taxation Determinations—

Notices of Withdrawal—

TD 93/27.

TD 2000/18.

TD 2005/3-TD 2005/12.

Taxation Rulings—

Addendum—TR 97/18.

Notice of Withdrawal—TR 1999/12.

TR 2005/5.

Telecommunications Act—

Telecommunications (Annual Numbering Charge—Late Payment Penalty) Amendment Determination 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00751]*.

Telecommunications (Late Payment of Annual Carrier Licence Charge) Amendment Determination 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00748]*.

Telecommunications Numbering Plan Variation 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00879]*.

Telecommunications (Carrier Licence Charges) Act—Determinations under paragraph—

15(1)(b) No. 1 of 2005 [F2005L00689]*.

15(1)(d) No. 1 of 2005 [F2005L00862]*.

15(1)(e) No. 1 of 2005 [F2005L00997]*.

Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Act—

Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) (Late Payment of NRS Levy) Amendment Determination 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00755]*.

Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) (Late Payment of USO Levy) Amendment Determination 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00754]*.

Telecommunications (Numbering Charges) Act—Telecommunications (Amounts of Annual Charge) Determination 2005 [F2005L00877]*.

Textile, Clothing and Footwear Strategic Investment Program Act—Textile, Clothing and Footwear Post-2005 Strategic Investment Program Scheme 2005 [F2005L00963]*.

Trade Marks Act—Select Legislative Instrument 2005 No. 52—Trade Marks Amendment Regulations 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00759]*.

Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Act—Select Legislative Instrument 2005 No. 43—Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Amendment Regulations 2005 (No. 1) [F2005L00736]*.

Veterans' Entitlements Act—

Repatriation Medical Authority Instruments Nos—

11 of 2005 [F2005L00824]*.

12 of 2005 [F2005L00825]*.

13 of 2005 [F2005L00826]*.

14 of 2005 [F2005L00827]*.

15 of 2005 [F2005L00828]*.

16 of 2005 [F2005L00829]*.

Veterans' Entitlements (Child-Related Rent Assistance Payments) Determination—Instrument No. R5/2005 [F2005L00650]*.

Veterans' Entitlements (Means Test Treatment of Private Trusts—Excluded Trusts) Declaration 2005—Instrument No. 6/2005 [F2005L00874]*.

Veterans' Entitlements (Veterans' Children Education Scheme—Scholarships, Statistics, MRCA) Instrument No. R11/2004 [F2005L00428]*.

Workplace Relations Act—Select Legislative Instrument 2005 No. 42—Workplace Relations Amendment Regulations 2005 (No. 2) [F2005L00735]*.

*Governor-General's Proclamation—
Commencement of Provisions of an Act*

*Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
Commission Amendment Act 2005—
Schedules 1 and 2—24 March 2005
[F2005L00768]*.*

* Explanatory statement tabled with legislative instrument.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

The following answers to questions were circulated:

**Immigration: Protection Visas
(Question No. 3175 amended)**

Senator Bartlett asked the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs, upon notice, on 27 August 2004:

With reference to protection visa applicants as of 30 June 2004:

- (1) How many applicants were there in: (a) Australia; and (b) each state and territory.
- (2) How many applicants had been granted a bridging visa in: (a) Australia; and (b) each state and territory
- (3) Of applicants with bridging visas: (a) how many have applied for Asylum Seeker Assistance Scheme (ASAS) income support in: (i) Australia; and (ii) each state and territory; (b) how many have received income support through ASAS in: (i) Australia; and (ii) each state and territory; (c) how many have applied for work rights in: (i) Australia; and (ii) each state and territory; (d) how many have received work rights in: (i) Australia; and (ii) each state and territory; (e) how many had no access to ASAS income support or work rights in: (i) Australia; and (ii) each state and territory; (f) how many are unaccompanied minors; and (g) how many have been granted bridging visa: (i) A, (ii) B, (iii) C, (iv) D, and (v) E.
- (4) How many applicants have been released from detention on bridging visas with any Government income support assistance other than ASAS in: (a) Australia; and (b) each state and territory.
- (5) How many applicants have been released from detention by order of the court (habeas corpus or interlocutory orders) in: (a) Australia; and (b) each state and territory.
- (6) (a) How many applicants in: (i) Australia; and (ii) each state and territory have expired bridging visas; and (b) how many have been detained after the expiry of their bridging visas
- (7) (a) How many applicants in: (i) Australia; and (ii) each state and territory have been detained for breaching their visa conditions; (b) what types of breaches occurred; and (c) what were the five most common breaches.
- (8) How many applicants are eligible for Medicare in: (a) Australia; and (b) each state and territory.
- (9) How many applicants are eligible for the ASAS General Health Scheme in: (a) Australia; and (b) each state and territory.
- (10) How many protection visa applicant minors have no rights to access Medicare or the ASAS General Health Scheme in: (a) Australia; and (b) each state and territory.
- (11) (a) Whom do departmental officials or detention centre management notify when a detainee is released on a bridging visa; and (b) what system is in place to ensure that their lawyer, counsellor, doctor, family, friends and community are notified of their release.
- (12) What system is in place to ensure that adequate information is provided to applicants with bridging visas in relation to their eligibility for ASAS and work rights.
- (13) How many applicants in: (a) Australia; and (b) each state and territory had been without income assistance and work rights for: (i) 0-6 months (ii) 6-12 months (iii) 12-18 months (iv) 18-24 months (v) 24 months and over.
- (14) (a) What are the compliance rates for applicants with expired bridging visas who have never been detained (that is, how many 'disappeared'); and (b) of these, how many had: (i) ASAS income assistance; and (ii) no ASAS income assistance.

Senator Vanstone—The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

- (1) (a) Departmental systems indicate that as at 30 June 2004, there were 22 Protection visa (PV) applicants in immigration detention and 666 applicants not in immigration detention, who were awaiting a primary decision from the Department.

Given the nature of information sought in parts (1) to (14) of the question, these figures and subsequent answers exclude applications for Further Protection Visas (FPVs) lodged by holders of Temporary Protection visas (TPVs) and offshore Temporary Humanitarian visas.

(b) Of the non-detainee PV caseload 33 persons do not at present have a reportable residential address postcode. Of the remainder, the State and Territory breakdown is as follows:

State	Non-Detention PV applicants
ACT	9
NSW	320
QLD	17
SA	45
TAS	3
VIC	219
WA	20

- (2) The Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (DIMIA) systems do not enable the statistical reporting requested on the numbers of PV applicants who have Bridging Visas in effect.
- (3) For reasons stated in (2) above, DIMIA systems cannot provide the statistical reporting requested on Bridging Visa holders. (a) The ASAS is administered by the Australian Red Cross (ARC) under an agreement with the Commonwealth. ARC systems do not provide consolidated reports on the number of persons who have applied for ASAS income support. (b) The total number of persons in receipt of ASAS income support as at 30 June 2004 was:

State	Cases	Persons
ACT	4	8
NSW	45	96
VIC	116	273
NT	1	2
QLD	3	12
SA	8	18
WA	7	9
TAS	0	0
Total	184	418

- (c) to (e) Departmental systems are unable to provide consolidated statistics on this matter. (f) There were no unaccompanied minors receiving ASAS assistance as at 30 June 2004. (g) Departmental systems are unable to provide consolidated statistics on this matter.
- (4) (a) During 2004 (to 30 June), six families involving 14 persons have received financial assistance from the Government after being released from immigration detention on Bridging Visa E (subclass 051). This subclass of Bridging Visa E requires adequate care arrangements to be in place before a visa can be granted.

Where there are significant ongoing costs such as medical and pharmaceutical expenses, the Department examines, on a case-by-case basis, requests to contribute to these costs to ensure the proper welfare of those persons.

(b) The geographic distribution of those released referred to in (a) during 2004 (to 30 June) on Bridging Visa E (subclass 051) are:

State	Cases	Persons
NSW	2	3
SA	1	4
WA	3	7

- (5) (a) On or before 30 June 2004, 28 former PV applicants had been released from detention by order of the courts (either habeas corpus or interlocutory release). (b) The geographic distribution of those released by order of the courts was:

Court Jurisdiction	Persons
NSW	10
VIC	5
SA	10
WA	3

- (6) (a) and (b) The Department normally collects data on those who are unlawful or in breach of visa conditions, and has information about cases that come to our notice. However, analysis of the data based on the type of visa applied for, such as a PV, is necessarily complex and not readily available.
- (7) (a) to (c) The Department normally collects data on those who are unlawful or in breach of visa conditions, and has information about cases that come to our notice. However, analysis of the data based on the type of visa applied for, such as a PV, is necessarily complex and not readily available.
- (8) (a) and (b) Departmental systems are unable to provide consolidated statistics on this matter.
- (9) (a) and (b) Persons who have been approved for income support under the ASAS are eligible for the General Health Care component of the Scheme. Refer to table in 3(b) above.
- (10) (a) and (b) Departmental systems are unable to provide consolidated statistics on this matter.
- (11) (a) The decision to grant a Bridging Visa E (subclass 051) is conveyed in writing to the applicant through departmental staff within the immigration detention facility. All applicants are required to acknowledge in writing the conditions of their visa. (b) The person's nominated representative, such as a Migration Agent, routinely receives written advice of the decision.
- (12) Information on eligibility for assistance under the ASAS is available in Departmental Fact Sheets, the DIMIA Website and in relevant standard letters to applicants. The ARC also advertises the scheme through its Annual Report and Website. Migration Agents and community organisations are aware of the Scheme and regularly refer potential clients to the ARC for determination of their eligibility to access assistance under the Scheme.
- (13) (a) and (b) Departmental systems are unable to provide consolidated statistics on this matter.
- (14) (a) The Department normally collects data on those who are unlawful or in breach of visa conditions, and has information about cases that come to our notice. However, analysis of the data based on the type of visa applied for, such as a PV, is necessarily complex and not readily available. (b) (i) and (ii) Departmental systems are unable to provide consolidated statistics on this matter.

Visas

(Question No. 23)

Senator Marshall asked the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs, upon notice, on 16 November 2004:

- (1) For each of the years 2002, 2003 and 2004 (to date): (a) how many appeals for ministerial discretion to grant a visa to remain in Australia were made by people whose visas were cancelled under subsection 501(2) of the Migration Act 1958; and (b) how many times did the Minister exercise discretion to grant a visa to a person whose visa was cancelled under section 501 of the Act.

- (2) Does the Minister have the power to re-instate a permanent resident visa previously cancelled under sections 200 or 501 of the Act.

Senator Vanstone—The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

- (1) Under the Migration Act 1958 (the Act) I do not have the power to:
- grant a visa to remain in Australia to an individual whose visa has been cancelled under subsection 501(2) of the Act; or
 - exercise discretion to grant a visa that was cancelled under section 501(2) of the Act.
- (2) However, I can reinstate a permanent resident visa that has been cancelled under subsection 501(3) or 501A(3). These are decisions that can only be taken by the Minister personally. Under subsection 501C(3), I am required to invite a person whose visa has been cancelled under these provisions to make representations about the revocation of the decision.

Under subsection 501C(4), I may revoke the original decision if the person makes representations in response to my invitation and the person satisfies me that they pass the character test.

Under subsection 501C(5) the power under subsection (4) may only be exercised by me personally. I have not exercised my power under this legislation.

Section 200 of the Migration Act 1958 is concerned with the 'Deportation of certain non-citizens.' Section 200 provides for the making of a deportation order in respect of non-citizens with criminal records. Such an order can be revoked under section 33(3) of the Acts Interpretation Act 1901 until such time as the order is executed and the person deported. Records show that for the period 2002 to date, the Ministerial power to revoke a deportation order under section 200 of the Act has not been exercised.

Iraq

(Question No. 27)

Senator Allison asked the Minister representing the Prime Minister, upon notice, on 17 November 2004:

- (1) With reference to a claim made by the Prime Minister before the war that only the threat of force by the United States of America (US) allowed the United Nations Monitoring Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) weapons inspectors back into Iraq, and given that it was the threat of force by Washington which pulled the weapons inspectors out of Iraq in March 2003 before they could complete their work (as in December 1998), does the Prime Minister now concede that the threat of force failed again to disarm Iraq of its weapons of mass destruction.
- (2) What is the Government's response to the claim of the Executive Chairman of UNMOVIC, Dr Blix, that the US was guilty of 'fabricating' evidence against Iraq to justify the war, and his belief that the discovery of weapons of mass destruction had been replaced by the main objective of the US of toppling Saddam Hussein (The Guardian, 12 April 2003).
- (3) With reference to claims made by the Prime Minister before the war that there was no doubt that Iraq had weapons of mass destruction and that that this was the primary reason for Australia's participation in the 'coalition of the willing', what is the Prime Minister's position now that, even after the collapse of the regime in Baghdad, no weapons of mass destruction have been found despite United States Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld's claim to know where they are.
- (4) Given the Prime Minister's statements that 'regime change' was only a secondary concern for Australia, does the Government agree that the primary justification for the war may prove to be a lie.
- (5) If, as the Prime Minister repeatedly claimed, Iraq had weapons of mass destruction and Saddam Hussein could not be contained or deterred, what is the Government's analysis of why they were

not used in the regime's terminal hours against the invading US, United Kingdom and Australian forces.

- (6) With reference to the Prime Minister's argument that stopping the spread of weapons of mass destruction was a primary motive for Australia's participation in a war against Iraq: (a) is the Government concerned that one of the direct effects of the war may be the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction to third parties, including other so called 'rogue states' and possibly terrorist groups, and (b) what analysis has the Government done of this likelihood, and (c) can details be provided.
- (7) Does the Prime Minister now regret saying just before the war (at the National Press Club and elsewhere) that Saddam Hussein could stay on in power providing he got rid of his weapons of mass destruction, thus allowing him to continue the repression of Iraqis; if so, what circumstances altered the Prime Minister's view.

Senator Hill—The Prime Minister has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) The point I made with respect to the return of inspectors to Iraq was that it was widely acknowledged - including by UN Secretary-General Annan - that without the pressure provided by the US military presence in the region inspections would not have resumed in Iraq.
- (2) There have been various media reports of statements attributed to Dr Blix. It is notable that in other media reports (eg. Sydney Morning Herald, 23 April 2003) Dr Blix was quoted as saying he "would not dream of accusing American and British intelligence agents of fabricating reports...".
- (3) The Iraq Survey Group reported on 6 October 2004 that Saddam had intended to reconstitute Iraq's WMD programs once UN sanctions were lifted. Saddam retained aspirations to develop a nuclear capability, but initially planned to focus on ballistic missile and chemical warfare capabilities. The findings echo earlier reports by David Kay, Charles Duelfer and the Butler Review, which made clear that Saddam had not abandoned his WMD ambitions.
- (4) No. Moreover, it remains the case that, if the advice of the ALP had been taken on the issue of Iraq, Saddam Hussein would still be in power.
- (5) While the Iraq Survey Group found no evidence of WMD stockpiles or post-1991 WMD production activity, it did find that Saddam had intended to reconstitute Iraq's WMD programs once UN sanctions were lifted.
- (6) Concern at the possibility of any leakage of Iraqi WMD materials or expertise to other rogue countries or terrorists was one reason for the government's participation in the coalition action against Iraq. This concern also underlined the government's decision to contribute expert and other assistance to the Iraq Survey Group.
- (7) No.

National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality

(Question No. 30)

Senator Allison asked the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, upon notice, on 17 November 2004:

- (1) For each of the financial years 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03, how much was spent on advertising and marketing in relation to the National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality (NAP).
- (2) For the 2003-04 financial year to date, how much has been spent on advertising and marketing in relation to the NAP.
- (3) For each state and territory, how much has been spent on foundation funding, priority actions, regional investment strategies and capacity building under the NAP.

- (4) Can details be provided of the priority actions that have received funding under the NAP in South Australia, Queensland, Western Australia and New South Wales.
- (5) Can copies be provided of the strategic investment plans that have been prepared in relation to the NAP for each state and territory.

Senator Ian Macdonald—The Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) For each of the financial years 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03, below are the amounts spent on advertising and marketing in relation to the National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality (NAP).

Financial Year	Expenditure
2000-01	\$63,406.20
2001-02	\$153,533.14
2002-03	\$42,807.50

- (2) For the 2003-04 financial year, \$3,421,500 was spent on advertising and marketing in relation to the NAP.
- (3) Since the inception of the National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality (NAP) in November 2000 to mid November 2004, expenditure on foundation funding, priority actions and regional investment strategies is \$167,623,492 as detailed in Attachment A. The capacity building expenditure is included under these categories and is not currently available as a separate expenditure item. This table does not capture national or state-wide projects.
- (4) Funding is provided to regional bodies to undertake high priority activities that need to commence prior to the regional plans being accredited.

Details of the priority actions that have received approval for funding under the NAP in South Australia, Queensland, Western Australia and New South Wales are provided in Attachment B.

- (5) Once a region's natural resource management plan has been accredited, regional bodies are responsible for developing investment strategies that are essentially the business plan to attract investment in a regional plan from the NAP and from other sources such as local governments, industry and other private investors.

The Natural Heritage Trust and the NAP website (www.nrm.gov.au) has information about natural resource management regions across Australia, including links to regional plans and investment strategies, contact details, websites and maps.

Attachment A

Extract of Australian Government National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality Expenditure - 2000/01 to mid November 2004/05

Action	Total	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	ACT
Foundation Funding	\$16,386,820	\$0	\$6,402,350	\$6,011,682	\$1,817,062	\$1,958,986	\$176,740	\$20,000	\$0
Priority Actions	\$74,631,578	\$13,486,856	\$21,672,166	\$8,883,749	\$965,977	\$27,972,530	\$1,650,300	\$0	\$0
Regional Investment Strategy	\$76,605,094	\$34,546,208	\$30,412,725	\$0	\$0	\$11,646,161	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Expenditure	\$167,623,492	\$48,033,064	\$58,487,241	\$14,895,431	\$2,783,039	\$41,577,677	\$1,827,040	\$20,000	\$0

Attachment B

Details of NAP priority actions that have received approval in New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia

New South Wales

Providing the Capacity for Salt Action Teams and Catchment Communities to Access Economic Information and Advice for Greater Adoption of Salinity Solutions

Development of a Toolkit Incorporating Benchmarks for Assessing Biodiversity Benefits From Vegetation Managed or Planted for Salinity Mitigation

Quantifying Sub-catchment Impacts of Tree-Planting on Salt Mobilisation, Stream Water Quality and Flow to Support Market-based Solutions to Dryland Salinity

Targeted Implementation of the Murray Catchment Blueprints Within the South west Slopes Management Unit

Implementation of the Darling Anabranh Management Plan (Including Improvements to Packers Crossing Regulator for Water Quality and Environmental Flows in the Darling Anabranh)

Kyeamba Valley Targeted Salinity and Water Quality Control Program

Groundwater Monitoring and Trend Analysis and Management Improvement in the Lachlan Valley

Cudgegong and Upper Macquarie Salinity Prioritisation and Strategic Direction

Identification of Riverine Areas of High Recovery Potential in the Namoi Catchment

Groundwater Data Collection and Interpretation for Border Rivers

Stock Watering Points - A Central Key to Environmental Management

Groundwater Investigations for Salinity Management in the Gwydir Catchment

Feasibility Study to Achieve Water Savings in the Murrumbidgee Valley

Murray Land and Water Management Plans

Lower Murray Irrigation Areas Land and Water Management Plan - further implementation

Implementation of MIA EnviroWise (previously MIA&D Community Land and Water Management Plan)

Implementation of Heads of Agreement between NSW Government and communities of Coleambally, Kerarbury and Coleambally Outfall

Water Information System for the Environment (WISE) Project

Working with Catchment Management Boards to Expand the Use of Deep Rooted Perennials Project

Finalising Joint Priority Actions in NSW - Qld Border Rivers Project

Queensland

Implementing the Central Queensland Strategy for Sustainability - Fitzroy Basin Neighbourhood Catchment Program

Improving Water Quality through Land Management changes in the Bowen-Broken River Catchment: A Framework for Action

Initiation of a Lower Burdekin Water Quality and Salinity Management Program

Addressing Dryland Salinity in the Belyando-Suttor sub-catchment of the Burdekin

Whole-of-catchment Assessment and Prioritisation of Wetlands and Waterways

Development and Implementation of a Community and Stakeholder Natural Resource Management (NRM) InfoBase and Community Involvement Process for the Burdekin Dry Tropics Region

Engaging Aboriginal Traditional Owner Participation in NAPSWQ in the Burdekin Dry Tropics

Condamine resource information system for target-based NRM
Improved monitoring programs (Condamine)
Changing landscape management to best practices (Condamine)
Identifying and Implementing Landscape Best Management Practices in the Queensland Murray Darling Basin (QMDB)
Community-based Vegetation Management and Biodiversity Conservation in the QMDB
Community Water Quality and Riverine Management in the Queensland Murray Darling Basin
Improving the Financial and Contract Administration of Priority Action Projects to ensure Outcomes are Achieved. (Burdekin Dry Tropics)
Increasing the effectiveness of community engagement in the management of natural resources in the Burdekin Dry Tropics
Desert Uplands Capacity Building for Sustainable Production, Natural Resource Management and Advancing On-Ground Nature Conservation Burdekin
Providing Social & Economic Data to Underpin Catchment Planning For NRM (Burnett Mary)
What Landholders and Natural Resource Managers Need To Know & How They Can Best Access It (Burnett Mary)
Indigenous Engagement (Burnett Mary)
Regional Community Water Quality Monitoring Networks (Burnett Mary)
River Assessment Stream Reach Plans (Burnett Mary)
Maintenance & protection of native vegetation and associated waterways, floodplains and wetlands. (Burnett Mary)
Grazing Land Management Systems Frameworks (Burnett Mary)
Farming Land Systems Frameworks (Burnett Mary)
Building community capacity through integrated area wide management
Enabling change through targeted technical and facilitation support (Condamine)
Implementation of the community capacity and community engagement framework (Western Catchments)
Establishing and implementing baseline data systems and protocols for regional targets. (Western Catchments)
Repair of Unacceptable Degradation Condamine
Indigenous Engagement Strategy SEQ Western Catchments
Monitoring Evaluation and Funding Plan Administration Burnett Mary
Fitzroy - Water treatment plant for Mt Morgan mine

South Australia
Water Quality and Water Use Improvement for the SA Lower Murray through Irrigation Restructuring and Rehabilitation
Salinity response teams Dryland and Riverine
Salinity Mapping and Management Support
Accelerate work in the Mt Lofty Ranges to improve water quality, enhance biodiversity and rehabilitate riparian zones
Amelioration of Salinity and Improvement of Water Quality Through On-ground Works and Monitoring of Surface and Groundwater - Northern and Yorke Agricultural District

Salinity and Water Quality Management Through On-ground Works and Surface Water Monitoring
Salinity Fightback in the Upper South East Region
Research and Development Proposal
Accelerated Salt Interception Investigations
Salinity and Water Quality Management through Management of Water Repellent Sands, Kangaroo Island
Supporting Community Groups Build their Capacity to Deliver Regional NAP Projects
Assessment and Monitoring of Kangaroo Island's Surface and Ground Water Resources
Small Groundwater Basins Risk Assessment
Detailed catchment planning in the Northern & Yorke Agricultural District
Mapping Seagrass changes on the West Coast of Yorke Peninsula
Willochra Catchment Hydrological Assessment and Threat Analysis
Assessment of Biodiversity Assets at risk
Fingers on the Pulse - Determining outcomes and justifying investment in natural resource management in the South East
Padthaway: Salt Accession Investigations and Determination of Sustainable Extraction Limits (PAV)
Upper South East Community Support for Recharge Control (Devolved Grant Scheme)
Water Quality and Water Use Improvement for the SA Lower Murray through Irrigation Restructuring and Rehabilitation - Year 2
Riverland Ramsar Management Plan
Implementation of the Coorong, and Lakes Alexandrina and Albert Ramsar Management Plan
Accelerated Evaluation of Salt Interception Options in SA (Part A - Chowilla, Loxton, Lock 4 Bookpurnong & New Proposals) - Stage 2
Accelerated Evaluation of Salt Interception Options in South Australia - Part B: Regional Saline Disposal Strategy - Stage 2
Salinity Response Team - Riverine - Stage 2.
Maintaining the Momentum
Coordinating Monitoring and Evaluation in the South Australian Murray-Darling Basin
On-ground Assistance to Achieve Irrigation Efficiency in the SA Murray-Darling Basin
Assessing Impacts of Land and Water Management on Floodplain Health
Providing baseline data to improve wetland management aimed at reducing salinity, improving water quality & enhancing biodiversity
Development of market based investment programs for NRM along the River Murray/Mallee dryland corridor
Impacts of salinity on the aquatic invertebrate & aquatic & terrestrial vertebrate fauna of the River Murray Floodplain in SA
Myponga Watercourse Restoration Project
Addressing Salinity and Water Quality Decline in the Bremer Barker Catchment
Sustainable Salinity and Water Management on the Northern Adelaide Plains. Stage 1
Local Action Plan for the Southern Fleurieu Peninsula
Vegetation for water quality - integrated bush management, revegetation and seed resource preservation

Dung beetles for cleaner water
Dryland Salinity Response Team
Upper Torrens Land Management Project - community responses to salinity issues
Supporting Community Groups Build their Capacity to Deliver Regional NAP Projects.
Mid Torrens Catchment - "Towards Water Quality Improvement" Project.
Stop the Loss: Reducing Dryland Salinity and Maintaining Water Quality by Halting the Premature Death of Remnant Vegetation
Wetland Inventory for the Southern Mount Lofty Ranges
Saving the Swamps: Conserving the Most Significant Wetlands of the Mount Lofty Ranges and the Fleurieu Swamps
Water Proofing Adelaide
Implementing the River Murray Catchment Water Management Plan
Upper South East Program Support
Tilley Swamp - Risk management options, land acquisition and management
Implementation of Upper South East Communication Strategy
Reclaiming the Productive Potential of the Upper South East
Review and Establishment of Regional Targets for Revegetation and Vegetation Enhancement
Biodiversity Conservation and Enhancement Project
Drain Construction Project
Investigations to Determine Threshold Criteria for the Management of the Southern Lagoon of the Coorong
Watercourse Restoration Project - Upper South East
Integrated Environmental Management and Monitoring Strategy
NAP Communications and support for interim INRM Groups

Western Australia

South Coast Priority Wetland Management and Conservation program
Implementation of strategic priorities, Wilson Inlet Action Plan
Hydrological risk and resource condition baseline assessment for the eastern Fitzgerald Biosphere (Ravensthorpe Shire) on the South Coast
Salinity Management in the West River Catchment
Rural Towns Liquid Assets
Landcare Community Coordinator - Avon Region
Feasibility Study into Establishing Yarra Yarra as a Pilot Project to Demonstrate Catchment Governance and Planning Concepts
Geographe and Capes River Action Plan Implementation and Development
Water Quality Protection and Community Capacity Building in the South West Region
Improved Water Management in the Stage 1 Ord River Irrigation Area
Lake Toolbrunup Integrated Surface Water Management Plan
Bandy Creek surface water management planning to protect Lake Warden System
Avon River Care on with the job

Landscape water management on the Swan Coastal Plain in the South West
Working with local government towards better water resource management

National Safe Schools Framework

(Question No. 47)

Senator Allison asked the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training, upon notice, on 17 November 2004:

With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 3073: What is the projected expenditure for the National Safe Schools Framework for the period 2006 to 2008.

Senator Vanstone—The Minister for Education, Science and Training has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

The Schools Assistance Bill 2004 supports a record \$33.0 billion for schools over the next four years.

The Australian Government has provided \$4.5 million in 2004 and 2005 for the implementation of the National Safe Schools Framework. This includes:

- \$3 million for teacher professional learning to support the implementation;
- \$1 million for a grants project to help schools select and implement effective, evidence-based best practice programmes to address bullying, violence and abuse;
- \$300,000 for materials and other support to guide schools in the implementation of the Framework; and
- \$200,000 to support the Bullying. No Way! website for a further five years (www.bullyingnoway.com.au).

The National Safe Schools Framework reaffirms principles and practices that schools implement as a matter of course in fulfilling their fundamental mission of providing a safe and supportive learning environment for all students.

Decision in regards to ongoing funding for anti-bullying initiatives beyond 2005 have yet to be made.

Unfair Dismissal Applications

(Question No. 50)

Senator Murray asked the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations, upon notice, on 16 November 2004:

- (1) Can a table be provided of all unfair dismissal applications under federal and state law for the 1996 calendar year for each state and territory, showing the number of applications under federal law, state law, and the total.
- (2) Can a table be provided of all unfair dismissal applications under federal and state law for the 2003 calendar year for each of the states and territories, showing the number of applications under federal law, state law, and the total.
- (3) Can a table be provided showing the number and percentage change of applications for the 2003 calendar year against the 1996 calendar year for each of state and territory, broken down by whether the applications were lodged under federal or state law.
- (4) Can a breakdown be provided showing the same information shown in (1) to (3) above in relation to small business (classified as 20 or fewer employees).
- (5) Can an estimate be provided of the numbers of small businesses that fall under state and federal workplace relations law separately, for each state and territory.

- (6) Can an estimate be provided of the numbers of small business employees that fall under state and federal workplace relations law separately, for each state and territory.

Senator Abetz—The Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) The following table provides information on the number of termination of employment applications lodged under federal and state law for each state and territory for the 1996 calendar year.

State/Territory	Termination of employment applications lodged during the 1996 calendar year ¹		
	Federal 2	State	Combined
New South Wales	4290	2186	6476
Queensland	512	1932	2444
Western Australia	1875	918	2793
South Australia	633	1240	1873
Tasmania	360	114	474
Victoria	5958	358	6316
ACT ³	509	N/A	509
NT ³	396	N/A	396
Total	14,533	6748	21,281

Notes

1. Federal and state figures are based on calendar months, and incorporate estimates and interpolations where original data are not available. Official and unofficial sources are used.
2. Data collected on federal termination of employment applications do not differentiate between unfair dismissal and unlawful termination.
3. There are no separate territory unfair dismissal systems.

- (2) The following table provides information on the number of termination of employment applications lodged under federal and state law for each state and territory during the 2003 calendar year.

State/Territory	Termination of employment applications lodged during the 2003 calendar year ¹		
	Federal 2	State	Combined
New South Wales	1270	4083	5353
Queensland	397	1642	2039
Western Australia ³	316	1314	1630
South Australia	153	980	1133
Tasmania	109	280	389
Victoria ⁴	4242	N/A	4242
ACT ⁴	227	N/A	227
NT ⁴	240	N/A	240
Total	6954	8299	15,253

Notes

1. Some figures in this table are based on records of monthly lodgements and may differ slightly from final annual figures.
2. Data collected on federal termination of employment applications do not differentiate between unfair dismissal and unlawful termination.
3. Western Australian state figures include both unfair dismissal applications and applications which combine claims of unfair dismissal and denial of contractual benefits.

4. There are no separate territory unfair dismissal systems, and there has been no separate Victorian unfair dismissal system since 1996.

(3) The following table provides information on the number and percentage change in termination of employment applications for the 2003 calendar year against the 1996 calendar year.

State/Territory	Change in the number of termination of employment applications —1996 v 2003 calendar years ¹					
	Federal 2		State		Combined	
	number	%	number	%	number	%
New South Wales ³	-3020	-70.4	1897	86.8	-1123	-17.3
Queensland	-115	-22.5	-290	-15.0	-405	-16.6
Western Australia ⁴	-1559	-83.1	396	43.1	-1163	-41.6
South Australia	-480	-75.8	-260	-21.0	-740	-39.5
Tasmania	-251	-69.7	166	145.6	-85	-17.9
Victoria ⁵	-1716	-28.8	-358	-100.0	-2074	-32.8
ACT ⁵	-282	-55.4	N/A	N/A	-282	-55.4
NT ⁵	-156	-39.4	N/A	N/A	-156	-39.4
Total	-7579	-52.2	1551	23.0	-6028	-28.3

Notes

1. Federal and state figures are based on calendar months, and incorporate estimates and interpolations where original data are not available. Official and unofficial sources are used.

2. Data collected on federal termination of employment applications do not differentiate between unfair dismissal and unlawful termination.

3. Between 1996 and 2003, the number of unfair dismissal applications made in the NSW State jurisdiction increased substantially and the number of applications in NSW in the federal jurisdiction declined substantially. These shifts may be attributed to: the fact that applications in 1996 were made under the more expansive unfair dismissal provisions in the Industrial Relations Act 1988 rather than the more limited scheme in the Workplace Relations Act 1996, which did not come into effect until 31 December 1996; and the expansion in the NSW jurisdiction effected by the Industrial Relations Amendment (Federal Award Employees) Act 1998 (NSW).

4. Western Australian state figures include both unfair dismissal applications and applications which combine claims of unfair dismissal and denial of contractual benefits.

5. There are no separate territory unfair dismissal systems, and there has been no separate Victorian unfair dismissal system since 1996.

(4) The Australian Industrial Registry (AIR) asks employers who are nominated as respondents in federal termination of employment matters a question relating to the size of their business. Around one third of such employers have responded to the AIR's question. The information collected by the AIR relates only to unfair dismissal applications under the federal Workplace Relations Act 1996, and has only been collected since 1 December 1997. As far as the Federal Government is aware, no state or territory is able to provide reliable data on the number of small businesses involved in unfair dismissal applications for the 1996 or 2003 calendar years. Therefore, it is not possible to provide tables for all small business unfair dismissal applications for the 1996 calendar year, small business unfair dismissal applications under federal and state law for the 2003 calendar year, or changes in the number of small business unfair dismissal applications between 1996 and 2003, as requested.

The following table provides information on federal unfair dismissal applications, broken down by the state and territory in which the application was lodged, for the 2003 calendar year. As not all employers involved in federal unfair dismissal matters responded to the AIR's request for informa-

tion on employer size, the information in the table is considered indicative only. The number of employer respondents who provided information on employer size is included in the table.

Registry	Federal unfair dismissal applications lodged during the 2003 calendar year ^{1,2}			
	Number of termination of employment applications lodged	Number of employer responses to AIR's question on employer size	Number of responses received from small businesses	Small business responses as a percentage of all responses received
New South Wales	1270	275	76	27.6
Queensland	397	186	29	15.6
Western Australia	316	64	16	25.0
South Australia	153	59	16	27.1
Tasmania	109	38	6	15.8
Victoria	4242	1353	524	38.7
ACT	227	53	18	34.0
NT	240	125	50	40.0
Total	6954	2153	735	34.1

Notes

1. The figures in this table are based on monthly lodgements and may differ slightly from final annual lodgement figures.

2. Data collected on federal termination of employment applications do not differentiate between unfair dismissal and unlawful termination.

(5) It is not possible to provide a reliable estimate of the numbers of small businesses that fall under state and federal workplace relations law separately for each state and territory.

A broad indication of the number of non-farm small business that fall under federal workplace relations law can be provided. Non-farm businesses exclude those in the agriculture, forestry and fishing industries.

Drawing upon a combination of data sources, the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations estimates that around one third of non-farm businesses with fewer than 20 employees have employees who are covered by federal awards, Australian Workplace Agreements or federal certified agreements, or are located in the Australian Capital Territory, the Northern Territory or the State of Victoria. It is not possible to break this figure down by state and territory.

The most recent estimate from the Australian Bureau of Statistics' publication *Small Business in Australia* [ABS cat. no. 1321.0] is that, in 2000–2001, there were 539,900 employing non-farm small businesses in Australia.

Based on these estimates, it is estimated that that around 180,000 non-farm small businesses fell under federal workplace relations law in 2000–2001.

(6) Similarly, it is not possible to provide a reliable estimate of the numbers of small business employees that fall under state and federal workplace relations law separately for each state and territory.

A broad indication of the number of non-farm small business employees who fall under federal workplace relations law can be provided. Employees of non-farm small businesses are those small business employees who were are not employed by businesses in the agriculture, forestry and fishing industries.

The Department of Employment and Workplace Relations estimates that around 35 per cent of employees of non-farm businesses with fewer than 20 employees are covered by federal awards, Australian Workplace Agreements or federal certified agreements, or are employed by businesses

located in the Australian Capital Territory, the Northern Territory or the State of Victoria. It is not possible to break this figure down by state and territory.

The most recent estimate from the Australian Bureau of Statistics' publication *Small Business in Australia* [ABS cat. no. 1321.0] was that, in 2000–2001, 2,269,400 employees were employed by Australian non-farm small businesses.

Based on these estimates, it is estimated that that around 795,000 employees of non-farm small business fell under federal workplace relations law in 2000–2001.

**AGM-142 Weapons
(Question No. 61)**

Senator Chris Evans asked the Minister for Defence, upon notice, on 17 November 2004:

With reference to AGM-142 weapon:

- (1) What is the latest estimate on the total cost of modifying the F-111 fleet to enable these aircraft to deploy the AGM-142.
- (2) To date, how much has been spent on the project to equip the F-111 fleet with AGM-142s.
- (3) What is the latest estimate of when those modifications will be complete.
- (4) When is it expected that the AGM-142 will enter service.
- (5) What is the latest estimate of the total cost of the project to equip the F-111 fleet with AGM-142.
- (6) (a) Have any AGM-142s been delivered to Australia; if so, how many; and (b) do any AGM-142s remain overseas; if so, how many.

Senator Hill—The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

- (1) \$104 million.
- (2) \$349 million.
- (3) The prototype aircraft will complete flight trials in June 2005. Full fleet modification will be complete by the end of 2006.
- (4) Initial operational capability is planned for March 2006.
- (5) Project approval is \$439 million.
- (6) (a) Yes, but the actual missile numbers are classified. To date, about 50 per cent of the missiles have been delivered to Australia. (b) The remaining missiles are in storage in the United States of America awaiting shipment to Australia.

**Defence Reservists Lunch
(Question No. 62)**

Senator Chris Evans asked the Minister for Defence, upon notice, on 17 November 2004:

With reference to a luncheon function involving senior business people on Sunday, 28 March 2004, which was held at Fort Denison to promote Defence Reserves to employers:

- (1) Did the Minister for Employment Services and General Cosgrove attend the lunch.
- (2) How many other Australian Defence Force (ADF) and departmental personnel attended the lunch.
- (3) Did any other federal government parliamentarians attend; if so, who.
- (4) Were any non-government federal parliamentarians invited to attend; if so, who.
- (5) Which business people attended the lunch.

- (6) Were the travel costs of any of the business people who travelled from around Australia to attend the lunch borne by the taxpayer; and (b) can details be provided of all travel costs that were met, specifying which Defence program was used to fund this travel.
- (7) Can copies be provided of the menu and the drinks menu.
- (8) Were the following dishes served: Peking duck with cucumber, shallots and plum; seared scallops with prawn gow gee; soy and ginger glaze, salt rubbed salmon with Asian mushrooms and fried sage; slow roasted, pepper crusted, rib eye fillet; and crisp roasted barramundi.
- (9) What was the cost of the food served at the lunch.
- (10) How many bottles of wine, champagne and beer were served.
- (11) What was the cost of alcohol served at the lunch.
- (12) What was the cost per bottle of the most expensive wine and champagne served.
- (13) Did the department pay for this lunch; if so, which program was the money drawn from; if not, who paid.
- (14) Can a list be provided showing all of the associated costs of this lunch, including table hire, glass hire, waiting staff etc.

Senator Hill—The answer to the honourable senator's question is follows:

- (1) The Minister for Employment Services did not attend the event. General Cosgrove attended to launch the Private Sector Leave Guidelines for Defence Reservists.
- (2) 32.
- (3) No.
- (4) No.
- (5) The event was attended by representatives from:
 - The Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry and several state and territory chambers;
 - Australian Industry Group;
 - Australian Council of Trade Unions;
 - Indigenous Business Council of Australia;
 - Federation of Ethnic Communities Council of Australia;
 - Australian Business Limited;
 - Australian Hotels Association;
 - Australian Retailers Association;
 - Master Plumbers and Mechanical Services Association of Australia;
 - Timber Merchants Association;
 - Mitsubishi Motors Australia Limited;
 - National Australia Bank;
 - Tenix Defence;
 - ADI Limited;
 - Australia Post; and
 - numerous small and medium-sized organisations.
- (6) The travel costs for one business person from each state and territory were paid by Defence. These were representatives from organisations that appeared in a Defence Reserves case study booklet

distributed at the function. Travel costs for these people totalled \$4,745.49, and were funded by the Reserve Policy Division within Vice Chief of the Defence Force Group.

- (7) Yes. A copy of the menu has been forwarded separately to your office.
- (8) Yes.
- (9) \$14,760.
- (10) The total number of bottles of wine and beer served can not be ascertained.
- (11) \$4,560.
- (12) Alcohol was not costed on a per-bottle basis. The beverage package was \$38 per head.
- (13) Yes. It was funded by Reserve Policy Division within Vice Chief of the Defence Force Group. Reserve Policy Division funds all Defence Reserves Support Council activities. The event and its costs were forecast in the Reserve Policy Division budget.
- (14) The total cost for the event was \$43,522.49, allocated as follows:

Venue hire (National Parks and Wildlife Service)	\$1,534.50
Airfares for selected employers	\$4,745.49
Employee (crew) meals	\$230
Beverages	\$4,560
Food	\$14,760
Design and set-up charges	\$4,622.50
Technical requirements	\$6,430
Guest transport to Fort Denison	\$2,800
Other transport	\$942
Sunday catering surcharge	\$2,898

Puckapunyal Landfill Site

(Question No. 63)

Senator Chris Evans asked the Minister for Defence, upon notice, on 17 November 2004:

- (1) When did the department first become aware of the Mitchell Shire Council's plans to build a refuse tip in the vicinity of the army base at Puckapunyal.
- (2) (a) What is the exact distance of the proposed site from the entrance to the Puckapunyal base; and (b) how big is the site.
- (3) (a) When did the department first raise concerns with the Mitchell Shire Council about the proposal to use the land for a refuse tip; and (b) how were these concerns raised, for example, by letter, face-to-face meetings etc.
- (4) Who raised the concerns with the council.
- (5) When was it decided that the department would seek to compulsorily acquire the proposed landfill site.
- (6) Who made this decision.
- (7) On what basis was this decision taken.
- (8) How much will it cost the department to acquire the land.
- (9) (a) Is the Minister aware that the Victorian Civil and Administration Tribunal (VCAT) found that the department's concerns about the proposed landfill site were not substantiated; and (b) why was this decision not accepted by the Commonwealth.

- (10) Was it always the Commonwealth's intention to compulsorily acquire the proposed landfill site, regardless of the outcome of the VCAT's deliberations; if so, why.
- (11) Given that the VCAT found that the department's concerns were not justified, why has the Commonwealth now compulsorily acquired land at this site to prevent the building of the tip.
- (12) Has the Commonwealth valued the site; if so: (a) when; (b) what was the value of the site; and (c) can a copy of the valuation be provided.
- (13) When was the law firm Clayton Utz first engaged to advise the Commonwealth on this matter.
- (14) Can a list be provided of all Clayton Utz lawyers who have represented and/or advised the Commonwealth in respect of this matter.
- (15) How much has been paid to Clayton Utz in respect of this matter.
- (16) (a) What other law firms were engaged to provide advice and/or representation on this matter; (b) was the Australian Government Solicitor engaged; and (c) how much were they paid.
- (17) (a) How much has the Commonwealth spent on legal advice and/or representation in respect of this matter; and (b) can a breakdown be provided of all legal expenses in respect of this matter.

Senator Hill—The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

- (1) Formally on 11 June 2001.
- (2) (a) 3.2 kilometres. (b) The overall landfill site area is approximately 110 hectares.
- (3) (a) 28 June 2001. (b) Defence raised its concerns at a face-to-face meeting with the council at Puckapunyal.
- (4) The Puckapunyal Military Area Army Representative and the Regional Manager Defence Estate Organisation.
- (5) No decision was made by Defence to compulsorily acquire the proposed landfill site.
- (6) (7) and (8) Not applicable.
- (9) (a) Yes. (b) The decision has been accepted.
- (10) and (11) See my response to (5) above.
- (12) Yes. (a) 26 May 2004. (b) and (c) The valuation report is commercial-in-confidence.
- (13) 1 October 2001.
- (14) No.
- (15) \$220,334.83.
- (16) (a) None. (b) No. (c) Not applicable.
- (17) (a) See my response to (15) above. (b) No.

Defence Properties

(Question No. 64)

Senator Chris Evans asked the Minister for Defence, upon notice, on 17 November 2004:

With reference to page 96 of the 2004-05 Defence Portfolio Budget Statements, which indicates that the Government has agreed on a schedule of surplus properties to be offered for sale in the 2004-05 financial year, and that on current valuations these sales will reap an estimated \$164.5 million in revenue: Can a list be provided of all properties that the Government has agreed will be offered for sale during the 2004-05 financial year including: (a) the property name and/or address; (b) the type of property (vacant/buildings); (c) the size of the property; and (d) the type of sale (auction, request for proposal, advertised price).

Senator Hill—The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

(a) (b) and (c) Properties scheduled to be sold in 2004-05 include:

Description/Location	State	Type of property	Area (ha) Approx
Former Stores Depot, Lloyds Road, Bathurst	NSW	Land and buildings	32
Former Stores Depot, Spurway Street, Ermington (Rydalmere) (Part only)	NSW	Vacant land	5
Former rail siding, Carrington/High Streets, Jennings	NSW	Land and rail infrastructure	5
Housing blocks, Finlay Avenue, Lithgow	NSW	Vacant land	0.2
Former office accommodation, Anzac Road, Moorebank	NSW	Land and buildings	1
Former Rifle Range, Popplewell Road, Stockton	NSW	Land and infrastructure	111
Former Army Signals Depot, French Street, Werrington (Kingswood)	NSW	Vacant land	22
Houses, Bloomfield Street, Alice Springs	NT	Land and buildings	1
Part only, Bagot Road, Darwin	NT	Land (for road widening)	0.3
Part only, Damascus Barracks, Sugar Mill Road, Meeandah	QLD	Land and Buildings	29
Former Battalion Base, Corner Alma, Cambridge and Archer Streets, Rockhampton	QLD	Land and buildings	1
Former administration centre, 1 Ronan Street, Townsville	QLD	Land and buildings	0.2
Former Sanananda Barracks, Ipswich Road, Boundary Road, Wacol	QLD	Land and buildings	107
Former Driver Training Area, Wacol Station Road, Wacol	QLD	Land and infrastructure	138
Former married quarters, Woodlawn and Newinba Streets, Wallangarra	QLD	Land and buildings	32
Former Defence Science and Technology Organisation land, West Avenue, Salisbury	SA	Land and buildings	506
Part only, Konanda Road, Elizabeth North	SA	Land (for drainage works)	2
Broodseinde Barracks, Sturt/Russell Streets, Ballarat	VIC	Land and buildings	5
Part only, Maygar Barracks, Camp Road, Broadmeadows	VIC	Land and buildings	25
Former Training Depot, Lonsdale St, Dandenong	VIC	Land and buildings	0.3
Former rail siding, Robinson Road, Deer Park	VIC	Vacant land	5
Defence Site Maribyrnong, Raleigh Road, Maribyrnong	VIC	Land and buildings	130
Building 128, 153 Raleigh Road, Maribyrnong	VIC	Land and buildings	1
Former Air Weapons Range, Ballan Road, Werribee	VIC	Vacant land	243

Description/Location	State	Type of property	Area (ha) Approx
Bandiana, Pearce Street, Bakers Parade, Silky Oak Avenue, Thomas Mitchell Drive, Wodonga	VIC	Vacant land	162
Former Oil Fuel Installation, Knutsford Street, Fremantle	WA	Land and buildings	6

(d) The type of sale will vary depending on the nature of individual properties. Typical methods of disposal include Tender, Auction and Private Treaty. All surplus property will be disposed of in accordance with the Commonwealth Property Disposal Policy.

Rio Tinto Foundation for a Sustainable Minerals Industry

(Question No. 71)

Senator Brown asked the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources, upon notice, on 18 November 2004:

With reference to the Rio Tinto Foundation for a Sustainable Minerals Industry:

- (1) Can a copy of the foundation's 2002-03 annual report be provided.
- (2) Can a list be provided of the 32 programs to which funding was allocated in the first year, including the title of the program, the amount of funding, start and finish dates, key researchers, and expected outcomes.
- (3) Can a list be provided of patents applied for arising from research funded wholly or partially by the foundation.
- (4) Can a detailed account be provided of the expenditure to date of the \$35 million of public money and the matching funds from Rio Tinto.

Senator Minchin—The Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) A report on the activities of the Rio Tinto Foundation for a Sustainable Minerals Industry during 2002-2003 has been released and is available from Rio Tinto's website at: www.riotinto.com/library/reports/PDFs/2004RTFSMI-AnnualReport.pdf.
- (2) Most of the information sought can be found in the Foundation Annual Report. Requests for any additional information will need to be directed to the Foundation.
- (3) No. The Foundation is an informal body which has been established under the auspices of the Rio Tinto Group. It does not have a separate legal entity. Any patents arising from the work of the Foundation will be applied for by the project proponent/s, which could include one of a number of Rio Tinto Group companies, or a research partner. Information about intellectual property is not required to be provided to the Advisory Board which governs the Foundation.
- (4) The Government has fully expended the \$35 million it agreed to loan to Comalco to establish the Foundation. This expenditure was part of the \$137 million Strategic Investment Coordination loan to Comalco, aimed at attracting the Comalco alumina project to Australia. Expenditure by the Foundation is reported in the Foundation report referred to in (1).

Ministerial Briefing

(Question No. 102)

Senator Faulkner asked the Minister for Justice and Customs, upon notice, on 19 November 2004:

With reference to the answer to question no. 131 taken on notice by the department during the May 2003 Budget estimates hearings of the Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee:

- (1) Who briefed the Minister on 19 August 2002 and 26 September 2002 about Marian Wilkinson's questions.
- (2) Who initiated the briefing.
- (3) Was the briefing oral or in writing.
- (4) If it was an oral briefing: (a) who briefed the Minister; (b) who else was present; (c) were minutes and/or notes taken; if so, can a copy of minutes and/or notes be provided; and (d) what action, if any, did the Minister take after he was provided with the two briefings in August and September 2002.
- (5) If it was a written briefing: (a) who prepared the brief; (b) who cleared the brief; (c) apart from the Minister, who else saw the brief; and (d) what action, if any, did the Minister take after he was provided with the two briefings in August and September 2002.

Senator Ellison—The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

- (1) and (2) The Australian Federal Police Commissioner, Mr Mick Keelty.
- (3) Both briefings were in writing.
- (4) Not applicable.
- (5) (a) The Acting Coordinator of Operational Briefings,
(b) Commissioner Mick Keelty.
(c) Commissioner Mick Keelty, Federal Agent David Wildman and staff of the Minister.
(d) The Minister noted the contents of the briefings and discussed the matter with the Police Commissioner.

**Communications, Information Technology and the Arts: Advertising Campaign
(Question No. 107)**

Senator Faulkner asked the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts, upon notice, on 19 November 2004:

With reference to the Working to Keep the Country Connected Campaign:

- (1) For each of the financial years, 2003-04 and 2004-05: (a) what is the cost of this advertising campaign; and (b) what is the breakdown of these advertising costs for: (a) television (TV) placements; (b) radio placements; (c) newspaper placements (d) printing and mail outs; and (e) research.
- (2) On which TV stations is the advertising campaign screening.
- (3) What: (a) creative agency or agencies; and (b) research agency or agencies have been engaged for the campaign.
- (4) When will the campaign begin, and when is it planned to end.
- (5) If there is a mail out planned, to whom will it be targeted and what database will be used to select addresses – the Australian Taxation Office database, the electoral database or other.
- (6) (a) As of 1 June 2004, how many phone calls has the Telinfo hotline received; and (b) how many hits has the Telinfo website had.
- (7) (a) What appropriations will the department use to authorise any of the payments either committed to be made or proposed to be made as part of this advertising campaign; (b) will those appropriations be made in the 2003-04 or 2004-05 financial year; (c) will the appropriations relate to a departmental or administered item or the Advance to the Minister for Finance and Administration;

and (d) if an appropriation relates to a departmental or administered item, what is the relevant line item in the relevant Portfolio Budget Statement for that item.

- (8) Has a request been made of the Minister for Finance and Administration to issue a drawing right to pay out moneys for any part of the advertising campaign; if so: (a) what are the details of that request; and (b) against which particular appropriation is it requested that the money be paid.
- (9) Has the Minister for Finance and Administration issued a drawing right as referred to in paragraph (8) above; if so, what are the details of that drawing right.
- (10) Has an official or minister made a payment of public money or debited an amount against an appropriation in accordance with a drawing right issued by the Minister for Finance and Administration for any part of the advertising campaign.

Senator Coonan—The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

(1)

	2003-04	2004-05
(a): Advertising campaign (total costs)	5 001 000	953 000
(b) (a): TV advertising placements	948 615	168
(b) (b) Radio advertising placements	685 551	0
(b) (c) Newspaper placements	1 919 068	14 516
(b) (d) Printing and mailouts	53 425	19 823
(b) (e) Research	328 260	65 010
OTHER COSTS*	1 066 081	853 483

*Other campaign costs making up the total cost as shown in (a) above include departmental campaign staff, administration, website development, call centre costs and public relations and specialist consultancy costs.

(2) The advertising has been screened on the following TV stations:

Region	Stations
Northern New South Wales (AM-B)	Prime (7), NBN (9), TEN NNSW (10)
Southern New South Wales (AM-C)	Prime (7), WIN (9), TEN Capital (10)
Queensland (AM-C)	Prime (7), WIN (9), TEN Capital (10)
Queensland (AM-A)	7 QLD (7), WIN (9) TEN QLD (10)
Victoria (AM-D)	Prime (7), WIN (9), TEN VIC (10)
Mildura	WIN (9), Prime (7)
Darwin	NTD8 (9), DAR7 (7)
Regional Western Australia	GWN (7) WIN WA (9, 10)
Tasmania (AM-E)	WIN (9), Southern Cross (7, 10)
Satellite	Central (7), Imparja (9, 10)
Riverland/Mount Gambier (SA)	WINSA (7, 9, 10)
Port Pirie/Broken Hill	GTSBKN (7, 9, 10)
Griffith	WIN (9), WIN (7)

- (3) (a) and (b) M&CSaatchi, Sydney, was appointed as the creative agency for the campaign following a competitive process. Quantum Market Research, Melbourne, was appointed as the market researcher for the campaign following a competitive process.
- (4) The campaign commenced on 9 May 2004, with campaign advertising, which was completed on 2 July 2004. Public relations activities are expected to conclude by 30 June 2005.
- (5) No mailouts direct to households were conducted for this campaign.
- (6) (a) and (b) As of 1 June 2004, 971 calls had been logged to the Telinfo helpline; and the Telinfo website received around 27 000 hits.

- (7) (a) The Department has used appropriations received under Departmental Appropriation Act 3. (b) The appropriations were made in 2003-04 financial year. (c) The appropriations relate to departmental price of outputs. (d) Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements, 2003-04, p58, Table "Total Resources for Outcome 3". See departmental appropriations – Output 3.1, part of figure\$7,798.
- (8) and (9) The Department has been delegated full drawing rights to the limit of the departmental appropriations.
- (10) DCITA officers have made payments relating to the advertising campaign.

**Environment and Heritage: Advertising Campaign
(Question No. 108)**

Senator Faulkner asked the Minister for the Environment and Heritage, upon notice, on 29 November 2004:

With reference to the Environment/Resource management advertising campaign:

- (1) For each of the financial years, 2003-04 and 2004-05: (a) what is the cost of this advertising campaign; and (b) what is the breakdown of these advertising costs for: (a) television (TV) placements; (b) radio placements; (c) newspaper placements; (d) printing mail outs; and (e) research.
- (2) What: (a) creative agency or agencies; and (b) research agency or agencies; have been engaged for the campaign.
- (3) When will the campaign begin, and when is it planned to end.
- (4) If there is a mail out planned, to whom will it be targeted and what database will be used to select addresses - the Australian Taxation Office database, the electoral database or other.
- (5) (a) What appropriations will the department use to authorise any of the payments either committed to be made or proposed to be made as part of this advertising campaign; (b) will those appropriations be made in the 2003-04 or 2004-05 financial year; (c) will the appropriations relate to a departmental or administered item or the Advance to the Minister for Finance and Administration; and (d) if an appropriation relates to a departmental or administered item, what is the relevant line item in the relevant Portfolio Budget Statement for that item.
- (6) Has a request been made of the Minister for Finance and Administration to issue a drawing right to pay out moneys for any part of the advertising campaign; if so: (a) what are the details of that request; and (b) against which particular appropriation is it requested that the money be paid.
- (7) Has the Minister for Finance and Administration issued a drawing right as referred to in paragraph (6) above; if so, what are the details of that drawing right.
- (8) Has an official or Minister made a payment of public money or debited an amount against an appropriation in accordance with a drawing right issued by the Minister for Finance and Administration for any part of the advertising campaign.

Senator Ian Campbell—The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

- (1) Environmental Resource Management Campaign

	2003-04 \$	2004-05 \$
Television placements	1,078,082	1,028,155
Radio placements	Nil	Nil
Newspaper placements	306,575	547,035
Printing	62,937	not allocated
Mail outs	Nil	Nil
Research	305,565	42,000
Total	\$1,753,159	\$1,617,190

- (2) The Environmental Resource Management campaign's advertising agency was Singleton Ogilvy and Mather, the campaign's market researcher was Open Mind and the campaign's public relations agency was Cox Inall and Associates.
- (3) The campaign started the week commencing 20 June 2004 and ceased, due to caretaker conventions, on 30 August 2004.
- (4) There has been no mail out and there is not one planned.
- (5) (a) The Natural Heritage Trust of Australia Special Account. (b) Both. (c) Administered. (d) In the 2004-05 Department of the Environment and Heritage's Portfolio Budget Statements the following pages relate to the Natural Heritage Trust of Australia – pp 9, 22, 26-30, 44-45, 48-55, 117, 141, 157, 160, 364-365, 374-375 and 390.
- (6) No. There is no request for a drawing right to the Minister for Finance, it is an automated delegation to all agency heads.
- (7) No.
- (8) Yes. As part of the delegated drawing right issued to all agencies, payments include advertising.

Environment and Heritage: Advertising Campaign

(Question No. 109)

Senator Faulkner asked the Minister for the Environment and Heritage, upon notice, on 19 November 2004:

- (1) For each of the financial years, 2003-04 and 2004-05: (a) what is the cost of this advertising campaign; and (b) what is the breakdown of these advertising costs for: (a) television (TV) placements; (b) radio placements; (c) newspaper placements (d) printing and mail outs; and (e) research.
- (2) What: (a) creative agency or agencies; and (b) research agency or agencies; have been engaged for the campaign.
- (3) When will the campaign begin, and when is it planned to end.
- (4) If there is a mail out planned, to whom will it be targeted and what database will be used to select addresses – The Australian Taxation Office database, the electoral database or other.
- (5) (a) What appropriations will the department use to authorise any of the payments either committed to be made or proposed to be made as part of this advertising campaign; (b) will those appropriations be made in the 2003-04 or 2004-05 financial year; (c) will the appropriations relate to a departmental or administered item or the Advance to the Minister for Finance and Administration; and (d) if an appropriation relates to a departmental or administered item, what is the relevant line item in the relevant Portfolio Budget Statement for that item.
- (6) Has a request been made of the Minister for Finance and Administration to issue a drawing right to pay out moneys for any part of the advertising campaign; if so: (a) what are the details of that request; and (b) against which particular appropriation is it requested that the money be paid.
- (7) Has the Minister for Finance and Administration issued a drawing right as referred to in paragraph (6) above; if so, what are the details of the drawing right.
- (8) Has an official or minister made a payment of public moneys or debited an amount against an appropriation in accordance with a drawing right issued by the Minister for Finance and Administration for any part of the advertising campaign.

Senator Ian Campbell—The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

- (1) (a) \$ 1,754,120 in 2003-04, \$ 302,000 expected expenditure in 2004-05;
(b) (a) Nil;
(b) \$833,309 in 2003-04, \$120,000 expected expenditure in 2004-05;

- (c) \$632,460 in 2003-04, Nil in 2004-05;
 - (d) Nil in 2003-04, \$ 9,500 expected expenditure in 2004-05; and
 - (e) \$82,303 in 2003-04, \$74,000 expected expenditure in 2004-05.
- (2) (a) Zoo Instinctively Creative. (b) Millward Brown Australia.
 - (3) The campaign commenced on 16 May 2004 and ran until 11 July 2004, with some additional placements in trade prints ending 15 August 2004.
 - (4) There is no mail out planned.
 - (5) (a) In 2003-04, Appropriation (Supplementary Measures) Act (No.2) 1999 - Developing a product stewardship system for the reuse and recycling of waste oil, and in 2004-05, Human settlements; (b) Both 2003-04 and 2004-05; (c) Departmental; and (d) In 2003-04, Appropriation (Supplementary Measures) Act (No.2) 1999 - Developing a product stewardship system for the reuse and recycling of waste oil, and in 2004-05, 1.6 Human settlements.
 - (6) No.
 - (7) No.
 - (8) No.

**Health and Ageing: Advertising Campaign
(Question No. 120)**

Senator Faulkner asked the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing, upon notice, on 19 November 2004:

With reference to the current Strengthening Medicare advertising campaign:

- (1) For each of the financial years, 2003-04 and 2004-05: (a) what is the cost of this advertising campaign; and (b) what is the breakdown of these advertising costs for: (a) television (TV) placements; (b) radio placements; (c) newspaper placements; (d) printing and mail outs; and (e) research.
- (2) What: (a) creative agency or agencies; and (b) research agency or agencies; have been engaged for the campaign.
- (3) When will the campaign begin, and when is it planned to end.
- (4) If there is a mail out planned, to whom will it be targeted and what database will be used to select addresses – the Australian Taxation Office database, the electoral database or other.
- (5) (a) What appropriations will the department use to authorise any of the payments either committed to be made or proposed to be made as part of this advertising campaign; (b) will those appropriations be made in 2003-04 or 2004-05 financial year; (c) will the appropriations relate to a departmental or administered item or the Advance to the Minister for Finance and Administration; and (d) if an appropriation relates to a departmental or administered item, what is the relevant line item in the relevant Portfolio Budget Statement for that item.
- (6) Has a request been made of the Minister for Finance and Administration to issue a drawing right to pay out moneys for any part of the advertising campaign; if so: (a) what are the details of that request; and (b) against which particular appropriation is it requested that the money be paid.
- (7) Has the Minister for Finance and Administration issued a drawing right as referred to in paragraph (6) above; if so, what are the details of that drawing right.
- (8) Has an official or minister made a payment of public money or debited an amount against an appropriation in accordance with a drawing right issued by the Minister for Finance and Administration for any part of the advertising campaign.

Senator Patterson—The Minister for Health and Ageing has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) In the financial year 2003-04:
 - (a) The cost of the Strengthening Medicare advertising campaign, including creative agency fees, was \$26.5 million.
 - (b) The advertising cost breakdown for
 - (a) television placements was \$13,069,566
 - (b) radio placements was \$82,801
 - (c) newspaper placements was \$2,807,290
 - (d) printing, distribution and mail-out of the booklet was \$6,964,236
 - (e) research was \$292,187

In the financial year 2004-05:

 - (a) The cost of the Strengthening Medicare advertising campaign was \$402,690.
 - (b) The advertising cost breakdown for
 - (a) television placements was nil
 - (b) radio placements was \$35,200
 - (c) newspaper placements was nil
 - (d) printing, distribution and mail-out of the booklet was \$395,785
 - (e) research was \$12,671
- (2) (a) Whybin TBWA. (b) Worthington Di Marzio
- (3) The Strengthening Medicare advertising campaign started on 23 May 2004 and was completed by 26 June 2004.
- (4) An unaddressed mail-out to all households has been undertaken. Additional booklets were distributed through Medicare offices, Australia Post, Regional Transaction Centres, Commonwealth Carelink Centres and Ezi-Claim facilities.
- (5) (a) Payments for the campaign came from the appropriation for departmental outputs, in this case notionally allocated to Outcome 4, in the 2003-04 Budget measure. A Fairer Medicare - Information for the Public and Medical Professionals. An additional allocation was sourced from unspent funds from the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) community awareness campaign. This was on the basis that the Strengthening Medicare campaign conveyed further messages about the PBS as part of Medicare. This was consistent with the purpose for which the PBS funds were originally appropriated (Annual Appropriation administered item 1 in the 2002-03 Budget measure Sustaining the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme – Reinforcing the Commitment to Evidence-based Medicine). (b) The appropriation for both was in 2003-04. (c) The appropriations relate to departmental and administered items. (d) With regard to the A Fairer Medicare appropriation, the relevant parts in the 2003-04 Portfolio Budget Statements are page 26, Table C.1; Appropriations and other revenue, departmental items, Outcomes 2 and 4 and page 152, measure description for A Fairer Medicare - Information for the Public and Medical Professionals.

With regard to the Sustaining the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme appropriation, the relevant line item in the 2002-03 Portfolio Budget Statement is under Outcome 2: Access to Medicare, a component of 'Sustaining the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme - Reinforcing the Commitment to Evidence-based Medicine' measure.
- (6) (a) and (b) No.

(7) No.

(8) No.

**Health and Ageing: Advertising Campaign
(Question No. 128)**

Senator Faulkner asked the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing, upon notice, on 19 November 2004:

- (1) Not including any advertising campaigns contained in questions on notice nos 105 to 121, for each of the financial years, 2003-04 and 2004-05 to date: (a) what is the cost of any current or proposed advertising campaign in the department; (b) what are the details of the campaign, including: (a) creative agency or agencies engaged; (b) research agency or agencies engaged; (c) the cost of television advertising; (d) the cost and nature of any mail out; and (e) the full cost of advertising placement.
- (2) When will the campaign begin, and when is it planned to end.
- (3) (a) What appropriations will the department use to authorise any of the payments either committed to be made or proposed to be made as part of this advertising campaign; (b) will those appropriations be made in the 2003-04 or 2004-05 financial year; (c) will the appropriations relate to a departmental or administered item or the Advance to the Minister for Finance and Administration; and (d) if an appropriation relates to a departmental or administered item, what is the relevant line item in the relevant Portfolio Budget Statement for that item.
- (4) Has a request been made of the Minister for Finance and Administration to issue a drawing right to pay out moneys for any part of the advertising campaign; if so: (a) what are the details of that request; and (b) against which particular appropriation is it requested that the money be paid.
- (5) Has the Minister for Finance and Administration issued a drawing right as referred to in paragraph (4) above; if so, what are the details of that drawing right.
- (6) Has an official or minister made a payment of public money or debited an amount against an appropriation in accordance with a drawing right issued by the Minister for Finance and Administration for any part of the advertising campaign.

Senator Patterson—The Minister for Health and Ageing has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) For 2003-04: PBS campaign. (a) \$11,827,797 (2003-04 only); nil 2004-05. (b) The details are as follows: (a) Whybin TBWA (b) Woolcott Research (c) The cost of television advertising, including creative development, was \$9,177,353 in 2003-04. (d) A campaign booklet to complement the television advertising was mailed out to pharmacies and doctors' surgeries at a cost of \$702,838. In addition, mail outs of culturally and linguistically diverse and Indigenous campaign materials total costs were \$231,146 and \$77,000 respectively in 2003-04. (e) The cost of advertising placement was \$8,375,818 in 2003-04.
- (2) The PBS campaign began in 27 July 2003 and finished on 25 October 2003.
- (3) (a) Payments for the PBS Community Awareness Campaign come from the Annual Appropriation administered item 1 in the 2002-03 Budget measure 'Sustaining the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme - Reinforcing the Commitment to Evidence-based Medicine'. An appropriation to departmental outputs was also allocated to Outcome 2 in the 2002-03 Budget measure. (b) In 2002-03 Additional Estimates administered funds from 2004-05 and 2005-06 were brought forward into 2002-03 and 2003-04. Unexpensed funds were rephased from 2002-03 into 2003-04 in 2003-04 Additional Estimates. (c) The appropriation is to an administered item and a departmental output. (d) The relevant line item in the 2002-03 Portfolio Budget Statement is under Outcome 2: Access

to Medicare, a component of 'Sustaining the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme - Reinforcing the Commitment to Evidence-based Medicine' measure.

- (4) (a) and (b) No.
- (5) No.
- (6) No.

**Industry, Tourism and Resources: Advertising Campaign
(Question No. 135)**

Senator Faulkner asked the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources, upon notice, on 19 November 2004:

- (1) Not including any advertising campaigns contained in questions on notice nos 105-121, for each of the financial years, 2003-04 and 2004-05 to date:
 - (a) what is the cost of any current or proposed advertising campaign in the department;
 - (b) what are the details of the campaign, including:
 - (a) creative agency or agencies engaged;
 - (b) research agency or agencies engaged;
 - (c) the cost of television advertising;
 - (d) the cost and nature of any mail out; and
 - (e) the full cost of advertising placement.
- (2) When will the campaign begin, and when is it planned to end.
- (3) (a) What appropriations will the department use to authorise any of the payments either committed to be made or proposed to be made as part of this advertising campaign;
- (b) will those appropriations be made in the 2003-04 or 2004-05 financial year;
- (c) will the appropriations relate to a departmental or administered item or the Advance to the Minister for Finance and Administration; and
- (d) if an appropriation relates to a departmental or administered item, what is the relevant line item in the relevant Portfolio Budget Statement for that item.
- (4) Has a request been made of the Minister for Finance and Administration to issue a drawing right to pay out moneys for any part of the advertising campaign; if so: (a) what are the details of that request; and (b) against which particular appropriation is it requested that the money be paid.
- (5) Has the Minister for Finance and Administration issued a drawing right as referred to in paragraph (4) above; if so, what are the details of that drawing right.
- (6) Has an official or minister made a payment of public money or debited an amount against an appropriation in accordance with a drawing right issued by the Minister for Finance and Administration for any part of the advertising campaign.

Senator Minchin—The Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) The Department has conducted one advertising campaign for the financial year 2003-04 and has one advertising campaign planned for the 2004-05 year.
 - (a) 2003-04 \$1,498,691 \$2,000,000 (approx)
 - (b) The campaigns run by Invest Australia "The future is here Technology Australia" aim to contribute towards sustainable industry growth and development for Australia by enhancing Aus-

tralia's reputation as a competitive investment destination. The campaigns comprise print advertising in global business magazines.

- (a) Swell Design
 - (b) nil
 - (c) nil
 - (d) nil
 - (e) \$1,464,691 (2003-04) \$1,950,000 (2004-05) estimate
- (2) Nov 2003-June 2004 (2003-04) July 2004-June 2005 (2004-05)
 - (3) (a) Departmental appropriations Outcome 1.
 - (b) 2003-04 and 2004-05
 - (c) Departmental item
 - (d) Outcome 1 – Business Services
 - (4) Not separately to existing delegations and chief executive instructions
 - (5) Not applicable
 - (6) Not applicable

**Communications, Information Technology and the Arts: Advertising Campaign
(Question No. 137)**

Senator Faulkner asked the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts, upon notice, on 19 November 2004:

- (1) Not including any advertising campaigns contained in questions on notice nos 105 to 121, for each of the financial years, 2003-04 and 2004-05 to date: (a) what is the cost of any current or proposed advertising campaign in the department; (b) what are the details of the campaign, including: (a) creative agency or agencies engaged; (b) research agency or agencies engaged; (c) the cost of television advertising; (d) the cost and nature of any mail out; and (e) the full cost of advertising placement.
- (2) When will the campaign begin, and when is it planned to end.
- (3) (a) What appropriations will the department use to authorise any of the payments either committed to be made or proposed to be made as part of this advertising campaign; (b) will those appropriations be made in the 2003-04 or 2004-05 financial year; (c) will the appropriations relate to a departmental or administered item or the Advance to the Minister for Finance and Administration; and (d) if an appropriation relates to a departmental or administered item, what is the relevant line item in the relevant Portfolio Budget Statement for that item.
- (4) Has a request been made of the Minister for Finance and Administration to issue a drawing right to pay out moneys for any part of the advertising campaign; if so: (a) what are the details of that request; and (b) against which particular appropriation is it requested that the money be paid.
- (5) Has the Minister for Finance and Administration issued a drawing right as referred to in paragraph (4) above; if so, what are the details of that drawing right.
- (6) Has an official or minister made a payment of public money or debited an amount against an appropriation in accordance with a drawing right issued by the Minister for Finance and Administration for any part of the advertising campaign.

Senator Coonan—The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

Nil response. We are not involved in any other campaign activity and will have already provided the answers for Working to Keep the Country Connected campaign under Question on Notice No.107. This is excluded in part (1) of this question.

Mortality Data
(Question No. 158)

Senator Brown asked the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing, upon notice, on 2 December 2004:

For each state and territory in each of the past 10 years up to and including 2004 (to date), how many Australians died of the effects or abuse of:

- (a) alcohol;
- (b) tobacco;
- (c) prescription pharmaceuticals; and
- (d) non-prescription pharmaceuticals.

Senator Patterson—The Minister for Health and Ageing has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

Mortality data is predominantly provided by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and is based on registered death certificates received from state and territory registrars of births, deaths and marriages.

Deaths are classified according to ICD-10-AM which is the international statistical classification of diseases and health related problems. ICD-10-AM classifications of deaths from causes including drug use are attributed to the event leading to the death rather than by the specific drug per se. For example, death may be recorded as caused by lung cancer (malignant neoplasm) or a motor vehicle accident. Hence, the data requested on deaths attributed to alcohol, tobacco and pharmaceuticals is not available.

The aetiological fraction method, however, is useful in estimating the number of deaths or hospital separations resulting from alcohol and tobacco use. The aetiological fraction methodology relies on the prevalence of a risk factor and associated relative risk of a particular illness or injury.

Based on this methodology, in 1998 an estimated 19,019 people died in Australia as a result of tobacco smoking and an estimated 3,271 people died as a consequence of hazardous and harmful levels of alcohol consumption. This estimate is not available over time by states and territories.

Minister for Defence: Visit to Iraq
(Question No. 170)

Senator Mark Bishop asked the Minister for Defence, upon notice, on 8 December 2004:

With reference to the Minister's visit to Iraq in December 2004:

- (1) When did planning for the visit begin.
- (2) (a) Did the original idea for the visit originate from the Minister's office, the department, or the Prime Minister's office; and (b) was the visit based on media or policy advice.
- (3) Were specific media representatives selected to accompany the Minister; if so, how were they selected.
- (4) (a) Which media representatives were selected; and (b) which opted to accept the invitation to accompany the Minister.
- (5) Besides media representatives: (a) who else accompanied the Minister; and (b) in which capacity did they accompany the Minister.

- (6) (a) What was the cost to the Commonwealth of the trip to Iraq; and (b) are there any costs to the Commonwealth which could be attributed to the contingent of media representatives who accompanied the Minister.

Senator Hill—The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

- (1) Around 25 November 2004.
- (2) (a) The department proposed the Minister attend and address a conference held by the International Institute for Strategic Studies in Bahrain on Regional Security.
- (b) The Minister desired to take the opportunity to visit Australian forces in Iraq.
- (3) and (4) No media representatives accompanied the Minister on this trip.
- (5) (a) and (b) The Minister was accompanied by three Australian Defence Force personnel, one departmental policy adviser and two personal staff.
- (6) (a) The final cost has not yet been confirmed.
- (b) See answers to (3) and (4).

Human Cloning
(Question No. 173)

Senator Stott Despoja asked the Minister representing the Prime Minister, upon notice, on 9 December 2004:

- (a) When did Cabinet decide to sponsor the Belgian proposal on human cloning at the United Nations (UN); and
- (b) When did Cabinet subsequently decide to endorse the Costa Rican proposal on human cloning at the UN.

Senator Hill—The Prime Minister has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

Australia's approach to UN consideration of this issue aimed to achieve, as quickly as possible, an outcome consistent with Australian domestic policy. At an early stage the Belgian proposal appeared to meet this aim. Australia never co-sponsored the Belgian proposal, although in 2003 we indicated a disposition to support it. It subsequently became clear that the Belgian proposal would not achieve consensus. A decision to support the Costa Rican proposal was made in late 2003 and a decision to co-sponsor it in 2004. On 19 November 2004, the UN General Assembly's Sixth Committee decided to establish a working group to finalise the text of a declaration on human cloning.

The Australian Government decided on 18 February 2005 to support the proposed UN General Assembly declaration on cloning prepared by the working group's Chair and put forward by Honduras. The declaration, which was reaffirmed in the plenary of the General Assembly on 8 March 2005, called on States to 'prohibit all forms of human cloning inasmuch as they are incompatible with human dignity and the protection of human life'. Australia voted in favour as the text was consistent with the Prohibition of Cloning Act 2002 and therefore achieved our objective.

Australian Rail Track Corporation
(Question No. 184)

Senator Mark Bishop asked the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services, upon notice, on 17 December 2004:

- (1) (a) What specific capital works projects have been prepared and approved to date for expenditure from the \$450 million grant to the Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC); and
- (b) what is the time line for the completion of each project.

- (2) When is it expected that this investment will enable the goal of a 3 hour reduction in travel time between Brisbane and Sydney to be achieved.
- (3) Of the \$250 million allocated in the 2002-03 financial year for upgrading interstate rail links:
- what projects to date have been funded;
 - at what cost;
 - which projects have been completed; and
 - what funds remain uncommitted.
- (4) What is the annual cost of leasing track from New South Wales.
- (5) What provision exists within the agreement with New South Wales for the public tendering of capital works funded by ARTC.

Senator Ian Campbell—The Minister for Transport and Regional Services has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- The ARTC has prepared an indicative programme of works utilising the Government's \$450 million grant, aimed at upgrading the Sydney to Brisbane rail corridor. That indicative programme of works is set out on the ARTC website: www.artc.com.au. ARTC is currently revising the nature and sequencing of its entire Sydney to Brisbane investment programme to ensure the greatest benefit is gained from the combined quantum of funds available from its initial lease commitment, the additional \$450 million grant, and funds provided under the Aus-Link Investment Programme.
 - The ARTC plans for the full program to be implemented within 5 years.
- The travel time reductions are expected to be achieved by the end of the 5 year period.
- The \$250 million interstate mainline capital upgrade programme relates to a programme of works over 4 years from 1998/99 to 2001/02. All funds under the programme were committed. Details of the projects are set out below:

Approved Project	Cost (\$m)	Completed
Crossing loops	20.989	Yes
Rail Rectification (Vic)	10.834	Yes
System Continuity Improvements	7.390	Yes
Resilient fasteners and Associated Works (Vic – North East)	17.883	Yes
Track Upgrade and Associated Works (Vic – West)	10.359	Yes
Upgrade Perth to Kalgoorlie	18.000	Yes
Interstate Rail Audit	0.687	Yes
Pura Pura to Maroona upgrade (Australian Government contribution to \$15m total cost)	8.000	Yes
Wodonga Bypass (Australian Government contribution to \$57m project)	20.000	No
Equity injection to ARTC on signing of NSW lease	143.000	Yes
Total	257.142	

- There is no annual cost to ARTC to lease the NSW track, however the ARTC is obliged under the terms of the lease to undertake a program of investment totalling \$872 million during the first five years of the lease.
- There is no provision in the agreement with NSW that relates to how capital works are tendered or sourced.

Federation Fund
(Question No. 194)

Senator Mark Bishop asked the Minister representing the Prime Minister, upon notice, on 17 December 2004:

With reference to the Federation Fund:

- (1) By electorate: (a) what projects have been funded over the life of the Fund: and (b) what was the cost of each project.
- (2) (a) How many projects have received supplementary funding beyond the original estimate; and (c) what was the reason in each case.
- (3) By electorate how many applications have been rejected to date.
- (4) What funds remain uncommitted in the Fund.
- (5) By electorate: (a) which approved project proposals have been cancelled; and (b) what was the reason in each case.
- (6) (a) What evaluation has been conducted of each completed project against the selection criteria; and (b) what was the result in relation to each project.

Senator Hill—The Prime Minister has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) By electorate: (a) what projects have been funded over the life of the Fund; and (b) what was the cost of each project.

Electorate	(a) Project	(b) Grant value (\$m)
Adelaide	Defence Lands SA (Torrens Parade Ground)	3
Adelaide	National Wine Centre	12
Ballarat	Ballarat Athletics Facility	.987
Bendigo	Bendigo Regional Athletics Centre	1
Brisbane	Brisbane Light Rail	65
Brisbane	Caboolture Motorway	40
Brisbane	Comprehensive Cancer Research Centre	20
Brisbane	St John's Cathedral	1.65
Calare	Otama Submarine relocation	0.5
Canberra	Australian Federation Centre	5.5
Corangamite	Defence Lands (Queenscliff)	5
Cowper	National Marine Science Centre	12
Denison	Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra Concert Hall	1
Farrer	Oddfellows Hall Corowa	0.75
Flinders	Defence Lands Vic (Portsea)	4
Forde	Beaudesert Railway	5
Fraser	Anzac Hall, Australian War Memorial	11.9
Fraser	Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture	5
Fraser	Manuka Oval	1
Fraser	National Museum of Australia	147
Fremantle	Jervoise Bay Infrastructure Project	80
Gilmore	Australia's Museum of Flight	1.6
Gwydir	Gunnedah Performing Arts & Cultural Centre	1.625

Electorate	(a) Project	(b) Grant value (\$m)
Hughes	Holsworthy Shooting Range	9
Kalgoorlie	Australian Prospectors and Miners Hall of Fame	5
Lyons	Abt Railway	20.45
Macarthur	Belgenny Wool Farm Centre	6
McMillan	Walhalla Goldfields Railway	1
Melbourne	Australian Centre for the Moving Image (Alfred Deakin Building)	50
Melbourne	Commonwealth Technology Port	22.5
Melbourne	Development of the Undercroft of the Melbourne Shrine of Remembrance	5
Melbourne	Refurbishment of 4 Treasury Place	15.8
Melbourne	St Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne	2.5
Melbourne Ports	National Gallery of Victoria Redevelopment	25
Melbourne Ports	Victorian College of the Arts Redevelopment	10
New England	Tamworth Regional Entertainment Centre	1.25
Northern Territory	Alice Springs to Darwin Railway	100
Parkes	Line of Lode, Broken Hill	4.625
Riverina	Australian Shearers' Hall of Fame, Hay	4.66
Robertson	Grahame Park Stadium	12
Ryan	Institute for Molecular Bioscience	15
Sydney	National Institute of Dramatic Art (NIDA)	25
Sydney	Remediation of Garden Island	6
Sydney	St Andrew's Cathedral	5
Sydney	Sydney Harbour Federation Trust	96
Wentworth	Centennial & Moore Parks	10

There are a number of projects that are not specific to a single electorate, as follows.

The Federation and Cultural Heritage Projects (FCHP) and Federation Community Projects (FCP) programmes provided \$100 million for 60 FCHP and 1,003 FCP nationally.

Murray River Bridges - \$44 million provided to construct bridges in the Farrer, Murray and Indi electorates.

Sydney-Canberra VFT (Very Fast Train) - \$1 million provided to the NSW Government for proving-up stage.

Queensland Heritage Trails Network - \$50 million provided to the Queensland Government for 31 projects.

Victorian Regional Galleries - \$12 million provided to the Victorian Government for 16 projects.

- (2) (a) How many projects have received supplementary funding beyond the original estimate; and (c) what was the reason in each case.

(a) One project has received supplementary funding from the Federation Fund.

(c) The Australian Shearers' Hall of Fame received an additional \$200,000 to address cost overruns.

- (3) By electorate, how many applications have been rejected to date.

Applications were not necessarily formally rejected. Some explanation of the decision making process for Federation Fund major projects was contained in the response by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet to a question (F&PA 255) asked by Senator Ray on 4 May 1999, in the

course of Examination of Additional Estimates 1998-99. (The response is published in Volume 4 of Additional Information Received, Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio, for that examination, commencing at page 537.)

- (4) What funds remain uncommitted in the Fund.

Approximately \$1.6 million of Federation Fund monies remains uncommitted.

- (5) By electorate: (a) Which approved project proposals have been cancelled; and (b) what was the reason in each case.

Electorate	(a) Cancelled Project	Grant Value (\$m)	(b) Reason for Cancellation
Brisbane	Brisbane Light Rail	65	Queensland Government decided not to proceed with the project. Funds reallocated to Caboolture Motorway (\$40m), Comprehensive Cancer Research Centre (\$20m) and Beaudesert Railway (\$5m)
Corangamite	Defence Lands (Queenscliff)	5	Lands not transferred to the Victorian Government. Funds reallocated to Defence Lands (Portsea) (\$2m), Otama Submarine relocation (\$0.5m) and St Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne (\$2.5m)
Macarthur	Belgenny Wool Farm Centre	6	Project did not proceed due to lack of funds from other sources. Funds reallocated to Sydney Harbour Federation Trust.

Unspent funds of \$28 million from the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust were returned to Budget when the decontamination of Cockatoo Island did not proceed due to delays in passing legislation and completing the Master Plan of the Trust.

Two of the 1,003 projects under the FCP programme were not completed and may be written off.

- (6) (a) What evaluation has been conducted of each completed project against the selection criteria; and (b) what was the result in relation to each project.

The management, ongoing monitoring, acquittal and evaluation of each individual project is the responsibility of the relevant portfolio Minister.

The Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry is responsible for

National Wine Centre

The Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts is responsible for

Australia's Museum of Flight

Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture

Australian Centre for the Moving Image (Alfred Deakin Building)

Australian Federation Centre

Australian Prospectors & Miners Hall of Fame

Australian Shearers' Hall of Fame, Hay

Commonwealth Technology Port

FCP programme (1,003 projects)

Gunnedah Performing Arts and Cultural Centre

Holsworthy Shooting range

Line of Lode, Broken Hill

-
- National Gallery of Victoria Redevelopment
 - National Institute of Dramatic Art (NIDA)
 - National Museum of Australia
 - Queensland Heritage Trails Network (43 projects)
 - Tamworth Regional Entertainment Centre
 - Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra Concert Hall
 - Victorian Regional Galleries (16 projects)
 - The Minister for Defence is responsible for
 - Defence Lands SA (Torrens Parade Ground)
 - Defence Lands Victoria
 - Otama Submarine relocation
 - Remediation of Garden Island
 - The Minister for Education, Science and Training is responsible for
 - Victorian College of the Arts
 - The Minister for Environment and Heritage is responsible for
 - Belgenny Farm Wool Centre
 - Centennial and Moore Parks
 - Oddfellows Hall, Corowa
 - St Andrew's Cathedral, Sydney
 - St John's Cathedral, Brisbane
 - St Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne
 - Sydney Harbour Federation Trust
 - The Minister for Finance and Administration is responsible for
 - Refurbishment of No.4 Treasury Place
 - The Minister for Health and Ageing is responsible for
 - Comprehensive Cancer Research Centre
 - The Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources is responsible for
 - Bendigo and Ballarat Athletics Facilities
 - Grahame Park Stadium
 - Institute for Molecular Bioscience
 - Jervoise Bay Infrastructure Project
 - Manuka Oval
 - National Marine Science Centre
 - Walhalla Goldfields Railway
 - The Minister for Transport and Regional Services is responsible for
 - Abt Railway
 - Alice Springs to Darwin Railway
 - Beaudesert Railway
 - Brisbane Light Rail
-

Caboolture Motorway
 Murray River Bridges (3 projects)
 Sydney-Canberra VFT

The Minister for Veterans Affairs is responsible for
 Anzac Hall, Australian War Memorial

Development of the Undercroft of the Melbourne Shrine of Remembrance

The Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts and the Minister for Environment and Heritage are jointly responsible for the FCHP programme (60 projects).

Regional Partnerships

(Question No. 210)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services, upon notice, on 20 December 2004:

With reference to the dispatch of letters concerning the Honourable De-Anne Kelly's MP signature notifying details of Regional Partnerships grants to stakeholders and posted on or after 26 October 2004, and the advice by Ms Kelly to the House of Representatives on 8 December 2004 that "copies are on the relevant files" in the office of the Mr John Cobb MP:

- (1) Will the Minister provide details of all such correspondence, including: (a) recipient; (b) date signed; (c) date date-stamped; (d) date appearing on date-stamp; (e) date posted; (f) name of project; (g) size of grant; (h) date project approved; and (i) nature of correspondence.
- (2) Will the Minister provide copies of all correspondence; if not, why not. An electronic version of the Notice Paper can be found

Senator Ian Campbell—The Minister for Transport and Regional Services has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) and (2) Copies of the above letters have been provided to the Senate Table Office.
- (1) (h) The dates that projects were approved (1) (h) have been submitted separately to the Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee as a part of its Inquiry into the Regional Partnerships Program.

Bass Strait Passenger Vehicle Equalisation Scheme

(Question No. 215)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services, upon notice, on 21 December 2004:

- (1) Why does the department's annual report for 2003-04 note that the \$34.3 million cost of the Bass Strait Passenger Vehicle Equalisation Scheme for 2003 – 04 was 'slightly more than expected', while also noting that the cost of the scheme was 11.9 percent below the revised budget estimate.
- (2) If the cost of the scheme for 2003 – 04 was below expectations, why was the cost below expectations.
- (3) If the cost of the scheme was above expectations, why was the cost above expectations.

Senator Ian Campbell—The Minister for Transport and Regional Services has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) It is noted that the statement in the department's annual report for 2003-04 presents an ambiguity. As set out in the table immediately preceding this text on page 93 of the annual report, expenditure on the Bass Strait Passenger Vehicle Equalisation Scheme in 2003-04 was higher than the original

budget estimate in 2003-04 (\$30.8 million), but 11.9% less than the revised estimate contained in the 2003-04 Additional Estimates (\$39.0 million).

- (2) The Scheme is demand driven and the 2003-04 Additional Estimates were largely formulated on the basis of forecasts by TT-Line, the major Bass Strait passenger/vehicle transport operator. TT-Line's forecasts did not fully eventuate with the final level of claim activity during 2003-04 lower than anticipated for both TT-Line's new Sydney – Devonport service and its Melbourne-Devonport service. TT-Line has attributed this in part to the greater availability of low cost airfares to and from Tasmanian, and increased interest in overseas travel from Australia, due to the relative strength of the Australian dollar.
- (3) As noted in (1), the cost of the scheme was not above final expectations expressed in the Additional Estimates.

Federal Road Safety Black Spot Program
(Question No. 216)

Senator Mark Bishop asked the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services, upon notice, on 21 December 2004:

- (1) By electorate: (a) what Federal Road Safety Black Spot Program ('Black Spot') projects were funded in the 2003-04 and 2004-05 financial years; and (b) what was the cost of each.
- (2) By electorate: (a) what 'Black Spot' projects were announced during the recent election campaign; (b) on what date were they announced; and (c) by whom were they announced.
- (3) Were media releases for 'Black Spot' funding announcements prepared by the department; if so: (a) by whom; and (b) at what cost in each of the past 2 years.
- (4) Which projects remain uncompleted as at 31 December 2004.
- (5) What balance of funds remains uncommitted prior to absorption into Auslink.

Senator Ian Campbell—The Minister for Transport and Regional Services has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) and (4) See attached project lists.
- (2) Nil.
- (3) (a) Approved National Black Spot Programme works in each State and Territory are announced annually depending on when each Black Spot Consultative Panel makes its recommendations. As part of preparing the formal approval papers for the Minister's signature, it is normal for staff in the Transport Programmes Division of DOTARS to prepare a draft release containing factual details about the Programme and a list of all approvals for the relevant State or Territory. Similar draft releases adapted for use by Members and Senators are also prepared for those electorates where there are approved works. Finalisation of media releases and their distribution is undertaken by Ministerial staff at the Minister's direction.
(b) The preparation of draft media releases for Black Spot announcements by the Department has not been separately costed.
- (5) Provision for the National Black Spot Programme is included in the AusLink (National Land Transport) Bill but it will continue to operate as a discrete programme.

The current National Black Spot Programme commenced on 1 July 2002 and runs until 30 June 2008:

- a total of \$270.0 million (\$45.0 million per annum) will be provided over this period
- \$3.0 million (\$0.5 million per annum) is put aside for on-going programme promotion, administration and evaluation leaving \$267.0 million available for approved works

- as at 31 December 2004, the total estimated cost of approved National Black Spot Programme works since 1 July 2002 is \$141,743,387
- leaving \$125,256,613 uncommitted to the end of the Programme in 2007-08.

APPROVED NATIONAL BLACK SPOT PROGRAMME PROJECTS in ALL STATES included in Programme Year 2003/2004.

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
STATE: A03003	ACT Canberra	Not Applicable In A.C.T.	Bowen Drive	\$73,000	COMPLETE
A03004	Canberra	Not Applicable In A.C.T.	King Edward Terrace REDUCE LANES AND EXTEND CONCRETE MEDIANS Hindmarsh Drive	\$400,000	COMPLETE
N03166	STATE: Banks	NSW Hurstville City Council	Palmer Street INSTALL TRAFFIC SIGNALS Roberts Avenue	\$30,000	IN PROGRESS
N03203	Banks	Hurstville City Council	Depot Road INSTALL A SINGLE LANE ROUNDABOUT Forest Road	\$50,000	IN PROGRESS
N03172	Barton	Rockdale City Council	Carruthers Street To Salisbury Street WIDEN ROAD TO INSTALL PEDESTRIAN REFUGES Railway Street	\$50,000	COMPLETE
N03134	Barton	Rockdale City Council	Walz Street INSTALL TWO RAISED PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS AT THE EXISTING CROSSING LOCATION Frederick Street	\$15,000	COMPLETE
N03201	Barton	Rockdale City Council	Rawson Road INSTALL RAISED BLISTER ISLAND IN FREDERICK AND SPLITTER ISLAND IN RAWSON Glenfarne Street	\$10,000	COMPLETE
			Forrest Road To Lynington Street		

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
N03128	Barton	Rockdale City Council	INSTALL SEAGULL ISLAND AND IMPROVE DELINEATION John Street	\$36,000	NOT STARTED
N03131	Barton	Rockdale City Council	Wazir Street INSTALL 3 SPEED HUMPS AND TRANSVERS STOPLINES – MOVE PRIORITY FROM WAZIR TO JOHN The Seven Ways & Princes Highway Frederick Street - Alexandre Street & Railway Street	\$90,000	NOT STARTED
N03133	Barton	Rockdale City Council	INSTALL PEDESTRIAN FENCING - ENHANCED DELINEATION FOR THROUGH & PARKED VEHICLES Princes Highway	\$90,000	NOT STARTED
N03137	Berowra	Hornsby Shire Council	Lister Aveue PEDESTRIAN FENCING ALONG PRINCES MEDIAN BOTH SIDE OF LISTER & RIGHT TURN SIGNAL Beecroft Road	\$30,000	IN PROGRESS
N03156	Blaxland	Canterbury City Council	Hannah Street UPGRADE SIGNALS AND CUT VEGITATION TO IMPROVE SIGHT DISTANCE Rose Street	\$20,000	NOT STARTED
N03185	Blaxland	Canterbury City Council	Punchbowl Road INSTALL A ROUTE TRAFFIC CALMING SCHEME Viola Road	\$60,000	NOT STARTED
N03219	Blaxland	Canterbury City Council	Punchbowl Road To Victoria Street INSTALL ENTRY THRESHOLDS Cornelia Street	\$60,000	NOT STARTED

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
N03182	Calare	Orange City Council	Punchbowl Road To Lakemba Street INSTALL ISLANDS AND THRESHOLDS AT INTERSECTIONS Prince Street	\$180,000	IN PROGRESS
N03194	Calare	Oberon Council	Anson Street INSTALL TRAFFIC SIGNALS WITH FILTER TURNS Abercrombie Road 43.8 Km To 48.4 Km	\$380,000	COMPLETE
N03207	Charlton	Lake Macquarie City Council	From Oberon SEAL SURFACE Wangi Road	\$220,000	IN PROGRESS
N03208	Charlton	Lake Macquarie City Council	Wilton Road INSTALL RIGHT TURN BAY AND SKID RESISTANT PAVEMENT Charlestown Road	\$750,000	IN PROGRESS
N03149	Charlton	Lake Macquarie City Council	Pacific Highway To Powell Street LEFT & RIGHT TURN LANES-HORIZONTAL & VERTICAL ALIGNMENTS & PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES Toronto Road	\$490,000	IN PROGRESS
N03168	Cook	Sutherland Shire Council	From First Street To Rens Street INSTALL A MEDIAN BARRIER AND SKID RESISTANT PAVEMENT Bundeena Drive	\$200,000	NOT STARTED
N03210	Cowper	Bellingen Shire Council	The Saddles 2Km West Of Sir Bertram Stevens Drive IMPROVE SUPERELEVATION AND ROAD EDGES THROUGH ALL CURVES Pacific Highway Hungry Head Road	\$410,000	IN PROGRESS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
N03205	Dobell	Wyong Shire Council	ADJUST SUPERELEVATION AND PROVIDE A NON SKID PAVEMENT Sparkes Road	\$450,000	IN PROGRESS
N03144	Eden-Monaro	Greater Queanbeyan City Council	Exit Ramp From F3 Freeway CHANNELISE AND DEFINE INTERSECTION Crawford Street	\$60,000	NOT STARTED
N03146	Eden-Monaro	Eurobodalla Shire Council	Morrisset Street INSTALL A RIGHT TURN PHASE AT EXISTING TRAFFIC SIGNALS Kings Highway	\$120,000	IN PROGRESS
N03209	Farrer	Tumbarumba Shire Council	0.25 Km Road Length At Bottom Of Clyde Mountain - REPLACE PAVEMENT AND IMPROVE SUPERELEVATION ON CURVE Tooma Road	\$170,000	COMPLETE
N03155	Farrer	Albury City Council	29.5Km To 32.5 Km From Tumbarumba RESEAL SURFACE AND ERECT SAFETY FENCES Kemp Street	\$100,000	IN PROGRESS
N03206	Farrer	Albury City Council	Douglas Road INSTALL A ROUNDABOUT Walsh Street	\$100,000	COMPLETE
N03178	Farrer	Tumbarumba Shire Council	Jamieson Street INSTALL ROUNDABOUT Tooma Road	\$170,000	COMPLETE
			0.5Km South Of Paddy River Falls Road To Nth Of Tumbarumba RESEAL SURFACE - FORM AND SEAL SHOULDERS & ERECT SAFETY FENCES		

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
N03211	Farrer	Tumut Council	Gocup Road (Mr279) 4Km To 5Km North Of Snowy Mountains High- way REALIGN AND REGRADE ROAD	\$420,000	COMPLETE
N03148	Farrer	Albury City Council	Kiewa Street Hovell Street INSTALL MOUNTABLE RAISED MEDIAN ON ALL APPROACHES	\$20,000	COMPLETE
N03214	Farrer	Albury City Council	Kaitlers Road	\$160,000	IN PROGRESS
N03167	Farrer	Tumut Council	Prune Street INSTALL ROUNDBOUT Howick Street	\$10,000	IN PROGRESS
N03165	Fowler	Fairfield City Council	Russell Street INSTALL MEDIAN ISLANDS IN RUSSELL AND ENHANCE GIVE WAY SIGNS Gladstone Road	\$40,000	COMPLETE
N03213	Gilmore	Shoalhaven City Council	Kiora Street INSTALL A SINGLE LANE ROUNDBOUT Jervis Bay Road	\$91,000	COMPLETE
N03158	Gilmore	Shoalhaven City Council	Princes Highway To Shoalhaven Lga Border INSTALL RRPMS AND PROFILE LINE MARKING Greenwell Point Road	\$63,000	COMPLETE
N03204	Gilmore	Shoalhaven City Council	INSTALL RRPM'S AND PROFILE LINEMARKING Culburra Road	\$76,000	COMPLETE
N03180	Grayndler	Marrickville Council	Greenwell Point Road To West Crescent INSTALL RRPMS AND PROFILE LINEMARKING Railway Terrace West Street	\$160,000	NOT STARTED

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
N03184	Gwydir	Mid-Western Regional Council	INSTALL A RIGHT TURN PHASE IN RAILWAY-CLOSE WEST ST SOUTH & MOVE PEDESTRIAN XING Lue Road	\$600,000	COMPLETE
N03136	Gwydir	Upper Hunter Shire Council	5Km South Of Lue RECONSTRUCT VERTICAL AND HORIZONTAL ALIGNMENTS Hunter Road	\$77,000	IN PROGRESS
N03197	Hughes	Sutherland Shire Council	At Glenmore Bridge INSTALL CURVE ALLIGNMENT MARKERS -SAFETY BARRIER & SEAL PAVEMENT AROUND CURVE Wollybutt Road	\$100,000	NOT STARTED
N03153	Kingsford-Smith	Randwick City Council	Cambrai Avenue To Coriengah Heights INSTALL RAISED THRESHOLDS AS PART OF A ROUTE CALMING SCHEME Brook Street	\$70,000	COMPLETE
N03188	Lindsay	Penrith City Council	Dudley Street INSTALL SINGLE LANE ROUNDABOUT Great Western Highway	\$170,000	IN PROGRESS
N03164	Lowe	Burwood Council	High Street INSTALL TRAFFIC SIGNALS Hume Highway Croydon Avenue & Malvern Avenue PLACE ADDITIONAL PEDESTRIAN SIGNALS & MAST ARMS ON HUME & UPGRADE SIGNAL DISPLAY	\$90,000	COMPLETE
N03161	Lowe	Burwood Council	Violet Street Waratah Street INSTALL A SINGLE LANE ROUNDABOUT	\$60,000	COMPLETE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
N03147	Lowe	Canada Bay City Council	Burwood Road	\$60,000	COMPLETE
N03152	Lowe	Burwood Council	Burton Street INSTALL ROUNDAABOUT Queen Street	\$60,000	NOT STARTED
N03157	Lowe	Burwood Council	Cheltenham Road INSTALL SINGLE LANE ROUNDAABOUT Shaftesbury Road Milton Street	\$20,000	COMPLETE
N03141	Lowe	Burwood Council	INSTALL KERB EXTENSIONS - A MEDIAN AND ENHANCE DELINEATION Young Street	\$20,000	COMPLETE
N03124	Lowe	Burwood Council	Boundary Street INSTALL KERB EXTENSIONS & A MEDIAN Burwood Road Ann Street & Lily Street	\$80,000	COMPLETE
N03129	Lowe	Burwood Council	INSTALL A TWO LANE ROUNDAABOUT Shaftesbury Road Clarence Street	\$20,000	COMPLETE
N03198	Macarthur	Campbelltown City Council	INSTALL KERB EXTENSIONS & A MEDIAN ENHANCE DELINEATION AND INSTALL RRPMS Wedderburn Road	\$109,000	IN PROGRESS
N03195	Mackellar	Warringah Council	Rangers Road To Hillcrest Road IMPROVE SIGNAGE Warringah Road Alfred Street	\$30,000	COMPLETE
N03138	Mitchell	Baulkham Hills Shire Council	INSTALL A CONTROLLED RIGHT TURN PHASE Showground Road	\$200,000	IN PROGRESS
			Rowallan Avenue And Cecil Avenue PROTECTED RIGHT TURN BAY - CONSTRUCT EXTRA PAVEMENT - KERB & IMPROVE SKID RESIS		

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
N03183	Newcastle	Newcastle City Council	Lookout Road	\$350,000	NOT STARTED
N03119	Newcastle	Port Stephens Council	Grandview Road BAN RIGHT TURN FROM GRANDVIEW ROAD Pacific Highway	\$100,000	IN PROGRESS
N03218	Page	Lismore City Council	New England Highway INMPROVED EXISTING ACCELERATION LANE AND ENHANCE SIGNPOSTING AND LINEMARKING Blue Knob Road	\$400,000	COMPLETE
N03150	Page	Lismore City Council	200M South Of Lillian Rock Road REALIGN ROAD Lismore Bangalow Road	\$140,000	COMPLETE
N03181	Page	Ballina Shire Council	INSTALL & EXTEND SAFETY BARRIER TRANSITIONS BETWEEN RIGID & NON RIGID BARRIERS Wardell Road	\$178,000	IN PROGRESS
N03187	Parkes	Broken Hill City Council	Dalwood Road To 240M North Of Marom Creek Road INSTALL SUITABLE SIGNS- NEW BARRIER LINES AND SAFETY FENCING Barrier Highway	\$100,000	IN PROGRESS
N03135	Parkes	Dubbo City Council	Oxide Street INSTALL ROUNDAABOUT Golden Highway (Cobbora Road) White Street And Mary Mckillop Drive BAN RIGHT TURN AND MAKE MARY MCKILLOP AVE ONE WAY	\$25,000	COMPLETE
N03202	Parramatta	Parramatta City Council	Harris Street Hassall Street	\$25,000	IN PROGRESS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
N03217	Paterson	Great Lakes Council	INSTALL MEDIAN ISLANDS WITH WARNING SIGNS AND IMPROVE DELINEATION Little Street	\$450,000	IN PROGRESS
N03159	Paterson	Great Lakes Council	Lake Street To Mark Street INSTALL SLOW POINTS ALONG STREET Pacific Highway	\$750,000	IN PROGRESS
N03125	Prospect	Fairfield City Council	Failford Road To Possum Bush Road & Including Bullocky Way Junction INSTALL SEAGULL ISLAND-NON SKID PAVEMENT - MOVE ACCESS ROAD & RESTRICT MOVEMENTS Sackville Street	\$19,000	IN PROGRESS
N03143	Prospect	Fairfield City Council	Delamere Street INSTALL SEAGULL CHANNELISATION Polding Street	\$20,000	IN PROGRESS
N03186	Reid	Fairfield City Council	Granville Street INSTALL SINGLE LANE ROUNDABOUT Brenan Street	\$50,000	IN PROGRESS
N03130	Reid	Auburn Council	Oxford Street INSTALL ROUNDABOUT Rawson Street	\$150,000	IN PROGRESS
N03121	Reid	Auburn Council	Dartbrook Road BAN RIGHT TURN AT RAWSON-INSTALL SPLITTER ISLES IN DARTBROOK & LANES AT HALL INT Gordon Road	\$40,000	NOT STARTED
			Union Street INSTALL ROUNDABOUT		

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
N03126	Reid	Auburn Council	Fariola Street Vore Street INSTALL A ROUNDAABOUT	\$40,000	COMPLETE
N03127	Reid	Auburn Council	Arthur Street Railway Street INSTALL A MEDIAN ISLAND STOP TREATMENT WITH A RAISED THRESHOLD AND A SLIP LANE	\$35,000	COMPLETE
N03132	Reid	Auburn Council	Beaconsfield Street Stubbs Street INSTALL A ROUNDAABOUT	\$40,000	COMPLETE
N03142	Reid	Auburn Council	Olympic Drive Vaughan Street INSTALL MAST ARMS BOTH NTH & STH AND PART TIME RED ARROW SOUTH BOUND ON OLYMPIC	\$65,000	COMPLETE
N03163	Reid	Auburn Council	Helena Street Near Auburn Road INSTALL RAISED WOMBAT PEDESTRIAN CROSSING	\$15,000	COMPLETE
N03118	Reid	Auburn Council	Queen Street Park Road INSTALL A ROUNDAABOUT	\$40,000	COMPLETE
N03175	Reid	Parramatta City Council	Loftus Street Merrylands Road And Smythe Street INSTALL A ROUNDAABOUT AT LOFTUS & MERRYLANDS & A MEDIAN ISLE IN LOFTUS AT SMYTHE	\$150,000	IN PROGRESS
N03170	Reid	Parramatta City Council	Great Western Highway Good Street GOOD ST PEDESTRIAN AREA WITH RED ARROW PROTECTION & UPGRADE SIGNAL DISPLAY	\$130,000	IN PROGRESS
N03145	Richmond	Byron Shire Council	Broken Head Road	\$410,000	COMPLETE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
N03179	Richmond	Ballina Shire Council	IMPROVE HORIZONTAL ALIGNMENT Coast Road Entrance Into Pat Morton Lookout	\$85,000	COMPLETE
N03212	Richmond	Byron Shire Council	WIDEN ROAD TO INSTALL RIGHT TURN BAY AND ACCELERATION LANE Lismore Bangalow Road	\$750,000	IN PROGRESS
N03215	Richmond	Byron Shire Council	Curves Immediately South Of Friday Hut Road IMPROVE VERTICAL & HORIZONTAL ALIGNMENTS Coolamon Scenic Drive	\$420,000	IN PROGRESS
N03176	Riverina	Griffith City Council	1 Km To 3 Km South Of Myocum Road RECONSTRUCT ROAD - INSTALL SAFETY BARRIERS AND SEAL SHOULDERS Kookora Street	\$50,000	IN PROGRESS
N03139	Riverina	Wagga Wagga City Council	Murrumbidgee Avenue INSTALL MEDIANS & TURNING LANES- ENHANCE DELINEATION & SIGNS & UPGRADE LIGHTING Fernleigh Road	\$10,000	IN PROGRESS
N03162	Riverina	Leeton Shire Council	Pinaroo Drive INSTALL A SEAGULL CHANNELISATION LAYOUT WITH A RAISED ISLAND Leeton Griffith Road (Mr 80)	\$200,000	IN PROGRESS
N03199	Robertson	Gosford City Council	Wilga Road RECONSTRUCT JUNCTION WITH RIGHT TURN BAY AND LEFT TURN DECELERATION LANE. Henry Parry Drive	\$250,000	IN PROGRESS
			Margin Street To Tafe Entrance		

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
N03191	Shortland	Wyong Shire Council	INSTALL CRASH BARRIER - SKID RESISTANT PAVEMENT AND ADJUST SIGNS Pacific Highway	\$550,000	IN PROGRESS
N03189	Shortland	Wyong Shire Council	Kanangra Drive CHANNELISE INTERSECTION AND INSTALL TRAFFIC SIGNALS Pacific Highway	\$400,000	COMPLETE
N03192	Sydney	Sydney City Council	Ruttleys Road INSTALL SEAGULL ISLAND AND TRAFFIC SIGNALS Bourke Street Mcevoy Street To Lachlan Street	\$40,000	COMPLETE
N03193	Throsby	Wollongong City Council	ENHANCE DELINEATION Princes Highway	\$100,000	IN PROGRESS
N03140	Throsby	Shellharbour City Council	Bong Bong Road INSTALL PEDESTRIAN FENCING Shellharbour Road	\$80,000	IN PROGRESS
N03171	Throsby	Wollongong City Council	Jason Street CLOSE JASON STREET Flagstaff Road	\$200,000	IN PROGRESS
N03123	Watson	Canterbury City Council	Lake Heights Road To Bruce Road Including Lake INSTALL TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES Legge Road	\$35,000	IN PROGRESS
N03173	Watson	Canterbury City Council	Leslie Street INSTALL A SINGLE LANE ROUNDABOUT Orissa Street	\$70,000	NOT STARTED
N03160	Watson	Canterbury City Council	INSTALL A ROUTE TRAFFIC CALMING SCHEME Second Avenue	\$60,000	COMPLETE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
N03190	Watson	Canterbury City Council	INSTALL A ROUTE CALMING TRAFFIC SCHEME Fifth Avenue	\$35,000	NOT STARTED
N03174	Watson	Canterbury City Council	Cooks River Bridge INSTALL A ROUTE TRAFFIC CALMING SCHEME Campsie Street	\$80,000	IN PROGRESS
N03122	Wentworth	Waverley Council	Beamish To Loftus INSTALL A ROUTE TRAFFIC CALMING SCHEME Blair Street & Old South Head Road Curlewis Street & Simpson Street	\$100,000	NOT STARTED
N03154	Wentworth	Randwick City Council	CHANNELISE INTERSECTION Clovelly Road	\$70,000	COMPLETE
N03169	Wentworth	Waverley Council	Beach Street INSTALL SINGLE LANE ROUNDABOUT Bondi Road	\$120,000	NOT STARTED
STATE: Z03015	NT Lingiari	Litchfield Shire Council	Paul Street INSTALL PEDESTRIAN SIGNALS Whitewood Road	\$200,000	COMPLETE
Z03016	Lingiari	Yulara Town Council	Including Stow Road Westall Road & Smythe Road WIDEN CARRIAGEWAY - INSTALL TURNING LANES & MEDIAN ISLANDS Lasseter Highway	\$250,000	IN PROGRESS
Z03014	Solomon	Darwin City Council	229 Km To 237 Km WIDEN CARRIAGEWAY - EXTEND SEAL & PROVIDE EDGELINES Dick Ward Drive	\$190,000	IN PROGRESS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
Z03013	Solomon	Darwin City Council	From Douglas Street To Fitzer Drive CHANNELISATION AND ADDITIONAL LIGHTING	\$17,000	COMPLETE
Z03012	Solomon	Darwin City Council	Dripstone Parade Goodman Street CHANNELISATION	\$20,000	COMPLETE
Z03011	Solomon	Darwin City Council	Dick Ward Drive Old Mcmillans Road CHANNELISATION - PEDESTRIAN REFUGE AND ADDITIONAL LIGHTING	\$14,000	COMPLETE
STATE: Q03085	QLD Bonner	Brisbane City Council	Coonawarra Road Tannadice Street INSTALL TRAFFIC ISLANDS -SIGNS AND LINE MARKING	\$50,000	COMPLETE
Q03111	Bowman	Redland Shire Council	Beenleigh Road Warrigal Road UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNAL LANTERNS	\$165,000	COMPLETE
Q03107	Bowman	Redland Shire Council	Windemere Road Crotona Road East INSTALL TRAFFIC AND PEDESTRIAN SIGNALS	\$180,000	COMPLETE
Q03102	Brisbane	Brisbane City Council	Wellington Street Weippin Street INSTALL TRAFFIC SIGNALS	\$70,000	COMPLETE
Q03086	Brisbane	Brisbane City Council	Brunswick Street Mclachlan Street REMODEL SIGNALS AND KERB EXTENSIONS	\$23,700	COMPLETE
Q03130	Brisbane	Brisbane City Council	Adelaide Street Albert Street INSTALL AND UPGRADE LANTERNS	\$44,000	COMPLETE
			Harcourt Street Chester Street KERB EXTENSIONS AND LINE MARKINGS		

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
Q03129	Brisbane	Brisbane City Council	Barry Parade	\$200,000	COMPLETE
Q03125	Brisbane	Brisbane City Council	Gipps Street UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS AND TRAFFIC ISLANDS Dawson Parade	\$36,000	COMPLETE
Q03116	Brisbane	Brisbane City Council	Blaker Road INSTALL TRAFFIC ISLANDS AND KERB EXTENSIONS George Street	\$46,000	COMPLETE
Q03113	Brisbane	Brisbane City Council	Adelaide Street REMODEL SIGNALS Ann Street	\$16,800	COMPLETE
Q03106	Brisbane	Brisbane City Council	Warner Street REMODEL SIGNALS Edward Street	\$23,400	COMPLETE
Q03103	Brisbane	Brisbane City Council	Charlotte Street REMODEL SIGNALS Wickham Street	\$75,000	COMPLETE
Q03089	Brisbane	Brisbane City Council	Gipps Street REMODEL SIGNALS Ann Street	\$65,000	NOT STARTED
Q03097	Brisbane	Brisbane City Council	George Street UPDATE TRAFFIC SIGNALS - LINEMARKING AND REINFORCE LANE USAGE Margaret Street	\$27,100	COMPLETE
Q03088	Brisbane	Brisbane City Council	Albert Street REMODEL TRAFFIC SIGNALS Brunswick Street	\$32,900	COMPLETE
Q03150	Capricornia	Livingstone Shire Council	Kent Street REMODEL SIGNAL Stanage Bay Road	\$100,000	COMPLETE
Q03164	Capricornia	Rockhampton City Council	REALIGNMENT OF CURVE & SIGNAGE Rockhampton- Emu Park Road	\$342,500	IN PROGRESS

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
Q03142	Capricornia	Mount Morgan Shire Council	Berseker Street And Dean Street TRAFFIC SIGNALS Burnett Highway At Kearney'S Gap SEAL SHOULDERS - LINEMARKING - SIGNAGE & CORRECT SURFACE PROFILE	\$70,000	COMPLETE
Q03146	Capricornia	Rockhampton City Council	Rockhampton - Emu Park Road Cooper Street AUXILLIARY LANES AND WIDEN SHOULDERS	\$300,000	COMPLETE
Q03140	Dawson	Mackay City Council	Alfred Street Brisbane Street INSTALL ROUNDAABOUT	\$75,000	COMPLETE
Q03151	Dawson	Mackay City Council	Alfred Street Carlyle Street INSTALL ROUNDAABOUT	\$60,000	COMPLETE
Q03154	Dawson	Whitsunday Shire Council	Proserpine - Shute Harbour Road SIGNAGE - GUARDRAILS AND PAVEMENT MARKING	\$104,000	COMPLETE
Q03160	Dawson	Sarina Shire Council	Grasstree Road Borgs Road SEAL WIDTH THROUGH INTERSECTION	\$83,000	IN PROGRESS
Q03133	Dawson	Mackay City Council	Holts Road Glenella - Richmond Road STAGGER CROSS INTERSECTION	\$125,000	COMPLETE
Q03156	Fadden	Gold Coast City Council	Tamborine - Oxenford Road Near Welches Road REALIGN - SEAL SHOULDERS & DELINEATE AT CURVES & CREEK CROSSINGS	\$125,000	COMPLETE
Q03095	Forde	Logan City Council	Beutel Street SEAL SHOULDERS - IMPROVE DELINEATION AND NON-SKID TREATMENT	\$100,000	COMPLETE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
Q03157	Forde	Gold Coast City Council	Tamborine - Oxenford Road Near Lanes Road SEAL SHOULDERS AND DELINEATE APPROACHES TO CURVES	\$100,000	COMPLETE
Q03127	Forde	Beaudesert Shire Council	Cusack Lane DELINEATION AND SHOULDER SEALING	\$150,000	COMPLETE
Q03123	Griffith	Brisbane City Council	Vulture Street Wellington Road REMODEL TRAFFIC SIGNALS	\$88,900	COMPLETE
Q03101	Griffith	Brisbane City Council	Vulture Street Leopard Street REMODEL SIGNALS AND PEDESTRIAN CROSSING	\$60,000	COMPLETE
Q03152	Groom	Toowoomba City Council	Herries Street Kitchener Street MODIFY SIGNALS	\$25,000	NOT STARTED
Q03155	Groom	Toowoomba City Council	West Street Goggs Street EXTEND MEDIAN	\$17,500	COMPLETE
Q03132	Groom	Toowoomba City Council	Herries Street Phillip Street EXTEND MEDIAN	\$17,500	COMPLETE
Q03138	Groom	Toowoomba City Council	Stephen Street West Street MODIFY SIGNALS	\$25,000	COMPLETE
Q03135	Groom	Crows Nest Shire Council	New England Highway Meringandan - Donovan Roads STAGGERED INTERSECTION	\$78,000	NOT STARTED
Q03104	Herbert	Townsville City Council	Bundock Street Evans Street REMODEL SIGNALS	\$25,000	COMPLETE
Q03093	Herbert	Townsville City Council	Bayswater Road Ferguson Street	\$10,000	COMPLETE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
Q03122	Herbert	Townsville City Council	INDENTED RIGHT TURN LANE Ross River Raod	\$30,000	COMPLETE
Q03124	Herbert	Townsville City Council	West Street And Thompson Street REMODEL SIGNALS Charles Street	\$20,000	COMPLETE
Q03153	Hinkler	Burnett Shire Council	Anne Street INSTALL TRAFFIC ISLANDS Goodwood Road	\$50,000	COMPLETE
Q03161	Hinkler	Burnett Shire Council	SIGNAGE - DELINEATION AND SPEED REDUCTION MEASURES Elliott Heads Road	\$114,286	COMPLETE
Q03158	Hinkler	Mundubbera Shire Council	Three Chain Road UPGRADE INTERSECTION TO PROVIDE AUXILIARY RIGHT TURN LANE Augustines Road	\$25,000	COMPLETE
Q03162	Kennedy	Carpentaria Shire Council	Maurers Roadn & Riverleigh Road INCREASE RADIUS OF BOTH CURVES Burke Development Road	\$200,000	COMPLETE
Q03147	Kennedy	Herberton Shire Council	Burketown Road RECONSTRUCT INTERSECTION AND SEAL WHERE NEEDED Kennedy Highway	\$320,000	IN PROGRESS
Q03148	Kennedy	Charters Towers City Council	PAVEMENT & SHOULDER WIDENING Gill Street	\$145,000	COMPLETE
Q03141	Kennedy	Johnstone Shire Council	Deane Street LEFT TURN ONLY & PEDESTRIAN REFUGE Grace Street	\$40,000	NOT STARTED
			Ernest Street SIGNAGE - LINEMARKING AND MEDIANS		

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
Q03120	Leichhardt	Cairns City Council	Brinsmead-Kamerunga Road Loridan Drive UPDATE TRAFFIC SIGNALS	\$50,000	COMPLETE
Q03145	Leichhardt	Cairns City Council	Pine Creek - Yarrabah Road INSTALL GUARDRAIL AND DELINEATION	\$75,000	IN PROGRESS
Q03144	Leichhardt	Cairns City Council	Captain Cook Highway Holloways Beach Road REMOVE KERBING - IMPROVE SIGNAGE & PAVEMENT	\$150,000	COMPLETE
Q03143	Leichhardt	Douglas Shire Council	Captain Cook Highway WIDEN SHOULDERS	\$450,000	IN PROGRESS
Q03114	Leichhardt	Cairns City Council	Scott Street Bunda Street CONSTRUCT LEFT TURN LANE	\$30,000	COMPLETE
Q03136	Leichhardt	Cairns City Council	Captain Cook Highway Machans Beach Road MARKINGS - SIGNAGE AND REMOVAL OF KERBING	\$150,000	COMPLETE
Q03109	Lilley	Brisbane City Council	Murphy Road Robinson Road West REMODEL SIGNALS	\$90,000	COMPLETE
Q03128	Lilley	Brisbane City Council	Lutwyche Road Norman Street REMODEL SIGNALS	\$77,800	COMPLETE
Q03115	Longman	Caboolture Shire Council	Oakley Flat Road Walkers Road REMODEL TRAFFIC SIGNALS	\$30,000	NOT STARTED
Q03159	Maranoa	Barcaldine Shire Council	Barcaldine - Isisford Road WIDEN AND SEAL EXISTING BITUMEN SEAL	\$16,113	COMPLETE
Q03139	Maranoa	Dalby Town Council	Edward Street Orpen Street ROUNDBOUT	\$130,000	COMPLETE
Q03084	Mepherston	Gold Coast City Council	Cottesloe Drive PEDESTRIAN SIGNALS	\$70,000	COMPLETE
Q03090	Moncrieff	Gold Coast City Council	Gold Coast Highway	\$80,000	COMPLETE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
Q03105	Moreton	Brisbane City Council	Tedder Avenue UPDATE TRAFFIC SIGNALS AND INSTALL ANTI-SKID PAVEMENT McCullough Street	\$26,600	COMPLETE
Q03112	Moreton	Brisbane City Council	Canna Street REMODEL SIGNALS Gateway Arterial Road	\$130,000	COMPLETE
Q03121	Oxley	Ipswich City Council	South Of Miles Platting Road INSTALL GUARD RAILS Brisbane Road	\$200,000	COMPLETE
Q03119	Petrie	Brisbane City Council	Bergins Hill Road - Mining Street REMODEL SIGNALS AND UPGRADE INTERSECTION Gympie Road	\$400,000	IN PROGRESS
Q03110	Petrie	Brisbane City Council	Gayford Street INSTALL TRAFFIC SIGNALS Webster Road	\$200,000	COMPLETE
Q03117	Petrie	Brisbane City Council	Milburn Street INSTALL TRAFFIC SIGNALS Gympie Road	\$70,000	COMPLETE
Q03100	Rankin	Logan City Council	Graham Road - Zillmere Road MODIFY SIGNALS Johnson Road	\$40,000	COMPLETE
Q03108	Rankin	Logan City Council	Peverell Street SKID RESISTENT PAVEMENT - SIGNS - MARKING AND SIGNAL UPGRADE Railway Parade	\$300,000	COMPLETE
Q03094	Rankin	Logan City Council	INSTALL PEDESTRIAN SIGNALS Cinderella Drive	\$20,000	NOT STARTED
Q03091	Rankin	Logan City Council	Fitzgerald Avenue UPDATE SIGNS AND SIGHT DISTANCES North Road Bruce Road	\$80,000	COMPLETE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
Q03118	Rankin	Logan City Council	IMPROVE SIGHT LINES- SIGNS AND BAN PARKING Crest Road	\$200,000	COMPLETE
Q03096	Rankin	Logan City Council	SEAL SHOULDERS & EDGELINE Western Service Road	\$20,000	COMPLETE
Q03087	Rankin	Logan City Council	REMODEL SIGNAL Moss Street	\$20,000	COMPLETE
Q03126	Rankin	Logan City Council	REMODEL SIGNALS Ewing Road Smith Road	\$40,000	COMPLETE
Q03092	Rankin	Logan City Council	REMODEL SIGNALS Plaintain Road Bulwarna Street	\$60,000	COMPLETE
Q03098	Rankin	Logan City Council	IMPROVE SIGHT LINES - TRAFFIC ISLANDS AND BAN PARKING Springwood Road Sports Drive	\$40,000	COMPLETE
Q03099	Ryan	Brisbane City Council	UPDATE TRAFFIC SIGNALS AND NEW INDENTED RIGHT ISLANDS Moss Street Herbert Street	\$70,000	COMPLETE
Q03134	Wide Bay	Kilkivan Shire Council	REMODEL SIGNALS Coonan Street	\$400,000	COMPLETE
Q03137	Wide Bay	Hervey Bay City Council	WIDENING AND SHOULDER SEALING Allwood Avenue Burnett Highway	\$7,000	COMPLETE
Q03131	Wide Bay	Hervey Bay City Council	Boat Harbor Drive TRAFFIC ISLAND AND SIGNAGE Boundary Road	\$7,000	COMPLETE
Q03149	Wide Bay	Maryborough City Council	Robert Street And Hughes Road INSTALL TRAFFIC ISLANDS Maryborough - Hervey Bay Road CENTRAL MEDIAN - RIGHT TURN ISLANDS & PEDESTRIAN	\$250,000	IN PROGRESS

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
STATE: S03060	SA Adelaide	Unley City Council	Greenhill Road Hutt Road And George Street INSTALL MAST ARM	\$20,000	COMPLETE
S03058	Adelaide	Unley City Council	South Road Anzac Highway INSTALL MAST ARMS	\$36,000	COMPLETE
S03068	Adelaide	Port Adelaide Enfield City Council	North East Road Muller Road And Thistle Avenue MODIFY LEFT TURN SLIP LANE AND CORNER ISLAND	\$90,000	COMPLETE
S03062	Adelaide	City Of Charles Sturt	South Road Grange Road And Manton Street INSTALL MAST ARMS	\$80,000	COMPLETE
S03065	Adelaide	Prospect City Council	Regency Road Churchill Road INSTALL MAST ARMS	\$47,000	COMPLETE
S03066	Adelaide	Unley City Council	Greenhill Road Glen Osmond Road INSTALL MAST ARMS	\$36,000	COMPLETE
S03038	Barker	Mount Gambier City Council	Lake Terrace East Dohle Road CONVERT TO STAGGER 'T' INTERSECTION AND IMPROVE SIGHT DISTANCE	\$180,000	COMPLETE
S03054	Barker	Wattle Range Council	Princes Highway	\$140,000	COMPLETE
S03037	Barker	Barossa Council	WIDEN SHOULDERS Vine Vale Road Light Pass Road MODIFY INTERSECTION INCLUDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A TURNING LANE	\$91,500	COMPLETE
S03043	Boothby	Mitcham City Council	Tutt Avenue Harrow Terrace CHANNELISING TRAFFIC FLOWS - DELINEATION - SURFACE TREATMENT AND MEDIAN REFUGE	\$140,000	COMPLETE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
S03044	Boothby	Adelaide Hills City Council	Sheoak Road Upper Sturt Road To Western End Of Council DRIVEWAY LINKS TO DISCOURAGE THROUGH TRAFFIC AND INAPPROPRIATE VEHICLE SPEEDS	\$120,000	IN PROGRESS
S03039	Grey	Port Augusta City Council	North Terrace Adelaide To Port Augusta Railway INSTALL ACTIVE PROTECTION AT THE LEVEL CROSSING	\$125,000	COMPLETE
S03074	Grey	Yorke Peninsula District Council	Port Wakefield - Yorketown Minlaton - Stansbury RECONSTRUCT CURVE	\$75,000	COMPLETE
S03073	Grey	Port Pirie Regional Council	Crystal Brook - Hughes Gap Warnertown - Jamestown IMPROVE SIGHT DISTANCE BY REMOVING PORTION OF EMBANKMENT AND WIDEN SEAL	\$60,000	COMPLETE
S03059	Hindmarsh	Marion City Council	Marion Road Oaklands Road And Daws Road INSTALL MAST ARMS AND MODIFY LEFT CORNER ISLANDS	\$40,000	COMPLETE
S03063	Hindmarsh	West Torrens City Council	Henley Beach Road	\$20,000	COMPLETE
S03064	Kingston	City Of Onkaparinga	Holbrooks Road INSTALL MAST ARM South Road Flaxmill Road And Wheat-sheaf Road INSTALL MAST ARMS	\$40,000	COMPLETE
S03070	Kingston	City Of Onkaparinga	Main Road Tatachilla Road - Aldersey Street - Liddiard Street And Field Street CLOSE ONE ROAD AND CONVERT TO STAGGERED "T" ARRANGEMENT	\$250,000	IN PROGRESS

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
S03069	Makin	Port Adelaide Enfield City Council	Grand Junction Road	\$180,000	COMPLETE
S03067	Makin	Tea Tree Gully City Council	Sudholz Road INSTALL MAST ARMS AND LEFT TURN ACCELERATION LANE Golden Grove Road	\$75,000	COMPLETE
S03057	Makin	Tea Tree Gully City Council	Grenfell Road MODIFY LEFT TURN SLIP LANE AND CORNER ISLAND The Golden Way	\$25,000	COMPLETE
S03049	Makin	Salisbury City Council	The Grove Way MODIFY RADIUS ON LEFT TURN SLIP LANES Bridge Road	\$150,000	COMPLETE
S03048	Makin	Salisbury City Council	Wynn Vale Drive INSTALL LEFT TURN LANE ON BRIDGE AND CHANNELISATION ON WYNN VALE Mcintyre Road	\$50,000	IN PROGRESS
S03053	Mayo	Alexandrina Council	Nelson Road WIDEN JUNCTION - RELOCATE POLE AND MODIFY PAVEMENT MARKINGS Mount Barker - Strathalbyn	\$80,000	COMPLETE
S03052	Mayo	Alexandrina Council	WIDEN SHOULDERS Meadows - Strathalbyn SEAL SHOULDERS AND PROVIDE GUARD RAIL IN APPROPRIATE LOCATIONS	\$250,000	COMPLETE
S03055	Mayo	Alexandrina Council	Stirling - Strathalbyn IMPROVE DELINEATION - EDGE MARKING - RAISE PAVEMENT MARKERS AND ENHANCE SIGNS	\$25,000	COMPLETE
S03050	Port Adelaide	Salisbury City Council	Waterloo Corner Road Winzor Street WIDEN JUNCTION AND MODIFY PAVEMENT MARKINGS	\$30,000	COMPLETE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
S03047	Port Adelaide	Salisbury City Council	Burton Road	\$40,000	COMPLETE
S03046	Port Adelaide	Salisbury City Council	Martins Road MODIFY ALL APPROACHES TO ROUNDABOUT Spains Road	\$40,000	COMPLETE
S03042	Sturt	Burnside City Council	Winzor Street MODIFY ALL APPROACHES TO ROUNDABOUT Beulah Road	\$13,000	COMPLETE
S03061	Sturt	Tea Tree Gully City Council	Howard Street LINEMARKING - SIGHT LINES - PARKING - PAVEMENT BARS AND MARKERS Grand Junction Road	\$40,000	COMPLETE
S03041	Sturt	Burnside City Council	Ardtornish Street INSTALL A LEFT TURN SLIP Hallett Road	\$33,000	IN PROGRESS
S03045	Wakefield	Light Regional Council	Greenhill Road PAVEMENT MARKINGS - APPROACH ANGLES - POLE RELOCATION AND CURVE DELINEATION Seppeltsfield Road	\$402,000	COMPLETE
S03056	Wakefield	Salisbury City Council	Dorrien Bridge To Sturt Highway WIDEN SEAL - SEAL SHOULDER AND IMPROVE EXISTING SHOULDERS Waterloo Corner Road	\$90,000	COMPLETE
S03072	Wakefield	Light Regional Council	Bagster Road And Martins Road MAST ARMS - RIGHT TURN CONTROLS AND MODIFY LANE ARRANGEMENTS Kapunda - Gawler WIDEN SEAL	\$250,000	COMPLETE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
S03075	Wakefield	Yorke Peninsula District Council	Port Wakefield - Yorketown Road	\$294,000	COMPLETE
S03040	Wakefield	Mallala District Council	WIDEN SEAL Hayman Road & Dawkins Road Old Port Wakefield Road To Boundary Road	\$122,000	COMPLETE
STATE: T03044	TAS Bass	Launceston City Council	Gorge Road	\$60,000	COMPLETE
T03043	Braddon	Central Coast Municipal Council	Bain Terrace ROUNDABOUT Victoria Street	\$45,000	IN PROGRESS
T03036	Braddon	Latrobe Council	Reibey Street INSTALL TRAFFIC SIGNALS Parkers Ford Road	\$62,000	NOT STARTED
T03033	Braddon	Latrobe Council	Near Bushaven Drive GUARD RAILLING - RESURFACE 200 M PAVEMENT AND SPEED WARNINGS Parkers Ford Road	\$66,000	NOT STARTED
T03038	Denison	Glenorchy City Council	Near Manuka Road IMPROVE SIGHT DISTANCE- RECONSTRUCT CURVE & UPGRADE GUIDEPOSTS Main Road	\$80,000	NOT STARTED
T03040	Denison	Glenorchy City Council	Between Amy Street & Maxwell Street PROVISIONS FOR MINOR TURNS - PEDESTRIAN REFUGE AND TRAFFIC CALMING SCHEME Butler Avenue	\$25,000	NOT STARTED
			Central Avenue IMPROVE SIGNAGE AND DELINEATION		

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
T03034	Denison	Hobart City Council	New Town Road	\$15,000	NOT STARTED
T03041	Franklin	Huon Valley Council	Between Bromby Street And Creek Road PEDESTRIAN REFUGE Huon Main Road	\$225,000	IN PROGRESS
T03046	Lyons	West Coast Council	Between Shield Street And Channel Highway PROVISION FOR MINOR TURNS AND PEDESTRIAN REFUGE Murchison Highway	\$75,000	NOT STARTED
T03032	Lyons	Derwent Valley Council	To The Eastern Side Of Rosbery (2 Km Length) SIGNAGE & GUARD RAIL Glenora Road	\$108,000	IN PROGRESS
T03045	Lyons	Clarence City Council	REFLECTORISED GUIDE POSTS - SIGNING - DELINEATION AND GUARDRAILS Grasstree Hill Secondary Road Near Downhamstown Road	\$80,000	NOT STARTED
T03035	Lyons	Northern Midlands Municipal	GUARD RAIL AND CRASH CUSHION AS PROTECTION AGAINST ROADSIDE HAZARDS Lake Leake Road	\$50,000	NOT STARTED
T03047	Lyons	West Coast Council	9 Km From Midland Highway GUARD RAIL AND CRASH CUSHION AS PROTECTION AGAINST ROADSIDE HAZARDS Murchison Highway	\$100,000	NOT STARTED
T03042	Lyons	Central Highlands Municipal	To The Western Side Of Rosebery (3 Km Length) SIGNAGE & GUARD RAIL Hollow Tree Road	\$30,000	COMPLETE
			GUIDE POSTS AND SIGNAGE		

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
T03039	Lyons	Meander Valley Municipal Council	Meander Valley Secondary Road GUARD RAILLING	\$60,000	NOT STARTED
T03037	Lyons	Glamorgan/Spring Bay Council	Lake Leake Road 9 Km From Tasman Highway GUARD RAIL AND CRASH CUSHION AS PROTECTION AGAINST ROADSIDE HAZARDS	\$35,000	NOT STARTED
STATE: V03092	VIC Aston	Whitehorse City Council	Burwood Highway Hanover Road INSTALL RED RIGHT TURN ARROW - MAST ARMS & PEDESTRIAN FENCING	\$440,000	COMPLETE
V03133	Ballarat	Hepburn Shire Council	Daylesford- Trentham Road Ch 14.3km to 18.6km SEAL SHOULDERS & IMPROVE GEOMETRY	\$246,750	IN PROGRESS
V03121	Ballarat	Ballarat City Council	Midland Highway Ballarat - Burrumbeet Road (Mair Street) INSTALL RED RIGHT TURN ARROWS	\$105,000	COMPLETE
V03108	Ballarat	Ballarat City Council	Midland Highway Ballarat - Maryborough Main Road (Howitt Street) INSTALL RED RIGHT TURN ARROW & EXTEND RIGHT TURN	\$70,000	COMPLETE
V03127	Ballarat	Hepburn Shire Council	Ballarat-Maryborough Road West Street CONSTRUCT TRAFFIC ISLAND - INSTALL RIGHT TURN LANE - SIGNAGE & LINE MARKING	\$92,000	IN PROGRESS
V03125	Ballarat	Ballarat City Council	Eyre Street Raglan Street CONSTRUCT KERB EXTENSIONS - RELOCATE GIVE WAY LINES & INSTALL SPLITTER ISLANDS	\$70,000	COMPLETE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
V03135	Ballarat	Hepburn Shire Council	Clunes-Creswick Road Ch 0.2km to 0.5km INSTALL GUIDEPOSTS - IMPROVE DELINIATION - STREET LIGHT - EDGELINES & GUARDRAIL	\$91,000	COMPLETE
V03102	Batman	Darebin City Council	Albert Street Summerhill Rd To Mccomas Street INSTALL HIGH SKID RESISTANCE PAVEMENT & WIRE ROPE BARRIER	\$280,000	COMPLETE
V03106	Batman	Darebin City Council	Plenty Road Raglan Street INSTALL TRAFFIC SIGNALS - REMOVE GUARDRAIL & CONSTRUCT KERB OUTSTANDS	\$261,000	COMPLETE
V03122	Bendigo	Greater Bendigo City Council	Upper California Gully Road Speedy Street To Baldock Court INSTALL STREET LIGHTING	\$27,000	COMPLETE
V03116	Bendigo	Greater Bendigo City Council	Myrtle Street Hargreaves Street INSTALL MAST ARMS & UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS	\$40,000	COMPLETE
V03068	Bruce	Greater Dandenong City Council	Princes Highway East Foster Street INSTALL RED RIGHT TURN ARROW	\$19,000	COMPLETE
V03067	Bruce	Greater Dandenong City Council	Fairview Street Peace Street INSTALL TRAFFIC ISLAND	\$18,000	COMPLETE
V03103	Bruce	Greater Dandenong City Council	Gladstone Road Outlook Drive INSTALL TRAFFIC SIGNALS	\$145,000	COMPLETE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
V03083	Bruce	Greater Dandenong City Council	Birdwood Avenue	\$87,000	COMPLETE
V03072	Bruce	Greater Dandenong City Council	Benga Avenue INSTALL ROUNDBOUT Robinson Street	\$12,000	COMPLETE
V03085	Bruce	Greater Dandenong City Council	Clow Street INSTALL PEDESTRIAN FENCING Princes Highway East	\$40,000	COMPLETE
V03084	Bruce	Greater Dandenong City Council	Webster Street RE-POSITION TRAFFIC SIGNAL LANTERNS Jones Road	\$50,000	COMPLETE
V03096	Casey	Yarra Ranges Shire Council	Ryland Road INSTALL SPLITTER ISLAND AND THRESHOLD TREATMENTS Maroondah Highway	\$198,000	NOT STARTED
V03069	Chisholm	Whitehorse City Council	Nelson Road INSTALL TRAFFIC SIGNALS Canterbury Road	\$20,000	COMPLETE
V03087	Chisholm	Monash City Council	Clydesdale Street INSTALL SPLINTER ISLAND Highbury Road	\$349,000	IN PROGRESS
V03073	Chisholm	Whitehorse City Council	Huntingdale Road INSTALL MAST ARMS - RED RIGHT TURN ARROW - EXTEND LANE & MODIFY LEFT TURN LANE Station Street	\$26,000	COMPLETE
V03130	Corangamite	Colac-Otway Shire Council	Alexander Street INSTALL SPLINTER ISLAND Armstrong Street	\$75,000	COMPLETE
			Pound Road INSTALL SPLITTER ISLANDS		

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
V03117	Corangamite	Greater Geelong City Council	Princes Highway West Pioneer Road INSTALL RED RIGHT TURN ARROWS & SKID RESISTANCE PAVEMENT	\$130,000	COMPLETE
V03115	Corio	Greater Geelong City Council	Bellarine Highway Wilsons Road INSTALL RED RIGHT TURN ARROWS	\$40,000	COMPLETE
V03109	Corio	Greater Geelong City Council	Bellarine Highway	\$40,000	COMPLETE
V03107	Corio	Greater Geelong City Council	Coppards Road INSTALL RED RIGHT TURN ARROWS Newtown-Whittington Road	\$50,000	COMPLETE
V03071	Dunkley	Frankston City Council	Moorabool Street INSTALL RED RIGHT TURN ARROW & LINEMARKING Cranbourne-Frankston Road	\$47,000	COMPLETE
V03081	Flinders	Cardinia Shire Council	Southgateway INSTALL RED RIGHT TURN ARROW Seven Mile Road	\$67,000	COMPLETE
V03093	Flinders	Mornington Peninsula Shire	Bunyip River Road REALIGN INTERSECTION - CONSTRUCT RIGHT TURN LANE & INSTALL LIGHTING Jetty Road	\$105,000	COMPLETE
V03091	Gellibrand	Maribyrnong City Council	Inglewood Crescent SEAL SHOULDERS Droop Street	\$87,000	COMPLETE
V03079	Gellibrand	Maribyrnong City Council	Donald Street INSTALL RED RIGHT TURN ARROW - TRAFFIC SIGNAL POLE & CONCRETE ISLANDS Ashley Street Barkly Street	\$70,000	COMPLETE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
V03128	Gippsland	Wellington Shire Council	INSTALL MAST ARM & RED LIGHT TURN ARROW Traralgon-Maffra Road	\$200,000	COMPLETE
V03111	Gippsland	Wellington Shire Council	Maffra-Sale Road And Maffra-Briagolong Road MODIFY ROAUNDAABOUT GEOMETRY & INSTALL OVERSIZE SIGNAGE Princes Highway East	\$63,000	COMPLETE
V03077	Goldstein	Bayside City Council	Macarthur Street INSTALL RED RIGHT TURN ARROWS Halifax Street Well Street	\$81,500	COMPLETE
V03094	Gorton	Brimbank City Council	INSTALL ROUNDABOUT Kings Road	\$246,000	IN PROGRESS
V03099	Higgins	Stonnington City Council	Watergardens Shoppings Centre Entrance INSTALL TRAFFIC SIGNALS Warrigal Road	\$282,000	COMPLETE
V03082	Holt	Greater Dandenong City Council	The Boulevard To Batesford Road INSTALL TRAFFIC SIGNALS - PEDESTRIAN FENCING - STREET LIGHTING & SIGNAGE McCrae Street	\$54,000	COMPLETE
V03078	Holt	Casey City Council	Wedge Street INSTALL SPLINTER ISLAND S - KERB OUTSTANDS - MEDIAN & UPGRADE LIGHTING Lyll Street Russell Street	\$68,000	COMPLETE
V03076	Hotham	Kingston City Council	INSTALL ROUNDABOUT Chesterville Road South Road MODIFY ANGLE OF LEFT TURN SLIP LANE	\$65,000	COMPLETE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
V03075	Hotham	Kingston City Council	Chesterville Road	\$30,000	COMPLETE
V03119	Indi	Wangaratta Rural City Council	Bernard Street INSTALL RED RIGHT TURN ARROW Wangaratta-Whitfield Road Glenrowan-Myrtleford Main Road INSTALL LIGHTING	\$45,000	COMPLETE
V03124	Indi	Towong Shire Council	Murray Valley Highway	\$441,000	COMPLETE
V03129	Indi	Benalla Rural City Council	Ch 29.1km to 35.4km SHOULDER SEALING & REMOVE HAZARDS Midland Highway	\$420,000	COMPLETE
V03137	Indi	Indigo Shire Council	Reef Hills To Yin Barun Road Ch 10Km - 14.3Km SEAL SHOULDERS - EXTEND HAZARDOUS CULVERT & REMOVE/PROTECT TREES IN CLEAR ZONE Murray Valley Highway Near Huon-Kiewa Road Ch 20.8Km - 24.8Km SEAL SHOULDERS & WIDEN CULVERTS	\$287,000	COMPLETE
V03110	Indi	Indigo Shire Council	Murray Valley Highway Chiltern-Howlong Road INSTALL TACTILE RUMBLE STRIPS & SEAL SHOULDERS	\$50,000	COMPLETE
V03066	Isaacs	Greater Dandenong City Council	Corrigan Road	\$20,000	NOT STARTED
V03080	Kooyong	Boroondara City Council	Darren Road INSTALL TRAFFIC ISLAND Belmore Road	\$43,000	COMPLETE
V03074	Lalor	Wyndham City Council	Balwyn Road INSTALL RED LIGHT TURN ARROWS & EXTEND RIGHT TURN LANES Synnot Street Werribee Street	\$29,000	COMPLETE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
V03089	Lalor	Wyndham City Council	BAN RIGHT TURN & REPLACE CONCRETE POLES WITH FRANGIBLE POLES Duncans Road	\$58,000	COMPLETE
V03095	Lalor	Wyndham City Council	K Road INSTALL TRAFFIC ISLANDS Princes Highway West	\$33,000	COMPLETE
V03136	Mallee	Swan Hill Rural City Council	Old Geelong Road INSTALL MAST ARM & RE-PROGRAM TRAFFIC SIGNALS Murray Valley Highway	\$688,000	COMPLETE
V03088	Maribyrnong	Moonee Valley City Council	Railway Track To Chillin-gollah Road RECONSTRUCT & SEAL SHOULDER & INSTALL GUARDRAIL Mary Street	\$144,000	COMPLETE
V03098	Maribyrnong	Moonee Valley City Council	Roberts Street INSTALL ROUNDABOUT Wilson Street	\$150,000	COMPLETE
V03105	Maribyrnong	Moonee Valley City Council	Mcperson Street INSTALL ROUNDABOUT Milleara Road	\$298,000	COMPLETE
V03090	Maribyrnong	Moonee Valley City Council	Buckley Street INSTALL RED LIGHT TURN ARROWS & LEFT SLIP LANE Albion Street	\$64,000	COMPLETE
V03120	McMillan	Baw Baw Shire Council	Lawson Street INSTALL SPLINTER ISLANDS - DELINEATION & UPGRADE Koo-Wee-Rup-Longwarry Road Church Street	\$310,000	COMPLETE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
V03112	McMillan	La Trobe Shire Council	SEAL SHOULDERS - INSTALL GUIDEPOSTS - CURVE WARNING SIGNS & CLEAR VEGETATION Moe-Glengarry Road	\$73,000	COMPLETE
V03101	Melbourne	Melbourne City Council	Old Sale Road INSTALL RED RIGHT TURN ARROWS Queensberry Street	\$229,000	COMPLETE
V03100	Melbourne Ports	Glen Eira City Council	Drummond Street INSTALL TRAFFIC SIGNALS Alma Road	\$28,000	COMPLETE
V03070	Melbourne Ports	Glen Eira City Council	Kooyong Road INSTALL MAST ARMS Hawthorn Road	\$19,000	COMPLETE
V03086	Melbourne Ports	Glen Eira City Council	Sycamore Street INSTALL SPLINTER ISLAND Balaclava Road	\$32,000	COMPLETE
V03104	Menzies	Manningham City Council	Kooyong Road INSTALL MAST ARMS & MODIFY TRAFFIC SIGNALS Brysons Road	\$103,000	NOT STARTED
V03097	Menzies	Manningham City Council	Hillcrest Road To Freyne Street SHOULDER SEALING & DELINEATION Tuckers Road	\$85,000	COMPLETE
V03118	Murray	Campaspe Shire Council	Serpells Road To Bali High Boulevard SHOULDER SEALING - HIGH SKID RESISTANCE RESURFACING & IMPORVED DELINEATION Kyabram-Rochester Road Mcewen Rd - Hill Road	\$181,000	COMPLETE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
V03134	Murray	Campaspe Shire Council	SEAL SHOULDERS - INSTALL GUARD FENCE - IMPROVE SIGNAGE & DELINEATION Murray Valley Highway	\$599,000	COMPLETE
V03114	Murray	Campaspe Shire Council	Ch 9.4km to 14.9km RECONSTRUCT & SEAL SHOULDERS - TACTICLE EDGELINE & INSTALL GUARDRAIL Byrneside-Kyabram Road	\$157,000	COMPLETE
V03131	Murray	Campaspe Shire Council	Dunbar Rd/Trevaskis Road SEAL SHOULDERS - IMPROVE LINEMARKING & DELINIATION, UPGRADE GUARD FENCING Murray Valley Highway	\$641,000	COMPLETE
V03132	Wannon	Corangamite Shire Council	Ch 22.0km to 28.5km RECONSTRUCT & SEAL SHOULDERS & INSTALL GUARD RAIL Hamilton Highway	\$140,000	COMPLETE
V03113	Wannon	Warrnambool City Council	Ferrers Street REALIGN CURVE & IMPROVE GEOMETRY Hopkins Highway	\$40,000	COMPLETE
V03126	Wannon	Warrnambool City Council	Nelson Street INSTALL SPLITTER ISLANDS Timor Street	\$185,000	COMPLETE
V03123	Wannon	Warrnambool City Council	Foster Street And Nichol- son Street INSTALL ROUNDABOUT Merrivale Drive	\$40,000	COMPLETE
			Davis Street East To Scott Street UPGRADE STREET LIGHTING & DELINEATION		

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
STATE: W03084	WA Brand	Rockingham City Council	Read Street	\$13,000	COMPLETE
			Council Avenue And Cygnus Street EXTEND EXISTING RIGHT TURN TO ACCOMMODATE TURNING TRAFFIC		
W03074	Brand	Rockingham City Council	Read Street	\$25,000	COMPLETE
			Centaurus Street MODIFY TRAFFIC ISLANDS ON LEFT TURN MOVEMENTS TO 70 DEGREE STANDARD		
W03096	Brand	Rockingham City Council	Leghorn Street	\$20,000	IN PROGRESS
			Whitfield Street And Mcnicoll Street INSTALL CHANNELISATION TO MINOR LEG APPROACHES AND DOUBLE UP REGULATORY SIGNAGE		
W03085	Brand	Rockingham City Council	Warnbro Sound Avenue	\$120,000	COMPLETE
			Palm Spring Boulevard INSTALL TRAFFIC SIGNALS WITH PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES		
W03081	Canning	Armadale City Council	Lake Road	\$320,000	IN PROGRESS
			Railway Avenue And Seaforth Avenue INSTALL ROUNDAABOUT & CLOSE OFF INTERSECTION AT RAILWAY - NO ACCESS TO ALBANY HWY		
W03073	Cowan	Wanneroo City Council	Beach Road	\$50,000	COMPLETE
			Mirrabooka Avenue REMOVAL OF THE FILTERS ON TRAFFIC SIGNALS TO ALLOW DIAMOND PHASING		

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
W03069	Curtin	Vincent Town	Harold Street	\$35,000	NOT STARTED
			Lord Street EXTEND MEDIAN ISLAND ACROSS INTERSECTION TO STOP ALL RIGHT HAND TURNS		
W03067	Curtin	Vincent Town	Lincoln Street Beaufort Street EXTEND MEDIAN ISLAND ACROSS INTERSECTION TO STOP ALL RIGHT HAND TURNS	\$25,000	COMPLETE
W03090	Curtin	Subiaco City Council	Churchill Street Axon Street EXTEND SMALL TRAFFIC ISLANDS TO IMPROVE SIGHT LINES	\$11,000	COMPLETE
W03089	Curtin	Subiaco City Council	Fairway Myer Street REINFORCE PRIORITY WITH EXTRA STOP SIGNS INSTALL ISLAND FOR CONTROL & VISIBILITY	\$16,000	COMPLETE
W03092	Curtin	Subiaco City Council	Subiaco Road Hamilton Street IMPROVE SIGHT LINES AND PRIORITY BY CHANNELISING	\$15,000	COMPLETE
W03093	Curtin	Subiaco City Council	Bagot Road Townsend Road INSTALL SMALL DEFLECTION ISLANDS	\$8,000	COMPLETE
W03080	Curtin	Claremont Town Council	Shenton Road	\$5,250	IN PROGRESS
			Wright Street INSTALLATION OF ANTI-SKID SURFACE		
W03075	Curtin	Nedlands City Council	Broadway	\$108,659	IN PROGRESS
			EXTEND MEDIAN - ROAD MODIFICATION - BAN PARKING ADJACENT TO INTERSECTION		
W03095	Curtin	Claremont Town Council	Stirling Road	\$26,200	IN PROGRESS
			Gugeri Street		

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
W03078	Curtin	Subiaco City Council	MODIFY LEFT TURN LANE Railway Road Bagot Road	\$15,000	COMPLETE
W03124	Forrest	Busselton Shire Council	INSTALL LEFT SLIP LANE AND REINFORCE PRIORITY Bussell Highway	\$731,758	COMPLETE
W03108	Forrest	Harvey Shire Council	Harmans Mill Road WIDEN ROAD AND PROVIDE INTERSECTION TURN OFFS AT ALL MAJOR ACCESS ROADS Clifton Road Slk 4.2 - 7.2	\$240,000	COMPLETE
W03117	Forrest	Harvey Shire Council	WIDEN THE SEAL BY RECONSTRUCTING & SEALING SHOULDERS - INSTALL ADVISORY SIGNING Uduc Road Slk 2.41 To 5.41	\$311,000	COMPLETE
W03118	Forrest	Dardanup Shire Council	WIDEN THE SEAL BY RECONSTRUCTING & SEALING SHOULDERS - INSTALL ADVISORY SIGNING Ferguson Road Slk 0.17 - 3.17	\$162,000	COMPLETE
W03110	Forrest	Bunbury City Council	CONSTRUCT AND SEAL SHOULDERS - INSTALL SIGNAGE AND A PEDESTRIAN REFUGE Victoria Street	\$140,000	IN PROGRESS
W03100	Fremantle	Cockburn City Council	INSTALL SINGLE OUTREACH LIGHT POLES ON FOOTPATH Northlake Road	\$25,000	COMPLETE
W03070	Fremantle	Melville City Council	Beeliar Drive INSTALL NON SKID TREATMENT Preston Point Road	\$3,000	COMPLETE
			Point Walter Road INSTALL ADDITIONAL LIGHTING		

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
W03101	Fremantle	Cockburn City Council	Farrington Road	\$67,000	COMPLETE
W03068	Hasluck	City of Swan	Murdoch Drive INSTALL NON SKID TREATMENT Middle Swan Road	\$40,000	IN PROGRESS
W03094	Hasluck	City of Swan	INSTALL RAISED PAVEMENT MARKERS ALONG THE CENTRE LINE AND TACTILE EDGE LINES Hooley Road	\$80,000	COMPLETE
W03087	Hasluck	Kalamunda Shire Council	Ewart Street INSTALL ROUNDBOUT Williams Street	\$90,000	COMPLETE
W03086	Hasluck	Gosnells City Council	Elizabeth Street INSTALL ROUNDBOUT Southern River Road	\$30,000	IN PROGRESS
W03102	Hasluck	Kalamunda Shire Council	Stennett Street INSTALL SEAGULL ISLAND & RELOCATE HOLDING LINE TO IMPROVE SIGHT DISTANCE Gooseberry Hill Road	\$90,000	COMPLETE
W03079	Hasluck	Gosnells City Council	Girrawheen Drive And Railway Road INSTALL ROUNDBOUT Warton Road	\$30,000	COMPLETE
W03111	Kalgoorlie	City Of Kalgoorlie-Boulder	Matilda Street INSTALL SPLITTER ISLAND AND RELOCATE STOP LINE TO IMPROVE SIGHT DISTANCE Lionel Street	\$120,000	COMPLETE
W03123	Kalgoorlie	Roebourne Shire Council	Brookman-Hay Street INSTALL ROUNDBOUT Dampier Highway Slk 11.86 - 24.24 From Balmoral Road To Burup Peninsula Road	\$10,000	COMPLETE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
W03120	Kalgoorlie	Esperance Shire Council	INSTALLATION OF RETRO REFLECTIVE RAISED PAVEMENT MARKERS ON DAMPIER HIGHWAY Brazier Street	\$26,700	NOT STARTED
W03114	Kalgoorlie	Mullewa Shire Council	Windich Street CLOSE ONE LEG CROSSROAD AND INSTALL LEFT TURN EXIT ONLY Geraldton - Mullewa Road	\$380,000	COMPLETE
W03112	Kalgoorlie	Roebourne Shire Council	Railway Intersection SEAL WIDENING AND INSTALL ADVANCE FLASHING LIGHTS AT Dampier Road	\$295,000	COMPLETE
W03106	Kalgoorlie	Derby/West Kimberley Shire	Balmoral Road INSTALL ROUNDABOUT Forrest Road Slk 1.24-2.467	\$161,510	COMPLETE
W03113	Kalgoorlie	Broome Shire Council	CONSTRUCT DUAL USE PATH Guy Street	\$70,000	COMPLETE
W03116	Oconnor	Geraldton City Council	Herbert Street INSTALL ROUNDABOUT AND UPGRADE LIGHTING Geraldton - Mt Magnet Road Slk 1.32 To 2.67 From Flores Road To Blencowe Road	\$33,000	COMPLETE
W03122	Oconnor	Wickepin Shire Council	INSTALL STREET LIGHTING Russel Road	\$15,000	COMPLETE
W03121	Oconnor	Bruce Rock Shire Council	Mutton Road REMOVE CURVE/SLIP ENTRY TO CONSTRUCT A "T" INTERSECTION Doodlakine Road	\$10,000	COMPLETE
			Buller Road		

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
W03109	Oconnor	Albany City Council	RECONSTRUCT BULLER RD TO CONNECT TO BRUCE ROCK RD & CLOSE OLD BULLER RD TRAFFIC North Road	\$29,500	IN PROGRESS
W03119	Pearce	Williams Shire Council	Sanford Road INSTALL LEFT TURN SLIP LANE AND SEAGULL MEDIAN AND ACCELERATION Williams Narrogin High- way Slk 8.93 - 11.93 WIDEN SHOULDERS - DELINEATION - INSTALL RAISED REFLECTIVE PAVEMENT MARKERS	\$217,000	COMPLETE
W03103	Pearce	Williams Shire Council	Albany Highway Slkm 148.70 - 151.70 INSTALLATION OF AUDIBLE EDGELINES	\$11,600	COMPLETE
W03104	Pearce	Wandering Shire Council	Albany Highway Slkm 71 - 74 INSTALLATION OF AUDIBLE EDGELINES	\$11,600	COMPLETE
W03105	Pearce	Williams Shire Council	Albany Highway Slkm 129.17 To 132.17 INSTALLATION OF AUDIBLE EDGELINES	\$11,600	COMPLETE
W03088	Pearce	Wanneroo City Council	Anchorage Drive	\$40,000	COMPLETE
W03115	Pearce	Narrogin Shire Council	Rio Marina Way PROVIDE PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS - SHARED PATH AND HOLDING LINE BY GIVEWAY SIGN Williams Narrogin High- way Slk 24.09 To 26.76 WIDEN THE SEAL TO 8M AND SEALING SHOULDERS	\$120,000	IN PROGRESS
W03071	Perth	City of Swan	Marshall Road SEAL SHOULDER - INSTALL EDGE LINES AND RAISED PAVEMENT MARKERS	\$150,000	COMPLETE
W03077	Perth	Bayswater City Council	Whatley Crescent	\$30,000	COMPLETE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
W03097	Perth	Perth City Council	Coode Street & King William Street PROVIDE HIGH SKID RESISTENT ASPHALT SURFACE Roe Street	\$145,000	NOT STARTED
W03091	Swan	Victoria Park Town	Milligan Street INSTALLATION OF NEW TRAFFIC SIGNALS Berwick Street Canning Highway To Mackie Street PROVIDE A SINGLE LANE AWAY FROM THE CITY AND CLEAR ZONES TO INCREASE SIGHTLINES	\$230,000	COMPLETE
W03098	Swan	South Perth City Council	Canning Highway	\$30,000	IN PROGRESS
W03083	Tangney	Gosnells City Council	Henley Street INSTALL RIGHT TURN ARROWS Nicholson Road	\$90,000	COMPLETE
W03099	Tangney	Melville City Council	Spencer Road INSTALL LARGER SIGNAL ASPECTS AND NON SKID Macrae Road	\$50,000	COMPLETE
W03076	Tangney	Melville City Council	Ardross Street INSTALL A MINI ROUNDBOUT Karel Avenue	\$120,000	COMPLETE
			Farrington Road INSTALL NEW TRAFFIC SIGNALS		

APPROVED NATIONAL BLACK SPOT PROGRAMME PROJECTS in ALL STATES included in Programme Year 2004/2005.

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
STATE: N03283	NSW Barton	Rockdale City Council	Harrow Road From Princes Highway To Rockdale Plaza Drive RAISE THRESHOLD - EXTEND & WIDEN MEDIAN -PEDESTRIAN REFUGE & ENHANCE DELINEATION	\$45,000	NOT STARTED
N03290	Barton	Rockdale City Council	Chuter Avenue RAISED CROSSING AND KERB PARKING	\$44,000	NOT STARTED
N03287	Barton	Rockdale City Council	Wollongong Road UPGRADE & INSTALL PEDESTIAN CROSSINGS - SPLITTER ISLANDS - STOP SIGNS & EDGELINE	\$66,000	NOT STARTED
N03285	Barton	Rockdale City Council	Wollongong Road Mitchell Street UPGRADE PEDESTRIAN CROSSING	\$34,000	NOT STARTED
N03284	Barton	Rockdale City Council	Bestic Street From Jacobson Avenue To Occupation Road INSTALL MEDIAN	\$95,000	NOT STARTED
N03296	Berowra	Hornsby Shire Council	Pacific Highway Foxglove Road And Excelsior Road INSTALL TRAFFIC SIGNALS AT FOXGLOVE AND CLOSE MEDIAN AT EXCELSIOR	\$250,000	NOT STARTED
N03306	Blaxland	Canterbury City Council	Dudley Street From Canterbury Road To The Boulevard INSTALL TRAFFIC CALMING SCHEME	\$70,000	NOT STARTED
N03304	Blaxland	Bankstown City Council	Fairford Road Stacey Street UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS	\$105,000	NOT STARTED

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
N03302	Blaxland	Canterbury City Council	Victoria Road From Punchbowl Road To Wiggs Road INSTALL A ROUTE CALMING SCHEME	\$190,000	NOT STARTED
N03309	Bradfield	Ku-Ring-Gai Council	Werona Avenue Railway Underpass INSTALL ROUNDABOUT	\$100,000	NOT STARTED
N03224	Charlton	Lake Macquarie City Council	The Esplanade From Lake Street To Main Road INSTALL MEDIAN - WIDEN AND SEAL SHOULDERS	\$500,000	NOT STARTED
N03301	Cook	Sutherland Shire Council	Franklin Road Flinders Road INSTALL ROUNDABOUT	\$35,000	NOT STARTED
N03277	Cunningham	Wollongong City Council	Kembla Street Beach Street INSTALL ROUNDABOUT	\$80,000	NOT STARTED
N03238	Dobell	Wyong Shire Council	Enterprise Drive Berkeley Road INSTALL SEAGULL LAYOUT	\$300,000	NOT STARTED
N03232	Dobell	Wyong Shire Council	The Entrance Road Tuggerah Parade INSTALL TRAFFIC SIGNALS	\$230,000	NOT STARTED
N03230	Dobell	Gosford City Council	Maidens Brush Road Jarrett Street INSTALL ISLAND AND SIGNS	\$150,000	NOT STARTED
N03228	Dobell	Wyong Shire Council	Eastern Road Bay Village Road INSTALL TRAFFIC SIGNALS	\$200,000	NOT STARTED
N03267	Eden-Monaro	Eurobodalla Shire Council	Kings Highway Near Government Bend INSTALL SLOW LANES	\$150,000	NOT STARTED
N03271	Eden-Monaro	Eurobodalla Shire Council	Princes Highway	\$20,000	NOT STARTED

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
N03262	Farrer	Albury City Council	Wharf Road BAN RIGHT TURN Kaitlers Road	\$170,000	NOT STARTED
N03258	Farrer	Albury City Council	Kemp Street INSTALL TRAFFIC AND PEDESTRIAN SIGNALS Douglas Road	\$120,000	NOT STARTED
N03253	Farrer	Tumut Council	Kottoffs Street INSTALL ROUNDABOUT Herbert Street	\$30,000	NOT STARTED
N03261	Farrer	Albury City Council	Lambie Street INSTALL SPLITTER ISLANDS Borella Road	\$480,000	NOT STARTED
N03263	Farrer	Tumbarumba Shire Council	Keene Street INSTALL ROUNDABOUT The Alpine Way	\$330,000	NOT STARTED
N03305	Fowler	Fairfield City Council	RECONSTRUCT HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL ALIGNMENTS Boomerang Road & Kalang Road From Edensor Road To Edensor Road INSTALL EDGELINES - KERB BLISTERS AND THREE ROUNDABOUTS	\$120,000	NOT STARTED
N03273	Gilmore	Shoalhaven City Council	Bolong Road	\$536,000	NOT STARTED
N03279	Gilmore	Shoalhaven City Council	Back Forrest Road RECONSTRUCT ALIGNMENT AND INSTALL SAFETY BARRIER Gerroa Road	\$580,000	NOT STARTED
N03269	Gilmore	Shoalhaven City Council	Beach Road CLOSE MINOR LEG ON CROSS ROAD AND INSTALL RIGHT TURN BAYS Greenwell Point Road	\$50,000	NOT STARTED
			Mayfield Road MOVE HAZARDOUS POLES OUT OF CLEARZONE		

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
N03275	Gilmore	Shoalhaven City Council	Bolong Road	\$109,000	NOT STARTED
N03303	Grayndler	Marrickville Council	Near Jennings Lane IMPROVE SUPER ELEVATION & DELINEATION Salisbury Road	\$80,000	NOT STARTED
N03278	Hughes	Wollondilly Shire Council	Mallett Street INSTALL ROUNDABOUT West Parade	\$109,000	NOT STARTED
N03270	Hume	Wollondilly Shire Council	REMOVE VEGETATION - RECONSTRUCT AND SEAL SHOULDERS - SIGNS AND LINE MARKINGS Picton Road	\$75,000	NOT STARTED
N03264	Hume	Yass Valley Council	From Maldon Bridge Road To Mathews Lane WIDEN SHOULDER AND ENHANCE DELINEATION Murrumbateman Road	\$527,000	NOT STARTED
N03274	Hume	Wollondilly Shire Council	RECONSTRUCT HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL ALIGNMENTS Werombi Road	\$68,000	NOT STARTED
N03268	Hume	Wollondilly Shire Council	Brownlow Hill Road WIDEN AND SEAL SHOULDERS - INSTALL WARNING BARRIERS AND SIGNS Burraborang Road	\$62,000	NOT STARTED
N03231	Hunter	Cessnock City Council	RECONSTRUCT SHOULDERS - INSTALL WARNING SIGNS AND BARRIERS George Booth Drive	\$700,000	NOT STARTED
N03289	Kingsford-Smith	Randwick City Council	Richmond Vale Road CORRECT HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL ALIGNMENTS AND WIDEN SHOULDERS Anzac Parade	\$160,000	NOT STARTED

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
N03310	Lindsay	Penrith City Council	Boronia Street STREET CLOSURE T JUNCTION Great Western Highway	\$483,000	NOT STARTED
N03288	Lowe	Burwood Council	Russell Street RIGHT TURN BAY Shaftesbury Road	\$50,000	NOT STARTED
N03241	Lyne	Hastings Council	Waimea Street INSTALL RAISED THRESHOLD AT PEDESTRIAN CROSSING Clifton Drive South	\$100,000	NOT STARTED
N03244	Lyne	Hastings Council	PROVIDE ADEQUATE SUPERELEVATION Lake Road	\$100,000	NOT STARTED
N03247	Lyne	Hastings Council	INSTALL TRAFFIC CALMING SCHEME Ocean Drive	\$200,000	NOT STARTED
N03250	Lyne	Hastings Council	From Bridge Street To Vine Street TRAFFIC CALMING SCHEME Ocean Drive	\$100,000	NOT STARTED
N03234	Lyne	Greater Taree City Council	Golf Club Access Road INSTALL PAINTED SEAGULL ISLAND WITH ACCELERATION The Lakes Way	\$750,000	NOT STARTED
N03225	Lyne	Greater Taree City Council	REALIGN ROAD IN FOUR SITES WHERE CRASHES OCCUR Wallanbah Road	\$220,000	NOT STARTED
N03229	Lyne	Greater Taree City Council	INSTALL SIGNS - EDGELINES - SEAL SHOULDERS AND RAISED REFLECTIVE PAVEMENT MARKER Gloucester Road	\$320,000	NOT STARTED
			RECONSTRUCT HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL ALIGNMENTS AT CURVE		

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
N03220	Lyne	Greater Taree City Council	The Bucketts Way From View Street To Hillville Road INSTALL SIGNAGE AND RAISED REFLECTIVE PAVEMENT MARKERS	\$12,000	NOT STARTED
N03222	Lyne	Greater Taree City Council	The Bucketts Way From Landfill Entrance To View Street INSTALL SIGNS - EDGELINES - SEAL SHOULDERS AND RAISED REFLECTIVE PAVEMENT MARKER	\$115,000	NOT STARTED
N03293	Macarthur	Camden Council	Kirkham Street Campbell Street INSTALL ADDITIONAL PRIORITY SIGNS	\$15,000	NOT STARTED
N03242	New England	Armidale Dumaresq Council	Waterfall Way SUPERELEVATION AND SHOULDER WIDENING	\$40,000	NOT STARTED
N03235	Newcastle	Newcastle City Council	Pacific Highway Industrial Drive INSTALL RIGHT TURN PHASE AND SAFETY BARRIER	\$700,000	NOT STARTED
N03226	Newcastle	Newcastle City Council	Lorna Street Maud Street To Queen Street RECONSTRUCT HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL ALIGNMENTS AND INSTALL MEDIAN	\$750,000	NOT STARTED
N03227	Newcastle	Newcastle City Council	Lambton Road From Bridges Road To Royal Place INSTALL MEDIANS AND TURNING BAYS	\$200,000	NOT STARTED
N03237	Newcastle	Newcastle City Council	Industrial Drive Gross Street INSTALL SEAGULL CHANNELISATION	\$400,000	NOT STARTED
N03223	Newcastle	Newcastle City Council	Parkway Avenue	\$82,000	NOT STARTED

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
N03239	Page	Ballina Shire Council	From Corlette Street To Dawson Street INSTALL SPEED HUMPS AND STOP SIGNS Coast Road	\$31,000	NOT STARTED
N03312	Page	Ballina Shire Council	Flat Rock Camping Access Road WIDEN PAVEMENT AND INSTALL RIGHT TURN BAYS Eltham Road	\$130,000	NOT STARTED
N03311	Parkes	Dubbo City Council	RECONSTRUCT PAVEMENT Fitzroy Street	\$30,000	NOT STARTED
N03291	Parramatta	Parramatta City Council	Bultje Street INSTALL KERB EXTENSIONS Good Street	\$60,000	NOT STARTED
N03308	Parramatta	Parramatta City Council	Brisbane Street And Virginia Street INSTALL ROUNDABOUT Isabella Street	\$60,000	NOT STARTED
N03236	Paterson	Great Lakes Council	Webb Street INSTALL ROUNDABOUT Macintosh Street	\$325,000	NOT STARTED
N03221	Paterson	Gloucester Shire Council	Head Street - Lake Street And Strand Street INSTALL ISLAND AND TRAFFIC SIGNALS AND PARTIALLY CLOSE ROAD Thunderbolts Way	\$120,000	NOT STARTED
N03300	Prospect	Fairfield City Council	UPGRADE TRUCK SAFETY RAMP AND MODIFY SIGNS Elizabeth Street	\$60,000	NOT STARTED
N03294	Reid	Auburn Council	Daniel Street INSTALL ROUNDABOUT Hevington Road	\$45,000	NOT STARTED
N03292	Reid	Parramatta City Council	Norval Street INSTALL ROUNDABOUT Clyde Street	\$60,000	NOT STARTED

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
N03240	Richmond	Tweed Shire Council	Oakleigh Street INSTALL ROUNDABOUT Clothiers Creek Road	\$300,000	NOT STARTED
N03243	Richmond	Byron Shire Council	Between Environ Road To Farrants Hill Road WIDEN PAVEMENT AT BENDS - INSTALL SAFETY FENCE AND ENHANCE DELINEATION Ewingsdale Road	\$90,000	NOT STARTED
N03245	Richmond	Tweed Shire Council	Sunrise Boulevard IMPROVE LIGHTING AND INSTALL RAISED REFLECTIVE PAVEMENT MARKERS Kyogle Road	\$130,000	NOT STARTED
N03246	Richmond	Ballina Shire Council	WIDEN SHOULDER AND ENHANCE DELINEATION Ross Lane	\$240,000	NOT STARTED
N03249	Richmond	Ballina Shire Council	RECONSTRUCT HORIZONTAL ALIGNMENT AND INSTALL RIGHT TURN BAY Tintenbar Road	\$58,000	NOT STARTED
N03248	Richmond	Tweed Shire Council	From Fernleigh Road To Fredericks Road INSTALL NON SKID PAVEMENT AND ENHANCE SIGNS Kennedy Drive	\$87,000	NOT STARTED
N03254	Riverina	Griffith City Council	INSTALL TRAFFIC SIGNALS & ASSOCIATED ROAD WORKS Clifton Boulevard	\$30,000	NOT STARTED
N03252	Riverina	Wagga Wagga City Council	Sanders Street INSTALL MEDIANS - KERB EXTENSIONS & ENHANCE DELINEATION AND SIGNS Urana Street	\$80,000	NOT STARTED
			Mitchelmore Street IMPROVE APPROACHES AND SIGHT		

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
N03255	Riverina	Wagga Wagga City Council	Lord Baden Powell Drive	\$120,000	NOT STARTED
N03256	Riverina	Wagga Wagga City Council	Urana Street And Macleay Street INSTALL ROUNDABOUT Fernleigh Road	\$15,000	NOT STARTED
N03257	Riverina	Griffith City Council	Tobruk Street INSTALL ADDITIONAL PRIORITY SIGNS Boonah Street	\$50,000	NOT STARTED
N03259	Riverina	Wagga Wagga City Council	Macarthur Street INSTALL MEDIANS - REALIGN KERB AND ENHANCE DELINEATION AND SIGNS Lake Albert Road	\$260,000	NOT STARTED
N03265	Riverina	Griffith City Council	Stanley Street UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS AND INSTALL RIGHT TURN LANE Murrumbidgee Avenue	\$50,000	NOT STARTED
N03260	Riverina	Gundagai Shire Council	Watson Road And Taylor Road INSTALL MEDIANS - ENHANCE DELINEATION & SIGNS Gocup Road	\$250,000	NOT STARTED
N03251	Riverina	Wagga Wagga City Council	Approach To Stoney Creek Brdge RECONSTRUCT HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL ALIGNMENTS Lord Baden Powell Drive	\$98,000	NOT STARTED
N03233	Robertson	Gosford City Council	From Macleay Street To Lake Albert Road RESURFACE - WIDEN - REMARK AND INSTALL NEW SIGNS The Entrance Road	\$220,000	NOT STARTED
N03276	Throsby	Shellharbour City Council	Bonnal Road INSTALL TRAFFIC SIGNALS Industrial Drive	\$30,000	NOT STARTED

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
N03272	Throsby	Wollongong City Council	INSTALL SAFETY BARRIER Northcliffe Drive	\$30,000	NOT STARTED
N03266	Throsby	Shellharbour City Council	Denise Street INSTALL RAISED ISLAND Princes Highway	\$23,000	NOT STARTED
N03282	Warringah	Manly Council	From Dunsters Lane INSTALL PROFILE EDGELINE AND CENTRELINE DELINEATION Condamine Street	\$51,000	NOT STARTED
N03286	Warringah	Warringah Council	Balgowlah Road UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS Charles Street	\$38,000	NOT STARTED
N03297	Warringah	Warringah Council	Ocean View Road INSTALL ROUNDABOUT Cavill Street	\$49,000	NOT STARTED
N03295	Watson	Canterbury City Council	Lawrence Street INSTALL ROUNDABOUT Seventh Avenue	\$120,000	NOT STARTED
N03298	Watson	Canterbury City Council	From Beamish Street To First Avenue INSTALL A ROUTE CALMING SCHEME Homer Street	\$80,000	NOT STARTED
N03299	Watson	Canterbury City Council	Wellington Street INSTALL A ROUTE CALMING SCHEME Moreton Street	\$60,000	NOT STARTED
N03307	Watson	Canterbury City Council	The Boulevarde And Railway Parade INSTALL A ROUTE CALMING SCHEME Homer Street	\$230,000	NOT STARTED
			From Kingsgrove Road To Hartill-Law Avenue INSTALL A ROUTE TRAFFIC CALMING SCHEME		

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
STATE: Z03023	NT Lingiari	Coomalie Community Government	Crater Lake Road 2.90 Km From The Stuart Highway LOWER CREST, WIDEN CUTTING & BUILD UP APPROACHES	\$50,000	NOT STARTED
Z03022	Lingiari	Coomalie Community Government	Coach Road 0.43 Km Chainage REALIGN CURVE & INSTALL ROAD FURNITURE	\$45,000	NOT STARTED
Z03021	Solomon	Darwin City Council	Bagot Road From Fitzer Drive To Skelton Road INSTALL STREET LIGHTING	\$230,000	NOT STARTED
Z03020	Solomon	Darwin City Council	Mcmillans Road Sabine Road MODIFY LEFT TURN SLIP LANE - EXTEND MEDIANS - INSTALL SIGNAGE & CALMING DEVICES	\$150,000	NOT STARTED
Z03019	Solomon	Darwin City Council	Woolner Road Bishop Street EXTEND MEDIAN ISLAND AND PAVEMENT - INSTALL NEW KERB - SIGNAGE AND LINEMARKING	\$30,000	NOT STARTED
Z03017	Solomon	Darwin City Council	Chrisp Street Oliver Street INSTALL MEDIAN ISLANDS - SIGNAGE - LINEMARKING AND CHANGE APPROACH DELINEATION	\$8,000	NOT STARTED
Z03018	Solomon	Darwin City Council	Lee Point Road Moil Crescent INSTALL AND MODIFY MEDIAN ISLANDS - SIGNAGE AND LINEMARKING	\$10,000	NOT STARTED

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
STATE: Q03225	QLD Blair	Laidley Shire Council	Woodlands Road (Section 3)	\$4,250	NOT STARTED
			Martin Road SEAL INTERSECTION - INSTALL HAZARD BOARD -T-SIGNS - LINEMARKING&SKID RESISTANCE		
Q03226	Blair	Gatton Shire Council	Woodlands Road	\$11,500	NOT STARTED
			Schroeder Road - Edwards Road & Rangeview Road INSTALL SIGNAGE AND REDESIGN INTERSECTION		
Q03198	Blair	Ipswich City Council	Cemetery Road	\$390,000	IN PROGRESS
			Whitehill Road INSTALL TRAFFIC SIGNALS WITH NO TURN ARROWS		
Q03204	Bonner	Brisbane City Council	Belmont Road	\$50,000	NOT STARTED
			Pelgrave Street CONSTRUCT KERB EXTENSION		
Q03203	Bonner	Brisbane City Council	Green Camp Road	\$40,000	NOT STARTED
			Rickertt Road UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS WITH RIGHT TURN PHASE AND LED		
Q03194	Bonner	Brisbane City Council	Wynnum Road	\$175,000	NOT STARTED
			Northlife Street REMODEL TRAFFIC SIGNALS AND LINE MARKINGS		
Q03196	Bonner	Brisbane City Council	Gateway Motorway	\$75,000	NOT STARTED
			From Mt Gravatt-Capalaba Road For 1 Km South INSTALL GUARD RAIL		
Q03191	Bowman	Redland Shire Council	Rickertt Road	\$240,000	NOT STARTED
			Thornside Road And St James Road REMODEL TRAFFIC SIGNALS - RIGHT TURN LANES - SIGHT LINE AND LIGHTING		

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
Q03187	Brisbane	Brisbane City Council	Boundary Street	\$115,000	NOT STARTED
			Little Edward Street And Walter Street REMODEL & UPGRADE SIGNALS - CHANGE APPROACH & SHORTEN RIGHT TURN		
Q03186	Brisbane	Brisbane City Council	Gold Coast Highway	\$200,000	NOT STARTED
			19Th Avenue MODIFY SIGNAL - EXTEND RIGHT TURN AND IMPROVE LIGHTING		
Q03180	Brisbane	Brisbane City Council	Boundary Street	\$65,000	NOT STARTED
			Leichhardt Street And St Pauls Terrace UPGRADE SIGNALS TO LED AND PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES		
Q03193	Brisbane	Brisbane City Council	Brunswick Street	\$90,000	NOT STARTED
			Barry Parade And St Pauls Terrace LED AND PEDESTRIAN UPGRADES TO SIGNALS		
Q03184	Brisbane	Brisbane City Council	Northey Street	\$35,000	NOT STARTED
			Victoria Street INSTALL TRAFFIC ISLANDS - UPGRADE SIGNAGE AND		
Q03211	Capricornia	Rockhampton City Council	Alexander Street	\$140,000	NOT STARTED
			Main Street INSTALL TRAFFIC SIGNALS AND BAN U-TURNS		
Q03213	Capricornia	Banana Shire Council	Dawson Highway	\$120,000	NOT STARTED
			West Of Four Mile Creek SEAL SHOULDERS - LINEMARKING AND DELINEATION		
Q03208	Capricornia	Banana Shire Council	Dawson Highway	\$202,000	NOT STARTED
			Rail Crossing To Exhibition Avenue IMPROVE LIGHTING - LINEMARKING - SIGNAGE AND BAN U-TURNS		

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
Q03212	Capricornia	Rockhampton City Council	Bolsover Street	\$150,000	NOT STARTED
Q03221	Capricornia	Fitzroy Shire Council	North Street INSTALL TRAFFIC SIGNALS LINKED TO QLD RAIL BOOMGATES Rockhampton-Ridgeland Road	\$190,000	NOT STARTED
Q03230	Capricornia	Banana Shire Council	Leichhardt Highway	\$105,000	NOT STARTED
Q03219	Capricornia	Banana Shire Council	South Of Woolien Station Turnoff (1.45 Km Length) WIDEN AND SEAL SHOULDER THROUGH MIDDLE CURVE AND CHANGE LINE MARKINGS Leichhardt Highway	\$100,000	NOT STARTED
Q03215	Capricornia	Rockhampton City Council	Curve South Of Gibber Gunya Road SEAL LEFT SHOULDER - REMOVE HAZARDS - EDGELINES - DELINEATION & SIGNAGE Yeppoon Road	\$170,000	NOT STARTED
Q03214	Capricornia	Banana Shire Council	Norman Road INSTALL TRAFFIC SIGNALS - BAN U-TURNS - IMPROVE VISIBILITY & REDUCE SPEED Bunerba School Road	\$330,000	NOT STARTED
Q03216	Dawson	Burdekin Shire Council	To Dee River SEAL SHOULDER - REPROFILE SUPER-ELEVATION - SIGNAGE - LINEMARKING & DELINEATION Wilmington Street	\$85,000	NOT STARTED
Q03200	Dickson	Brisbane City Council	Young Street INSTALL ROUNDABOUT Brunswick Street	\$30,000	NOT STARTED

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
Q03166	Dickson	Pine Rivers Shire Council	Ivory Street UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS WITH LED AND REINFORCE TURN LANES Samsonvale Road	\$10,000	NOT STARTED
Q03165	Dickson	Pine Rivers Shire Council	Livingstone Street MODIFY SIGNALS - RIGHT TURN ON GREEN ONLY Dohles Rocks Road	\$20,000	NOT STARTED
Q03170	Dickson	Pine Rivers Shire Council	Ogg Road MODIFY SIGNALS - INSTALL EXTRA TRAFFIC ISLAND AND LINE MARKING Kensington Way	\$10,000	NOT STARTED
Q03201	Dickson	Pine Rivers Shire Council	Sovereign Avenue MODIFY SIGNALS - RIGHT TURN ON GREEN ONLY Anzac Avenue	\$65,000	NOT STARTED
Q03195	Fisher	Caloundra City Council	Near Petrie Street IMPROVE SIGNAGE - DELINEATION - LINE MARKING AND SKID RESISTENCE Buccleugh Street	\$45,000	NOT STARTED
Q03189	Fisher	Maroochy Shire Council	Roderick Street UPGRADE PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES AT INTERSECTION AND REMOVAL OF ZEBRA CROSSING River Esplanade	\$100,000	NOT STARTED
Q03206	Fisher	Caloundra City Council	Parkyn Parade REMODEL SIGNALS - EXTEND KERBS AND UPGRADE LIGHTING Tunnel Ridge Road	\$45,000	NOT STARTED
Q03178	Forde	Logan City Council	IMPROVE DELINEATION WITH POSTS AND SIGNAGE Muchow Road	\$80,000	NOT STARTED

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
Q03174	Forde	Logan City Council	Chambers Flat Road REMODEL SIGNALS WITH LED LANTERNS - PROVIDE LINEMARKING & PEDESTRIAN PROTECTION Loganlea Road	\$70,000	NOT STARTED
Q03171	Forde	Logan City Council	Edenlea Drive REMODEL SIGNALS - TURN LEFT & THRU - IMPROVE SIGHT LINE & PREDESTRIAN PROTECTION Brisbane-Beenleigh Road	\$75,000	NOT STARTED
Q03224	Forde	Boonah Shire Council	Muchow Road UPGRADE SIGNALS - ADDITIONAL LANTERNS Brents Road	\$50,000	NOT STARTED
Q03185	Griffith	Brisbane City Council	Fm Bell Road And Bunjungen Road REGRADE CREST CURVE AND INSTALL SIGNS AND PAVEMENT MARKINGS Baines Street	\$15,000	NOT STARTED
Q03188	Griffith	Brisbane City Council	Main Street MODIFY SIGNALS AND IMPROVE LINEMARKING Juliette Street	\$50,000	NOT STARTED
Q03192	Herbert	Townsville City Council	King Street RESTRICT KING STREET - RECONSTRUCT TRAFFIC ISLAND & INSTALL ADDITIONAL LIGHTING Bundock Street	\$20,000	NOT STARTED
Q03179	Herbert	Thuringowa City Council	Old Common Road REMODEL SIGNALS Charles Street	\$100,000	NOT STARTED
Q03172	Herbert	Thuringowa City Council	Serra Street PROVIDE TURNING LANES ON MAJOR ROAD Charles Street	\$40,000	NOT STARTED
			Bamford Lane		

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
Q03210	Hinkler	Calliope Shire Council	IMPROVE LIGHTING AND DELINEATION Dawson Highway	\$460,000	NOT STARTED
Q03209	Hinkler	Calliope Shire Council	Calliope Range WIDEN SEAL - REMOVE HAZARDS - INSTALL GUARDRAIL - SIGNAGE AND LINEMARKING Gladstone-Benaraby Road	\$500,000	NOT STARTED
Q03223	Hinkler	Gladstone City Council	From Shire Boundary To 10 Mile Creek PROVIDE PAINTED ISLAND ON CURVES - SIGNAGE - IMPROVE DELINEATION AND LINEMARKING Haddock Drive	\$65,000	NOT STARTED
Q03227	Hinkler	Isis Shire Council	REALIGN ROAD AND INSTALL SIGNAGE North Isis Road	\$156,650	NOT STARTED
Q03222	Hinkler	Gladstone City Council	Near Franceys Road And Whiebridge Road EXCAVATE CRESTS AND REALIGN INTERSECTION Derby Street	\$50,000	NOT STARTED
Q03218	Hinkler	Calliope Shire Council	Ann Street TRAFFIC ISLANDS AND LINE MARKING Gladstone-Mt Larcom Road	\$92,600	NOT STARTED
Q03217	Hinkler	Gladstone City Council	Between Flynn Road And Quarry Road SEAL SHOULDERS - PROVIDE LINEMARKING - SIGNAGE - DELINEATION & GUARDRAILS Gladstone-Mt Larcom Road	\$190,000	NOT STARTED
Q03228	Kennedy	Boulia Shire Council	Tank Street REMODEL SIGNALS - PAINTED & CONCRETE ISLAND/LANES - SIGNAGE & LINEMARKING Kennedy Development Road	\$80,000	NOT STARTED

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
Q03229	Kennedy	Cloncurry Shire Council	2.97.86 - 301.16 Km West Of Winton WIDEN 4.0 M SEAL TO 8.0 M SEAL OVER THE TWO CRESTS Dajarra - Mt Isa Road	\$80,000	NOT STARTED
Q03231	Kennedy	Mareeba Shire Council	WIDEN EXISTING SEAL AND FORMATION Kennedy Highway	\$210,000	NOT STARTED
Q03232	Kennedy	Atherton Shire Council	Pike Road Section WIDEN AND SEAL SHOULDER Atherton-Herberton Road	\$215,000	NOT STARTED
Q03233	Kennedy	Eacham Shire Council	1 Km Length Near Top Of Range WIDEN AND SEAL SHOULDER Gordonvale-Atherton Road	\$215,000	NOT STARTED
Q03220	Kennedy	Eacham Shire Council	Near Top Of Range SEAL SHOULDERS - IMPROVE DELINEATION AND NON-SKID TREATMENT Millaa Millaa - Malanda Road From Nash Road To Moregotta Road WIDEN AND SEAL SHOULDERS AND PROVIDE DELINEATION	\$150,000	NOT STARTED
Q03207	Leichhardt	Douglas Shire Council	Captain Cook Highway	\$330,000	NOT STARTED
Q03202	Lilley	Brisbane City Council	Buchan Point Carpark Access WIDEN SHOULDERS Sandgate Road	\$70,000	NOT STARTED
Q03169	Lilley	Brisbane City Council	Toombul Shopping Centre Access MODIFY TRAFFIC SIGNALS - NEW MAST ARMS AND LED Sandgate Road	\$50,000	NOT STARTED
			Carlyle Road And Rogham Road REMODEL SIGNALS TO FULLY CONTROL RIGHT TURN		

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
Q03182	Mcperson	Gold Coast City Council	Gold Coast Highway	\$280,000	NOT STARTED
			Markeri Street MODIFY SIGNALS - EXTEND RIGHT TURN - IMPROVE LIGHTING & PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES		
Q03190	Mcperson	Gold Coast City Council	Burleigh Connection Road	\$150,000	NOT STARTED
			Mattocks Road EXTEND RIGHT TURN LANE AND MODIFY SIGNALS		
Q03175	Moncrieff	Gold Coast City Council	Southport-Nerang Road	\$200,000	NOT STARTED
			Wardoo Street IMPROVE SIGNAGE - SKID RESISTANT PAVING AND EXTEND RIGHT TURN		
Q03181	Moncrieff	Gold Coast City Council	Nearang Connection Drive	\$230,000	NOT STARTED
			Banyula Drive INSTALL TRAFFIC SIGNALS AND IMPROVE LIGHTING		
Q03167	Moncrieff	Gold Coast City Council	Benowa Road	\$50,000	NOT STARTED
			Wardoo Street INSTALL RIGHT TURN LANE AND MODIFY TRAFFIC SIGNAL PHASING		
Q03197	Moreton	Brisbane City Council	Toohey Road	\$15,000	NOT STARTED
			Flanders Street To Barnehurst Street IMPROVE SIGNAGE AND DELINEATION		
Q03199	Oxley	Ipswich City Council	Old Logan Road	\$235,000	NOT STARTED
			Addison Road And Cairns Road MODIFY TRAFFIC SIGNALS AND INSTALL DEDICATED RIGHT TURN ARROW		
Q03177	Petrie	Redcliffe City Council	Oxley Avenue	\$50,000	NOT STARTED
			Duffield Road		

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
Q03168	Petrie	Brisbane City Council	REMODEL SIGNALS WITH FULLY CONTROLLED RIGHT TURN ARROW AND UPGRADE TO LED Gympie Road	\$40,000	NOT STARTED
Q03205	Petrie	Brisbane City Council	Albany Creek Road And Robinson Road UPGRADE SIGNALS WITH LED - PAVEMENT MARKINGS - SHARED LEFT TURN AND THRU LANE South Pine Road	\$750,000	NOT STARTED
Q03183	Rankin	Logan City Council	Old Northern Road INSTALL MEDIAN - GUARDRAIL - SIGNAGE AND MODIFY RIGHT TURNS Waratah Drive	\$300,000	NOT STARTED
Q03176	Rankin	Logan City Council	Browns Plains Road To Chambers Flat Road UPGRADE SIX INTERSECTIONS - INSTALL AND UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS Springwood Road	\$85,000	NOT STARTED
Q03173	Rankin	Logan City Council	Rochedale Road REMODEL SIGNALS WITH LED LANTERNS AND INSTALL TRAFFIC ISLANDS AT APPROACHES Pacific Highway Eastern Service Road Rowland Street To Carlyle Street IMPROVE SIGHT LINES - SPLITTER ISLANDS - PAVEMENT MARKINGS AND SIGNAGE	\$100,000	NOT STARTED
STATE: S03102	SA Adelaide	Burnside City Council	Conyngham Street Greenhill Road To Flemington Street	\$40,000	NOT STARTED

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
S03101	Adelaide	Adelaide City Council	IMPROVE DELINEATION LINEMARKING RPMS & VEGETATION REMOVAL King William Street	\$20,000	NOT STARTED
S03076	Adelaide	Prospect City Council	Pirie Street & Waymouth Street INSTALL CENTRE ROAD TRAFFIC SIGNAL LANTERNS Prospect Road	\$100,000	NOT STARTED
S03100	Barker	Murray Bridge Rural Council	Regency Road To Staples Court And Marian Place To Fitzroy Terrace INSTALL PAINTED MEDIAN WITH TURN LANES & CYCLE LANES White Hill - Murray Bridge Road Le Messurier Street To Stan- den Street	\$100,000	NOT STARTED
S03087	Barker	Murray Bridge Rural Council	INSTALL PAINTED MEDIAN SCHEME Mulgundawah Road & Brink- ley Road Maurice Road & Hindmarsh Road	\$11,500	NOT STARTED
S03090	Barker	Murray Bridge Rural Council	CHANGE INTERSECTION PRIORITY INSTALL KERBS GUTTERS SIGNAGE & LINEMARKING Hill Street	\$4,000	NOT STARTED
S03083	Boothby	Mitcham City Council	500M Including Intersections Of Kintore, Buxton & Weigal Avenues LINEMARKING TO IMPROVE DELINEATION & INSTALL SAFETY BARS Coromandel Parade	\$90,000	NOT STARTED
S03077	Boothby	Marion City Council	Craiglee Drive To Horners Bridge INSTALL & UPGRADE GUARDFENCES & INSTALL CAMS & RRPMS Marion Road Sturt Road	\$50,000	IN PROGRESS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
S03105	Grey	Cooper Pedy District Council	INSTALL MAST ARMS ON NORTH & EAST APPROACHES & LEFT TURN CORNER ISLANDS Paxton Road	\$11,000	NOT STARTED
S03106	Grey	Northern Areas Council	Rufous Place Cameron Drive & Clark Street REALIGN INTERSECTION & INSTALL KERBING SIGNAGE & LINEMARKING Laura - Caltowie Road	\$104,000	NOT STARTED
S03107	Makin	Salisbury City Council	Stone Hut To Caltowie Road REALIGN & RECONSTRUCT 4 CURVES & INSTALL SIGNAGE & GUIDEPOSTS Nelson Road	\$50,000	NOT STARTED
S03092	Mayo	Adelaide Hills City Council	Kesters Road RAISE VERTICAL PROFILE OF KESTERS RD APPROACH Cudlee Creek - Lobethal Road	\$185,000	NOT STARTED
S03091	Mayo	Adelaide Hills City Council	2Km Section South Of Langley Road INSTALL 4 LENGTHS OF GUARDFENCE & SEAL SHOULDERS Lyndoch - Chain Of Ponds Road	\$130,000	NOT STARTED
S03109	Mayo	Alexandrina Council	Bewteen Checker Hill Road & Maidstone Road INSTALL NEW GUARDFENCE SECTIONS & MINOR SHOULDER SEALING WORK Brooking Street - Hindmarsh Island Bridge	\$270,000	NOT STARTED
S03089	Mayo	Adelaide Hills City Council	Goolwa Terrace & Liverpool Road INSTALL ROUNDABOUT Tea Tree Gully - Mannum Road	\$25,000	NOT STARTED
S03094	Mayo	Adelaide Hills City Council	Little Para Road IMPROVE / REINFORCE SIGNS Tea Tree Gully - Mannum Road	\$200,000	NOT STARTED

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
S03097	Mayo	Adelaide Hills City Council	2Km Road Length East Of Gumeracha INSTALL GUARD FENCE & SEAL SHOULDERS Balhannah - Littlehampton Road	\$470,000	NOT STARTED
S03104	Mayo	Alexandrina Council	Entire 6Km Length Of Road SEAL SHOULDERS & INSTALL EDGELINE Strathalbyn - Wellington Road	\$99,000	NOT STARTED
S03099	Mayo	Alexandrina Council	Dalveen Road REMOVE VEGETATION & REALIGN JUNCTION TO NEAR 90 DEGREES Blackwood - Goolwa Road	\$100,000	NOT STARTED
S03098	Mayo	Adelaide Hills City Council	Gardiner Street IMPROVE SIGNAGE & MINOR INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS Tea Tree Gully - Mannum Road	\$180,000	NOT STARTED
S03088	Mayo	Adelaide Hills City Council	1Km Road Length West Of Gumeracha INSTALL GUARD FENCE & SEAL SHOULDERS Tea Tree Gully - Mannum Road	\$60,000	NOT STARTED
S03093	Mayo	Adelaide Hills City Council	Rrd 24.23 - 24.39 At Chain Of Ponds INSTALL NEW GUARDFENCE WIDEN PAVEMENT & SHOULDER SEAL Cudlee Creek - Lobethal Road	\$205,000	NOT STARTED
S03080	Port Adelaide	Port Adelaide Enfield City Council	900M Section South Of Berry Hill Road INSTALL 4 LENGTHS OF GUARDFENCE & SEAL SHOULDERS Semaphore Road	\$65,000	NOT STARTED
S03084	Port Adelaide	Salisbury City Council	Fletcher Road 70 DEGREE LEFT TURN TREATMENT & INCREASE SIGHT DISTANCE Martins Road	\$85,000	NOT STARTED
			Morgan Street		

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
S03085	Port Adelaide	Salisbury City Council	INSTALL ROUNDABOUT Bolivar Road	\$40,000	NOT STARTED
S03079	Port Adelaide	Port Adelaide Enfield City Council	Liberator Drive MODIFY APPROACHES TO EXISTING ROUNDABOUT Bower Road	\$80,000	NOT STARTED
S03081	Port Adelaide	Salisbury City Council	Causeway Road MODIFY & UPGRADE SIGNALS & PROVIDE 2 LEFT TURN LANES FROM CAUSEWAY RD Spains Road	\$85,000	NOT STARTED
S03078	Sturt	Port Adelaide Enfield City Council	Beverley Drive INSTALL ROUNDABOUT O G Road	\$60,000	NOT STARTED
S03082	Sturt	Campbelltown City Council (Sa)	Fourth Avenue To Tregoweth Court INSTALL PAINTED MEDIAN WITH TURN LANES & PARKING LANES Magill Road	\$70,000	NOT STARTED
S03103	Sturt	Burnside City Council	Glynburn Road To St Bernards Road INSTALL PAINTED MEDIAN WITH TURN LANES & PARKING LANES Rochester Street	\$27,000	NOT STARTED
S03108	Sturt	Burnside City Council	IMPROVE DELINEATION KERBING LINEMARKING RPMS & The Parade	\$72,000	NOT STARTED
S03095	Wakefield	Light Regional Council	Shipsters Road & Gurrs Road IMPROVE DELINEATION & GEOMETRY OF JUNCTIONS Main North Road	\$300,000	NOT STARTED
			7.4Km Section South Of Tarlee SEAL SECTIONS OF SHOULDER & INSTALL RRPMS		

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
S03086	Wakefield	City Of Playford	Robert Road	\$183,500	NOT STARTED
			Taylor Road UPGRADE INTERSECTION WITH A STAGGERED T- JUNCTION LAYOUT		
STATE: T03057	TAS Bass	Launceston City Council	Wellington Street	\$25,000	NOT STARTED
T03061	Bass	Dorset Municipal Council	Pipeworks Road CONTROLLED RIGHT TURN PHRASES Ringarooma Road	\$25,000	NOT STARTED
T03052	Bass	Glamorgan/Spring Bay Council	INSTALL GUARD RAIL Tasman Highway	\$135,000	NOT STARTED
T03066	Braddon	Latrobe Council	PROTECTION OF ROADSIDE HAZARDS - GUARD RAILING Frankford Main Road	\$15,000	NOT STARTED
T03058	Braddon	Devonport City Council	Chapel Road SIGHT BENCHING Best Street	\$30,000	NOT STARTED
T03049	Braddon	West Tamar Council	Sorell Street DEFLECTOR TRAFFIC ISLANDS Frankford Main Road	\$488,000	NOT STARTED
T03065	Braddon	Devonport City Council	West Of Biralee, Main Road To Frankford CURVE WIDENING AND SHOULDER SEALING ON 6 CURVES AND GUARD RAILING ON 2 CURVES Devonport Road	\$18,100	NOT STARTED
T03062	Braddon	Waratah-Wynyard Council	Horse Head Creek Bridge GUARDRAIL FENCING Calder Road	\$20,790	NOT STARTED
T03064	Denison	Glenorchy City Council	West Of Bass Highway GUARD FENCING Cadbury Road	\$20,000	NOT STARTED
T03053	Denison	Glenorchy City Council	Main Road Slip Lane MODIFY LAYOUT Brooker Highway	\$25,000	NOT STARTED
			Howard Road		

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
T03051	Denison	Hobart City Council	PLANT VEGETATION WITHIN CENTER CORE, CONSTRUCT FENCES ALONG MEDIAN ISLANDS Brooker Highway	\$65,000	NOT STARTED
T03056	Denison	Hobart City Council	Brisbane Street BAN RIGHT TURN Federal Street	\$150,000	NOT STARTED
T03060	Franklin	Clarence City Council	Argyle Street REMOVE TRAFFIC SIGNALS AND REPLACE WITH ROUNDABOUT East Derwent Highway	\$55,000	NOT STARTED
T03050	Lyons	West Tamar Council	Tasman Highway CONVERT 2 TRAFFIC LANES INTO ONE West Tamar Highway	\$140,000	NOT STARTED
T03067	South Of Exeter PROTECTION OF ROADSIDE HAZARDS - GUARD RAILING Lyons	Tasman Municipal Council	Nubeena Secondary Road	\$7,500	NOT STARTED
T03055	Lyons	Central Highlands Municipal	Newmans Creek GUARD RAIL Lyell Highway	\$200,000	NOT STARTED
T03048	Lyons	Sorell Council	Fourteen Mile Road RECONSTRUCT CORNER, SEAL FOURTEEN MILE RD FOR 30M BACK FROM LYELL HWY Carlton River Road	\$31,000	NOT STARTED
T03063	Lyons	West Coast Council	Near Dodges Hill Road WIDEN AND SEAL SHOULDERS - INCREASE RADIUS OF HORIZONTAL CURVE Various Intersections In Queenstown GIVE WAY SIGNS	\$10,000	NOT STARTED

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
T03054	Lyons	Break O'Day Council	Tasman Highway	\$60,000	NOT STARTED
T03059	Lyons	West Tamar Council	Dianas Basin PROTECTION OF ROADSIDE HAZARDS - GUARD RAILING West Tamar Highway	\$100,000	NOT STARTED
V03147	Aston	Knox City Council	Flowery Gully Road SIGHT BENCHING, SEALING OF SHOULDER OPPOSITE STATE: Mountain Highway	VIC \$40,000	IN PROGRESS
V03169	Aston	Knox City Council	Stud Road UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS - FULLY CONTROL RIGHT TURN	\$20,000	IN PROGRESS
V03193	Ballarat	Ballarat City Council	High Street Road UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS - PARTIAL CONTROL RIGHT TURN Ballarat-Maryborough Road	\$31,000	NOT STARTED
V03222	Ballarat	Ballarat City Council	Learmonth-Sulky Road INSTALL KERB EXTENSIONS & UPGRADE SIGNAGE Midland Highway	\$150,000	NOT STARTED
V03203	Ballarat	Ballarat City Council	Bell Street INSTALL SPLITTER ISLANDS - IMPROVE CHANNELISATION - SIGNAGE AND LINEMARKING Ballarat-Buninyong Road	\$73,000	NOT STARTED
V03201	Ballarat	Ballarat City Council	Tinworth Avenue RIGHT TURN LANE - LINE MARKING AND SIGNAGE Ballarat-Carngham Road	\$42,000	NOT STARTED
V03196	Ballarat	Ballarat City Council	Pleasant Street MODIFY KERB EXTENSIONS Ballarat-Carngham Road	\$28,000	NOT STARTED
			Adair Street		

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
V03183	Batman	Darebin City Council	INSTALL KERB EXTENSIONS Albert Street	\$34,000	NOT STARTED
V03217	Bendigo	Greater Bendigo City Council	Murray Road UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS - INSTALL BACK TO BACK LANTERNS ON EXISTING MASTARM Neale Street	\$155,000	NOT STARTED
V03213	Bendigo	Greater Bendigo City Council	Ellis Street INSTALL ROUNDABOUT Neale Street	\$141,000	COMPLETE
V03194	Bendigo	Greater Bendigo City Council	Hodgkinson Street INSTALL ROUNDABOUT Calder Highway	\$32,000	NOT STARTED
V03211	Bendigo	Greater Bendigo City Council	Lansell Plaza Entrance UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS - INSTALL MASTARM AND FULLY CONTROL RIGHT TURN Diamond Hill Road - Woodward Road Burns Street To Koorkab Road SEAL SHOULDERS AND PROVIDE EDGELINE	\$125,000	IN PROGRESS
V03215	Bendigo	Greater Bendigo City Council	Neale Street	\$148,000	NOT STARTED
V03218	Bendigo	Greater Bendigo City Council	Drechsler Street INSTALL ROUNDABOUT Calder Highway	\$20,000	NOT STARTED
V03159	Bruce	Monash City Council	Barnard Street UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS - INSTALL MASTARM Ferntree Gully Road	\$155,000	NOT STARTED
V03143	Bruce	Greater Dandenong City Council	Watsons Road And Strada Crescent UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS AND EXTEND RIGHT TURN LANES Dandenong Valley Highway Clow Street	\$24,000	COMPLETE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
V03186	Bruce	Greater Dandenong City Council	UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS - FULLY CONTROL RIGHT TURN Dandenong Valley Highway	\$142,000	NOT STARTED
V03163	Bruce	Greater Dandenong City Council	David Street FULLY CONTROL RIGHT TURNS WEST & PARTIALLY CONTROL RIGHT TURNS EAST Princes Highway East	\$83,000	NOT STARTED
V03168	Bruce	Greater Dandenong City Council	Plunkett Road IMPROVE SKID RESISTANCE / INSTALL MAST ARM Dandenong Valley Highway	\$66,000	NOT STARTED
V03141	Calwell	Hume City Council	Heatherton Road HIGH SKID RESISTANCE OVERLAY Pascoe Vale Road	\$15,000	IN PROGRESS
V03164	Calwell	Hume City Council	Broadmeadows Shopping Centre (South End) UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS - FULLY CONTROL RIGHT TURN Broadmeadows Deviation Road	\$12,000	COMPLETE
V03172	Calwell	Brimbank City Council	North Circular Road UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS - INSTALL SIGNAL LANTERN FACING WEST Calder Freeway	\$328,000	NOT STARTED
V03166	Casey	Maroondah City Council	Calder Park Drive CONSTRUCT SEALED SHOULDER ON MEDIAN AND INSTALL TACTILE EDGE LINES Yarra Road	\$135,000	NOT STARTED
V03181	Casey	Yarra Ranges Shire Council	Plymouth Road UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS AND EXTEND RIGHT TURN LANES Old Gippsland Highway Queen Road	\$84,000	NOT STARTED

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
V03189	Chisholm	Whitehorse City Council	CONSTRUCT SPLITTER ISLANDS AND IMPROVE LIGHTING - ADVISORY SIGNS AND LINEMARKING Station Street	\$22,000	NOT STARTED
V03167	Chisholm	Monash City Council	Eley Road UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS - INSTALL MASTARM WITH BACK TO BACK LANTERNS Princes Highway East	\$83,000	NOT STARTED
V03155	Chisholm	Monash City Council	Clayton Road UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS - PARTIAL CONTROL RIGHT TURNS AND INSTALL MASTARMS Warrigal Road	\$10,000	IN PROGRESS
V03153	Chisholm	Monash City Council	Power Avenue INSTALL WARNING SIGNS AND LINE MARKING Ferntree Gully Road	\$187,000	NOT STARTED
V03150	Chisholm	Boroondara City Council	Foster Road And Gardiner Road UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS - FULLY CONTROL RIGHT TURN & EXTEND RIGHT TURN LANE Warrigal Road	\$55,000	NOT STARTED
V03146	Chisholm	Monash City Council	Riversdale Road UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS - FULLY CONTROL RIGHT TURN & INSTALL MAST ARM Huntingdale Road	\$21,000	IN PROGRESS
V03144	Chisholm	Monash City Council	Monash Freeway UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS - FULLY CONTROL RIGHT TURN Waverley Road	\$46,000	NOT STARTED
			Stephensons Road		

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
V03192	Corio	Greater Geelong City Council	UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS - FULLY CONTROL RIGHT TURN & INSTALL MAST ARM Bellarine Highway	\$30,000	COMPLETE
V03177	Dunkley	Frankston City Council	Christies Road And Claremont Drive EXTEND MEDIAN - INSTALL SPLITTER ISLAND AND ADDITIONAL SIGNAGE Frankston-Flinders Road	\$21,000	NOT STARTED
V03190	Dunkley	Frankston City Council	Heatherhill Road UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS - INSTALL MASTARM ON SOUTH APPROACH Nepean Highway	\$53,000	NOT STARTED
V03224	Gippsland	Wellington Shire Council	Davey-Hastings Road UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS AND PEDESTRIAN FENCING Hyland Highway	\$390,000	IN PROGRESS
V03142	Goldstein	Bayside City Council	Scales Road To South Of Gormandale SEAL SHOULDERS - IMPROVE SKID RESISTANCE AND Bay Street	\$28,000	NOT STARTED
V03162	Goldstein	Bayside City Council	Asling Street And St Andrews Street RECONSTRUCT CENTRAL ISLANDS Beach Road	\$90,000	NOT STARTED
V03145	Gorton	Brimbank City Council	Picketts Points Carpark To Reserve Road INDENT PARKING - RIGHT TURN STORAGE TO CARPARK AND INSTALL PEDESTRIAN REFUGE Melton Highway Kings Road	\$20,000	COMPLETE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
V03154	Higgins	Stonnington City Council	UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS - FULLY CONTROL RIGHT TURN Warrigal Highway	\$10,000	NOT STARTED
V03170	Higgins	Stonnington City Council	Mountfield Avenue INSTALL WARNING SIGNS AND LINE MARKING Warrigal Highway	\$97,000	NOT STARTED
V03138	Holt	Casey City Council	Batesford Road SKID RESISTANCE OVERLAY AND MORE PEDESTRIAN SIGNAGE Narre Warren North Road	\$20,000	NOT STARTED
V03158	Hotham	Kingston City Council	Ernst Wanke Road UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS - FULLY CONTROL RIGHT TURN Warrigal Highway	\$66,000	COMPLETE
V03187	Hotham	Kingston City Council	Kingston Road MODIFY LEFT TURN SLIP LANE Centre Road	\$20,000	COMPLETE
V03148	Hotham	Greater Dandenong City Council	Springs Road UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS - INSTALL LARGER MASTARM AND REMOVE TREES Springvale Road	\$20,000	NOT STARTED
V03171	Hotham	Kingston City Council	St. James Avenue UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS - FULLY CONTROL RIGHT TURN Clayton Road	\$221,000	NOT STARTED
V03185	Hotham	Kingston City Council	Bourke Road And Osborne Avenue UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS - EXTEND RIGHT TURN LANES AND CLEAR VEGETATION Lower Dandenong Road Centre Dandenong Road	\$163,000	NOT STARTED

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
V03209	Indi	Benalla Rural City Council	UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS - FULLY CONTROL LEFT TURN INCLUDING DOUBLE TURN LANE Midland Highway	\$43,000	NOT STARTED
V03210	Indi	Benalla Rural City Council	Arundel Street UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS - FULLY CONTROL RIGHT TURN Kilfeera Road	\$124,000	NOT STARTED
V03225	Indi	Towong Shire Council	East Of Bostock Road SEAL SHOULDERS - INSTALL EDGELINE & IMPROVE DELINEATION Murray Valley Highway	\$200,000	NOT STARTED
V03204	Indi	Towong Shire Council	Omeo Highway To Towong Street CONSTRUCT AND SEAL SHOULDERS - EXTEND CULVERT AND WIDEN ROAD AT CURVES Murray Valley Highway	\$200,000	NOT STARTED
V03191	Isaacs	Frankston City Council	Yabba Road To Tallangata-Bethanga Road CONSTRUCT AND SEAL SHOULDERS - INSTALL KERBING AND GUARD FENCE Hall Road	\$205,000	NOT STARTED
V03184	Isaacs	Kingston City Council	Lyrebird Drive INSTALL TRAFFIC SIGNALS Nepean Highway	\$258,000	NOT STARTED
V03161	Isaacs	Kingston City Council	Station Road INSTALL TRAFFIC SIGNALS & ASSOCIATED ROAD WORKS Nepean Highway	\$94,000	COMPLETE
V03156	Jagajaga	Banyule City Council	The Strand ROAD CLOSURE Greensborough Highway Erskine Road	\$65,000	NOT STARTED

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
V03151	Jagajaga	Banyule City Council	UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS - FULLY CONTROL RIGHT TURN Greensborough Highway	\$38,000	NOT STARTED
V03149	Kooyong	Boroondara City Council	Yallambie Road UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS - FULLY CONTROL RIGHT TURN Toorak Road	\$26,000	NOT STARTED
V03140	Kooyong	Boroondara City Council	Ooronga Road UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS AND INSTALL RIGHT TURN LANE Riversdale Road	\$12,000	NOT STARTED
V03173	Latrobe	Yarra Ranges Shire Council	Highfield Road UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS - PARTIAL CONTROL RIGHT TURN Belgrave-Gembrook Road	\$80,000	NOT STARTED
V03182	Latrobe	Cardinia Shire Council	East Of Glen Park Drive RESURFACE - WIDEN & SEAL SHOULDER - EXTEND GUARDRAIL AND IMPROVE DELINEATION Albers Road	\$42,000	NOT STARTED
V03178	Latrobe	Knox City Council	Murray Road RESEAL AND IMPROVE SIGHT DISTANCE AND DELINEATION Underwood Road	\$226,000	NOT STARTED
V03174	Latrobe	Yarra Ranges Shire Council	Hasting Avenue To Forest Road CHANNELISATION TREATMENTS WITH MEDIAN & SPLITTER ISLANDS - MODIFY T-INTERSECTION Belgrave-Gembrook Road Grantulla Road And School Road To Church Road	\$236,000	NOT STARTED

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
V03165	Latrobe	Knox City Council	RESURFACE - EXTEND GUARD RAIL - INSTALL LINEMARKINGS AND IMPROVE SUPERELEVATION Scoresby Road	\$98,000	NOT STARTED
V03152	Latrobe	Cardinia Shire Council	Boronia Road UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS AND EXTEND RIGHT TURN LANES Bailey Road	\$136,000	NOT STARTED
V03212	Mallee	Swan Hill Rural City Council	From Neville Street To Ma- jestic Drive SEAL SHOULERS AND PAINT EDGELINE Chapman Street	\$186,000	NOT STARTED
V03205	Mallee	Gannawarra Shire Council	Stradbroke Road INSTALL ROUNDABOUT Kerang-Koondrook Road	\$151,000	NOT STARTED
V03180	Maribyrnong	Moonee Valley City Council	Cohuna-Koondrook Road And Olsen Road INSTALL SPLITTER ISLAND AND REMOVE LEFT SLIP LANE Mt Alexander Road	\$514,000	NOT STARTED
V03202	Mcewen	Mitchell Shire Council	Fletcher Street INSTALL TRAFFIC SIGNALS Broadford-Flowerdale Road	\$170,000	IN PROGRESS
V03219	Mcewen	Macedon Ranges Shire Council	From Hume Freeway To Elliot's Road SEAL SHOULDERS - INSTALL GUARD RAIL - EDGELINES AND WARNING SIGNS Kilmore-Lancefield Road	\$237,000	NOT STARTED
V03208	Mcewen	Macedon Ranges Shire Council	Old Kilmore Road To Gra- hams Road SEAL SHOULDERS AND PROVIDE EDGELINE Gisborne-Kilmore Road	\$282,000	NOT STARTED
			Station Road To Kilmore Road		

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
V03220	Mcewen	Mitchell Shire Council	SEAL SHOULDERS AND PROVIDE EDGELINE Wallan-Whittlesea Road	\$85,000	NOT STARTED
V03195	Mcewen	Murrindindi Shire Council	Wyndham Street INSTALL SPLITTER ISLANDS Break O' Day Road	\$30,000	NOT STARTED
V03179	Mcewen	Yarra Ranges Shire Council	Melba Highway To Whittlesea-Yea Road INSTALL CURVE WARNING SIGNS AND ALIGNMENT MARKERS Warburton Highway	\$94,000	IN PROGRESS
V03221	Mcewen	Macedon Ranges Shire Council	Gembrook-Launching Place Road EXTEND SHOULDER SEAL TO CREATE PASSING LANE AND IMPROVE SIGNAGE AND LIGHTS Sunbury-Riddells Creek Road	\$445,000	NOT STARTED
V03207	Mcmillan	South Gippsland Shire Council	Gibson-Klimore Road To South Of Jacksons SEAL SHOULDERS - PAINT EDGELINE AND IMPROVE Bass Highway	\$310,000	NOT STARTED
V03157	Mcmillan	Cardinia Shire Council	Pound Creek Road To Zotti Road And Dowells Road CLEAR VEGETATION - SEAL SHOULDER AND INSTALL TACTILE EDGELINES Nine Mile Road	\$14,000	NOT STARTED
V03188	Melbourne Ports	Port Phillip City Council	Eleven Mile Road INSTALL CURVE ALIGNMENT MARKERS - LINEMARKINGS & WARNING SIGNS Pickles Street	\$270,000	NOT STARTED
			Liardet Street And Richardson Street INSTALL TRAFFIC SIGNALS & ASSOCIATED ROAD WORKS		

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
V03176	Melbourne Ports	Port Phillip City Council	Clarendon Street Dorcas Street INSTALL FLASHING GIVE WAY TO PED SIGNS & REORIENT SIGNALS	\$59,000	NOT STARTED
V03139	Melbourne Ports	Bayside City Council	North Road Kooyong Road UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS - FULLY CONTROL RIGHT TURN	\$15,000	NOT STARTED
V03199	Murray	Moira Shire Council	Murphy Street Piper Street INSTALL ROUNDABOUT	\$82,000	NOT STARTED
V03198	Murray	Greater Shepparton City Council	Midland Highway O'Brien Street UPGRADE SIGNALS - KERB MODIFICATIONS AND SLIP LANES	\$80,000	IN PROGRESS
V03197	Murray	Campaspe Shire Council	Goulburn Road Bowen Street And Darling Street CREATE TURN LANE AND IMPROVE SIGNAGE	\$15,000	NOT STARTED
V03206	Murray	Campaspe Shire Council	Girgarre-Rushworth Road West Road To Two Tree Road SEAL SHOULDERS AND PROVIDE EDGELINE	\$102,000	NOT STARTED
V03200	Murray	Moira Shire Council	Murphy Street Witt Street INSTALL ROUNDABOUT	\$82,000	NOT STARTED
V03223	Wannon	Southern Grampians Shire	Lonsdale Street Dinwoodie Street INSTALL ROUNDABOUT	\$170,000	NOT STARTED
V03226	Wannon	Glenelg Shire Council	Myamyn-Macarthur Road Ettrick-Condah Road STAGGERED T INTERSECTION & IMPROVE SIGNAGE	\$240,000	NOT STARTED
V03214	Wannon	Corangamite Shire Council	Lavers Hill - Cobden Road	\$100,000	NOT STARTED

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
V03216	Wannon	Ararat Rural City Council	Coradjil Road To Gribbles Road INSTALL GUIDEPOSTS & CURVE ALIGNMENT MARKERS Ararat-Pomonal Road	\$87,000	NOT STARTED
V03175	Wills	Moreland City Council	Jullukar North Road To Long Gully Road SEAL SHOULDERS - EDGE LINES AND IMPROVE CURVE DELINEATION Hilton Street	\$62,000	NOT STARTED
V03160	Wills	Moreland City Council	Isla Avenue INSTALL RAISED THRESHOLD TREATMENT AND IMPROVE SIGNAGE Munro Street	\$116,000	NOT STARTED
STATE: W03138	WA Brand	Rockingham City Council	Louisa Street MODIFY ROUNDABOUT Millar Road	\$95,000	NOT STARTED
W03170	Brand	Mandurah City Council	Baldivis Road INSTALL ROUNDABOUT Coodanup Drive	\$50,000	IN PROGRESS
W03172	Brand	Mandurah City Council	INSTALL LIGHTING AND ENHANCE PAVEMENT MARKERS Old Coast Road	\$50,000	IN PROGRESS
W03157	Brand	Rockingham City Council	INSTALL ANTISKID SURFACE Read Street	\$150,000	IN PROGRESS
W03146	Brand	Rockingham City Council	Rae Road ANTI SKID TREATMENT Safety Bay Road	\$18,000	NOT STARTED
W03167	Brand	Mandurah City Council	Parkin Street REDUCE RADIUS OF LEFT TURN SLIP LANE Mississippi Drive	\$60,000	IN PROGRESS
			PROVIDE PEDESTRIAN REFUGE WITH APPROPRIATE LIGHTING		

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
W03148	Brand	Rockingham City Council	Mandurah Road	\$38,000	IN PROGRESS
W03165	Brand	Mandurah City Council	Millar Road ANTI SKID TREATMENT Pinjarra Road	\$580,000	NOT STARTED
W03169	Brand	Mandurah City Council	Lakes Road And Wanjeep Road INSTALL TRAFFIC SIGNALS AND LEFT SLIP LANE Oakmont Avenue	\$60,000	IN PROGRESS
W03153	Canning	Serpentine-Jarrahadale Shire	PROVIDE PEDESTRIAN REFUGE WITH APPROPRIATE LIGHTING King Road	\$100,000	NOT STARTED
W03140	Canning	Serpentine-Jarrahadale Shire	Orton Road INSTALL ROUNDABOUT Kingsbury Drive	\$145,000	IN PROGRESS
W03150	Canning	Serpentine-Jarrahadale Shire	RECONSTRUCT SUPER ELEVATION - INSTALL SIGNAGE AND SEAL SHOULDERS Thomas Road	\$300,000	NOT STARTED
W03130	Cowan	Wanneroo City Council	Nicholson Road TRAFFIC SIGNALS AND FLASHING LIGHTS Calvert Way	\$35,500	IN PROGRESS
W03154	Curtin	Cambridge Town Council	PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLING FACILITIES Selby Street	\$25,000	NOT STARTED
W03129	Curtin	Subiaco City Council	Salvado Road REALIGN LEFT TURN SLIP - MODIFY MEDIANS & ADD LINE MARKINGS Roberts Road	\$8,000	NOT STARTED
W03128	Curtin	Subiaco City Council	Coughlan Road INSTALL ISLAND AND STOP SIGN Railway Road	\$12,000	IN PROGRESS
W03171	Forrest	Bunbury City Council	Barker Road MEDIAN CLOSURE Sandridge Road	\$32,000	IN PROGRESS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
W03179	Forrest	Busselton Shire Council	Pennant Road INSTALL STREET LIGHTING Commonage Road	\$150,000	IN PROGRESS
W03178	Forrest	Busselton Shire Council	SEAL SHOULDERS - INSTALL REFLECTIVE GUIDEPOSTS AND ADVISORY SIGNS Metricup Road	\$120,000	IN PROGRESS
W03168	Forrest	Busselton Shire Council	SEAL SHOULDERS AND INSTALL ADVISORY SIGNS Gifford Road	\$120,000	IN PROGRESS
W03175	Forrest	Bunbury City Council	Beach Road PROVIDE PEDESTRIAN REFUGE WITH APPROPRIATE LIGHTING Washington Avenue	\$10,000	IN PROGRESS
W03174	Forrest	Busselton Shire Council	Nalbarra Drive INSTALL PRIORITY SIGNS - TRAFFIC ISLANDS AND IMPROVE SIGHTLINES Tuart Drive	\$300,000	IN PROGRESS
W03164	Forrest	Collie Shire Council	SEAL SHOULDERS - AUDIBLE EDGELINES - RAISED MARKERS AND ADVISORY SIGNS Patstone Road	\$11,300	IN PROGRESS
W03176	Forrest	Busselton Shire Council	INSTALL EDGELINES AND CENTRE LINE MARKING Forrest Beach Road	\$180,000	IN PROGRESS
W03181	Forrest	Donnybrook - Balin- gup Shire	SEAL SHOULDERS - INSTALL REFLECTIVE GUIDEPOSTS AND ADVISORY SIGNS Ballingup Nannup	\$75,000	IN PROGRESS
			CONSTRUCT AND SEAL SHOULDERS - INSTALL SIGNAGE GUIDE POSTS AND REMOVE VEGETATION		

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
W03173	Forrest	Busselton Shire Council	Cape Naturaliste Road	\$120,000	IN PROGRESS
W03156	Fremantle	Fremantle City Council	WIDEN SHOULDERS - INSTALL REFLECTIVE GUIDEPOSTS AND ADVISORY SIGNS South Terrace	\$120,000	NOT STARTED
W03162	Fremantle	Fremantle City Council	Scott Street INSTALL ROUNDABOUT Lefroy Road	\$130,000	NOT STARTED
W03144	Fremantle	Melville City Council	York Street INSTALL ROUNDABOUT Leach Highway	\$28,000	IN PROGRESS
W03187	Fremantle	Cockburn City Council	Winacott Street SEAGULL AND TRAFFIC ISLANDS Phoenix Road	\$86,000	NOT STARTED
W03135	Fremantle	Melville City Council	North Lake Road ANTI SKID TREATMENT Canning Highway	\$10,000	IN PROGRESS
W03127	Fremantle	Cockburn City Council	Harris Road REINFORCE PRIORITY AND TRAFFIC ISLANDS Rockingham Road	\$46,000	NOT STARTED
W03137	Fremantle	Cockburn City Council	Spearwood Avenue INSTALL TURN ARROWS Winterfold Road	\$78,000	NOT STARTED
W03155	Hasluck	Gosnells City Council	North Lake Road ANTI SKID TREATMENT Fremantle Road	\$60,000	NOT STARTED
W03180	Hasluck	City of Swan	Lissiman Street IMPROVE PRIORITY SIGNS - SIGHT LINES AND NON SKID TREATMENT Great Eastern Highway	\$231,725	NOT STARTED
W03141	Hasluck	Gosnells City Council	ANTI SKID TREATMENT AND EXTEND MEDIAN SAFETY BARRIER Albany Highway Verna Street	\$100,000	NOT STARTED

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
W03163	Kalgoorlie	Derby/West Kimberley Shire	CLOSE OFF VERNA STREET Sanford Road	\$187,385	NOT STARTED
W03147	Moore	City Of Joondalup	Forrest Road To Skuthorp INSTALL PATH AND DUAL SOLAR POWERED LIGHTS Joondalup Drive Shenton Avenue	\$13,333	COMPLETE
W03139	Moore	City Of Joondalup	INSTALL NON SKID TREATMENT Marmion Avenue	\$20,000	COMPLETE
W03131	Moore	City Of Joondalup	Hodges Drive ANTI SKID TREATMENT Joondalup Drive	\$23,333	COMPLETE
W03126	Moore	City Of Joondalup	Hodges Drive NON-SKID TREATMENT Whitefords Avenue	\$13,333	NOT STARTED
W03177	O'Connor	Geraldton City Council	Gibson Avenue IMPROVE SIGHT LINES & REMODEL TRAFFIC SIGNALS North West Coastal Highway	\$89,178	NOT STARTED
W03182	O'Connor	Albany City Council	Eastward Road And Johnston Street MODIFY SIGNAL PHASING AND WIDEN INTERSECTION Albany Highway	\$103,500	IN PROGRESS
W03166	O'Connor	Geraldton City Council	York Street Lockyer Avenue St Emille Way SIGNS - PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES - NON SKID RESURFACE - LINE MARKING - LIGHTING North West Coastal Highway	\$75,127	IN PROGRESS
W03184	O'Connor	Albany City Council	Hosken Street INSTALL LEFT TURN POCKET - STREET LIGHTING AND IMPROVE SIGHTLINE Ulster Road	\$61,550	IN PROGRESS
			Angove Road To Martin Road		

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
W03185	O'Connor	Greenough Shire Council	UPGRADE STREET LIGHTING - SIGNAGE AND IMPROVE SIGHT LINES Brand Highway	\$23,800	IN PROGRESS
W03186	O'Connor	Albany City Council	Phillips Road And Georgina Road SEAL GRAVEL SIDE APPROACHES Middleton Road	\$149,200	IN PROGRESS
W03188	Pearce	Wandering Shire Council	Hay Street To Seymour Street INSTALL MEDIAN - CENTRE ISLAND AT INTERSECTION - IMPROVE FOOTPATH & GULLY GRATE Albany Highway	\$200,000	NOT STARTED
W03125	Pearce	Wanneroo City Council	SEAL SHOULDERS AND INSTALL AUDIBLE EDGELINE Connolly Drive	\$16,000	IN PROGRESS
W03151	Perth	Perth City Council	Walyunga Drive INSTALL FOOTPATH - PEDESTRIAN ISLAND - PAINTED MEDIAN & PARKING PROHIBITORS Roe Street	\$28,500	NOT STARTED
W03145	Perth	Bassendean Town Council	William Street INSTALL NON SKID TREATMENT Anzac Terrace	\$10,000	IN PROGRESS
W03133	Perth	Bassendean Town Council	Ida Street INSTALLATION OF TRAFFIC ISLANDS AND STOP SIGNS Walter Road East	\$6,000	NOT STARTED
W03136	Stirling	Stirling City Council	Northmoor Road INSTALL TRAFFIC ISLAND AND CHANGE GIVE WAY TO STOP Nollamara Avenue Flinders Street	\$22,400	NOT STARTED

Reference Number	Federal Electorate	Local Government Area	Location and Treatment	Approved Cost	Progress Status
W03158	Swan	Victoria Park Town	ANTI SKID TREATMENT AND LEFT TURN POCKETS Washington Street	\$120,000	NOT STARTED
W03149	Swan	Victoria Park Town	Mcmaster Street INSTALL ROUNDABOUT Albany Highway	\$405,000	IN PROGRESS
W03161	Tangney	Melville City Council	Kent Street INSTALL ROUNDABOUT Leach Highway	\$22,000	IN PROGRESS
W03160	Tangney	Melville City Council	Riseley Street EXTEND LEFT SLIP LANE Leach Highway	\$80,000	IN PROGRESS
W03159	Tangney	Canning City Council	Moolyeen Road INSTALL LEFT SLIP LANE High Road	\$105,000	NOT STARTED
W03152	Tangney	Canning City Council	Herald Avenue And Wavel Avenue REMODEL TRAFFIC SIGNALS Leach Highway	\$40,000	NOT STARTED
W03143	Tangney	Melville City Council	Karel Avenue INSTALL MAST ARM Leach Highway	\$20,000	COMPLETE
W03142	Tangney	Melville City Council	Pulo Road REDUCE RADIUS ON LEFT HAND LANE Coogee Road	\$70,000	IN PROGRESS
W03132	Tangney	Canning City Council	Bateman Road INSTALL ROUNDABOUT Leach Highway	\$5,000	NOT STARTED
			Fifth Avenue RELOCATE POWER POLE		

**Travel Management Services
(Question Nos 217 to 235)**

Senator Mark Bishop asked the Minister for Finance and Administration, upon notice, on 21 December 2004:

With reference to the arrangement between the Commonwealth and Qantas Business Travel for the provision of air travel booking services to the Commonwealth, what steps have been taken to ensure that departmental personnel travel with the air carrier which provides the 'best fare on the day' as quoted by Qantas Business Travel.

Senator Minchin—The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

There is no single arrangement between the Commonwealth and Qantas Business Travel (QBT) for the provision of travel management services.

Departments and agencies establish arrangements with travel management companies (TMCs) for the provision of travel management services by market testing, generally through open public tender. Many departments and agencies have formed travel clusters for the purpose of procuring travel management services to attract discounts that become available through combining their travel spends.

QBT is one of four TMCs contracted to provide travel management services to Commonwealth departments and agencies. These agreements require TMCs to offer the Best Fare of the Day (BFOD) to Commonwealth employees travelling on official business.

Other steps taken to help ensure that department personnel use the BFOD are:

- Finance Circular 2004/13 - Guidance Best Fare of the Day (BFOD) for Domestic Air Travel;
- those departments and agencies that are contracted to QBT are further protected by a Best Fare of the Day Protocol between Qantas Airways Limited and the Commonwealth that was signed on 25 July 2003. Under the Protocol, Qantas undertakes that QBT will offer BFOD to its government clients.
- Departments and agencies have updated their internal travel policies and procedures to incorporate BFOD guidance.

Qantas Business Travel (Question No. 236)

Senator Mark Bishop asked the Minister for Finance and Administration, upon notice, on 21 December 2004:

- (1) With reference to the article 'Plane trouble delays possibly grounds Deputy PM' which appeared in the Australian on 20 December 2004: (a) is Qantas Business Travel the sole provider of air travel booking services to the Commonwealth; (b) when did this arrangement take effect; (c) when will the arrangement expire; (d) was the arrangement put to open tender; if not, why not; (e) which other providers expressed an interest in providing air travel booking services to the Commonwealth; and (f) how much has the Commonwealth paid Qantas Business Travel for the provision of air travel booking services for each financial year since the arrangement took effect.
- (2) With reference to the negotiation of the arrangement between the Commonwealth and Qantas Business Travel for the provision of air travel booking services to the Commonwealth: (a) who negotiated the arrangement on behalf of the Commonwealth and who provided final approval of the arrangement; (b) when and where did the Minister receive representations from the Deputy Prime Minister in relation to the negotiation of this arrangement; (c) what was the outcome of those representations; (d) were records of those representations kept; if so, will the Minister provide the records; if not, why not; (e) what documentation or contract records of the arrangement between the Commonwealth and Qantas Business Travel exist and will the Minister provide the documentation; if not, why not; (f) what provisions in the agreement ensure that Qantas Business Travel always provides the Commonwealth with quotes based on the 'best fare on the day'; and (g) what sanctions apply should it fail to do so.

Senator Minchin—The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

- (1) (a) No.
(b)-(f) Not applicable.
- (2) (a) There is no sole arrangement between the Commonwealth and Qantas Business Travel for provision of air travel services to the Commonwealth.

(b)-(g) Not applicable.

Regional Partnerships

(Question No. 238)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister for Finance and Administration, upon notice, on 22 December 2004:

- (1) Which Regional Partnerships program funding announcements were submitted to the department for costing pursuant to the Charter of Budget Honesty during the 2004 election caretaker period.
- (2) For each case: (a) what are the details of the Regional Partnerships funding announcement including the amount of funding; and (b) on what date were the details submitted.
- (3) On what date was a media statement released by the Secretary of the department (or Secretaries) informing the public of the costing request, consistent with the Charter of Budget Honesty Costing of Election Commitment Guidelines jointly issued by the Secretary of the Department of the Treasury and the Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration in 2004 (the guidelines).
- (4) If no media statement was released, why not.
- (5) If a media statement was released, will the Minister provide a copy; if not, why not.
- (6) Did the Secretary of the department (or Secretaries) seek further information from the Prime Minister to facilitate accurate costing, as provided in the guidelines; if so: (a) on what date; (b) what further information was sought; and (c) what was the Prime Minister's response.
- (7) (a) On what date were costings related to the announcement released; and (b) will the Minister provide a copy of the relevant findings; if not, why not.
- (8) If the findings were not released, did the Secretary of the department (or Secretaries) release a media statement informing the public that a policy costing was not possible; if so, will the Minister provide a copy of the media statement; if not, why not.
- (9) If no media statement was released, why not.

Senator Minchin—The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows.

Details of Government election commitments, submitted to the Department of Finance and Administration in 2004 under the Charter of Budget Honesty arrangements, which may be administered, using the Regional Partnerships Programme as the delivery mechanism, by the Department of Transport and Regional Services are set out in Table One (Questions (1) and (2)(a)) and Table Two (Questions (2)(b) through (9)).

Table One

(1) Which Regional Partnerships program funding announcements were submitted to the department for costing pursuant to the Charter of Budget Honesty during the 2004 election caretaker period.	(2) For each case: (a) what are the details of the Regional Partnerships funding announcement including the amount of funding.
Supporting Kalgoorlie	A re-elected Coalition Government will provide \$50,000 to revitalise the Newman Town Centre.
Investing in Stronger Regions	The Coalition will build on the existing projects that we have funded under the Regional Partnerships programme by investing in six regional icons across Australia. The regional icons are: - The Mackay Science and Technology Precinct (\$8 million over two years).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The redevelopment of Buchanan Park in Mount Isa (\$5 million over two years). - The Hinkler Hall of Aviation in Bundaberg (\$4 million over two years). - The upgrade of the Dalby Showgrounds (\$2 million in 2004-5). - The RM Williams Australian Bush Centre in Eidsvold (\$4 million over three years). - The Australian Equine and Livestock Centre in Tamworth (\$6 million over two years). <p>A re-elected Coalition Government will invest \$15 million over three years in a new Rural Medical Infrastructure Fund.</p>
Supporting Far North Queensland Improving Services for Regional Australia - Bank@Post	<p>A re-elected Coalition Government will provide \$6 million for the Thuringowa Riverway urban development initiative.</p> <p>A re-elected Coalition Government will provide \$9.7 million over four years to roll-out Bank@Post services to Licensed Post Offices (LPO's) with a minimum of 2,500 transactions a year. This will see Bank@Post services become available at an additional 266 outlets across Australia.</p>
Strengthening Tasmania's Economy and Building a Better Community	<p>The re-elected Coalition Government will provide funding for a number of projects which are outlined in the Strengthening Tasmania's Economy and Building a Better Community:</p> <p>\$150,000 to accommodate additional exhibits and increased visitor numbers at the Australian Axeman's Hall of Fame at La Trobe.</p> <p>\$100,000 towards feasibility and scoping study for the introduction of an innovative transport system at Cradle Mountain.</p> <p>\$250,000 to house the Bass and Flinders replica ship "The Norfolk" within a disused privately owned picture theatre, subject to Council approval and long term public access.</p> <p>\$200,000 toward the construction of a Rhododendron garden interpretation/visitor centre at Burnie.</p> <p>\$150,000 for a Planning Strategy for Bridport.</p> <p>\$300,000 to help build gymnasium, physiotherapy and rehabilitation facilities for sportsmen and women using the Bellerive Oval.</p> <p>\$250,000 to the Launceston City Council to develop bike tracks within the Launceston area</p> <p>\$100,000 to upgrade the Queenstown Memorial Hall, and \$15,000 to build a skate board ramp.</p> <p>\$250,000 to renovate and develop the George Town Memorial Hall and \$10,000 to assist the members of the George Town Football Club and the Council to fence the football ground.</p> <p>\$25,000 for the provision of an adequate storage shed for the White City Athletics Club at Rocherlea.</p> <p>\$65,000 to establish a series of memorial rest stops in the hometowns of Tasmania's thirteen Victoria Cross recipients.</p> <p>\$250,000 to the Devonport City Council towards the \$521,000 budgeted cost of the stage three works from the Mussel Rock Beacon to the Torquay Ferry Terminal to continue to open the city centre back up to face the river.</p> <p>\$600,000 to Region North over three years to implement some initiatives suggested by the Report "Economic Development Plan for Northern Tasmania".</p>

Table Two

Programme	Supporting Kalgoorlie	Investing in Stronger Regions	Supporting Far North Queensland	Improving Services for Regional Aus- tralia - Bank@Post	Strengthening Tasmania's Econ- omy and Building a Better Commu- nity
(2) For each case: (b) on what date were the details submitted?	17-Sep-04	28-Sep-04	28-Sep-04	30-Sep-04	6-Oct-04
(3) date of media statement released by the Secretary of the department (or Secretaries) informing the public of the costing request.	17-Sep-04	28-Sep-04	28-Sep-04	30-Sep-04	6-Oct-04
(4) If no media statement was released, why not?	Not appli- cable.	Not appli- cable.	Not appli- cable.	Not applicable.	Not applicable.
(5) If a media statement was released, will the Minister provide a copy; if not, why not.	Attached.	Attached.	Attached.	Attached.	Attached.
(6) Did the Secretary of the department (or Secretaries) seek further information from the Prime Minister to facilitate accurate costing, as provided in the guidelines; if so: (a) on what date; (b) what further information was sought; and (c) what was the Prime Minister's response.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
(7) (a) On what date were costings related to the announcement released?	24-Sep-04	8-Oct-04	5-Oct-04	5-Oct-04	The costings were not completed due to insufficient time between the date of receipt (6 October 2004) and polling day (9 October 2004).
(7) (b) will the Minister provide a copy of the relevant findings; if not, why not.	Attached.	Attached.	Attached.	Attached.	Not applicable.
(8) If the findings were not released, did the Secretary of the department (or Secretaries) release a media statement informing the public that a policy costing was not possible; if so, will the Minister provide a copy of the media statement; if not, why not.	Not appli- cable.	Not appli- cable.	Not appli- cable.	Not applicable.	Media statement released on 8 Oct 2004. Copy is attached.
(9) If no media statement was released, why not.	Not appli- cable.	Not appli- cable.	Not appli- cable.	Not applicable.	Not applicable.

* Note: With reference to Media Statements, as being available and/or attached in the above tables, hard copies are available from the Senate Table Office.

**Regional Partnerships Client Satisfaction Survey
(Question No. 252)**

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services, upon notice, on 22 December 2004:

With reference to the 2004-05 Regional Partnerships client satisfaction survey reported on page 112 of the department's annual report for 2003-04:

- (1) Who will conduct the survey.
- (2) What is the survey timetable.

- (3) Which stakeholders will be invited to participate in the survey.
- (4) What is the budgeted cost of the survey.

Senator Ian Campbell—The Minister for Transport and Regional Services has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) The survey referred to is part of the stage one evaluation (post implementation review) of Regional Partnerships. The survey is being conducted by the Analysis and Performance Branch of the Department of Transport and Regional Services (DOTARS).
- (2) The survey forms were distributed on 6 December 2004. The report is expected to be completed in April 2005.
- (3) Funding Recipients, Area Consultative Committee Chairs and Executive Officers and DOTARS Regional Office Staff were invited to participate in the survey.
- (4) The conduct of the survey is included in the budgeted operations of Analysis and Performance Branch.

Ansett Australia: Employee Entitlements

(Question No. 257)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations, upon notice, on 23 December 2004:

With reference to the Special Employee Entitlement Scheme for Ansett Group Employees (SEESA):

- (1) What has been paid under SEESA to former Ansett employees.
- (2) What entitlements, other than SEESA, are yet to be paid to former Ansett employees.
- (3) (a) Will the Minister provide a copy of the business rules under which SEESA operates; and (b) have these rules been varied since inception; if so, how and when.
- (4) Did the department specify targets for timeliness of payments from SEES Pty Ltd to the Ansett Administrators and payments from the Ansett Administrators to former Ansett employees; if so: (a) what targets; and (b) how were these targets set; if not, why not.
- (5) Will the Minister provide full details of the timeliness of: (a) SEESA payments to the Ansett Administrators; and (b) SEESA payments through the Ansett Administrators to former Ansett employees.
- (6) Will the Minister provide documented evidence of the department's role in the selection of the scheme's financier.
- (7) Will the Minister provide full details, by financial year, of the loan facility obtained by SEES Pty Ltd including: (a) all amounts drawn down on the loan facility; (b) the date and purpose of each drawdown; (c) all fees, charges and interest paid in relation to the loan; and (d) the term and repayment schedule of the loan.
- (8) Will the Minister provide, by financial year, full details of costs incurred by the department in relation to the establishment and operation of SEESA.
- (9) Will the Minister provide, by financial year, full details of any payments (including the source of the funds) made to the department in relation to the establishment and operation of SEESA.

Senator Abetz—The Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) \$380 million.
- (2) According to the Ansett Administrators, as at 15 December 2004, redundancy payments in excess of 8 weeks totalling approximately \$197m are yet to be paid to former Ansett employees.

- (3) (a) The determination made under Subsections 22(1) and (2) the Air Passenger Ticket Levy (Collection) Act 2001, which constitutes the required business rules for SEESA, was tabled in the Senate on 6 December 2004.

(b) Yes.

The original determination, issued on 9 October 2001, defined SEESA coverage and set out the arrangements by which payments would be made. A revised determination, issued on 4 December 2001, included an additional company in the list of eligible companies and revised the terms of SEESA to make them consistent with agreements reached with the Ansett Administrators.

A second amending determination, issued on 9 August 2002, addressed situations where there was a sale of an eligible former Ansett company such that transferred employees would not be eligible for SEESA assistance if they were terminated by their new employer after the date of sale.

- (4) (a) and (b) The requirement for timely payments to the Ansett Administrators was provided for in the Contract with SEES Pty Ltd. No specific target was set.

However, on 6 March 2002 the then Minister announced he required the provision of SEESA funds to the Ansett Administrators within 5 working days of the receipt of verified data from the Administrators.

No target was set for payments from the Ansett Administrators to former Ansett employees as this was a matter for the Administrators.

- (5) (a) This information is provided in the Department's annual reports to Parliament under s24 of the Air Passenger Ticket Levy (Collection) Act 2001.

(b) No details are retained by the Department for payments from the Ansett Administrators to former Ansett employees.

- (6) The department's role in the selection of the scheme's financier is comprehensively documented at Clause 4 and Clause A of Schedule 1 of the contract with SEES Pty Ltd. The text of the relevant clauses is as follows:

Clause 4 Loan from, Financial Institutions

"4. 1 Following the execution of this Contract SEES shall use its best endeavours to obtain a Loan or series of Loans from one or more financial institutions to enable SEES to make Eligible Employee Payments in accordance with clause 5 and for the purpose of paying amounts that may be due to SEES in accordance with clause 3.

4.2 The Parties acknowledge that SEES has used and SEES agrees that it shall during the term of this Contract use its expertise to advise the Commonwealth in writing as to the best way to borrow the funds for the Loan and shall put to the Commonwealth a range of proposals as to how SEES might obtain such funds for the purposes of this Contract. As part of that advice SEES agrees to identify, the 3 'best value for money' Loans from lending institutions for an amount sufficient to:

(a) meet such Eligible Employees Payments as may be made under the Scheme; and

(b) meet the expected Fees and Allowances payable under clause 3 of this Contract.

The Parties acknowledge that the timing of payments of the interest and principal will be dependent upon money being available to the Commonwealth in accordance with the Act and funds being made available by the Commonwealth to SEES in accordance with Clause 9.

4.3 The Commonwealth agrees to assist SEES in its discussions with financial institutions concerning the establishment of the Loan in order and to satisfy itself as to the financial institution and the basis of the Loan, including the principal amount and interest thereon, however nothing that the Commonwealth does will derogate from SEES's responsibility to obtain the Loan upon the best possible terms or from SEES's responsibility to comply with the terms of the Loan.

4.4 SEES agrees that it will take out the Loan in its own name and not as agent of the Commonwealth and that it will only draw down against the Loan when funds are required for the purposes of this Contract and a drawdown is approved by the Commonwealth in accordance with the procedure provided for in clause 5.

4.5 SEES shall deposit all funds obtained under the Loan into the Separate Account in accordance with clause 7.”

Clause A. Services.

“The Services include:

The sourcing of loan funds adequate for the Scheme, entry into a loan facility approved by the Commonwealth adequate for the Scheme, liaison with the Commonwealth, receipt and management of the Loan, management of the Separate Account in accordance with the terms of this Contract;....”

(7) (a), (b) and (c) The details requested are provided at Attachment A.

(d) The term and repayment schedule of the loan as provided in the Loan Agreement between SEES Pty Ltd and the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA) are as follows:

The loan is documented in a loan agreement dated 18 December 2001 between SEES Pty Limited and the CBA.

Facilities:

Cash advances of up to a maximum of \$350 million.

Interest:

Interest accrues from day to day on the outstanding principal at the rate determined to be the sum of the applicable Margin and the BBR for the relevant period.

The Margin on the daily interest rate is 0.175%. The BBR is the average bid rate displayed at 10.30am (Sydney time) on the Reuters screen Business Bank Sydney.

Term of the loan:

The term of the loan was the 7th anniversary of the date of loan agreement.

Repayment schedule:

Principal and interest repayments were set by separate agreement at \$8 million payable on the 15th day of each month.

(8) The requested information is provided at Attachment B.

(9) Payments made to the department in relation of the establishment and operation of SEESA was directly aligned to the costs incurred, as detailed in the response to Question (8) above.

The source of funds for payments was the appropriation provided under section 22 (4) of the Air Passenger Ticket Levy (Collection) Act 2001.

SEES Pty Limited

Summary of transactions on loan from the Commonwealth Bank of Australia

Purpose of draw down	Date	Amounts drawn down	Advances to Ansett Administrators for Employee entitlements	SEES Pty Ltd Scheme Administration costs – fees interest and charges	Loan interest	Advances from DEWR from Appropriation for loan repayment
Administrators Claim (AC) 1 SEES Pty Ltd	18/12/2001	79,966,687.01	79,966,687.01			
AC 2	18/12/2001	820,010.00		820,010.00		
AC 3	18/01/2002	18,050,191.77	18,050,191.77			
AC 4	25/01/2002	14,548,535.00	14,548,535.00			
AC 5	25/01/2002	13,103,245.36	13,103,245.36			
AC 6	12/02/2002	16,843,366.07	16,843,366.07			
SEES Pty Ltd		264,370.56		264,370.56		
AC 7	28/02/2002	18,791,057.26	18,791,057.26			
AC 7	08/03/2002	11,097,108.99	11,097,108.99			
SEES Pty Ltd		167,704.80		167,704.80		
Interest		1,338,679.21			1,338,679.21	
Allocation of \$8 million on 15 March 2002		(8,000,000.00)				(8,000,000.00)
Total to roll over at 15 March 2002		166,990,956.03				
AC 8	27/03/2002	110,937,860.85	110,937,860.85			
Interest		907,084.01			907,084.01	
Allocation of \$8 million on 15 April 2002		(8,000,000.00)				(8,000,000.00)
Total to roll over at 15 April 2002		270,835,900.89				
AC 9	26/04/2002	7,759,454.63	7,759,454.63			
Bank charges		24,337.87		24,337.87		
Interest		1,038,769.94			1,038,769.94	
Allocation of \$8 million on 15 May 2002		(8,000,000.00)				(8,000,000.00)
Total to roll over at 15 May 2002		271,658,463.33				
SEES fees		214,337.71		214,337.71		
AC 10	04/06/2002	9,136,351.95	9,136,351.95			
Interest		1,089,836.01			1,089,836.01	
Allocation of \$8 million on 14 June 2002		(8,000,000.00)				(8,000,000.00)
Total to roll over at 14 June 2002		274,098,989.00				

Purpose of draw down	Date	Amounts drawn down	Advances to Ansett Administrators for Employee entitlements	SEES Pty Ltd Scheme Administration costs – fees interest and charges	Loan interest	Advances from DEWR from Appropriation for loan repayment
AC 11	11/07/2002	3,276,984.34	3,276,984.34			
SEES fee & bank charges		172,685.59		172,685.59		
Interest		1,180,981.02			1,180,981.02	
Allocation of \$8 million on 15 July 2002		(8,000,000.00)				(8,000,000.00)
Total to roll over at 14 July 2002		270,729,639.95				
AC 12	09/08/2002	12,541,720.00	12,541,720.00			
Interest		1,172,508.50			1,172,508.50	
Allocation of \$8 million on 15 August 2002		(8,000,000.00)				(8,000,000.00)
Total to roll over at 15 August 2002		276,443,868.45				
AC 13		12,668,910.42	12,668,910.42			
SEES fee & bank charges		136,332.46		136,332.46		
Hazelton Airlines AC 1	06/09/2002	1,249,023.80	1,249,023.80			
Interest		1,251,006.37			1,251,006.37	
Allocation of \$8 million		(8,000,000.00)				(8,000,000.00)
Interest received		(402,051.66)		(402,051.66)		
Total to roll over at 16 September 2002		283,347,089.84				
SEES fee & bank charges		93,045.50		93,045.50		
AC 14	10/10/2002	635,201.99	635,201.99			
Interest		1,145,966.02			1,145,966.02	
Allocation of \$8 million		(8,000,000.00)				(8,000,000.00)
Interest received		(18,695.29)		(18,695.29)		
Total to roll over at 15 October 2002		277,202,608.06				
SEES fee		105,011.67		105,011.67		
Interest		1,199,055.74			1,199,055.74	
Allocation of \$8 million		(8,000,000.00)				(8,000,000.00)

Purpose of draw down	Date	Amounts drawn down	Advances to Ansett Administrators for Employee entitlements	SEES Pty Ltd Scheme Administration costs – fees interest and charges	Loan interest	Advances from DEWR from Appropriation for loan repayment
Interest received		(9,662.67)		(9,662.67)		
Total to roll over at 15 November 2002		270,497,012.80				
AC 15	19/11/2002	1,379,847.22	1,379,847.22			
Interest		1,173,635.96			1,173,635.96	
Allocation of \$8 million		(8,000,000.00)				(8,000,000.00)
Interest received		(988.42)		(988.42)		
Total to roll over at 16 December 2002		265,049,507.56				
SEES fee		68,497.50		68,497.50		
AC 16	18/12/2002	931,978.28	931,978.28			
Interest		1,112,156.52			1,112,156.52	
Allocation of \$8 million		(8,000,000.00)				(8,000,000.00)
Interest received		(2,960.03)		(2,960.03)		
Total to roll over at 15 January 2003		259,159,179.83				
SEES fee & bank charges & PI		123,485.49		123,485.49		
Interest		1,182,791.41			1,182,791.41	
Allocation of \$8 million		(8,000,000.00)				(8,000,000.00)
Interest received		(9,890.30)		(9,890.30)		
Total to roll over at 17 February 2003		252,455,566.43				
Hazelton Airlines AC 2		5,105.99	5,105.99			
AC 17	28/02/2003	485,493.38	485,493.38			
SEES fee		59,528.00		59,528.00		
Interest		975,909.15			975,909.15	
Allocation of \$8 million		(8,000,000.00)				(8,000,000.00)
Interest received		(24,188.96)		(24,188.96)		

Purpose of draw down	Date	Amounts drawn down	Advances to Ansett Administrators for Employee entitlements	SEES Pty Ltd Scheme Administration costs – fees interest and charges	Loan interest	Advances from DEWR from Appropriation for loan repayment
Total to roll over at 17 March 2003		245,957,413.99				
AC 18 SEES fee & bank charges	14/04/2003	2,063,787.68	2,063,787.68	34,795.66		
Interest		980,522.17			980,522.17	
Allocation of \$8 million		(8,000,000.00)				(8,000,000.00)
Interest received		(5,379.65)		(5,379.65)		
Total to roll over at 15 April 2003		241,031,139.85				
Interest		1,002,733.49			1,002,733.49	
Allocation of \$8 million a/c being \$3.61 on 15 May 2003		(8,000,000.00)				(8,000,000.00)
		(3.61)		(3.61)		
Total to roll over at 15 May 2003		234,033,869.73				
Interest		1,034,081.42			1,034,081.42	
Allocation of \$8 million		(8,000,000.00)				(8,000,000.00)
Balance of the separate a/c		100.00		100.00		
Total to roll over at 16 June 2003		227,068,051.15				
SEES fee AC 19	20/06/2003	72,387.00		72,387.00		
Interest		252,587.31	252,587.31			
Allocation of \$8 million		897,425.61			897,425.61	
Interest received		(8,000,000.00)				(8,000,000.00)
		(7,934.53)		(7,934.53)		
Total to roll over at 15 July 2003		220,282,516.54				
Interest		941,274.36			941,274.36	
Allocation of \$8 million		(8,000,000.00)				(8,000,000.00)
Interest received		(6,900.88)		(6,900.88)		

Purpose of draw down	Date	Amounts drawn down	Advances to Ansett Administrators for Employee entitlements	SEES Pty Ltd Scheme Administration costs – fees interest and charges	Loan interest	Advances from DEWR from Appropriation for loan repayment
Total to roll over at 15 August 2003		213,216,890.02				
SEES fee & bank charges		73,083.19		73,083.19		
SEES fee		28,127.50		28,127.50		
AC 20	02/09/2003	403,056.80	403,056.80			
Interest		916,227.70			916,227.70	
Allocation of \$8 million		(8,000,000.00)				(8,000,000.00)
Interest received		(3,876.42)		(3,876.42)		
Total to roll over at 15 September 2003		206,633,508.79				
Interest		866,408.96			866,408.96	
Allocation of \$8 million		(8,000,000.00)				(8,000,000.00)
Interest received		(22,022.11)		(22,022.11)		
Total to roll over at 15 October 2003		199,477,895.64				
SEES fee		24,945.79		24,945.79		
SEES fee & bank charges		62,145.50		62,145.50		
Interest		921,082.34			921,082.34	
Allocation of \$8 million		(8,000,000.00)				(8,000,000.00)
Total to roll over at 15 November 2003		192,486,069.27				
AC 21	05/12/2003	193,713.23	193,713.23			
Interest		810,914.01			810,914.01	
First dividend from Administrator		(147,217,358.58)				
Allocation of \$8 million		(8,000,000.00)				(8,000,000.00)
Interest received		(6,275.98)		(6,275.98)		
Total to roll over at 15 December 2003		38,267,061.95				

Purpose of draw down	Date	Amounts drawn down	Advances to Ansett Administrators for Employee entitlements	SEES Pty Ltd Scheme Administration costs – fees interest and charges	Loan interest	Advances from DEWR from Appropriation for loan repayment
SEES fee		90,929.50		90,929.50		
Interest		183,821.26			183,821.26	
Allocation of \$8 million		(8,000,000.00)				(8,000,000.00)
Total to roll over at 15 January 2004		30,541,812.71				
P I insurance		65,904.97		65,904.97		
SEES fee & bank charges		41,713.61		41,713.61		
Interest		151,681.64			151,681.64	
Second dividend from Administrator		(12,100,000.00)				
Allocation of \$8 million		(8,000,000.00)				(8,000,000.00)
Interest received		(151,331.51)		(151,331.51)		
Total to roll over at 16 February 2004		10,549,781.42				
SEES fee		34,283.50		34,283.50		
Interest		46,219.08			46,219.08	
Allocation of \$8 million		(8,000,000.00)				(8,000,000.00)
Total to roll over at 15 March 2004		2,630,284.00				
SEES fee		14,524.08		14,524.08		
Interest		12,663.91			12,663.91	
Allocation of \$8 million		(8,000,000.00)				(8,000,000.00)
Interest received		(6,087.01)		(6,087.01)		
Credit balance in Separate Account on 15 April 2004		(5,348,615.02)	336,321,269.33	2,114,038.42	23,533,435.81	(208,000,000.00)

2001/ 2002 Financial Year (1 October 2001 to 30 June 2002)			2002/2003 Financial Year (1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003)		
DEWR COSTS INCURRED			DEWR COSTS INCURRED		
	Salary and on-costs	\$356,967		Salary and on-costs	\$191,440
	Invoiced expenses (including Legal Costs)	\$793,033		Legal Costs	\$178,210
	TOTAL INCURRED	\$1,150,000		TOTAL INCURRED	\$369,650

Major expenses in 2001/2002 FY were:

- advertising in national newspapers the establishment of SEESA safety-net package (\$500K)
- Telstra Call-centre costs (\$127K)
- Reimbursement of DEWR Corporate Legal Group costs (\$106K)

DoTARS COSTS PAID		\$672,450	DoTARS COSTS PAID		\$819,285
SEES PTY LTD COSTS PAID		\$1,490,761	SEES PTY LTD COSTS PAID		\$8,725,532

2003/2004 Financial Year (1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004)			2004/2005 Financial Year (1 July 2004 to 31 December 2004)		
DEWR COSTS INCURRED			DEWR COSTS INCURRED		
	Salary and on-costs	\$215,496		Salary and on-costs	\$65,826
	Legal Costs	\$531,946		Legal Costs	\$19,314
	TOTAL INCURRED	\$747,442		TOTAL INCURRED	\$85,140
DoTARS COSTS PAID		\$72,057	DoTARS COSTS PAID		\$0
SEES PTY LTD COSTS PAID		\$398,368	SEES PTY LTD COSTS PAID		\$214,507

**Ansett Australia: Employee Entitlements
(Question No. 259)**

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services, upon notice, on 23 December 2004:

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

With reference to the Special Employee Entitlement Scheme for Ansett Group Employees and the corresponding ticket levy administered by the department: does the Minister stand behind his statement on 28 September 2001 that 'the Government has imposed the levy to pay for the entitlements of Ansett employees'.

Senator Ian Campbell—The Minister for Transport and Regional Services has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

Yes.

Ansett Australia: Employee Entitlements
(Question No. 263)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services, upon notice, on 23 December 2004:

- (1) On what date did: (a) the Minister; (b) the Minister's office; and (c) the department, become aware of the meeting of former Ansett employees on 27 November 2004 to discuss unpaid entitlements.
- (2) In each case in (1) what was the source of information.
- (3) Did: (a) the Minister; (b) the Minister's office; and (c) the department, attend the meeting to address former Ansett employee concerns about outstanding employee entitlements.
- (4) In each case in (3) if not, why not.
- (5) On what date(s) has: (a) the Minister; (b) the Minister's office; and (c) the department, met with representatives of former Ansett employees to discuss the matter of outstanding employee entitlements.

Senator Ian Campbell—The Minister for Transport and Regional Services has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) (a) and (b) On a date prior to the 27th of November 2004—there is no record of the precise date
(c) Monday 30 November 2004
- (2) (a) Media
(b) Media
(c) Media
- (3) (a) No
(b) No
(c) No
- (4) (a), (b) and (c) The Government has met in full its commitment to the former Ansett employees, therefore the issue of any remaining outstanding entitlements are a matter solely between the Ansett administrators and the former Ansett employees.
- (5) (a) and (b) Noting that the Government has fully met its commitment to former Ansett employees, any issue relating to employee entitlements is a matter for the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relation.
(c) The Department has not met with former Ansett workers to discuss outstanding employee entitlements.

Immigration: Christmas Island Reception and Processing Centre
(Question No. 269 amended)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads, upon notice, on 23 December 2004:

With reference to the proposed new Immigration Reception and Processing Centre (IRPC) on Christmas Island:

- (1) (a) What is the current estimated total cost of construction including related costs; and (b) will the Minister provide a detailed breakdown of the cost.
- (2) (a) What funds have been expended so far; and (b) will the Minister provide a detailed breakdown of the cost by financial year.
- (3) Will the Minister provide a list of all contracts let for the construction phase of the project, including the successful tenderer.
- (4) On what date will: (a) the early works phase of the project be completed; (b) the main works phase of the contract commence; (c) the main works phase of the contract be completed; and (d) the IRPC be operational.
- (5) (a) What compensation was paid to Phosphate Resources Limited for the resumption of land for the IRPC; (b) on what date was this compensation paid; (c) who undertook the negotiations on behalf of the Commonwealth; (d) which Minister approved the compensation; and (e) what program was the source of the compensation funds.
- (6) (a) What consultants have been engaged in relation to the IRPC project; and (b) in each case, what was the nature of the consultancy, the term of the consultancy and the associated financial value.
- (7) (a) On what date did the Department of Finance and Administration assume responsibility for the project; (b) why did the Department of Finance and Administration assume responsibility for the project; and (c) what other IRPC construction projects did the Department of Finance and Administration manage prior to the transfer of responsibility for the IRPC project.
- (8) What role does the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs perform in relation to the project during planning and construction.
- (9) What role does the Department of Transport and Regional Services perform in relation to the project during planning and construction.
- (10) Have all contracts let for the construction phase of the project included local training and local business content; if so, will the Minister provide details; if not, why not.
- (11) Has the local training and local business involvement which formed part of the assessment criteria for the major works contract been consistent with evidence given by the Department of Finance and Administration to the Joint Standing Committee on Public Works on 31 October 2003; if so, will the Minister provide details; if not, why not.
- (12) Will local training and employment and local business involvement form part of the assessment criteria for the service contract for the operation of the IRPC; if not, why not.
- (13) Will the Christmas Island community have access to recreational and other facilities at the IRPC, subject to operational needs.

Senator Ian Campbell—The Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) (a) I note that this question has also been directed to the Minister for Finance and Administration and it is more appropriate that he provide a response.
- (b) The Department of Transport and Regional Services has been appropriated \$45.4m to meet costs incurred in constructing public infrastructure and housing associated with the project. This figure excludes:
 - funding to resume the mining lease for the IRPC site (refer Question (5) below); and
 - ongoing expenses, for example, associated with repairs, maintenance and depreciation of the infrastructure.

- The \$45.4m was originally estimated on the basis of:
- \$19.8 million to supplement the Christmas Island water supply; to supply water, power and communications to the construction camp and IRPC site; and to improve island road and port infrastructure, including to reduce environmental impacts from increased traffic during crab migrations; and
- \$25.6 million for housing associated with the facility.

(2) (a) Project expenditure by DOTARS totals \$40.2m million to 31 December 2004.

(b)

Expenditure by Financial Year (in \$millions)					
Expenditure Type	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05 (to 31/12/04)	Total
Infrastructure	\$0.4m	\$9.5m	\$3.8m	\$0.0m	\$13.7m
Housing	\$5.9m	\$19.8m	\$0.8m	\$0.0m	\$26.5m
Total	\$6.3m	\$29.3m	\$4.6m	\$0.0m	\$40.2m

(3) The following are the construction contracts related to the provision of services to the Immigration Reception and Processing Centre and construction camp sites and of staff housing for the Immigration Reception and Processing Centre:

Contract Description	Name of Contractor
Project Management and Design Services	GHD Pty Ltd
Water, power and communication provision to IRPC site	Electrical Contracting & Maintenance
Construction of Water storage infrastructure adjacent to the IRPC site	Electrical Contracting & Maintenance
Wharf Pavement reconstruction	DECMIL/Consolidated Construction
Construction of a crane pedestal at Flying fish cove	Christmas Island Enterprises
Bore Hole Drilling flying fish cove	Drilling and Grouting Services Pty Ltd
Install pre-cast and supply and install insitu crab crossings	Gregorys plumbing and Pipeline Services.
LB4 Road Improvements	Shire of Christmas Island
Construction of 160 accommodation units	DECMIL/Consolidated Construction
Construction of 10 houses	DUWAL Pty Ltd
Construction of 2* houses	C&B Murdoch Construction
Construction Camp high voltage reticulation	Electrical Contracting & Maintenance

(4) I note that this question has also been directed to the Ministers for Finance and Administration and Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs and it is more appropriate that they provide a response.

(5) (a) \$3.2 million was paid to Phosphate Resources Limited in compensation for the resumption of the mining lease over the IRPC site.

(b) 30 July 2004.

(c) The Department of Transport and Regional Services undertook negotiations on behalf of the Commonwealth, with advice from the Australian Government Solicitor and Geoscience Australia.

(d) The Government approved an upper limit for compensation for the resumption of land for the IRPC and the Australian Government Solicitor approved the final determination as being in accordance with compensation legal principle and practice.

- (e) The Services to the Indian Ocean Territories Programme has been supplemented \$3.2 million in the 2004-05 Additional Estimates.

(6)

Table of Consultants

(a)	(b)		
Name of consultant	Nature of consultancy	Term	Financial value
Geoscience Australia	An assessment of the volume and quality of phosphate on the mine lease resumed for the IRPC	Ongoing until issue resolved	\$495,000
Minval Associates Pty Ltd	Audit of methodology used by Geoscience Australia to determine the volume and quantity of Phosphate on the resumed lease and valuation of that phosphate	Task based	\$65,000

- (7) This question has also been directed to the Minister for Finance and Administration and it is more appropriate that he provide a response.
- (8) This question has also been directed to the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs and it is more appropriate that she provide a response.
- (9) The Department of Transport and Regional Services is responsible for the provision of land for the IRPC and associated infrastructure, to supply staff housing for the centre and to provide infrastructure (such as power, water etc) to the IRPC and construction camp boundaries.
- (10) No. Department of Transport and Regional Services tenders relating to the Indian Ocean Territories encourage contractors to use local contractors where possible to maximise the benefits to the local economy. The manner by which this translates to contracts varies from project to project.
- (11) This question has also been directed to the Minister for Finance and Administration and it is more appropriate that he provide a response.
- (12) This question has also been directed to the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs and it is more appropriate that she provide a response.
- (13) This question has also been directed to the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs and it is more appropriate that she provide a response.

* Please note amendment to previous answer which appeared in Hansard on 8 March 2005

Tasmanian Freight Equalisation Scheme Review Authority

(Question No. 277)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services, upon notice, on 23 December 2004:

- (1) What are the names and terms of appointment of the members of the Tasmanian Freight Equalisation Scheme Authority.
- (2) What costs have been associated with the authority in each of the financial years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 to date.

Senator Ian Campbell—The Minister for Transport and Regional Services has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) Appointments to the Tasmanian Freight Equalisation Scheme Review Authority are at the discretion of the Minister, for a term of two years. There have been no appointments since 1997.

(2) Nil

Regional and Rural Development Grant Program

(Question No. 287)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services, upon notice, on 23 December 2004:

- (a) What grants have been made under the Regional and Rural Development Grant program in each of the financial years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 to date; and
- (b) For each project, will the Minister provide details of the amount of the grant, the name of the proponent and the start and finish dates.

Senator Ian Campbell—The Minister for Transport and Regional Services has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

(a) and (b)—

Amount	Proponent	Start	Finish
2002-03			
\$34,949.00	Sinclair Knight Mertz	22-05-2003	25-06-2003
\$31,185.00	O'Brien Rich Research Group	04-06-2003	16-02-2004
\$70,898.18	Woolcott Research Pty Ltd	19-06-2003	08-12-2003
2003-04			
\$5,000.00	ANZRS AI Inc	21-08-2003	04-11-2003
\$25,400.00	Woolcott Research Pty Ltd	19-06-2003	08-12-2003
\$44,483.24	Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu	19-11-2003	16-03-2004
\$35,640.00	O'Brien Rich Research Group	24-06-2003	16-02-2004
\$9,000.00	Centre for Policy Studies, Monash University	10-03-2004	28-06-2004
\$32,836.36	Linda Griffith Consultancy Pty Ltd	17-05-2004	15-06-2004
\$5,000.00	Strategic Economic Solutions Pty Ltd	22-01-2004	01-03-2004
\$6,000.00	University of Western Sydney	23-03-2004	29-04-2004
\$2,100.00	APN Business Magazines Pty Ltd	27-05-2004	27-05-2004
\$5,000.00	Management Solutions (Qld) Pty Ltd	22-06-2004	24-06-2004
2004-05			
\$24,000.00	University of New England	31-08-2004	30-06-2005
\$2,344.68	HMA Blaze Pty Ltd	20-08-2004	01-10-2004
\$89,431.00	Victoria University of Technology	17-01-2005	15-07-2005

Trafigura Fuels Australia Pty Ltd

(Question Nos 294 and 295)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Trade and the Minister for Foreign Affairs, upon notice, on 23 December 2004:

- (1) On what date(s) did: (a) the Minister; (b) the Minister's office; and (c) the department, become aware that Trafigura Fuels Australia Pty Ltd proposed to import a shipment of ethanol to Australia from Brazil in September 2002.

- (2) What was the source of this information to: (a) the Minister; (b) the Minister's office; and (c) the department.
- (3) Was the Minister or his office or the department requested to investigate and/or take action to prevent the arrival of this shipment by any ethanol producer or distributor or industry organisation; if so: (a) who made this request; (b) when was it made; and (c) what form did this request take.
- (4) Did the Minister or his office or the department engage in discussions and/or activities in August 2002 or September 2002 to develop a proposal to prevent the arrival of this shipment of ethanol from Brazil; if so, what was the nature of these discussions and/or activities, including dates of discussions and/or activities, personnel involved and cost.

Senator Hill—The following answer has been provided by the Minister for Trade, on behalf of himself and the Minister for Foreign Affairs, to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) (a) 23 August 2002. (b) 22 August 2002. (c) DFAT became aware of a proposed shipment on 23 August when PM&C asked DFAT to make the enquiry (details that it was by Trafigura Fuels Australia were advised by the Australian Embassy, Brasilia, on 29 August 2002).
- (2) (a) Manildra Group. (b) Manildra Group. (c) Australian Embassy, Brazil.
- (3) No. I (Mr Vaile) was not asked to take any action to investigate and/or prevent the arrival of this shipment. I received representations concerning assistance for the Australian ethanol industry and raising concerns over subsidized imports being excise-free.
- (4) No.

Environment: Tailings Ponds

(Question No. 312)

Senator Allison asked the Minister for the Environment and Heritage, upon notice, on 17 January 2005:

Given reports that significant numbers of birds continue to die in tailings ponds in South Australia's Olympic Dam uranium mine:

- (1) Can the Minister confirm the numbers and species of birds, and any other animals, which annually perish in tailings ponds in South Australian mines.
- (2) Can the Minister confirm the numbers and species of birds, and any other animals, which annually perish in tailings ponds of uranium mines in other states and territories.
- (3) Can the Minister confirm whether any species listed as threatened under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 may be at risk as a result of the existence of toxic tailings ponds in the vicinity of their habitats.
- (4) Can the Minister give an assessment of the effectiveness of mitigation efforts currently used, including deterrence of animals by shooting and strobe lighting.

Senator Ian Campbell—The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

- (1) In the case of Olympic Dam uranium mine, my Department has been advised by Western Mining Corporation Limited (WMC), that over the period 1997 to 2003, the average annual number of bird deaths reported was 23. From the beginning of 2004, deaths were 128 in the March quarter, 43 in the June quarter and 19 in the September quarter. No statistics are yet available for the December quarter.

During the period 2003 to 2004, WMC environmental monitoring in the region recorded an unusually high level of bird activity due to higher than average rainfall and some regional flooding. It is unclear at this time whether the number of deaths have been influenced by the high numbers of birds or by other seasonal and climatic factors.

WMC has reported that species included in deaths were from the following families: anatidae (ducks); podicipedidae (grebes); phalacrocoracidae (cormorants); ardeidae (herons and egrets); accipitridae (raptors); falconidae (falcons); rallidae (moorhens); scolopacidae (waders and snipes); charadriidae (waders); glareolidae (pratincoles); laridae (gulls and terns); meliphagidae (honey-eaters); corvidae (currawong and crows); hundiidae (swallows and martins). No other animal deaths have been reported to state or federal regulatory authorities.

The only other South Australian uranium mine, Beverley, has no tailings dams.

- (2) In the case of the Ranger uranium mine in the Northern Territory, the Office of the Supervising Scientist has reported that no recent bird or other animal deaths have been recorded in any tailings retention facility.
- (3) There are many mines across Australia that have operated tailings retention facilities for many years that may pose some risk to species listed as threatened in terms of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999. Generally, the risk is small and manageable.
- (4) The use of LPG powered gas guns and strobe lights has proved a very effective deterrent for many years.

Abortion (Question No. 325)

Senator Boswell asked the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing, upon notice, on 31 January 2005:

Recent public debate on abortion has been characterised by a wide range of proffered statistics and claims. Recognising that abortion is a matter for state law, but that the Commonwealth funds abortion procedures through Medicare, can the Minister provide the most detailed and recent information as set out below, to expedite an informed debate:

- (1) How many abortion procedures are carried out each year in Australia in the private and public health sectors in the different states and territories.
- (2) (a) Does the department have access to reliable information on the percentage of pregnancies that end in abortion in Australia; and (b) what is the department's estimate.
- (3) (a) Has the department access to reliable forecasts or predictions of the number of abortions likely in future years; and (b) what is the department's expectation of Medicare funding allocations required for abortion procedures in the next 10 years.
- (4) Has the department access to and, if so, can it provide a current statistical profile of Australian women who have an abortion – for example, information tabulated across age, income, married status, number of children, previous abortions, reason for procedure, geographical location, etc.
- (5) (a) How many Medicare providers provided abortions in the past year; and (b) how many public hospitals or centres carry out abortions.
- (6) (a) What is the market structure of the private abortion sector; and (b) can the department provide a numerical breakdown of the private operators according to number of abortions.
- (7) Are abortion clinics subject to any form of government accreditation relating to counselling and abortion procedures.
- (8) (a) How does the department define a 'late term abortion'; (b) how many late term abortions have been performed in Australia each year for the past 10 years; (c) how many providers of late term abortions are there for the same time period; and (d) what are the statistically significant reasons for late term abortions.
- (9) (a) Is there reputable research in the international medical/scientific literature linking women who have abortions with higher rates of mental illness or breast cancer; (b) has any research been done

on this recently in Australia; if not, are there any plans to do so; and (c) is this claimed link a public health outcome which needs addressing; if so, what action is being considered.

- (10) (a) Can the Minister detail the recent history of Commonwealth funding provided to pregnancy counselling services; and (b) can this funding be broken down into services provided by the abortion clinic itself (or affiliated groups) and those provided by 'pro-life' groups and those provided by independent services.
- (11) (a) Has there been any research into the impact of mandatory independent pregnancy counselling services on the number of subsequent abortions; and (b) is the Minister aware of any Australian institutions where mandatory independent counselling is provided and the impact this has had on the abortion rate.
- (12) (a) How does the Commonwealth measure the performance of pregnancy counselling services funded by the Commonwealth; and (b) what criteria are used to allocate funding.
- (13) What would be the cost of providing mandatory independent counselling for all women seeking abortions.
- (14) How many women who have abortions do not receive any counselling.
- (15) What would be the cost of including an ultrasound of the foetus as part of the counselling process.
- (16) (a) How does the department budget for Medicare-funded abortions; and (b) what part of the cost of abortions is paid by the Commonwealth in Medicare, Australian Health Care Agreements and other funding.

Senator Patterson—The Minister for Health and Ageing has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) There is no single authoritative or complete data source on terminations of pregnancies in Australia. This means that it is not possible to give a precise number of terminations each year.

It is possible however to combine data from a number of sources to provide an estimate of the number of terminations each year.

Based on data available to the Department of Health and Ageing, it is estimated that approximately 90,000 terminations of pregnancy procedures were carried out in Australia in 2003-04.

The tables at Attachment A break down the number and geographic distribution of estimated terminations for the years 1994-95 to 2003-04 across all states and territories. Data for each state and territory is reported on the basis of the state or territory in which the procedure was performed.

The data at Attachment A separately identifies activity occurring within each state and territory in public and private hospitals as well as Medicare funded services provided outside hospital. Detailed information on the source of this data follows.

National Morbidity Casemix Data Set (NMDS)

The Australian Government receives unit record data from the states and territories on public and private hospital utilisation including information about admitted patient procedures. This data is provided under the Australian Health Care Agreements and forms the National Morbidity Casemix Data Set. This data includes information against a number of codes which together indicate the number of terminations occurring in public and private hospitals. These codes comprise: medical abortion; unspecified abortion; failed attempted abortion; other abortion¹.

The quality of the source data reported through the NMDS is a matter for states and territories. The Department has written to each state and territory jurisdiction to seek their comments on the data held by the Australian Government against the codes specified above. A summary of jurisdictions' comments are at Attachment B.

By writing to individual jurisdictions, the Department has made every endeavour to verify the accuracy of the data with the states and territories. However, the Department is not able to independently verify it. Ultimately, the accuracy of the data relies on coding standards and issues of completeness which cannot be ascertained by this Department.

Medicare Benefits Schedule

Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) claims data provides a further source of information on terminations each year, as it identifies procedures which occurred outside hospital for which a Medicare claim was made. Two MBS items are of relevance:

- (a) MBS item 35643 (6469) – evacuation of the contents of the gravid uterus by curettage or suction curettage. This item covers terminations but will also apply to those situations where there is a missed abortion (the foetus has died but not been expelled) and trophoblastic disease which is an abnormality of the placenta and in some cases is cancerous. The MBS item should not include those situations where the woman has had a miscarriage or where the woman is not pregnant such as scraping the lining of the womb to try to reduce heavy menstrual bleeding.
- (b) MBS item 16525 – management of second trimester labour, with or without induction, for intrauterine foetal death, gross foetal abnormality or life threatening maternal disease.

The MBS data includes cases of foetal death, miscarriage and trophoblastic disease and may therefore overstate the numbers of medical terminations.

Medicare claims will also be lodged by private patients undergoing procedures in hospital. This data has not been presented here, as it is already counted in the NMDS dataset referred to above. The NMDS is a more accurate source of information on these patients as the codes more precisely identify medical terminations.

- (2) (a) and (b) The Department does not have access to reliable information on the percentage of pregnancies that end in abortion in Australia. However, it is possible to construct an estimate of the total number of pregnancies each year and express the estimated number of abortions as a percentage of that total number.

The total number of pregnancies has been derived from the sum of live births, pregnancies that have not proceeded to a live birth but where there has been a medical intervention (reported miscarriages, ectopic pregnancy and foetal death), and terminations. In addition there is a proportion of pregnancies which do not proceed to a live birth but which are not able to be identified through available data sets as no medical intervention has occurred. This will encompass early miscarriage, in some instances before the pregnancy is known or confirmed. Estimates vary widely on the number of pregnancies that fall into this category. The publication *Gynaecology (1997)* reviews a number of studies which estimate the frequency of early pregnancy loss. On the basis of the evidence available at that time, the authors conclude that in the order of 22% of all pregnancies each year is a reasonable estimate² of the proportion of pregnancies that end in early miscarriage without a medical intervention being recorded.

Table 1 builds an estimate of the total number of pregnancies each year based on the most recent available data (using the methodology described above) and identifies the data source, drawing on latest available data for each category. Using this methodology, it is estimated that around 19% of all pregnancies each year may end in a termination.

Table 1: Estimate of Pregnancies in a Year

Source	Number per annum	Data source
Live Births	251,161	ABS 2003
Miscarriages where patient attends hospital	30,973	National Minimum Data Set 2003-04
Ectopic pregnancies	4,076	National Minimum Data Set 2003-04
Foetal deaths	1,240	ABS 2002
Terminations	91,358#	National Minimum Data Set and MBS data 2003-04
Factor for pregnancies which end without a clinical record	106,983	Derived from frequency estimates in R.W Shaw, W.P Souter, S.L.Stanton (ed), Gynaecology 2nd Edition, 1997, pp. 306-307
Estimated total	485,791	

#Excludes terminations after 20 weeks of gestation conducted in Victoria due to concerns expressed by the Department of Human Services regarding accuracy of the data.

- (3) (a) and (b) The Department cannot reliably forecast or predict the number of terminations in future years. Attachment A, which presents the estimated number of terminations each year from 1994-95 to 2003-04, shows an annual count ranging from 84,000 to 94,000. The Department does not prepare estimates of future expenditure on individual MBS items.
- (4) The Department has access to some demographic data on women undergoing terminations, as reported in answer (1), notably in regard to the state in which the procedure occurred, age of the woman and broad geographic centre (i.e., metropolitan, rural etc).

Table 2 distributes the estimated number of termination procedures (as described in answer (1) in 2003-04 by the age of the woman undergoing the procedure and the state or territory in which the procedure occurred.

Individual cells for each state and territory show the age distribution (generally using 5 year age ranges) as a percentage of all termination procedures provided in that state and territory. The distribution for each age range as a percentage of all terminations in Australia is in the far right hand column.

Table 2: Distribution of Termination Procedures by State/Territory of procedure and age range

2003-04	Location of procedure								Australia-wide
	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	
Age	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Under 15 yrs	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.8	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.4	0.4
15-19 yrs	15.1	14.7	17.5	21.1	20.0	21.0	22.9	16.5	16.6
20-24 yrs	24.4	26.1	27.9	27.8	27.1	25.3	28.7	24.0	26.1
25-29 yrs	20.8	20.7	21.0	19.2	20.5	19.9	20.4	21.4	20.7
30-34 yrs	19.2	18.7	17.3	16.1	15.9	16.3	15.1	17.7	18.0
35-39 yrs	13.2	13.0	10.7	10.2	10.9	11.0	9.1	12.9	12.1
40-44 yrs	6.4	5.7	4.7	4.4	4.7	5.6	2.8	6.5	5.5
45+	0.6	0.7	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 3 distributes termination procedures in 2003-04 by the place of residence of the woman undergoing the procedure, both in terms of the state or territory in which she resided at the time of the termination, and the metropolitan, rural or remote area within that state or territory. The Rural, Remote, Metropolitan Area Classification as described in the notes to Table 3 has been used for this purpose.

Individual cells for each state and territory show the geographic centre in which the woman resided, expressed as a percentage of all termination procedures provided in that state and territory. The distribution for each geographic centre as a percentage of all terminations in Australia is in the far right hand column.

Table 3: Distribution of Termination Procedures by State/Territory of Recipient and Rural, Remote, Metropolitan Area (RRMA) classification, 2003-2004

2003-04	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia-wide
RRMA location	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Capital Cities	72.1	82.8	50.2	82.8	77.3	53.0	63.8	99.9	70.8
Other Metropolitan Centres	11.3	2.5	27.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.6
Large Rural Centres	4.0	4.2	8.7	0.0	2.5	17.5	0.0	0.0	4.8
Small Rural Centres	5.2	3.0	2.3	4.7	4.8	7.0	0.0	0.0	3.9
Other Rural Areas	6.9	7.3	8.6	10.3	7.2	21.9	6.3	0.1	7.7
Remote	0.4	0.0	2.5	2.1	7.9	0.5	28.1	0.0	2.0
Other	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	1.8	0.0	0.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

RRMA is the acronym for the Rural, Remote and Metropolitan Areas classification. This classification was developed by the Department of Primary Industries and Energy and the Department of Human Services and Health, and was released in 1994. It uses populations and Statistical Local Area (SLA) boundaries from the 1991 Census to categorise SLAs according to their remoteness. RRMA divides 1991 SLAs into 7 categories:

1. Capital City - Capital City Statistical Divisions
 2. Other Metropolitan Centre - Statistical Subdivisions containing an Urban Centre with population $\geq 100,000$
 3. Large Rural Centre - Statistical Local Area [SLA] containing an Urban Centre with population range 25,000 to 99,999
 4. Small Rural Centre - SLA containing an Urban Centre with population range 10,000 to 24,999
 5. Other Rural Area - Other SLAs in rural zone
 6. Remote Centre - SLA in remote zone containing an Urban Centre with population $\geq 5,000$
 7. Other Remote Area - Other SLAs in remote zone
- (5) (a) and (b) For Medicare claims processed in 2003-04, 811 providers made at least one claim against the relevant MBS items (Item 35643 and/or Item 16525).

Table 4 identifies the number of public hospitals in each state and territory in which termination procedures were performed in 2003-04.

Table 4: Public hospitals conducting terminations, 2003-2004

2003-04	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Total
Number of public hospitals conducting termination procedures	68	52	30	25	22	3	3	2	205

There is no data available at a hospital level in respect of the number of private hospitals in which termination procedures were performed in 2003-2004.

Data on private hospital activity is provided to the Australian Government as part of the National Hospital Morbidity Dataset. This dataset does not separately identify individual private hospitals, but groups all private hospitals together as a single provider. It is therefore not possible, from the data available to the Australian Government to identify the number of individual private hospitals which provided terminations in this period.

- (6) (a) and (b) The Department has limited information by which to determine the market structure of the private abortion sector. The information at Attachment A gives some indication of the split between terminations provided in public hospitals, terminations provided in private hospitals and terminations provided outside hospitals. There is considerable variation in the mix of these services from one state to the next.

By analysing the Medicare data in respect of MBS Items 35643 and 16525, it is possible to identify the volume of claims generated at individual provider level – this is the doctor providing the service, not the facility in which the service was provided.

Table 5 identifies the number of providers that provided more than 2,000 termination procedures in 2003-04, between 1,000-1,999 procedures, between 500-999 etc. In summary, 24 providers provided more than 1,000 termination services in 2003-04, 15 providers between 500 and 999 services, 16 providers between 100 and 499, 16 providers between 50 and 100, and the remaining 740 providers less than 50 services.

Table 5: Volume of services by number of providers, 2003-04

Number of services provided (MBS Items 35643 & 16525)	Number of Providers
1- 4	305
5- 9	97
10- 19	158
20- 49	180
50- 99	16
100- 499	16
500- 999	15
1000-1999	13
2000+	11

Please note:

- i. These figures include both in and out patient services claimed via the MBS.
 - ii. Medicare items 35643 and 16525 may include terminations in cases of foetal death, miscarriage and trophoblastic disease
- (7) There is no Australian Government accreditation process for counselling provided in association with termination of pregnancy. The Department is in the process of gathering information from states and territories and professional associations in respect of any accreditation requirements that may apply to counselling and women seeking abortion. However, that information is not available to the Department at this time.

Where a procedure is performed in a hospital, the hospital is subject to licensing by individual state and territory governments.

- (8) (a), (b), (c) and (d) Opinion varies on the definition of a “late term abortion”. One approach is to define a termination in the third trimester of a pregnancy as a late term abortion. Medicare benefits are not payable for terminations occurring in the third trimester of pregnancy.

Another view is that a “late term abortion” is one that occurs after twenty or more completed weeks of pregnancy.

Data within the Hospital Morbidity Data Set identifies the number of completed weeks of pregnancy at which termination occurred. From this data, it is possible to report on the number of terminations in hospitals recorded as occurring between 20 to 26 weeks of pregnancy, and those recorded as occurring after 26 weeks of pregnancy. Table 6 summarises the results of this analysis.

Table 6: Number of termination procedures conducted in hospitals with duration of pregnancy 20 -26 weeks and 26 +more completed weeks

Duration of Pregnancy	Number of Procedures								
	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
20-26 weeks	212	138	177	139	175	183	262	409	140#
26+ weeks	14	10	19	18	12	12	17	10	13#

#Terminations conducted in Victoria have been excluded from 2003-2004 data, as the Victorian Department of Human Services has raised concerns about the accuracy of the data. In a letter to the Department of Health and Ageing dated 17 March 2005, the Victorian Department of Human Services states that ‘...particularly in relation to late terminations of pregnancy, the data for 2003-04 appears to seriously overestimate the numbers performed. This may be due to coding ambiguities in the data resulting in the inclusion of all procedures resulting in birth, such as inductions for maternal conditions (such as severe eclampsia) and for intra-uterine foetal death’.

The Victorian Department of Human Services cited calendar year data produced by the Victorian Consultative Council for Obstetric and Paediatric Mortality and Morbidity on the number of late terminations of pregnancy as follows: 2001 – 151; 2002 – 163; 2003 – 219. Victoria has advised that data in respect of late terminations for 2004 will be published in July 2005.

This data can also identify the number of public hospitals which conducted termination procedures where the duration of the pregnancy was 20 or more completed weeks. This data is provided at Table 7. This data is only available from 1 July 1997.

Table 7: Number of public hospitals providing termination procedures with duration of pregnancy 20 or more completed weeks

Year	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Number of Public hospitals	41	38	49	44	47	38	45

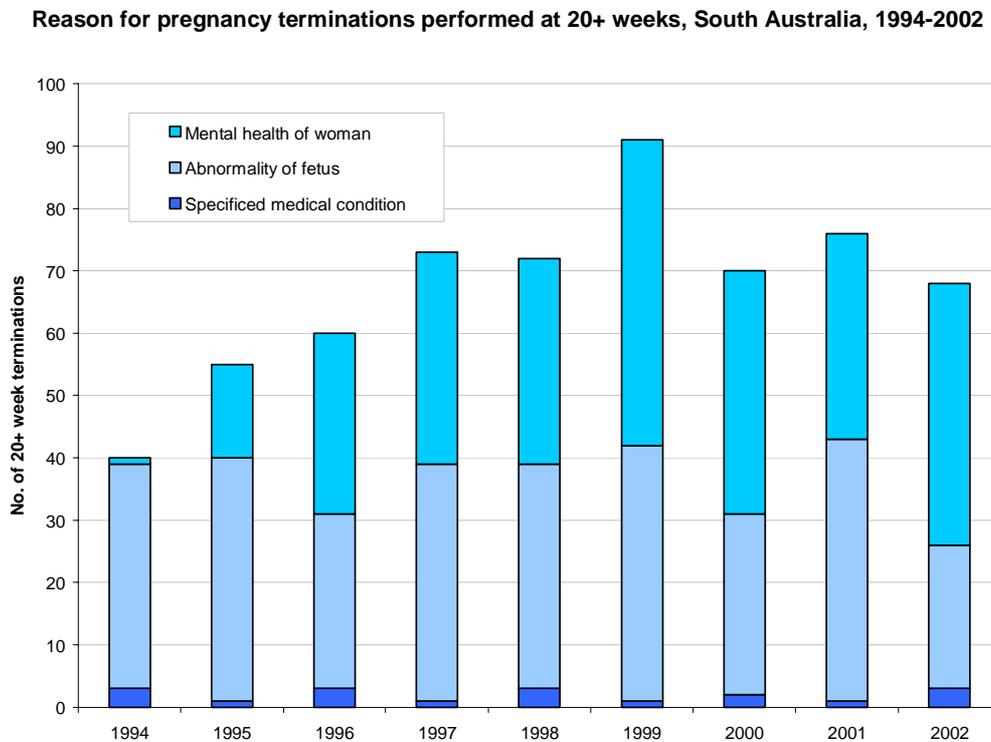
Data on private hospital activity is provided to the Australian Government as part of the National Hospital Morbidity Dataset. This dataset does not separately identify individual private hospitals, but groups all private hospitals together as a single provider. It is therefore not possible, from the data available to the Australian Government to identify the number of individual private hospitals which provided terminations beyond 20 weeks of pregnancy in this period.

There are several studies which provide reasons for late term abortions. The Victorian Consultative Council on Obstetric and Paediatric Mortality and Morbidity produces an annual report on perinatal deaths, including where these have resulted from a termination of pregnancy. In its 2003 report, the Council notes that the increased uptake of prenatal ultrasound and diagnostic procedures leads to more frequent diagnosis of congenital abnormalities resulting in terminations of pregnancy. In

its analysis of perinatal deaths where termination of pregnancy is indicated, the report indicates that, of the 219 terminations reported as occurring after 20 weeks of gestation in 2003, 116 were for congenital abnormality, and 103 were for psychosocial indications. The report also notes that 51 per cent of the terminations for maternal psychosocial indications were for women whose place of residence was outside Victoria³.

A South Australian Report from the Committee Appointed to Examine and Report on Abortions Notified in South Australia provides data on the reason for pregnancy terminations beyond 20 weeks gestation. The two most common reasons cited in this report is the mental health of the woman and foetal abnormality⁴. Figure 1, drawn from the South Australian report, identifies the reasons for pregnancy termination at 20 or more weeks.

Figure 1: Reasons for Pregnancy Terminations Performed at 20+ Weeks, South Australia, 1994-2002



Source: Committee Appointed to Examine and Report on Abortions Notified in South Australia

(9) (a), (b) and (c) The World Health Organization issued a Fact Sheet in June 2000 which states that results from epidemiological studies are reassuring in that they show no consistent effect of first trimester induced abortion upon a woman's risk of breast cancer later in life (Attachment C).

A study was published in *The Lancet* in 2004 which reviewed the link between abortion and breast cancer. The results of this study show that the risk of breast cancer developing after a spontaneous or an induced abortion is not increased in comparison with the risk in women with no history of abortion. Further, the risk of breast cancer does not increase in women who have had two or more abortions, or abortions at a younger age, or before the birth of a first child (Attachment D).

There have been calls in the past to use BreastScreen Australia Screening and Assessment Services to study a possible relationship between reproductive history and breast cancer. These proposals were considered by the then National Advisory Committee to BreastScreen Australia at its meeting of 1 June 2000. The Committee determined that it could not endorse the collection of reproductive history from women attending BreastScreen Australia services. Members agreed that it would be unacceptable in terms of the Privacy Principles which govern collection of personal information to gather information on risk factors other than family history in which there is an evidence based link to an increased risk of breast cancer.

A preliminary review of the medical/scientific literature includes research that indicates higher rates of some mental health disorders, such as depression, in women following abortion. However, there is controversy over the epidemiological validity and interpretation of the studies. The literature shows there is no strong evidence for a causal association between abortion and mental health disorders, but there may be common underlying risk factors for both.

The Australian Government is not specifically investigating the link between abortions and mental illness. However the Government is providing \$2.8 million over 2 years for the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women's Health. Researchers involved in this initiative are collecting and analysing data on a variety of topics, including the following:

- "Retrospective study of a group of midlife women regarding their pregnancy history and contraceptive use during their reproductive lives" and
- "Termination of pregnancy in Australia: a descriptive analysis of trends over time and associations in a young women's cohort."

The Department is not aware of any other relevant research funded by Australian Government sources within Australia. However, researchers who wish to undertake medical or public health research in this area are able to apply to the NHMRC on a competitive basis for funding of their research.

- (10) (a) and (b) The Australian Government provides program funding which aims to support a balanced approach to differing family planning service models. These aim to promote responsible sexual and reproductive behaviours, rather than focussing on one particular strategy or program. This aims to increase choices for women who wish to seek advice from different perspectives.

In 2004-05 the Australian Government has committed to provide funding of \$16.78 million to a range of sexual and reproductive health services under the Family Planning Program. This comprises \$15.4 million through the Public Health Outcome Funding Agreements (PHOFAs) between the Commonwealth and individual states and territories and \$1.378 million to non-government organisations.

The Australian Government does not fund abortion advocacy services. Prior to 2004-05, the Australian Government funded six state and territory-based family planning organisations directly, and only two through the PHOFAs. During 2004-05, all jurisdictions will receive funding for family planning through the PHOFAs.

In regard to non-government organisations, funding is provided to:

- Sexual Health and Family Planning Australia Inc (SHFPA) - a national peak body for the Family Planning Organisations. SHFPA provides the Australian Government and Family Planning Organisations with information and advice on current and future trends affecting sexual and reproductive health.
- The Australian Episcopal Conference of the Roman Catholic Church (AECRCC) - provides vocational training and education to health and other professionals as well as sexual and reproductive health and education services to high need population groups. They also provide information about natural family planning methods.

- Working Women's Health (WWH) - a Melbourne-based organisation which provides culturally appropriate sexual and reproductive health training to bilingual community and health educators as well as sexual and reproductive education services in the workplace to newly arrived or isolated women from diverse cultures.
- The Australian Federation of Pregnancy Support Services (AFPSS) - provides support for women experiencing difficulties with pregnancy. AFPSS also provides sexual health counselling services for women requiring support for an unplanned pregnancy, vocational training and education for counsellors in pregnancy support services and community outreach, for high need population groups. The AFPSS provides information on the range of options available in relation to unplanned pregnancy.

Table 8 identifies the funds provided to each of the above organisations in 2004-05.

Table 8: Funding to non-government organisations under the Family Planning Program, 2004-2005 (estimated)

Non-Government Organisations	2004-05
Sexual Health and Family Planning Australia	\$100,165
Working Women's Health	\$113,867
Australian Episcopal Conference of the Roman Catholic Church	\$918,826
Australian Federation of Pregnancy Support Services	\$245,580
TOTAL (GST exclusive)	\$1,378,438

- (11) (a) and (b) There have been some media reports that there has been research in this area. The Adelaide Sunday Mail reported (25/7/2004) that the Adelaide Women's and Children's Hospital introduced mandatory counselling prior to pregnancy termination in 2003 and that it appeared that the number of terminations was reduced by 25% over a twelve month period. This is the only report that the Department can source in the area of mandatory independent counselling and the impact on the abortion rate.
- (12) (a) and (b) The Department has funding agreements with all four national organisations funded through the national family planning program. These agreements bind the funded organisations to deliver key outputs, including sexual and reproductive health counselling and counsellor training. Performance against these outputs is measured through an agreed project plan and associated reporting mechanisms.
- The PHOFAs contain performance indicators for the provision of family planning activities.
- (13) The cost of providing mandatory independent counselling for all women who underwent a termination procedure in 2003-04 is estimated to be up to \$28 million per annum. This estimate is based on a cost of approximately \$302 per person counselled, comprising:
- An average of 1.5 hours counselling per person;
 - A standard rate of \$135 per hour (Australian Psychology Society rates);
 - Overhead cost of \$100 per person counselled (to cover the infrastructure required to support the mandatory aspects of counselling, including training, forms, Medicare checks, development of materials etc); and
 - 90,000 women counselled
- There will also be a number of women who consider having an abortion but do not. We are unable to estimate how many women would fall into this category.
- (14) There is no Australian Government requirement for data of this type to be gathered by organisations or providers in respect of termination of pregnancy. The Department is not aware whether data of this type is held by organisations nor is it aware of the nature of the counselling which may be provided.

- (15) Based on the number of abortions performed in 2003-04, the average cost to Medicare of including an ultrasound as part of the counselling process would be around \$5 million per annum. This assumes that around 95% of terminations occur in the first trimester with the average cost to Medicare of an ultrasound being \$55.

This does not include those women who may currently seek advice in regard to termination but do not proceed. As noted above, this number is unknown.

If the MBS was to be used for this purpose, an amendment to the current items would be necessary to enable the item to be used where there is no clinical indication.

Currently it is not known how many women seek counselling in regard to a pregnancy and consider abortion but then decide to either continue with the pregnancy or miscarry. As many women also have dating ultrasounds as part of the diagnosis of the pregnancy, the number of additional ultrasounds related to counselling may be small and substitute for ultrasounds that are already performed as part of medical management of pregnancy.

- (16) (a) and (b) The Department does not budget for individual MBS items. Estimates for expenditure under the MBS are derived from an estimates model which is based on long term trends in per capita services utilisation and average benefits at the 'broad type of service' level. There are 16 'broad type of service levels' that include attendances, operations, anaesthetics, obstetrics, pathology and diagnostic imaging. The final estimates are aggregated across the whole of the Medicare Benefits Schedule.

Item 16525 is captured in the estimates modelling for Obstetrics, while item 35643 is captured in modelling for Operations.

It is not possible to identify what part of the cost of abortions is paid for by the Australian Government through the Australian Health Care Agreements.

The 2003-08 Australian Health Care Agreements are five year bilateral agreements between the Australian Government and each state and territory. Under the Agreements, the Australian Government provides financial assistance to the states and territories to assist with the cost of providing public hospital services in accordance with principles specified in the Agreements. These principles are that public hospital services must be provided free of charge to public patients on the basis of clinical need and within a clinically appropriate period, regardless of geographic location.

The overall level of funding available to the public hospital system and how those funds are allocated are matters for each state and territory government to determine, according to their priorities and within the scope of their responsibilities for the planning and provision of public hospital services.

Under these arrangements, the type of procedures available at individual public hospitals is determined by the state government, the managers of the relevant hospitals and the medical practitioners involved.

ATTACHMENT A

Numbers of termination procedures conducted in Australia 1994-95 to 2003-04

NOTE: In regard to the data below, two States have asked for specific caveats to be included:

Queensland: "The increase in terminations for private hospitals in 2001-02 and 2002-03 is due to the inclusion of data from private clinics. Due to a change in legislation, private clinics must now be registered as private hospitals and supply data on activity to Queensland Health. These private clinics were registered at various times throughout the 2001-02 period and have only supplied data from date of registration."

Victoria: "Victoria has serious concerns regarding the validity of some of the data that could lead to erroneous assumptions regarding trends in the State. Firstly with reference to the total number of ter-

minations carried out in Victoria, data from private hospitals prior to 2002-03 is likely to have seriously underestimated the number of terminations due to compliance problems. Further, particularly in relation to late terminations of pregnancy, the data for 2003-04 appears to seriously overestimate the numbers performed.”

Detailed information on feedback on the data provided by each State and Territory is at Attachment B.

Terminations 2003-04	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Total
In public hospitals*	1,541	5,113#	267	5,138	848	91	905	46	13,949#
In private hospitals*	7,948	14,205#	12,744	228	2,765	44	***	27	37,961#
Claimed on Medicare out-side hospital**	22,188	1,534	7,008	***	6,671	953	***	1,094	39,448
Total	31,677	20,852#	20,019	5,366	10,284	1,088	905	1,167	91,358#

#Excludes terminations after 20 weeks of gestation conducted in Victoria due to concerns expressed by the Department of Human Services regarding accuracy of the data in that year. Updated data has been sought from Victoria, but at 11 April 2005, had not been received.

Terminations 2002-03	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Total
In public hospitals*	1,993	5,585	332	5,315	978	143	784	43	15,173
In private hospitals*	8,908	13,652	12,376	252	2,761	33	***	11	37,993
Claimed on Medicare out-side hospital**	22,262	1,413	8,839	9	6,388	811	9	1,122	40,853
Total	33,163	20,650	21,547	5,576	10,127	987	793	1,176	94,019

Terminations 2001-02	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Total
In public hospitals*	2,137	5,743	316	5,553	1,079	216	993	28	16,065
In private hospitals*	9,903	8,469	5,525	287	3,018	96	***	18	27,316
Claimed on Medicare out-side hospital**	23,271	3,319	10,816	7	6,854	346	10	1,177	45,800
Total	35,311	17,531	16,657	5,847	10,951	658	1,003	1,223	89,181

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Terminations 2000-01	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Total
In public hospitals*	2391	5,723	317	5,615	1,351	382	984	54	16,817
In private hospitals*	10,985	4,868	384	282	2,942	138	***	22	19,621
Claimed on Medicare out-side hospital**	22,438	7,081	11,618	10	6,789	307	7	1,443	49,693
Total	35,814	17,672	12,319	5,907	11,082	827	991	1,519	86,131
Terminations 1999-2000	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Total
In public hospitals*	2,734	5,797	358	5,649	1,111	502	987	56	17,194
In private hospitals*	11,593	1,658	375	247	3,303	111	***	***	17,287
Claimed on Medicare out-side hospital**	21,393	9,013	11,059	16	6,477	334	7	1,493	49,792
Total	35,720	16,468	11,792	5,912	10,891	947	994	1,549	84,273
Terminations 1998-99	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Total
In public hospitals*	2,824	5,791	332	5,522	1,022	498	964	83	17,036
In private hospitals*	12,313	1,844	790	251	3,356	128	***	***	18,682
Claimed on Medicare out-side hospital**	20,744	12,571	10,237	7	6,993	432	***	1,601	52,585
Total	35,881	20,206	11,359	5,780	11,371	1,058	964	1,684	88,303

Terminations 1997-98	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Total
In public hospitals*	2,802	5,766	331	5,542	1,092	543	1,030	94	17,200
In private hospitals*	13,630	1,891	730	274	3,555	153	***	***	20,233
Claimed on Medicare outside hospital**	19,137	13,640	10,273	13	7,569	465	8	1,627	52,732
Total	35,569	21,297	11,334	5,829	12,216	1,161	1,038	1,721	90,165
Terminations 1996-97	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Total
In public hospitals*	2,857	5,745	315	5,321	1,179	445	944	113	16,919
In private hospitals*	13,896	2,045	156	326	3,788	160	***	***	20,371
Claimed on Medicare outside hospital**	18,614	13,906	10,611	14	7,642	472	***	1,657	52,916
Total	35,367	21,696	11,082	5,661	12,609	1,077	944	1,770	90,206
Terminations 1995-96	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Total
In public hospitals*	3,019	5,896	392	5,347	1,353	400	987	111	17,505
In private hospitals*	14,946	1,999	148	422	3,924	190	***	***	21,629
Claimed on Medicare outside hospital**	18,980	14,105	10,719	17	8,107	514	8	1,764	54,214
Total	36,945	22,000	11,259	5,786	13,384	1,104	995	1,875	93,348

Terminations 1994-95	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Total
In public hospitals*	3,262	5,163	487	5,114	1,370	458	941	202	16,997
In private hospitals*	15,177	2,163	190	501	3,845	175	***	16	22,067
Claimed on Medicare out-side hospital**	19,044	14,601	10,758	34	7,814	547	17	1,092	53,907
Total	37,483	21,927	11,435	5,649	13,029	1,180	958	1,310	92,971

* Source: National Morbidity Data Set.

** Source: MBS data.

*** Not available for publication for privacy reasons and excluded from totals.

ATTACHMENT B

COMMENTS FROM STATES AND TERRITORIES ON NATIONAL MORBIDITY DATA SET (NMDS) DATA ON TERMINATIONS IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE HOSPITALS

Background

A letter was sent by the Secretary of the Department of Health and Ageing, Ms Jane Halton, to the Chief Executive Officers of each State and Territory Health Department, attaching data on the number of estimated terminations provided in public and private hospitals from 1994-95 to 2003-04. The letter sought comment on the accuracy of the data in respect of each jurisdiction.

At 11 April 2005, all states and territories, with the exception of the Northern Territory, had responded to this letter. A summary of these responses follows.

New South Wales

New South Wales indicated that they were able to extract figures using the same methodology as the Australian Department of Health and Ageing that were close to, but did not exactly match the data extracted by the Department of Health and Ageing. The differences between the data are at Table 9.

Table 9: Number of Terminations by Sector (ie public and private)

Year	Type of Hospital	Number of Terminations		Difference
		NSW data	Australian Government data (NMDS)	
2002-2003	Public	1,992	1,993	1
	Private	9,082	8,908	-174
2001-2002	Public	2,136	2,137	1
	Private	9,911	9,903	-8
2000-2001	Public	2,431	2,391	-40
	Private	10,989	10,985	-4

Slight differences were also identified in data on late terminations of pregnancy. As these were minor (no more than 10 in any one year) and the number of late terminations recorded are quite low, the differences identified in this data have not been provided for privacy reasons.

NSW identified several reasons for the variations between the Australian Government and NSW data, namely:

- Timing of the submission of the data: data is updated locally to add previously incomplete records or to correct errors, and this data is not resubmitted to the Australian Department of Health and Ageing;
- Differences in editing processes: The Department of Health and Ageing undertakes a series of data edits once data is received from the states which may not be the same as data edits applied locally.

The NSW Department also noted that the methodology used to extract the data did not use termination procedures in addition to diagnoses. The NSW Department advised that using termination procedures as well as diagnoses may provide greater accuracy. If this were included, it estimates that around 600 fewer cases may be identified each year.

Victoria

Victoria expressed serious concerns regarding the validity of some of the data, noting that it could lead to erroneous assumptions regarding trends in the State, in particular regarding:

- Underestimation of private hospital activity before 2002-03 due to compliance issues;
- Overestimation of late terminations in 2003-04 due to coding ambiguities such that inductions for maternal conditions such as severe eclampsia and for intra-uterine foetal death may have been included.

Victoria drew attention to data on terminations after 20 weeks of gestation in that State produced by the Consultative Council for Obstetric and Paediatric Mortality and Morbidity which provides calendar year data. The data on the number of late terminations of pregnancy in Victoria for the years 2001, 2002, and 2003 cited in reports of the Council were 151, 163 and 219 respectively.

In regard to late terminations of pregnancy, Victoria noted that these may be conducted either for congenital malformation of the foetus or for psychosocial indications in the mother. It was also noted that half of women seeking terminations in Victoria for psychosocial indications are from interstate.

A further letter was sent to Victoria on 30 March 2005, seeking updated data on late terminations of pregnancy for 2003-04 together with extraction criteria and data sources. Victoria advised in response that data on the number of late terminations of pregnancy for 2004 would be published by the Council for Obstetric and Paediatric Mortality and Morbidity in July 2005 and would not be available until that time.

Queensland

Queensland indicated that they were able to match the data in the NMDS, except for two cases:

- For public hospitals in 1998-99, 1 more termination was recorded by Queensland
- For public hospitals in 1995-96, 3 more terminations were recorded by Queensland.

Queensland asked that the following caveat be included in the Queensland data.

“The increase in terminations for private hospitals in 2001-02 and 2002-03 is due to the inclusion of data from private clinics. Due to a change in legislation, private clinics must now be registered as private hospitals and supply data on activity to Queensland Health. These private clinics were registered at various times throughout the 2001-02 period and have only supplied data from date of registration.”

Queensland expressed concern at two of the codes used to identify terminations in the NMDS, in particular:

- the ‘unspecified abortion’ code, which they believed were generally ‘spontaneous’ rather than medical abortions, and
- failed attempted abortions.

Comment by the Australian Department of Health and Ageing

The two codes referred to in the Queensland correspondence do not represent a large number of terminations. In 2003-04, there were 77 terminations coded to these two items in Queensland (out of a total number of 13,011 in hospital terminations). Across Australia in the same year, there were 823 terminations coded to these two items, out of a total of 51,910 terminations in hospital (excludes Victorian late term data). As removing these data would only have a marginal impact on the estimate of terminations, and this matter was raised in only one jurisdiction, it was decided to take no further action.

South Australia

South Australia indicated that the data had been reviewed and could be released in its current form. However, they also advised of a more accurate collection of information in their ‘Abortions’ collection derived from statutory notifications of termination of pregnancy in that state. Tables 10 and 11 report the data provided by South Australia.

Table 10: Terminations of Pregnancy, South Australia, from statutory notifications

Financial Year	Public Hospitals	Private Hospitals	Total
2003-2004 (incomplete)	4,749	192	4,941
2002-2003	5,093	206	5,299
2001-2002	5,302	224	5,526
2000-2001	5,340	229	5,569
1999-2000	5,404	208	5,612

Financial Year	Public Hospitals	Private Hospitals	Total
1998-1999	5,366	212	5,578
1997-1998	5,414	215	5,629
1996-1997	5,162	285	5,447
1995-1996	5,166	363	5,529
1994-1995	4,895	464	5,359

Table 11: Terminations of Pregnancy, South Australia, Gestation 20 weeks and over, from statutory notifications

Financial Year	Terminations after 20 wks gestation
2003-2004 (incomplete)	75
2002-2003	58
2001-2002	77
2000-2001	65
1999-2000	83
1998-1999	80
1997-1998	78
1996-1997	64
1995-1996	56
1994-1995	47

South Australia noted that the NMDS data overstates the number of terminations compared to the SA statutory notification data, indicating a number of reasons for these variations:

- complications are under-reported in the Abortions collection as data is captured on discharge, and complications post-discharge are not included;
- the NMDS includes readmissions of women who have complications; and
- there are more late terminations in the Abortions collection than in the NMDS which may relate to a coding issue at the hospital level.

South Australia also noted that terminations after 20 weeks are uncommon, with slightly more than half for a woman's mental health – in SA, these are not conducted after 22 weeks gestation. The remainder of late gestation abortions are mainly for congenital abnormalities. Occasionally they are performed for the woman's medical conditions.

Western Australia

Western Australia noted a close match between the NMDS data and the WA Hospital Morbidity Data. Table 12 identifies any differences. WA noted that differences are greater in earlier years, probably due to a difference in coding between the national and state data.

Table 12: Number of terminations in WA between 1994-95 and 2003-04, National Morbidity Dataset and WA Hospital Morbidity Data Set

	NMDS	WA HMDS	Difference
Terminations 2003-04			
In public hospitals	848	848	0
In private hospitals	2,765	2,765	0
Terminations 2002-03			
In public hospitals	978	980	-2
In private hospitals	2761	2762	-1

	NMDS	WA HMDS	Difference
Terminations 2001-02			
In public hospitals	1079	1081	-2
In private hospitals	3018	3018	0
Terminations 2000-01			
In public hospitals	1351	1351	0
In private hospitals	2948	2942	6
Terminations 1999-2000			
In public hospitals	1111	1112	-1
In private hospitals	3303	3304	-1
Terminations 1998-99			
In public hospitals	1022	1023	-1
In private hospitals	3356	3356	0
Terminations 1997-98			
In public hospitals	1092	1129	-37
In private hospitals	3555	3569	-14
Terminations 1996-97			
In public hospitals	1179	1209	-30
In private hospitals	3788	3779	9
Terminations 1995-96			
In public hospitals	1353	1369	-16
In private hospitals	3924	3926	-2
Terminations 1994-95			
In public hospitals	1370	1379	-9
In private hospitals	3845	3862	-17

Data on late terminations matches between the two data sets.

WA also noted that data from some private clinics which fell outside the definition of a hospital were not included.

Tasmania

Tasmania indicated that the NMDS data on Tasmania was consistent with the Tasmanian Morbidity Data collection. Tasmania requested that cells with value of 5 or less be suppressed.

Australian Capital Territory

The ACT declined to comment on the validity of the data provided.

Northern Territory

At 11 April 2005, no response had been received from the Northern Territory.

ATTACHMENT C – Available from the Senate Table Office.

ATTACHMENT D - Available from the Senate Table Office.

¹ These codes are defined as follows: 'medical abortion' – medically induced abortions; 'unspecified abortion' – documentation not available; 'failed attempted abortion' – either medically induced or other

abortion which is incomplete or unsuccessful; 'other abortion' – any specified abortion other than an abortion that could be coded elsewhere. In 2003-04, of the terminations of pregnancy across Australia recorded in the National Morbidity Dataset, 98.2% were for 'medical abortion', 1.5% were for 'unspecified abortion', 0.1% were for 'failed attempted abortion', and 0.2% were for 'other abortion'.

² R.W Shaw, W.P Souter, S.L.Stanton (ed), Gynaecology 2nd Edition, 1997, pp. 306-307

³ The Consultative Council on Obstetric and Paediatric Mortality and Morbidity, Annual Report for the Year 2003 (Incorporating the 42nd Survey of Perinatal Deaths in Victoria), pp. 9-10

⁴ Committee Appointed to Examine and Report on Abortions Notified in South Australia, p.3.

Defence Housing Authority Properties

(Question No. 335)

Senator Hogg asked the Minister for Defence, upon notice, on 4 February 2005:

In relation to Defence Housing Authority (DHA) properties at, or near, Wallangarra, Queensland:

- (1) What is the value of the properties held.
- (2) How many properties are held or managed for Defence housing.
- (3) How many were occupied in the past: (a) three months; (b) six months; and (c) year
- (4) What has been the average number of days of occupancy for each property over the past three years.
- (5) What is the cost of maintaining these properties each year for the past three years: (a) if occupied; and (b) if vacant.
- (6) Has DHA undertaken any review of the stock held in this area; if so: (a) when was the review completed; and (b) what was the outcome of that review.

Senator Hill—The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

The Defence Housing Authority previously had 12 houses situated on approximately 32 hectares of Commonwealth land adjacent to the Wallangarra Logistics facility. The houses were handed back to the Department of Defence and are surplus to requirements. The houses are scheduled for disposal this year.

Global Information System

(Question Nos 336 and 339)

Senator Brown asked the Minister for the Environment and Heritage, upon notice, on 8 February 2005 and 10 February 2005:

Is it the case that the Federal Government is using the Global Information System (GIS) old growth layer, dated 2004, to determine areas of old growth forest for protection in Tasmania; if so, can the Minister provide copies of the 1997, 2002 and 2004 GIS old growth layer for Tasmania.

Senator Ian Campbell—The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

The Australian Government is not using a 2004 G.I.S. (Geographic Information System) old growth layer to determine areas of old growth forest for protection in Tasmania.

Family Court of Australia

(Question No. 337)

Senator Harris asked the Minister representing the Attorney-General, upon notice, on 9 February 2005:

- (1) Is the Family Court of Australia a statutory body.

- (2) Is the Family Court of Australia established in accordance with Chapter III of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia.
- (3) Is the Family Court of Australia, or any section of the Family Court of Australia, an agency.
- (4) Are the persons who carry out functions for all sections that are essential for the operation of the Family Court of Australia employed as Commonwealth public servants.
- (5) Are all Family Court of Australia sessions recorded in their entirety.
- (6) Do all tapes and subsequent transcripts of the court (with the exception of those purchased by interested parties) remain within the confines of the Family Court of Australia precincts and under the courts' strict control and security.
- (7) Are all Family Court of Australia hearings formally convened.
- (8) Are all Family Court of Australia proceedings recorded verbatim.
- (9) Is the Family Court of Australia a corporation registered with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission.
- (10) Do any of the sections of the Family Court of Australia referred to in (3) above issue shares or have a share register; if so, who holds copies of such a register.
- (11) Can a person employed by the Family Court of Australia or an agency of the Family Court of Australia be the holder/owner of shares in the Family Court of Australia or any of the Family Court's agencies.

Senator Ellison—The Attorney-General has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) The Family Court of Australia is a statutory body. The Court was created by section 21 of the Family Law Act 1975.
- (2) Yes. The Family Court of Australia was created by the Parliament in exercise of its power under section 71 of the Constitution to create federal courts.
- (3) The Family Court of Australia is listed as a prescribed agency, for the purposes of the Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997, in the Financial Management and Accountability Regulations 1997 (Schedule 1, Part 1). Under the Regulations the Family Court is expressed as comprising (a) the Chief Executive Officer of the Court, and (b) the officers and staff of the Registries of the Court (within the meaning of section 38N of the Family Law Act).

The Family Law Act provides that, for the purposes of the Public Service Act 1999, the Chief Executive Officer and the Australian Public Service employees assisting the Chief Executive Officer together constitute a statutory agency (section 38Q).

- (4) Not all persons who carry out functions that are essential for the operation of the Family Court of Australia are members of the Australian Public Service. Judges of the Family Court are members of the judicial branch of Government. The Chief Executive Officer of the Court is a statutory office holder appointed under the Family Law Act.

The officers of the Family Court, other than the Chief Executive Officer and the Deputy Marshals, are to be persons engaged under the Public Service Act. The Deputy Marshals may be persons engaged under the Public Service Act. The Registries of the Court are to be staffed by persons engaged under the Public Service Act (section 38N of the Family Law Act). The Chief Executive Officer may engage consultants under section 38R of the Family Law Act.

- (5) I am advised that all proceedings before Judges, Judicial Registrars and Registrars are recorded in their entirety. The proceedings before Deputy Registrars are predominately procedural hearings or case management hearings and are not generally recorded. However, there is provision for recording where Deputy Registrars are exercising certain delegations.

- (6) The Family Court of Australia's recordings are not stored within the confines of the court precincts. The recordings are held in secure storage and under the Court's strict control.
- Since 2001, the Family Court has used digital recordings that are stored on a hard drive. The current contractual arrangement requires that these recordings be stored securely by the contractual providers and their release is controlled by the Court. The Family Court uses tapes in smaller locations and these are also stored securely. Prior to 2001, tapes were used by the Family Court and these are stored securely by the previous contractual provider for the Court.
- Transcripts are also stored electronically by the contractual providers and are issued under strict guidance by the Court. Where the transcripts are in hard copy they are retained in the Court file and access to them is in accordance with Court procedures.
- (7) Yes, all Family Court of Australia hearings are formally convened.
- (8) As noted in response to question 5, all proceedings before Judges, Judicial Registrars and Registrars are recorded in their entirety. The proceedings before Deputy Registrars are predominately procedural hearings or case management hearings and are not generally recorded. However, there is provision for recording where Deputy Registrars are exercising certain delegations.
- (9) The Family Court of Australia is not a corporation registered with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission.
- (10) and (11) Neither the Family Court of Australia nor any section of it issues shares or has a share register. Accordingly, neither an employee nor an agency of the Family Court can hold or own shares in the Court or any of its agencies.

Inspector of Transport Security

(Question No. 342)

Senator Mark Bishop asked the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services, upon notice, on 23 February 2005:

- (1) With reference to the Minister's media statement (reference A155/2003, dated 4 December 2003) regarding the appointment of an independent Inspector of Transport Security: (a) on what date was the inspector appointed; (b) what is the name of the inspector; (c) what is the term of the inspector's tenure; and (d) what is the amount of the inspector's annual total remuneration.
- (2) With reference to the recruitment process for the Inspector of Transport Security, can the following details be provided: (a) the schedule of advertisements used to attract applicants (including outlet and date of advertisement); (b) the number of applications received; (c) the number of applicants interviewed; and (d) the dates on which the interviewing of candidates began and ceased.

Senator Ian Campbell—The Minister for Transport and Regional Services has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) (a) The Inspector of Transport Security was appointed on 23 November 2004.
(b) The Inspector of Transport Security is Michael John Palmer OA APM.
(c) Mr Palmer has been appointed as a non-ongoing officer for a period of twelve months.
(d) Mr Palmer is paid an annual retainer to ensure his availability for the position and is paid a per diem allowance when he is undertaking specific duties as the Inspector of Transport Security.
- (2) (a) to (d) The Government approached Mr Palmer to undertake the role of Inspector of Transport Security. Mr Palmer was identified as highly suitable given his background as the former Commissioner of the Australian Federal Police and with over 34 years experience with investigation and law enforcement. He will bring considerable authority and credibility to the role. He has a wealth of experience in working with various Commonwealth, State and Territory security agencies, as well as with industry.

Dash 8 Aircraft
(Question No. 343)

Senator Mark Bishop asked the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services, upon notice, on 23 February 2005:

With reference to the Government's commitment to fund hardened cockpit doors on the Australian commercial Dash 8 aircraft fleet, noted during the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee estimates hearing on 26 May 2004 (*Hansard*, p. 92):

- (1) When did the Government take this Decision.
- (2) Was this decision taken by Cabinet or by the Minister.
- (3) When, and by which method, was this decision first publicly announced.
- (4) What were the original commencement and completion dates for the program.
- (5) What is the actual commencement date of the program.
- (6) What is the original projected expenditure by financial year.
- (7) How many Dash 8 aircraft in the Australian fleet were eligible for funding under the program at the time of the Government's decision.
- (8) How many commercial Dash 8 aircraft have been fitted with hardened cockpit doors at the Commonwealth's expense to date.
- (9) What is the actual cost of the program to date.
- (10) What is the current projected completion date of the program.
- (11) What is the current projected total cost of the program by financial year.

Senator Ian Campbell—The Minister for Transport and Regional Services has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) The Government took the decision to fund hardened cockpit doors for Regular Passenger Transport operators on 26 November 2003. A further decision was made on the 23 August 2004 to extend funding to Charter operators.
- (2) The decision was made by the Australian Government.
- (3) The Enhanced Aviation Security Package (EASP) decision was publicly announced in a media release on 4 December 2003 by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Transport and Regional Services, the Hon John Anderson MP. This included reference to the funding of hardened cockpit doors in relevant aircraft.

The Securing our Regional Skies Package (SORs) decision was announced in a media release on 23 August 2004 by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Transport and Regional Services, the Hon John Anderson MP. This included reference to the extension of relevant aircraft to include those used for Charter services.

- (4) (5) and (10) The program was announced on 4 December 2003 and funding was made available for the program from 1 July 2004. Additional Funding was announced in August 2004 for Charter operations. Completion of the program was scheduled for 10 March 2005 to coincide with the new Act. However, some airlines have experienced supply problems which have caused delays. An extension of the deadline until 1 July 2005 has been approved for those airlines, subject to alternative interim measures being implemented by them to mitigate any risks associated with not having hardened cockpit doors in place.
- (6) \$3.2 million was provided in the 2004-05 Budget. An additional \$1.5 million was provided in the 2004-05 Additional Estimates to fund Charter operators.

- (7) 38.
- (8) 35 aircraft have been fitted with hardened cockpit doors by 11 March 2005.
- (9) The total expenses to date (11 March 2005) is \$1.463 million (GST exclusive)
- (11) The allocation is \$4.7 million and the final expenditure will not be known until contracts with all airlines are concluded.

Driver Training Programs
(Question No. 345 amended)

Senator Mark Bishop asked the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services, upon notice, on 23 February 2005:

Would the Minister provide details of any Commonwealth-funded driver training programs or research for the purpose of enhancing driver training for drivers of four-wheel drive vehicles.

Senator Ian Campbell—The Minister for Transport and Regional Services has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

The Australian Government has not funded any driver training programmes designed specifically for drivers of four-wheel-drive vehicles, nor has it funded any research on driver training issues relating specifically to four-wheel-drive vehicles. The Government has made no plans to fund such activities in the future.

The Australian Government does not have a direct role in the delivery of driver training programmes, which is an area of state and territory government responsibility. However, it is contributing to the development of a driver education programme to address safety concerns common to all novice drivers:

- in 2004, the Government funded the development of a course curriculum that could form the basis of a novice driver education programme. This work was commissioned by the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) for a total cost of \$85,000 and was published on the ATSB website in December 2004;
- in December 2004, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Transport and Regional Services, the Hon John Anderson MP, announced the Government's plans to develop and trial a novice driver education programme in partnership with the New South Wales and Victorian Governments, the Federal Chamber of Automotive Industries, the Insurance Australia Group and the Royal Automobile Club of Victoria. The trial programme is expected to be delivered to about 14,000 newly licensed (P-Plate) drivers in NSW and Victoria, commencing in the second half of 2005. Its focus will be to raise awareness of driver risk factors and provide inexperienced drivers with an appreciation of their own limitations. The total cost of the trial, including evaluation, is expected to be about \$5 million. The Australian Government has agreed to contribute an initial \$1 million.

The trial programme is a key step in the Government's policy to work with the states and territories to implement a national compulsory driver education scheme for all new provisional licence holders by 2007.

Airservices Australia
(Question No. 346)

Senator Mark Bishop asked the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services, upon notice, on 23 February 2005:

With reference to the Minister's media statement (reference A178/2004, dated 16 December 2004) regarding Airservices Australia:

- (1) (a) Besides Mr Burton Taylor, how many other candidates were considered for the role of chairman of Airservices Australia; (b) how many were interviewed; (c) who made the final decision; and (d) when was it made.
- (2) Would the Minister provide: (a) details of the media outlets used; and (b) the dates of advertisements used to attract candidates for this position.

Senator Ian Campbell—The Minister for Transport and Regional Services has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) In accordance with the procedures set out for significant Government appointments in Chapter 6 of the Cabinet Handbook, the appointment of the Chairman of Airservices Australia was considered and agreed to by Cabinet. I considered a number of people for this, and the other appointments to the Board of Airservices.
- (2) The position was not advertised.

Freight Train Derailment

(Question No. 348)

Senator Mark Bishop asked the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services, upon notice, on 23 February 2005:

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the derailment of a freight train on 21 November 2004 at the Glenalta level crossing in South Australia.
- (2) Has the Minister or his department been approached to investigate the cause of this derailment; if so: (a) when was the approach made; (b) by whom; and (c) in what form.
- (3) What action has the Minister or his department taken to facilitate an investigation into this incident.

Senator Ian Campbell—The Minister for Transport and Regional Services has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) No, neither the Minister nor the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) was approached to investigate the derailment. As the derailment occurred on the Designated Interstate Rail Network (DIRN) the ATSB exercised its jurisdiction to investigate.

The ATSB is currently undertaking the investigation under the provisions of the Transport Safety Investigation Act 2003.

In accordance with the ATSB/South Australian Rail Regulator memorandum of Understanding, Transport South Australia was informed that the ATSB would investigate the derailment on the designated interstate rail network. Two representatives from SA Transport joined the investigation team.

- (3) The department will provide assistance to the ATSB as required.

Civil Aviation Safety Authority

(Question No. 352)

Senator Mark Bishop asked the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services, upon notice, on 23 February 2005:

With reference to the review of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority's (CASA) new enforcement regime: (a) when did the review commence; (b) when was the review completed; (c) who conducted the review and how were they selected; (d) what is the projected total cost of the review; (e) what is the actual cost of the review to date; (f) when did the Minister receive the report of the review; and (g) on what date will the Government and/or CASA make their response to the review.

Senator Ian Campbell—The Minister for Transport and Regional Services has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (a) The review commenced in March 2005;
- (b) It is expected that the review will be completed in April 2005 ;
- (c) The review will be conducted by CASA;
- (d) The review will be conducted as part of CASA's normal operations and no consultancy costs will be incurred;
- (e) Not applicable;
- (f) Not applicable; and
- (g) After the review has been completed it will be considered by the CASA Chief Executive Officer, Mr Bruce Byron. A report will then be provided to the Minister, particularly if any legislative changes are requested as a result of the review recommendations.

Civil Aviation Safety Authority

(Question No. 357)

Senator Mark Bishop asked the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services, upon notice, on 23 February 2005:

- (1) Would the Minister provide a list of activities that may be reported under the Civil Aviation Safety Authority's (CASA) protected disclosure policy.
- (2) How many reports by activity type have been lodged since the inception of the protected disclosure policy.
- (3) What is the process by which STOPline was selected for its role in the protected disclosure policy.
- (4) Who made the final decision to engage STOPline.
- (5) What is the annual amount to be paid to STOPline for its role in the protected disclosure policy.
- (6) When did STOPline's contract commence and when is it due to finish.
- (7) Would the Minister confirm that STOPline regularly monitors CASA's actions in dealing with disclosures and that reports are provided to CASA's Audit and Risk Committee.
- (8) Does the Minister receive a copy of these reports; if so, how often are the reports provided.
- (9) Can these reports be made available to the Senate; if not, why not.
- (10) Would the Minister provide the dates, numbers and office locations of instances of staff discipline resulting from the protected disclosure policy since its inception.
- (11) Would the Minister provide the dates, numbers and office locations of instances of staff dismissal resulting from the protected disclosure policy since its inception.
- (12) Would the Minister provide the numbers, office locations and commencement dates of instances of legal proceedings brought against staff resulting from the protected disclosure policy since its inception.

Senator Ian Campbell—The Minister for Transport and Regional Services has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) The Protected Disclosure Policy sets out the conduct that may be reported under that Policy. The Policy provides that a person may report conduct under the Policy, which, in the honest belief of the person making the report:
 - (a) is dishonest; or
 - (b) is fraudulent; or

-
- (c) is corrupt; or
 - (d) is illegal (including theft, drugs sale/use, violence or threatened violence and criminal damage against property);
 - (e) is in breach of Commonwealth or State legislation or local authority by-laws; or
 - (f) is unethical (either representing a breach of CASA's code of conduct or generally); or
 - (g) constitutes serious and improper conduct; or
 - (h) results in, or contributes to, an unsafe workplace; or
 - (i) constitutes a repeated instance of breach of administrative procedures; or
 - (j) constitutes gross mismanagement; or
 - (k) constitutes, or results in, a serious and substantial waste of CASA resources; or
 - (l) constitutes a reprisal for disclosing reportable conduct; or
 - (m) may cause financial or non-financial loss to CASA or may otherwise be detrimental to the interests of CASA.
- (2) Five (5) reports have been lodged with CASA since the commencement of CASA's Protected Disclosure Policy, these include:
- 2 allegations of corrupt conduct/behaviour
 - 1 allegation of fraudulent travel claims
 - 2 reports were assessed as not fitting within the scope of reportable conduct.
- (3) At the time STOPline was selected, it was the only private and independent company specialising in this field known to CASA.
- (4) STOPline was engaged under contract signed by the Chief Executive Officer.
- (5) \$18,000 per annum
- (6) The contract commenced on 19 April 2004 for a two-year period ending on 18 April 2006.
- (7) STOPline monitors CASA's actions to ensure that matters are progressed and that complainants are advised of progress on their complaints. STOPline does not independently assess whether CASA's actions in response to a complaint are appropriate or adequate
- CASA's Audit and Risk Committee is regularly provided with summaries of all internal investigations, and is informed about any allegations received by CASA via the STOPline process and the actions taken to address the allegations. The Committee is not provided with copies of investigation reports.
- (8) The Minister does not receive copies of these reports.
- (9) The reports generally deal with named individuals. For privacy reasons, it would not be appropriate for these reports to be provided to the Senate.
- (10) One staff member in Canberra received formal counselling in 2004.
- One staff member in Canberra received informal (verbal) counselling in 2004.
- Both these disciplinary measures resulted from the receipt of a single protected disclosure.
- (11) No staff dismissals have occurred as a result of a protected disclosure investigation.
- (12) No legal proceedings have commenced against any CASA staff member as a result of a protected disclosure investigation.
-

**Civil Aviation Safety Authority
(Question No. 362)**

Senator Mark Bishop asked the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services, upon notice, on 23 February 2005:

With reference to page 79 of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority's (CASA) Annual Report for 2003-04:

- (1) (a) Who is CASA's current supplier of telephony services; (b) who was CASA's previous provider of telephony services; and (c) when did the provider of telephony services change.
- (2) By what process was the new provider selected.
- (3) For each of the past 3 financial years, what was the total cost of CASA's telephony services.
- (4) For each of the next 3 financial years beginning 1 July 2004, what is the projected cost of CASA's telephony services.

Senator Ian Campbell—The Minister for Transport and Regional Services has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) (a) CASA's telephony facilities management services are currently provided by Telstra Business Systems.

CASA's telephony carrier services are currently provided by SingTel Optus Pty Ltd (Optus).

- (b) CASA's telephony facilities management services were previously provided by Damovo (Aust) Pty Ltd.

CASA's telephony carrier services were previously provided by Telstra

- (c) Damovo was acquired by Telstra in September 2004 and is now known as Telstra Business Systems.

The majority of CASA's telephony carrier services were migrated from Telstra to Optus during the period June 2003 to November 2003. CASA's mobile phone services were migrated from Telstra to Optus during July 2004. A small number of services such as directory listings remain with Telstra.

- (2) Damovo was acquired by Telstra in September 2004 and is now known as Telstra Business Systems. Damovo was originally known as Ericsson. Ericsson was selected through a tender process that was conducted in accordance with CASA's procurement processes.

Optus was selected through a tendering process that was conducted in accordance with CASA's procurement process.

- (3)

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Total telephony costs \$	1,996,727	1,675,937	1,674,632

- (4) The projected costs for telephony services are being considered within the overall the 2005-06 Budget context.

**Calton Hills Station
(Question No. 363)**

Senator Ridgeway asked the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs, upon notice, on 25 February 2005:

In the context of the disbursement of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC) and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Services (ATSIS) responsibilities, resources and staff to vari-

ous Commonwealth government departments, coordinated by the Office of Indigenous Policy Coordination in the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs:

- (1) Which department or agency now manages, or administers, in any sense, the Calton Hills Station property in Kalkadoon, Queensland.
- (2) (a) Who holds the title to this property; and (b) are there any charges or conditions held over this property; if so: (i) by whom are they held, and (ii) what exactly are the charges or conditions.
- (3) What are the responsibilities of the relevant department or agency in relation to this property.
- (4) Is it the case that when this property was acquired by ATSIC in the 1994-95 financial year, it was specifically for the Kalkadoon people.
- (5) (a) Why have the Kalkadoon people not been granted access to this property; and (b) why has the property not been transferred to them.
- (6) When will the property be transferred to the Kalkadoon people.
- (7) (a) When the department or agency took control of the management or administration of the property, or of the transfer of the property to the Kalkadoon people, at what stage of the process of transferral was ATSIC; and (b) what steps had ATSIC or ATSI taken to have the property transferred.
- (8) (a) How far has this process progressed since the department or agency has had control; (b) what steps has the department or agency taken regarding the Calton Hills property since it took control; (c) what steps are going to be taken by the department or agency to ensure the property is transferred to the Kalkadoon people; and (d) what is the timeline for these steps to be taken and for the ultimate transfer of the property to the Kalkadoon people.

Senator Vanstone—The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

- (1) The Calton Hills Pastoral Lease was purchased by ATSIC and gifted to the Kalkadoon people in 1995. A company was formed (Calton Hills Pty Ltd) to manage the cattle operations of the property and hold the pastoral lease in trust for the Kalkadoon Discretionary Trust. All shares in Calton Hills Pty Ltd are held by the Kalkadoon Tribal Council Ltd, a community organisation established to represent the Kalkadoon people. The rights attached to this shareholding include the rights afforded to shareholders generally.

The Office of Indigenous Policy Co-ordination retains policy responsibility until such time as this matter is transferred to another agency. No caveat is lodged on the title although a purposes agreement exists between the Commonwealth and the grantee.

- (2) (a) The registered proprietor on 3 titles (about 450,000 hectares) is Calton Hills Pty Ltd. A fourth title (.6 hectare) shows Calton Hills Pty Ltd and Coolreagh Pastoral Company Pty Ltd as tenants in common. (b) There are no charges registered on the title.
- (3) The responsibility of the Commonwealth is to ensure that the land continues to be used for the purposes for which it was granted, ie to further the social, economic or cultural development of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islanders, in particular, the Kalkadoon people. Consent to any disposal of an interest in the land, formerly required from ATSIC, is now required from the Commonwealth.
- (4) See answer at (1). The purchase of Calton Hills Station was made for the benefit of the Kalkadoon people. The objectives of the purchase were twofold: the first was to provide an opportunity to maintain ongoing employment and training for Kalkadoon people in a viable pastoral operation. The second was to provide a base on which cultural and social interests could be pursued.
- (5) (a) It is my understanding that there is no obstacle for Kalkadoon people to visit and undertake activities on the station. (b) See answer at (6).

- (6) All rights to the Calton Hills Station were transferred to the control of Calton Hills Pty Ltd as Trustee for the Kalkadoon people upon settlement of the lease acquisition in 1995.
- (7) All matters relating to the transfer of the property were completed in the 1994-95 financial year and the control over this lease rests with Calton Hills Pty Ltd.
- (8) All matters relating to the ownership of Calton Hills were finalised on settlement of the lease in the 1994-95 financial year.

Ms Sarah Murfett

(Question No. 367)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services, upon notice, on 10 March 2005:

- (1) Has the Minister, the department or any agency for which the Minister is responsible investigated the disappearance of an overnight bag checked in by Ms Sarah Murfett at Launceston Airport on 12 November 2004 prior to boarding flight DJ613 to Melbourne; if so: (a) who initiated the investigation; (b) who undertook the investigation; (c) who was interviewed as part of the investigation; (d) when did the investigation commence; and (e) when did the investigation conclude.
- (2) How did Ms Murfett's bag disappear.
- (3) What did the disappearance reveal about the integrity of airport baggage security at Launceston Airport.
- (4) What recommendations arose from the investigation.
- (5) What was the Government's response to those recommendations and what action has been taken to address security concerns associated with the disappearance of Ms Murfett's bag.
- (6) (a) When was Ms Murfett advised of the outcome of the investigation; (b) by whom; and (c) in what form was that advice provided.
- (7) If no investigation has been undertaken by the Minister, the department or any agency for which the Minister is responsible, why not.

Senator Ian Campbell—The Minister for Transport and Regional Services has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) (a) Office of Transport Security in the Department of Transport and Regional Services, Canberra
(b) Office of Transport Security, Victoria/Tasmania Region
(c) Employees of Virgin at both Launceston airport and Virgin Security in Brisbane.
(d) 3 February 2005
(e) 3 February 2005
- (2) As the matter has been handled as a theft by Virgin, there is no ongoing role for the Office of Transport Security in determining the method of the loss.
- (3) The last Office of Transport Security audit of Virgin's operation at Launceston on 10 February 2005 did not report any deficiency in baggage security.

In regard to this matter, it has been determined that it is a police matter as the incident involved an alleged theft of passenger baggage and that there is no evidence to suggest that aviation security was compromised. It is considered that this theft does not constitute an act of unlawful interference with aviation at Launceston airport. It is understood that Ms Murfett has been compensated by Virgin for her loss.

- (4) Not Applicable (refer 3. above)
- (5) Not Applicable (refer 3. above)

- (6) Not applicable as this a matter between Virgin Blue and Ms Murfett
- (7) Not applicable (refer 3. above)

Baggage Screening
(Question No. 368)

Senator O'Brien asked the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services, upon notice, on 10 March 2005:

- (1) For each of the financial years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 to date and by airport, how many items of checked luggage have been stolen or subject to unlawful tampering at Australian airports.
- (2) Has the Government taken action to address the security of checked baggage at Australian airports; if so, can details be provided including expenditure by item and year and measurable outcomes.

Senator Ian Campbell—The Minister for Transport and Regional Services has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) Theft of baggage from airports is not a transport security matter, it is a criminal matter for the police.
- (2) Since 31 December 2004, 100 percent of international Checked Baggage departing Australia is subject to screening. There is also a domestic Checked Baggage Screening (CBS) capacity in place at major Australian airports, since that date. This will be increased to 100 percent domestic CBS at major Australian airports by 2007.

Baggage Handlers are required to have Aviation Security Identification Cards (ASIC) which include a politically motivated violence check, criminal records check and for non-citizens a DIMIA residency check.

The cost of these measures is borne by industry, as security is a cost of doing business.

Medicare
(Question No. 371)

Senator Allison asked the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing, upon notice, on 8 March 2005:

With reference to the introduction of the Medicare Safety Net arrangements and the concomitant instances of obstetricians changing their charging practices to include some charges that previously fell outside the Medicare system:

- (1) (a) How many cases of this were there; (b) what action was taken in these cases; (c) were charges laid against any of these obstetricians; and (d) what figures are available on how much this practice by obstetricians cost the public.
- (2) With reference to the new Medicare Benefits Schedule obstetrics planning and management item 15999: (a) what data is available on how this item is being used; (b) since its introduction, what has been the uptake of that item; and (c) how much in dollar terms does this amount to.
- (3) According to a government press release, a letter was written to all doctors to inform them about this new item; what was the cost of this letter.

Senator Patterson—The Minister for Health and Ageing has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) (a) This issue was identified through examination of aggregate data and discussion with the medical profession, not through examination of charging practices of individual doctors. The Department of Health and Ageing is unable to identify individual practitioners.

- (b) No action was taken in connection with individual practitioners. No action was warranted. The Government acted to clarify the policy position and to inform doctors of their obligations in respect of Medicare billing.
 - (c) No. However, the Health Insurance Commission (HIC) is able to investigate and take action against doctors who charge inappropriately for the purposes of Medicare rebates. HIC has investigated accounts where inappropriate billing is suspected. No charges have been laid as a result of these investigations.
 - (d) The Department of Health and Ageing is unable to answer this question. Data on obstetric billing for the out of hospital management of pregnancy prior to the introduction of the new Medicare item are not available.
- (2) (a) The Department collects data on each medical service where a Medicare benefit or Medicare safety net benefit is paid. Data includes provider identification, de-identified patient data, Medicare Benefits Schedule item number, fee charged and benefit paid.
- (b) Since the introduction of item 15999 (6 September 2004) to 28 February 2005, 41,663 services have been claimed.
- (c) At 28 February 2005 Medicare benefits of \$3,892,627.56 and Medicare safety net benefits of \$19,471,863.80 (including \$3,010.35 for the original Medicare safety net) have been paid in respect of this item.
- (3) A letter clarifying appropriate billing practices was sent to all doctors by the Health Insurance Commission on 12 November 2004. The Health Insurance Commission has advised that the cost of this mailout was \$23,172.43.

Immunisation

(Question No. 373)

Senator Allison asked the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing, upon notice, on 8 March 2005:

- (1) On average how many injections are babies receiving at 2, 4 and 6 months if they are being immunised according to the recommendations on the Australian Standard Vaccination Schedule.
- (2) To what extent has this number increased or decreased in recent years.
- (3) What information does the Government have on differences in rates of immunisation between urban areas and rural and remote areas.
- (4) What information does the Government have on whether the increase in the number of injections has had any impact on the likelihood of parents having their babies immunised.
- (5) Does the Government have any plans to monitor this possibility.
- (6) Given that correct storage and transportation of vaccinations is more difficult in rural areas, would funding of a combined vaccination improve vaccination processes in rural areas.
- (7) Given that unemployment and low income are associated with low immunisation coverage in rural areas, does the lack of government funding for the complete recommended vaccination schedule mean that rural children are more at risk of not being adequately immunised.
- (8) Can the Minister outline progress on considering the possible funding of: (a) injectable polio combination vaccines for babies; and (b) varicella (chicken pox) vaccine.

Senator Patterson—The Minister for Health and Ageing has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) Presently babies receive three injections at 2 months, three injections at 4 months and two injections at 6 months.

- (2) Since the commencement of the National Childhood Pneumococcal Vaccination Program, babies at 2, 4 and 6 months of age have received an additional injection at these time points. Prior to 1 January 2005, babies had received two injections at 2 months, two injections at 4 months and one injection at 6 months. This number of injections has been given since 2000.
- (3) Data from the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register (ACIR) is collected using parameters such as child's age, vaccine received, state/territory, postcode and local government area. This enables the specific identification of coverage rates for children in all areas of Australia. ACIR data on coverage rates across Australia do not indicate an immunisation trend between urban areas and rural and remote areas. Areas of higher and lower coverage rates are similarly shown in urban, rural and remote localities. There is a trend for lower reported coverage rates in inner-urban localities. States and territories are responsible for the administration of vaccination programs in their jurisdictions. They receive ACIR data on localities showing lower than average coverage rates, and this enables them to target areas and improve coverage rates in their jurisdictions.
- (4) There is no data yet on whether the additional injection at 2, 4 and 6 months of age is having an impact on the likelihood of parents having their babies immunised. Since the introduction of meningococcal C vaccination at 12 months of age, toddlers at this age receive three injections. Present indications show that most parents are still getting their children immunised with all vaccines given at this age.
- (5) Yes.
- (6) Many of the vaccines currently funded currently under the National Immunisation Program are combination vaccines (for example, diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough (DTPa) vaccine and measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine). States and territories are constantly aiming to improve cold chain monitoring to ensure delivery of viable vaccine to all parts of Australia. In June 2004, a National Cold Chain Management Workshop was held in Brisbane to explore issues regarding cold chain.
- (7) The Department is unaware of any evidence that unemployment and low income are associated with low immunisation coverage in rural areas. ACIR data on coverage rates across Australia do not indicate any immunisation trends between urban areas and rural and remote areas. However, there are significantly-lower reported coverage rates in several of Australia's inner-urban localities. From 1 November 2005 all vaccines listed on the recommended vaccination schedule will be funded.
- (8) (a) and (b) On 7 March 2005, the Minister for Health and Ageing announced funding for both the replacement of oral polio vaccine with inactivated polio vaccine (injectable polio combination vaccines) and the introduction of a childhood varicella vaccination program under the National Immunisation Program. Both programs will commence on 1 November 2005.

Capital Infrastructure Program

(Question No. 378)

Senator Allison asked the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training, upon notice, on 8 March 2005:

- (1) How many schools are expected to receive grants from the Capital Infrastructure Program.
- (2) What will be the minimum amount of funding granted under this program.
- (3) Will the details of all grants awarded under this program be reported to Parliament.
- (4) Will the details of all recommendations from the assessment panels that are rejected by the Minister be made publicly available with an explanation of the reasons for the rejection.
- (5) Will schools in regional or remote areas have access to supplementary grants, or a greater maximum grant, to offset any increased costs associated with their capital works.

- (6) Will grants include a component for possible ongoing maintenance of the capital project.
- (7) Will schools' socio-economic status scores or fee-structure be taken into consideration when assessing applications for grants; if not, why not.
- (8) Can details be provided of the membership of each assessment panel.
- (9) What is the total administrative cost of the Capital Infrastructure Program.

Senator Vanstone—The Minister for Education, Science and Training has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) The Schools Assistance (Learning Together – Achievement Through Choice and Opportunity) Act 2004 Schedules 3 and 5 list the amount of capital infrastructure grants available under the Investing in Our Schools initiative as follows:

Year	Amount of Capital Infrastructure Grants for Government Schools (\$,000)	Amount of Capital Infrastructure Grants for Non-Government Schools (\$,000)
2005	140,000	60,000
2006	186,667	80,000
2007	186,667	80,000
2008	186,666	80,000

The actual number of schools that receive funding each year will be dependent on the amount of funding sought by individual successful applicants. For the purpose of allocating funds the Minister may approve funding for government school projects within a State according to an order of merit until funds are exhausted for that round.

- (2) There is no minimum amount of funding that schools may apply for, or be granted, under the program.
- (3) Yes. All Members of Parliament will be notified of successful applicants in their electorates.
- (4) Reasons for rejection of applications for funding will be made available to unsuccessful applicants on an individual and confidential basis. They will not be made publicly available.
- (5) Schools in regional or remote areas will not have access to supplementary grants or a greater maximum grant. Applicants can reflect any increased costs in their application. This will then be taken into account when assessing the project budget in an application, including whether the project represents value for money. The assessment advisory panel will recognise that regional variations with respect to budgets may occur due to local factors such as the availability of skilled tradespeople and cost of materials.
- (6) The programme is not intended to support ongoing maintenance of capital infrastructure.
- (7) For government schools, socio-economic status scores or fee structure will not be specifically considered by the state assessment panels. The panels will base their recommendations on an assessment of the merits of projects using the assessment criteria identified in the programme guidelines, including:
 - (a) the condition of school facilities for the conduct of school activities;
 - (b) needs related to the well-being of students;
 - (c) the educational needs of students; and
 - (d) the overall needs of the school.

For non-government schools, applications are assessed by Block Grant Authorities (BGAs). Under the programme guidelines, when assessing projects BGAs take into consideration the relative educational disadvantage of students at schools, which may include consideration of indicators such as socio-economic scores, numbers of isolated or special needs students and health and safety issues.

- (8) The assessment advisory panels for government school grant applications are expected to consist of:
- (a) one representative from the state school parent representative body for the relevant State;
 - (b) one representative from the state school primary principals' professional association for the relevant State;
 - (c) one representative from the state school secondary principals' professional association for the relevant State;
 - (d) one representative from the Department to facilitate the convening of the Assessment Advisory Panel, chair its meetings in an ex-officio capacity, and provide secretariat support; and
 - (e) one advisor from the State's government school education authority with expertise in school infrastructure provision.
- (9) Departmental costs for the programme are in addition to the \$1b in programme funding. Departmental costs for the programme over 2005 -2008 are \$17.2 million.

Flagpole Funding

(Question No. 379)

Senator Allison asked the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training, upon notice, on 8 March 2005:

Can a breakdown, by state, be provided of the number of applications the department has received for flagpole funding.

Senator Vanstone—The Minister for Education, Science and Training has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

Breakdown of Flagpole funding applications by State as at 9 March 2005

State	Number of applications received
Australian Capital Territory	5
New South Wales	297
Queensland	148
South Australia	145
Tasmania	25
Victoria	418
Western Australia	87
Northern Territory	5
Grand Total	1130

National Safe Schools Framework

(Question No. 381)

Senator Allison asked the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training, upon notice, on 7 March 2005:

- (1) How many schools have received funding from the \$3 million, \$1 million and \$300 000 allocations for implementation of the National Safe Schools Framework (NSSF) detailed in answer E133_05 provided to the Employment Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee.
- (2) What is the breakdown of NSSF implementation funding between government, independent and catholic systemic schools for each program.

- (3) Without any modelling of the cost of implementation, what was the reasoning behind the appropriation of \$4.5 million for NSSF funding.
- (4) Given that it is now a requirement of legislation that schools implement NSSF, will funding be provided for NSSF implementation beyond 2005.
- (5) How many teachers remain to be trained to support the implementation of NSSF.
- (6) Has any agreement been reached with the states over their contribution to the implementation of the NSSF.

Senator Vanstone—The Minister for Education, Science and Training has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1)
 - (a) Under the \$3 million allocation of NSSF implementation funding, professional learning for school teachers and leaders is provided as part of the Australian Government Quality Teacher Programme (AGQTP). No data is yet available on the numbers of schools or teachers who have participated in this programme, as activities continue to be conducted during the first half of 2005. An additional \$247,000 has also been provided for teacher learning and development in schools with limited systemic support (noted in (5) below).
 - (b) Under the \$1 million allocation of NSSF implementation funding, 171 schools across Australia are participating in the NSSF Best Practice Grants Programme, which is being managed by the Alannah and Madeline Foundation (AMF) with support from the National Coalition Against Bullying.
 - (c) The \$300,000 allocation of NSSF implementation funding has been dedicated to providing support materials to all schools. A Resource Pack of materials was distributed to all Australian schools in March 2004.
- (2) The combined package of NSSF funding has been designed to support all Australian schools in implementing the Framework, regardless of jurisdiction or school system. For this reason, the funding package as a whole has not been broken down by government, catholic or independent schools. The \$3 million component of NSSF implementation funding, which is administered through the AGQTP, is also cross-sectoral.
- (3) The Schools Assistance Act 2004 supports a record \$33 billion for schools over the next four years. The NSSF reaffirms principles and practices that schools need to implement as a matter of course in their fundamental mission to provide safe and supportive learning environments for all students. The Australian Government developed a package of initiatives targeted to address aspects of the implementation of the NSSF. The various elements of this package total \$4.5 million.
- (4) The NSSF reaffirms principles and practices which schools need to implement as a matter of course in their fundamental business. For this reason, and because all schools are required to have the NSSF in place by 1 January 2006, there is no provision for further NSSF implementation funding extending beyond 2005.
- (5) Support and guidance for implementing the NSSF has been made available to all Australian schools through the dissemination of implementation materials (as described in 1.c above). Further, extra support has been made available to schools with limited systemic support through a programme of strategic professional assistance from the Australian Principals Association's Professional Development Council (APAPDC). During 2004 a total of 31 strategic seminars were held in locations around Australia, with over 850 participants representing a range of Catholic and independent schools.
- (6) The NSSF is an initiative of MCEETYA, and all States and Territories have agreed to implement it. Individual jurisdictions have responsibility for ensuring professional development and training of teachers within that jurisdiction is appropriate, and States and Territories may choose to use some

of the funds available to them under the AGQTP, additional to those allocated to NSSF implementation training, to support teachers with this initiative. The States and Territories contribute jointly with the Australian Government to the maintenance of the Bullying: No Way! website. The Australian Government has allocated \$200,000 to this initiative, and funds from both the Australian Government and the States and Territories are administered through MCEETYA processes.

Sex Education Programs

(Question No. 382)

Senator Allison asked the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training, upon notice, on 8 March 2005:

- (1) Will the material on sex education programs from all schools, which is being provided to the Minister, be made publicly available; if not, why not.
- (2) How will this data be collected, compiled and analysed.

Senator Vanstone—The Minister for Education, Science and Training has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) Responses to my request for information on sex education programmes have not been received from all education jurisdictions. When all replies have been received, my Department will provide you with a summary of information provided.
- (2) I have not sought specific data on what is occurring at the individual school level. Information about sex education programmes is being sought at the jurisdictional level to give a picture of how this issue is being addressed throughout Australia.

Mount Leyshon Gold Mine

(Question No. 387)

Senator Brown asked the Minister for the Environment and Heritage, upon notice, on 8 March 2005:

With respect to the former Mt Leyshon gold mine, situated 30 km from Charters Towers, Queensland:

- (1) Has there been any assessment of possible leakage of sodium cyanide from the north and south tailings dams into the nearby Burdekin River which might lead to environmental degradation of the river.
- (2) Has there been any assessment of a possible impact upon the marine environment in proximity to the mouth of the river, or any impact upon the Great Barrier Reef.

Senator Ian Campbell—The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

- (1) There has been no Commonwealth environmental assessment of the former Mt Leyshon gold mine.
- (2) See answer to 1.

Coastwatch

(Question No. 392)

Senator McLucas asked the Minister for Justice and Customs, upon notice, on 9 March 2005:

With reference to the Coastwatch surveillance contract CMS04:

- (1) (a) How many companies expressed interest in tendering for the contract; (b) how many registered to tender for the contract; and (c) how many actually tendered for the contract.
- (2) (a) How many companies withdrew during the tender process; and (b) how many proceeded.

- (3) Were reasons given by any of the companies withdrawing from the process; if so, what were those reasons.
- (4) When was the tender officially opened for tender.
- (5) When was the Electronic Response Forms (ERF) first sent out.
- (6) When was the distribution of ERFs completed.
- (7) Were there any complaints relating to delays in transmission or receipt of ERFs; if so: (a) what was the period of delay; and (b) what were the reasons for delay.
- (8) Was the initial tender date extended from 28 October 2004 to 11 November 2004; if so, why was this extension granted.
- (9) Were there any requests for this extension from tenderers.
- (10) If this extension was granted as a result of tenderer requests, how many requests for extension were received.
- (11) Were any complaints received from tenderers or potential tenderers about insufficient time between initial dates for the opening and closing of tenders.
- (12) Were there any requests from tenderers for a further extension of the tender period beyond 11 November 2004; if so, how many requests were received.
- (13) What was the tender period for the previous Coastwatch surveillance contract.

Senator Ellison—The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

- (1) (a) Through the CMS04 Invitation to Register Interest process, 19 companies registered as potential Full Service Providers (FSPs) and 63 companies registered as potential Part Service Providers (PSPs). Details of FSPs and PSPs were made publicly available on the CMS04 website. (b) There were 56 companies including prospective subcontractors and suppliers that registered to tender for the CMS04 contract. (c) The number of tenders received for the CMS04 contract is commercial in confidence.
- (2) (a) There was no requirement for companies to officially withdraw from the CMS04 tender process. (b) Refer to 1(c) above.
- (3) Refer to 2(a) above.
- (4) The CMS04 tender was released on 30 July 2004.
- (5) The Electronic Response Forms (ERFs) were first sent out on 17 August 2004.
- (6) Companies were not provided with ERFs until after they had registered as tenderers and the last tenderer registered in October 2004. On 17 August, all registered tenderers were sent, by registered mail, a CD containing the main ERFs. Tenderers that registered subsequently were sent the ERFs CD by registered mail immediately after Coastwatch had completed the registration process. On 22 September 2004, all tenderers registered at that time were advised by email of a requirement for a small amount of additional information to be provided by the ERFs. Tenderers that registered later were provided with an ERFs CD that incorporated that additional requirement.
- (7) Two complaints were received relating to delays in receipt of the ERFs. The first was received on 29 September 2004 and the second was on 4 November 2004. (a) The period of delay in provision of the ERFs was 8 days. (b) Delays in provision of ERFs were caused due to the ERFs taking longer to prepare than had originally been expected.
- (8) The initial tender close date was extended from 28 October 2004 to 11 November 2004. Although the ERF, as an electronic record of the tenderer's response, could not be completed during the early stage of the tender preparation period, the extension was granted to remove any doubt about whether the delay in providing the ERFs may have affected the ability of tenderers to respond in the time available.

- (9) The extension to 11 November 2004 was considered and granted as a result of a request from one tenderer.
- (10) Two requests were received for an extension of the tender period, one on 29 September 2004 and the other on 4 November 2004, one week before tender close. This second request for an extension was subsequently rejected.
- (11) Except for the two requests for extension to the tender response period discussed in 10 above, no other complaints were received about insufficient time for tender preparation. There had been an extensive industry consultation process that had started with an industry briefing in April 2003 and had included opportunities for industry feedback through release of draft RFT documentation in December 2003 and April 2004. No feedback was received suggesting that the three-month tender response period was insufficient.
- (12) There was one request for a CMS04 tender extension beyond 11 November 2004 (refer to 10 above).
- (13) For the previous Coastwatch surveillance contract, the tender period (from tender release to tender close) was three months.

SIEV X Inquiry
(Question No. 432)

Senator Brown asked the Minister for Justice and Customs, upon notice, on 10 March 2005:

With reference to the sinking of the boat known as SIEV X: Is there an inquiry or investigation in progress; if so:

- (a) how many people are involved in the inquiry; and
- (b) what results have been forthcoming in the past year.

Senator Ellison—The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

Whilst some aspects of this matter await resolution before court, there is no current investigation or inquiry.

- (a) Although no current investigation is being conducted, one Australian Federal Police member remains involved in preparation for further court proceedings concerning this matter.
- (b) Mr Daoed was committed for trial, to commence on 17 May 2005 at the Supreme Court in Brisbane. Mr Abu Quassey was convicted by Egyptian authorities and lost his latest appeal against sentence in November 2004.

Mr Noorpolat Abdulla
(Question No. 433)

Senator Brown asked the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs, upon notice, on 14 March 2005:

With reference to Australian citizen Noorpolat Abdulla who is being held in a Kazakhstan prison:

- (1) What are the circumstances surrounding his imprisonment.
- (2) Has he been tortured.
- (3) Is he being visited by Australian officials; if so: (a) how routinely; and (b) what is the nature of those visits.
- (4) Is he in a single cell.
- (5) What is the condition of his health.

- (6) What communication does he have with his family.
- (7) What is his sentence and alleged crime.

Senator Hill—The following answer has been provided by the Minister for Foreign Affairs to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) Mr Abdulla was arrested on 10 October 2000 on terrorist related charges.
- (2) Mr Abdulla alleged that he had endured physical abuse during the first two days of his detention. The Australian Embassy in Moscow has made numerous representations to the Kazakh authorities to ensure that Mr Abdulla's welfare and human rights are being observed in accordance with the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations (VCCR). Mr Abdulla has made no further complaints of physical abuse.
- (3) Yes. (a) Officials from the Australian Embassy in Moscow and our British counterparts in Kazakhstan have visited Mr Abdulla regularly since his arrest in October 2000. Mr Abdulla has been receiving six-monthly visits from the Embassy in Moscow since February 2003. In total, there has been 16 Australian and British consular visits in the last four years. (b) The visits are consular visits.
- (4) No.
- (5) The Australian Embassy in Moscow reported that, during their last visit to Mr Abdulla on 6 February 2005, he appeared in good physical condition and he reported he had not had any medical treatment recently.
- (6) Mr Abdulla advised during the visit of 6 February 2005 that he had no difficulties obtaining phone cards to enable contact with family members both in Almaty and Australia.
- (7) Mr Abdulla was convicted on 19 October 2001 of 'offences connected with the perpetration of a terrorist act', including 'organising a criminal group', 'terrorism', 'illegal storage of explosives' and 'accessory after the fact to murder'. He was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment.

Family Court of Australia: Employee Entitlements

(Question No. 436)

Senator Mason asked the Minister representing the Attorney-General, upon notice, on 10 March 2005:

With respect to: (a) the Family Court of Australia, and (b) IP Australia (the organisations):

- (1) For the last calendar or financial year for which the organisations have records: (a) what is the total number of sick leave days taken by each organisation's employees; (b) for that same period, what was the average number of sick leave days taken per full-time equivalent employee of each organisation.
- (2) Under the organisation's Certified Agreements or individual contracts, what is the sick leave entitlement allowable to employees of each organisation as part of their terms of employment.
- (3) Do the organisations monitor and review their employees' use of sick leave entitlement.

Senator Ellison—The Attorney-General has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

I am advised by the Family Court of Australia that:

- (1) (a) Family Court employees are entitled to personal leave which incorporates leave for reasons of personal injury or illness. A total of 7,688 personal leave days were taken by Court employees for the calendar year January-December 2004.
- (b) For the same period, the average number of personal leave days per full-time equivalent employee was 11.22 days.

- (2) Under the Family Court's 2005-07 Certified Agreement an ongoing full-time employee is entitled to 20 days personal leave each year. Ongoing part-time employees are entitled to 20 days per year, on a pro rata calculation based on hours worked.

An employee must provide medical evidence for personal leave absences:

- of more than three consecutive days in length; or
- in excess of six days in each accrual year where medical evidence has not been provided.

Personal leave entitlements under the Court's Australian Workplace Agreements are the same as under the Certified Agreement.

- (3) The Family Court monitors and reviews personal leave on a monthly basis. Where a manager identifies an employee who may be using undue personal leave without producing medical or other evidence the employee may be required to provide reasonable supporting medical or other evidence to support future absences. In these instances, arrangements are reviewed within six months.

The honourable senator's question in relation to IP Australia is now the subject of a separate Question on Notice (No. 467) directed to the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources.

**Australian Electoral Commission: Employee Entitlements
(Question No. 438)**

Senator Mason asked the Special Minister of State, upon notice, on 10 March 2005:

With respect to the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC):

- (1) For the last calendar year or financial year for which the AEC has records:
 - (a) what is the total number of sick leave days taken by the AEC's employees; and
 - (b) for that same period, what was the average number of sick leave days taken per full-time equivalent employee of the AEC.
- (2) Under the AEC's Certified Agreement or individual contracts, what is the sick leave entitlement allowable to the employees as part of their terms of employment.
- (3) Does the AEC monitor and review its employees' use of sick leave entitlement.

Senator Abetz—The AEC has provided the following information in answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) For the financial year 2003-2004:
 - (a) the total number of sick leave days taken by AEC employees was 6,958.
 - (b) the average number of personal leave days taken was 9.1 per full-time equivalent employee.
- (2) The AEC Certified Agreement 2004-07 and individual Australian Workplace Agreements provide ongoing employees with 18 working days personal leave accrued per year. This leave may be used for personal illness or for caring purposes. Non-ongoing employees accrue personal leave on a pro-rata basis in accordance with the following table, up to a maximum of 7.5 days. After the first 12 months of employment, these employees accrue personal leave on the same basis as ongoing employees.

Working days of service	Leave credit in days
44	3
66	4.5
88	6
110	7.5

- (3) AEC monitors and reviews personal leave usage as part of its workforce planning activities. This information is also readily available to assist managers on an ad hoc basis and as requested.

Foreign Affairs and Trade: Employee Entitlements

(Question No. 439)

Senator Mason asked the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs, upon notice, on 14 March 2005:

- (1) For the last calendar or financial year for which the department has records: (a) what is the total number of sick leave days taken by the department's employees; and (b) for that same period, what was the average number of days of sick leave taken per full-time equivalent employee of the department.
- (2) Under the department's Certified Agreement or individual contracts, what is the sick leave entitlement allowable to employees of the department as part of their terms of employment.
- (3) Does the department monitor and review its employees' use of sick leave entitlement.

Senator Hill—The following answer has been provided by the Minister for Foreign Affairs to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) (a) In 2004, 10,373 sick leave days were taken by all ongoing (permanent) and non-ongoing staff of the department; and (b) In the same period, the average number of days of sick leave taken per full-time equivalent employee of the department was 5.67 days.
- (2) Under the department's Certified Agreement 2003-2006, the sick leave entitlement for ongoing staff is 20 days which accrues on commencement of employment and on each anniversary of that commencement. Those employees on an individual contract accrue 20 days sick leave during the first 12 months of their contract.
- (3) Yes.

Health and Ageing: Employee Entitlements

(Question No. 440)

Senator Mason asked the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing, upon notice, on 14 March 2005:

- (1) For the last calendar or financial year for which the department has records:
 - (a) what is the total number of sick leave days taken by the department's employees; and
 - (b) for that same period, what was the average number of days of sick leave taken per full-time equivalent employee of the department.
- (2) Under the department's Certified Agreement or individual contracts, what is the sick leave entitlement allowable to employees of the department as part of their terms of employment.
- (3) Does the department monitor and review its employees' use of sick leave entitlement.

Senator Patterson—The Minister for Health and Ageing has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) (a) The total number of sick leave days taken by the Department's employees in the 2004 calendar year was 30,819 days. (b) Average number of days of sick leave taken in the Department was eight days per full-time equivalent employee in the 2004 calendar year.
- (2) The Department's Certified Agreement and individual contracts (AWA) allow an ongoing staff member to be credited with 18 days of personal leave on engagement. On completion of each 12 month period of service a further 18 days of personal leave will accrue. Personal leave is defined as leave taken for injury/illness and other compelling personal reasons.

- (3) As part of regular strategic reporting, the Department reports on sick leave usage. In addition, the Department benchmarks sick leave usage against both APS and non-APS organisations.

Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs: Employee Entitlements

(Question No. 441)

Senator Mason asked the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs, upon notice, on 10 March 2005:

- (1) For the last calendar or financial year for which the department has records; (a) what is the total number of sick leave days taken by the department's employees; and (b) for that same period, what was the average number of days of sick leave taken per full-time equivalent employee of the department.
- (2) Under the department's Certified Agreement or individual contracts, what is the sick leave entitlement allowable to employees of the department as part of their terms of employment.
- (3) Does the department monitor and review its employees' use of sick leave entitlement.

Senator Vanstone—The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

- (1) For the 12 month period from January to December 2004:
 - the total number of sick leave days taken by the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (DIMIA) employees is 40,208 days; and
 - for that same period, the average number of days of sick leave taken is 8.88 days per full-time equivalent employee.

These figures exclude Office of Indigenous Policy Coordination (OIPC) employees who joined DIMIA on 1 July 2004.

- (2) DIMIA's Certified Agreement 2004-07 provides for an annual credit of 18 days of sick and personal leave for a full-time ongoing employee. There is no limit to how many days of the entitlement can be used for personal illness.

Non-ongoing employees accrue 3 days sick and personal leave with pay after working for two calendar months. An additional 1½ days is accrued for each calendar month worked thereafter. Part-time employees accrue sick and personal leave on a pro-rata basis.

Three types of additional sick leave are also available to DIMIA employees:

- (a) An employee may anticipate up to 10 days full pay sick and personal leave from their next year's credit if all accrued sick and personal leave has been exhausted;
- (b) The Secretary may grant an employee additional sick and personal leave at half pay where there are exceptional circumstances and all other forms of leave have been exhausted; and
- (c) Up to 10 additional days of full pay sick and personal leave may be granted where an employee has an identified disability or medical condition and all sick and personal leave has been exhausted.

Provisions for sick leave as part of Australian Workplace Agreements (AWAs) typically mirror the provisions for sick leave in the Certified Agreement.

There is no provision of sick leave for contractors.

- (3) Employees' use of sick leave entitlement is monitored, reviewed and reported on to DIMIA's senior management.

Education, Science and Training: Employee Entitlements
(Question No. 442)

Senator Mason asked the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training, upon notice, on 14 March 2005:

- (1) For the last calendar or financial year for which the department has records: (a) what is the total number of sick leave days taken by the department's employees; and (b) for that same period, what was the average number of days of sick leave taken per full-time equivalent employee of the department.
- (2) Under the department's Certified Agreement or individual contracts, what is the sick leave entitlement allowable to employees of the department as part of their terms of employment.
- (3) Does the department monitor and review its employees' use of sick leave entitlement.

Senator Vanstone—The Minister for Education, Science and Training has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) (a) 16 487.56 days for the 2004 calendar year.
(b) 9.77 days (based on 1687.56 average full-time equivalent employees for the 2004 calendar year).
- (2) All DEST employees are entitled to 18 days of paid Personal Leave per year. This form of leave may be used by employees for reasons including personal illness, injury or to attend a medical appointment.
- (3) Yes. DEST uses the InfoHRM HR benchmarking programme to monitor its employees' use of sick leave. This programme allows DEST to monitor trends in sick leave usage over time (using the Unscheduled Absence Rate – Sick Leave Key performance indicator) and against an APS Agency specific benchmark (Federal Government Benchmark Group).

This indicator is discussed at People and Leadership Committee (PLC) meetings and then disseminated to the rest of organisation (including Corporate Leadership Group) to help improve performance.

Family and Community Services: Employee Entitlements
(Question No. 443)

Senator Mason asked the Minister for Family and Community Services, upon notice, on 10 March 2005:

- (1) For the last calendar or financial year for which the department has records: (a) what is the total number of sick leave days taken by the department's employees; and (b) for that same period, what was the average number of days of sick leave taken per full-time equivalent employee of the department.
- (2) Under the department's Certified Agreement or individual contracts, what is the sick leave entitlement allowable to employees of the department as part of their terms of employment.
- (3) Does the department monitor and review its employees' use of sick leave entitlement.

Senator Patterson—The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

- (1) (a) The total sick leave days taken in 2004 (CY) was 19,123.81. (b) The average number of days of sick leave per FTE in 2004 (CY) was 10.03.
- (2) The FaCS Certified Agreement 2002-05 provides for sick leave entitlements as part of a broader category of Personal Leave (Clause 7.3). Personal Leave covers leave for:
 - Personal illness;

- Caring for ill or injured family members;
- Personal requirements associated with birth, adoption or fostering a child;
- Death of a family member; or
- For other emergency reasons considered appropriate.

On engagement, a full time employee receives a credit of 20 days Personal Leave. An additional annual Personal Leave credit of 20 days is recorded on the anniversary of the employee's engagement or commencement in the APS. Non-ongoing employees accrue a credit of five days Personal Leave at the end of every three months service during the first year of continuous service. On the completion of 12 months service non-ongoing employees accrue a further 20 days. In approved circumstances (for example ongoing serious ill health) an employee who has exhausted their Personal Leave credits may apply to access additional paid Personal Leave.

- (3) Yes, FaCS monitors usage of sick leave. Sick leave entitlements are reviewed and considered during the development of new certified agreements.

Employment and Workplace Relations: Sick Leave

(Question No. 444)

Senator Mason asked the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations, upon notice, on 10 March 2005:

- (1) For the last calendar or financial year for which the department has records:
- (a) what is the total number of sick leave days taken by the department's employees; and (b) for that same period, what was the average number of days of sick leave taken per full-time equivalent employee of the department.
- (2) Under the department's Certified Agreement or individual contracts, what is the sick leave entitlement allowable to employees of the department as part of their terms of employment.
- (3) Does the department monitor and review its employees' use of sick leave entitlement.

Senator Abetz—The Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) For year ended 30 June 2004:
- (a) 17286.31
- (b) 7.45
- (2) The DEWR Certified Agreement and AWAs allow for access to 18 days personal leave annually, which includes leave for illness or injury, caring for family members, events of cultural significance and special or exceptional purposes. There is no further disaggregation which provides for a specific number of sick leave days.
- (3) Yes, via quarterly reports to DEWR Management Board & SES Forum, benchmarking via third party reporting service (infoHRM) and a range of management reporting available to all managers via desktop PCs.

Iran and Iraq

(Question No. 448)

Senator Bartlett asked the Minister for Defence, upon notice, on 10 March 2005:

- (1) Are, or have, Australian military forces been involved in reconnaissance or other missions inside Iran during the last 12 months.

- (2) Is the new deployment of Australian military forces in Iraq, and their stated mission announced in February 2005 by the Prime Minister, related to any planned Australian participation with United States of America (US), Israeli and British forces in a future offensive against Iran.
- (3) Has the Australian Defence Force (ADF) requested a larger military contingent to be sent to Iraq instead of the additional 450 troops the Government has announced.

Senator Hill—The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

- (1) (2) and (3) No.

Bettering the Evaluation and Care of Health Program

(Question No. 459)

Senator Allison asked the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing, upon notice, on 16 March 2005:

With reference to the changed funding arrangements for the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 'Bettering the Evaluation and Care of Health' (BEACH) program:

- (1) Why has the Government changed from a block funding process, which provided at least \$400 000 per annum of funding for the BEACH program, to a more 'ad hoc' arrangement in which the Government will purchase particular reports and blocks of data from time to time.
- (2) (a) What, if any, would be the net cost benefit of the 'ad hoc' arrangement; and (b) how was the net cost benefit calculated.
- (3) What was the Government's contribution to the total funding of the BEACH program.
- (4) What investigation has the Government undertaken into the impact that reduced funding may have on the continuation of the BEACH program.
- (5) What guarantee is there that the BEACH program will continue under the new funding arrangements.
- (6) What guarantee is there that the same level of data, previously available through the BEACH program, will continue to be available.
- (7) Which groups were consulted on the proposed changes to the BEACH program funding and can details be provided, including dates of consultation.
- (8) Were general practice professional groups consulted about the proposed changes; if not, why not.
- (9) Can the Government provide details of:
 - (a) what information will be routinely made available; (b) how frequently that information will be available; (c) what the cost of accessing that information will be; and (d) in what format the information will be provided.
- (10) What processes has the Government put in place to ensure that the BEACH data will be broadly available and disseminated to policy-makers, general practice professional groups and the community.
- (11) Can details be provided on the ways in which the Government has used BEACH data to inform policy and practice in health delivery since 1998.
- (12) Has data from the BEACH program led to government savings in the past 7 years; if so, can details be provided.
- (13) For the 2004 financial year, was data from the BEACH program a contributing factor to savings of \$100 million on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) costs for statin medications.
- (14) Given that the PBS Pricing Authority has identified the BEACH data set as the most reliable data source for information on calcium channel blockers, Ace inhibitors, and Selective Serotonin Re-

uptake Inhibitor medications for calculating weighted average monthly treatment costs for the next 3 years:

- (a) what will the Government do if the BEACH data set closes down in that time; and
 - (b) has the Government examined the likelihood of this occurring under the new funding arrangements.
- (15) Will the Government have any input into the future development of the BEACH program; if so, how will this occur; if not, how will the Government ensure that the data collected by the BEACH program continues to provide useful information.
- (16) Does the Government have any information on the extent of use of the BEACH Supplementary Analysis of Nominated Data (SAND) research sub-studies information.
- (17) Will the Government be able to access the BEACH SAND research sub-studies information under the changed funding arrangements; if so, how will this occur, if not, what information will the Government have access to in order to replace this source of information.
- (18) What other data sources will the Government be able to access if the BEACH program does not continue in its current form.
- (19) Has the Government undertaken any cost comparisons for access to alternative data sources; if so, can these comparisons be provided.
- (20) How will the Government ensure that these alternative data sources have comparable quality and reliability of data to the BEACH data source.

Senator Patterson—The Minister for Health and Ageing has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) The previous contractual arrangements have been in place since 1998. Since that time the environment in which data can be sourced has changed. Given that alternative data sources are now available, automatic renewal of the previous contractual arrangements could not be justified under the new Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines which took effect on 1 January 2005. More broadly, it is appropriate to periodically review the need for services and how they are obtained to ensure effectiveness of supply and value for public funds.
- (2) (a)&(b) It is not possible to calculate the net cost benefit. Ordering of BEACH reports by the Department of Health and Ageing varies from year to year. The cost of reports from BEACH and other data sources differs depending on the complexity and the specific data requirements and level of analysis required to meet the request. Block pre-purchase arrangements, at least at historical levels, did not offer optimal value for money as actual demand could be below that purchased.
- (3) As at 29 March 2005, payments for BEACH data via the contractual arrangement with the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare totalled \$2,080,000 for the six years from 1998-99 to 2003-04. Payment for data for the period after 1 July 2004 has been agreed separately.
The BEACH program has also received payments from the Department through separate purchase arrangements and specific purpose grants. Detailed and comprehensive information on these payments cannot be provided in the time allowed. However, preliminary indications are that additional payments outside of the contractual arrangement amounted to at least \$120,000.
- (4) The Department has not investigated the impact that the move from a fixed contractual arrangement to a demand driven arrangement will have on BEACH. Payments may be reduced or increased, depending on BEACH's ability to meet the Department's needs in competition with other suppliers.
- (5) BEACH supplies data on a commercial basis, in competition with other data suppliers, and is subject to the same risks as other suppliers in that environment.

- (6) The data available through BEACH is generally also available via other suppliers in the market. The Department is confident that moving to a different commercially based arrangement will not compromise its ability to obtain the required data.
- (7) Changes to the contractual arrangement between the Department and the AIHW for the purchase of BEACH data was an internal procurement decision. External bodies were therefore not consulted.
- (8) No. General practice professional groups are able to purchase reports and shares directly from BEACH or any other supplier if they choose.
- (9) (a) to (d) The BEACH project is collaboration between the University of Sydney and the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. The distribution of BEACH information and data to the public is a decision for these organisations.
- (10) The dissemination of BEACH data is the responsibility of the University of Sydney and the AIHW. The AIHW regularly publishes BEACH reports.
- (11) Policy and practice decisions within the Department of Health and Ageing generally rely on a number of inputs. It is not practically possible to assemble information on projects where BEACH data may have been used, and the extent to which that data informed decisions.
- (12) No. It is unlikely that BEACH data was the deciding factor in any particular decision that resulted in savings, as policy decisions usually rely on a number of inputs.
- (13) BEACH data was used in Weighted Average Monthly Treatment Cost (WAMTC) reviews on one occasion during this period (for statin group of drugs only). WAMTC reviews which lead to changes in the prices of PBS drugs result in savings to the PBS. BEACH data per se does not directly contribute to PBS savings. There were no savings of around \$100 million for the statin group of drugs listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) in 2003-04.
- (14) (a) BEACH data will be used for WAMTC reviews for the following groups of drugs for the next three years: calcium channel blockers, ace inhibitors and selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors. Pharmaceutical companies have agreed to submit BEACH data as part of these reviews. If BEACH data is not available, other data sources can be used.

The Pharmaceutical Benefits Pricing Authority (PBPA) has not identified any data set chosen for annual review processes as 'the most reliable data source'. The PBPA selects a data source based upon objective criteria which have been agreed with the industry. (b) The impact of changes to the purchasing arrangements for BEACH data is a matter for the AIHW and the University of Sydney. If BEACH data is not available, other data sources can be used.
- (15) Decisions regarding the future development of BEACH will continue to be made by the University of Sydney and the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. How responsive they choose to be to their customer base will be a matter for them.
- (16) No.
- (17) This issue will be addressed as part of a wider examination and analysis of the information requirements for general practice data.
- (18) Detailed billing information on general practice encounters can be obtained from Medicare data. More detailed encounter information can be sourced from other collections.
- (19) The Department is able to access Medicare data through systems already in place. Costing of all other data sources would have to be undertaken on a case by case basis, as different levels of customisation may be required from each source to meet the Department's needs.
- (20) The Government is aware that each data source, including BEACH, has strengths and weaknesses. In selecting data sources, the Department will continue to consider the quality, reliability, value for money, and suitability for the intended use.

**Energy and Climate Change
(Question No. 465)**

Senator Brown asked the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs, upon notice, on 17 March 2005:

- (1) For each of the financial years 1998-99, 1999-2000, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04: (a) which countries have requested Australia's assistance in relation to energy and climate change; and (b) in each case, what kind of assistance has been requested in addition to the information provided in the answer to question on notice no 2848 (Senate *Hansard*, 16 June 2004, p. 24002).
- (2) (a) Why is the energy sector not a priority for Australian aid in the Pacific region, and (b) is the energy sector a priority for Australian aid elsewhere in the world.

Senator Hill—The Minister for Foreign Affairs has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) (a) and (b) Over the period of financial years 1998-1999 to 2003-04 the following requests have been received from governments for assistance in relation to energy and climate change.¹

1998-99

China:

- Assistance to promote widespread adoption of renewable energy technologies.
- Assistance to improve the operations of a polluting coal gasification plant to ensure compliance with national standards.

Tonga:

- Request to provide electricity generation and distribution in the Ha'apai Island group.

1999-00

Zambia, Zimbabwe and Tanzania:

Requests for small-scale community based environmental conservation activities that include alternative fuel sources or fuel efficient stoves as an element.

2000-01

Philippines:

The Department of Energy requested assistance in strengthening the regulatory environment for electricity supply.

Zimbabwe:

Request for biomass alternative fuel source project.

2001-02

Philippines:

The Department of Energy requested assistance further to that of 2000-01.

2002-03

Nil.

2003-04

Nil.

- (2) (a) AusAID recognises the importance of essential infrastructure, such as energy, being fundamental to sustainable development in the Pacific region. The Australian aid program carefully targets its assistance in consultation with partner governments to ensure Australian funds are not displacing private funds or duplicating the activities of other donors. For example, assistance for the energy

sector in Fiji is a priority in the Asian Development Bank's strategy for Fiji. (b) The energy sector is not a priority for Australian aid. The Australian aid program's objective is to advance Australia's national interest by assisting developing countries to reduce poverty and achieve sustainable development. The Government of Australia and each country's partner government work together to decide development priorities according to each country's needs. Accordingly, the sectors which receive funding under the aid program will be different for each country.

¹This answer should be read in conjunction with the response to Question on Notice No. 466, which includes requests that have been provided funding. Activities funded under the aid program are based on agreed priorities with partner governments, and are usually preceded by a request for assistance, either by partner governments of multi-lateral organisations. They may also result from funding opportunities, such as small activities schemes, and the Australian NGO Cooperation Program, which respond to community-based initiatives.

The information relating to the period from 1999-00 to 2003-04 for Pacific Island countries has been provided in Question on Notice 2848 and is therefore not included in this response.

Please also note that while every reasonable effort has been made to identify requests received, requests that have not been funded, or that may have been made informally or on an ad hoc basis may not be listed, as it is not possible to make records available without significant resource implications.

Energy and Fossil Fuel Technology

(Question No. 466)

Senator Brown asked the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs, upon notice, on 17 March 2005:

- (1) For each of the financial years 1998-99, 1999-2000, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04, what was Australia's total expenditure under the aid program on stationary energy and fossil fuel technology for each of the following regions: Pacific (including Papua New Guinea), Asia, Africa, Central America, and the rest of the world.
- (2) For each of the financial years 1998-99, 1999-2000, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04, and for each of the following regions: Asia, Africa, Central America, and the rest of the world; can a list be provided of energy and fossil fuel technology-related projects and programs funded under the aid program, including for each project or program: (a) the project or program title; (b) its aim; (c) the country to which it relates; (d) the amount of the Australian contribution and total project cost; (e) the project or program commencement date; (f) the energy source or technology; and (g) in relation to energy generation facilities: (i) their generation capacity, (ii) estimated life, and (iii) the name of any corporation constructing the facility.

Senator Hill—The Minister for Foreign Affairs has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) Australia's total expenditure under the aid program on stationary energy and fossil fuel technology by region, financial years 1998-99 to 2003-04 is in the table below.

Region	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Asia	4,561,947	8,400,879	5,222,613	6,136,314	4,574,200	3,407,645
Pacific/PNG	1,195,377	1,702,687	3,126,131	14,971,870	15,358,641	14,622,608
Central America	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Unallocated	0	0	0	0	0	96,487
Africa	0	66,669	93,639	0	0	0
Total	5,757,324	10,170,235	8,442,383	21,108,184	19,932,841	18,126,740

- (2) Please find attached a list of energy and fossil fuel technology related activities funded under the aid program. The list includes activities in addition to those provided to the Parliament on 22 February 2005, in response to Senator Brown's question taken during Supplementary Budget Estimates.

AusAID energy and greenhouse related activities, 1993-94 to 2003-04

(a) Project or program title	(b) Aim	(c) Country	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	(d) Australian contribution	(e) Project or program commencement date	(f) Energy source or technology	(g) (i) Generation capacity	(g) (ii) Estimated life	(g) (iii) Name of any corporation constructing the facility
Rural Electrification in Hop Thanh	Through the use of appropriate technology, this project linked the provision of safe, reliable and affordable power with community development initiatives such as water, health and education.	Vietnam	89,860						89,860	01/08/1998	Electricity	N/A	N/A	Community based
Municipal Solar Infrastructure Project	To provide photovoltaic packages to 435 barangay in the Visayas and Mindanao.	Philippines	388,412	208,918	-	-	-	-	597,330	31/10/1996	Solar Energy	N/A	N/A	Community based
Energy Reform and Environment	Feasibility study only - project not proceeded with	China	183,491						183,491	16/02/1998	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
United Nations Development Program (UNDP) Global Environment Fund (GEF) Renewable Energy Project	To address technical and market barriers to renewable energy technologies and strengthen support an increased capacity within China.	China	762,544	560,125	773,142	447,227	-	-	2,543,038	12/02/1998	Energy sources include solar, wind, biogas and bagasse cogeneration (from sugar cane residue)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Korean Peninsular Energy Development Organisation	To assist the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) in meeting its short-term energy needs by providing funding for heavy fuel oil, while longer-term nuclear power sources were being developed. Funding was provided through the Korean Peninsular Energy Development Organisation (KEDO).	Korea, Dem. People's Rep of	2,000,882	3,015,881	1,992,957	4,000,000	-	-	11,009,720	09/07/1996	Oil	N/A	N/A	N/A
SERVE Program	The objectives of the Solar Program are to reduce fuel-work demand and assist families and institutions in Afghanistan by raising awareness of solar technology and environmental issues, and by creating conditions for sustainable availability of solar technology.	Afghanistan	108,750						108,750	01/01/1999	Solar Energy	N/A	N/A	N/A

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

(a) Project or program title	(b) Aim	(c) Country	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	(d) Australian contribution	(e) Project or program commencement date	(f) Energy source or technology	(g) (i) Generation capacity	(g) (ii) Estimated life	(g) (iii) Name of any corporation constructing the facility
Manihiki Power Upgrade	To provide reliable electricity generation and distribution systems on the island of Manihiki in the Northern Group of the Cook Islands.	Cook Islands	656,078	201,411	-	-	-	-	857,489	27/02/1997	Electricity	N/A	N/A	Facility was constructed by NZAID
Strengthening Public Utilities Board (PUB): Electricity	To secure and maintain a safe and reliable power supply on South Tarawa by improving the maintenance of and response to breakdowns in the current power systems.	Kiribati	505,816	717,642	799,812	-199,594	176,913	205,614	2,206,203	31/10/1996	Electricity	N/A	N/A	N/A
Bulelva Community Development Project	To address community needs.	Solomon Islands	20,254						20,254	01/09/1998	Electricity	N/A	N/A	Community based
Village First Integrated Rural Development	Small scale village support.	Solomon Islands	4,390						4,390	01/02/1998	Hydro Electricity	N/A	N/A	Community based
Ha'apai Electrification Project	To stimulate economic activity and to improve the amenity of life through the construction of a reliable and less expensive electricity supply.	Tonga	1,170	263,265	311,158	1,438,061	2,511,526	1,061,938	5,587,118	21/09/1998	Electricity	281 kw	7 to 10 years	AC Consulting Group
Solomon Islands Electricity Authority (SIEA) Improvement	To undertake forensic audit/assessments of management and cost structures of the SIEA.	Solomon Islands						135,660	135,660	08/05/1987	Electricity	N/A	N/A	N/A
Renewable Energy Program	To advance the social and economic development in the region through demonstrating the viability of sustainable renewable energy technologies.	Cook Islands, Tonga, Vanuatu & Marshall Islands	7,669	250,392	500,000	500,000	245,000	-	1,503,061	30/03/1998	Multi-source	N/A	N/A	N/A
Divine Word University (DWU), Madang Province	Supply and installation of step up transformer to ensure increased electricity supply of DWU campus.	Papua New Guinea					100,000		100,000	01/11/2000	Electricity	Unknown	Unknown	N/A
Notre Dame High School, Western Highlands Province	Site investigation and feasibility study into wind-powered source of electricity for the school.	Papua New Guinea					17,500		17,500	01/06/2003	Wind Energy	N/A	N/A	N/A

Tuesday, 10 May 2005

SENATE

301

(a) Project or program title	(b) Aim	(c) Country	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	(d) Australian contribution	(e) Project or program commencement date	(f) Energy source or technology	(g) (i) Generation capacity	(g) (ii) Estimated life	(g) (iii) Name of any corporation constructing the facility
Hagita High School – Milne Bay Province	Site investigation and feasibility study into alternate sources (wind-powered) of power supply for the school.	Papua New Guinea					114,500	30,000	144,500	01/05/2002	Wind Energy	N/A	N/A	N/A
Lutheran School of Nursing, Madang Province	Supply and installation of stand by diesel generators to provide electricity to the school.	Papua New Guinea				89,000			89,000	01/04/2002	Diesel Generator	Unknown	Unknown	N/A
Gas pipeline project	To provide specialist advice and train key PNG Government officials in legal issues, investment analysis, land issues and negotiation skills relating to the Gas to Queensland project.	Papua New Guinea	0	0	601,000	385,000	147,000	0	1,133,000	17/09/2000	Gas	N/A	N/A	N/A
Iraq Rehabilitation Assistance Facility- Procurement services to the Program Management Office (PMO)	To provide an Electrical Power Generation Sector Adviser to the Iraq PMO.	Iraq	0	0	0	0	0	96,487	96,487	23/01/2004	Electricity	N/A	N/A	N/A
Biomass Users Network (BUN)- Makosa Plant Oil Project	To use the seed of the <i>Jatropha Curcas</i> Linn plant to produce oil used as fuel.	Sub-Saharan Africa Unallocated			46,181	0	0		46,181	2000	Biomass	N/A	N/A	N/A
Pig Rearing/Market Gardening biogas enterprise	To design, construct and field test a community biogas digester as an energy intervention technology for promoting food security and agro-based industry.	Sub-Saharan Africa Unallocated			47,458	0	0		47,458	2000	Biomass	N/A	N/A	Community based
Provision of Fuel Efficient Stoves	To decrease the rate of deforestation by reducing the amount of wood used per family in the Mutasa and Mutare districts. This was achieved by the construction and provision of 2500 fuel efficient chingwa stoves.	Zimbabwe		66,669					66,669	30/07/1999	Fuel efficient stoves for home use	N/A	N/A	Community based

Note: N/A denotes the information is not applicable.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

IP Australia: Employee Entitlements
(Question No. 467)

Senator Mason asked the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources, upon notice, on 16 March 2005:

With respect to IP Australia (the agency):

- (1) For the last calendar or financial year for which the agency has records:
 - (a) what is the total number of sick leave days taken by the agency's employees; and
 - (b) for that same period, what was the average number of sick leave days taken per full-time equivalent employee of the agency.
- (2) Under the agency's Certified Agreement or individual contracts, what is the sick leave entitlement allowable to employees as part of their terms of employment.
- (3) Does the agency monitor and review its employees' use of sick leave entitlement.

Senator Minchin—The Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

- (1) (a) The total number of sick leave days taken by the agency's employees for the financial year 2003/2004 was 8758.06 days (8506.46 paid working days; 251.6 unpaid working days).
(b) For that same period, the average number of sick leave days taken per full-time equivalent employee of the agency was 11.68 days.
- (2) Under the of the IP Australia Certified Agreement 2005-2008 (the Certified Agreement), employees accrue 20 days of personal leave on full pay per year; personal leave is available for both sick leave and caring purposes. (The above figures relate only to personal leave taken as sick leave.)
- (3) Personal leave taken by employees is electronically monitored and reported monthly to the agency's Executive. The Certified Agreement also contains a commitment from managers and employees to participate and support a review of unscheduled leave (including sick, carer's and miscellaneous leave) during the life of the agreement and to implement the review's outcomes. The review is scheduled to be undertaken in the first half of the 2005/2006 financial year.

'Two Pass' Implementation Process
(Question No. 481)

Senator Mark Bishop asked the Minister for Defence, upon notice, on 24 March 2005:

With reference to page 30 of the department's Annual Report 2003-04, would the Minister advise:

- (1) On what date did the 'two pass' implementation process become operational.
- (2) Has this process been applied to the acquisition of Abrams M1A1 tanks from the United States of America; if so: (a) when did the project reach stage one and stage two; and (b) what funding was allocated to the project on reaching stage one.
- (3) Has this process been applied to the Air Warfare Destroyer project; if so: (a) when did the project reach stage one and stage two; and (b) what funding was allocated to the project on reaching stage one.
- (4) Has this process been applied to the MRH 90 Helicopter (Air 9000) project; if so: (a) when did the project reach stage one and stage two: and (b) what funding was allocated to the project on reaching stage one.

Senator Hill—The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

- (1) 9 March 2004, although the 'two pass' process was implemented progressively, with some projects being exempted from second stage consideration under transitional arrangements.

-
- (2) No. The Abrams tank acquisition was a transitional project.
- (3) The 'two pass' process will be applied to the Air Warfare Destroyer Project.
- (a) and (b) This proposal has not yet received first pass approval. It is expected the proposal will be considered for first pass approval in mid-2005.
- (4) No. The Air 9000 Phase 2 acquisition was a transitional project.

AusAID Scholarships

(Question No. 484)

Senator Allison asked the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs, upon notice, on 30 March 2005:

- (a) How many students are currently in Australia studying on AusAID scholarships; and
- (b) which countries are these students from.

Senator Hill—The Minister for Foreign Affairs has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

(a) As of 31 March 2005 there were 2360 students in Australia under the Australian Development Scholarships.

(b) The students are from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, East Timor, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, French Polynesia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Kiribati, Laos, Lesotho, Malawi, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, New Caledonia, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Regional – South Pacific, Samoa, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Tanzania, Thailand, Tonga, Tuvalu, Uganda, Vanuatu, Vietnam, Zambia.